



Forerunner

First Baptist Church
1024 E. Stuart Drive
Galax, VA 24333
276-236-5185
www.fbcgalax.org

Volume 49, No. 12
December 1-31, 2022



**When I offered up My one and only Son,
I gave you the best gift I could give.**

Romans 8:32

*He who didn't spare his own Son, but delivered him up for us all,
how would he not also with him freely give us all things?*

Christmas marks the one day in the year where gifts are given and received around the world. I could not think of a more appropriate day to talk about the greatest gift that our Father could give. On a day that we celebrate the birth of God's only begotten Son, may we also be reminded of the reason why Jesus came to earth.

In John 3:16 we read that God so loved the world that He gave His only Son... It was the Father who gave us everything He could possibly give when He sacrificed the life of His treasured possession. In today's promise, Paul the Apostle reminds us of this incredible gift. God did not spare His Son, but delivered Him up to the most excruciating death on a cross in order that we could be born into His family.



Sundays

9:45 am—Sunday School
(Classes for all ages)
11:00 am—Worship Service
(Live on FBC Website & 98.1 FM Radio)
6:00 pm—Tru-North & Kids Explorers

Mondays

6:00 pm—Bible Study Livestream
www.fbcgalax.org or through Facebook

Wednesdays

6:00 pm—Prayer Group
6:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal



Dec 4 Kids Jingle Jam 4 pm—6 pm
(Dinner will be provided)

Dec 5—Soup Kitchen Please have
Desserts & bread to the Church by 1 pm

Dec 6—Staff Meeting @ 1:00 pm

Dec 11— Kids & Youth Christmas Dinner
@ 5 pm

Dec 11—Live Nativity 6:15 pm —6:45 pm
Dec 11—The Carols of Christmas
Presented by the Choir @ 7:00 pm

Dec 14—Preschool Christmas Program
@ 11:00 am

Dec 14 & 28 -Kingdom Kids @ 5:30 pm

Dec 15 Women on Mission @ 11:00 am

Dec 15 Loss Support Group @ 11:30 am

Dec 24— 5:30 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Dec 23—26 Church Offices Closed

Dec 25—Christmas Worship @ 11:00
There will be NO Sunday School



In John 3:17 we continue to read these verses: For God did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18: Anyone who believes in Him is not condemned, but anyone who does not believe is already condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the One and Only Son of God. God gives us the greatest gift so that we may be saved through His gift... Jesus!

The greatest gift that you could receive this Christmas is a deeper revelation of just how much our God and Father loves you. He gave up everything He loved in order to gain your love. May the revelation of His love go even deeper into your heart today and may the cross of Jesus Christ always be the ultimate symbol of our Father's greatest gift to you.

Have a blessed Christmas!

In Christ's Love,

Kevin



or God did not send His Son into the world that He might condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."
John 3: 17 (HCSB)



What a wonderful time of the year...beautiful trees with sparkling lights and heirloom ornaments, family and friends gathering together from near and far, and the anticipation of the true reason we celebrate this season! Just as children look forward to opening “that one special present” under the tree, we, too, eagerly await the arrival of the Christ Child. Each Sunday of the Advent season helps us to prepare for the birth of Jesus as we sing familiar carols and study scripture reflecting the Christmas story.

And so...the Music Ministry invites you to worship with us on **Sunday evening, December 11, at 7:00 p.m.** as we present **THE CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS**. Filled with classical Christmas works, favorite carols, and even jazzy creations, we hope that you will join us in worshipping the Baby Jesus. Invite a friend and spend a few moments walking through our live nativity either before the service or immediately following it. We look forward to celebrating the birth of Christ with you!! **Merry Christmas!!**

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded,
For with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.*

*King of kings yet born of Mary
As of old on earth He stood;
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.*

*Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.*

*At His feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Lord Most High.*

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www.ccli.com. CCLI L



THERE IS NEVER A DULL MOMENT AT FBC!!!
As you can see by the Forerunner information and wonderful pictures, November was a very fun filled & blessed month. Activities included a precious baby shower, a visit from the area police departments, and the Kentucky mission trip. Pastor Kevin prepared a delicious meal for the God’s Store House Soup Kitchen and for the youth, 400+ boxes of Mac & Cheese were collected for the community Thanksgiving meal, canned food was collected for the Kentucky mission trip and Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes were collected and volunteers will be traveling to Boone this month to help at the Samaritan’s Purse packing center.
There are lots of exciting events planned for the month of December.
Jingle Jam is planned for the youth on December 4 at 4 pm and dinner will be provided. Pastor Kevin & the youth leaders will prepare a Christmas dinner for the kids & youth on December 11th. Following the dinner there will be a Live Nativity Scene at the church from 6:15—6:45. We are so excited that everyone can enjoy the Live Nativity before and after attending the Choir’s presentation of “The Carols of Christmas” starting at 7:00 pm. Wow, what a special way to celebrate the Birth of Jesus!



PSALM 119:33-37

33- TEACH ME, LORD, THE WAY OF YOUR DECREES, THAT I MAY FOLLOW IT TO THE END.

34- GIVE ME UNDERSTANDING, SO THAT I MAY KEEP YOUR LAW.

35- DIRECT ME IN THE PATH OF YOUR COMMANDS FOR THERE I FIND DELIGHT.

IN VERSE 33, DAVID STARTS BY ASKING THE LORD FOR HELP TO OBEY HIM, AND HELP TO STAY FIRM UNTIL THE END. THIS IS A PRAYER THAT WE ALL SHOULD RELATE TO. DAVID ALSO ASK THE LORD THAT HE TEACH HIM, SO HE CAN KEEP HIS WORDS AND OBEY THEM.

BUT NOT ONLY TO OBEY HIS WORD, BUT OBEY IT WITH ALL HIS HEART.

SOMETIMES WE FEEL THAT WE AREN'T OBEYING HIS TEACHINGS AND HIS COMMANDMENTS WITH ALL OUR HEARTS. DAVID ASK THE LORD IN THIS PRAYER FOR WISDOM SO HE COULD DO THAT. THE LORD CALLS US TO PROFOUND OBEDIENCE AND THAT'S WHY HE NEEDS THE LORD'S HELP.

HE IS SAYING, LORD TEACH ME, GUIDE ME, DO SOMETHING IN ME.

36-TURN MY HEART TOWARD YOUR STATUTES AND NOT TOWARD SELFISH GAIN.

37-TURN MY EYES AWAY FROM WORTHLESS THINGS; PRESERVE MY LIFE ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.

WE CAN RESUME BY SAYING THAT OUR PRAYERS SHOULD BE LIKE DAVID, OUR WISH SHOULD BE TO BE ABLE TO PUT OUR HEARTS CLOSER TO HIM SO WE CAN OBEY HIS STATUTES, AND LET HIM DO HIS WORK IN US. BLESSINGS

PASTOR LINO RODRIGUEZ



The Women on Mission would like to say a big thank you to everyone that donated money for us to shop for shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. We packed 29 boxes and we still had funds left. This money will be delivered to the Samaritan Purse. We were overjoyed and thank you for your support in this wonderful ministry.

The Lottie Moon Christmas offering starts this month. Our goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering this year is \$3,000, with 100% of the money going directly to sustain the international missionaries and their work. If you would like to donate, the Lottie Moon prayer guides and special offering envelopes are located at the Welcome Desk and also at the church office, and beside the offering boxes. Thank you so much for your donations and all you do to support Women on Mission.

- Christy Sumner



"I will give thanks to You, Lord, with all my heart. I will tell of all Your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing the praises of Your name, O Most High."

Psalm 9



The children and youth enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving meal with a time of fellowship and singing songs of worship. Revelation 4:11 says, "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they are created and have their being."

Special guests from Carroll County Sheriff's Department and Galax Police Department visited and educated all about safety in the community. The youth and children were especially excited to meet Maverick the search dog for Carroll County.

Pictures are included in the Forerunner.

**November 2022
Attendance Records**

11/06/22

Evening Attendance—	118
Sunday School—	90
11:00 am Worship—	145
Hispanic Worship—	<u>51</u>
	404

11/13/22

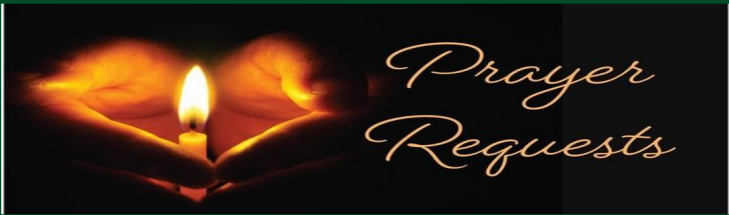
Evening Attendance—	56
Sunday School—	79
11:00 am Worship—	120
Hispanic Worship—	<u>48</u>
	303

11/20/22

Evening Attendance—	35
Sunday School—	97
11:00 am Worship—	167
Hispanic Worship—	<u>51</u>
	350

11/27/22


Evening Attendance—	42
Sunday School—	98
11:00 am Worship—	170
Hispanic Worship—	<u>50</u>
	360



Royce Easter, Juan & Beverly Rios, Rose Houk, Chad Eddy, Ed Mallory, Frank Plichta, Larry & Doris Spangler, Tony & Ginny Mays, Charles Larrowe, Wanda Harris, Chuck Thompson, Tracy Hasbrouck, Joyce Fender, Bill Cox, Bill Dunn, Steve & Larkin Conley, Audrey Merrill, Sam & Nancy Blair, Doris Bedwell, Ava Rhodes, Donald & Katherine Martin, Betty Parks, Denton Taylor & Benny & Shirley White.

Glennis Morris-Waddell Nursing & Rehab- Room 118B, Martha Combs-Hillsville Health & Rehab—Room 116, Nancy McKenzie-Hillsville Health & Rehab—Room 116.

Pray for our Country & the US Military & other coalition forces.



IN MEMORIAM

DONOR * * IN MEMORY or HONOR ** FUND

LIBRARY NEWS
*We appreciate your generosity;
however, the church library
is no longer accepting used
book donations.*

CHURCH STAFF

- Dr. Kevin Rosenfeld.....Senior Pastor
- Mrs. Wendi Pemberton.....Minister of Music
- Ms. Barbara Bourne.....Administrative Secretary
Mrs. Marie Combs..... Financial Secretary
Mrs. Nancy Hazelwood..... Organist
Mrs. Patty Davis..... Pianist
Mrs. Marian Porter..... Weekday Preschool Director
Mrs. Sara Hall..... Preschool/Extended Session
Mr. Kevin Spurlin..... Sunday School Director
Mrs. Penny Adams..... Bus Ministry Director
Mrs. Martha Easter, RN..... Volunteer Health Nurse
Rod Hale..... Sexton

CHURCH PHONE: 276-236-5185
CHURCH FAX 276-236-5186

E-MAIL: secretary@fbcgalax.org

Website: www.fbcgalax.org
 www.facebook.com/FBCGalax

Church Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday 8:30—5:00 Friday—8:30—1:00

DECEMBER TEAM VOLUNTEERS

<u>NURSERY-WORSHIP</u>		
December 4	Erica Testerman	
December 11	Tara Spurlin	
December 18	Jennifer & Jay Newman	
December 25	Sara Hall	
<u>SECURITY TEAM</u>		
December 4	Dick Cooley& Gerald Cox	
December 11	Basil Carpenter & Jack Edwards	
December 18	John Patterson & Phil Helms	
December 25	Terry Anders & David Riggan	
<u>WELCOME CENTER</u>		<u>FIRST IMPRESSIONS</u>
December 4	Kathy Cox	Marty & Cathy Parks
December 11	Sarah Keatley	Basil & Nancy Carpenter
December 18	Pam Turner	Phil & Gay Helms
December 25	Debbie Patterson	Dick & Linda Cooley
<u>TECH SOUND</u>		<u>TECH PROJECTION</u>
December 4	Mike Stevens	Jessica Whitaker
December 11	Trevor Anders	Bryan Dillon
December 18	Bryan Dillon	Jessica Whitaker
December 25	Gary Ballard	Trevor Anders



Pastor Kevin's Sermon Series

December 4—Matthew
"Why Joseph?"

December 11— Luke
"Why Mary?"

December 18— Luke
"Why Call Him Savior?"

December 24—Luke 2:25-34
"Simeon"

Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Service

December 25—Matthew
"The First & Second Coming of Christ"



A NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION

Beginning December 1st
read one chapter of the
book of Luke in the Bible
each evening.

There are 24 chapters.
On Christmas Eve you will
have read
an entire account of
Jesus's Life
and wake up
Christmas morning
knowing
WHO and WHY
we celebrate!

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR
PRESENTS

"THE CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11
AT 7:00 pm





Live Nativity



The Kids Explorers &
Tru-North Youth
Will Be Presenting
A Live Nativity
Sunday, December 11
6:15 pm —6:45 pm

ARRIVE A LITTLE EARLY TO ENJOY
THE LIVE NATIVITY BEFORE
THE CHOIR'S AWESOME
"CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS"
You may also enjoy the Nativity
Following the Program!



CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JESUS WITH KIDS QUEST/KIDS EXPLORERS

JINGLE JAM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4th
4 PM - 6 PM

A Christmas Party Big Enough For the Whole Family

Join us for an unforgettable Christmas experience complete with fun, games, music, and lights!

Dinner will be provided!

Christmas Dinner

Kids Explorers & Tru-North Youth
CHRISTMAS DINNER
SUNDAY, DECEMBER, 11TH
5:00 PM



“JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM” IN PLACE OF ELF ON A SHELF

A great way to bring “The Christmas Story” to life in your home just in time for Christmas Day! You start with a nativity scene that has individually moveable characters and you separate Mary & Joseph from the rest of the nativity party.

They have to make their voyage to the city of Bethlehem in time for Christmas Eve, for the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. You hide Mary & Joseph (and the donkey if you have one) in a different location around the house each night, and then it’s like a scavenger hunt for the kids to find where they end up. Then on Christmas Eve, they meet up with the rest of the Nativity Party, and the story of “The First Christmas” unfolds.

You can also read a passage or two of the “Christmas Story” From Matthew 1-2 or Luke 1-2 each night when the kids find where Mary & Joseph have moved.

**TO PLACE A POINSETTIA IN THE SANCTUARY
IN HONOR OR MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE,
PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

THE COST WILL BE \$8.00 PER POINSETTIA.

**YOU MAY TAKE YOUR POINSETTIA HOME
WITH YOU AT THE END OF THE
WORSHIP SERVICE
ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH.**





**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT &
COMMUNION SERVICE
DECEMBER 24TH
AT 5:30 PM
Luke 2:25-34—"Simeon"**

**December 25
11:00 am Worship Service
There will be NO
Sunday School**

A BIG THANK YOU FROM THE TESTERMANS FOR
THE AMAZING BABY SHOWER.
OUR FBC CHURCH FAMILY CAN'T WAIT
TO WELCOME THE NEW BABY GIRL!



**FBC KIDS-QUEST SHOEBOX BLESSING
AND
SUPER HEROES THEMED SUNDAY SCHOOL**



The Carroll County Sheriff's Department and Galax Police Department Visited The Kingdom Kids and Educated About Safety in the Community!



NOVEMBER 12 & 13 MISSION TRIP TO
THE MARY BENNETT HOME IN KENTUCKY
MARY WAS SO THANKFUL FOR THE MEALS, THE SERVICE & FOR THE
CANNED FOOD DONATIONS





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNEDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u> <i>Noelle Edwards</i> <i>Marie Thomas</i>
<u>4</u> <i>Jane Alderman</i>	<u>5</u> <i>Debbie Adams</i> <i>Erika Gonzalez</i>	<u>6</u> <i>Robert Leonard</i>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> <i>John Adams, Jr.</i>	<u>10</u> <i>Dorothy Bowles</i>
<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> <i>Roselia Munoz</i> <i>Audrey Turner</i>	<u>14</u> <i>Linda Riddle</i> <i>Crystal Adams</i>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u> <i>Sara Lindsey</i>	<u>19</u> <i>Donna Garland</i>	<u>20</u> <i>Josh Schultheis</i>	<u>21</u> <i>Joy Turner</i>	<u>22</u> <i>Tammy Wyatt</i>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> <i>Erica Testerman</i>
<u>25</u> <i>Gay Helms</i> <i>Ginger Vaughan</i>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u> <i>Patricia Edwards</i> <i>Kaitlyn Turner</i>	<u>28</u> <i>Jackie McGrady</i> <i>Cindy Rodriguez</i>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> <i>Linda Painter</i>



December 2022 Services & Activities

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>4</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 2ND SUNDY OF ADVENT 4:00—6:00 pm Kids & Youth Jingle Jam	<u>5</u> 6:00 pm Pastor Kevin's Monday Evening Bible Study Livestream www.fbcgalax.org or on Facebook	<u>6</u> 10:00 am Paper Pals	<u>7</u> 6:00 pm Prayer Time Led by Pastor Kevin 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Depart @ 7:45 am Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Trip to Boone	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u> Depart @ 9:45 am Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Trip to Boone	<u>10</u>
<u>11</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 5 pm Kids & Youth Christmas Dinner 6:15 pm Live Nativity 7:00 pm The Carols of Christmas Presented by the FBC Choir 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	<u>12</u> 6:00 pm Pastor Kevin's Monday Evening Bible Study Livestream www.fbcgalax.org or through Facebook	<u>13</u> 10:00 am Paper Pals	<u>14</u> 11 am Preschool Christmas Program 6:00 pm Prayer Time Led By Pastor Kevin 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Kingdom Kids	<u>15</u> 11:00 am Women on Mission Christmas Party 11:30 am Loss Support Group	<u>16</u> Common Ground SS Class Christmas Party	<u>17</u>
<u>18</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship No Evening Kids or Youth Meetings 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	<u>19</u> 6:00 pm Pastor Kevin's Monday Evening Bible Study Livestream www.fbcgalax.org or through Facebook	<u>20</u> School Break No Paper Pals	<u>21</u> 6:00 pm Prayer Time Led by Pastor Kevin 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal & Prayer Group 	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> Church Office Closed Fellowship Hall Reserved	<u>24</u> 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service 
<u>25</u> No Sunday School 11:00 am Worship 	<u>26</u> Church Office Closed No Bible Study	<u>27</u> School Break No Paper Pals	<u>28</u> No Prayer Team No Choir Rehearsal 5:30 pm Kingdom Kids	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u> Church Office Closed	<u>31</u> New Year's Eve 



**Monday
December 5**
Please have bread &
desserts to the church
by 1:00 pm

**Bible
Study**



**PASTOR KEVIN'S
MONDAY EVENING
BIBLE STUDY**

@ 6:00 PM

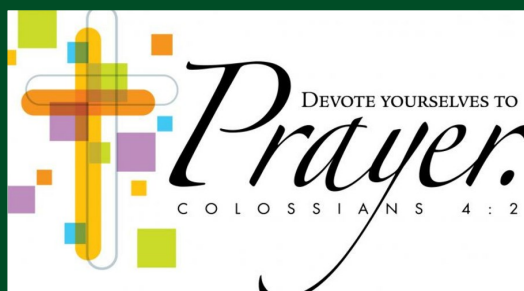
**Livestream on www.fbcgalax.org
or through Facebook
No Study December 19th & 26th**



**December 15
@ 11:00 am**
Please contact
Christy Sumner
for more information



**Loss Support Group
December 15
@ 11:30 am**
Please contact
Debbie Adams
for more information



**PRAYER TIME
LED BY PASTOR KEVIN
EACH WEDNESDAY @ 6:00 PM
IN THE CHURCH PARLOR**



**CHOIR REHEARSAL
EACH WEDNESDAY @ 6:30 PM
If you would like to join the choir,
please see Wendi Pemberton!**



**December
14th & 28th**



**Kids Explorers & Youth
Jingle Jam December 4th
4 pm—6 pm
Explorers & Tru-North
Christmas Dinner
December 11th @ 5 pm**



**PAPER PALS
Tues. December 6th & 13th
@ 10 am in the Church Parlor**