



"So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!"

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17



OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST

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

The First Family

JANUARY 2024

FROM YOUR PASTOR

To the Fabulous First Baptist Family

In the mind of the world, we might be considered a small church, in a small town, in a small county population-wise, located within a small state of this nation. But from the perspective that really counts, God's perspective, we are part of an immense Kingdom impacting not only the person in our pew but people all over this planet! I hope as you begin this new year that you will have a greater awareness of how vital and valuable you are when you are faithful to our Lord, your family, and your church. Every act of worship and service you give at, in, and through your church has amazing consequences. Whether it is caring for the babies in the nursery, teaching toddlers, working with our children's ministry, volunteering, and serving among our youth, loving on young couples with little ones or parents trying to guide their teens. Whether it is hugging the hurting one, laughing with the blessed one, praying for the struggling one, or learning from the aged one, you are having an influence on the Kingdom of God. Your presence, your service, and your faithfulness play a role in turning souls from the kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of Light. It plays a pivotal role in babes in Christ becoming warriors in Christ. Yes, the world may see us as small worth, but we know better. We are the salt of the earth and the light of the world because of Him who dwells in us and because of Him that we call our Lord and Savior. Let's invest our time, skills, and spiritual gifts in and through our local church in 2024 and know that we are a part of a Kingdom work that impacts those from the cradle roll to the final roll not only here in Owenton but across this big globe. You matter, you are vital, and your work is valuable for His Kingdom. I look forward to serving shoulder to shoulder with you this year!

Blessings,
Bro. Brad

2024 DATES TO BE AWARE OF AS YOU PLAN YOUR YEAR

Youth Camp-June 8-12
VBS-June 17-21
Children's Camp July 19-22
Revival-August 25-28



VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE KICKOFF

Monday, January 22



Spring CHOIR RETREAT

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19 — 6:00PM-9:00PM
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20 — 9:00AM-NOON

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 14
FOOD
FUN
FELLOWSHIP**



SUNDAY
JANUARY 28

MORNING
SERVICES
LAY-LED SERVICE

PM SERVICE
DEACON
ORDINATION

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

BRAD BANKS — PASTOR
CHUCK HARRIS — WORSHIP & MEDIA PASTOR
YOUTH PASTOR — ROSS FORD
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY—KILEY BLAIR
SUSAN STOWE — MINISTRY ASSISTANT

MUSIC AND MEDIA

A YEAR'S WORTH OF THANKS

As 2023 goes into the record books, please allow me to share with you some of the groups of people for which I am most grateful. This is not an exhaustive list, nor are they listed in any particular order.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such a wonderful staff. Bro. Brad's heart for God, and God's people, is at the core of his ministry as our Pastor. I personally believe that he is one of the best pastors in not only the state of Kentucky, but throughout our nation. I am glad that I can call him my pastor. Susan is the oil that keeps the "machine" working. She is tireless in her efforts and excellent in her abilities as she serves as ministry assistant. She keeps us in line and we're glad to have her in that church office. Ross hit the ground running when he stepped into the role as our Student Pastor a little over a year ago. This group of students has grown throughout that year and it's because of the great leadership that Ross and Alli provide in that ministry! Kiley, like Ross, hit the ground running when she came on staff as our Director of Children's Ministries. Let me tell you, she is a force to be reckoned with when it comes to making sure our kids not only receive the Gospel, but understand what they are being taught! I can't want to see what she has in store for VBS in June! Lastly, but certainly not least, I am grateful for the heart and hard work of David Bowling. David has a passion for our Family Life Center and for those in our community who enjoy our facility day in and day out. He sacrifices his time to make sure the FLC runs on schedule and that it is in tip-top shape for those who use it. These five are not only great as co-workers, but I am proud to call them friends and we are blessed to have them on the staff of First Baptist Church.

I am grateful for the ones who serve as instrumentalists: Ruth Kingkade, Dave Stowe, Melody Stafford, and Krissy Locker. They are each excellent musicians and love to assist our congregation in worship. I'd also like to thank Kiley Blair for filling in when needed. It's great to know we have a group of musicians that can help out when called upon. They make my job so easy as they intuitively fill in all the parts needed for our worship songs. Thanks to each of you!

Our media team is also a blessing to me and to our church. Tim Craigmyle, Chanceny Perkins, Meagan Greenlee, and all the others who have filled in do a superb job of making the service flow smoothly in both sound and video, and for making sure our services were broadcast to our church family. Thanks to you all for the wonderful work you do to enhance our worship.

Our choir blesses me all the time, but I have thoroughly been blessed this year. They shared with us some wonderful anthems and praise choruses that "brought heaven down," this past year!! Their faithful service and willingness to place themselves under my leadership speaks volumes about their character, their love for the Lord, and their patience. I can never say thank you enough to all those who sacrificed time and energy to help make our Children's Musical as amazing as it was, and I am so grateful for the beautiful Christmas Cantata the Worship Choir presented this year. THANK YOU ALL!

Last, but definitely not least, I am grateful for each of you in our FBC family. You are so loving and kind to me — you are truly family. You have been so supportive of my ministry with you, and for that I am thankful. FBC is truly a loving, giving church family — one I am proud to be a part of. I pray that 2024 will be a great year for you personally AND for First Baptist!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Bro. Chuck

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello church family!

The youth group only got to meet a couple of times this month due to illness and winter break for the students. We had originally planned for our Christmas party and Amazing Race to be on the 20th of this month but we had to postpone that until January 3rd at 6:00. We will be playing some Christmas themed games along with our annual Amazing Race and will be having a taco bar afterward so please tell your middle and high school students! They don't want to miss it!!

In January, in our Wednesday night gathering we will be starting a new series called "Fresh Start" to help get our hearts and minds in the right place as we start the new year. Please continue to be in prayer for the students as they go back to school at the beginning of this month. It is my prayer that the conversations we have on Wednesday nights will stick with them and that they will use this wisdom to be a disciple amongst their peers and classmates. As always, I am so thankful to be pastoring these students and I pray for another year of growth and fellowship as we enter the new year.

Blessings,
Ross

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Merry Christmas Church Family,

It really is the most wonderful time of the year! I love all the Christmas lights, family gatherings, fun activities and hopefully a few quiet moments of reflection about what it all means! I was overwhelmed by how many ladies joined the Advent Bible study. It seems I'm not the only one longing for more than just a few quiet moments to be reminded that Christmas is so much more than the lights and sometimes stressful gift giving.

In the weeks leading up to Christmas I like to read about all the different characters in the story of Jesus' birth and imagine what it would have been like. One of my favorite moments is found in Luke 2:19. Mary had just given birth to the Son of God...in less than desirable surroundings. Shepherds had arrived to visit, no doubt out of breath from running there and having been telling anyone they saw that the Savior of the world had been born. Their excitement was probably contagious and the proud parents were likely beaming. They may have been a little shocked that anyone was already aware of how special this birth really was, but Mary..."But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart."

The most important moment in all of history, and Jesus' young mother knew to treasure that moment! Sometimes we know we are living moments we will never forget. Births...deaths...dropping kids off at college...bucket-list vacations. But what if in the hustle and bustle of everyday life we are missing the moments God wants us to "treasure and ponder in our hearts?"

This Christmas as we pass around the coffee and the pumpkin pie or see a small child wonder at the lights on the tree or cry as we hear the beautiful words of our favorite Christmas carol...might we treasure up these things and ponder them in our hearts? Might we find comfort in the words written in Psalm 46:10? "Be still and know that I am God."

Whatever circumstance we find ourselves in this Christmas, it is my sincere prayer that we are able to be still and know that He is God and take time to ponder these things in our hearts!

Peace and Joy,
Kiley



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 FLC and Offices Closed 	2	3 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 1:00 p.m. Capital Prayer Service in Rotunda 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service 6:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party 6:30 p.m. Mission Friends	4	5	6
7 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School 4:00 p.m. Outreach 6:30 p.m. Evening Service 7:30 p.m. Deacons	8	9	10 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 5:30 p.m. Trustees 6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service/Business Meeting 6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth 6:30 Mission Friends	11	12	13
14 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School 5:30 P.M. FAMILY FUN FELLOWSHIP	15	16	17 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service 6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth 6:30 p.m. Mission Friends	18	19 6:00 p.m. Spring Choir Retreat	20 9:00 a.m.-Noon Spring Choir Re- treat
21 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Evening Service	22 6:30 p.m. Volleyball	23 Meeting the Needs 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. 6:00-8:00 p.m.	24 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 6:00 p.m. Family Night 6:45 p.m. Mission Organizations	25	26	27
28 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services <u>Men's Day</u> 10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School 6:30 p.m. Evening Service /Deacon Ordi- nation	29 6:30 p.m. Volleyball	30	31 10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning 6:30 p.m. Midweek Service 6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth 6:30 p.m. Mission Friends			



1/1. David Wainscott	1/13 Joyce Stack	1/26 Machele Bess
1/3 Derris Hedger	1/14 Matthew Osborne	1/27 Tyler Cammack
1/4 Darryl Traylor	Nathan Watkins	Jonathan Caudill
1/5 Hayes Smith	Brett Wooten	1/28 Jane Ayres
1/7 Bruce Wash	1/16 Morgan Weintraught	Dana Cobb
1/9 Sally Patterson	1/20 Lacie Risch	Rodney Parker
1/10 B J Colston	1/21 Kitty Cammack	Krista Power
Lloyd Vannarsdall	1/22 Easton Baldwin	1/29 Brian Blair
Linda Webster	Alice Perkins	Garalynn Colston
1/12 Paul Banks	1/24 Teresa Dempsey	1/30 Moto McDanell
Austin Perkins	1/25 Cortney Gobel	Clark Roberts
		1/31 Kiley Blair
		Matt Cammack

JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

1/7: Kay Bush
 1/14: Sherry Craigmyle
 1/21: Lindsay G. Smith
 1/28: Lesa Marston

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

1/7: Rae Gina and Meleah Beatty
 1/14: Jessi and Chris Williams
 1/21: Andi and Jared Fitzgerald
 1/28: Danielle and Brandon Stephens

Memorials

Steve Wagner—Donna McDonald, Todd and Lesa Marston, Dave and Susan Stowe

Becky Mason—Donna McDonald, Rodney and Debbie Parker, Dave and Susan Stowe

Gladna Isaacs—Donna McDonald, Todd and Lesa Marston, Gregg and Suzanne Peak, Dave and Susan Stowe, Shawn and Jennifer Power

Ann Greene—Gregg and Suzanne Peak

Return Service Requested

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