



**Haywood County Habitat for Humanity**  
Please pray that this ministry will have the resources necessary to build safe, decent, and affordable houses for eligible families in Haywood County.



**Blue Ridge Health**  
Please pray that this organization will have the resources necessary to meet the needs of the uninsured in Haywood County. Meridian Behavioral Health is a part of Blue Ridge Health.



**Haywood Christian Ministry**  
Please pray that this ministry will have the resources necessary to provide food to those less fortunate in Haywood County.



**Child Development Center**  
Our center offers a preschool and child-care program which gives children ages 6 weeks to 6 years old the opportunity to grow and learn in Christian love. Please pray for the children and their parents as well as the Child Development Center staff.



**Christian Women's & Men's Job Corps (LifeWorks)**  
Please pray for this ministry that helps women and men who have been dependent on government assistance to become more independent through mentoring and classes.



**Haywood Pathways and Holy Cow Food Truck**



Please pray for the homeless and hungry as well as the staff and volunteers. Please also pray that resources needed will be sufficient to continue providing these much needed ministries.



**Pigeon Community Multicultural Development Center**

Pray that this organization will have the resources necessary to be able to strengthen harmony among the residents of the county and its communities and that they achieve this as they work to help foster the long-standing tradition of the community as a family. The Center fosters intentional inclusiveness to create a holistic quality of life.



Send your prayer requests via email to [joyce@fbcwaynesville.org](mailto:joyce@fbcwaynesville.org)

THE HERALD  
First Baptist Church  
100 South Main Street  
P.O. Box 690  
Waynesville, NC 28786

**Church Staff** Telephone 456-9465 Fax 456-1907

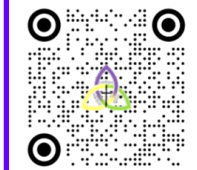
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**MISSION & VISION**

**MISSION** - To make disciples, united in worship and service.  
**VISION** - To embody Christ, loving all people and introducing them to the God we love.

The HERALD



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
100 South Main Street - P.O. Box 690  
Waynesville, NC 28786  
(828) 456-9465  
[www.fbcwaynesville.org](http://www.fbcwaynesville.org)

**December 2024**

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Mon. & Wed. 8:30am - 5:00pm; Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 8:30am - 12:30pm

**A Blue Ridge Big Band 'Christmas Bash' Concert**

Holiday Favorites featuring the vocal trio, 'The Mountainaires'

Sunday, December 1  
4:00pm - Sanctuary

The Blue Ridge Big Band is a 20-piece jazz ensemble composed of talented musicians from the Haywood and Buncombe County area.



**"A Joyful Song for the King"**

Presented by:  
**The Primetime Singers & The Handbell Choir**  
(Food & Fellowship following the concert in the gym.)  
Sunday, December 15  
4:00pm - Chapel

**Breakfast with SANTA**  
Saturday, December 7, 2024  
9:00am - 12:00pm - Gym

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**  
Sunday, December 8  
5:00pm - Chapel \*



**"Of the Father's Love... Christ With Us"**  
Presented by:  
**The Sanctuary Choir**  
Sunday, December 22 - 5:00pm  
Sanctuary

**From Dr. Prince...**

Our church bylaws delineate what happens when a pastor leaves our church. It addresses two main areas: the selection of Pastor Search Team and the calling of an interim pastor.

The bylaws say the church shall elect a Pastor Search Team consisting of 5 members and 1 alternate. The election is to take place over 2 Sundays. On the first Sunday, each church member shall have the opportunity to nominate up to 5 church members to serve on the team. The deacons are to collect and count the nominations. Two weeks later, the deacons will present to the church the ten members receiving the most nominations. Church members will then have the opportunity to vote for five to serve on the team. The five receiving the most votes will be on the team, and the person coming in sixth will be the alternate.

When I announced my retirement to the deacons in November, I encouraged them to go ahead and form the search team and have it begin its work before I retire. They agreed. So, our day for nomination for the Pastor Search Team will be January 12 and the day of the election will be January 26.

The other role the deacons have is to select an interim pastor. They will begin working on that when the time of my retirement comes nearer.

As we go into this time of transition, I ask you to pray for three things. First, pray for the formation of this search team. Pray about whom God would have you to nominate to serve. Second, pray for the person God is leading to serve as pastor to this church. Third, pray for Trish and me as we make this big transition in life. I've served continuously as a church pastor for 44 years. This will be a big change for us!

Still lots of good things to do here before I retire. I'm looking forward to seeing what God will do among us in the coming months!

See you Sunday!

*Robert*



**WHAT A GLORIOUS NIGHT**

Concert by:  
*100 South Main Band*  
Friday, December 20  
7:00pm - Sanctuary

**From "The Loft"...**

The Advent and Christmas Season is perhaps one of the most "traditional" times in the church and secular year. By traditional I mean that it is steeped in traditions at every layer. There are things that we do that go back to the earliest Church as well as elements that have grown over recent years.

One of the problems we face is that these traditions can become so a part of our cultural and spiritual language that they feel more like a check list rather than meaningful testaments to the multi-faceted glory that is the birth of Christ.

When I was in seminary, one of my classes spent the day talking about what it means for us as Worship leaders and pastors to "make the familiar, new; and to the make the new, familiar." Read that a couple of times. One of the tasks I am charged with is making sure we don't fall into spiritual and liturgical (another word for worship) ruts.

With that in mind, I challenge you to enter this season as if you have never experienced any of it before. Enter worship as if all of our songs are new to you. Listen to the sermons and scriptures as if they were never heard before. Consider all of your activities and events as if you are the newest member of the family. What might you see differently? What new words or images will come to mind? What traditions will become even more important, which ones perhaps need to be put to rest?

As we begin our season of holy expectation,

I invite you to pray with me:

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray.

Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

As we hear the Christmas angels and the great glad tidings they tell,

Come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel.

May this season be a time of holy imagination, as we wait for the coming of Christ, the Prince of Peace.

In His Service,

*Johnathan*



**Johnathan  
Summer  
December 8**

**Praying together...**

**OUR RECENT CONCERNS**

**We offer our prayers for:**

Those who are grieving...  
*the family of Clark Morton; and especially for the family and friends of Dot Wood.*

Those who are ill or have recently been hospitalized and/or have had surgery and other medical treatment...  
*David Eavenson; Scott Yarbrough; Rachel Smith; Jay Hinson.*

**Those who have lost everything due to Hurricane Helene as well as those who are helping with supplies, clean up, providing meals and food, etc.**

Our pastors, staff, and those in leadership positions... *especially our efforts with "Helping Churches Thrive".*

**Our church finances...**

Those who are poor and are oppressed, those who are unemployed and those who are destitute, those who are suffering in any way; those in prison and those who are captive, and all those who remember and care for them... *especially those who come to FBC seeking assistance.*

An end to violence...  
so that we may have PEACE  
in our lives and the world...

*Please send Greetings to these precious Women of God*

**Autumn Care  
Betty Ross**

360 Old Balsam Rd.  
Waynesville, NC 28786

**Haywood Lodge  
Ruth Painter, Norma Caudle, Barbara Gaddy**  
251 Shelton St.  
Waynesville, NC 28786

**Skyland Terrace  
Barbara Cothran**  
516 Wall St.  
Waynesville, NC 28786

**Arrowhead Cove  
Nancy Arrants, Marjorie Freeman**  
165 Lake Drive  
Canton, NC 28716

**Deacon of the Week - DEC.**

- December 1:** Bill Teague
- December 8:** Doug Trantham
- December 15:** Randi Boone
- December 22:** Brian Woods
- December 29:** Stephen Atwood



**WE NEED 53 VOLUNTEERS!**  
**PLEASE call Rachel Smith at (828) 400-3901 to let her know that YOU will help WMS students shop at Walmart on Thursday, December 5.**



"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well." 1 Thessalonians 2:8 This verse aptly describes followers who desire and intentionally show obedience in all areas of our lives to our Lord Jesus.

WMU and Mission Council have set a goal of **\$15,000** for international missions. Giving generously to this offering shows our desire for the gospel message to spread all over the world so the kingdom of God will grow. That results in more voices praising our Lord and more lives serving Him! You may designate your gift for either the Lottie Moon Offering or Global Missions offering. Undesignated offerings will be split between the two.

**May God be honored by all of our offerings.**

**Financial Report - OCT. 2024**

**MINISTRY RESOURCE PLAN (MRP)**

MRP Receipts Needed (YTD):	\$530,229.69
MRP Offering Received (YTD):	\$402,269.25
Total MRP Receipts (YTD):	\$415,262.41

Date	Worship	Sunday School
10/06	164	98
10/13	106	88
10/20	124	104
10/27	116	100

*~ Anita Strickler gave a gift in honor of the Deacons' Helping Hands Ministry.*



**YEAR END NOTES FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

For your year-end gifts to count on your 2024 giving statement, they must be received in the church office by noon on Tuesday, December 31, or they must be postmarked by December 31. Anything received after that date will be considered on your 2025 giving statement. Year-end statements will be processed no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> and will be mailed and emailed to you. Please let Faith know if you have any questions or concerns.

**Notes of thanks...**

*"Dear Friends at FBC, Waynesville, Just a note to express our gratitude for not only your monthly monetary donations, but also for the gifts of laundry detergent, etc. that your delivery angels dropped off at the office of REACH of Haywood. We are grateful for your compassion and commitment to our mission of helping individuals and families seeking a new life free from fear and violence. Thank you for standing with us in the fight against domestic violence."*

*Julie Freeman & Staff*

*"Special thanks to the deacons' Helping Hand Ministry for helping me move. I am very grateful and appreciate your kindness."*

*Anita Strickler*