

Established 1825

JANUARY 2024

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FBC
High Point

THE HERALD

WORKING WITH GOD'S BLUEPRINTS



With God as our Leader,
may we be prepared to live
another year under His guidance.

Happy New Year!

January 14: Lunch, Church Conference and All-Committee meeting

Join us following worship for lunch in the Dining Room. **Bring your favorite soup, salad or dessert to share with others.**

Following lunch, we will meet in a brief Church Conference. See inside for agenda items.

After the Conference, all committees should meet, elect a chair and go over ideas for 2024. Please let Carol Brooks, church clerk, know who was chosen as chair.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

405 N. Main St., High Point, N.C. 27260-5088

336-883-0178

www.fbchighpoint.org – www.facebook.com/firstbaptisthighpoint

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship at 11 a.m. in person in the sanctuary or via Facebook Live.

Offering and Income

November 26, 2023

Weekly Budget Need	\$6,464.00
Tithes & Offerings	\$5,538.86
Total Budget Receipts	\$5,538.86
Budget Needs to Date	\$310,272.00
Budget Receipts to Date	\$196,465.05

December 3, 2023

Weekly Budget Need	\$6,464.00
Tithes & Offerings	\$2,373.00
Total Budget Receipts	\$2,373.00
Budget Needs to Date	\$316,736.00
Budget Receipts to Date	\$198,838.05

December 10, 2023

Weekly Budget Need	\$6,464.00
Tithes & Offerings	\$11,628.43
Total Budget Receipts	\$11,628.43
Budget Needs to Date	\$323,200.00
Budget Receipts to Date	\$210,466.48

December 17, 2023

Weekly Budget Need	\$6,464.00
Tithes & Offerings	\$5,670.00
Total Budget Receipts	\$5,670.00
Budget Needs to Date	\$329,664.00
Budget Receipts to Date	\$216,136.48

There are several ways you can support FBC with your monetary gifts.

Online, go to www.fbchighpoint.org, and click on the word "GIVE" in the blue bar. Instructions will appear for giving online with credit and debit cards using Tithe.ly. There are also instructions for setting up an automatic bank draft.

You can still mail checks to 405 N. Main St.

On the first Sunday in January every year, a predecessor of mine in another congregation preached sermon titled, "God Has Been With Us." It was annual profession of "Emmanuel," which means, "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Here are several "Emmanuel moments" in 2023 that come to mind for me.

After having adopted Christ's Little Acorns as a ministry of FBC after the dissolution of Christ UMC, we gave them our blessing to depart from us to become part of High Point Christian Preschool. It is no trivial thing that a congregation welcomes in ministries in need of a home (the Vietnamese Mission, Christ UMC, Christ's Little Acorns) and then has the spiritual maturity to release them to fulfill God's purpose for them in a new way. Emmanuel.

The miraculous accord with which this congregation arrived at the unanimous vote on April 2 to sell the church property to the City of High Point was an Emmanuel moment of historic proportions. It was years in the making in listening to one another and listening for the counsel of the Holy Spirit. It required a great deal of trust – in God, in each other, and in your Trustees – as

Scripture readings for January worship planning

Jan. 7: Genesis 1:1-5; Mark 1:4-11

Jan. 14: 1 Samuel 3:1-10; John 1:43-51

Jan. 21: Jonah 3:1-5,10; Mark 1:14-20

Jan. 28: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28

Sympathy

... to the family of former interim minister Jack Causey.

... to the family of former member Jo Edwards.

Prayer Needs

Email heather@fbchighpoint.org or call Heather Absher at 336-883-0178 when you or someone in your immediate family is in the hospital and/or is in need of prayer. Please provide their address so we may mail the prayer sheet to them. Please get permission to publish their names on our prayer chain and email notifications. Also please let us know when it is time to remove their name from the list.

Gathering together



months of confidential conversations and negotiations preceded the vote and followed it all the way to the September 22 closing. Emmanuel.

August's gathering of the FBC Youth 1984-1994 Reunion was a wonderful testimony to the dedication and effectiveness of youth leaders, Frank Smith, preeminently among them, and parents, Sunday School, teachers, youth committees, chaperones, and countless others. It serves as a reminder that every

ministry we undertake is a mission to the future. Emmanuel.

The return of in-person Wednesday evening gatherings for supper, Bible Study, and fellowship led by our own Terry Eddinger and Bruce Hartgrove is a welcome "return to normalcy" and a gratifying sign of good things still to come. After all, "where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:20). Emmanuel.

– Jeff Rogers, interim minister

Financial Report Through November 2023

	YTD	LY Nov. '22
Budget Receipts	\$196,486	\$271,007
Budget Spending	\$250,003	\$236,003
< Budget Deficit >	<\$53,517>	<\$35,004>
City Lease	\$16,333	
< Net Deficit >	<\$69,850>	

Gifts and receipts through 11 months are \$75,000 below last year and that puts us in a very negative position going into December. Maybe we will get a year-end boost in giving.

As you can see, spending is only a little more than last year. Since Sept. 22, 2023, we are leasing from the City of High Point so we will take even more from savings and earnings to meet the bills. Going into 2024 we have cut facility costs to the point that there is no significant other spending cuts to make. We are fortunate enough to have savings to draw from and that's what we will have to do. – Don Myers, treasurer

Deadline for information for the FEBRUARY Herald is January 22. Please email your information to Carol Brooks at cab1@northstate.net.

Staff

Dr. Jeff Rogers
Interim Minister
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Heather Absher
Director of Finance
and Communication
heather@fbchighpoint.org

Stan Grady
Organist/Choir Master
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cab1@northstate.net

Pastoral Care Line
881-6480

January Church Conference Agenda

- The Stewardship Committee shall determine if there has accumulated a surplus from unspent budgeted funds for the previous year and, if there is a surplus, the committee shall apportion same to mission projects supported by this Church, the new Church budget, or to programs and special projects and interests of the Church with a specific recommendation to the Church at the January Church Conference, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

- The Nominating Committee shall submit names of 3 non-Deacon members to serve on the Pastoral Relations Committee. There will be a vote to remove Rene Folk from the Personnel Committee (at her request). Pam Myers will take her place.

- The Pastor Relations Committee will propose the following change to the Constitution and Bylaws: In our By-Laws (Amended and Restated July 10, 2013

Oct. 8, 2023), Article IV, Section A, Pastor, paragraph 4, line 5, it states that the pastor shall “. . . perform other duties that usually pertain to that office” The Pastor Relations Committee would like to propose a change that reads “. . . perform other duties as stated in the Senior Minister Job Description and Responsibilities document” This document was created by the Pastor Relations Committee using the Pastor Profile as a guide. The document clearly outlines the job responsibilities and expectations of our Senior Minister. The committee also is working on a pastoral job description and a performance review form that follows the Constitution and Bylaws. In January the group will start using the performance review on Jeff Rogers as practice.

A Simple Gesture



Please remember to pick up a Simple Gesture bag, fill it with non-perishable food items and return it to the Recreation Lobby. Hunger is real in the High Point area and your “simple gesture” can make a difference in many lives. Empty bags may be picked up in the RMC lobby. Full bags may be returned to the same location. Put the pickup dates on your calendar.

Drop-off dates for 2024 are January 28, February 25, March 24, April 28, May 19, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 29, October 27, November 17 and December 15.

Join us Wednesday nights

beginning Jan. 10!

**Delicious meals. Great Bible study.
Fellowship. 6 p.m.**

Terry Eddinger will continue leading the Bible study. Reservations must be made by phone to the church before the 12 noon deadline on the Monday before the Wednesday meal. All cancellations must also be made by 12 noon on Monday.

If you were unable to make a dinner reservation, you can still come to Bible Study and there may be meals available for purchase.

Winter Weather Policy



Health and safety are of primary concern. All members are encouraged to exercise common sense and use your best judgment when it comes to traveling in adverse weather conditions.

During winter months, the Triad may experience an accumulation of snow, ice and/or sleet. In the event we are subjected to frozen precipitation, every effort will be made to adhere to the regular Sunday schedule, provided we can do it safely.

An email will be sent if we have to cancel Sunday School, morning worship or Wednesday night.

For Wednesday night activities, we will watch weather forecasts. If bad weather is predicted, we will cancel on Monday. Meals with the caterer must be canceled by Monday.

As we have many older members, all efforts will be made to keep them, as well as the rest of our congregation, safe.

**Pastoral Care Line
881-6480**

Tell Us About Your Time at FBC

If you grew up in the church or have been a long-time member, tell us something about it. If you're new to First Baptist, what drew you to the church? Maybe your family has been in the church for many years. Email cab1@northstate.net with your stories and we will publish them in *The Herald*.

Remember, our 200th anniversary is coming up in 2025 and we will be moving to a new location in several years. After 164 years at 405 N. Main St. (as of now), we have to be full of memories.

Greeters

January 7

Janet Odum, Sarah Carter

January 14

Brian Garis, Jeanneen Adamcik

January 21

Don and Janet Hritz

January 28

Peggy Wilson, Carol Brooks



Missions Committee

Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply, Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."



Deacons on Call

Unavailable

We adopted three families for Christmas through Social Services. Sunday School classes were asked to purchase gifts.

Children received toys and clothing and adults received clothing and prayer shawls, the latter made by church members. Mission Coordinator Linda Winslow, Mission Committee Chair Abby Williams and Adele Myers assisted social workers in the distribution to the families on Dec. 21.



BIRTHDAYS

Tom Freeman

Janice Grady

Clif Kelley, Jr.

Amanda Anderson

Sheila Counou

Bernard Counou

Hershel Reddeck

Diana Baxendale

January 5

January 5

January 6

January 8

January 8

January 11

January 13

January 15

Bernie Sheffield

Clyde Hall

Kerry Jones

Daniel Pruden

Steve Chapman

Thomas Key

Cy Brooks

January 15

January 19

January 19

January 25

January 27

January 28

January 31

**Sunday Worship
Live Stream Every
Sunday**

at 11:00 a.m. on



**The Lobby Desk hours are now
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
from
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**