

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - FLORALA, AL

THE BEACON

Encouraging Words from Pastor Chris

DECEMBER 2025
ISSUE 182

As we are getting ready to close the page on 2025, I want to challenge you to reflect on the events of the past year. What has tested your faith this year? How has God blessed you? How has God grown you? How committed have you been to the Lord? How committed to the church have you been? How committed have you been to encourage others? How have others encouraged you? As you think on these things, are you satisfied with your answers? More important than that, is the Lord satisfied? The great news is that if you feel like you have fallen short in any of these areas, 2026 will be an opportunity of grace to grow. The next question to ask is if you will take advantage of new opportunities?

Ephesians 5:15-17 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

The start of a new year will be an opportunity to make sure we are making the best use of our time. Let us challenge ourselves to be more committed to the things of the Lord in 2026. No matter how committed we currently are, it is likely that we could all grow in our commitment in some area. The area might be our commitment to pray, to engage in Scripture, to share the gospel, to give to missions, or to be more engaged in the life of the church through attendance and service.

One way that you can assure that you live up to such a commitment is by making sure that you have an accountability structure in place. Robby Gallaty has said that "you can't expect what you're not inspecting." We need to be inviting other like-minded people into the depths of our lives so that they can inspect our commitment to the things that I have mentioned. How can we expect to grow and remain faithful if we are not regularly inspecting our progress. One of the most effective methods of doing this is by asking others to help.

Accountability to others is going to be one of the greatest benefits of the new discipleship groups that we are going to start next year. If you have not been asked to be part of one of these groups please reach out and we will get you involved. These groups will begin weekly meetings in February. They will run through May and then take a break and resume in August. I believe this can help us grow spiritually possibly more than anything else we can do. So, make the most of 2026 by getting plugged into becoming a disciple who makes disciples.

Blessings,
Bro. Chris



Opportunities For Worship

SUNDAY
Sunday School 8:45am
Worship 10:00am

WEDNESDAY
Dinner 5:30pm
Requested Donation
is \$5 for Adult Meals
Bible Study for ALL
6:15-7:15pm



Our FBC, Florala children packed 85 shoeboxes on Wed., Nov. 12th. The children ranged in age from 4 years through 6th grade. Special thanks to all the adults that volunteered their time to help with this special event.

THANKS FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!

BRO. BRENT, PROVERBS 3:5-6



MEN'S SKEET SHOOT OUTING

On Sunday November 9, the FBC men had an outing down at the hunting lodge Keith Free oversees. We had approximately 30 guys to shoot skeet, enjoy a meal, and genuine fellowship.

Randall Holden won first place in the skeet shoot. Greg Taylor won second place. Special thanks to Keith Free for hosting our outing and setting everything up; Carlton Dukes and Chris Vaughn for running the skeet shoot; James Pickron and Ken Rose for cooking the hamburgers and hotdogs; and, Wade Farmer for being the gate keeper.

BRO BRENT

PROVERBS 3:5-6



Faith & Fellowship



SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

WHEN: Friday, December 12th & Saturday, December 14th.

WHERE: Atlanta, Ga.

WHAT: Process Christmas Shoe Boxes.

TIMES TO WORK: Friday, December 12th 3:30-8:30pm and Saturday, December 13th 9:00am-3:00pm.

INFORMATION: We will leave at 7:00am on Friday morning and return Saturday evening. We will use the church van as our mode of transportation.

COST: Hotel room and food.

*Please pray about you and your family joining us. **We still have 2 slots available.** These are the volunteers signed up so far: Brent and Missy Zessin, Judy McCord, Donna Milner, Darrell and Jeanie Foley, Chris and Tracy Vaughn, Carlton and Vanessa Dukes, John and Tabitha Coverstone. Please begin now to pray for these volunteers and the upcoming experience at the OCC Processing Center.

Please let Bro. Brent know if you are interested.

Happy Thanksgiving
Merry Christmas
Happy New Year



Advent Candles

OUR CANDLE LIGHTERS THIS YEAR

Nov. 30	Buddy & Bridget Nidy
Dec. 7	Chris & Tracy Vaughn
Dec. 14	Randall & Connie Holden
Dec. 21	Brandon & Tristan Wehrly
Dec. 28	Brad & Maria Elmore

Readers: Jeremy Radney & Brittany Klawitter



Tithe.ly

Giving to FBC has never been easier! Our Church App has the church information + GIVING APP.
<https://tithely.app.link/fbc-florala>

TRI-CITIES CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

The newsletter has to be printed before our Food Friday Distribution so I don't have a report for that. However, please know that our people were double blessed this month in preparation for a Thanksgiving treat! Special prayers were also said for everyone to have a bountiful and blessed time with friends and family!



Mark these dates on your calendar.
This is IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Please do **NOT** drop off donations after Dec. 1st. We need time to set up for 2026.

Normal days open are Wed-Fri. Our store will be **CLOSED** Christmas week as well as Dec 31, Jan. 1,2,7,8,9.

We will **REOPEN** on Jan. 14th with a clean store, fully restocked with new inventory that you will want to see (and purchase).

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.
Psalms 100:4-5

We at CSC are very thankful for all of our volunteers throughout the year, for every hand that helped in any way - God Bless!!!

Happy Thanksgiving! Cindy Phillips



SOUL SISTERS

Merry Christmas!
Remember Jesus is the reason for the season.

We met on Thursday November 13 and decorated small pumpkins for the nursing home. There were 5 of us but we got all 85 pumpkins decorated. THANK YOU to those 4 ladies!!!

I will also pack 80 bags of small Christmas gifts to deliver to the nursing home on Dec. 16th, along with the caroling group.

God Bless, Tabitha Coverstone

FBC Business Meeting

We will vote on the **Budget** as well
as the list of **Teachers and Leaders**
for the upcoming year.

12.14.2025



NEXTGEN PASTOR UPDATES

As Thanksgiving approaches, we have so much to thank the Lord for at FBC Floral when it comes to NextGen ministry. First, the baptismal waters are being stirred! Sallie and Sydney have trusted Christ as their Lord and Savior. It was an honor to see them follow through in obedience and making that profession public to our church. Pray that the Lord continues to call our children and students to faith in Him!

Be in prayer for First Baptist Students this weekend specifically. We are going to be away for a weekend to hear from the Lord and fellowship with other churches. FBC Floral, Lockhart, Westside, Paxon, and FBC Gaskin will be together at Camp Victory for a fall retreat. My favorite part of the weekend will be waking up this Sunday morning and having our kids back here for morning worship! Many of our Wednesday night students that can't make it on Sundays will be here.

One thing I have noticed as NextGen Pastor is our children, and their families, are growing in the word. Our Wednesday night teachers and Sunday school teachers are doing a phenomenal job preparing and teaching the word! There is an atmosphere at FBC of growing in our personal walk with the Lord, and our children are following in those footsteps. As we begin to be more intentional about personal discipleship in the next year, I'll also be working on leading us to family discipleship and family worship!

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

November 21-23, Student Ministry Fall Retreat, Camp Victory

December 14, Appreciation Lunch for Children Ministry Servants

December 21 @ 3:15, First Baptist Kids (1st-6th Grade) "David" Clark Cinemas Enterprise

NextGen Pastor,
Bro. Brad



PASTOR:

BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

NEXTGEN PASTOR:

BRO. BRAD ELMORE

ASSOC. PASTOR:

BRO. BRENT ZESSIN

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

DALE COLE

ACTIVE DEACONS:

AL BENNETT
JOHN COVERSTONE
CARLTON DUKES
WADE FARMER
DARRELL FOLEY
BOBBY PHILLIPS
JAMES PICKRON
JEREMY RADNEY (CH)
RICHARD REEVES
GREG TAYLOR

**December 7****Flowers:** Lewis & Lori Thorn**Greeters:** Dennis & Rhea G.**Nursery:** Jeff & Jennifer, Chloe**Cove Leaders:** Katy, Kim G.**December 14****Flowers:** Al & Jan Bennett**Greeters:** Myron & Sheila A.**Nursery:** Kim T., Addy, Rose**Cove Leaders:** Paiyton, Connor**December 21****Flowers:** Jerry & Martha M.**Greeters:** Jeff & Jennifer B.**Nursery:** Stephen & Lora B.**Cove Leaders:** The Wehrllys**December 28****Bobby & Cindy P.****Greeters:** Roy R., Joel M.**Nursery:** Dustin & Ashley G.**Cove Leaders:** The Caseys**LADIES MINISTRY**

Merry Christmas from all of our ladies at First Baptist Church!

What a wonderful year we have been blessed to enjoy. Whether it was joining together for Christian speaking events and music concerts, women's retreats at Camp Victory, workshops with other churches, events in our community, gifts and visits to our local nursing home, or working side by side as we support grieving families or those in need, ALL of the ladies at FBC continue to love on each other, our church, and our community.

So...from our ladies of FBC we wish each of you a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Ladies Ministry,
Sheila Anderson

**PRAYERS WITH FEET**

Christmas Blessings from Prayers with Feet! It's the most special time of the year!

During our November meeting, we had fun preparing goodie bags for some of our ladies who are homebound and can no longer get out to church and the community. Our ladies will be making visits during December to visit with our friends and deliver a little Christmas joy.



We hope that you have a wonderful Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Merry Christmas!
Prayers with Feet,
Sheila Anderson



December 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 Council Meeting 6pm	2	3 DINNER MENU Chili, Soup	4	5	6 Floral Christmas Parade 6pm
7	8	9	10 DINNER MENU Burgers & Sides	11	12	13
14 FBC Business Meeting After Worship	15 Beacon Articles Due <u>TODAY</u>	16 Go to FHR to Sing Carols & Give Gifts	17 BRING FINGER FOODS Cookies & Carols	18	19 CSC Food Distribution 9am-1pm	20
21 Lord's Supper At End of Worship	22	23	24 NO BUS NO MEAL NO SERVICE	25 merry Christmas 	26	27
28	29	30	31 NO BUS NO MEAL NO SERVICE	<div>Men Meet @ FBC for Prayer Time 8:00am Each Tuesday</div> 		

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

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**WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING
ONLY GOD CAN DO!**

FBC FLORAL

JOY *to the* WORLD

May the divine peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your heart and home with serenity and love this Christmas season. As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, may His light guide you, His love envelop you, and His joy uplift your spirit.



 **FIND US ON
FACEBOOK**

**EVERY SUNDAY
AT 10:00 AM**

You Tube
LIVESTREAM

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FBCFloral>



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