

Tie - Binder



**First Baptist Church
West Columbia**

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

1 Corinthians 10:31

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December 19, 2011

Volume 46 Number 225

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



*A Service of Carols, Candles
and Communion*

Christmas Eve at 5:30 p.m.

*Bring your family and join us for this special
First Baptist Church tradition!*



*Join us Christmas morning
at 10:30 a.m. for a special time of worship on*

Christmas Day!!

*There will be no Sunday School or other activities!
Dress casually and bring your family to worship
as part of your celebration of the birth of our
Lord Jesus Christ.*

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

*Your church staff wishes you and
your family a most joyous
Christmas and thanks you for your
generous love offering and other
kind expressions of the season.*

Bill Drees

Irish Perkins

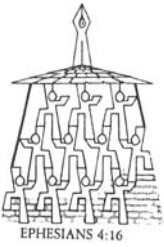
Charlton Bozard

Jody Ratcliffe

Janet Watters

Karen Rollison

Becky Murray



EPHESIANS 4:16

THE PASTOR'S LINK

In the 25th chapter of Matthew, Jesus gives a serious lesson on judgment at his 2nd coming. He uses a parable to say our lives will be judged according to our response to Him. He makes a sobering statement telling us that the way we nourished the hungry, quenched the thirsty, welcomed strangers, clothed and cared for the needy, looked after the sick and visited those in prison is evidence of our response to Him. None of us would knowingly neglect or mistreat Jesus but He tells us what we did or did not do for 'the least of these' is the same as what we did or did not do for Him. This parable, as well as the Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:36-40) and Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12) tells us we are to treat others with the same loving kindness that we would seek or desire for ourselves.

This season has seen several opportunities for the body of Christ at First Baptist West Columbia to exhibit the behavior our Lord desires. We have visited those in prison to extend the love of Christ. We have freely and eagerly assisted the 'least of these' giving Christmas gifts, food and aid in many different ministry opportunities. Some of these are part of time-honored traditions such as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Angel Tree and other established ministries such as our growing Backpack ministry. Other evidences of the light and love that Jesus seeks in the way we treat him as we treat others has been seen in the generosity of cheerful giving. A difficult economy does not quench the Spirit of those who trust God to be a channel of His blessings.

In the last month you have been asked to give generously to help our budget giving. You responded with liberality. You were asked to give a love offering to show appreciation for the staff. On behalf of your church staff I say, "**Thank you VERY much**" for your outpouring of love in that special offering. Just last week a homeless man came to our church on Wednesday evening. As your pastor, I was pleased with your response as he was given love, food and generous aid in the name of Christ. Let us continue to grow as a channel of blessing treating others as Jesus treats us with abundant love and grace. In doing so, we give love and grace to Him as He says to us, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world."

UPCOMING SERMONS AT FBCWC

Sunday, December 25

"Blessings in Small Things" (Zachariah 4:10)

Sunday, January 1

"Start with the Greatest Commandment" (Matthew 22:36-40)



Thanks to all who made such great contributions to our worship services through music this season. Our choirs, soloists and accompanists all worked tirelessly to make our worship services a special time to be together. I hope you were blessed by them.

Things will get rolling again in 2012! Children's Choirs resume on January 4. Youth Singers will resume on January 8. We are planning to attend a Youth Choir Festival in March, so come find out what that is all about.

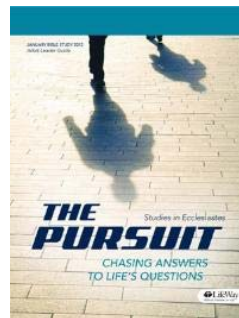
Sanctuary Choir will not meet on December 28. We invite you to join us as we resume our singing on Wednesday, January 4.

Four young ladies from our church have been selected to participate in Youth Singers at White Oak Conference Center January 6-7. Anne Marie Brown, Ashlie Hutto, Morgan Jones and MaCayla Ratcliffe will be taking part in this event sponsored by the SC Baptist Convention. Congratulations to you girls on this achievement.

This has been an interesting Christmas season for us with my leg injury and the arrival of our granddaughter, Caroline. Sallie and I thank you for your prayers, support and kind words, especially during this season. We wish for you and your family a blessed time together in celebrating our Savior's birth.

2012 JANUARY BIBLE STUDY

The Pursuit: Chasing Answers to Life's Questions




is a January Bible Study for 2012 based on the Book of Ecclesiastes that will raise the most challenging questions that we face in life in a very realistic way; remind us what life is really like when we choose the pattern of this world rather than what God has to give; help us develop an

everyday theology, showing us how to shape a Christian worldview in light of the challenges of secularism; serve as a guide for us as we seek to learn how to engage culture in an effective way; and enable us to see afresh our need for the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Dr. Bill Drees will be leading this seven week study on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. beginning January 8

Experiencing God will also resume on January 8. Charlton Bozard is leading this study. Come be a part of one of our Discipleship Groups.



As you ponder New Year's resolutions I want to encourage you to base them on real spiritual needs. Looking back, in what ways do you wish you would have done more, served more, given more, or learned more? I have already made a list of things I sincerely seek to do better or different in 2012. A new year brings the feeling of another chance or new opportunities. It reminds us in a fresh way of grace! In many ways, 2011 was a tough year for some of us. It was also a year of great movements of God in our church and in many of our lives. James 4:14 brings our life into perspective: "You do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." The message is not fatalistic, but an inspiration to use what time we do have to do good, serve one another, and love God. How can your 2012 be more about Him and less about you?



Welcome, New Member

Renee Leffert
by statement of faith

HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE
LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING
 National Goal : \$75 million
 First Baptist Church Goal: \$9,000
 Received to date: \$6,288.18




To The Church Family,
 Thank you from the WMU for helping us provide 66 Christmas prisoner packets this year. We surpassed our goal of 50 packets. These packets provide an important opportunity to minister to SC inmates. God Bless You.
 Brenda Hyatt, WMU Director

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS OF THE WEEK

Jeannene Branham (birthday is December 29)
 715 Hooksen Circle
 West Columbia, SC 29169


Merita Dunlap
 Pelion Elder Care
 P.O. Box 39
 Pelion, SC 29123



Lighthouse Student Ministries
 2012 Lighthouse Year in Review!!!!
 In this last Tie Binder for 2012, it is time for me to recap what a year we have had with our students! God blesses each year in different ways; they are ways we cannot predict but it is obvious that He alone is working out a supreme plan.

- 2012 High School Graduates: 8
- New Youth who moved up or joined the Ministry for the first time: 13
- Youth who committed their lives to Christ for the first time: 3
- Baptisms: 1
- Call to Missions: 1
- Entering into the Ministry: 1 (Jay Simmons is the youth pastor at Killian Baptist Church)
- New Adult Youth Leaders: 2

These are reasons to praise God today! We see students being led into missions, ministry, and discipleship. Thank you so much for all your prayers and support throughout 2011. We raise up our hopes for a fantastic and faith filled 2012!



Shelbie Dianne Ruth Litrell
 was born Wednesday, December 14
 weighing 6 lbs and 14 oz.
 Daughter of Chris and Jamie Litrell
 Sister of Griffin
 Granddaughter of James and Carol Loop

Caroline Elizabeth Bass
 was born Friday, December 16
 weighing 7 lbs and 10 oz.
 Daughter of David and Sara Beth Bass
 Granddaughter of Charlton and Sallie Bozard

**International Luncheon at
 USC Baptist Student Union
 Friday, January 27 12:00 pm.**

This event needs the following donations and volunteers to participate in socializing with the students.

Luncheon Donations needed are:

6 Dozen Sandwiches- Cut in half

Suggested fillings are: chicken, tuna, or egg salad; roast beef, ham & cheese, turkey, vegetables with cream cheese or pimiento cheese (homemade only).

Please do not send peanut butter.

6 Dozen Cookies, any kind

1 large bag of Potato Chips

2 Bags Vegetables washed and cut;

3 pints small Tomatoes; 1 carton Ranch Dip

35 pieces of fruit especially bananas

Contact Brenda Hyatt with questions or to volunteer!

CHURCH STAFF

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DR. LONNIE SHULL
PASTOR EMERITUS



First Baptist Church

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**DATED
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 DO NOT
 DELAY!**

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Our Reports for December 11, 2011

Sunday School	152	Guests	0
Off-Campus Ministries			
In-Home Ministry			25
Helping Hands			98
Hope Bridge/Helping Hands			105
National Health Care			24
Budget Receipts	\$	8,046.70	
Projector	\$	100.00	
Back Packs	\$	50.00	
Lottie Moon	\$	2,610.00	
Youth	\$	20.00	
World Hunger	\$	16.90	
Other	\$	1,506.20	
Total Received	\$	12,451.60	

Our Reports for December 18, 2011

Sunday School	153	Guests	8
Off-Campus Ministries			
In-Home Ministry			26
Helping Hands			98
Hope Bridge/Helping Hands			105
National Health Care			24
Budget Receipts	\$	13,642.98	
Lottie Moon	\$	940.80	
Back Packs	\$	20.00	
Youth	\$	20.00	
Projector Fund	\$	100.00	
Other	\$	119.99	
Total Received	\$	14,842.16	

Hospital Update

As of Tuesday, December 20

Palmetto Baptist Hospital Rehab
 Lonnie Shull

MUSC Charleston

Julie Barfield
 (may be released on Tuesday)



**Served every
 Wednesday from
 5:30-6:00 p.m.
 in Burriss Hall**

From the Finance Office

All contributions for the end of year 2011 must be submitted no later than Sunday, December 25th. Contributions received after 12/25/2011 will be counted for the 2012 tax year.

SPECIAL GIFTS

LOTTIE MOON OFFERING

In honor of the Joy S.S. Class
 by Dorothy Thompson

In honor of Sara Frances Watson
and Iris Wellborn
 by Joyce Crider

In Honor of Lonnie and Hazel Shull
 by the Mildred Taylor Prayer Group

In honor of the Rainbow Bible
Class Teachers
 by class members

In Memory of Colette Hutto
 by Dorothy Thompson

In Memory of Ann McKnight
 by Bill McKnight

In memory of Mertie Lee
 by Calvin and Bobbie Woodall

In honor of Lonnie Shull
 by Mayo Bryant, Catherine Holladay

In honor of Wilbur Johnson
 by Mayo Bryant

FBCWC

In honor of Jody Ratcliffe's graduation
 by Connie Counts

In honor of Janice Shealy
for being a great Bible teacher
 by Connie Counts

WEDNESDAY NIGHT NOTICE
On Wednesday, December 21,

there will be no supper
 or children's music and
 mission activities.

Prayer Service and
 Sanctuary Choir will meet.

On Wednesday, December 28,
 there will be no activities
 at the church.

All activities will resume
 normal schedules
 on January 4, 2012