

GIVE Thanks  
to the LORD,  
FOR HE IS GOOD:  
HIS love ENDURES  
FOREVER!

*Psalm 136*



OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST

"To be found faithful as God's People."

# The First Family

## NOVEMBER 2023

### FROM YOUR PASTOR

#### **Thanks be to God!**

I Thessalonians 5:18 says, "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." The will of God is to give thanks to God in whatever circumstance we are facing. Well, I would like to give God thanks as I think upon many of the blessed things.

I am thankful for you, my church family. Your servant spirit, giving heart, faithfulness, and determination to grow in grace is such a blessing.

I am thankful for each of our staff members. Chuck is a great blessing as he leads our music, oversees everything media wise, impacts our children through music and drama, and invests in our college and career members in SS. Kiley has taken our children's ministry to new heights and they are being led toward Jesus through each emphasis of the children's ministry. Ross has just completed his first year as Student Pastor and our youth are blessed to have someone that is so focused on mentoring them toward a solid walk with Jesus in their daily life. David Bowling has been a blessing serving in the Family Life Center with his unique ability to interact with adults but also with youth who need a safe place to hang out and have fun. Susan is an invaluable member of our team that represents our church to the highest level as the first voice or face that people outside our church will receive and is second to none when it comes to overseeing the work of office administration.

I am thankful for each and every member that keeps the Great Commission at the forefront through your giving and participation. Those emphasis presently include weekly outreach, OCC, MTN, Thanksgiving Meal Ministry, International Mission Offering, Panama Missions, Children's Mission Day, and the Adult and Children's Cantata's.

I am thankful for our Trustee's and Committee members. Presently the Personnel, Finance, and Nominating Committee's are working diligently. Our Trustees have just recently repaired and repainted the Fellowship Hall and added much needed and beautiful exterior lighting. They are presently working on upgrading the lighting and sound system in the auditorium and a remodel of the upstairs education wing that will enhance our Children's Ministry.

I am thankful for the Lord's faithfulness in His call on my life. On November 3, 1989, I stepped into the pulpit for the first time as a pastor of one of His churches. I have experienced His faithfulness for thirty-four straight years as a pastor.

I am so thankful for my wife who has walked with me and stood with me for over forty years in this calling He has given to us. Her faith, prayers, and encouragement have been the key to everything good in our ministry endeavors.

In closing, I am most certainly thankful for the Lord's saving grace that I experienced as a twelve-year-old boy. Thank-You Jesus!

Bro. Brad

#### OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

NATIONAL COLLECTION  
WEEK NOVEMBER 13-20

WE ARE SERVING AS AN  
AREA COLLECTION SITE AND  
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

SEE LINDA OR MOTO  
MCDANELL OR SIGN UP AT  
THE WELCOME CENTER.



#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

BRAD BANKS — PASTOR

CHUCK HARRIS — WORSHIP & MEDIA PASTOR

ROSS FORD — YOUTH PASTOR

KILEY BLAIR — DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUSAN STOWE — MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Happy Thanksgiving!



## MUSIC AND MEDIA MINISTRY

### “GIVE THANKS, WITH A GRATEFUL HEART...”

November is here, church family! Like I've said *MULTIPLE* times before, this is my favorite time of year! Fall has reached its peak and Thanksgiving is on its way. I am excited to be around family, excited for the FOOD — pumpkin pie, turkey, stuffing, green bean casserole....

*I've clearly lost track....* Oh yeah, **Thanksgiving**.

While being around my family is great and food is never a bad thing, my favorite part is giving thanks for all the wonderful things in my life. We have so much to be thankful for as children of God — The Lord gave up His son to die on a cross for us! It reminds me of Don Moen's great hymn, *Give Thanks*:

*Give thanks with a grateful heart.  
Give thanks to the Holy One.  
Give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ, His Son.*

Since this is a time to give thanks, I want to do just that: I am thankful for our Media Team — Tim Craigmyle, Meagan Greenlee, Chanceny Perkins, and the many others I've grabbed at the last minute on a Sunday morning or evening! They sacrifice their time to serve in the sound booth every Sunday, making sure our services run smoothly both in person and online. I am thankful for the Choir and their willingness to come together to sing every week. I am grateful for their hard work and dedication to learn new music, to sing “oldies-but-goodies,” and that they have a desire to worship our Lord through praise! I am thankful for my church family and your desire to be THE CHURCH no matter what is going on in the world; for your desire to reach the lost! And, I am thankful for the staff here at First Baptist. You've heard Bro. Brad say this many times but we really do have the best ministerial staff in the state of Kentucky! I am grateful for their constant desire to follow the path God has laid before them, and I look forward to seeing what God continues to do in their respective ministries! This list could go on and on with thankfulness but I don't want to take up the entire newsletter!

I hope that you take a moment this month and thank God for all the blessings He has shown and given this year so far. It's easy to look at the bad and think that there's nothing to be thankful for. But, if we take a moment, be still, meditate on the Lord, we will see an abundance of things that we can, “*give thanks with a grateful heart,*” for.

*Soli Deo Gloria,*

Bro. Chuck

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### Inspiring Gratitude in Kids

I don't believe discontentment and gratitude can coexist, so to foster gratitude we must first encourage contentment. Kids and adults alike struggle with this concept at times. From entitlement to “keeping up with the Joneses”; all ages can succumb to the idea that more is more. So how can we focus more on what we are grateful for?

In part, service to others can be the antidote for a discontent and selfish heart. This season is the perfect time to discuss with your family the things you are grateful for and how you can serve others instead of adding more items to the Christmas list!:)

I'd like to offer two ways you can lead your family in having an attitude of gratitude this month. Saturday, November 18th will be a Thanks and Giving Children's Mission Day from 10:00am-1:00pm. Kids and families will have the opportunity to serve others according to the way God has “wired” you. Be on the look-out for a sign-up with choices for either indoor crafty activities or projects that will get you out in the community.

For the ladies of the church, you will have the opportunity to begin setting your mind on things above as we enter the busy Christmas season. I will be leading an Advent Bible Study that will meet for the 5 weeks leading to Christmas, beginning Tuesday, November 21st. Sign up at the welcome desk or see me for more details. Location will depend on interest, but time will be 6:30pm.

My prayer is that we begin to turn our eyes upon Jesus as Thanksgiving and Christmas are quickly approaching! We all know kids learn by what they see so whether you are a parent, grandparent, or neighbor to a child, pray about how you can shift the common attitude of needing more or something different to one of gratitude or service. Happy Thanksgiving!

Peace and Joy,  
Kiley

It is not *happy* people  
who are *thankful*,  
It is *thankful* people  
who are *happy*.






Memorials  
Steve Wagner—Judy Poe

*We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks!  
For Your wondrous works declare that Your name is near.  
Psalm 75:1*

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!



# November

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|---|
|    |  |  | 1<br>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning<br><br>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids<br>6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service<br><br>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth<br>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal                                     |   |  |  |
| 5<br>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services<br>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School<br>5:00 p.m. Children's Practice ALL<br><b>NO EVENING SERVICE</b><br>6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study<br><br>7:30 p.m. Deacon's Meeting                     |  |  | 8<br>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning<br>5:30 p.m. Trustees<br>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids<br>6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service/Business Meeting<br>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth<br>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal |   |  |   |
| 12<br>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services<br>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School<br>4:00 p.m. Outreach<br>5:00 p.m. Children's Practice ALL<br>6:30 p.m. Evening Service<br>6:30 Youth Bible Study<br>7:30 p.m. Finance Committee      | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 80%; margin: auto;"> <b>KBC Pastor's Conference and Convention Meeting<br/>Somerset, KY</b> </div> |  | 15<br>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning<br>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids<br>6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service<br>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth<br>7:00- 8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal                                      |   |  | 18<br>Thanks and Giving Children's Mission Day<br><br>10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.         |
| <span style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">← OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION WEEK →</span>  |  |  |   |   |  |   |
| 19<br>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services<br>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School<br>4:00 p.m. Outreach<br>5:00 p.m. Children's Practice Everyone<br>6:30 p.m. Evening Service<br>6:30 Youth Bible Study<br>7:30 p.m. Finance Committee |  | 21<br>6:30 p.m. Advent Bible Study   | 22<br>10:00 a.m. Manna<br><br><b>NO EVENING SERVICES</b>  | <b>Thanksgiving meal ministry</b><br><br> |  |   |
| 26<br>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services<br>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School<br><br>5:00 p.m. Children's Practice Everyone<br>6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study<br>6:30 p.m. Evening Service   |  | 28<br>Meeting the Needs 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.<br>6:00-8:00 p.m.<br><br>6:30 p.m. Advent Bible Study | 29<br>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning<br>6:30 p.m. Mid-week service<br>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth<br>6:30 p.m. Rooted Kids<br><br>7:00- 8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal                                  | 30<br>5:00 p.m. Children's Practice - Full Tech   | 1<br>5:00 p.m. Children's Practice - Full Tech |   |



**11/1.**  
Melanie Ransdell  
**11/3**  
Morgan Bond  
Kaitlyn Kelly  
**11/5**  
Briana Forsee  
Thomas Wright  
**11/6**  
Kirsten Parker  
**11/7**  
Madison Johnson  
**11/8**  
Mitzzy Ford  
**11/9**  
Cheyenne Beatty  
Kallie Welsh

**11/10**  
Jean Allen Ellington  
**11/11**  
June Osborne  
**11/13**  
Christina Perkins  
Briann Landrum  
**11/14**  
Debbie Sigretto  
**11/15**  
Jon Kemper  
Courtney Sides  
**11/16**  
Ed Bourne  
Jenny Coyle  
Josh Smith

**11/18**  
Tyler Bush  
**11/19**  
Peggy Rose  
**11/22**  
Chelsea Gibson  
Denise Humphries  
**11/24**  
Larry Greene  
Rev. Tommy Tackett  
**11/25**  
Kennedi Hon  
**11/27**  
Seth Bush  
Jacob Lilly  
Eli Riddle  
**11/30**  
Mark Cobb

**NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS**

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**

11/5: Heidi Williams  
11/12: Becky Shryock  
11/19: Blair Baldwin  
11/26: Danny and Denise Humphries

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

11/5: Allison Craigmyle and Lindsay Smith  
11/12: Kelsey Gognat and Heidi Williams  
11/19: Andrea Fitzgerald and Krissy Locker  
11/26: Lindsay G. Smith and Jodie Glacken

Return Service Requested

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**OWENTON** | FIRST BAPTIST 