

Notes from Pastor Chris



As we approach Thanksgiving we are reminded of how much we have to be thankful for. We will be sure to count our blessings, but have you considered how you will respond to your blessings in a physical way? We should be living our lives in such a way that says we are thankful for all that God has blessed us with. A great way to live this thankfulness out is by serving within the church. Last month I introduced our new serve team model that is designed to engage everybody in some form of service at the church.

- ◆ **Guest Services Team** – This team will be responsible for welcoming and caring for all guests at each service. Team members will make contact with people in the parking lot and will assist them all the way to the pew.
- ◆ **Prayer and Care Team** – This team will lead our church in praying for and caring for those we know of in need. Team members will man pre and post service prayer rooms, build and distribute care baskets, organize funeral meals, and meal trains for those in need.
- ◆ **Building and Grounds Team** – This team will coordinate all upkeep and maintenance of our campus. Team members will use skills to carry out maintenance projects.
- ◆ **Safety Team** – This team will ensure our safety while on campus. Team members will monitor the campus in a variety of ways during services.
- ◆ **Worship/Audio/Visual Team** – This team will ensure that all aspects of worship ministry are ready to go each Sunday. Team members will help run computers and sound equipment, build worship slides, and use musical talents to lead in worship.
- ◆ **Transportation Team** – This team will carry out our Wednesday bus ministry. Team members will drive/ride the van and maintain the vehicles mechanically and cosmetically.
- ◆ **Wednesday Night Dinner Team** – This team will prepare our Wednesday night dinners each week. Team members will cook the meals while Sunday School classes still help serve and clean up.
- ◆ **Special Events Team** – This team will coordinate all special events within the church. Team members can help with decorating, organizing gift/shower tables, family engagement events, and meals for any whole church fellowship gathering.
- ◆ **Missions Team** – This team will help coordinate local missions' projects. Team members will work to identify missional needs and engage the whole church to minister to those needs.

These are just brief descriptions of each team's responsibilities. I invite you to pray about which team you should serve on. What gifts has God given you? What are you passionate about? How can God best use you? There is somewhere for everybody. Let us express our gratitude through our service to the Lord, one another, and our community,

Blessings, Bro. Chris

*Opportunities
For Worship*

SUNDAY
Sunday School 9:15AM
Worship 10:30AM

WEDNESDAY
Dinner 5:30pm
Requested Donation
is \$5 for Adult Meals

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study
for ALL Ages
6:15-7:15pm

WELCOME SHELBY DANLEY



Please help us welcome Shelby Danley to our FBC office. She will begin training on Mon., Oct. 26th, to replace Joyce in the Financial Secretary position. Joyce will remain in the office through the month of Jan. to ensure Shelby is fully trained and ready to take the reins. I'm sure she will be a blessing to us all.

Hello, I'm Shelby Danley, and I am so excited and grateful to be joining you as your new Financial Secretary! I feel truly blessed and honored for this opportunity.

Throughout my life, God has allowed me to serve in many different roles. My career background was mostly spent in the dental field. I worked as a dental hygienist for over 20 years, and then later opened my own small business. I have also served and worked in community development and leadership. I currently serve in my home church, Gaskin Baptist Church, as the Pastor's Admin and as the Church Treasurer. I am honored to serve as a Church Relations Team Member with Operation Christmas Child/Samaritan's Purse. Each experience has taught me something valuable about people, relationships, organization, and the importance of serving others with a willing heart. Looking back, I can see how God has used each season of my life to prepare me for the next, and I am excited to see how He will use these experiences in this new chapter.

My greatest blessings are my family and my faith. My husband and I have one son, Jack, who keeps us busy with basketball and cross country, so you can usually find me cheering from the bleachers! We also know the importance of serving our church and community and do so happily.

I believe God places us in certain places for a purpose, and I am thankful He has opened this door for me. My prayer is that I will approach this role with a servant's heart, a spirit of excellence, and a desire to honor Him in everything I do.

I am excited for this new season and look forward to seeing all that God has in store!

With much gratitude, Shelby

Baby Shower Table

Please be sure to BLESS this family as they welcome a new baby girl soon.

Diapers & Wipes or Gift Cards

Table will be set up Oct. 18 - Nov. 1

Night of Prayer

FBC FLORALA

Every Monday Night @ 6:00-7:30pm

FBC Sanctuary

Come when you can...Leave when you'd like. *Let's pray*

Open to the Public

Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 1

Set your Clocks BACK one hour

Pastoral Staff & Deacons

PASTOR
BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

NEXTGEN PASTOR
BRO. BRAD ELMORE

ASSOCIATE PASTOR
BRO. BRENT ZESSIN

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Psalm 107:1.
- Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15.
- Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2.
- I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving. Psalm 69:30.
- Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17.
- For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16.
- Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
- Praise the LORD! Psalm 150:6.

As we grow older, it's easy to focus on what we no longer have. But gratitude calls us to remember the blessings we've received. Life has given us many moments to cherish: the love of family, the joy of friendships, and the steady presence of God. Even in tough times, there are always things to be thankful for. Reflecting on these blessings helps us cultivate a heart of gratitude. God's goodness is always evident if we take time to look. When we give thanks for our life's blessings, we acknowledge God's faithfulness and love. It's in this recognition that we find true peace and contentment.

Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God has done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your many blessings, see what God has done.

Missy and I wish you a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Proverbs 3:5-6.

**There will be NO
"Christians on the Go"
and NO "Coffee and Christ"
for months of Nov. & Dec.**



Tithe.ly

Giving to FBC has never been easier!
<https://tithely.app.link/fbc-florala>

TRI-CITIES CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

On Food Friday we had 147 food recipients. This totaled 5794 pounds of food. The total sales so far in the month of October is \$10,223.



Our store is now open Monday through Friday, from 8-3 so this extends your shopping hours considerably. We hope having more open hours makes it more convenient for you to come browse.

With Christmas coming soon, don't forget that you can find many new or gently used items that would be perfect for gifting. Shop with us first!

I have to say a quick thank you to all who help us in any way! The month of November is one of being thankful in all things, so we choose this month to count our blessings, by counting the many helping hands we always have.

We are very blessed - Cindy Phillips

ACTIVE DEACONS:

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

2026 SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Two opportunities to be involved in missions right here at FBC, FLORALA:

1. Our church will serve as an official **DROP-OFF CENTER** for shoeboxes. We will be servicing the area of Florala, Lockhart, Laurel Hill, Paxton (southern Covington County and northern Okaloosa and Walton counties). We will be open on the following days to receive boxes:
Monday, November 16th - 10:00 am- 12:00 pm.
Tuesday, November 17th - 9:00 am- 11:00 am.
Wednesday, November 18th - 5:00 pm- 7:00 pm.
Thursday, November 19th - 12:00 pm- 2:00 pm.
Friday, November 20st - 11:00 am- 1:00 am.
Saturday, November 21nd - 9:00 am- 11:00 am.
Sunday, November 22rd - 4:00 pm- 6:00 pm.

Please let me know if you'd be interested in helping man the drop-offs. SIGN-UP LIST will be out on Wed. and Sun..

2. SHORT TERM MISSION TRIP

WHEN: Friday, November 27th & Saturday, November 28th.

WHERE: Atlanta, Ga.

WHAT: Process Christmas Shoe Boxes.

TIMES TO WORK: Friday, November 27th 3:30-8:30pm. and Saturday, November 28th 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 transportation.

COST: Hotel room and food.

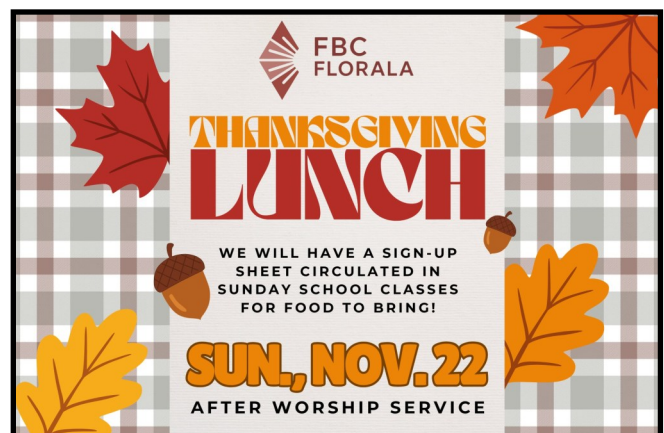
*Please pray about you and your family joining us. We have reserved 15 slots. Attendees must be 13 years old or older to work in the processing center.

Please let Bro. Brent know if you are interested.

We want to be known as a church on mission - an Acts 1:8 church. Missions is not just an international field, but a local field as well. This is your opportunity to make an impact for the Kingdom.



Bro. Brent Zessin
PROVERBS 3:5-6



NEXTGEN PASTOR - BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING!

I often ask myself if my children are learning good habits from me. I hope that my children can see a hard work ethic in all areas of my life. As a dad, I hope my boys see that I work hard to provide for the needs of our family (and I don't complain about it). I hope that my daughter learns how to work in the home and care for the needs of others around her by her mother's devotion to our home and her siblings. I'm reminded of Solomon's wisdom in Proverbs 13:22, "a good man leaves an inheritance to his children..." In the context of Proverbs, I believe that Solomon isn't only speaking about financial and material success; but about Godliness.

Along with work ethic, integrity, and Godly morals I hope that my children see my love for God and love for others in my daily actions(Matthew 22:37-39). A humble and contrite person, changed by God's grace, doesn't ignore the needs and hurts of people around them. We press into those needs! Jesus reminds us of this in Matthew 25. "As you did it to the least of these...you did it to me" was the words of our Lord when he was encouraging his disciples to be compassionate to their neighbor.

So, if our children are watching us (and they are) what are they learning? We have all been blessed materially, financially, and spiritually. Are you returning that blessing back to the Lord and using it to be a blessing to others? Our children should be a firsthand witness to our generosity and service to our community and "the least of these" that they too desire to do the same in their lives. Let's leave a Godly legacy and an inheritance of generosity to those around us! May our children be blessed to be a blessing because of our example!

In Christ,

Bard Elmore, NextGen Pastor



A GOOD MAN
leaves an inheritance
to his children's
children.

-Proverbs 13:22

MEET GUNNER

The Zessins have a new addition to the family.

Gunner Woodham Zessin was born on October 8, 2026 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He weighed 8 lbs 1 oz and was 19 1/2 inches long.

What a blessing our FBC, Floral family has been to Peyton and Maddie. Missy and I want to add our thanks as well for all the gift cards, diapers, wipes, toys, blanket, and outfits. You all love us so well.

Brent & Missy



SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

11/01 - Lynn Pomas
11/08 - FBC/Veteran's Day
11/15 - The Barleys
11/22 - The Zessins
11/29 - Donna Milner



FINANCE REPORT

November is the month we set aside to show our gratitude for all the many wonderful blessings that God has freely given us. Our families and loved ones; our church family with faithful prayer warriors; our good health and comfortable homes; and best of all our salvation and a promise of an eternal home with Him are all truly gifts from above. We are a blessed country, community, and church. May we never forget to give praise to the One who provides these blessings.

And as we count our blessings at FBC, it's only appropriate to thank our church membership for your faithfulness in the giving of not only your tithes and offerings, but also your time and talents to the church. We have accomplished a very expansive and much needed paint job of our sanctuary and adjoining classrooms, plus a huge update of our electrical system. These things were necessary to keep our church both beautiful and safe.

So thank you church for who you are and who you worship. May God richly bless you and your family during this month of Thanksgiving.

"May the LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26

Happy Veterans Day and Happy Thanksgiving!
Sheila Anderson, Treasurer

NURSING HOME SHOEBOX PACKING

- ♦ **WHERE:** FLORALA HEALTH AND REHABILITATION
- ♦ **WHAT:** BIBLE STUDY, SINGING AND ROOM VISITS.
- ♦ **WHEN:** EVERY TUESDAY MORNING 9:45- 11:00 am.
- ♦ **WHO:** IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HELPING IN THIS MINISTRY, PLEASE SEE BRO BRENT.

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX

PACKING PARTY

TUESDAY, NOV. 17

9:00-11:00 AM



**PLEASE SEE
BRENT IF
YOU ARE
INTERESTED
IN HELPING.**

2026 SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

- * **FBC, FLORALA CHURCHWIDE GOAL: 700 BOXES.**
- * **SUN., NOVEMBER 15, 2026 - BOXES DUE.**
- * **WED., NOVEMBER 4, 2026 - CHILDREN'S PACKING PARTY.**
- * **TUES., NOVEMBER 17- PACK SHOEBOXES WITH NURSING-HOME RESIDENTS. 9-11AM**
- * **COLLECTION WEEK: MON., NOVEMBER 16-MONDAY**
- * **NOVEMBER 23. FBC FLORALA DROP-OFF CENTER.**

Millions of children around the world are being impacted by the simple shoe-box gift you/our church gives. One box can touch not only just the child, but the whole family.

Ways you can help: PRAY; Pack a Box; Give financially; Volunteer to man our collection center; Go on a mission trip to Atlanta to the processing center; Tell the churches in our area and individuals about Operation Christmas Shoeboxes.



THANKS FOR GIVING TO THE LORD!

BRO BRENT

PROVERBS 3:5-6

November 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

WEEKLY
Night of Prayer
6:00-7:30pm



MENU

1 Daylight Savings Time Ends Set Clocks Back 1 Hour	2	3 FHR Shoebox Packing Party 9-11am	4 <u>DINNER</u> Pizza, Salad, Dessert	5	6	7
8 <u>Recognize Veterans</u> Deacon Ordination Pending Vote	9	10	11 <u>DINNER</u> Soup, Crackers, Dessert	12	13	14
15 Last Day to bring your shoeboxes to FBC	16	17	18 <u>DINNER</u> Chili, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Dessert	19	20 Food Distribution at CSC 9am-1pm	21
22 Thanksgiving Lunch at FBC following morning worship	23 Beacon Articles Due <u>TODAY</u>	24	25 OFFICE CLOSED NO BUS NO DINNER NO SERVICE	26 	27 Mission Trip to Atlanta. See Brent if interested	28
29	30					

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR:
BRO. CHRIS DAVENPORT

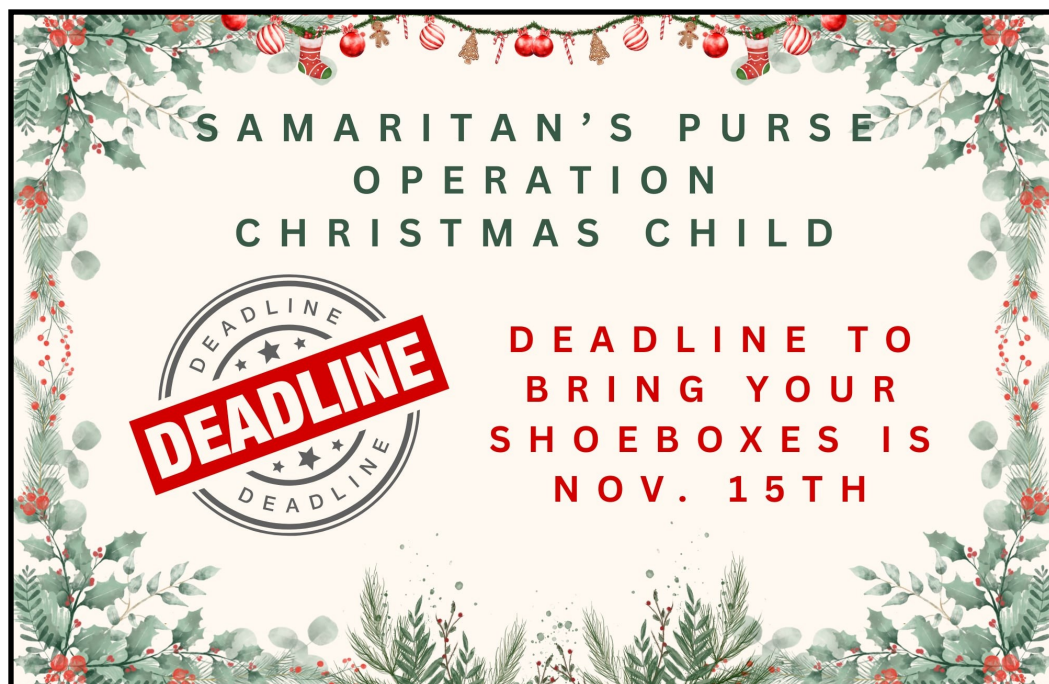
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**WHERE THINGS ARE HAPPENING
ONLY GOD CAN DO!**

**Be sure to get your shoeboxes packed with fun gifts.
Bring them and place them on our altar by Nov. 15th.**



**EVERY SUNDAY
AT 10:00 AM**

You Tube
LIVESTREAM

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



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Website