

# FACTS—FIGURES—FELLOWSHIP

GIVEN TO REACH OUR WORLD FOR CHRIST

## BUDGET REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2014

DECEMBER 1-28 RECEIPTS .....\$26,143.73  
 MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDED .....\$25,790.50  
**RECEIPTS OVER FOR BUDGET.....\$ 353.23**

## ACTUAL BUDGET RECEIPT/EXPENSE REPORT

DECEMBER 1-28 Receipts.....\$26,143.73  
 DECEMBER 1-28 Expenses.....\$15,779.37  
**DECEMBER 1-28 Receipts over Expenses.....\$10,364.36**

## FINAL BUDGET REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2014

NOVEMBER RECEIPTS .....\$27,131.55  
 MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDED .....\$25,790.50  
**RECEIPTS OVER FOR BUDGET.....\$ 1,341.05**

## ACTUAL BUDGET RECEIPT/EXPENSE REPORT

NOVEMBER 1-30 Receipts.....\$27,131.55  
 NOVEMBER 1-30 Expenses.....\$22,842.03  
**NOVEMBER 1-30 Receipts over Expenses.....\$ 4,289.52**

### \*USHERS FOR JANUARY\*

Arthur Yawn, Tom Head, Curtis Dalton, Tom Head,  
 David Burquest and Joe Hale, Jr. Alt.: Ralph Pannell

### \*JANUARY LIST FOR DEACON OF THE WEEK\*

4—Chuck Hughey      11—Jon Huguley  
 18—Lee Miller      25—Mike Sullivan

First Baptist Church  
 1135 Watson Blvd.  
 Warner Robins, GA  
 31093

FIRST EXPRESSIONS (USPS 979-980) Published monthly  
 by First Baptist Church, 1135 Watson Blvd., Warner Robins,  
 GA 31093-3461. Periodical Postage paid at Warner Robins,  
 GA. POSTMASTER: Send address change to First Expres-  
 sions, 1135 Watson Blvd., Warner Robins, GA 31093-3461

## AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER

BIBLE STUDY— 93  
 MORNING WORSHIP— 114

If you are not plugged in with a Bible Study Group you are missing a blessing. Bible Study begins at 9:15 am Join Us! We have classes for all ages!



*Pastor Chad, Pastor Nick and Ann would like to thank the church for the Christmas Bonus we each received. We appreciate First Baptist so much and feel very blessed to be able to serve our Lord through FBCWR.*

### New Year Holiday Schedule

The Church Office will close at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 31 and all day on Thursday, January 1. Ann will be out Jan. 5—7.



**LOTTIE MOON  
 CHRISTMAS OFFERING  
 GOAL—\$4,000.00  
 RECEIVED—\$3,143.65**



### WMU—Current Missions

Our WMU Current Missions group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at **10 a.m.** Our next meeting will be **January 15.** Ladies, please join us as we fellowship and plan for the mission opportunities before us.



### Keenagers

**Monday, January 12—Noon  
 Entertainment: Local Talent**

**ALL Senior Adults are encouraged to join us for lots of fun, food and fellowship. Bring a covered dish and join us!**

### Celebration/Memorial Service Sunday, January 25—6 pm

Join us as we remember and celebrate those who have gone to be with the Lord this past



### Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 19

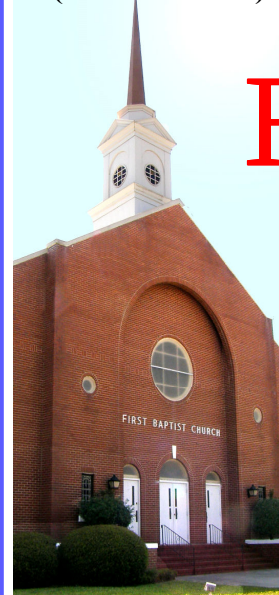
In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, the church office will be closed on Monday, January 19, 2015

1(USPS 979-980)

Volume: 48

December 31, 2014

No. 12



# FIRST EXPRESSIONS

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
 1135 WATSON BOULEVARD  
 WARNER ROBINS, GA 31093-3461  
 (478) 922-8152...922-8148  
 Our website: fbcwr.org**

*“In the heart of the city...Seeking the heart of God”*

### Our Ministerial Staff

**Chad Wood**  
**Nick Prieto**  
**Rusty Grace**

**Pastor**  
**Worship & Youth Pastor**  
**Discipleship Pastor**

### From the Pastor

I love old things. I have a collection of old books in my house that are all over 150 years that I keep like trophies. My favorite vehicle that I've ever had was a 1964 Ford Mustang and to this day, I regret getting rid of it. One of the greatest things that I have in my study, in my opinion anyway, is an oil lamp that I got in Israel that dates back 2,000 years. I love old things. Old things are intriguing to me because I know there is always a story behind them. But sometimes, new is good. It could be a new house, a new car, or that new thing you just got for Christmas. New can be a great thing. Especially when it comes to a new story. Regardless of your past story, this year, you can start a new story. That's what's great about the New Year to me. One's story for 2015 can be drastically different than their story from 2014. For some reason, its just easier for us to feel like the new year can be a great time for a fresh start. A New Start! And it can be and there is nothing wrong with seeing it that way. But do you know that God does not see it that way. For Him, the idea of "new" is not something that takes place from year to year. For Him, it can take place from day to day. Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are NEW every morning; great is your faithfulness." You see, from God's perspective, your story can be different today than it was yesterday. It can be different tomorrow than it was today. Why? Because His mercy is new for us each day. Christ came to make all things new. That includes you and me. So as we approach the new year, may we remember that all a year really is, is simply 365 days that make up a new time. And for each of the next 365 days, God's mercy will be new for each of them. So here is my prayer for you this new year of 2015: May you grow in the awe of the mercy of God. My prayer for us as a faith family this year is that the mercy of God will impact us more in such a way that we impact others. May the mercy of God impact our worship. May the mercy of God impact our generosity. May the mercy of God impact our prayer. May the mercy of God impact our serving. May the mercy of God impact our outreach. May the mercy of God impact our giving. May the mercy of God impact our discipleship. May the mercy of God impact our community. May the mercy of God impact our EVERYTHING. Praise God, His mercies are new every morning.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Chad

Pastor's Recommended Reading: Fresh Air by Chris Hodges

# JANUARY 2015

## Sundays

9:15 am Bible Study  
10:30 am Morning Worship  
6:00 pm CONNECT—Youth

## Wednesdays

6:00 pm "Raising Rock Stars"  
6:00 pm Mid-Week Bible Study  
7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

### \*Birthdays

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue                                 | Wed                                      | Thu  | Fri                                | Sat   |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|---|
|  |  |                                     |  | 1 New Year's Day—church Office Closed              | 2                                  | 3   |
| 4 Nick's 2nd Anniversary with FBCWR<br><br><i>*Nick Prieto</i>         | 5<br><br>Ann Out   | 6 Deacon Lunch—11 am<br><br>Ann Out | 7<br><br>Ann Out                         | 8  | 9                                  | 10 Work Day for Children's Wing—9 am  |
| 11   | 12 Keenagers - Noon  | 13                                  | 14<br><br><i>*Grace Dalton</i>           | 15<br><br>WMU 10 am<br><br><i>*Charles Hickman</i> | 16<br><br><i>*Shirley Trammell</i> | 17  |
| 18 Wedding Shower for Nick & Hannah—3—5 pm In Fellowship Hall          | 19 Church Office Closed<br><br>MLK, Jr. Day<br><br><i>*Jane Gordon</i> | 20<br><br><i>*Grace Moore</i>       | 21 Retirement Social for Bob Shiver—6 pm | 22   | 23                                 | 24  |
| 25 Church Council—3:30 pm<br>Stewardship—5 pm<br>Memorial Service—6 pm | 26 FH in use—6 pm  | 27<br><br><i>*Gail Wood</i>         | 28 4th Quarter Family Meeting 6 pm       | 29   | 30                                 | 31 Men of Faith 3rd Annual Dinner Fellowship—Speaker Bobby Land—Mercer Football Coach 5:30 pm |

## Rusty's Ramblings

I am excited and so very grateful to have the incredible privilege of being the newest member of the staff of FBCWR. It is both a humbling and encouraging working of God's providence to serve this congregation in the capacity of Discipleship Pastor. I do ask that you remember me in your prayers and please know that I remember you in my own. I thank God for what He has done in the life of our church and I am looking forward to what He will do.

Years ago I memorized the Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13. I have been in churches that have prayed it as part of weekly corporate worship. I have participated in Bible studies focused on the Lord's Prayer. And I've heard lots of sermons through the years about this prayer, and even taught on it some myself. But this prayer still challenges me. Yes, we are to seek God's gracious provision for our needs. Yes, we are to rely upon His grace for the forgiveness of our sins. Yes, we are to seek God's protection. But our Lord's teaching on prayer challenges us to first seek the glory of God's Name and the accomplishment of His purposes. And these our not simply words we should repeat or polite expressions we utter just because we are supposed to. The words of Christ are a challenge to align our wills with God's will, a challenge in what we actually desire in our hearts. As we enter a new year, may God help us to desire His glory and the accomplishing of His will in a deeper and more profound way. May we be a church whose heart and purpose are shaped by the Holy Spirit. And may the Lord help us to be ready to obey Him in all things. **Rusty**

## Wedding Shower

You are invited to a church-wide Wedding Shower for Hannah Peck and Nick Prieto on Sunday, January 18 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. In the Fellowship Hall



They are registered at Target and Belk. Lowe's Gift Cards are suggested as well.



**Retirement Social Honoring Bob Shiver Wednesday, January 21 6 pm**

**Bob is retiring on December 31, 2014 after 20 years of service with First Baptist Church**

## From the Worship/Youth Pastor

A new year...most people anticipate a new year. It is a time for new beginnings because the previous year has now become history. One verse that comes to mind is Philippians 3:13-14, "...But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." The apostle Paul was very intentional to let the past be the past...good or bad. He was now focusing reaching the goal of becoming what Jesus desired Him to become and to see His kingdom expanded. This was his focus. It was heaven-focused. What is your focus this year? Do you need to leave some past behind in order that you can focus on the things God desires you to focus on? Good or bad, the past is the past, and God has a brand new year ahead of you for you to maximize your surrender to Him in order to better know Him and be more effective for Him. Focusing means that you put something at the center of your attention. Are God and His mission at the center of your attention? Commit to that today!

Nick

### Men Of Faith

Men and women of FBCWR, thanks again for a great year and for your loyal support to our church activities. Men, we begin the New Year with a fast yet refreshing start. Our 3rd Annual Dinner/Fellowship is the 31st of January @ 5:30 PM. Coach Bobby Lamb from Mercer University will be our guest speaker and he is looking forward to speaking to our men as well as students and coaches from local high schools that evening. If you would like to help set-up, serve, sell tickets, or clean-up we are in need of 7-10 volunteers, please let me know as soon as possible if you are available. There will be a volunteer meeting @ 5:00 PM on January 14th in the Cheers Bible Study room. If would like to attend the dinner/fellowship, tickets will go on sale January 4th after the morning worship service. Invite a friend, co-worker, or neighbor. Living right side up in an upside down world...Where do you fit into the Kingdom?

### Wedding Announcement to FBC Family

Hannah and I are thrilled to share with you that we will be getting married on February 28<sup>th</sup>, in Cochran, GA. We are so excited for this day and to have you share in this special time in our lives! You are very important to us and we value you so incredibly much. Due to the location, size restrictions of the wedding and the amount of out of town family and guests that will be coming in, we have decided that the best thing to do is to have a smaller ceremony. However, it is very important to us that you are a part of this celebration and time in our lives, so we would like to invite you to attend a special reception on March 7<sup>th</sup> after we return from our honeymoon. More details about this reception will come very soon!!

Nick