

JANUARY 2013

Birthdays

3 rd	Carl Byers	16 th	Earl White
5 th	Jamie Hudspeth	18 th	Tony Sims
	Avery Malone	22 nd	Erin Wilson
6 th	Remington Roark	23 rd	Joann White
9 th	Pauline Auxier	26 th	Jennifer Moody
	Teresa Coffin		Charles Parker
	Debra Hudson		Cynthia Allgood
10 th	Tasha Hudson		Jeanette Riggs
	Robin Cliff	28 th	Charlotte
12 th	Janet Brown		Humerickhouse
		31 st	Kevin Flinn

Anniversaries

25th David & Lydia Hunter

FBC News & Activities

FINANCIAL REPORT

November 2012 Offering Totals:

General Fund	\$21,880.60
Youth	\$25.00
Building Usage	\$41.00
Food Pantry	\$330.00
World Mission	\$854.00
Hurricane Relief.....	\$545.00
Aid to Others	\$100.00

Year To Date Totals: (November 2012)

Budget Requirements.....	\$557,623.99
Actual Receipts	\$602,555.96
Actual Expenses.....	\$576,496.50

There will be no regular Sunday evening Campfires in the month of January.
We will resume again on February 17th for the Lenten Season.

WORSHIP AT CARLISLE PRISON – January 20

A group from FBC will be traveling to Carlisle Prison, to join in their worship service. We will meet here at the church at 5:00pm and head to Carlisle. If you are interested in going, please let Pastor Nathan or Ginger Stewart know NO LATER THAN Sunday, January 13th. You must be 18 or older in order to go.

COMMUNITY SONGFEST – January 27

The Central Greene County Ministerial Association will host a community songfest on Sunday, January 27th at 6:30 p.m. at Tulip Church of God. Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of musical praise and worship.



PARENTING YOUR TEENS 101 - February 2nd

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM - The Lodge at Indian Creek Baptist Camp. In today's world, the switch from child to adult is full of turmoil, tears, anger, sexual awakening, and danger. Parenting a child through this switch is scary for even the best parent. Especially when you realize that the steps you take and the memories you make can affect this person for the rest of their life. This seminar will discuss parenting styles, and communication skills needed to parent a teenager. Plus, there will be a panel discussion with people who have been through it before and can give you valuable pointers. Cost is \$15 per person (\$20 for both parents)



Youth Happenings!

FRUITFUL LIVES ADORING THE MERCIFUL EVERLASTING SAVIOR
"HIS WORD IS IN MY HEART LIKE A FIRE." JEREMIAH 20:9

Friday, January 4th-6th ~ Guys' Chrysalis at Illiana

Sunday, January 6th ~ Hangout @ Hudson's. 6-8pm at Braden and Tasha's

Sunday, January 13th ~ Ice Skating.

We'll leave the church at 1:45pm. Skating is from 3-5pm. We'll have dinner and return at 7pm. Please bring \$3 for skate rental.



Sunday, January 27th ~ Community Songfest @ Tulip, 6:30pm.

Thursday, January 31st ~ Winter Jam

Leave at 5pm, bring something to eat on the bus. We'll be home @ 1am. Winter Jam Artists: TobyMac, Red, Jamie Grace, Newsong, Royal Tailor, Jason Castro, Capital Kings, Matthew West, Sidewalk Prophets, OBB. Speaker: Nick Hall



Sunday, February 3rd ~ Super Bowl Party

Friday-Sunday, February 8th – 10th ~ Young Women's Retreat @ Indian Creek



(High School & College Age) "Broken to Beautiful" Using material from "A Perfect Mess" (by Lisa Harper), learn that God loves the perfect mess He made you to be. Don't worry about being good enough for God, but learn to be the beautiful Christ follower He intended you to become. Stop trying to hide our inadequacies and doubts, and instead trust God with our anger, frustrations, flaws, and regrets. Exchange your junk for His Joy, you'll find imperfect pieces of your life shaped into a glorious patter of divine Grace. The Youth Fund will pay \$40, you pay \$35.

Friday, February 15th – 17th ~ Girls' Chrysalis at Illiana.

(also note that there is a Girls' Chrysalis April 26-28th at Hoosier Hills. This is for Sophomore – College Age girls.)

Friday, February 22nd ~ 5th Quarter

Friday – Sunday, February 22nd-24th ~ Jr. High Retreat @ Indian Creek "I Am Second"

Who's in the driver's seat of your life? Using the fantastic "I am Second" material, learn how to put Jesus first in every situation. The Youth Fund will pay \$40, you pay \$35.

FBC MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

I'm so excited to invite you to join me in memorizing Scripture in 2013! Nathan has been challenging us to commit God's word to our minds and hearts. Here's the plan:

1. Ask the Lord to give you the commitment you need to memorize His word during 2013. Pray you would desire to be transformed by the renewing of your mind and be willing to hide Scripture within your heart so you might not sin against Him.
2. Stay tuned to the FBC Facebook page. On the 1st and 15th of every month in 2013, I will post my verse on the wall. For those of you taking the challenge, you will comment underneath with the verse the Lord has laid on your heart to memorize. At the end of the year, you will know 24 new Scriptures! (If you are not on FB, no worries! This is just to help keep us accountable. See #4 below).
3. Be sure to choose verses that are relevant to your life at the time; perhaps a verse that God highlighted for you in your quiet time that morning or maybe a verse that speaks to a particular sin or need in your life. If you're having trouble selecting a verse, you can always borrow mine!
4. Tell your verse to another real live person – not just online! Nathan and I have been doing this for two years now and have so much fun reciting our verses to each other. Starting January 15, you will also need to practice your past verses, so try to find someone with whom you can review.
5. Don't give up! If you don't quite have your verse learned by the next due date, just keep working on the same one. This is not a lesson in legalism! If you come through the year with only 12 verses (one per month) or even just one new verse, you still have more of God's word committed to memory than you did at the beginning.

Let's keep one another accountable, shall we? I so hope you'll join me on this adventure. Lord Jesus, make your word living and active in us throughout 2013. We know Your word will never return to You empty! Be huge in us. ~Liz

FBC Memory Verse Challenge Takers –

Several of you who are not on Facebook have mentioned to me that you would love to connect through emails, so here's the plan. Please email me at liz.brooks@ymail.com, and I will add you to an email list. Whenever I post on Facebook, I will also send out an email. On the 1st and 15th of each month this will be my verse, but at times I also hope to send out testimony and encouragement from my own Scripture memory experience!

Please know that I am praying for all who are considering taking this challenge. God is stronger than our minds, and He will lead us to His saving word and help us remember it! I believe this with all my heart. James 1:21 tells us to humbly accept the word planted in us because it can save us! For it to save, it must first be planted in us. This is my entire goal and prayer for Scripture memory in my own life and in yours. Lord Jesus, here at FBC, we're ready for a fresh work of salvation in our hearts and minds in 2013, and we're believing that you will do it through your word planted within us! ~Liz

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

DAYCARE NEWS

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas. Happy New Year to everyone.

The 3 to 5 year old classes gave the following responses when asked "If I gave Jesus a present I would give him..."

Mckenzie - "My little shoes"

Andrew - "Love"

Abby S.- "A baby doll with markers"

Cohen - "3 presents, one is a cow present"

Holden - "A Christmas Tree"

Madison - "A Heart"

Reagan E. - "A doll that looks like me"

Ryan - "A choo choo train"

Samauryion - "A doll to play with"

Aiden - "A Giraffe"

Abbie R. - "A tomato"

Bailey - "shoes"

Ben - "A car"

Matthew - "A Teddy bear with blue and yellow and purple and all the colors"

Chase - "A beach"

Dylan - "Cowboy boots"

Kierington - "A Barbie"

Lyla - "A Christmas Tree"

Toby - "Money"

Raigan B. - "A Baby boy"

Eric - "A toy car"

Mason - "Animals"

Lola - "A birthday Cake"

Elly - "A hug"

Braxton - "A Santa Present"

Tera - "Smiley face"

Cole - "A toy snake"

Our annual "Happy Birthday Jesus" party was a lot of fun. The children started off by going outside and singing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. Santa came to visit the day after the party and reminded the children that Jesus is what Christmas is about. We read about the birth of Christ and did lots of activities and crafts about Jesus.

We look forward to seeing what God has in his plan for us this New Year. Please remember to keep us in your prayers as we continue to teach your Children about His love and as we learn from them also.



BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

PRESCHOOL NEWS

Due to the shortened month of classes in December, we have only been able to cover the letters L and M. We have read many stories including Ladybug Friends and how Jesus wants us to be helpful and a good friend, the story of Moses as a baby and how God had a plan for him and protected him. We have also continued to work on our basic skills for instance: tracing, scissor practice, recognizing our names in print and reviewing colors and shapes. We sent home a middle of the year progress reports which contained good information and helped us to identify and focus on those who might be having some trouble. I am very impressed with the parental response and all they are doing to help reinforce the learning happening at school. Working together is so important!

During the month of December, the children have been preparing for the Christmas season. We have read many Christmas stories and created crafts. We celebrated with a Happy Birthday Jesus Party, on December 20th. The children really enjoyed hearing the story of Jesus' birth and at the beginning of the party, the children sang songs for their parents which they have learned during the season. Thanks to the parents, we were able to enjoy some fun crafts, games and of course we all couldn't wait to enjoy some yummy snacks. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Preschool classes will resume Thursday, January 3, 2013.

Blessings,
Mrs. Farmer and Ms. Katie

The four and five year old classes are as busy as little Santa Elves. In preparation for Christmas, the classes have made presents for their families. Sshhhh... don't tell, but there will be glittery pinecones and cute gingerbread men gracing Bloomfield Christmas trees this year. Amid all of the holiday preparations, we continued to work on our letters and numbers and talk about the most wondrous stories of the birth of the Christ child. One of the things that we have done in this class for several years is writing prompt. For this writing prompt the children were to finish the sentence, "When Jesus was born..." Some years we get cute, funny answers. This year one child told me in great detail the Christmas story. I was impressed. Another simply said, "He was magic." While adults don't exactly associate "magic" with Christ, we certainly do associate "magic" with our Christmas season and miracles with the birth of Jesus Christ, His life, and His death. We wish all of you a new year filled with magic and miracles!

Blessings,
Mrs. DeGott and Miss Katie



Bright Beginnings

A Note from Pastor Nathan

“Behold, I am making all things new!” – Revelation 21:5

A new year has arrived. This might invoke all sorts of emotions in us: gratitude, relief, anxiety, sorrow, dread, anticipation, excitement, joy, or fear. Maybe for you the only thing that has changed is a number. Yet we still tend to think of life in terms of years and seasons. One period of time has passed, and another has begun.

New things aren't always welcome. There is nothing inherently good about being “new.” New taxes. New illnesses. New wars. These things might be “new” but they are not good.

But new things aren't always bad. Sometimes we dread any changes because we have experienced bad changes before, or because we simply like what is comfortable and familiar. Nevertheless, if we honestly look over our lives, we see many things that were once new – and maybe scary – but eventually turned out to be beneficial.

With all of this in mind, we read our Lord's gracious promise to make all things new. How do we receive this word? When God makes all things new, He will judge all evil, save His people, and redeem His creation. As the prophets have been telling us, the result will be a new world of complete justice and peace, where the Lord is rightly revered as King. If we remain committed to wickedness, this promise is bad news. But if we repent and live by faith in Christ, the promise of “all things new” is everything we could ever hope for, and more!

The message of the Gospel is that we have the opportunity to be made new right now, even as we live in the midst of a world that has not yet been made new. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! The Spirit of Him who raised Christ from the dead is living in us! Outwardly, we may be wasting away, but inwardly we are being renewed day by day!

Where does the Lord want to do a new work in your life this year? Maybe it's an attitude, or a behavior, or a relationship. Perhaps He wants to address something you've been keeping from Him, or something you aren't even aware of. It could be that God is asking you to say “yes” to something you have been putting off, or “no” to something you've been clinging to. Sometimes, when God does a new work in us, it feels painful!

And yet we know that God's desire is to save us so that we might be healed and whole. We trust that if God puts His finger on something in our lives – something He desires to change – that it is in fact for our good. That does not mean that every single thing that happens to us in this fallen world is good or from God. But we do trust that anything God instigates in our lives is worth responding to with open ears and humble hearts.

God seeks to refine us so that our faith might be found genuine when our Lord Jesus Christ is revealed. Let's prayerfully seek what God might have “new” for us in 2013. When the Holy Spirit works in us, let's respond with obedience, to His glory! Not that we have already obtained all of this, but we press on. Make us new, Lord Jesus!

Grace and peace,
Nathan