



# ***The Messenger***

**A Monthly Publication of  
First Baptist Church of Georgetown**

**January 2021**

**843-546-5187**



*"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."*

*Lamentations 3:22—23*



THE Next Cottage Prayer Meeting will be held Monday, February 8th at 6:15 PM online only. Please contact Nick Gilliam at [nick.gilliam@icloud.com](mailto:nick.gilliam@icloud.com) to connect online for this important and special time of prayer.

The Purpose of First Baptist Church Georgetown is to Glorify Jesus Christ by Impacting the World through Missions, Spirit-filled Worship and Biblical Teaching in a Loving, Caring, United Fellowship.



From the  
Pastor's Pen



## Psalm 119:11 declares “Thy word have I hid in

my heart, that I might not sin against thee.” Hiding God’s Word in our hearts is a biblical imperative if we hope to pursue a holy life that honors our Lord. Furthermore, Psalm 119:105 reminds us, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” We have no clearer instruction regarding God’s Will for our lives than the Holy Scriptures. As we follow their council they literally lead us on the path of righteousness.

We all would probably agree that scripture is of utmost importance and ought to be committed to memory; we might all also confess that we fall miserably short at taking the time and exercising the discipline to hide the sacred text in our hearts as we should. Believers in other countries where persecution has fallen upon the church have often reminded us that the only scripture we really have are the verses we have stored away in our hearts.

Starting this month, we will have a scripture of the month. It will be a Bible verse that I would encourage us to memorize together. Some verses you may already have mastered, some perhaps you are familiar with but have never committed to memory. Let me encourage you to take a few moments to review the monthly memory verse each day and by the end of the month you will have another treasure stored away in your hearts for whatever challenges that 2021 may bring.

This month I have chosen Romans 8:18 as our memory verse for January. Paul declares **“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”**

We will all suffer for Christ if we live a Godly life in Christ Jesus, but what a comfort to know that our present sufferings can not compare to the blessings that will be ours when we finally see Jesus face to face. Hide this truth in your heart daily this month and let God’s Word encourage you along the journey.

## Education Ministry...

Sunday school classes will resume in-person on Sunday, March 7 at 10:00. classes will continue to meet virtually also. Please check with your teacher or in-reach leader for details about your class meeting.

REMINDER TO TEACHERS: Please take roll even for online classes and submit it to Terri in the church office! Thanks

### College & Career with Keith & Lori Wall.

We meet Thursdays at 7:00 PM. We are currently studying a new series on characters of the Bible. We would love for all college students and career adults (up to age 30) to join us for this exciting study! RESUMES Thursday , January 21st.

Men's Bible Study group is meeting in-person and online Friday mornings at 6:00 AM in room E-207

Sunday night Bible Study will resume in January, 2021

Discipleship Classes will resume in January. If you are interested in leading a group please contact Keith to get started.

*Study earnestly to present yourself approved to God, a workman that does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.*

**2 Timothy 2:15**



### Children's Book Donations Needed!

Books in decent condition for Grades K-4 are needed for the McDonald Campus, which meets at Cornerstone Baptist Church. Please leave these in the choir room or drop off at church office during the week.

We appreciate your participation in purchasing a gift for Teach My People students this Christmas.

### Thank You!



**Meeting Sunday Mornings  
at 10:15**

**Resumes in March**



# Notes from Your MoM...



**Happy New Year!** We are *all* prayerful and hopeful for 2021 to be much better than 2020, but let us not forget God's faithfulness and blessing throughout this past year. Even in the midst of chaos and calamities, God has been there; He has not left us nor forsaken us! He has remained constant; He has been and continues to be in control on His throne! He is still the **ONLY** One who is worthy of our worship and praise. We can (and should) still sing, "To GOD be the glory, great things HE has done!"

**Special Thanks** to all of those who worked hard to prepare for *Once Upon a Holy Night*, what I now refer to as "the Christmas music worship experience that was not!" Due to an outbreak of Covid among our congregation, we had already determined to go virtual, doing a livestream of Sunday evening and filming an edited and mixed version to put out on the internet. Unfortunately, we learned early that Sunday morning of one of our participants having probable Covid symptoms. In order to protect others, we had to postpone and planned to film the following Sunday IF no one else tested positive. Alas, others involved in the program became ill and we ended up having to cancel altogether.

Although I do not have room to list names, I want to thank everyone who was part of this in any way: those who helped build and prepare the set, our singers and instrumentalists, narrator, technical crew, backstage managers, those who helped take down the set and reset the sanctuary, and our cleaning crew. God evidently had other plans, but I am sincerely grateful for all of your time and effort.

**Of course**, Covid affected our corporate worship as well as Christmas Eve. I'm grateful to our musicians, technical team, and church staff for their extra effort, flexibility, and hard work in continuing to make our worship at FBC meaningful and inspirational during an unprecedented Advent and Christmas season. I am looking forward to our church family being together for worship again on January 17!

**Worship Choir:** While we are still not able to gather in person for rehearsals nor to lead in worship, I am exploring the possibility of "virtual rehearsals." Be on the lookout for information in our email newsletter, the "Choir Chimes." If you would like to be a part of this and I do not have your email address, please send it to me ASAP. Maybe our choir will grow!

**Thank You** for all of the thoughtful cards, generous gifts, and beautiful expressions of love shared with me and my family during the Christmas season! May God bless you and all of our church family with an amazing New Year!

In Christ,  
Mr. Jay

# The Church Is Never Closed

The year 2020 will be remembered for generations to come. The world has not experienced such loss, pain, illness, and confusion. We have had world wars, famines, and natural disasters; however, the COVID 19 Coronavirus pandemic hit the world's population equally and simultaneously. We've all been in this together. Sadly, politics as well has played a major role in this pandemic to the point of causing mass confusion, dysfunction, misinformation, and most importantly, an assault on our freedoms, particularly, freedom of worship.

Some states passed emergency rules barring churches from meeting while also imposing hefty fines for defying those rules. Some churches experienced closures out of fear among the members to gather for worship. Many of these churches will be permanently closed, sadly.

Making difficult decisions like closing the church in any season (weather emergencies, facility emergencies, etc.) is never easy. Every hurricane season, the Pastor, staff, and deacons agonize over when to close as precaution for the safety of all. While a storm passes relatively quickly, the coronavirus is still upon us. With the same regard for safety and wellbeing of our members and staff, the decision was made to close our church after being opened from May 17th to December 13th without incident of illness of members attending services or Sunday school. While a few well-meaning folks were not in favor of closing, it must be stated that our decision to close was not out of fear, but love for our fellow members and guests. No less than 75 members were infected by the virus between Thanksgiving and the time the decision to close was made. Quarantining was the most important option for everyone connected to those infected. When you consider the number infected and the number of potential folks placed in quarantine, that was close to the number currently attending worship. The question became, who would be attending? The answer, very few. We had been averaging close to 300 in attendance. Once the word got out that many in our congregation were sick, that number dropped to nearly half. Given the number of those needing to quarantine it would leave relatively few to attend.

The past three weeks of closing proved prudent and wise. Members were able to stay home, get well, and not spread the virus further. Is it over? Not by a long shot! And that means we may face the decision to close again for the very same reason; love, not fear.

We are thankful for a pastor who prayerfully sought the Lord's wisdom along with the wise council of our Deacon body, staff, and others in this difficult decision. Important to note and consider through all of this is the fact that, the church has still gathered while scattered, much like what happened to the church of Peter's day. Both of his letters are written to the church scattered due to political uprising, persecution, as well as natural migration of people. His letters were written to reassure these new believers that the Lord was with them and they could live by faith that he would never leave them, not forsake them.

This pandemic has reminded us of two important points:

1. The church is alive and well and will not end until Christ calls us home in the Rapture where we will be **FOREVER WITH THE LORD!**
2. Christ has not forsaken the church; the church must not forsake Christ! When we reopen on January 17th, gather with us for worship. Our 9:00 service will now be **"Masks Required"** throughout the service. The 11:00 service will remain **"Mask Encouraged."** Sunday School will resume in March.

**See you for Worship on Sunday, January 17th!**





Happy New Year!!!

Pete and I would like to express our sincere thankfulness to our wonderful church family for the many blessings that y'all graciously shared with our family during the beautiful Christmas season. Thank you for your gifts, calls, texts, cards, and your prayers.

We love and appreciate each one of you.

As we begin 2021, please read below for some important information pertaining to various ministries, events and even summer camps for the RA and GA missions groups.

**AWANA:** We are looking forward to resuming AWANA on Sunday January 24th at 4pm outside on the lawn. Please note this important time change. We will meet, temporarily, from 4pm-5:30pm each Sunday until Daylight Savings Time. The theme calendar will remain the same. We look forward to welcoming all the AWANA clubbers back soon!!

**Children's Church:** Resumes on Sunday January 17th during the 11:00am service only in the gym. Children are encouraged to wear masks. All adult teachers will be wearing masks and social distancing is in place. Children's church is for children age 3-5.

**VBS 2021:** Save the dates—Sunday June 20th – 24th. Pack your bags and grab your gear, VBS 2021 is headed to present-day Israel where an epic adventure of discovery awaits. Discover long hidden treasures, amazing finds, and exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. They really happened. Join us for Destination Dig....Unearthing the Truth About Jesus....Jeremiah 29:13.

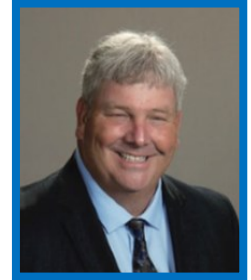
**GA/RA Camp 2021:** We are in the process of choosing weeks for each one of these camps. If you are interested in your RA or GA attending, please contact Staci.

Sunday School: Sunday School will prayerfully resume in March.

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:1

Staci





January 2021 is here! How many have gotten your Christmas tree up yet? Not much spirit this time of year. But the old song sung by Elvis Presley, which by the way his birthday is on Jan. 8, why cannot everyday be like Christmas should be our goal and mission for 2021. Tell the Good News that for unto us a child is born for unto us a son is given, and the Government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. How important is the Good News to be shared in 2021? How important is the Good News to you? Jesus asked His disciples who do they say I am? The question is who is Jesus to you and to me? This summer Join the FBC student ministry as we travel to Camp Cherokee July 18-23 and as we explore the "I AM" statements that Jesus said of himself and at the end of the week you will be able to answer the question as was asked to Peter "Who do you say I am?". It's Going to be Going off the rail like a crazy train!

Speaking of Going off the rail like a crazy train, Let's get back on the train! Wednesday Jan 20 we will be Gathering back together at "The Gathering" in the Gym. 6-8pm. You do not want to miss this exciting time of gathering with other students for fun, fellowship and most importantly, The Word. Make plans now to start sharing the Good News and invite your friends.

Be on the look out for some exciting news about summer missions! But until then if nobody has told you today let me be the first to say..... God loves you!

Luv ya, Mean it

Big Jack

## Memorials & Honorariums

## In Touch Ministry Honors...

### FUND:

#### Music Ministry

Jon & Marilyn Jeffcoat

### IN HONOR

Regina Cribb Mobley

#### Music Ministry

### FROM:

#### Joe Rabon Cookie Fund

Jane Goude

### IN MEMORY

Joe Rabon

#### Youth Missions

GFA Life Group/Goude

Robert Hendriks

Dot & Harold Long

Noah Hendricks

#### Going Forward In Faith

Rhett, Charla & Trenton Tindall

Peggy Wheeler-Cribb

#### Lottie Moon

Grady & Brenda Thomas

Peggy Wheeler-Cribb

#### Budget

Debbie Swails

Cornelia Miller-Rodgers,  
Donald Ward,  
Mary Ann Teems,  
Peggy Wheeler-Cribb  
Peggy Wheeler-Cribb

Joanne Bellamy

#### Music Ministry

Jon & Marilyn Jeffcoat

Bobby Cribb

#### Vernelle Carnley

c/o George Carnley

145 Black Water Loop

Georgetown, S.C. 29440

#### Edith Jernigan

148 Ridgeway Loop

Murrells Inlet, S.C. 29576

#### Betty Carter-Hart

524 Nowell St.

Georgetown, S.C. 29440

#### Celia Bradshaw

1915 Pennyroyal Rd.

Georgetown, S.C. 29440

**Send A Card of Encouragement Today!**

**Sunday School: 10:00 AM**

**Worship: 9:00 & 11:00 AM**

**iNreach**

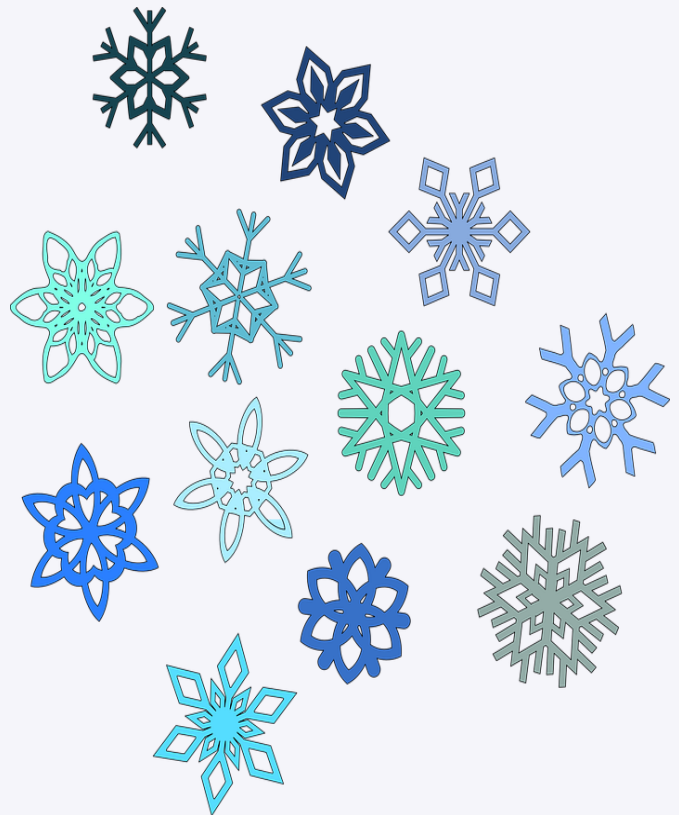
**Outreach**

**Witness**



**[www.fbcgeorgetown.org](http://www.fbcgeorgetown.org)**

**[info@fbcgeorgetown.org](mailto:info@fbcgeorgetown.org)**





**Pastor**

**Dr. Ted Sherrill**

ted@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Associate Pastor**

Rev. Keith Wall

keith@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Minister of Worship**

Rev. Jay Holmes

jay@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Minister to Students**

Rev. Jack Powers

jack@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Children's Ministry Leader**

Mrs. Staci Krause

staci@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Ministry Support Leader**

Mr. Morgan Kelly

morgan@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Pianist**

Mrs. Kathy Newton

**Organist**

Mrs. Ruth Reames

**Ministry Assistant**

Mrs. Terri McDaniel

terri@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Financial Secretary**

Mrs. Jan O'Clair

jan@fbcgeorgetown.org

**Food Service Coordinator**

Rob O'Neal

**Housekeeping**

Cindy Jordan

**Faithful In Giving**  
**December 2020**

Monthly Required  
\$113,603.86

Received  
\$150,780.68

Monthly Difference  
\$37,176.82

Annual Budget  
\$1,363,246.37

Budget Received To Date  
\$1,405,265.76

YTD Difference  
\$42,019.39

Other Designated  
\$84,457.94



GFIF Loan Balance  
\$62,367.04

GFIF Fund Balance  
\$33.93

**FUNDS:**

Disaster Relief  
\$1,600.29

FBC Family Benevolence  
\$2,861.59

Joe Rabon Cookie Fund  
\$2,342.11

Lottie Moon  
\$16,155.00

Birthright Bottles  
\$1,369.42

Other Funds:  
Daniels Scholarship

Tamsberg Scholarship

Honorariums & Memorials may be made to any of the above funds or the General Budget. Acknowledgement cards are sent to each individual.

~~~~~

*"You will be blessed in every way, and you will be able to keep on being generous."*

2 Corinthians 9:11a

***Thank You!***




**Weekly Attendance**  
**Averages: DECEMBER**  
**WORSHIP: NR**  
**BIBLE STUDY: NR**

# January 2021

| Sun                                        | Mon | Tue | Wed                         | Thu                                                  | Fri                                      | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----|
|                                            |     |     |                             |                                                      | 1<br><br>Happy New Year<br>Office Closed | 2   |
| 3                                          | 4   | 5   | 6                           | 7                                                    | 8                                        | 9   |
| 10<br>Deacons Meeting 7PM<br>AWANA resumes | 11  | 12  | 13                          | 14                                                   | 15                                       | 16  |
| 17                                         | 18  | 19  | 20                          | 21                                                   | 22                                       | 23  |
| 24                                         | 25  | 26  | 27<br><br>Church Conference | 28 <b>Vets For Jesus</b><br>Ellison's Home<br>4:30pm | 29                                       | 30  |
| 31<br><br>Lord's Supper Observance         |     |     |                             |                                                      |                                          |     |

# February

| Sun                                                                                                                      | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                                                                                                                          | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   |
| 7                                                                                                                        | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 14<br><br>Happy<br>Valentine's<br>Day | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| 21                                                                                                                       | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| 28                                                                                                                       |     |     |     |     |     |     |