

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

10:00AM Worship

MONDAY, December 26 FBC Office Closed

WEDNESDAY, December 28

NO Fellowship Meal or Regular Activities

SUNDAY, January 1 New Year's Day

9:45AM Sunday School

11:00AM Worship

MONDAY, January 2

FBC Office Closed

6:15PM WMU Group 2 – Taylor House

TUESDAY, January 3

12:00PM JOY Lunch (New Year's Menu)

WEDNESDAY, January 4

5:15PM Fellowship Meal (Chili Beans, Cornbread, Salad Bar, Dessert)

6:00PM Bible Study

6:00PM Youth, GA's, RA's, Mission Friends

6:15PM Cathedral Bells

7:15PM Sanctuary Choir

SUNDAY, January 8

8:00AM Deacon's Meeting

Sunday School Attendance 12/18	151
Worship Attendance 12/18	277
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$11,144.04
Budget Receipts 12/11	\$14,242.33
YTD Budget Receipts 11/30	\$485,944.73
YTD Expenses thru 11/30	\$528,600.31
Capital Campaign Receipts (thru 12-04)	\$211,415.00
Capital Campaign Commitments	\$278,595.00
World Missions Offering (thru 12-18)	\$9,715.00

HONORARIA

General Fund

Don Bennett by Nancy Bennett

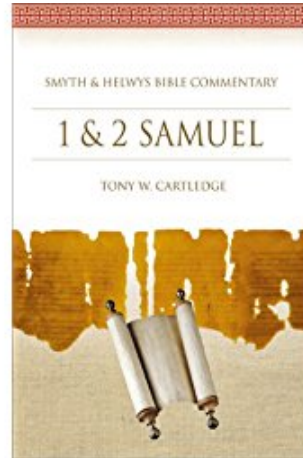
Ecclesia Communities are learning groups that will meet on Wednesday nights for the months of January and February. Five different communities are available for you to choose from. These communities will take the place of the regular Wednesday night Bible study. An information brochure and registration table is located outside of the church office. Sign up for an Ecclesia Community!

SCCM need for December is toiletries.

Winter Bible Study

January 8-10 from 5:30-7:15

Presenter: Dr. Tony Cartledge



Our annual Winter Bible Study will be led by Dr. Tony Cartledge on the Old Testament characters Samuel, Saul and David found in the books 1 & 2 Samuel. It will be an in-depth look into these important characters of the Bible. A snack supper will be served each night. If you need childcare for any

or all of the evenings, please contact Michael Furr.

YEAR END REMINDER

Any contributions that you want to be on your 2016 tax statement must be turned into the church office by December 30th at 2:00pm. The ONLY exception to this rule is an envelope postmarked by December 31st. Gifts received on Sunday, January 1 will go towards 2017 budget. Please remember that the church office will be closed: Friday, December 23rd, Monday, December 26th and Monday, January 2nd. Any stock contributions for 2016 must be received by First Baptist by December 31st to be counted as a 2016 contribution. If you have any questions, please call Sandra Stone. Thank you for your support of First Baptist!

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Here is your *TIE* to



Church Office: 704-982-2111. 982-2119(fax). info@fbc-albemarle.org
 Andy Jung, Senior Pastor, (704-985-3103) andy@fbc-albemarle.org
 Michael Furr, Assoc. Pastor of Family Ministries,
 (704-984-1232) michael@fbc-albemarle.org
 Aza Hudson, Director of Music Programming, aza@fbc-albemarle.org
 Sandra Stone, Financial Secretary, sandra@fbc-albemarle.org
 Judy Fraley, Food Service Director, judy@fbc-albemarle.org
 Todd Kimrey, Facility Manager, (704-791-0431) todd@fbc-albemarle.org

Deadline for submissions is Tuesday noon.

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December 24, 2016, 5:00PM



From the Desk of Andy Jung...

2016 is coming to an end and 2017 will be upon us in just a few short days. Many of you will agree with me that the years do seem to go by faster these days. Of course, with a new year, many will make new year's resolutions to better themselves. I believe new resolutions are good if they are kept in the right perspective.

According to research, 80 percent of those who make resolutions on January 1st have given them up by Valentine's Day. Most people give up on their resolutions because they rely on willpower for the changes rather than lifestyle changes. Wanting to make positive changes in life is a great goal and a new year is a good opportunity to implement some of these changes. However, we do need to keep a few things in mind for these changes to stick!

First, start with only one or two resolutions. Trying to keep a multitude of resolutions tends to become overwhelming, leading to frustrations. The resolutions must also serve the proper intentions. For example, why do you want to lose weight? Is it because you want to be a good steward of the body God has given you or is it vanity? What is driving your desire? What changes are you willing to make to live a healthier life?

Second, if your resolution has the proper intention, then do whatever it takes to just do it! Go ahead and work out more, drink more water, read your Bible more, pay down your debt and save more, focus more on your marriage, and spend more time with family. Whatever it is you want to accomplish, be willing to make the changes necessary to bring it to fruition.

Finally, give yourself lots of grace. Lifestyle changes are not easy. If it were, you would have made them a long time ago! If you go on an eating binge one day, give yourself grace and start again the next day to eat a little better. Look for incremental shifts, not drastic changes. Celebrate the small wins and build on those. The goal over time is to make enough small gains to make a big difference!

My prayer for you and for me is that we will be
(continued)

open to the leading of the Holy Spirit to show us areas of our lives that need to change to be more Christ-like. So go ahead and make those resolutions this year! Go after them fervently but remember to give yourself grace because God offers it to us daily.

I hope to see you on Christmas Eve at 5pm for our annual candlelight service. I also hope you will celebrate Christmas morning at our 10am casual worship. Finally, I also hope you will begin the new year in Bible study and worship at our normal times. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Andy



January 1
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship

Deacon of the Week

Reta Thompson	December 25 – December 31
Bob Sweet	January 1 – January 7

Our Church Family

Continual Care: Mildred Archer, Mildred Cooper, Joan English, Mary Furr, Ann Gaskin, Frances Newton, Helen Mauldin, Jack Bane, Max Clayton, Aileen Taylor, Herman Faulkner, Helen Lockamy, Barbara Hicks, Mary Sullivan, Carl Bowen, Mary Whitley, David & Sandy Young, David Sanges, Lu Phelps, Bear Knotts, Pete Johnson, Peggy Hill, Frank Crisco, Geraldine Causby, Don Bennett

PRAYER LIST

Steve Sasser, Sue Hunsucker, Linda Hall, Don & Carol Brummitt, Jim Mauney, Bonnie Herring, Bill & Lois Greene, Helen Lockamy, AnDe Dick, Kurt Kitchener, Gay Hayer, Adam, Beth & Grayson Boysworth, Mary Sue Lynch, Jackie Harward, Tonia Icenhour, Jack Neel, Jane Pendergraft, Nancy Brigman, Keith Garber, Bud Morton, Sylvia Scholl, Jont Johnson, Diane Huneycutt Powell, Carl & JoAnn Kimrey, Kent Haywood, Truett Saunders

Community Christmas Lunch

Thanks to everyone who has agreed to provide food for this large undertaking that we are a part of each year. We now have all the food assigned and have figured out how it will get cooked!! Thank you again. And if you don't have plans on Christmas day, please have lunch with us at First Presbyterian Church.

THANK YOU

We would like to express our most sincere and heartfelt appreciation to the congregation of First Baptist Church. Words cannot express the all-encompassing love that washed over us during the many challenging and trying months, from diagnosis, surgery, and finally recovery. Brendan continues to do well as we are amazed at God's hand in this difficult journey. In this season of gratitude, we count each of you among our many blessings. Wishing you His unfailing, unbeatable, unstoppable love. The Hearnese

YOUTH SCHEDULE

Dec. 25 NO Youth – Christmas Day

FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

This past Sunday our student ministry celebrated the holidays with an evening of intergenerational fellowship. Everyone had a great time as we closed out 2016 with our



annual Progressive dinner. I want to thank each family that was kind enough to host our young people. I am including a few pictures from the night.

Merry Christmas! Michael