

Ministers

Paul Baxley

Frank Granger

Randy Brittain

Janet Cleland

Brandon Pendry

Emily Harbin

Anne Brittain

Alan McArthur

Senior Minister

Minister of Christian Community

Minister of Music

Minister of Children, Families, and Outreach

Minister of Youth and Mission

Minister of College Students

Organist and Music Associate

Pianist



First Baptist Church

355 Pulaski Street/Athens/GA/30601-2860

706.548.1359 Fax: 706.548.2302

www.firstbaptistathens.org



First Baptist Church
Athens, Georgia

January 7, 2018

11:00 a.m.

The First Sunday after Epiphany

Creative Brooding:

*The baby whom the magi found was the beginning of the journey. We do not merely **believe** in Jesus. We **follow** Jesus. Christ takes us to places that we would not have gone without his leading. We have a desert to travel, a start to discover, and a life to be found.*

Our trivial desires threaten to obscure our genuine longing. God gently tries to persuade us to turn our attention from the temporary to the permanent—from passing time to investing in eternity.

Are we courageous enough to seek God's wisdom? Are we willing to relinquish our control and go where Christ leads us? Can we rise to a new sense of adventure, forsake our cozy boundaries, and follow Christ?

The wise men wanted to see Jesus more than they wanted to keep their treasures, more than they wanted to play it safe, and more than they feared the difficulties of the journey.

-Brett Younger, "Seeking Wisdom"

*First Baptist Church is a thriving community in Christ
where we all participate in worship
and are transformed by mission.*

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, January 7

9:15 a.m. Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — Fanning Foyer
9:45—10:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study — throughout the building
11:00 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
3:00—6:00 p.m. Youth to FBC Commerce

Monday, January 8

2:00 p.m. Staff Meeting — Farrall Conference Rm.

Tuesday, January 9

7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast — Em's Kitchen
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #22 — S-304

Wednesday, January 10

5:30 p.m. Property Management Committee — Farrall Conference Rm.
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir — Choir Rm.

Sunday, January 14

9:15 a.m. Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — Fanning Foyer
9:45—10:45 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study — throughout the building
11:00 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. Community King Holiday Ecumenical Service, Sanctuary

Serving Together

Co-Deacons of the Week

January 7-13 *Fred & Amy Young*
January 14-20: *Mark Sanders, Andy Ullrich*

January Fellowship Team

*Bill Hopper, Joanna Hill, Jane Hubert,
Connie Ivester*

Welcome Center Team—January 7

Beth Sanders, Janice Love

Welcome Center Team—January 14

Al Henderson, Wanda Grogan

Usher Team January

*Jerry Gouge, Carl Hedrick, Jimmy
Thomason, Milton Mills, Randan Ashmore,
Steve Smith*

Counting Committee

January 7: *Bevan Hopper,
Michael Jenkins*
January 14: *Mike Lacy, Al Lee*

COMMUNITY NOTES

On Sunday, January 14 at 5:00 p.m. First Baptist Athens will have the privilege of hosting the **COMMUNITY ECUMENICAL SERVICE** for the King Holiday Weekend sponsored by the Athens Area Human Relations Council and the Interfaith Clergy Partnership of Greater Athens. The King Weekend observances are particularly important this year, as 2018 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King, Jr. We will be honored to welcome several distinguished guest leaders for the service. Our Sanctuary Choir will provide an anthem for the service. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Our **WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS** will resume on January 17 and will include dinner, children’s choirs, mission kids, adult discipleship, youth activities and sanctuary choir. Reservations are needed for the meal. We offer a choice of hot meal, salad bar with choice of potato, and a children’s menu option. The cost of adult meals is \$7.00. The cost of children’s meals is \$3.50. The supper line opens each week at 5:00 p.m. Dinner reservations may be made by a phone call to the church office, sign up by email, or sign up through our church website. **SPECIAL NOTE:** If you had previously signed up for standing reservations last August, we are asking that you please **Re-Register** for the Wednesday supper list. Stay tuned to FBC publications for information about Adult Discipleship options after the new year.

Our Church on Mission

Emergency Food Bank Needs:
Pork ‘n Beans, Canned Salmon/Tuna,
Spaghetti Sauce

Join our **MISSION MINISTRIES at FBC** by signing up for your choice of ministries on the two month calendar on the second floor hallway. On the **FIRST** and **LAST** Sunday of every month, a mission team member will be in the main hallway to help you sign up to serve with FBC’s mission partners.

Please consider joining fellow members of FBC for the **MLK DAY OF SERVICE** at Bear Hollow Zoo (293 Gran Ellen Dr.) on Monday, January 15 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Come prepared to work outside and bring hedge trimmers, shovels and gloves, if possible! Questions? Contact Brandon Pendry (Brandon@firstbaptistathens.org).

Welcome Visitors!

We are so glad you’re here! There are wonderful programs and opportunities for all ages! If you’d like to learn more about our ministries, please fill out the guest information card in the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the offering plate. You may also speak to any of our ushers, greeters, or ministers and then visit the FBC website at www.firstbaptistathens.org for more information.

The Worship of God

Invitation to Worship		Paul Baxley
Prelude	<i>I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day</i>	J. Baptiste Calkin/ arr. Tedd Smith
Invocation		Frank Granger
*Hymn 124	<i>The First Nowell</i>	THE FIRST NOWELL
First Lesson	Psalm 72:1-7,10-11	Breanna Martin
	Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.	
Anthem	<i>The Journey of the Magi</i>	<i>Birjina gaztettobat zegoen/</i> a Basque Carol

*As eastern sages watched the winter night,
A star shone out with radiance clear and bright.
Said they, “A King is born to us, our great delight: Venite, adoremus Dominum!”*

*They journeyed forth to seek this gracious child
With gifts and treasures for the Lord, so mild,
In whom all things in earth and heaven are reconciled. Venite, adoremus Dominum!*

*The star went on before to guide the way Until it marked the place where Jesus lay.
Then entered they to see the King and homage pay. Venite, adoremus Dominum!*

*They bowed in deep devotion to adore And freely offered all their treasure store.
Let us with them his praises sing forevermore: “Venite, adoremus Dominum!”*

Translated S. Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

Silent Prayers

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Brandon Pendry

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn 148

What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES

During the hymn, children in Pre-K 4, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2 are invited to depart for Children's Worship and Extended Session in E-117.

>>Please pick up your children immediately after the 11:00 a.m. service.<<

Second Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-12

Emily Harbin

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Testimony in Song

The Work of Christmas

Dan Forrest

Randy Brittain, Tenor

*When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.*

— Howard Thurman (1899-1981)

Sermon

Finding Another Way

Paul Baxley

*Hymn 150

As With Gladness Men of Old

DIX

*Prayer of Stewardship

Fred Young, Deacon

Offertory

I Wonder as I Wander

Appalachian Folk Song/
C E Walz

*Response of the People

His Name is Called Emmanuel

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

His name is called Emmanuel, more wonderful than words can tell.

God is with us! Alleluia!

Born in our darkness, He is Light; born in our weakness, He is Might.

God is with us! Alleluia! God is with us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Recognition of Commitments

Recognition of Next Steps Leadership Team

*Benediction

Paul Baxley

*Postlude

Nowell! Nowell!

German Chorale tune
harm. J.S. Bach/ trans. William Stickles

***Please stand, if able.**



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Jane Otwell Rhoden whose birthday anniversary was January 2 and Mrs. Wendell Bramblett Otwell whose birthday anniversary was December 31. The flowers are given by the Rhoden Family: D.C., Tom, and Jennifer.

A RED ROSE BUD SYMBOLIZES CHRISTIAN JOY
A red rose bud is placed in the Sanctuary this morning to celebrate the birth of Cooper Lawrence Webb on January 2, 2018. Born to Terrell and Ashley Webb, Cooper is the grandson of Sherri and Larry Divers.

Recent Prayer Concerns

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Joe Clark on the death of his wife, Lucy Clark, on January 3, 2018.

Kathy Barrow – home

Larry Cutshaw, husband of Evelyn Cutshaw

Harriet Dwyer – home

Jim Hall—PARMC, rm 2457

Sarah Kesler – Athens Heritage, rm 401

Larry Moon – recent cardiac ablation

Juanita Reddish, Alan Reddish's mother

Greg Shull, brother of Cheri Rose, cancer