

The third Sunday of each month, we collect an offering for the **Food Pantry** of Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry. This offering directly helps feed hungry families in Polk County. You may give to this offering as you exit **this morning**.

Give the Gift of Food – Because we are no longer using live poinsettias in the sanctuary due to allergy concerns, you may give a food box to Thermal Belt Outreach Ministry in memory or in honor of someone. The cost of each box is \$20. Envelopes are provided for this and may be found at the entrances to the sanctuary.

Don't miss the Community Chorus Christmas concert this afternoon at 3:00pm, at the Polk County High School auditorium. The cost of a ticket is \$10, and you may get them from any Rotary Club member or Bob and Judy Lair. The proceeds from the concert go to fund Rotary Club scholarships for music students.

“Do-It-Yourself Messiah” – On Thursday, December 17, you'll have a chance to sing or listen to Handel's *Messiah* at the Tryon Fine Arts Center, 7:30pm. This is a free concert sponsored by the Polk County Community Foundation. The *Messiah* will be under the direction of Pam McNeil and accompanied by Dr. Beth Child.

Coat Drive – We are collecting coats, sweaters, and hoodies – new or used. There is a large collection box in the closet opposite the Lair Sunday School classroom. Each time the box is full, we will take the coats to Thermal Belt Outreach. Give the gift of warmth this year!

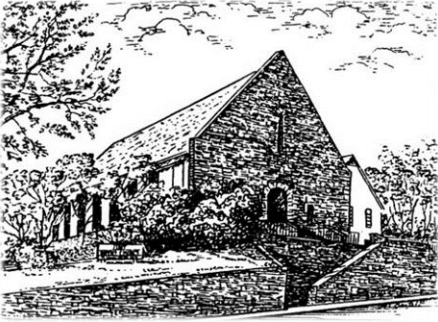
Ministry Teams--You may sign up in the Sunday School foyer, or you may mark your choice on the green half-sheet and place it in the offering plate.

2016 Giving--If you have prayerfully considered your 2016 giving, please sign the blue slip of paper and place it in the offering plate.

December 6, 2015

Weekly Budget Giving	\$ 9,101	I Love My Church	\$1,250
Weekly Budget Goal	\$ 6,640	Christmas Food Boxes	\$ 140
YTD Budget Giving	\$ 315,773		
YTD Budget Goal	\$ 325,360		

<p>First Baptist Church 125 Pacolet Street PO Box 1287 Tryon, NC 28782 Email: tryonfirstbaptist@gmail.com Website: tryonfirstbaptist.org Phone: 828.859.5375 Pastor's Cell: 828.899.1386</p>	<p>Church Staff The Reverend Dr. Jeff C. Harris, Pastor The Reverend Candace Wilson, Minister of Music and Christian Formation Kay Greene, Pianist E. Leslie Raymond, Organist John Spinks, Sexton</p>
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First Baptist Church

December 13, 2015

Eleven O'Clock in the Morning

Third Sunday of Advent

The Worship of God

Music for Gathering Kay Greene

Prelude *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella* -John Eggert

Congregational Call to Worship *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

*Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning,
 Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! The Child of our longing.
 Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,
 He opens wide the heav'nly door and lives now inside us forever.*

Words and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1983, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-722009.

Lighting of the Advent Candles Lane and Merry Price

This morning, hear anew the Baptizer's prophetic announcement of the coming of the Messiah and interpret it wisely.

We need not shrink from the challenge of repentance because when we've been truly rearranged on the inside, we will bear good fruit on the outside.

During these troubling times in our nation and around the world, the question from the crowds still persists, "What then should we do?"

Once again we humbly dedicate ourselves to kindness, to justice, and to fairness.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light a candle of joy, as a visible symbol of these "fruits worthy of repentance."

Come let us be baptized with winds of the Spirit and refined by the fire of God's word.

Sung Response *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS

How silently, how silently The wondrous gift is giv'n!
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
 No ear may hear His coming, But in this world of sin,
 Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.

Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God, as we await the coming of the One whom you sent, grant that our waiting might be the active kind. Give us the courage to meet the challenge of altering our thoughts and feelings about the world around us so that our actions might also be changed. Help us to keep our priorities straight, our passions properly pointed, and our eyes fixed upon the prize of joy. Remind us that you lovingly require evidence of our repentance – kindness, justice and fairness. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

† Hymn of Praise 87 *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* ANTIOCH

† Passing of the Peace Jeff Harris
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Children’s Time Jeff Harris
(Kindergartners and preschoolers leave for Children’s Church after the Children’s Time)

Old Testament Reading Zephaniah 3:14-20 (p. 829) Candace Wilson

Responsive Reading Isaiah 12:2-6 Caitlin Britton
Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
And you will say on that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.
Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

New Testament Reading Philippians 4:4-7 (p. 189) Jeff Harris

Bells for Worship *Joy to the World!* -Handel/arr. Larry Sue

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer Jeff Harris

†Hymn of Dedication 96 *Good Christian Men, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO

Offertory Prayer Jack Fox

Offertory and Meditation *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* -arr. Cindy Berry

†Doxology 253 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD 100th

Gospel Reading Luke 3:7-18 (p. 59) Jeff Harris

Bells for Worship *Christmas Bell Medley* -Cook/arr. Tom Barden

Sermon “Fruit Worthy of Repentance” Jeff Harris

†Hymn of Response 118 *What Child Is This* GREENSLEEVEES

†Benediction Jeff Harris

†Congregational Response *Christians All, Your Lord is Coming* PLEADING SAVIOR
Christians all, your Lord is coming, hope for peace is now at hand.
Let there be no hesitation, walk in faith where life demands.
Bear the word that God has given; share the birth that stirs your soul.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ will come and make you whole.
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†Postlude *Rejoice, All Ye Daughters (Sans Day Carol)* -arr. Joseph Martin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 13	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship (Advent III - Joy)
	3:00 pm	Community Chorus concert-Polk County HS
	5:00 pm	Refuge Christmas party
Tuesday, December 15	10:30 am	Staff Meeting
	6:00 pm	Deacons Meeting
Wednesday, December 16	6:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (no bell rehearsal)
Thursday, December 17	7:30 pm	“Do It Yourself Messiah” – TFAC
Sunday, December 20	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00 am	Worship (Advent IV – Love)
	3:00 pm	Christmas Caroling
Thursday, December 24	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve service

If you are a guest, we are grateful that you are here. Please complete a welcome card (found in the pew pocket) and place it in the offering plate, so we can send you a written word of greeting. As you exit, we have a small gift to offer in appreciation of your presence with us.

Hearing assistance devices are available in the narthex.

Acolytes for today’s service are Verae Upton and Luke Walker.

Christmas Food Boxes Given in Honor or Memory 2015

Trey Fincher Family	In Memory of Ned Covil, Frances Henson, Ann & Ellis Sr. Fincher, and Herman & Erie Justice
Ed Justice Family	In Memory of Ned Covil, Herman & Erie Justice
Dean & Marilyn Kimbrell	In Memory of 1 st Lt. Timothy Cunningham
Linda Martin	In Memory of Ramey J. Martin
Billy & Kim McFarland	In Memory of Vailon & Louvenia Shytle
Charles & Lib McKeller	In Memory of Dean & Elizabeth Richardson and Shelley Ro McKeller
Charles & Lib McKeller	In Memory of Helen & Grady Wyatt
Franklin & Sadie McKaig	In Honor of their Grandchildren
Ken & Leslie Raymond	In Memory of our Grandmothers – Julia Raymond, June Smith, Elsie Spanier, & Shirley Miller
Geoff & Alice Tennant	In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. F.D. Evans, Jr.
Geoff & Alice Tennant	In Memory of G.S. Turner, Jr.
Geoff & Alice Tennant	In Memory of Mr. Colin Tennant
Skip & Reva Williams	In Honor of those who served the Armed Forces

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