

## THE BRIDGE

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## YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear Church Family,

Don't you just love the fall? I do. The leaves and colors, the cooler weather, the holidays...and of course the Youth Thanksgiving Dinner! Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, the youth and families are invited to dinner together. It is a potluck, the church will provide the meat and drinks, bring a side dish and/or a dessert. Personally, this was one of my favorite events last year and I can't wait for it again.

In October we spent more time at Prince Hall. That continues to be an excellent opportunity for our Youth to connect with our community. We had a great showing of support from both sides at our

October meeting. I continue to appreciate the support and help of my fellow staff members in making this possible.

I would also like to include this month a huge thank you to the students that are leading the Youth Worship service on Wednesday nights. This past month has been some of the best Youth Worship services I've attended in a long time and it is because of the students' dedication and excitement in sharing their talents and showing their faith through worship. Anyone is invited. We typically begin at about 5:50 p.m. come up and join us.

In Christ,  
Clint Walker

# THE BRIDGE

NOVEMBER 2017

*a publication of First Baptist Church at the Singing Bridge*

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## FBC'S LIVING NATIVITY AND PETTING ZOO AT THE CANDLELIGHT TRADITION

November 10, 5:30-7:30 pm

FBC is excited to announce an outreach event into the Frankfort community. Last year our church had a very successful petting zoo during the popular community event, the Candlelight Tradition. This year, in addition to the petting zoo, we would like to offer a Living Nativity. We need ADULTS, TEENS, and CHILDREN to help portray Bethlehem characters.

The Living Nativity is a wonderful way for FBC to reach out to the community and let our neighbors know they are welcome to worship with us as we praise God and prepare for the Advent season!

Your help is needed to make the Living Nativity a success! Please contact Cynthia Insko or Kara Johnson to let them know you can help!



## ALL SAINTS OBSERVANCE DAY November 5, 10:50 a.m.

Join us as we observe All Saints Day during our morning worship service on November 5. We will honor the memories and celebrate the lives of church members who have passed away since last November. Our children have worked on personalized banners made in honor of each person being remembered. Our Sanctuary Choir will present *John Rutter's Requiem* as they lead worship during this special day.

## HANGING OF THE GREEN November 26, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday evening, November 26 at 6:00 pm, we will prepare our minds, our hearts, and our sanctuary for the upcoming Advent/Christmas season through the reading of scripture, the singing of hymns, and by decorating our two new Chrismon Trees. Come worship with us!





# NOVEMBER



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 5:00 pm Family Night Activities 6:00 pm Clinic & Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting and Handbells 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	2 6:30 pm Deacon's Meeting	3	4 
5 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Youth Activities Women's Bible Study	6	7 12:00 pm Book Study	8 5:00 pm Family Night Activities 6:00 pm Clinic & Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting and Handbells 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	9 ◀	10 5:00 pm Candlelight Tour Live Nativity and Petting Zoo	11
12 <b>FOOD DRIVE</b> 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Youth Activities Women's Bible Study	13	14 6:00 pm Global Women	15 <b>Note: No Clinic Tonight</b> 5:00 pm Family Night Activities 6:00 pm Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting and Handbells 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	16	17	18 8:00 am Clinic
19 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Youth Thanksgiv-ing Dinner	20	21	22 5:00 pm NO FAMILY NIGHT ACTIVITIES OR CLINIC	23  ~ OFFICE CLOSED ~	24	25
26 9:45 am Bible Study 10:50 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Hanging of the Green	27 9:30 am Soup Kitchen	28	29 5:00 pm Family Night Activities 6:00 pm Clinic & Clothes Closet 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting and Handbells 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir	30		

## SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS

NURSERY		DOWNSTAIRS		FRONT DOOR		WORSHIP HOUR	
Nov 05	Beverly Lovan	Nov 05	Susan Hopkins	Nov 05	Mary Hines	Nov 05	Jane Mason
Nov 12	Laura Hendrix	Nov 12	Helen Tipton	Nov 12	Bob Tipton	Nov 12	Tamela Biggs
Nov 19	Martha Wade	Nov 19	Linda Divine	Nov 19	Ralph Divine	Nov 19	Lee Insko
Nov 26	Linda Gaby	Nov 26	Mark and Mason Little	Nov 26	Gary Forman	Nov 26	Susan Hopkins

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

Nov 05 Erica Galyon  
Nov 12 Danny Branham  
Nov 19 Larry Cleveland  
Nov 26 Dwight Lovan

## CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPERS

### INFANTS & TODDLERS

Nov 05 Caroline Insko  
Nov 12 Frost family  
Nov 19 TBA  
Nov 26 Hendrix family

### 3 YR OLDS - K

Nov 05 C. Insko, E. McCann, J. Rhorer  
Nov 12 Elaine Shryock-Allen  
Nov 19 Sarah Glenn Insko  
Nov 26 Elaine Shryock-Allen

### 1st - 3rd GRADE

Nov 05 Combined with 3 yr. olds  
Nov 12 G. Thomas, V. Mitchell  
Nov 19 Sarah Whitworth  
Nov 26 Julie Roberts



Would you like to be part of a private Facebook group that will serve as a forum for **Thirty Days of Thanks** during the month of November? Each day will feature a beautiful photo, a quote and/or scripture and questions that prompt us to be grateful each day. To join, search for the group Thirty Days of Thanks on Facebook and request to join. We welcome group members to post their own moments of thanks and encourage one another to practice thanksgiving all month long. Thanks to Cindy Fogg and Jason Galyon for sharing some of their wonderful photos with us for this project.

**Nametag November** is almost here! Join us on Sunday mornings and make a name tag as you enter the building. This is a great way to get to know one another better and celebrate the hospitality we enjoy at FBC.

**All Saints Sunday, November 5** is a special day to thank God for all who have gone before us and showed us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. Each of us have people we can name who have shown us what it means to love God and to love others as ourselves. The 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade children have prepared banners for the 9 people of our FBC family who have died since November last year and have gone on to form a great cloud of witnesses that cheer us on as we live and love as Jesus did. (Hebrews 12). The children will be part of processing in with these banners at our 10:50 worship service. Prior to the service the banners will be on display in the hallway by the nursery for all to see. Thank you, Elaine and Mike Greer for helping make the banners for the children to decorate.

Childcare will be provided for nursery through 2<sup>nd</sup> graders during worship on Nov.5. 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join their families in the pews after the processional.

- Cynthia Insko

### GLOBAL WOMEN

The next meeting of Global Women will be Tuesday, November 14, 6:00-8:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Guest speaker Dana Nickles will speak about everything happening with the Mission Frankfort Clinic.

### LADIES' BOOK CLUB

With the busyness of November and December, our Ladies' Book Club has suspended their meetings until January. If you are interested in joining, January will be the perfect time. Let Cynthia know to add you to our contact list!

### FALL ECUMENICAL FOOD DRIVE

The Ecumenical Food Drive for our local food pantry is Sunday, November 12. A cart is located by fellowship hall to collect non-perishable food items. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, make checks payable to the Emergency Community Food Pantry of Franklin County with "Ecumenical Food Drive" in the memo space. Mail checks to the Pantry at PO Box 48, Frankfort, KY 40601.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday, November 26:** Hanging of the Green service at 6:00 pm. Join us for this family friendly interactive service in which we decorate our sanctuary and prepare for Advent.

**Sunday, December 10:** The Children's Choirs will lead us in worship at 10:50 followed by a Living Nativity in fellowship hall for all to enjoy as they exit the building.



Dear Church Family:

Our family has been overwhelmed with the outpouring of love through prayers, phone calls, cards, visits and food during a very difficult time in our life.

A very special thanks to Brother Bob and Keith for all their many prayers, visits and words of encouragement as well as the Comfort and Care Team and Pollyanna Class for all the wonderful food provided for visitation and the day of the funeral. Your many acts of kindness have touched our lives and left a special memory in our heart that will always be cherished.

I am blessed to be a part of such a loving and caring family in Christ.

- Love In Christ, Carolyn, Steve & Susan McElroy

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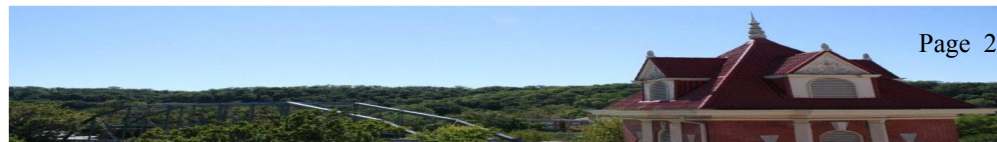
**Linda McKinley**  
 Organist

**Lois Summers**  
 Pianist

**Timmy Campbell**  
 Preschool Director

**Anthony Hager**  
 Building Superintendent

**Michael Quincy**  
 Assistant Custodian



I hope you will be present on November 5 for the All Saints Sunday service which will include our children processing banners they have made memorializing our members who have gone home to be with the Lord this past year. We will also hear the Sanctuary Choir present John Rutter's "Requiem" with the accompaniment of some of our own members as well as three special guests. We will conclude the service sharing the Lord's Supper together. It promises to be a moving morning of worship and I hope to share it with you.

By the time you receive this issue of The Bridge we will have had our Quarterly Business Meeting. Six motions are on the agenda and no matter what the outcome of those motions, I want to express my great appreciation to so many volunteers who work on so many

committees and teams to ensure our congregation continues to move forward in ministering to our community and world. I am amazed at the amount of work done by these committees over the past several weeks and the dedicated individuals who give so generously of their time to serve. Thanks to each of you!

**John Rutter's**

## REQUIEM

Presented by

**Sanctuary Choir**

With the completion of "Requiem" we will turn our attention more fully to our upcoming Advent/Christmas season. Please mark your calendars now for November 26 as we have our annual Hanging of the Green Service at 6:00

p.m. This past year it was decided that our old Chrismon Tree had served its time and it was sent into permanent retirement. We have TWO new Christmon Trees this year. We will place one on each side of the sanctuary. I look forward to our new trees and the beauty of our sanctuary at Advent and Christmas!



**PAYDAY LOAN MINISTRY UPDATE:** Many of you know back in February we began a ministry for those caught in the payday loan trap. Long story short - We partnered with Commonwealth Credit Union, raised 5k & put it in an account with CCU, put the word out about the ministry, interviewed and accepted clients who had one payday loan and a verifiable income, paid off their payday loan (which usually had an interest rate of over 400%) and put them in a fair loan (3% interest rate), and ...offered them financial mentoring as they paid back.

The result was we have taken on 12 individuals - we successfully paid off their payday loans - and the great news is that all twelve are making their payments on time and as agreed - and one is even completely paid off! Thanks to Vicky Mitchell, Tom Midkiff, Jason Johnson and Susan Hopkins for all their work as a committee - thanks to Commonwealth Credit Union for thinking outside the box - and thanks to First Baptist for taking on this ministry that relieves people of the payday industry that maliciously designs a perpetual debt targeted at impoverished and desperate people.

**CHRISTMAS TOY STORE:** For the past four years, Helen Tipton - Pam Manning - and several others have championed an effort to provide toys and books for families in need. Over 300 children a year, on average, have been helped through this ministry. So many of you contribute gently used and new toys, books and stuffed animals to make sure these children in our community have presents under the tree. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of these families!

- Keith



Recently I preached a sermon based upon Matthew 22:15-22. Jesus was asked if the Israelites should pay taxes to Caesar. **"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's,"** Jesus replied.

It appears to me Jesus was saying responsible citizens who want to create safe and healthy communities will pay taxes. In addition, faithful disciples who want to build peaceful and healthy communities will give money to support God's work.

It is not either/or; it is both/and. Even in Jesus' time, establishing safe, prosperous, peaceful communities required that individuals pool their financial resources to meet common needs and to achieve common goals.

This is true for us, too.

In this sermon, I made this comment: I have often wondered if I would tithe if I were not the pastor of the church. A tithe is ten percent of my income that is given to the church. I have concluded that I would.

I was tithing before I became a pastor. I began tithing as a seven-year-old child when my grandfather showed me what a tithe was.

My grandfather came to our farm house one Saturday morning and gave me ten cents before he left. This time, however, he did not give me a dime but 10 pennies.

He placed nine of them in a jar where I kept change, but he placed one of the pennies under the jar. When I asked him why he placed one penny under the jar, he told me that particular penny belonged to God, and I should take it to church the next morning and put it in the offering plate.

From that day forward, I do not recall going to church as a child or adolescent without an offering envelope. Getting it ready was a Saturday night ritual.

As the years rolled on, Jackie and I married and children came along. From time to time, I wrestled with the temptation to use my tithe to pay for unexpected bills or purchase things we wanted. I formulated some strong and convincing arguments for temporarily reducing or withholding my tithe.

Each time I just about buckled, I was reminded that my tithe was an expression of gratitude to God for all his blessings. The only way I could withhold my tithe was if I was ungrateful, which I wasn't.

Furthermore, I came to my senses and realized if I used God's money to buy something on a shelf, I would be accepting one of the biggest lies this world has ever put forth. And what would that be? Something I could buy that man has made can do more for me than God can do.

But tithing is not just about me. It is also about those who are on this journey with me in my community, nation and world.

I cannot ignore their needs and live in a bubble. I cannot sleep at night unless I know I am doing something about helping those who are struggling to survive.

This is one reason I have chosen to be the pastor of a church for over four decades. I believe Jesus' disciples gathered together in the local church can change the lives of people more effectively than any other single entity.

The church Jesus envisioned would be an extension of his ministry. Through his disciples in every church, Jesus would continue to feed the hungry, heal the sick, shelter the homeless, encourage the discouraged, comfort the grieving, forgive the sinner, teach the curious, confront injustice, right the wrong, lift up the lowly, liberate the oppressed and build bridges of goodwill, understanding, hope and reconciliation.

Through the church, Jesus would continue to make hope visible to those living in deep despair because his disciples would band together and pool their resources to make it happen. Jesus believed his disciples would not just give to Caesar what belonged to Caesar but also give to God what belonged to God.

**Was Jesus right about you?**

