

First Baptist Church Montgomery

# BEACON

*bring them in...build them up...send them out*

Volume 71 | Week of December 9, 2018 | Number 49



2018  
WEEK OF PRAYER  
— for —  
INTERNATIONAL  
MISSIONS

DECEMBER 2-9  
FBC GOAL: \$230,000

imb | LOTTIE MOON  
CHRISTMAS  
OFFERING®

## Cookies, Cocoa & Carols

Wednesday, December 12  
5 to 7p \* Fellowship Hall

Bring a dozen of your favorite cookies  
and join us for a night of fun including:

- \* Pancake Supper
- \* A Special Time of Prayer
- \* Games and Activities for Everyone
- \* Photos with Santa
- \* The Christmas Story Read by Santa

Free, but RSVPs are requested at  
[www.montgomeryfbc.org/cookies-cocoa-carols](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/cookies-cocoa-carols)

## Lord's Supper Vesper Service

Sunday, December 16 // 5:30 PM



# CONNECTIONS

from your Pastor's Heart

## My Dear Sister Hit a Deer Mister!

Last week I was visiting family in Texas. On November 30th we enjoyed a wonderful Friday of fine food and fellowship. I was staying with my sister Jane and 10:30 PM brought bedtime.

Our stories and laughter had been exchanged for the peaceful quiet of November's last night. At 11:05 PM a ringing phone interrupted the silence. Our oldest sibling, Judy, blurted out, "Jane, something hit my car as I drove home and shattered the windshield. Please come quick." We acted like firefighters and rushed to the scene. Judy had navigated her wounded vehicle from the main road to a side street. Her red Lexus was a mess. The driver's side fender and door were damaged and my sister was still in the car. I forced the door open and Judy exclaimed, "Thanks for coming. It happened so fast. Something crashed into my car and I'm not sure what it was."



We quickly surmised a large deer had run into the driver's side of her car while she was traveling at 35 mph. The animal evidently rolled up on the windshield leaving a large tuft of hair embedded in the glass which provided positive identification; otherwise, Bigfoot may have been the imagined culprit. I noticed a scrape on the car's roof which suggested a sizable antler did the damage. So I surmised, like an amateur Sherlock Holmes, that my dear Sister had hit a deer mister! Amazingly, the big buck did not crash through the windshield because the glass was still together but sagging heavily toward the dashboard and Judy was covered with shards of glass.

I drove Judy's car to her house and we ended the memorable last day of November by huddling together and praying with thanksgiving for what did not happen. If that big buck had dropped into the front seat on top of Judy, she would have been deeply wounded or worse by the weapons of flailing hoofs and horns.

The next day my deductions were validated. We found the big buck just off the main road. The buck had 8 points but I'll just make three:

- 1. You never know what will happen next.** An 11 PM phone call recolored our perfect day. Life overflows with uninvited guests like car crashes, bad medical reports, pink slips, relationship ruptures and financial failures. Wise people invite Jesus to captain their ship and help them navigate the storms because "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
- 2. Learn to thank God for what didn't happen.** It was as if an unseen hand kept Judy's windshield in place and saved our dear sister from the crazy deer mister. My

continued on page 5

## FBC Faithfulness | Sunday, December 2, 2018

### ATTENDANCE

Bible Fellowship Enrollment 5196 | Bible Fellowship Attendance 1809  
Weekly Attendance 2379 | Discipleship Attendance 1111

### OFFERING

Required Weekly \$128,365.38 | Received Sunday \$152,521.03  
Required To Date \$6,161,538.24 | Received To Date \$5,794,644.63  
Building Fund Sunday \$720.00 | Building Fund to Date \$20,366.35  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering \$51,490.64

Under Budget | \$366,893.61



## Angel Tree 2018

Please bring your wrapped Angel Tree gifts with the child's name securely on each gift, to the reception area at the Scott Street entrance on or before **Sunday, December 9**. Thank you for providing a happier Christmas for a prisoner's child.

# Ministry Announcements

## Preschool Ministry

All preschool children are asked to **Help Decorate the Christmas Tree** that will be at the preschool registration desk. Please bring **new** socks and/or shoes to cover our tree. All items will be donated to children in the Panama City area. Please bring your items to your SS Class by **Sunday, December 16**.

## Children's Ministry

Calling all GAs and RAs...We need your help on **Saturday, December 15** from 9:00 to 11:00 AM for **Santa's Workshop**. The children from our Nehemiah Center will be coming to the Caring Center to select and wrap presents for their loved ones. This is an incredible opportunity for your child to serve! For more information, contact Glen Leathers at 241.5164 or [gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org).

**Artificial Christmas Trees needed for VBS 2019.** Trees can be any size, with or without lights. For more information, contact Glen Leathers at 241.5164 or [gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org).

**GAs and RAs** will begin again on **Sunday, January 6** at 5:00 PM. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of these exciting groups.

**Bible Drill** begins on **Sunday, January 6** for all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students. Join us at 6:00 PM in room A311 as we learn the books of the Bible, the location of key scripture passages, and memorize scripture. Register online at [www.montgomeryfbc.org/childrens-bible-drill](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/childrens-bible-drill).

## Student Ministry

FBMSM Students and Parents: Join us for the **Nehemiah Center Christmas Party** on **Thursday, December 13** from 3:45 to 5:00 PM at 213 Broadway Street.

Save the Date for **Disciple Now** on **Friday, January 18 through Sunday**,

# Year-End Giving

All gifts must be postmarked by  
**Monday, December 31**

For more information, contact the  
FBC Business Office at 241.5181



**January 20.** Register online at [www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration).

## Adult Ministry

Join Jay as he begins a new round of his **Pastor's Class** on **Sunday, December 9** at 10:00 AM in the main sanctuary. The 13-week class, open to everyone, will be an overview of the Bible.

## Senior Adult Ministry

The **Senior Adult Christmas Banquet** will be **Tuesday, December 11** at 5:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Our special guest will be Michele Lott. Tickets are \$8.00 and are available in your Bible Fellowship Class. A few tickets remain, contact Mary Virginia Crum at 241.5180.

The **JOY Singers** will be performing at the **Crump Center** on **Wednesday, December 12** at 10:30 AM. All senior adults are invited to sing with us and stay for lunch!

## Missions Ministry

The **2019 Missions Menu** is now available! You can pick up your copy in the main sanctuary foyer or visit [www.montgomeryfbc.org](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org).

A special prayer event, **Journey of Prayer**, will take place on **Sunday, January 6** at 5:00 PM in the main sanctuary. This event is your opportunity to start the year in an attitude of worship and intercession. For more information, contact Brian Gay at 241.5131 or [briangay@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:briangay@montgomeryfbc.org).

## First Baptist Foundation

You're invited to join us in the fellowship hall after the 11:00 AM Worship Service on **Sunday, January 20** for **Lunch with Jay Wolf and world-class estate specialist, Dave Keesling**. Please make plans to come hear about our partnership with PhilanthroCorp, a Christian estate design firm whose professional services have been paid for by FBC. This is a great opportunity to receive free stewardship coaching! For more information or to RSVP, contact Alissa Parrish at 241.5127 or [airvin@montgomeryfbc.org](mailto:airvin@montgomeryfbc.org).

## Churchwide News & Events

There will be no **Churchwide Visitation** on **Sundays, December 10, 17, 24 or 31**.

**Cruise to Alaska with Jay and Mary Ruth on September 18 through 25, 2019!** You don't want to miss this spectacular Alaska Inside Passage trip on Princess Cruises. Space is limited, and cabins are reserved first-come, first-served. Come see majestic scenery from God and hear His mighty Word revealed from Jay. For more information, contact Ben Hulseley at [ebjhulseley@gmail.com](mailto:ebjhulseley@gmail.com) or 399.9876.

**Volunteers are needed in the Prayer Room!** Available time slots can be found on the prayer room door (located next to the elevator on the 3rd floor, main building) or contact Sally Frazier at 274.8989 or 224.9895.

**Will you be away from FBC on Sunday?** Then join us **Sunday** at 11:00 AM as we broadcast our service live on the FBC app and website ([www.montgomeryfbc.org/livestream](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/livestream)) as well as our main **Facebook page, First Baptist Church Montgomery** (@montgomeryfirstbaptist).

## New Members

### By Letter/Statement of Faith

**Ms. Erin Dunagan**

1360 Barrett Parkway | Montgomery, AL 36117

## Our Church Family

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, contact Carolyn Bryan at 241.5120.

### Sympathy Extended to

Ms. Becky Harrison in the death of her father, Jack

### Capitol Hill Healthcare

Renis Jones

### Congratulations Extended to

Ms. Mary Carr Givens in the birth of a great-granddaughter

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# Christmas

## SCHEDULE

### Sunday, December 9

#### Living Christmas Tree

(4:00 & 7:00 PM • Main Sanctuary)

### Wednesday, December 12

#### Carols, Cookies & Cocoa

(5:00 to 7:00 PM • Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday, December 16

#### Lord's Supper Vesper Service

(5:30 PM • Main Sanctuary)

### Wednesday, December 19

No Evening Activities or Services

### Sunday, December 23

#### Regular Morning Worship Schedule

(8:30 & 11:00 am • Main Sanctuary)

No Evening Service or Activities

### Monday, December 24

FBC Offices Closed

### Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

(3:30 & 5:00 PM • Main Sanctuary)

### Tuesday, December 25

#### Merry Christmas!

FBC Offices Closed

### Wednesday, December 26

No Evening Activities or Services

### Sunday, December 30

#### Regular Morning Worship Schedule

(8:30 & 11:00 am • Main Sanctuary)

No Evening Service or Activities

### Tuesday, January 1

#### Happy New Year!

FBC Offices Closed

### Wednesday, January 2

No Evening Activities or Services



## Connections from Your Pastor's Heart (continued from page 2)

explanation is *"God shall give His angels charge over you to keep."* (Psalm 91:11)

3. **We need Jesus and we need each other.** Judy has loved and invested in family members so her late night call received an immediate response. Who would you call at 11 pm when you've experienced a crash? That's why God calls you to be deeply connected to the Body of Christ. *"Do not neglect meeting together, as is the habit of some, but encourage one another."* (Hebrews 10:25)

Stay prayerful. Drive careful. And to your brothers and sisters, be faithful!

# FBC Stewardship Goal: \$6,825,000

**Pledged to Date:**  
**\$5,831,108.00 (85.44%)**

**Remember, it's never too late to  
make your commitment!**

[www.montgomeryfbc.org/stewardship](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org/stewardship)

## This week at FBC

For the complete calendar, visit  
[www.montgomeryfbc.org](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org).

### Sunday, December 9

Mission Project: South Asia

- 8:30 Worship Service
- Prayer Room in Media Center
- 9:45 Bible Fellowship Classes
- 11:00 Worship Service
- Prayer Room in Media Center
- 4:00 Living Christmas Tree
- 7:00 Living Christmas Tree

### Monday, December 10

Mission Project: South Asia

- 5:30 Men's Bible Study
- 6:30 Freedom in Christ Recovery Group

### Tuesday, December 11

- 9:00 Prison Ministries Lunch
- 5:00 Senior Adult Christmas Banquet
- 5:30 Women with Emotional Pain
- 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

### Wednesday, December 12

- 10:00 JOY Singers to Crump Center
- 5:00 Cookies, Cocoa & Carols
- 5:30 Tutoring Christmas Party
- 6:40 Finance Committee
- 6:45 Ejamat Prayer Time

### Thursday, December 13

- 8:00 County Commission
- 10:00 Caregivers Support Group

### Friday, December 14

- 6:45 Friday Morning Men's Group
- 1:30 Meal for Lanier Basketball Team

### Saturday, December 15

- 9:00 Santa's Workshop
- 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

**In Home Ministry Member**  
**Virginia Brewer**

7706 Wynlakes Blvd | Montgomery, AL 36117



305 South Perry Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
montgomery

## Morning Worship (8:30 & 11:00 AM)

*Mary, Did You Know?* | Chris Adams

*Were It Not For Grace* | Chris Adams

**Message** | Jay Wolf

**Prayer Room**  
Ben Kelley (Brock/Bledsoe/Kelley/Lindsey Class)

## Evening Worship (4:00 & 7:00 PM)

**Living Christmas Tree**



## CrossRoads Broadcast Schedule

Watch the sermon at the time below or  
online at [www.montgomeryfbc.org](http://www.montgomeryfbc.org).

**Frazer Channel 13** (Montgomery & Prattville)  
**Brighthouse Channel 122** (Elmore County)  
Sunday, 1:30 PM (full hour) & 6:00 PM  
Tuesday, 8:00 PM; Thursday, 1:30 PM & 6:00 PM

**WSFA-TV Channel 12** | Sunday, 10:30 AM

The **Beacon** (USPS #046-620) is published and printed weekly by First Baptist Church, 305 South Perry Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4292. Periodical postage paid at Montgomery, Alabama. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Beacon, 305 South Perry Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4292.