

# FIRST FOCUS

## **'TIS THE SEASON!**

Thank you for your generosity Sunday in giving to the Thanksgiving Offering. Because of your efforts, we received \$191,152. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

This weekend, we collect shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Bring your shoeboxes to the Sanctuary, and place them on the platform as we dedicate these to the Lord.

Each year, First Baptist gives the Leon County Sherriff's department blank, Christian inspirational Christmas cards. Their chaplain distributes these cards to inmates so that the prisoners can send Christmas cards to their loved ones. Beginning this Sunday, please donate cards by dropping them in the Connect Center. Volunteers will assemble the cards and give them to the Sherriff's department. Deadline is Sunday, December 6. Remember these guidelines: blank, inspirational cards with a hopeful Christian message.

Sign up now to volunteer for the Winter Festival. Volunteers are needed to welcome downtown guests who attend the Festival and to drive volunteers to and from their cars.

Sign up now at <http://fbctlh.org/events/winter-festival> or by emailing Hannah Watt ([hannah@fbctlh.org](mailto:hannah@fbctlh.org)).

Make note of a special new event for Advent. On Friday night, December 4, our Praise Team and band will be leading a "Christmas Night of Worship" at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This event is especially designed for college students, young adults, and many others who go "home for Christmas" away from Tallahassee. If you're not going to be here for the December 13 Christmas Musical or for Christmas Eve, this event is for you. Please join us for a special time together in the Sanctuary.

Gratitude is not just an attitude. It's a decision ahead of time to be thankful for all that's been entrusted to you. As I reflect on this season, I'm grateful for the many blessings of being your Pastor and for the men and women who make First Baptist who we are today. God has richly blessed our church. You inspire me with your dedication and encourage me through your presence and participation. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving season!



# THIS WEEK

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We will collect all shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child project on Sunday, November 22! You will need a standard -sized shoebox, then determine if your gift will be for a boy or a girl, ages 2-4, 5-9, or 10-14. Fill the box with appropriate gifts for the child you've chosen, include a \$7 donation for shipping, and place a rubber band around each box. Then, you just need to bring them to church with you on November 22, and drop them off in the Sanctuary.

For more information, check out [fbctlh.org/shoebox](http://fbctlh.org/shoebox).

## DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

On November 22nd we need volunteers to help bring down our Christmas decorations after the Sunday service. We need help moving the boxes of decorations down to the Mother's Room on the Sanctuary level.

On Sunday November 29th we will also need volunteers to help decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas season. If you are willing to help please contact Penny Folsom ([PFolsom@fbctlh.org](mailto:PFolsom@fbctlh.org)).

## HANGING OF THE GREEN

A Family Celebration of the Season! Don't miss this hall-decking, tree-trimming, carol-singing, wreath-lighting, smile-bringing service. Bring your family and invite your neighbors as we prepare our sanctuary and our hearts to worship the newborn King Sunday, November 29th, at 6:00PM.

## HOMEBOUND VISITATION

We need your help! We will be delivering Christmas poinsettias to the homebound Monday morning, November 30th. Because of the volume of deliveries, we would love to have additional volunteers! Pick-up will be in the Connect Center at 9:00AM.

## WINTER FESTIVAL

Winter Festival is December 5th and we need volunteers! Please sign-up at <http://fbctlh.org/events/winter-festival>.

During the City's annual Winter Festival, we have the opportunity to **#LoveTallahassee** as they come downtown. We provide restrooms, a baby comfort area for parents who wish to feed, change, or rest their children, and a hospitality area in our 1st floor cafe, where senior adults and other patrons can rest and get warm.

We need volunteers to be a smiling face to welcome guests, and direct them where they need to go. Sign up to serve for 1 hour, with the rest of your night free to celebrate the season with our community!

## CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor  
9:00AM Traditional Worship - Communion, Sanctuary  
10:00AM Church-wide Bible Study Options  
11:15AM Contemporary Worship - Communion, Sanctuary

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9:30AM Homebound Visitation, Conference Room  
10:30AM First Joy Choir, West Minister Oaks Healthcare  
5:00PM First Brass, Adams 200  
6:00PM Bells of Praise, Adams 211

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

9:30AM Knitting Ministry, Welcome Center  
7:00PM Capital Bells, Adams 211

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

OFFICE CLOSED - Thanksgiving Holiday

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

OFFICE CLOSED - Thanksgiving Holiday

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

9:00AM CLC Open

# COMING SOON

## CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR INMATES

We need 3,000 religious Christmas cards that include a meaningful Christian witness to give to the 1,000 inmates in the Leon County jail. Each inmate will be provided with three cards to send to family and friends, along with a tract telling them of God's gift of love to them. Collection boxes are in the College Avenue foyer, library, and the Welcome Center.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR CARDS BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6.**

## FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY

If you would like to provide flowers for the sanctuary on a Sunday morning in honor or in memory of a loved one or a special event, please let us know using the 2016 flower calendar in the Adams foyer (on the first floor, on the right as you exit the organ-side of the sanctuary). The 2016 calendar is wide open, so reserve your spot now.

For more information, contact Lenoir (x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org)).

## DEATH AND BIRTH NOTICES

As part of the new strategic plan, we will begin notifying the congregation of the death of church members and the birth of babies with their family's permission. We ask that you subscribe to these notices by email. We'll continue to communicate to family members and extended family by the prayer list and through SMBS classes and normal channels of communication.

When a church member or attender dies, Pastoral staff will contact family and ask for their permission to publish information to the church. Information will contain a link to the obituary and information about service times. Email will be distributed when service times are confirmed or within 48 hours of the contact (whichever comes first).

Members and friends of First Baptist may call the information into the church and may distribute info to their SMBS groups and email lists. However, only members of immediate family have permission to ask the church to send out churchwide death notices.

If you would like to place one or more poinsettias in our Sanctuary this Christmas season in memory or in honor of a loved one, the cost is \$9 per plant. Please return this form with your payment to the front desk. *Contact Lenoir (x201 or [Lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:Lenoir@fbctlh.org)) for more information.*

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ (number) poinsettias:

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (giving the poinsettias) \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVE**

## FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of November, we will join the Children's Home in providing personal hygiene supplies: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Collection bins are in the College Avenue foyer, the Welcome Center, by the elevator on the first floor of the Adams building, and in the main office.

*Check out the [fbctlh.org/Serve](http://fbctlh.org/Serve) page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.*



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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**THE VISION NEWSLETTER**

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For submissions, address corrections, or to unsubscribe, contact x132 or [hello@fbctlh.org](mailto:hello@fbctlh.org).

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vision, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

**SERVICE RECORDINGS**

[fbctlh.org/sermons](http://fbctlh.org/sermons)

Our Traditional Worship service is broadcast on Comcast Channel 21 at 11:00AM each Sunday.

Contact x215 or [lee@fbctlh.org](mailto:lee@fbctlh.org) with questions.

If you are homebound and would like to be on our mailing list to receive a free DVD of our worship services each week, please contact x201 or [lenoir@fbctlh.org](mailto:lenoir@fbctlh.org). All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at [fbctlh.org/contact](http://fbctlh.org/contact).

PERIODICALS  
POSTAGE PAID  
TALLAHASSEE  
FLORIDA

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL**

November 25 - No supper due to Thanksgiving holiday.

**FINANCIALS**

YTD budget: \$2,600,315  
Receipts 11/15: \$33,243  
YTD receipts: \$2,237,320

**DEACON SCHEDULE**

Deacon of the Day – Nathan Adams

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Leon Cassels
- 10AM Jeff Butts
- 11AM Pat Brown

**SECURITY SCHEDULE**

Sunday, November 22

- 8AM Jim Wheeler
- 10AM Jim Croushorn
- 11AM Art Pitts

Wednesday, November 25

- 6PM Roy Story

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

9:00AM

**BIBLE STUDY**

10:00AM

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

11:15AM

# THE FOLLOWERS' DRESS CODE

Colossians 3:12-17