



Carter Hinceman eats popcorn and watches a movie - an activity from the Advent Kit.



# THE INTERIM

Volume 80 Issue 1

January 1, 2023

## From the Pastor...

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and are set for a great 2023. Perhaps, between seeing to guests and taking down decorations, you haven't had much time to think about the new year. Most of us are just trying to stay warm in this cold snap.

I encourage you, however, to take some time to look back on last year and forward to next. 2022 was an odd year. We moved past most of the pandemic, but encountered a tri-demic of COVID, flu and RSV. This has affected many of our families and cut into participation in our ministries. I encourage us all to take care of ourselves and stay as healthy as possible.

2022 was also an election year, which brought an abundance of advertising and news coverage. However you feel about the results of the election, my prayer is that 2023 will be a year where our country will come together and seek the best for each and everyone of our citizens. We can help do this by living out the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At First Baptist Church we had a good 2022. We learned much as I preached through Galatians, introduced you to many *Women of the Bible* and rediscovered *The Way of Jesus*. We were active in missions, sharing Jesus' love in Chicago, Kentucky, and right here in Statesville. It was great to have White Christmas back in full swing.

2022 was a strong financial year at FBCS, as we were able to provide for our ministries, give extra to local missions and strengthen our contingency funds. Our youth and children enjoyed Passport Mission Camps as well as strong weekly programming. We also had a full-blown VBS. Best of all, 2022 brought us several new members.

As we look to 2023, we already have some major activities planned, including:

- Easter (April 9)
- Operation In-As-Much (April 22)
- Kid's Passport Camp (June 14-17)
- Youth Look Up Lodge (June 25-30)
- Kentucky Mission Trip (July 7-14)
- Vacation Bible School (July 24-28)

*continued on page 4*

## Schedule

### Sunday, January 1

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

### Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed

### Wednesday, January 4

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wed. After-School Program

5:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Preschool Choir, Children's Choir,  
& Missions

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, January 5

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Sunday, January 8

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary & Live Stream

### Monday, January 9

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, January 11

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:30 p.m. Wonderful Wed. After-School Program

5:15 p.m. Family Night Meal

6:00 p.m. Preschool Choir, Children's Choir,  
& Missions

6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

### Thursday, January 12

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

## Church Staff Directory

Dr. Nelson Granade.....Senior Minister  
Mr. James Martin.....Minister of Music & Worship  
Rev. Melissa Wilson.....Minister of Children & Youth  
Mrs. Elizabeth Kilby.....Minister of Young Families & Missions  
Mr. Eddie Wiseman.....Accompanist / Music Assistant

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon - Thur, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Fri  
Tel: 704-873-7231

### THE INTERIM (USPS 581-800)

Published Every Two Weeks

by First Baptist Church, 815 Davie Avenue,  
Periodicals postage paid at Statesville, NC 28677

POSTMASTER: send address changes to: THE INTERIM  
First Baptist Church, 815 Davie Ave., Statesville, NC 28677-5310

*Happy Birthday*

### January 1

Bill Yeckley

### January 2

Don Koepnick

Lisa Shankle

### January 3

Dennis Deal

Dean Roberts

### January 4

Lois Poston

### January 5

Katherine Webb

### January 8

Jones Faulkenberry

Mamye Hacker

Mike McLain

### January 9

Carol Heckel

### January 10

Cassidy Barker

Carol Boroughs

### January 11

Jean Elledge

### January 12

Kaye Daniel

Edwin Hunter

### January 13

Carolyn Garner

Bill Henderson

Nicole Osborne

### January 15

Andy Hall

### January 16

Trevor Devine

### January 18

David Lewis

### January 21

Ken White

### January 23

Ginny Stikeleather

### January 24

Becky Beasley

Matthew Johnson

Ryan Johnson

### January 25

Audrey Tompkins-Horne

### January 27

Luke Kilby

Matilda Kilby

### January 30

Jan Hunter

### January 31

Amy Moore

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of December 18 & 25, 2022

	12/18	12/24	12/25
Live Stream Views.....	n/a	57	26
In-Person.....	127	226	119
Sunday School.....	95		n/a

## Financial Statistics

	December	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	169,523.00	318,326.00
Budget Receipts	68,663.00	271,230.00
Goals Not Yet Met	(100,860.00)	(47,096.00)
Alms	3,969.00	5,722.00
Designated	3,635.00	25,373.00

## The Build Up to Christmas

Each family with young children received Advent Kits - The Build Up to Christmas. Each day families read scripture and discussed a word that described Jesus building a Christmas tree with Legos. Kits also included fun activities like play doh, baking cookies, making an ornament, and watching a movie.





## From the Pastor *continued from Page 1*

Wednesday nights will start off with a study and discussion about baptism and our baptismal policies. Then we will move into a special Lenten study as we prepare for Easter. So much good is coming!

My one area of concern is that, like most other churches, our attendance is slipping. There are several causes, but I'd rather focus on the solutions. First, we can all do our best to participate as much as possible. Second, we can reach out and bring other folks along with us. In fact, if you were to set one goal to help your church this year, it would be to introduce someone new to First Baptist Church.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nolan".

## Announcements

### Wednesday Evening Menus

**January 4**  
chicken pie

**January 11**  
baked potato & salad bar

No reservation is needed.  
Cost is \$5.00/adult and \$4.00/child.

---

### **Baptism Study & Discussion** **Wednesdays, January 4 - February 15** **6:00 p.m.**

Join us each Wednesday as we look at the importance of baptism, discuss our baptismal policies, and seek to understand Baptist traditions and the Church as a whole. This is a significant series and it is important for each of our members to participate.

### **A Note from Minister of Young Families & Missions Elizabeth Kilby**

When we think of the new year we almost always think of resolutions. Resolutions are something we often aspire to but very rarely lead to continued change and habit formations. When I was in college my pastor started a portion called "My One Word", something that since has gone viral and is now a book. It is something that I aspire to each year. Each year I pick a word. A word that sets the tone for the year. This word is the lens to which I look through each thing I do. Some previous words have been trust, perseverance, be, and various others. As I decide in my 2023 word I think of all of us. What word can move us forward, can inspire wisdom, and bring us hope? I pray that we each can look to the new year in that light. I pray that we are open to his calling his flexibility and his leading in our lives.

Many thoughts and prayers,  
Elizabeth Kilby

A large, stylized graphic of the year "2023" in a dark red, 3D font. Below the numbers, the words "HAPPY NEW YEAR" are written in a smaller, spaced-out, dark red font.