



Volume 78 Issue 24

November 21, 2021

## From the Pastor...

Many churches recite a special communion liturgy called “The Great Thanksgiving”. It begins with the pastor saying, “Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.” The people respond, “It is right to give our thanks and praise.”

To make the point even stronger, the liturgy goes on to say, “It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.” I love this reading, because it reminds us that thanksgiving is the proper response to God’s grace.

Like most of you, I was taught to write thank you notes when someone gives a gift or does something nice for me. My wife, Valerie, is the best thank you note writer I know, and she has taught our children this talent as well.

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, I wonder if it might be a good idea to write God a thank you note for all our blessings. I’ve done this before and then placed it in my Bible to remind me to be grateful – even when I don’t feel thankful. If you were to do this, what would your list include?

Valerie and I are grateful for the opportunity to serve such a loving church. We count every one of you as a blessing. Your continued support and acts of kindness are a great encouragement. We don’t always have the opportunity to thank you personally, but we hope you know how grateful we are to be at First Baptist Church of Statesville.



*“Rejoice always, pray continually,  
give thanks in all circumstances;  
for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

## Schedule

### Sunday, November 21

7:00 a.m. Sunday School Lesson  
Uploaded to YouTube & Facebook

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

### Monday, November 22

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, November 24

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

*No Wednesday Evening Activities*

### Thursday, November 25

Happy Thanksgiving!

*Church Office Closed*

### Friday, November 26

*Church Office Closed*

### Sunday, November 28

7:00 a.m. Sunday School Lesson  
Uploaded to YouTube & Facebook

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

### Monday, November 29

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

7:00 p.m. Pickle Ball

### Wednesday, December 1

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

2:00 p.m. Wonderful Wednesday  
After-School Program

5:15 p.m. Wednesday Evening Meal

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

### Thursday, December 2

8:30 a.m. Pickle Ball

1:00 p.m. Clothes Closet

### Friday, December 3

6:00 p.m. Parents Night Out - FLC

### Saturday, December 4

8:30 a.m. White Christmas

## 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)

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## Opportunities to Give

The holidays always bring many worthwhile solicitations to give. As you think about making an end of year gift, we hope you will consider your church first. Here are several ways you might give a special offering to support the God's work.

### FBCS Ministry Budget

Thanks to your faithful support, our ministry budget is strong right now. We, however, count on generous end of year giving to ensure we can support our programs throughout the rest of the year. Underwriting our ongoing ministries is always a top priority.

### White Christmas

Each year we provide Christmas gifts and food to numerous families in our community. We also give gifts and a Christmas party to kids in a local children's home. We need about \$10,000 to enable us to do this ministry. Right now we have about \$4,000 toward that need.

### CBF Global Missions Offering and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Missionaries around the world count on Christmas offerings to enable them to do their work. Our congregation supports both the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Global Missions Offering and the Southern Baptist Convention's Lottie Moon Offering. Giving a gift to spread the good news of Christ is a great birthday gift to our Lord.

If you would like to make a special Christmas gift to or through First Baptist Church, please designate it on your offering envelope.

## Spiritual Statistics

### Weeks of November 7 & 14, 2021

	11/7	11/14
Live Stream Views. . . . .	12	15
In-Person. . . . .	156	134
Sunday School. . . . .	110	54

## Financial Statistics

	November	Year-to-Date
Giving Goal	94,509.00	137,351.00
Budget Receipts	67,806.00	187,704.00
Goals Met	26,703.00	50,353.00
Alms	1,633.00	2,470.00
Designated	1,427.00	15,036.00

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

Merry Thanksmas is what I hear many people say. Though this rings true at my house as my Christmas tree is already up. I also struggle with making sure that I take the full time to invest in what Thanksgiving truly is. Not only do I rely the food but also being with family without expectation of presents, but rather focusing on presence. This year has been especially hard, at times, for me to focus on being thankful for everything that has gone on around us and within our family. May we be truly thankful for the time that we have together and count our blessings, for which there are so many. I am thankful for so many things in life, things that I often take for granted. Yet, I have found that one of the things I am most thankful for is the community of people that we have to support, check-in with, rely on, and who we can encourage and be encouraged by. That is the foundation of missions. We can reach out to others and help them walk with God. Sometimes as we help walk with God, He uses them to help us walk with Him as well. May we be better together, encouraging, edifying, uplifting, and walking through the journey of life together. Let us take some extra time this week to count our many, many blessings.

Many thoughts and prayers,  
Elizabeth

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### **Learning More About Our Members The Taylor Family**

Mike and Caroline Taylor are high school sweethearts who have been married for ten years. They have a six year old daughter, Catherine (Cate). Caroline grew up at FBC Statesville and has many relatives who attend our church (Deals, McLains, Benfields). Her grandmother, Marie Deal, was a very special person in her life and was a key example of living a Christian life.

Mike runs a family business that his father owns, Barker's 21 Grocery on Highway 21. He has worked there full time since 2005 and helped out as a kid in school. Caroline works for Iredell County as the Budget, Financial, and Strategic Planning Analyst. She has worked for the county for 11 years. Cate is in kindergarten at Cool Spring Elementary. She attended preschool at FBC starting in the 2 year old class and going through Ms. Kari's Pre-K class.



Mike and Caroline are members of the Crosswalk Sunday School Class. Most Sunday mornings, however, Caroline teaches the first, second, and third graders and Mike assists with the youth. Caroline also serves with the Leadership Development Team, Growing Young Team, and Video Team.

Outside of work and school, the Taylors love to spend time with the entire family. They love going to the beach - especially when they go with the entire family. Mike and Caroline enjoy taking Cate to new places and new experiences. Cate attends gymnastics at KPAC and love it - especially the bars. Caroline is talented on the piano thanks to lessons from her grandmother, Susan McLain.

Mike and Caroline's favorite meal to share together is grilled steak with baked potatoes and asparagus while Cate enjoys pizza or mac & cheese!

*Each issue of The Interim will feature a different member or family of our church. If there is anyone you would like to learn more about, please e-mail their name to [kayley@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:kayley@statesvillefbc.org) or call the church office.*



## Announcements

### Welcome to Our Church Family!

Tommy and JoAnne Alexander joined our congregation by letter on November 14. Welcome to our church family!



### White Christmas

**Saturday, December 4, 2021**

Pray: Pray for these families as we gather information.

Volunteer: More volunteers are requested this year due to the clothes closet being open and directing traffic outside.

Shop: We will need many shoppers. Please register online to shop if you have not already registered within your Sunday School.

You may sign up to volunteer at [www.statesvillefbc.org/missions](http://www.statesvillefbc.org/missions) or call the church office at 704-873-7231.

### Parents Night Out

**Friday, December 3, 2021**

**6:00-9:00 p.m. - FLC**

Children birth-Grade 5 are invited to join Ms. Melissa and Ms. Kristina for pizza, crafts, and a movie while parents enjoy an evening out. Please register at <https://vbspro.events/p/09cb78>.

### Wednesday Evening Menus

**November 24**

No Wednesday Meal

**December 1**

chicken tenders, tots, green beans, chocolate chip cookies.

Children's Menu: same as adult menu

## Happy Birthday

### December 1

Tommy Alexander  
Jean Crowder

### December 3

Eleanor Deal  
David Falter

### December 4

Betty Colvert  
Brenda Falter

### December 5

Caylyn Sykes

### December 7

Reg Brown  
Thomas Tillery

### December 9

Jennie Church  
Maggie Church  
Mike Parker

### December 10

Tonya Pardue

### December 12

Katie Welborn

December 13

Sharron Parish

### December 15

Jan Cashion  
Ray Hunt

### December 17

Melinda Induni  
Jeri Koontz

Donna Workman

### December 19

Katie Allen  
William Barnard

Tim Tompkins

### December 20

Pat Sain  
Alexis Williams

### December 23

Mary Jo Anderson  
Emily Wiseman

### December 25

Bob Cashion  
Gail Taylor

### December 26

Eleanor Price

### December 28

Kelli Palmer

### December 29

Jake Buckner  
Jane Wiseman

### December 30

Mike Minnix  
December 31  
Gregg Whitson

### Red Cross Blood Drive

**Thursday, December 9, 2021**

**1:30 - 6:00 p.m.**

Please visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter: FBC Statesville to schedule an appointment.

Be sure to make your reservations by Monday at 10:00 a.m. by calling the church office, e-mailing [kayley@statesvillefbc.org](mailto:kayley@statesvillefbc.org), or using the Remind App.