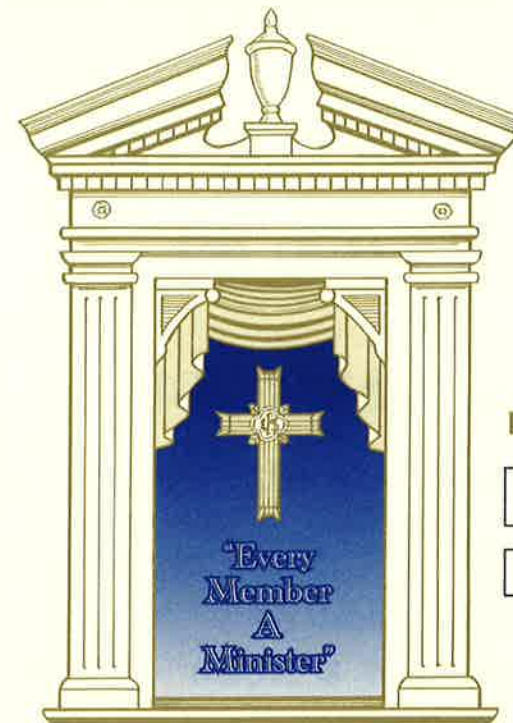


CHURCH WEEK

First Baptist Church
502 W. Union St.
P.O. Drawer 459
Morganton, North Carolina 28680-0459
Phone 828-437-2544
Fax 828-437-5393
web-site www.fbcmorganton.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 58
MORGANTON, NC



First Baptist Church Week

Morganton, North Carolina

Advancing the Vision – Lighting the Way

VOLUME 44

DECEMBER 14, 2017

NUMBER 39



COMING UP



♦Sunday, December 17
9:45 AM - Sunday School
10:55 AM - Worship Service
4:00 PM - Youth Caroling and
Progressive Dinner

♦Tuesday, December 19
7:30 PM CoMMA sponsored
Messiah Sing-A-Long - in our
Sanctuary

♦Friday, December 22
9:45 AM - Women's Prayer
Group - K101



♦Sunday, December 17
9:45 AM - Sunday School
10:55 AM - Worship Service
6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candle-
light Communion Worship Service

♦Monday, December 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Church Offices Closed

♦Tuesday, December 26

Church Offices Closed

♦Friday, December 29

9:45 AM - Women's Prayer
Group - K101

♦Sunday, December 31

9:45 AM - Sunday School
10:55 AM - College Student led
Worship Service

♦Monday, January 1
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Church Offices Closed



Holy Night!

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
Worship Celebration**

Sunday, December 24

at 6:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary

Featuring harpists Lelia and Mary Lattimore
Invite family and friends to join you for this beautiful
experience welcoming our Lord's birth!
Nursery provided.



Candel's
MESSIAH

SING-A-LONG!
Tuesday, December 19—7:30 PM
In our Sanctuary

This is a CoMMA production with Becky Poteat serving as organist.
Edward Bland and Matthew Lineberger are among the soloists. This is a
CoMMA function so there is an admission fee: Adults-\$8.54 Youth \$6.41.
You may purchase tickets in advance at the CoMMA box office
or at the door. Sheet music is available to purchase for \$5.00
Proceeds will go to our Organ Fund.
Bring a canned food item-or two-for Burke United
Christian Ministries Food Bank.

WORSHIP WITH US THIS SUNDAY!

December 17 10:55 AM In the Sanctuary
Third Sunday in Advent - "Joy Sunday"

*The Chancel Choir
presents*

An Early American Service of Lessons and Carols

Arranged by Tim Sharp

with an Early American Instrumental Ensemble
Representing American Traditional, Shaker, Moravian, and
the African-American Spiritual Traditions

There will be something for everyone to enjoy!

David E. Thayer, *director*; Rebecca Myrick-Poteat, *choir accompanist*

Advent Wreath Readers: Buddy, Traci, and Katie Riebel



GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING

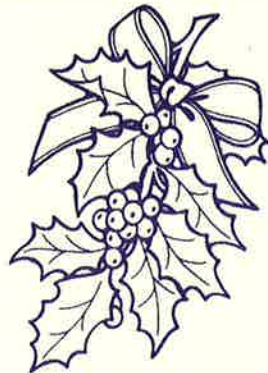
CHURCH GOAL: \$14,000.00

GLOBAL MISSIONS SUNDAY SCHOOL CHALLENGE

The following classes have set class goals and are committed to helping us reach our Church Global Missions Goal:

- Agape
- Ecumenical
- Cauble
- Hord, Hogshead, & Brown
- Christians In Action
- Huffman
- Circle of Friends
- Koinonia
- Disciples
- New Covenant
- Dorcas
- Serendipity


"No heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in it today. Take heaven. No peace lies in the future which is not hidden in this present instant. Take peace. The gloom of the world is but a shadow; behind it, yet without our reach, is joy. Take joy. And so, at this Christmas time, I greet you, with the prayer that for you, now and forever, the day breaks and the shadows flee away."
Fra Giovanni 1513



Your Church Staff wishes you a bright, beautiful, and blessed Christmas season. We look forward to serving Christ along with you in the promise of a new year.

Handwritten signatures: Cathy, Fred, Tom, Jerry, Suzanne, John, Benney, Dom B., Nolan, David

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY UPDATE

 Remember Your Offerings

Offering Received December 10.....	\$19,410
Budget Required to Date.....	\$806,000
Budget Received to Date.....	\$787,889
Organ /AV Fund Donations to Date.....	\$174,882

There are only three more Sundays to meet our required budget for 2017. All gifts must be in the church office by December 31 or postmarked by December 31 to count for your 2017 contributions.

DEBT REDUCTION CHALLENGE

Recently a family who wishes to remain anonymous offered to pay ten percent of our Organ/AV Debt but challenged the church to try to pay down that debt by forty percent by the end of 2017. As we strive to meet our budgetary needs for 2017, let us also consider giving an extra gift to the Organ/AV Debt Reduction Campaign in order to try to meet this challenge.

YOUTH MINISTRY
Sunday, December 17
9:45 AM-Info and Prayer Time
10:00 AM-Bible Study
4:00-8:00 PM-
Caroling and Progressive Dinner

IN MEMORY
Gifts have been given in memory of **James H. Lingerfelt** and **Jean and Clarence Wall.**

ATTENTION FBC COLLEGE STUDENTS
Message from Tyler Roach:
First Baptist College Students, we are looking forward to your return home after exams. Let me know when you'll be home so we can plan something! Lunch, party, hike...let's figure something out! College Student Day at Christmas will be December 31 with lunch to follow the service. Be thinking of how you would like to participate. We are praying for clear minds, full spirits, and safe travel home. Can't wait to see you!!
Talk soon!

IN APPRECIATION
We express deepest appreciation to the Huffman-Cornwell Foundation which recently contributed to our Organ Fund.

BACKPACK MINISTRY
The Backpack Ministry is collecting new sweat pants, children's sizes 4-8, for children at Hillcrest Elementary School. Please place them in the box outside the church office by December 31.

THANK YOU
We express our deep gratitude to **Nancy and Steve Bailey** and **John Whalley** who recently cleaned and painted outside doors, the large sign, and the retaining wall in front of the church.

COMING IN 2018 CHURCH WEEK SCHEDULE
The next edition of the Church Week newsletter will be published on January 4.

WORSHIP JANUARY 7
We will observe the Lord's Supper on Epiphany Sunday, January 7.

CHURCH FAMILY NIGHT
Our regular Church Family Night activities will resume on January 10 with our annual Epiphany Vesper Service.

DEACON OF THE WEEK
December 17
Steve Garrison

December 24
David Leary

December 31
Alan LeCroy

JOIN US FOR FULL SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
9:45 AM—Sunday School for all.
10:55 AM—Worship . We will celebrate the fourth and last Sunday in Advent 2017, "Love Sunday." Special Christmas Eve activities in "Celebrate Good News" Children's Church.