

# THE PINNACLE

First Baptist Church of Middlesboro, Kentucky

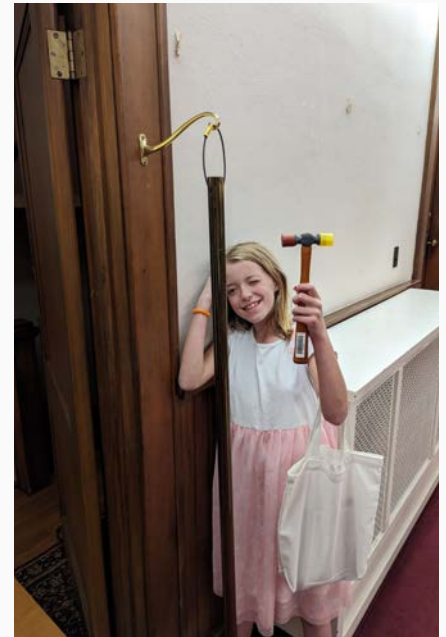
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Rev. Scarlett Jasper, CBF Field Personnel



Tailgate for Missions Fun and Games



Teaching kids to lead in worship

## Evangelism and Outreach

WRITTEN BY REV. ZACHARY L. BAY

"Evangelism." "Outreach."

From time to time, some good-hearted and very well-meaning member in the church says to me, "We need an outreach program!" or "We need an evangelism program!"

I like outreach. I am a fan of evangelism. But "programs" imply large church staffs powered by big church budgets. We have neither. And even if, "programs" don't do in 2023 what they did in the past.

But I like outreach and I believe in evangelism. I've been praying about these things, and I have what I believe is a good idea.

What's inside our latest issue:

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**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER  
DATES - 5-6**



Whirl Kids Sunday School with Kevin and Traci Barnett



Fun and Games at the Tailgate for Missions

I believe it's a very Baptist idea--in line with the Baptist notion that you printed on your orders of worship and stationary for many years: "Every member a minister."

I've designed and ordered 250 double-sided cards. They'll be here very soon. They'll look and feel professional. You can be proud to personally hand them to people you know and say, "I love my church." That's what I'm asking you to do this November.

Best I can tell from listening to those whom I trust, fixation on "programs" is 20th-century church thinking. We're nearly a quarter of a century past

the 1900s now. Churches are smaller, leaner, and more anxious in 2023 than they were 1953. One thing is crystal clear to me: "programs" don't work like they used to. "Programs" are "big box" stores.

What might work in the 21st century is genuine human connection and community. "Shop local." "Eat local." To me, "local" is our current cultural code word for "real flesh and blood human being(s) whom I know and like and trust."

So let's "church local." You--your flesh and blood body, mind, and soul--are the best outreach and evangelism FBC has. You are not a "program," but a person. This idea is not "big box," but "Mom and Pop." More Ike's Pizza, less Pizza Hut. More Shades Cafe, less Outback. More Crater City Coffee Co., less Starbucks.

American society and culture are different in 2023 than they were in 1993. Both research and experience say that the programs of old don't get the same traction they once did. I believe that it's because church is changing--it's more about personal relationship and belonging than ever before. And, frankly, that's exciting to me as a pastor!

Given that, the best evangelism and outreach "program" we could have--we already have. It's you.



Front

Back





Praying in worship



Learning about God



Tailgate for Missions Event

## With a Grateful Heart...

WRITTEN BY REV. DR. KRISTY L. BAY

We are in my favorite time of year. I love the fall, and the holidays, and I love them even more through the eyes of my children. I'll be honest, I never thought we'd be that house with Halloween Inflatables in the yard...but it turns out a certain little boy LOVES Halloween. And the sheer delight with which he approaches everything related to it, is, well... *holy*.

Eleanor is the same way about Christmas. She loves everything about it (as do I)! It's because of my children's delight, wonder, and anticipation that I have a new-found appreciation for the season of Thanksgiving that falls in between these two milestone holidays.

Perhaps in light of world events, perhaps because the pandemic reminded me (and us) of just how

much we take for granted, this year I find myself paying more attention to giving thanks. As the song so aptly says, "Give thanks, with a grateful heart." And yes, gratitude should be a way of life, but I am thankful that there is a season dedicated to it.

Much like Lent and Advent prepare us for Easter and Christmas, this season of Thanksgiving can prepare us for a more daily practice of living with gratitude.

So, my friends, what are you thankful for? What little things do you tend to take for granted? *Who* are you thankful for? Take some time this November to practice living with a grateful heart...and I bet that singing those words this Thanksgiving will take on a deeper meaning!

### November Birthdays

2 - Brenda Osborne - 220 Windermere Dr

2 - Peggy Capps - 1120 Gloucester Ave

4 - Kristina Lane - Cumberland Village Apts. #8

4 - Missy Gulley - 209 Foxglove St Harrogate, TN 37752-7042

5 - Peggy Bowling - 321 S 13th St

5 - Mary Lou Massengill - 129 Maxwellton Hgts

6 - Patrick Hamlin - 119 Exeter Avenue

8 - Daniel Watson - 8540 Glade Court Huntersville, NC 28078

9 - Sandra Pennington - 1419 Queensbridge Dr Knoxville, TN 37922

10 - Janice Stamper - 203 Summit Dr

10 - Missy Branscom - 507 Fairview Rd

12 - David Cook - 3226 Cumberland Ave

13 - Derek Barnett - 111 Hebrew Cemetery Rd

14 - Blake Branscom - 507 Fairview Rd

14 - Rebekah Harrell - 118 Blakeman Dr

17 - Janet Matthews - 216 S 22nd St

17 - Barbara Murray - 680 Jones Ridge Rd Speedwell, TN 37870

22 - Randy Kaw - 2156 Smyth Dr Springfield, IL 62711

22 - Sue Stapleton - 4555 Northwest 10th Way Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

29 - Sarah Ausmus - 1404 Dorchester Ave

# Congregational Calendar

## Wednesday, November 1

6:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study  
7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, November 5

10:00 AM Children's Sunday School & Fellowship in the Foyer  
11:00 AM The Worship of God- Service of All Saints  
6:00 PM Deacons Meeting

## Tues., November 7/Thurs. Nov. 9

9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

## Wednesday, November 8

6:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study  
7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, November 12

10:00 AM Children's Sunday School & Fellowship in the Foyer  
11:00 AM The Worship of God

## Monday, November 13

5:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

## Tues., Nov. 14/Thurs. Nov. 16

9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling

## Wednesday, November 15

6:30 PM Church Business Meeting  
7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, November 19

10:00 AM Children's Sunday School & Fellowship in the Foyer  
11:00 AM Festival of Thanksgiving  
6:00 PM Thanksgiving Dinner

## Tuesday, November 21

9:30 AM Yoga with Becky Bowling  
6:00 PM Venture Women's Circle

## Wednesday, November 22

NO WEDS. NIGHT ACTIVITIES  
(Thanksgiving Break)

## Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving Day  
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

## Sunday, November 26

10:00 AM Children's Sunday School & Fellowship in the Foyer  
11:00 AM Reign of Christ Sunday

## Wednesday, November 29

6:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study  
7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## December Birthdays

3- Leigh Anne Shumate - PO Box 42

8- Alex Cook - 3225 Cumberland Ave

9- Missy Bakies- 256 Volunteer Ln Harrogate, TN 37752

10- Gingie Martin - 430 Shields Crossing Dr. Bean Station, TN 37708

10- Betty Nagle - 2522 Cumberland Ave

11- Jay Shoffner - 2906 Cumberland Ave

11- Carson Shumate - PO Box 42

13- Katie Cox - PO Box 1381

13- Mildred Norton -PO Box E

13- Janis Walters - 812 Cherokee Dr.

14- Trish Edinger - 314 North 25th St.

14- Andrea Lee - 700 Twin Fawn Trail

16- Grace Rose - 206 Cedar Valley Ewing, VA 24248

17- Edith Asher - PO Box 584, Pineville, KY

18- Jessica Eldridge - 923 Doncaster Ave

19- Tammy Grimm - PO Box 1131

19- Courtney Myers - 501 Wildwood Rd

20- Claudia Jarvis - 195 Blue Ridge Rd. Speedwell, TN 37870

21- Ed Myers - 501 Wildwood Rd

22- Tommy Joe Mike - 500 S 35th ST.

22- Geneva Sneed - PO Box 1354

24- Carol Uhl - 503 Ilchester Ave

27- Haley Tigue - 568 Pine Branch Rd.

30- Thornley Alexander - 189 Ramsey St. Harrogate, TN 37752

30- Suzanne Lee - 700 Twin Fawn Trial



## Save the Date

# November Dates

### **Sunday, November 5**

11:00 AM All Saint's Service

### **Wednesday, November 8**

6 PM Pastor's Bible Study- Rahab

### **Wednesday, November 15**

6 PM Business Meeting

### **Sunday, November 19**

11:00 AM Festival of Thanksgiving

6 PM Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner

### **Wednesday, November 22**

***NO WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES due to Thanksgiving***

### **Sunday, November 26**

11:00 AM Reign of Christ Sunday

5:00 PM Hanging of the Green (help us deck the halls)

### **Wednesday, November 29**

6 PM Pastor's Bible Study-  
Bathsheba

### **We Give Thanks....**

For the 60 outfits, 70 pairs of socks, 80 pairs of underwear

That the Venture Women's Circle bought for local kids with your generous **Tailgate for Missions** donations

this year! Well done, FBC!



# December Dates



**Saturday, December 2**

7 PM Middlesboro Christmas Parade (Children's Ministry)

**Sunday, December 3**

11:00 AM Advent 1 Worship

**Wednesday, December 6**

6 PM Family Advent Service (Bring ornament/toys for CCM)

**Thursday, December 7**

4:30- 6:30 PM Pastors' Christmas Open House

**Sunday, December 10**

11:00 AM Advent 2 Worship

**Wednesday, December 13**

6 PM Business Mtg/ Christmas Baskets

**More December Dates:**

**Sunday, December 17**

11:00 AM Advent 3 Worship  
5:45 PM Cantata & Candles Live Nativity

**December 17- 19**

7pm- 9pm Live Nativity

**Tuesday, December 19**

6 PM FBC Polar Express (Children's Ministry)

**Wednesday, December 20**

6 PM Pastor's Bible Study- Mary & Elizabeth

**Thursday, December 21**

11 AM- 1PM Church Office Christmas Open House

**Sunday, December 24**

11 AM- Lessons & Carols Worship  
4pm- 7pm Come & Go Communion

