

THE OUTLOOK

Gratitude Sunday



On the Sunday before Thanksgiving we express our gratitude for God's generosity to us by giving a gift in addition to our regular tithes and offerings. This year these gifts will be used to support the *Ministries in our 2013 Ministry Action Plan.*

Missional Christmas



Page 2

Ordination of Heather



Page 4

Deacon Nominees



Page 4, 5 and 6

Conversations Authors



Page 7

Missions at Christmas



Page 10

First School Director



Page 11

Sunday
November 3
12:15–2 p.m.



Missional Christmas

Fair Trade Market

in Carreker Hall
light (free) lunch while
you shop
You are invited!

Missional Christmas Fair Trade Market

November 3
12:15–2 p.m.
Carreker Hall

Beautiful gifts made by the working poor world-wide

Give to Christian causes in honor / memory of someone special

Free light lunch while you shop

Shoppers will have an opportunity to finish up their Christmas shopping at our annual “Missional Christmas” fair trade market. There will be beautiful and

affordable gifts made by folks in Kenya, India, and Appalachia. You may give a gift to the Special Missions



Offering, to the Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministry, or to Decatur Cooperative Ministry in honor of someone who would prefer that to a material gift. Plan now to stay after worship, have a light lunch (free) and shop.



As some of you already have heard, our dear English Bulldog, Willie Boy, died this week. Apparently he had an undetected, slow-growing tumor around his heart that began giving him distress over the weekend. We're sure going to miss him. In memory of our jowly, gassy, ornery little guy I'm sharing here the newsletter article I wrote to introduce him to our church family in Texas:

February 23, 2006

Friends, meet Willie Boy—the newest addition to the P-R household! In a moment of temporary insanity back in December, Tim and I decided to grant Lucy's persistent and increasingly creative requests for a puppy. We approached our task of choosing a breed in the most meticulous manner. OK, in truth we Googled this dog. Plugged in the two most crucial characteristics:

"requires minimal exercise" and "excessively affectionate" and *voila*—all fingers pointed to the English Bulldog. (Our Google search for dogs that are born house-trained came up empty.) So far, Willie Boy has lived up to his breed's reputation. In short, he's a love sponge who relishes long naps and whose idea of a rigorous walk is a trip to the mailbox. He's going to fit in beautifully at our house.

A couple of theological observations:
Observation #1:
 Anyone who doubts that God has a sense of humor has never seen a bulldog. This breed obviously got created at 4:45 on a Friday afternoon when God was feeling a little prankish.

Observation #2:

In 1848 a woman named Mrs. Alexander of Derry, Ireland, wrote some words that would become one of the best-loved hymns of all time:

*"All things bright and beautiful,
 All creatures great and small,
 All things wise and wonderful:
 The Lord God made them all."*

Mrs. Alexander wrote *All Things Bright and Beautiful* to help children better understand the opening words to the Apostles' Creed: I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Willie Boy wouldn't know the Apostles' Creed from applesauce. He has little to offer toward the fulfillment of the Great Commandment or the Great Commission. He likely won't be helping anyone toward a relationship with Jesus or addressing the problem of Evil in the world. And yet, as I sit here with this chubby puppy snoring by my side, I can't help but think of our colorful Creator who could have made all animals to look the same but who, for the sheer pleasure of it, gave us bulldogs and baboons...wart hogs and wallabies...poodles and panda bears. Yippee!

Blessings,
Julie

*"All things bright
 and beautiful,
 All creatures great
 and small..."*



Gratitude Sunday is November 24

Come with gratitude to worship

The Thanksgiving holiday means many things: family time, food, football. Here at First Baptist Decatur it's a time when we come together on the Sunday before the holiday to bring an additional offering to God that reflects our gratitude for God's goodness to us individually and as a community of Jesus-followers.

1) This year the Generosity Team is asking you to do two things in preparation for Gratitude Sunday: Think of one or more aspects of what God is doing through the ministries of First Baptist Church Decatur for which you are especially grateful. Write your thoughts on the tear-off portion of your worship folder, write them on your Gratitude Sunday envelope, email them to team member Amanda Faulkner (amandaefaulkner@gmail.com), or post them on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/decaturchurch>). We'll be sharing these throughout November; so let us know if you don't want your name used with your statement.

2) Pray about how you will determine the amount of your gift of gratitude in addition to what you regularly give through First Baptist Decatur: an additional week's gift, an additional month's gift, whatever amount adequately expresses your response to God's goodness.



Congregational Life

Ordination of Heather Burke



**November 10
6:30 p.m., in the
Sanctuary**

Former FBC intern Heather Burke will be ordained on Sunday evening, Nov. 6. Joining us for this service are representatives

from the church where Heather now serves as Minister to Children, First Baptist Church of Conway, SC. Come and be a part of this significant moment for Heather and for the kingdom of God. Reception following.

Harriet Holland Selected as New Director of First School



New leadership at First School as Barbara Long plans retirement

As announced this summer, Barbara Long will retire the end of December. First

School is in very capable hands with the selection of Harriet Holland as Director. See page 11 for the official announcement letter to the congregation.



A Ministry to Families in Poverty

Women on Mission Meet November 12

On Tuesday November 12, the Women on Mission will meet at 10:15 for prayer and sharing. Then at 11:00 Clayton Davis, executive director of the Andrew P. Stewart Center, will speak about the ministry in Reynoldstown and other neighborhoods. See www.stewartcenter.org

Caregiver Support Group

November 5

Every first Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. Ann Murphy, R. N., meets with those who are caring for sick or aging relatives or friends. The encouragement from this group can be a lifesaver. You are welcome to join us on November 5 in room 123 off the first floor hall of the sanctuary building.

A Note from the Organ Bench

Praise and Thanksgiving

During November, organ preludes and postludes will reflect the season with hymns of praise and thanksgiving. Among the selections will be well known German hymns of praise.



Fall

Wednesday schedule

- Family Dinner 5:30 p.m.
- God Stories & Prayer Time 6:10-6:25 p.m.
- Opportunities for All Ages 6:30-7:30 p.m.

New Community groups and special speakers for adults

New Community for Kids

Youth Community Groups

ADULT CLASSES

Faith and Justice Discussion:

Welcoming the Stranger: Immigration Issues

Led by Mickey Goodson and Rob Johnson
6:30-7:30 p.m. in Room S304

Fall Reflections

6:30-7:30 p.m. in Room S206

Led by Sharyn Dowd

A series of reflections and discussions on our preparations for the Thanksgiving/Christmas season, specifically gratitude, helping the poor, keeping the focus on Christ, relating to grieving friends.

MUSIC FOR ADULTS

New Fall Season

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

7:30-8:45 p.m. in Room S226

Avé (Adult Vocal Ensemble)

7:00-7:30 p.m. in Room S226

Support groups meet every week

Al-Anon in S205

7:30-9:00 p.m.

ANAD in S218

7:00-8:00 p.m.

Support groups continue to meet every Wednesday year round.

Vote on Deacons Nov 10 by Ballot

Deacon Election Timeline

Nominations • Voting • Service Begins

August 26-September 9

Sunday, November 10

January 2013

There was a call for deacon nominations

Church votes by ballot in both worship services

3-year term of service begins

See Deacon Nominee pictures and bios on Pages 5 and 6

Introducing Deacon Candidates for 2014 (continued on page 6)

Lou Ann S. Brown, Edward (Eddie) Campbell, Jr., Gail Duke, Tex Grubbs, Wilson Holland, Katie Kennedy

The congregation will vote on the deacon candidates by ballot in both worship services on Sunday, November 10.

Lou Ann S. Brown



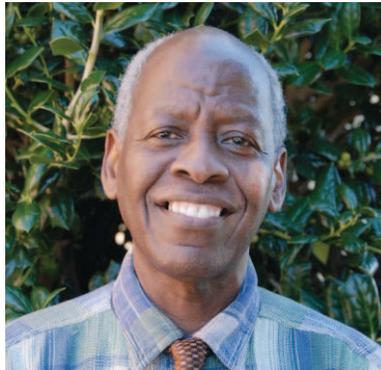
I was blessed with a Christian family; “Jesus Loves Me” was sung often and at age nine I realized that love needed a commitment from me. Milton and I began at FBCD in 1985 because it was committed to Paul’s teaching that no label should separate us because those labels mean nothing to God. This church body has loved, supported, and nurtured us through multiple phases of our spiritual lives including the birth and development of Meredith and Tyler. At FBCD, I have worked in multiple areas but I most enjoy music and teaching. My prayer: we will be filled with knowledge of His will in spiritual wisdom and understanding so we can walk in a manner worthy of the Lord (Colossians 1:19-13)

Tex Grubbs



I remember asking Jesus into my heart at the age of eight in Sunday School at First Baptist Church of Dallas, TX. Julie and I joined the FBC Decatur family in the spring of 2011 and found a home in the Second Cup class. Julie and I were married on November 2, 2013 and live in North Decatur. I am praying that we would be a congregation who live by faith and are known by love. I pray that we would be receptive and responsive to God’s unique calling for us in our community.

Edward (Eddie) Campbell, Jr.



I was taken to worship services in Union Baptist Church, Savannah, Ga. at the age of seven days. The sounds of an upright piano and the mesmerizing voices of choir members still echo in my soul. I have continued in the Lord’s way for the past two years here at FBCD. Both my parents came from families of farmers/share croppers in middle South Carolina and south Georgia. They believed in education as a step up from poverty and ignorance to success. These values have produced a generation of positive contributors to America. Simply put, my ministry is: Service to God and to humanity. My prayer for FBCD is for strong spiritual membership growth, through prayer, youth and adults. I also pray that FBCD will be freed from financial bondage.

Wilson Holland



I have been a member of First Baptist Decatur since 1987. I first accepted Christ as my Lord and Savior when I was eleven in Tampa, Florida. I have lived in Decatur with my wife, Harriet since 1981. We have one son, Carter. I believe my lifework, taking care of our elderly veterans as their physician, is my ministry in life. Getting to be a part of their lives, helping them through their health issues, and comforting them in their final days is an honor and blessing. At FBCD, I am facilitator for the Gospelsed Lives Sunday Bible study and a member of the “Men on Deck” small Bible group. My prayer for the church is that we strive to be followers of Christ, not just fans

Gail Duke



I have been a follower of Christ since I was eight years old. I was blessed with two parents who modeled the Christian walk for me. My husband Jim and I are members of the Fellowship Sunday School class. I am active in several ministries in the church and volunteer in the Welcome Center. I love to see people as they come to First Baptist Decatur and are amazed by the loving welcome they receive. My prayer for the church is that we would pray for God’s guidance and will in everything that we undertake and that we would always be salt and light in our community.

Katie Kennedy



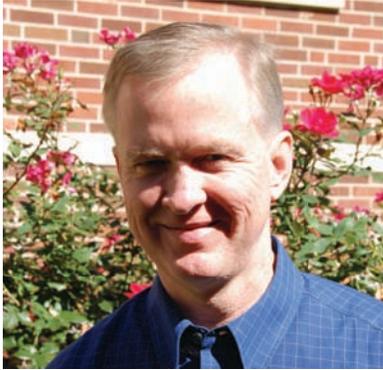
My husband, Andy, and I have been members at FBCD since 2003. We have two daughters, Maggie and Claire and live here in Decatur. I grew up in Jackson, Mississippi and was baptized at First Baptist Church of Jackson when I was younger. While I have been a member at FBCD, I have been involved with many aspects of the Children’s Ministry and am also involved with the Women’s Ministry. I really enjoy watching our young children learn to love and grow in God and begin to develop faith that will keep them strong as they grow. This is also one of the prayers that I have on behalf of our church body and look forward to witnessing with my own children.

Introducing Deacon Candidates for 2014 (continued from page 5)

Gary Owen, Andrea Robinson, Peggy Smith, Jim Wallace, Scott Winn, Phil Wise

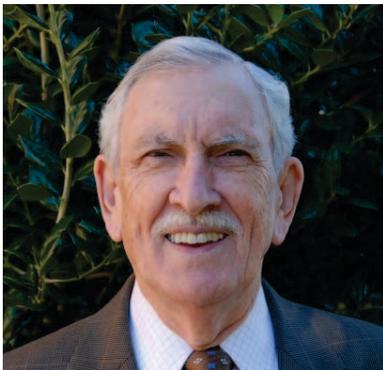
The congregation will vote on the deacon candidates by ballot in both worship services on Sunday, November 11.

Gary Owen



I have been a follower of Christ since 1990. Although I was raised in this church, I was rebellious in my earlier years and did not “see the light” and experience new life in Christ until my early 30s. I am blessed to be the husband of Karen, whom I met here in the singles Sunday School class, and the father of Caroline, who was an active part of our Children’s and Youth Ministries and is now a freshman at Furman University. Although it is a joy to worship, fellowship, have Bible study, and serve here, I am especially interested in missions and have participated in a variety of projects through our church. My prayer is that we will all use our God-given gifts to share the love of Christ and that we will be faithful to Him.

Jim Wallace



I became a follower of Christ at a very early age, and was baptized at about the age of seven. My wife, Helen, and I joined FBCD a little over two years ago; I had been a member of my former church for 45 years. Helen and I have three adult children, two of which are members of FBCD, and seven grandchildren, five of which are at FBCD. Ministries that I love include music, teaching, and hospitality. My prayer for FBCD is that our love will continue to grow, that we will understand where God would have us go, and that we would go there united and with enthusiasm.

Andrea Robinson



Born into a Christian family, I have had the blessing of a lifelong relationship with God. My husband, Dwayne and I joined FBCD in March of 2011 and while we have not had children yet, even our dog, Pharaoh has been to FBCD to serve in my Sunday School classroom! I love serving in the Children’s Ministry as the 4th/5th grade Sunday school teacher and on the Children’s Ministry Leadership Team. I pray that we (as a church) are able to direct our spirit, passion and talents in the direction that God intends in order to progress in the direction of His will and that the community around us comes to know what a dynamic, loving and accepting body of Christ we are!

Scott Winn



I have been a follower of Christ all my life, college years notwithstanding. My family and I have been members of the FBC Decatur family for a year and a half. I am the grateful husband of Joshilyn and proud father of Sam and Maisy. I am currently serving as a member of the Fresh Start AV team and am part of the Seeking the Kingdom class. My prayer for the church echoes something I heard from a previous deacon candidate...May this congregation continue to view each person, both inside our walls and beyond, as a beautiful and broken child of God, and may we accept His gracious invitation to participate with Him in the restoration of His creation.

Peggy Smith



I have been at FBCD for 69 years and began my journey with Christ 62 years ago. It has grown each and every year. My grandmother, parents, my siblings, and husband have all called this church home. It is truly where we felt the love of Christ and this community of faith in good times and bad. I feel best about getting to know the members here and sharing in our journey with Christ in our daily lives. My prayer for this church is that we continue to grow together and to spread outside to the community the love of Christ. I pray that we will live our faith rather than just talk about it, and that we will be a lighthouse to this community.

Phil Wise



I was baptized into the membership of Plains, Georgia Baptist Church at the age of twelve and began attending First Baptist Decatur in 2011. My letter was moved to FBCD in 2012. I married Allison Rainey in 1994 and we have a daughter, Rainey, born in 2004. The leadership and congregation of FBCD attracted me to their spirit of hope, inspiration and caring and I pray that these blessings will be shared with many more folks through our worship. I serve as Vice President of Operations and Development at the Carter Center and have a bachelors degree in Industrial Management from Georgia Tech..

FBCD Conversations Team & The GA Center for the Book Author Event: Lamott speaks on *Stitches: A Handbook On Meaning, Hope And Repair*



November 11

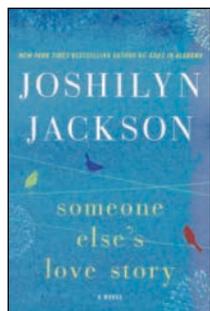
Anne Lamott will return to the FBCD sanctuary on Monday, November 11 to promote and sign her newest book, *Stitches: A Handbook on Meaning, Hope and Repair*.

Lamott explores how we find meaning and peace in these loud and frantic times; where

we start again after personal and public devastation; how we recapture wholeness after loss; and how we locate our true identities in this frazzled age. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Lamott share her honest observations and personal experiences of meaning, hope, and repair. This event is sponsored by the FBCD Conversations Ministry and the Georgia Center for the Book. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and Lamott will speak at 7:00 p.m.



Decatur Author and FBCD Member, Joshilyn Jackson speaks on her new book *Someone Else's Love Story*



November 21

On November 21 FBCD member Joshilyn Jackson will speak about and sign her latest novel, *Someone Else's Love Story*. It's a story about science and miracles, secrets and truths, faith and forgiveness, falling in

love and learning that things aren't always what they seem—or what we hope they will be. The doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the presentation, co-hosted by the Georgia Center for the Book, will begin at 7:00 p.m.



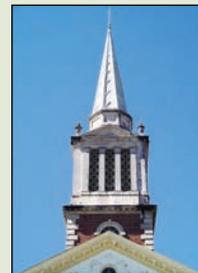
Joshilyn Jackson

A word from the Finance Committee

Line of Credit

As you are aware, the Finance Office was given approval to borrow up to \$600,000 for building improvements. This was supposed to cover current improvements to the various buildings on our campus including new windows, new exterior paint, cornice work, new roof at the Activities Building, lighting upgrades, as well as other improvements and energy upgrades. It was also supposed to provide a "cushion" in case an emergency popped up. The 1st emergency was a new Fire Alarm system

mandated by the City of Decatur. The 2nd emergency was a power surge that disabled our HVAC system for nearly a week causing an extreme moisture problem within the building. Our



insurance policy has covered much of the cost related to the moisture, but there is still a substantial amount remaining. The Finance Committee and Deacons have approved a new borrowing limit up to \$750,000. This will allow for FBCD to meet its commitment to providing a safe and welcoming environment. Information about how the congregation will be asked to pay off this debt will be coming soon.

*Harriet Holland and Scott Martin,
Finance Chair and Vice Chair*

Updating Prayer Concerns

In the future, the Prayer Concerns list sent by email on Tuesdays will be updated to reflect current concerns. Once a prayer concern has been on the list for 30 days it will be removed unless someone calls to have it renewed. You may add a prayer concern at any time! Thanks for your help making our Prayer Concerns list accurate and current, and for praying!

Keys & Security

As a part of updating our security procedures, the church will be rekeying all locks in the building coming soon. At that time, all former keys will no longer function. If you have any questions, please contact Van Smith our Director of Operations.

Celebrating 200 Years of Baptist Missions Judson Bicentennial Event

November 14-16

Several Baptist organizations are co-sponsoring a conference on the legacy of Adoniram and Ann Judson, founders of Baptist ministry in Burma/ Myanmar. The

conference will be November 14 – 16 at Mercer University -- Atlanta Campus, 3001 Mercer University Drive, Atlanta, GA 30341, AACCC Building. Speakers include Bill Leonard, Molly Marshall, Robert Nash, and Suzii Paynter.



There is a registration fee for the conference, with a deadline of November 1. The Friday night worship service at First Baptist Church of Tucker is open to the public and will involve participation by a variety of Burmese Baptists from the Atlanta area.

For more information see: <http://theology.mercer.edu/programs-events/the-judsons-celebrating-200-years-of-baptist-missions.cfm> or email Dr. Loyd Allen: allen_wl@mercer.edu.

New Community for Kids

Wednesdays

6:30–7:30 p.m.

We are offering 3 different community groups for kids on Wednesday nights.

FBI (Faithful Bible Investigators) In this learning community children in grades 1-3 will become real FBI agents in training! Faithful Bible Investigators to be exact. Children will learn some special skills to help them become faithful students of the scriptures.

Someone's in the Kitchen In this learning community children (all grades) will be looking at the world and God's work in the world through cooking. Children will prepare recipes related to an area of study. During this rotation children will be learning about how churches get developed in areas that need a new or different way of sharing Jesus here in the US. Later in the rotation, we will learn about the work of God in the Ukraine.

Life of Christ (computer lab experience) In this learning community children in grades 4–5 will either begin or continue to study the life of Christ and become more familiar with the New Testament which is the primary source for things related to Jesus' life and work.



Food Trucks are Here!

**First and Third Mondays of Each Month
3–7 p.m. This month: November 4 and 18**

In the upper parking lot

Come take a break from cooking dinner, promote local businesses, and support the **Community School Fundraiser**.



ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY DINNER

November 7, 6 p.m.
 Carreker Hall, Cost: \$10
 6 p.m. Dinner
 7 p.m. Program



At this year's Annual Veteran's Day program veterans Bob and Gretchen Evans will give a presentation. They will be sharing pictures from their experiences in Afghanistan.



All veterans and their families are invited to bring their military souvenirs and artifacts to be displayed for the evening. There will be plenty of tables for the displays.

Everyone is invited.

To make your reservations:

Call the church office (404)373-1653 to add your name to the list

See Bob Williamson and give him your name

Or email Darci Rodenhi at drodenhi@fbcdecatur.com.

Wounded Warrior Project (formerly Soldier Boxes Project)

Collecting Donations Now

Because time is running so short for sending soldier boxes this year, several members of the Young at Heart committee and Don Carter (who was heading the soldier boxes



Wounded warrior plays guitar.

project) decided instead to send a donation to the Wounded Warriors project. It was felt that this would honor any of our military in

harm's way in the Persian Gulf and the Sparks families who for so many years faithfully led the soldier boxes project for our church. The Wounded Warrior project "serves veterans and service members who incurred a physical or mental injury, illness or wound co-incurred to their military service on or after September 11, 2001 and their families." Its mission is "to honor and empower Wounded Warriors." Its purpose is to 1) raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, 2) help injured service members aid and assist each other and 3) provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members.

Sunday school classes, groups and/or individuals in our church are encouraged to make a donation to the Wounded Warrior project. Checks should be made out to First Baptist Church of Decatur. Designate **Wounded Warrior project** on the "For" line in the lower left corner of the check.

The **deadline** for getting the checks in to the church office is November 11, 2013. The church will send one check on to the Wounded Warriors project in Topeka, KS.



Candlelight Vigil in December

For the grieving families in Newtown, CT

Saturday, December 14
 Front lawn of FBC Decatur
 7 p.m.

The church and community will gather to remember and pray in support of the families of Newtown.



A Celebration of Giving

Supporting DEAM

Saturday, November 16
 9-3 p.m.

Don't forget to bring your dry food items (listed on the website.)

A Celebration of Giving is a holiday gift show sponsored by Georgia Storm benefiting DEAM (Decatur Emergency Assistance Ministries) and Georgia Storm Youth Sports. It will be held on the FBC Decatur campus. Fun for the whole family includes food, music, Santa Claus, great gifts and a raffle. For more information visit the event website at www.georgiastorm.org/holiday-2013.html.

Missions Christmas Opportunities

A SEASON OF GIVING ◆ CHRISTMAS DECATUR ◆

Brighten the 2013 Holiday Season for Decatur Children and Seniors

All of our church's efforts for poor children and senior adults at the holidays are channeled through existing programs, the primary one being "A Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur" which is coordinated by Mai Cavalli. If you want to provide Christmas gifts for those in need, forms will be provided to each Sunday school class by November 3, 2013, and will need to be returned to Mai Cavalli by November 10, 2013. Wish lists for children and seniors will be provided to the classes by November 17. All gifts must be delivered to a collection center by December 7, 2013, for the Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur children and seniors. This year we have close to 20 seniors at Clairmont Oaks, many more poor seniors and hundreds of children living in Decatur who will be the recipients of gifts through the Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur. If you have any questions please contact Mai Cavalli at 404-931-2394.

This form is available online at the [MISSION PAGE](#) or a copy can be picked up at the church office.



A Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur

How You Can Help



Brighten the 2013 Holiday Season for Decatur Children and Seniors

Every year FBOD participates in **A Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur**. Last year FBOD provided gifts to more than 45 of our city's low-income children and senior citizens. Last year, the community's generosity allowed this program to provide holiday gifts for more than 600 children and senior citizens, including children at Hagar's House and in public housing, children of school crossing guards and school lunchroom workers, children of families unemployed or working for poverty wages, divorced, or affected by serious health concerns, and poor seniors who are alone with no family support including a number of our seniors who live at Clairmont Oaks.

Please consider participating individually or as a Sunday school class. You will be provided a profile for shopping that lists exact information on what a child or senior needs, including clothing sizes. Individuals or the class should purchase approximately \$100 worth of gifts for each person (a mixture of toys and clothing for the children).

If your class cannot shop for gifts, please consider making a financial contribution made out to "A Season of Giving/Christmas Decatur", and a volunteer will do the shopping for your class.

If you or your Sunday School class is interested in providing gifts for one or more child/student or senior citizen, please fill out this form and return it to Mai Cavalli in the Fellowship Class no later than **November 10, 2013**.

Name of SS Class: _____
Name & Phone # for contact: _____

We want the wish lists for:

Children (Circle the number you want): 1 2 3 4 5 6
Senior citizens: 1 2 3 4 5 6
Our class will donate money: \$ _____

You will be provided with the children's and senior citizens' wish list by **November 17, 2013**, for purchasing gifts. Gifts must be purchased and delivered to the distribution center in Decatur on **Saturday December 7, 2013**.

<http://www.missionsdecatur.com>



Special Missions Offering

Your Gift to Jesus

We are half-way to our goal of \$32,000 for the Special Missions Offering for 2013. Giving to missions at the holidays is a traditional Baptist practice based on the idea that whatever we give to friends and family members, our largest gift should be to Jesus, since it is, after all, his birthday we are celebrating.

When you give to the Special Missions Offering, 70% of your gift goes to the Global Missions Offering of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (<http://www.thefellowship.info/Missions>). Fifteen percent is distributed by the Missions Steering Team to various mission causes. Fifteen percent is divided among missionaries sent out from our church:



The Bishops in cross-cultural education
<http://www.cgedu.org/>

The Peelers in Cambodia
<http://www.thefellowship.info/Missions/Field-personnel/peeler>

The Robinsons in Taiwan
<http://hs.mca.org.tw/robinsond>

New Director of First School beginning January 2014: Harriet Holland

We welcome Harriet Holland to First School!



October 29, 2013

Dear First Baptist Decatur Family:

I am thrilled to announce that Harriet Holland has been selected to become the next Director of The First School as of January 2014. Her name was shared yesterday with the First School staff, and today with the FBC staff and First School parents.

The members of the two interview panels were impressed and inspired by Harriet's vision, passion and experience. Since 2006 she has been Director of Glenn School for Young Children at Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church, where she led a staff of 30 and guided the instruction and care of 185 students in 13 classes. Integral to her role as Director, Harriet also ensured the harmonization of Glenn Memorial UMC's mission with the mission and vision of the Glenn School.

Harriet also has served as a Parapro at Decatur First United Methodist Church Preschool and Kindergarten, and as a Physician Assistant/Office Manager at Davis, Smith, and Alexander in Atlanta. She has served as President of the Junior League of DeKalb County and as Chairperson of the Clairmont Oaks, Inc. Board of Directors, and has served in a wide variety of leadership roles at First Baptist Decatur, (including Chair of the First School Board, Deacon Council, Finance and Personnel Committees and Director of the Yard Sale in 2013).

Harriet earned a B.A. from Wake Forest University (1978) and her P.A. from Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest (1980).

Harriet loves God and is a committed follower of Jesus. She and her husband, Wilson, have been active members of First Baptist Decatur since 1990. Their son, Carter, grew up at FBCD.

I also want to say a heart-felt thank you to the members of the two interview panels: Lee Ann Anand, Dale Doud, Sharyn Dowd, Matt Hicks, Andy Kennedy, Annie Mullins, Carla Stanford and Sally Thomas. They have given considerable time, energy and heart to this important responsibility over the past couple of months. It has been a thoughtful and prayerful process in which we all felt God's Spirit guiding.

Harriet will begin leading First School in January. Please pray for her as she concludes her ministry at Glenn School, and pray that we continue to discern God's best intentions for First School, our church and our Decatur community.

And this announcement would not be complete without a word of sincere thanks to Barbara Long, whose leadership, vision and spirit of servanthood have helped First School to be known throughout our community as an excellent school for young children. Barbara, we love and appreciate you!

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie".

Pastor Julie

(Letter sent to the congregation by email on October 29, 2013.)

Sharing in Prayer

Christian Sympathy

To Curtis and Mary Sue Reding and the family of Gene Allen Vargas who passed suddenly on October 9. Please pray for Curtis (uncle) and Mary Sue (cousin).

To Shirley Smith in the passing of her sister Betty Carroll on October 15. Please pray for Betty's daughter Julie, as well. Memorial will be in FBCD chapel on Saturday, November 2 at 11 a.m. with a reception to follow in Carreker Hall.

To the family and friends of Bill Lewis, who passed away October 16, especially his wife Jimmie. The memorial service was held at FBCD, Saturday, October 19.

To Pat and Chris Helton and to Pat's father James Manning in the death of Pat's mother, Thelma Manning, on October 17.

To the family of Jewell Goodson, who passed away October 17, especially her sons Mickey and Gary and their wives Carol Hadley and Heidi White. A service for Jewell was held October 22 in the Sanctuary.

To Shelia Skinner and the family of Butch Adkins, who passed away October 26 at age 56 of congestive heart failure.

To Kathy Kinlaw, Bob Hamilton and Rob & Sarah Hamilton in the passing of their mother and grandmother, Gloria Kinlaw, on

Sunday, October 27. Remember also Gloria's son, Ken, and his wife, Mary Ann and children, Kelly and Jeffrey. Service will be in the sanctuary Saturday, November 2 at 1:30 p.m. with reception to follow in Carreker Hall.

To Ron and Beth Withers in the passing of Ron's mother Edith on Monday, October 28. Visitation will be on Friday, November 1 from 5-8 p.m. at Eternal Hills Funeral Home, Stone Mountain, GA. Funeral service will be at Eternal Hills on Saturday, November 2 at 11 a.m.

Congratulations

To Parker and Hannah Ebling-Artz who were married in Kansas on October 6.

Pray for the World

Please follow the daily prayer guide for all the countries of the world at www.operationworld.org.



Pray Dangerously

You are invited to pray with Pastor Julie in 2013. Sign up by emailing Darci at drodnhi@fbcdccatur.com.

2013 Financials

MINISTRY ACTION PLAN (M.A.P.)

Through October 27, 2013

Offerings last week.....\$20,520
(average needed per week.....\$26,346)

Offerings received YTD.....\$995,894
Offerings YTD (behind) budget.....(\$124,587)

YTD through September 30, 2013

Offerings + other income received.....\$996,144
Church expenses.....\$1,032,087
Surplus/(Deficit) *.....(\$35,943)

PROGRAMS OUTSIDE OF M.A.P.

Through October 27, 2013

Special Missions.....\$18,416
Benevolence Offerings.....\$9,639



Scan for Giving Online OR
[click here](#) to access
online Giving

Quarterly Publishing Schedule for the Outlook:

November publish date is October 31.
December publish date is November 21.
(Articles due Monday, November 11.)
January publish date is January 2.
(Articles due Monday, December 16.)
Articles submitted after each issue's deadline will be published in the following issue or put on a MailChimp email.

Contact Us

Main Office—404-373-1653
Fax—404-370-7692

First School—404-370-7688
Activities—404-373-2442

Website—www.fbcdccatur.com
E-Mail—fbcd@fbcdccatur.com

308 Clairemont Avenue
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Weekend Contacts

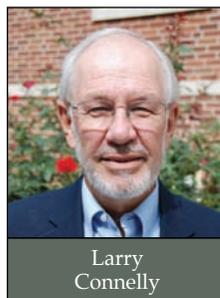
To reach a staff member for weekend pastoral emergencies, please call their cell phone number (below).

Pastors on call

Sharyn Dowd (770) 329-7929
Julie P-R (678) 602-7209
Bob Williamson (770) 633-4651

Deacon on call

Nov 1-3—Cecil Cannon
Nov 8-12—Larry Connelly
Nov 15-17—Matthew Hicks
Nov 22-24—Ann Smith
Nov 29-Dec 1—Linda Judson



Wednesday Dinner

Every Wednesday—5:30-6:30 p.m.

The first time a visitor attends the Wednesday night supper the meal is free. Encourage folks to get involved in New Community offerings and the fellowship around the tables.

Office Schedule

Regular office hours:
9 till 5, Monday-Thursday
9 till 12, Friday
Church holidays (offices closed):
November 27 through 29
December 24 through 27

Blue Plate

Nov 6—Meat Loaf
Nov 13—Chili
Nov 20—Poppy Seed Chicken
Nov 27—*Thanksgiving Break—No Evening Meal or New Community groups*

Meal Prices

Adults—\$6.50 Students—\$5.50
Children (10 and under)—\$3
Family Maximum—\$25