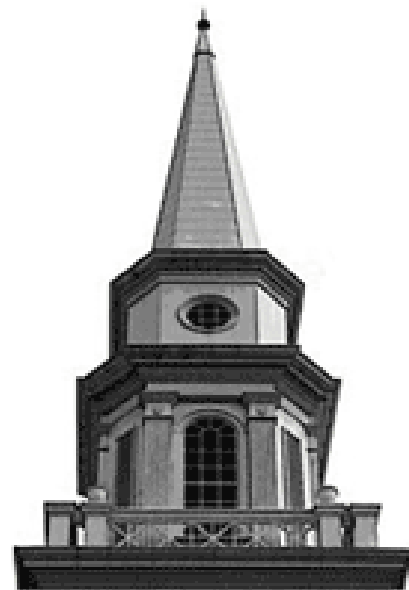


**The Reminder of First Baptist Church**  
**900 High School Avenue**  
**Columbia MS 39429**

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*Restore. Renew. Rebuild.*

**The Reminder**  
**First Baptist Church**  
**900 High School Avenue**  
**Columbia MS 39429**  
**(601) 736-2608/Fax (601) 736-0025**  
**Web Site—www.fbccolumbia.org**

Volume XXXIV Friday, December 1, 2017 Issue 48

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday**

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
 Hanging of the Green.....6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Family Night Supper.....4:45 p.m.  
 Handbells.....5:00 p.m.  
 Mission Organizations.....5:30 p.m.  
 Children's Choir.....6:15 p.m.  
 Youth Crossroads.....6:00 p.m.  
 Prayer Meeting.....6:00 p.m.  
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal.....7:00 p.m.



**Dr. Bryant Barnes**  
 Pastor

**Rev. Tom Thurman**  
 Senior Adults

**Rev. Shannon Willis**  
 Youth

**Jennifer Baker**  
 Preschool/Children

**Rev. O.J. Seals**  
 Education/Activities

**Rev. Hugh Plunkett**  
 Music

**Mary Herrington**  
 Associate Minister for Church Care

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Letter from our Pastor

**A PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS**

**THE CHRISTMAS SEASON KICKS OFF** this Sunday (**December 3**) with the Advent Wreath in the morning worship service and the “**Hanging of the Green**” and church-wide Christmas fellowship in the evening worship service. After a service of seasonal music, each adult department and class has been asked to bring Christmas treats for the fellowship after the service. Tables will be provided for each department and class in the Fellowship Hall. This is the only time that we will all be sharing in a time of fellowship for the season. We have enjoyed this start to the season in years past, and even though things will be different, it promises to be a great time of celebration. Hope to see you there.

**THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS BEGINS** this Sunday (**December 3**) and continues through Sunday, **December 10**. A Prayer Guide will be available to help inform you about the work of missionaries around the world. As Southern Baptists we are connected through prayer, financial support, and the work of the gospel with believers who serve in distant places. As we become more informed about the work around the world, it is our hope that we will support the work in more effective ways. Let's do our part.

**WE WANT TO REMIND YOU** that we set **December 1** as the start date for individuals to give to the Building Fund. Many members decided to give on a weekly basis, while others will give monthly or annually. As you begin this journey of commitment, we will ask God to bless your obedience and to grant His favor to your life.

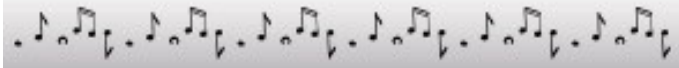
**THE EARLY THANKSGIVING AND THE EXTRA WEEK** between Thanksgiving and Christmas gave us the chance to transition between the two holiday seasons. We enjoyed the hospitality of the Methodist Church during the Community Thanksgiving Service, and we are grateful for your participation in the service. I always feel that this ‘extra’ time helps me to prepare my own heart for the Advent/Christmas season, while not moving so rapidly away from Thanksgiving.



We begin our celebration of Advent this Sunday morning. The Sanctuary Choir will sing "Of the Father's Love Begotten." We will light the first advent candle at the beginning of the service. I look forward to beginning this special time of celebration of the coming of the Messiah!

This Sunday night will mark the beginning of our Christmas celebration. The Hanging of the Green service is always an inspiration to all who attend. It will feature instrumental and vocal music. We will conclude with what has become the largest church-wide fellowship of the year.

The Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir & Orchestra has announced the 2018 roster. FBC, Columbia is represented in the group by the following youth: Molly Monk, Ladner Watts, Kayla Hammond and Drake Arrington. We also have Gracie Jones from Sandy Hook Baptist Church as an alternate. Congratulations to all of these fine musicians!!!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

- December 4  
 Hulon Davis Janet Rayborn  
 Kit Marable
- December 5  
 Heather Bell Abby Morris
- December 6  
 Graysen Miller Sadie Willis
- December 7  
 Ken Burkett Chris Thompson  
 Abby Magee
- December 8  
 Kristi Johnson
- December 9  
 Jimmy Johnson



**Family Night Supper**  
**Wednesday, December 6**  
**Beef Brisket, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Roll, Salad Bar, Dessert & Tea**

*announcements*

**Saturday, December 2**  
**Crafts4Christ is having a special day in which you can make an heirloom. They will meet from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$5. Doris Jordan will be leading. They will meet at 323 Dale St. Lunch will be served. Contact Mary Herrington if you have any questions 601-441-5674.**

**Sunday, December 3**  
**Hanging of the Green at 6:00 p.m. Fellowship to follow.**

**Tuesday, December 5**  
**B.A.L.L. Club at 11:00 a.m.**

**Thursday, December 7**  
**Crafts4Christ at 9:00 a.m.**

### Renovation Prayer Committee scripture for the week.

*"But He was pierced because of our transgressions, and crushed because of our iniquities, punishment for our peace was on Him and we are healed by His wounds."*  
**Isaiah 53:5**

**WMU...** There will be NO WMU Meeting in December. Rather, we are suggesting you follow the Week of Prayer material as suggested in the Missions Mosaic magazine beginning on page 11. Here you will find the introduction to the week's material. Follow daily for the next 8 days to read, pray and decide to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

**MEDIA CENTER...** The renovation is not yet complete in the Media Center, but you know what? In the process of switching books from room to room, we discovered some new books like the newest Midford Series book, Karen Kingsbury's books, Dee Henderson (of O'Malley series) has a new book and on it goes. Come by and visit us and find something for yourself. Christmas DVD's are on display as well.

**SHOE BOXES...** Thanks to those of you who prepared the Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes! Thanks to OJ for delivering them to Goss from where they were to be shipped to their final destination. The final number of boxes was between 30-40.

#### *FBC Columbia Mission Opportunities 2018*

March 10-17  
 Tri-County Mission trip to Mexico  
 Mainly construction and worship  
 Total cost \$380 with \$50 deposit due December 1.  
 See Bill Miller 601-736-2254.

June 23-29  
 Trip to Haiti with But God Ministries  
 Medical, veterinarian, construction, and childcare  
 Cost not including travel to Port-au-Prince \$700 per person. Deadline to sign-up is February 1st.  
 See Tom Watts or call 601-731-1232.

Other trips will include Tri-County to Mexico June 9-16 and a possible trip to the Mississippi Delta in April or May with But God Ministries (more details coming).

*Members of FBC Columbia can request help for these trips from the Acts 1:8 Committee.*



**Hanging of the Green**  
**Sunday, December 3**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Children's Christmas Musical**  
**Sunday, December 10**  
**5:30 p.m.**

*Sanctuary Choir Christmas Musical*  
**Sunday, December 17**  
**11:00 a.m.**

### PRESS ON!

*"The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the Word of our God remains forever."*  
**Isaiah 40:8**

*Take time to see progress of the Renovation works. Remember to pray for all the workers.*

*Mr. & Mrs. Bobby Sauls will return for our program at B.A.L.L. Club on Tuesday, December 5, at 11:00 a.m. Bring a covered dish.*

*Do you have any unfinished business to resolve before the coming of 2018? Don't carry grudges, bitterness or strife into the new year.*

### PRESS ON!

### November 26 Report



<b>Preschool.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Children.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Youth.....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Adults.....</b>	<b>190</b>
<b>Visitors.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>275</b>

### Tithes & Offerings

**Week Ending 11/26/17**

<b>Budget Required.....</b>	<b>26,265.85</b>
<b>Budget Receipts.....</b>	<b>24,801.00</b>
<b>Total Receipts.....</b>	<b>66,194.66</b>
<b>Year to Date:</b>	
<b>Budget Required.....</b>	<b>1,260,760.80</b>
<b>Budget Receipts.....</b>	<b>1,137,078.53</b>
<b>Total Receipts.....</b>	<b>1,754,285.02</b>

**Building Fund**

<b>Commitments to Date.....</b>	<b>1,110,694.00</b>
<b>Receipts to Date.....</b>	<b>351,693.00</b>