

**First Baptist Church  
of Hillsville**

1401 North Main Street  
Hillsville, VA 24343  
(276) 728-7801

[www.fbchillsville.org](http://www.fbchillsville.org)  
[office@fbchillsville.org](mailto:office@fbchillsville.org)

**Lead Pastor**

*Zeb Hicks*

**Administrative Assistant**

*Norma Ring*

**Deacon Chairman**

*Danny Webb*

*Getting to know God more fully.  
Making Jesus fully known.*

**Return Service Requested**

1401 North Main St.  
Hillsville, VA 24343



**FIRST BAPTIST  
HILLSVILLE**

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# *First Baptist News & Views*

December 2024



*Getting to know God more fully.  
Making Jesus fully known.*



God comforts us in all affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in affliction.  
2 Corinthians 1:4

A First Baptist Church member (*referred herein as Patient*) was recently having a medical procedure at a nearby hospital. The procedure involved being intravenous connected (IV) for several hours. The Patient was reading a Guideposts devotional booklet while having the procedure. A restroom break was needed and a nurse was called to help with moving the IV apparatus. The devotional booklet was left in the Patient's chair with it being opened.

Upon the Patient arriving back at her chair, the nurse shared that she had read the devotional booklet while waiting. The Patient said to the nurse "you are welcomed to keep the booklet.", but the nurse asked if she could only take a photo of the page that had been left open. "Sure" was the Patient's reply.

After the nurse left, it was discovered that the page was about rushing into a marriage, ignoring all the warning signs that it was not God's will, leading to a divorce for the author. The author's life is now full with her kids, new and deepening friendships, a fresh sense of calling, and new opportunities. Now the author is relying on the right time for Jesus to supply new love.

Do we know the story of the nurse? No, but the Trinity does. How do we know that? Because the Patient was at the right place at the right time, in accordance with God's will. Never think that you can't influence someone's life for the better because of your circumstances. As a Christian, you carry a unique light within you, meant to inspire those around you and reflect something greater than yourself.

## ODDS & ENDS

(or...where else do we put this...?)



**WE NEED PICTURES**  
**of your church activities**  
**and ministries!**

We'd like to show the congregation and community how God is working in and through our church. Please send pictures and descriptions of your church activity or ministry to [office@fbchillsville.org](mailto:office@fbchillsville.org) so we can let our light shine!



### GET CONNECTED!

If you want to **learn more** about FBCH ministries or programs, receive **church communications** (like our **robo-call updates**), or just **update your contact info** with us, please visit our "**Get Connected!**" page on the church's website (*in the "About Us" section*) and fill out the form to let us know what you need! You can also call or e-mail our church office to let us know.



**A: They spread the word about what they had seen and glorified God.**

**See: Luke 2:17**

### If you are interested in providing content for our MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:

Please submit your content to [office@fbchillsville.org](mailto:office@fbchillsville.org) by the 20th of the month for the following month's newsletter, including your desired content, any relevant contact information or dates, and pictures (if any). Let us help you get the word out!

*FBCH reserves the right to refuse, correct, or adjust submissions as needed.*

# VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
Nursery SS	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!	Coming Soon!
Nursery WS	Paula Pulliam & Keelee Morris	Paula Pulliam & Debbie Parnell	Paula Pulliam & Maria Record	Paula Pulliam & Debbie Parnell	Paula Pulliam & Maria Record
Pre-2nd SS	Diane Allen	Diane Allen	Diane Allen	Diane Allen	Diane Allen
3rd-6th SS	Opening	Opening	Opening	Opening	Opening
7th-12th SS	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp	Lynn Ogle & Pat Sharp
Van 1	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp	Pat Sharp
Van 2	Ed Naff	Ed Naff	Ed Naff	Ed Naff	Ed Naff

***It takes all of the members of the church for the body to be whole!***

We are in need of your help to fulfill our Children's and Youth's Ministry needs, which include **nursery workers, Sunday School teachers, and a variety of other volunteer needs**. To serve God and your church in these critical family ministries, *please contact our office at [office@fbchillsville.org](mailto:office@fbchillsville.org) or (276) 728-7801.*


*Thank you!*

**Deacon of  
the Month:  
Danny Webb**


# FBCH Youth

FBCH has a wonderful ministry dedicated to High School students called Fortify Youth. We want to share with you what our vision for this ministry is. We seek to reach the next generation in Carroll County with the hope of the Gospel through outreach, fellowship, and the worship of our God. Our goals are to be a safe and fun place to **grow, serve, and worship** our Savior, Jesus.

- **To Grow** – We grow through the faithful teaching of God's Word. Fortify Youth Ministry esteems the Word of God as the source of all truth. Scripture is inerrant, infallible, and inspired by God. We are committed to teaching the authority and message of hope found in God's Word through weekly lessons and yearly camps. We also grow through intentional discipleship and service together in the community of faith we exist in.
- **To Serve** – We serve our God by loving others in the same way He has loved us. Our ministry is intentional about helping those in the world who are in need. Locally, we will serve in quarterly service projects to help our community. Globally, we will embark on a mission trip biannually (every 2 years) reaching people around the world.
- **To Worship** – We worship our God by pouring our hearts into praising Him through fun, fellowship, and singing. We worship God by having fun as we fellowship together with games, trips, special events, and meals. We worship Him more intentionally when we sing praises about the goodness of our triune God. Whether we play, serve, sing, or learn, everything we do is an act of worship to the God who has so greatly loved us.



## FORTIFY YOUTH MINISTRY



**SUNDAYS AT 6PM**

"To reach the next generation in Carroll County with the hope of the Gospel through outreach, fellowship, and the worship of our God."

**If you are a youth from 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, or if you know someone who is, come or invite them to attend this weekly gathering for fun, fellowship, and worship.**

**Share this exciting news with a teen in your life!**

# CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear FBCH Family,

As we come to this special month, we look again at the coming of our Lord and Savior. The fact that Christ came to dwell among us is an incredible reality that needs to be celebrated every day! But, may this month's writing remind you of what it was like in that period of waiting for the Messiah.

Throughout the Old Testament, there is the anticipation of a promised Son. Adam and Eve thought it was their son. Abraham believed it could be his. Throughout the Old Testament people anticipate the birth of a Son. Why? Because they believed in a promise. They believed that God would send a seed that would crush the head of the serpent. But, how long would they have to wait? Perhaps the loudest period of time in the Bible is the timeframe we hear nothing from. Exile and rebellion had been Israel's experience and for hundreds of years, there is silence from God. This intertestamental period has no books or prophets to fill in the gap. We just here silence.

However, God had not abandoned His people! He was sending His Son to this earth to be born of a virgin. To live a sinless life. To care for those who are afflicted. To be hope for those who had no hope. To bring light to the darkness. Christ came because without Him, we had nothing. But in Him, we have everything. This is why He came. To live, to die, and to rise from the grave. He has paid the price for our sin and in Him we a saved.

Christmas is so important because of the reminder it gives us that while we were dead in our trespasses and sins, Christ came. And because of that, we can all have a very merry Christmas!

Merry Christmas and happy New Year!

In Christ Alone,

Zeb Hicks

# KEEPING IN TOUCH

## December Birthdays!

Ann Davis	22
Maggie Farmer (Shorter)	9
Amy Hunter	21
Elizabeth Motley	18
Frances Porter	19
Elizabeth Sharp	11
Geraldine Slusher	30
Mark Spraker	9
Randy Ward	27
Randy Webb	4
Steve Weddle	7
Evelyn Wright	21

## December Anniversaries!

Dan & Judy Huff	26
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## NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Leona Layher  
Ridgecrest Assisted Living  
2302 Ridgecrest Lane  
Mt Airy, NC 27030

Allene Tabor  
Richfield/JTC  
3939 Daughtery Road  
Hummingbird, Rm. 13,  
Salem, VA 24141

## SHUT-INS

Laura Melton

Kyle Nester

James  
Armentrout

Wanda Montgomery Joyce Bowman



Q: What did the shepherds do after seeing Jesus?

Answer: Page 15

## Scripture of the Month



# FELLOWSHIP & CONNECTIONS

Our next **Men's Fellowship Breakfast** will be at Crooked Oak Restaurant at 8:30am on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. As usual it will be a "dutch treat" meal with friends and visitors welcome. No need to make a reservation or be a member of the church, just come out and enjoy the fellowship!

**Come be a part of our Wednesday evening Family F.O.R.G.E.**, where we have activities for ALL ages—we'll share a meal and some time singing and worshipping all together, followed by a break out study time to dig deeper into God's Word. This is a great place to get to know and build relationships with others within the church. We hope to see EVERYONE there as the family of God is strengthened in the FORGE!

*This important ministry aimed at strengthening our church family by bringing together in fellowship and discipleship all of our church families continues to need your help to be successful.*

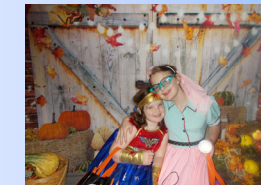
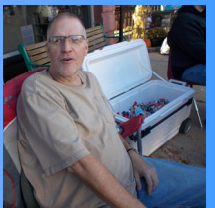
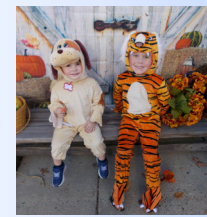
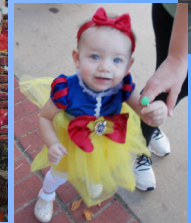
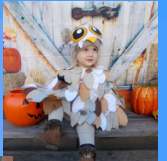
***Please contact Norma in the church office if you are interested in sponsoring a Family Night! meal for only \$50.***



# CHILDREN/YOUTH ACTIVITIES



**SAFE HALLOWEEN IN THE TOWN OF HILLSVILLE!**  
**First Baptist Church Photo Booth**

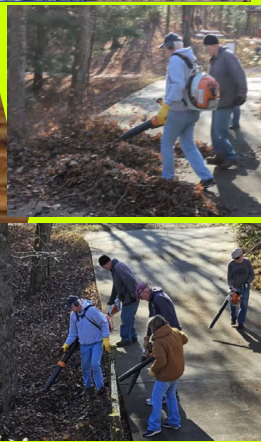


# MISSIONS, OUTREACH, & EVANGELISM

## God's Handy Helpers is

Helping a brother in need.

Removing leaves.



**Sew Journers will not meet in December. They will resume meeting in January 14, 2025.**

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

Becky Adams leads the fun making bows, and wreaths as a fundraiser for Missions and Outreach Ministry.



# INVESTING IN THE KINGDOM

## Food Pantry

### Stock the Food Pantry:

- December 1 - Pinto beans & Cornbread mixes
- December 8 - Soups & Crackers
- December 15 - Canned meats & Canned fruits
- December 22 - Cereals
- December 29 - Condiments: Salt & Pepper, mustard, Ketchup, Mayonnaise

Drop off items at the church in our outside drive-by Food Pantry donation tote. It will be on the porch steps during weekly office hours (9am to 3pm) for your convenience.



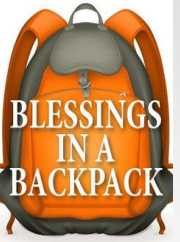
We put together a total of 245 boxes.

Thank you to all of you that contributed through the year and help put the boxes together. Thank you for your prayers over these boxes. Praise God!!!

*I would like to say a very special Thank You to Pastor Zeb and all the folks who have been so kind during my hospital stay with your many prayers for me and my family. The cards and phone calls were very much appreciated as was the blue "Prayer Shawl" with all the prayers that came with that. It is hard losing an eye, but better days are ahead! Gene Musser*

We are collecting for **Children's Backpacks!**

**Food items needed:** Apple sauce, nabs, juices, granola bars, pop tarts, pudding, small containers of spaghetti, mac & cheese, ravioli and individual cups of fruit.



**Please pray for the workers in the field...**

**Jo Anne Yon**—missionary to Nicaragua

**Bryan Macadangdang**—missionary to Philippines

**United Christian Missions**—leads Educate-a-Child program and Pastor's School in Jinotega, Nicaragua

**Eric & Wendy Harbinson**—missionaries in Matagalpa, Nicaragua

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**On Sunday December 8th, we will be having a New Members Class.** This class is for anyone interested in getting to know our church more as we walk through our beliefs. What better way to get to know who we are then sharing a meal and learning about the ministry here at FBCH!

If you are interested in becoming a member, or you just want to learn

Our **Christmas Card Mailbox** is set up on the table in the back of the sanctuary, and the **Angel Tree** this year, and our **Candlelight Service**, Sunday, December 22 @ 5pm. More information will be forthcoming.

**Bible Study** Thursday 10am in the sanctuary with Pastor Zeb Hicks. Series will be "Psalms and Theology". Come join us!

## Prior Month

Special thank you from the American Red Cross to FBCH for the Blood Drive held in November. The American Red Cross collected 21 units of blood.



Becky Adams lead the fun making bows, and wreaths as a fundraiser for Missions and Outreach Ministry. The amount raised was \$320.

On Sunday November 24th, FBCH hosted our special Friends Day! We had a special gift for all visitors and a potluck meal here at the church.

The entire service was awesome! Lots of food and fellowship!

# MINISTRY NEEDS



**The Lottie Moon Prayers and Donations starts December 1st.**

**December 14th, First Baptist will be hosting a special community event sponsored by the youth. We will be having a Merry Mini Golf night for the community. We are going to transform our church into one big mini golf course! We need lots of help! So, see Pastor Zeb about ways you can help prepare for this special day and be sure to invite all your friends!**

**Missions & Outreach is inviting anyone that would like to go Christmas Caroling on December 15th at 3:30pm, we will meet at the Church.**

**Food Pantry items for Christmas Dinners: Stuffing, gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce, instant potatoes, cans of sweet potatoes, corn.**

Our <b>2024 Deacons</b> are here to serve you! Take a look at the list to the right to see who your Deacon is this year ( <i>based on your last name</i> ). They have hearts for serving both the Lord and	<b>A—F</b>	Danny Webb
	<b>G—M</b>	Pat Sharp ( <i>Treasurer</i> )
	<b>N—SO</b>	Jim French
	<b>SP—Z</b>	Dennis Felts



**WHO IS LOTTIE MOON?**

Lottie Moon was appointed a missionary to China July 7, 1873. She was a bold woman of action and radical obedience who shared Christ with the people of China to the end. Lottie died Dec. 24, 1912, leaving a legacy of love and service to her Lord. Her influence led to the establishment of Woman's Missionary Union and inspired other missions pioneers to join her on the field. Her passionate letter-writing led to the offering that bears her name today, Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® for International Missions.

INTERNATIONAL WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION | [lottie-moon.com](http://lottie-moon.com)



# December 2024

## HIGHLIGHTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>  9am Prayer meeting  9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am Deacons meet 6pm Fortify Youth	<b>2</b>  	<b>3</b>  8:30am Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Crooked Oak Restaurant	<b>4</b>  6pm Family FORGE	<b>5</b>  10am Bible Study  11:15am Fellowship Committee	<b>6</b>  	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>  9am Prayer meeting  9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 11:30am New Members' Class 6pm Fortify Youth	<b>9</b>  	<b>10</b>   <b>Christmas is about celebrating Christ's birth!</b>	<b>11</b>  6pm Family FORGE	<b>12</b>  10am Bible Study	<b>13</b>  	<b>14</b>  5-9pm Christmas Merry Mini Gulf
<b>15</b>  9am Prayer meeting  9:30am Sunday School  10:30am Worship Service  3:30pm Christmas Caroling	<b>16</b>  	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  	<b>19</b>  10am Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  
<b>22</b>  9am Prayer meeting  9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service 5pm Candlelight Service!	<b>23</b>  	<b>24</b>  Christmas Eve!  Church office closed.	<b>25</b>  Christmas Day!  Church office closed	<b>26</b>  	<b>27</b>  Church office closed	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>  9am Prayer meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  New Year's Eve!	<b>Jan. 1</b>  New Year's Day! Church office closed			

12/1 Deacons meet

12/3 Men's Fellowship  
Breakfast

12/5 Fellowship Committee

12/8 New Members' Class

12/14 Christmas Merry Mini  
Gulf.

12/24 Christmas Eve!  
Church office closed

12/25 Merry Christmas!!  
Church office closed

12/27 Church office closed

\*Subject to change