

Psalm 113:1, "Praise the Lord (Hallelujah). Praise, O servants of the Lord, Praise the name of the Lord." We have the privilege and responsibility of sharing the name of the true and living God. God has a "good name" and that name should be magnified among those who have never trusted Him.

Psalm 117:1-2, "Praise the Lord (Hallelujah), all you nations; extol Him, all you peoples. For great is His love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord (Hallelujah!) To rely on our faith is to put faith in faith, but to rely on God's faithfulness is to put faith in the Lord. Our assurance is in the Word of God and the God of the Word.

I would recommend that we all read and study and meditate on each of these psalms, and, then worship our Lord in the New Year and receive His blessings.

Hallelujah!

Peace and blessings in the New Year,

Pastor Jim & Fran



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The Herald

Praising the Lord in the New Year

As our church moves into the New Year 2026, would it not be a "good thing" if we begin and close our services with worship and praise? I believe it would be a wonderful thing to do. **Hallelujah!**



There is a series of Psalms that begin with and end with the words: "Praise the Lord!" They are referred too, as the "Hallelujah!" psalms; (111, 112, 113, 115, 116, 117).

Psalm 111:1, "Praise the Lord (Hallelujah). I will extol the Lord with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly." This opening verse is actually a vow; the writer is determined to praise God no matter what happens. If we cannot rejoice in our circumstances, we can rejoice in the Lord (Phil. 4:4).

Psalm 112:1, "Praise the Lord (Hallelujah). Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds delight in His commands." We who live under the New Covenant have in Jesus Christ every spiritual blessing that we will ever need (Eph. 1:3; 2 Peter 1:3-4), and we have the promise that our God will meet our needs (Phil. 4:19).

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



2nd Dorothy Camden 18th Pat Towle
 2nd Ken Whittington 22nd Mary Bolen
 5th Jim Lynch 22nd Elizabeth Gulley
 8th Brad Berrong
 17th Mary Snelgrove

Thank you to Dale Severin and the Severin Garden Center for cutting back the rose bushes at FBC with no charge. It was Dale's Christmas gift to the church.



Our Ministry Team will take the Good News to **Heritage Woods and Stone Bridge** this month. Join us!

LADIES INVITED TO COFFEE

All ladies are invited to 1st Wednesday Coffee at The Buzz on **January 7th**, at **9:30a.m.** Bring your prayer requests and a friend.



**January Offering
Green Beans**

Update From the Trustees

- Boiler repairs have been completed. The approximate cost is \$13,000.
- A designated fund has been set up and to date \$5000 has been donated.
- John D and Leon have engaged an Audio-Visual company to trouble shoot the projector.
- \$18,000 was transferred from the Edward Jones money market to the US Bank checking account to pay for the boiler and future cash flow.
- An excessive water bill was received. Tesa negotiated a substantial discount. Leon found a stool running also.

BCHS Color Guard – Gym Use

The Trustees and Deacon Board have approved the BCBS Color Guard to use our gym on

Thursdays from 3:00–6:00 PM.

These ladies will be helping us pack Brown Bag sacks on Jan. 29th at 3:00 p.m.

The BCBS Color Guard has been practicing in the gym here at First Baptist on Thursday afternoons. They received first place awards in precision flags and lyrical flags at their first competition of the season at Belleville East High School. Pictured are (back row) Coach Macy Costellia, Aubrey DeForest, Emily Chard, Shai Odam, assistant coach Gretchen Bennett, (front row) Trinity Saltsman, Kikee Purdie, Jerzy Hinman. Church members Vicki Sanders and Mary Ellen Aiken are serving as church representatives for practice. We need a couple of more volunteers for the Thursday practices.



THIS MONTH

Jan.	2nd	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Heritage Woods
Jan.	7th	9:30 A.M.	Ladies' Coffee at The Buzz
Jan.	14th	9:00 A.M.	Trustee Board Meeting
Jan.	16th	10:00 A.M.	Ministry at Stone Bridge
Jan.	21st	5:00 P.M.	FBC Annual Meeting
Jan.	29th	3:00 P.M.	Brown Bag Packing

WEEKLY

Sun.	9:30 A.M.	Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Worship Service

Thank you Church Family!

The Deacons thank the congregation for their generous donations to the Deacons Christmas Fund. Your generosity has provided a little extra Christmas for a few at First Baptist this season.

We also thank all those who attended the December Sing and Share and all those who brought cookies, candy, chips, sandwiches, and spiced tea. The evening was warm with friendship, carols, and remembrance.

The next Sing and Share will be in February!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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