

## Half Notes and Whole Rests

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, in Christ. Ephesians 1:3

The old hymn says, "Count your blessings, name them one by one." Have you ever tried to do that? Not just a blanket, "O Lord, we thank you for all Your blessings ..." but to actually name each blessing? If you can't get to sleep some night, instead of counting sheep, count your blessings and name each one. You'll either fall to sleep as your brain lets go of the things that are keeping you awake, or you'll get excited thinking about all the many ways God is blessing you each day.

I have been personally blessed and we have been corporately blessed to have not one adult choir but two. I have been very blessed by the new members who have joined each choir recently. I have been blessed by the faithful participation of people who have been choir members here at FBC for forty years or more. I have been blessed by people who have recently joined our church and the first thing they asked was how to join choir. I have been blessed by the excitement of people who say they have never been in a Christmas musical before and they are so happy to have the chance. Each of these people – each of these blessings in my life – made a decision to worship God in their daily lives. As they give, it gets multiplied back.

Pick something – choir, discipleship, Sunday school, visitation – and commit to it, and you'll find that when you give to God, the blessings keep coming. This goes for young people, adults, and senior adults, too. If you woke up today, that means God still has work for you to do. Your commitment can change a child's life, a co-worker's life, a grandchild's life, a *stranger's* life, as they see you giving to the Lord. You will be a light shining on a hill. If you haven't done so already, let's take the commitment plunge together.

PS: We're just six weeks away from our Christmas program. I still need your help.

Bro. Mike Z.

### Vital Signs

BUDGET 2011	10/1 - 10/23	1/1 - 10/23
<b>Budget Requirements</b>	<b>\$27,875</b>	<b>\$362,375</b>
<b>Budget Offering</b>	<b>\$17,998</b>	<b>\$327,801</b>
<b>Budget Expenses</b>	<b>\$20,737</b>	<b>\$341,802</b>
<b>Offerings vs. Requirements</b>	<b>(-) \$9,877</b>	<b>(-) \$34,574</b>
<b>Offerings vs. Expenses</b>	<b>(-) 2,739</b>	<b>(-) \$14,001</b>
<b>Kingdom Building</b>	<b>\$23,779</b>	<b>\$85,864</b>



We welcomed several precious additions to our First Baptist Family in the month of October.

James & Jena Langan welcomed a son, Baby Mason was born Monday, October 17th. Paul & Jessica Huckaby welcomed a son, Baby Carter David to their family Sunday, October 16th. Stephen & Ryan Clements welcomed a daughter, Baby Scout Elizabeth, Thursday October 6th.



The Church will be closed for Thanksgiving and the following Friday. We hope everyone has a very blessed Thanksgiving.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID ST. MARYS, GEORGIA 31558 Permit No. 11

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www.fbcstmarys.com

Steve W. Kegley, Pastor  
Roland Norris, Associate Pastor  
Mike Zimmerli, Music Director  
David J. Lundin, Pastor Emeritus  
Mike & Becky Stonecypher, Missionaries to Nigeria

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To worship Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, by sharing His Word with the lost, training disciples to minister to others, while maintaining fellowship within the body of Christ.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Activities for November

<b>TUESDAY - November 1</b>	
9:30 am	Ladies' Bible Study
6:00 pm	Ladies' Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY - November 2</b>	
5:30 pm	Prayer Group
6:15 pm	James Gang/Mary's Heart
6:30 pm	Adult Power Hour/Youth Engage Night
6:30 pm	Worship Choir
7:30 pm	Youth Council
<b>SUNDAY - November 6</b>	
8:30 am	Men's Prayer Group/Chapel
8:45 am	Praise Team/Soloist
9:15 am	Sunday School
10:30 am	The Church in Worship/Lil'K
11:00 am	KIDMO/Children's Church
<b>FBC Sunday Night Summit</b>	
4:30 pm	AWANA & DiscipleLife Classes
5:30 pm	Family Supper
6:30 pm	GA Baptist Foundation/Estate Planning
7:00 pm	Children Join Worship Service
7:30 pm	Youth Drama
<b>MONDAY - November 7</b>	
9:00 am	Prayer Group
9:15 am	Silver Saints Choir Depart/Amelia Island
6:00 pm	Handbells & Middle School Praise Band
7:00 pm	TWB Rehearsal
<b>TUESDAY - November 8</b>	
9:30 am	Ladies' Bible Study
6:00 pm	Ladies' Bible Study
7:00 pm	Finance Committee
<b>THURSDAY - November 10</b>	
9:30 am	Women on Mission's -
7:00 pm	Deacons' Meeting
<b>FRIDAY - November 11</b>	
7:00 pm	Youth Lock-In
<b>SUNDAY - November 13</b>	
Regular Sunday Schedule	
<b>MONDAY - November 14</b>	
Operation Christmas Child Collection Week	
9:00 am	Prayer Group
10:00 am	Silver Saints Choir
6:00 pm	Handbells/Middle School Praise Band
7:30 pm	TWB Rehearsal
<b>TUESDAY - November 15</b>	
6:00 pm	Ladies' Bible Study
<b>WEDNESDAY - November 16</b>	
Regular Wednesday Schedule	
<b>THURSDAY - November 17</b>	
5:00 pm	Depart for Casting Crowns Concert

BUILDING the KINGDOM of GOD TOGETHER

November 2011

# THE MESSENGER

A monthly publication of  
First Baptist Church St. Marys



## Operation Christmas Child Volunteer Sign-up Information Shoobox Collection Dates November 14-20, 2011

Operation Christmas Child is a fun and rewarding project for churches who want to share the love of Jesus Christ with suffering children around the world. Once again, First Baptist will be a drop off site for shoobox collection. We invite you to join us in bringing eternal hope to a hurting world. Sign-up sheets to help staff with the collection of boxes are located outside the vestibule and in the hall on your way out to the children's building. The times are as follows: Monday, 9-12pm, Tuesday, 3-6pm, Wednesday, 9-12pm, Thursday, 3-6pm, Friday, 9-12pm, Saturday, 9-12pm, and Sunday 12-6pm. Please choose a time when you may be able to help. It is so rewarding to see the faces of the children on the videos each year who receive these boxes. You can make a difference.



## Thanksgiving

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, November 20<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM  
Community Choir and Handbells

Community Choir Rehearsal  
Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

FROM THE HEART OF THE PASTOR:

**CHURCH THEME 2011**

*GOD'S PEOPLE, SEEKING GOD'S PRESENCE, SERVING GOD'S PURPOSE!*  
Psalm 20:4 (HCSV)

**HOME COMING —WHAT A GREAT DAY!**

Our 74th Anniversary Celebration was a wonderful day for First Baptist. The Akin Family plus Mike and Becky Stonecypher made our day, as they shared the gospel through music and missions. God is doing a great work through these ministries. Lets us all covenant to pray for The Stonecyphers as they embark on their new work in Niger.

Special thanks to Christi and Mike McCormick and their super kitchen crew for a unbelievable dinner. You guys did a marvelous job! Thanks to all of you for bringing all the wonderful dishes and desserts. There was a lot of sin committed at the table this past Sunday (gluttony!) What a day for praise!!!

**HAITI—OUR MACEDONIAN CALL**

**Special Called Conference — OCT. 30 — in the Morning Worship**

This past Sunday Morning I asked you to go to the Lord in prayer regarding a commitment of First Baptist—St. Marys to spearhead Georgia Baptists in reaching the people of Haiti with the love of Christ. There will be no discussion since that opportunity was given in the previous meeting and we will have a ballot vote whether you as the Body of Christ affirm that it is God's call for us to lead Georgia Baptists in this critical mission endeavor.

**FIRST BAPTIST—THE SUNDAY NIGHT PLACE TO BE!**

The Sunday Night SUMMITS are a great way for you to grow in Christ and to enjoy wonderful fellowship with God's family. Come back on Sunday nights for Sunday Night SUMMITS and you will receive a tremendous blessing. God will change our lives as we faithfully return on Sunday nights for these SUMMITS.

See you Sunday with your Bible in one hand, your friend or loved one that you invited at your side and a heart ready to hear from God!!

*In His Service,*

*Bro. Steve*

PRAY FOR THE  
Men's Ministry  
North Carolina Camp Trip  
Oct. 31 thru Nov. 4  
Standing Indian Mtn. - Franklin NC

Trunk  
or  
Treat



Trunk or Treat will be held this Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:55 p.m. We are asking everyone to decorate their car and park in a circle on the grassy field and pass out candy to the children from their trunk. Children will go to worship following supper for singing and devotion prior to dismissal at 6:55 p.m. Come out and make this time special for the children who may attend this fun event. And bring, CANDY, CANDY AND YES, CANDY.



CASTING CROWNS CONCERT  
Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>  
FBC Jacksonville  
Depart from church at  
5:00 p.m.



Women On  
Mission Meeting  
Thursday,  
November 10<sup>th</sup> at  
9:30 a.m. If you  
need childcare for  
this meeting, please contact the  
church office by Nov. 8th.  
All ladies of the church are  
invited.

**Women on Mission  
Care Baskets**



WOM will be putting together care baskets for FBC shut-ins. We are collecting canned goods, all occasion cards/stamps, lotions/powders, body mist, pocket pack tissues, and emory boards. PLEASE, drop-off your donations outside the church office before November 13th. "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Acts 20:35 NIV \*Please join WOM Thu. Nov. 17th 9:30 a.m. for a brunch/time of fellowship/ assembling of the baskets. RSVP by text or call Cathleen 912-322-7602.

**RE M I N D E R**

Finance Committee  
Tuesday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
Deacons' Meeting  
Thursday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm



AWANA (2yrs-JV)  
High School LIT  
Adult DiscipleLife Classes  
4:30-5:30 p.m.

Sunday Night Supper  
5:30-6:20 p.m.

Cost: Adults & Youth \$3, Children \$1  
\$12 Family Maximum

Worship Service & AWANA Continues  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

(Children join worship at 7 pm)

Youth Drama  
7:30 p.m.



Estate Planning  
ESTATE PLANNING  
Sunday, Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at  
6:30 p.m.

Ray Sullivan of the  
Georgia Baptist

Foundation will be here to share with us about Estate Planning. With a thoughtful Estate Plan, you can insure that your estate is distributed according to your wishes, you can make provisions for children and grandchildren, appoint guardians, protect dependents, and leave a Christian Legacy.



Youth Mission Trip  
To Atlanta to help with  
boxes for Operation  
Christmas Child  
Nov. 25th - 27th  
Returning Sunday evening



REMINDER: Don't forget to set  
your clocks back one hour on  
Saturday evening, November 5th



youth  
COUNCIL

YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING  
Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7:30 p.m.