



Jefferson

First Baptist Church

Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength."

85 W. Jefferson St.

Jefferson, OH 44047

440-576-1631

Dear Church Family,

One thing I am grateful for this year is the ministry we have at the Jefferson Health Care Center. The Center is filled with people who have spent much of their lives serving others. Singing there once a month gives us an opportunity to serve the residents with Christian songs and the hope that is found in Jesus Christ. While these songs bring great joy to those who hear them, nursing homes can still be a lonely place. This Christmas season, let's have our spiritual antennas up, seeking to find people that might be struggling with loneliness. George Barna's polling studies have shown that many people will come to church if someone takes the step to invite them. This Christmas season is a great time to invite newcomers and will be a time of singing traditional Christmas songs that are filled with hope, joy, love and peace. These four blessings are all found through our faith in Jesus Christ and are the topics of our December sermon series.

Lastly, as I look at social media outlets and my email inbox, I am reminded how much Christian organizations promote end of year giving in December. It is a reminder that we have much to be thankful for. As Larry Browning mentioned at our last Town Hall meeting, we can be thankful for the generosity of God's people at First Baptist Church and rejoice that we are on sound financial footing through good stewardship and generous giving. The Phillips family is thankful for the Lord's provisions for us this year and the many ways the church has served us. Let's pray together that 2019 is a year filled with deeper knowledge of Jesus Christ and greater spiritual fruit that comes from being His disciple.

Blessings,

Pastor Kevin

Operation Christmas Child 2018 Wrap Up

I would like to thank you for your tremendous support of Operation Christmas Child this year. Because of your generous contribution of shoeboxes and financial support at least 230 children will experience God's love in a tangible way. They will also hear the Gospel and have an opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. What a joyous thing it is to spread the Good News.

Also this year our church took on an additional role with Operation Christmas Child. We served as a drop-off site where shoeboxes created by other churches and individuals were brought. Volunteers counted the boxes, recorded information from donors and placed the boxes in cartons. We packed 1033 shoeboxes in 67 cartons. These cartons plus one containing filler items were then loaded onto a donated truck and transported to the central drop-off site located in Geneva. The cartons were loaded onto a waiting semi which left the next day for a processing center in North Carolina. Soon those who used the "Follow Your Box" labels will be able to see where their box's journey ends.

It has been a busy Operation Christmas Child season, and I know that we are entering a very busy Advent/Christmas season, but I ask you to continue to pray for Operation Christmas Child. Pray that our boxes and donations would bring God Glory, that they are brought safely to their destination, and that they can be used by God to meet the spiritual and physical needs of each child who receives a box. May God Bless you for your part in this ministry and Merry Christmas!

Yvonne Woodworth

Pastor Ray Williams to Receive Retired Ministers Offering

Since 1977 at Jefferson First Baptist Church, we have used the month of December to support the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering as a part of American Baptist Churches USA. This December will be different since we are currently an independent Baptist church.

Back in January of this year, the mission board had discussions about helping specific retirees instead of just giving to retired ministers and missionaries that we know nothing about. So this month, our mission offering will go to Ray and Francis Williams who live just across the Ohio state line in Hermitage, PA. Ray served as the interim pastor at Jefferson on two different occasions in recent years.

In 2017, Ray suffered a stroke and Francis had hip surgery. Ray is still not fully recovered from the stroke. Our offering will be a welcome gift (and a surprise) to a retired couple who have dedicated their lives to God's service.

December

Happy Birthday!

Guy Hansford	2
Bruce Allen	4
Autumn Snyder	4
Jerry Greene	6
Gerry Turchik	9
Brenda Phillips	14
Libby Mason	20
Lisa Pickard	21
Martha Demshar	24
Kristel Turchik	26
Garth Cornell	31

Happy Anniversary!

John & Nancy Dyrzcz	19
Bruce & Sue Allen	23

No Church Luncheon for December

There will be **NO** church luncheon for December, but it will return on Sunday, January 13, following the church service. Plan to attend and bring a covered dish to share.

As a way to increase our fellowship time together, these luncheons will be held the second Sunday of each month.

Hymn Sing on Dec. 20

The Hymn Sing will be one week later than normal this month; it will be 2:30 p.m., Dec. 20, at Jefferson Health Care. We look forward to worshiping in song with you. Please join us!

Bea Grassi Celebrates 96 Years

"I'd like to thank everyone for the birthday cards and phone calls. I'd also like to thank Pastor Pickard and Pastor Phillips for having communion with me, it has meant so much."

Bea Grassi

Vote on elders to be December 9

Three men have been nominated and have agreed to serve as elders in our church. The three are Garth Cornell, Rick Havens, and Ed Pickard. The vote will take place immediately following the worship service on December 9. It will be by written ballot.

Offering envelopes for 2019

If you have never used offering envelopes and would like to try them, please let Jerie Pickard know by Dec. 15. Those who have had envelopes will receive their box for 2019 unless you notify Jerie by Dec. 15 that you do not want them. (576-0390).

Used stamps still needed to support missions

Are you remembering to clip and bring in your used stamps? The Alliance Stamp Ministry has exceeded earning one million dollars from the sale of the stamps to wholesalers since the mission inception in 1972.

The money is given to subsidize the ministry of Publicaciones Alianza, a publisher in Argentina of Christian Spanish language Sunday School materials. These are used by over 40 denominations in eight Latin American countries, Spain, and the United States. These materials help teachers clearly give the Gospel to children. About 60 residents of the Shell Point Retirement Community in Ft. Myers, Florida meet each Tuesday and Friday to clip, sort, and pack the stamps that we and others send them.

Any cancelled stamp is accepted even computer generated, torn, or wrinkled. Leave $\frac{1}{4}$ " or $\frac{1}{3}$ " border when you clip them off the envelope and deposit them in the container provided in the foyer.

Thank you from the Martha Circle.



December 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 4:00 Decorate Fellowship Hall 5:00 Chili Dinner
2 Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	3	4 6:30 Leadership Team Meeting	5 6:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	6	7 7:00 Sherry Cornell Christmas Concert	8 7:00 Sherry Cornell Christmas Concert
9 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Vote on elders	10	11	12 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	13	14	15 No Men's Breakfast
16 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship 2-5:00 Phillips Open House	17	18 6:30 Mary Elizabeth Circle Dinner at Doris Havens' 6:30 Elders Board Meeting	19 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	20 11:00 Martha Circle at Brenda Headley's 2:30 Hymn Sing	21	22 9-12 Dress Rehearsal for Children's Christmas play
23 9:30 Children's' Christmas play 10:45 Worship	24 6:00 Christmas Eve Service 	25 CHRISTMAS	26 6:30 Worship Practice 7:00 Prayer Mtg. and Bible Study	27	28	29
30 9:30 Sunday School 10:45 Worship	31	DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER IS DEC. 23. PLEASE EMAIL OR GIVE THE INFORMATION TO ED PICKARD epickard@embarqmail.com				

**First Baptist Church
85 West Jefferson St
Jefferson OH 44047**



DECEMBER 2018

440-576-1631 (Fax 440-576-1630)

Email: fbcjefferson@outlook.com

Pastor Kevin Phillips

Sunday Services:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship

Nursery Care Provided

**7:00 p.m. Wednesday
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study**

Elevator Chair Available