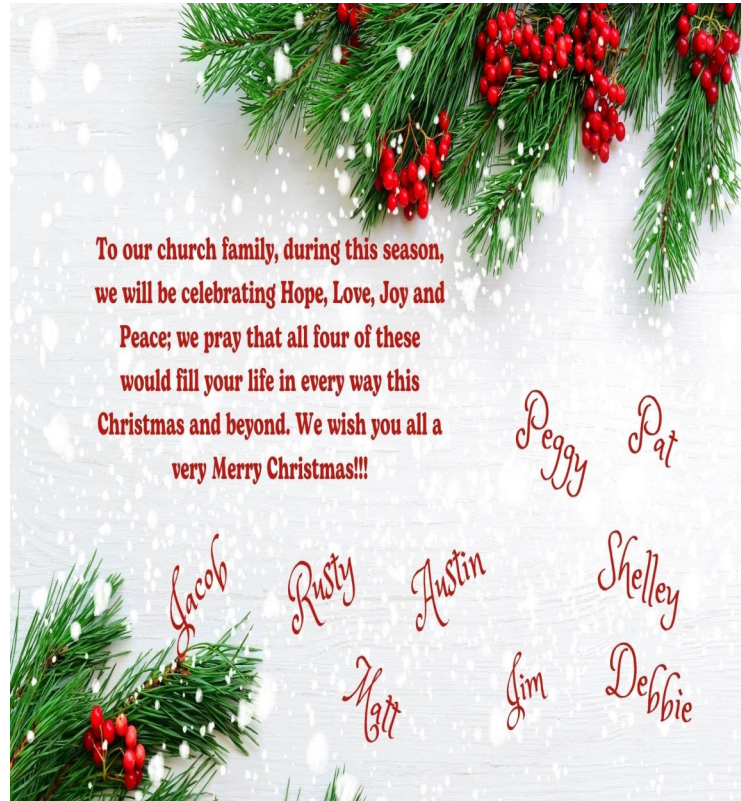


Look at the gifts under your tree, and take the time to think, in the words of Sandi Patty, “the gift goes on.” Grace upon grace, gift upon gift—the fountain of gifts began to flow in Bethlehem on that first Christmas 2,000 years ago, but the gifts still run freely from the hand of our gracious God today.

Joyful, blessed, and thankful Christmas wishes to you all.

Pastor Rusty



Rusty Thomas-Senior Pastor—706-633.0745—rusty.thomas@blueridgefbc.org  
Jacob Boatner-Associate Pastor—334.318.0558—jacob.boatner@blueridgefbc.org  
Austin Leach-Student Minister—423.331.7504—Aleach15@gmail.com  
Pat Young-Childhood Ministries/Music  
770.316.6575—pat.young@blueridgefbc.org  
Shelley Smallwood-Secretary  
706.207.9150—shelley.smallwood@blueridgefbc.org  
Debbie Jones-Pianist  
Matt Hinman-Audio/Visual Coordinator

**WHAT'S GOING ON FOR FBCBR:**

**12/2 Men's Prayer Breakfast**

**12/2 Men's Book Club**

**12/6 CLC Christmas Concert**

**12/7 Morning at the Manger**

**12/09 Cookie Exchange**

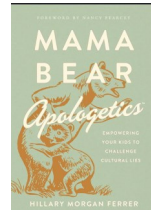
**12/13 Kenny Evans Christmas Concert**

**12/15 Choir Christmas Special**

**12/18 Christmas Caroling**

**12/24 Christmas Eve Service**

**12/28 No SALT Saturday this month!**



**Hey Mama's check out the new women's bible study coming soon here at FBCBR! It begins on 1/12; 4:30-5:30pm. See Sarah Pruitt for more information.**



**Please note mailboxes/Lost & Found are located in the Conference Room**

**Lottie Moon International Missions Offering begins today! Be on the lookout for the Lottie Moon Mailboxes so be getting your Christmas Cards ready!!**



**The Gift Goes On**

I recently asked Olive, do you remember what Christmas is? She replied simply, “Yes, it’s when we have presents.” Not exactly the Sunday School answer that most of us Christian parents want to hear, but she’s exactly right. Christmas is a celebration of the gifts of God to man. John writes in his Gospel account, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory as of the holy Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.”

As a child on Christmas morning, there was always the apprehension of hearing from your parents that there were no more gifts. John writes that in Jesus, we receive gift upon gift—grace upon grace—it’s never ending. The greatest of these gifts in Jesus is that of eternal life; all other gifts issue out of this relational everlasting life with God, and Jesus came into this world as the God-Man to make that happen.

December will be a busy month with all the Christmas festivities, and here at the church, we are joining in with many celebrations ourselves—the Christmas music concerts and outreaches, the Christmas decorations, the Christmas parade float, Morning at the Manger, and of course our Advent worship services. In all the busy time, take some time to reflect on a non-attractive stable and manger, with some hairy animals, haggard shepherds, and heavenly angels. Take some time to reflect on the Kings from afar bringing gifts and remember that the King of kings came from afar bearing the greatest gift.

{Continued}

# December 2024

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Men's Breakfast 8AM Deacon's Meeting 6PM Men's Book Club 7:30PM	<b>3</b> Quilting B's 9AM FORGE 5PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> CLC Christmas Concert 6PM	<b>7</b> Morning At The Manger 9:30-12PM
<b>8</b> Vote For New Deacon Candidates/Budget Following Morning Service	<b>9</b> Cookie Exchange 5:30PM	<b>10</b> WMU/Heart To Hands 10AM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Kenny Evans Concert/ Festivities 6PM	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Choir Christmas Special 6PM	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Quilting B's 9AM FORGE 5Pm	<b>18</b> Church Christmas Caroling 5PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> No evening service	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Office Closed Christmas Eve Service 5PM	<b>25</b> Office Closed Merry Christmas!!!!	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> No SALT this month!
<b>29</b> No Sunday School No Evening Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Office Closed New Years Eve!!!!				



## DEACON OF THE WEEK - DECEMBER 2024

- 01 James Weeks                      770-329-9210
- 08 Jim Rismiller                      706-633-7976
- 15 Don Peek                            706-632-3369
- 22 Tony Nelson                        229-402-5543
- 29 Robbie Cole                        423-595-2646

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Linda Weeks—12/02
- Suryanni Arnall—12/04
- Evie Stockton—12/04
- Sharon McKnight—12/04
- Cyndi Thomas—12/05
- Leonard Sowell—12/09
- Steve Zak—12/13
- Sarah Pruitt—12/14
- Maeola Hughes—12/16
- Ethan Arnall—12/18
- Lisa Royse—12/26
- Gwen Creasman—12/27
- Matt Shirah—12/28
- Beverly Weaver—12/28
- Judy Butler—12/31

(If your birthday is not listed please call the church office)

Please note our Prayer Tree as you enter the Sanctuary. Write your prayer on one of the tags and place on the tree. At the beginning of the New Year we will take a prayer and commit to praying over it throughout the year.