

Salt and Light

Rev. Fred Schuszler to Serve as Interim Minister of Youth

On behalf of our Personnel Committee and Deacons, I am pleased to announce that Rev. Fred Schuszler has been approved as our Interim Minister of Youth.

I initially shared this information at the end of the worship service this past Sunday, along with the fact that Rev. Jeff Prince had resigned as Minister of Youth and Family Life, effective December 2.

We wish for Jeff great fulfillment and success wherever he goes from here. I know that he will remain in our prayers.

As most of you will recall, Fred Schuszler came to the church staff as Minister of Education and Youth in 1980. Fred "retired" from youth work in 1997 when Rev. Kelly Sasser came, but he filled in beautifully as Acting Youth Ministries Coordinator for about nine months after Rev. Hal Mitchell (Kelly's successor) left us in May 2008.

In accepting the role of Interim Minister of Youth, Fred will oversee again all aspects of the youth ministry. In cooperation with other church staff members, with the Youth Ministries Committee, with parents and volunteers, and with our wonderful youth themselves, Fred will see that our youth ministry remains strong and moves forward.

Please be much in prayer for Fred as, once again, he takes on this additional role.

May God bless each of you!

Love, Tom

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Wonderful, joy, excitement are a few adjectives to describe my feelings after delivering 244 boxes to the drop off center in Morganton. As the staff at the drop off center, Rick, my son Chris and I gathered around First Baptist boxes to pray, my heart swelled with gratitude. It is amazing to be a part of a body of Christ, that in spite of the deep economical difficulty our community is faced with, you gave.

The First Baptist Church members have spread, thru these boxes, the awesome mystery of a Love that encompasses all of us. The mighty name of Jesus Christ has been distributed to 244 precious children this season around the globe.

Thank you for your partnership! The body at First Baptist Church stepped up to become a Missionary, filling the hearts of children with the Love of our Savior.

Joy to the World,
Debbie Franklin



ADVENT

Coming Up In Our Celebration of Advent

December 20

Last Sunday in Advent Worship -

Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata "Canticle of Joy" 10:55 A.M.

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - 6:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Celebrates the Christmas Season

December 27

College Student Sunday at Christmas time

January 3, 2010

First Sunday Lord's Supper Worship Celebration

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

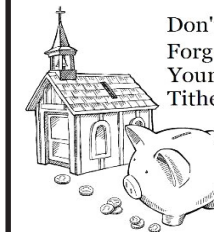
MISSIONARY PARTNERS

Nunzio Loiudice - Italy
Annette Hall - France
Robert Dunlop - Ireland
New Pastor at Brannockstown
Mark Hamblen
Janos Katona - Romania

SERVICE MEMBERS IN ACTION

Eric Duckworth	Erienne Davidson
Shawn Graham	Veronica Graham
Roland Berger	Mark Scannell
Ryan Moya	P. J. Chapman
Joshua Davidson	James Gillon
Zack Maye	Mark Shell
Michael Bradley	Wes Shuffler
Pat Morrison	Johnny Franklin

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE



Don't
Forget
Your
Tithe

Offering Received Dec. 6	\$27,132
Budget Required to Date.....	\$871,906
Received to Date	\$818,377
Under Budget	\$53,529

TURNING DREAMS INTO DEEDS

Pledged	\$807,000
Building Fund Rec to Date	\$798,694
Building Fund Expenditures.....	\$707,160
Building Fund Balance	\$91,534

Please remember to put your church ministries first in your charitable donation priorities!
Our ministry and mission commitments depend on your continued, faithful, support!

There are only three more Sundays of the year to bring in your offerings or complete your pledge. All offerings must be in the church office by December 31 or postmarked no later than December 31.

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Jerry Bursleson

YOUTH MINISTRY

This Sunday night, December 13

An extra-special Youth Super Session Celebration of Christ's birth! Join your Youth Ministry Committee and "travel the road to Bethlehem" by an experiential learning journey (on our own Morganton Greenway!) encountering various aspects of the nativity story along the way.

We'll end up at Friday Friends Restaurant - uh, we mean "Phil the Innkeeper's Café" for a delicious meal, fellowship, and further discussion about the meaning of our Savior's birth. Come and bring a friend!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Youth Christmas Caroling

Progressive Dinner

Coming up Sunday,

December 20 -

Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Meet at the church as we go forth to carol our homebound members and feast at various youth homes on different, delectable, delicious courses of gourmet delights! Details will follow!

MEMORIALS

Memorials have been received to honor the memory of Donald W. Smith, Joe Heavner and Jeanette P. Lingerfelt.

IN HONOR OF

Bob Henderson
Jane Robinson

CHRISTMAS CHEER VOLUNTEERS!

Christmas Cheer volunteers are needed at the First Baptist Booth located at the Burke County Fairgrounds this year to assist those shoppers who need assistance with toys for their children. **Please Note!** If you would like to work and be a part of this wonderful mission project, please call **Barbara Lambert (437-2544-ext 15)** to sign up for a day and time.

DISTRIBUTION DAYS ARE:

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

Thursday, December 17, 2009

Daily Work Times each day are:

8:30 am - 10:30 am

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

12:30 pm - 2:30 pm

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm



Visit our CHURCH WEBSITE often to find out schedules and details about church events, activities, and ministry opportunities. Check out our church calendar.

www.fbcmorganton.org

THANK YOU

We would like to thank the following people for their help decorating the Kistler Home for the Christmas season: Betty Day; Reba and Kenneth Gibson for the loan of the tree in the foyer; Marc, Deborah, Andrew and Patrick Lowdermilk, Mario & Adair Lowery and Sally McCurry for the hanging of the garland and bows; Bill and Nancy Rotan for the loan of the Nativity in the parlor on the harpiscord; and Jody Price for assisting Betty Day.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

JORDAN HARDIN



We welcome Jordan as a member of our church family. She joins us in profession of faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. She is a candidate for baptism.

Jordan is the daughter of Mark and Cathy Hardin; the granddaughter of Ed and Flora Mae; and the great-granddaughter of Myrtle Lee. She is a 5th grader at Forest Hill Elementary School. Jordan is an enthusiastic member of our children's Sunday School, choir, and discipleship ministries. She is active in sports, including basketball, girls-on-the-run, and swimming. She also plays guitar and is in our FBC guitar ensemble.

We are delighted to have this fine young person make this wonderful decision at this special time of year.

COMING NEXT WEEK

◆ Sunday, December 13

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
10:55 a.m. - Worship
5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Gift Wrapping
5:45 p.m. - Youth
7:00 p.m. - Combined Choirs Concert

◆ Tuesday December 15

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Cheer
7:00 p.m. - Men's Prayer
7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

◆ Wednesday, December 16

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Cheer
NO Church Family Night
7:15 p.m. - Chancel Choir

◆ Thursday, December 17

10:00 a.m. - Noon - Gift Wrapping
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Cheer

◆ Friday, December 18

9:00 a.m. - Women's Prayer Group.

◆ Saturday, December 19

10:00 a.m. - Noon - Gift Wrapping



Third Sunday of Advent

WORSHIP WITH US THIS SUNDAY!

December 13, 2009 - 10:55 a.m.

Third Sunday in Advent -

Joy Sunday

Sermon: "The Joy of Giving"

(Acts 20: 32-35)

Dr. Tom Bland, Jr. will be preaching.

We will observe the Ordinance of Baptism.

Those being baptized are:

Mindy Chirinos

Abby Hardin

Jordan Hardin

COMBINED CHOIRS CONCERT

6:00 P.M. In our Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING

Gifted gift decorators will wrap your presents *for you* the following dates and times:

☼ Sunday, December 13 – 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

☼ Thursday, December 17 – 10:00 A.M. – 12 Noon

☼ Saturday, December 19 – 10:00 A.M. – 12 Noon

☼ Tuesday, December 22 – 9:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Please support the efforts of the Young Disciples class to assist in meeting our church budget.

All proceeds will go toward the ministries and missions of First Baptist.