

Out of town guests and family are either here or are soon to arrive, beds in guest rooms have fresh sheets on them, the fridge is bursting with a variety of foods to satisfy the different taste and appetites of those who will gather around the table. Soon carefully wrapped presents will be opened, Christmas music plays in the background and the twinkling lights that drape the tree suggest that a "Greater Light" has come. It's Christmas time and while there is so much wrong in the world, for a few hours we push that aside to discover the magic/miracle of this special day. Think about it, God loves us and refused to give up on us. He saw our dilemma, the ugliness of sin, and left His throne in Heaven to become one of us. Born of a virgin, laid in a manger and one day nailed to a cross. Why did He do it? He came to reconcile us back to God. He makes it possible for us to be friends with God by shedding His blood to cover our sins. If you have yet to receive Him as your Savior we encourage you to do so today.

Unwrap the gift of salvation and invite Jesus to be your Savior and Lord. It's Christmas and God is whispering, "I love you."

**Ralph Schneck, Lead Pastor**  Follow me on Twitter...  
ralph@fblex.org | ext. 103 @RalphSchneck

9:00 AM Celebration Service  
10:30 AM Contemporary Service

*Please help us create an atmosphere for worship...*

- Take a moment to silence your mobile devices.
- We have a safe and loving environment for your children where they can learn about God. Take advantage of our Preschool & Children's Ministry.

**New to FBC?**

**How to become a Member**

Before joining FBLEX, we ask that you attend our "Discovery Class." In this class you will become familiar with our history, beliefs and different ministries.

Next class will be **January 21, 2018 from 9:00 - 11:45 AM. This is a one day class. Sign up at fblex.org.**

**Small Groups - Join one today!**

Our Life/Home Groups will not officially meet until January 7, 2018. Share quality time this Christmas with our family and friends reflecting the true "Light of Christmas." Many thanks to our Life/Home Group teachers/co-teachers for sharing the Word of God with others. Your faithfulness and dedication is well appreciated!

Need help finding a small group, stop by the Welcome Center or email [Reynold@fblex.org](mailto:Reynold@fblex.org)

**NO WEDNESDAY EVENTS DECEMBER 27**

Wednesday Cafe' closed for Christmas Break. Dinner will resume January 10.

Preschool - Puggles & Awana Cubbies.....	6:30 PM
K5-4th Grade - Disciple Zone.....	6:30 PM
5th - 6th Grade - Area 56.....	6:30 PM
Jr./Sr. High - the Fallout (Student Center) .....	6:30 PM
Adults - Bible Study (Fellowship Hall).....	6:30 PM
Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal (Worship Center) .....	6:30 PM



**December 26 @ 6 PM**

**Celebrate Recovery CHILI & Bonfire**

**Annual CR Chili & Bonfire!**  
Come put 2017 behind you & prepare for a new beginning in 2018!  
All are invited for a chili dinner at 6:00 PM and the bonfire at 6:45 PM. Child-care is provided for 12 years old and younger.  
\*\*Bring a pot of chili to share!\*\*

**ONE SERVICE, DECEMBER 31 AT 10:00 AM**

**COMMUNION**

*Do this in REMEMBRANCE OF ME*



*Chest of Joash*

**Christmas Offering Goal**

Building Fund.....	\$65,000
Campus Improvements.....	\$50,000
Missions.....	\$17,500
Security Upgrade.....	\$10,000
Loving Lexington.....	\$10,000
Bus Lease.....	\$9,000
Counseling Ministry.....	\$8,500
Members in Crisis.....	\$5,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$175,000</b>
<b>You have given.....</b>	<b>\$141,604</b>

**Christmas Mailbox**

Don't forget to stop by the Christmas mailbox in the Preschool Lobby to see if you've got mail!



**FBLEX Counseling Center**

If you've been going through a rough time and feeling sad lately, the Counseling Center will be starting a depression group in January. More information to follow in the coming weeks. Contact Paul or Jason at [jason@fblex.org](mailto:jason@fblex.org) for more details.



**Candlelight Service**

Join us tonight at 6 PM for our Candlelight service as we celebrate the birth of Christ! At the end of the service, we will invite anyone who would like to sing with Hallelujah Chorus, to join the choir on stage.



**Spiritual Spotters**

Reading schedule for 2018 is available at the Welcome Desk and the Men's Table in the Lobby. We encourage you to read 5 chapters a week and journal (answer 2 questions: what is the big idea, how will I apply this to my life)? This is a 6-year plan (you will read the Old Testament once and the New Testament at least twice).



**Cafe' Wednesday - 10:30 AM & 6:30 PM**

Wednesday Bible Study 10:30 AM (Student Center) and 6:30 PM (Fellowship Hall) will return on January 10, 2018. We will begin a new series focusing on the Ten Commandments titled "Stone Tablets in a Wireless World." Look forward to seeing you in the new year.



**OWLS**

O.W.L.S. Older Wiser Loving Seniors. Start the NEW YEAR off right, Friday, January 19th limited tickets available for Bill Gaither and Vocal Gaithers Band in concert at Millbrook Baptist, Aiken. Tickets \$25 each, go online to OWLS/Jan/Gaithers to reserve yours. Concert is at 7 PM, time/dinner plans TBD Contact [Traci@FBlex.org](mailto:Traci@FBlex.org)



**Christmas Schedule**

Pick up a stack of our Christmas schedule cards at the Welcome Desk to pass out to your family and friends to invite them to our December events.

**MANNA Commitment**

Our goal is to support 200 children in Mae Sot, Thailand. \$30 a month. Your commitment is for 1 year and begins January 2018.

Sign up [HERE](#) to make a difference in a child's life!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How many children would you like to sponsor at \$30? \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly \$30  or Annually \$360

Receive your MANNA newsletter by:  
Mail  or Email

*Thank you to all who have already responded to adopt a MANNA child in Mae Sot, Thailand. As of our first Sunday, we have a total of 196 of the 200 children that have been adopted (We're almost there...only 4 children left that need to be sponsored).*

*Don't forget to pick up an ornament off of the tree, if you have committed to supporting a child in 2018. We will watch our ornaments disappear as our children receive sponsors. Thank you for your generous commitments to our little brothers and sisters on the other side of the world!*

**Prayer Need?**

If you have a pressing prayer need, fill out a prayer card (pew pocket) and place it on the altar at the invitation. The prayer team will lift your request to the Lord. If you would like to be a part of the prayer team, email Noel Fields ([fun4fields@aol.com](mailto:fun4fields@aol.com)).

### Connect Card

Please complete this form and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the Welcome Desk to receive a gift of chocolate covered pecans.

I/We attended worship at:

- 9:00 AM
- 10:30 AM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-division: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home): \_\_\_\_\_

**His:** Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Hers:** Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Children's Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Did your children attend with you today?

- Yes
- No

Please check all that apply:

First-time Guest  Returning Guest

Regular Attender  FBC Member

Visiting Family/Friends

New to the Community

Looking for a New Church Home

Married  Single  College

How did you hear about us?

I would like information about:

Beginning a relationship with Christ

Baptism

Membership at FBC/Discovery Class

Life/Home Groups



### In Memory Of...

The flowers in the Lobby of the Worship Center are in memory of Sheryl Phillips, provided by her husband David Phillips.

### Now Hiring

FBLEX is still looking to hire a teammate to help keep Route 66 safe and clean for our kiddos. This custodial position is a 14 hour/week job with duties on four early mornings of the week. Candidates must have a servant's heart and an eye for details. If interested in more information or in submitting your resume, please contact Pastor Michael at msims@fblex.org.

### Skate Party

It's time to dust off the old skates and join us for a church-wide skating party at Celebrations Skating Rink on January 6th. The FREE party lasts from 5 PM to 7 PM and guests are asked to bring some snacks to share. Drinks will be provided. Round up your friends and neighbors and join us for this family-friendly, fun, and free event.

### Megumi Project in Japan

Are you interested supporting our missionaries in Japan through the purchase of amazing Japanese products? If so, visit the Megumi project at <https://megumiproject.myshopify.com>. The Megumi project is a ministry of Kizuna Friends comprised of Christian workers from Japan and the United States of America. All proceeds from this project are used to run the project and provide income for the local workers who have been impacted by the 2011 Tsunami. Don't miss this opportunity to give a gift that will be a blessing in the lives of others!

### Weekly Update

#### Last Week's Attendance:

Worship AM..... 786

Life/Home Groups.....513

First Time Guests.....7

#### Last Week's Giving:

**General Fund ..... \$19,947.65**

Budget Goal to date..... \$1,728,900.00

Giving to date ..... \$1,691,900.11

**Missions ..... \$1,765.50**

Missions Budget Goal to date..... \$204,000.00

Missions Budget Given to date..... \$198,139.93

### Message Series: "The Light of Christmas"

It's Christmas Eve and we offer you a variety of choices:

- 9:00 AM – Choir and Orchestra with Pastor Reynold preaching.
- 10:30 AM – Praise team glow stick family Service with Pastor Brooks preaching.
- 6:00 PM- Candlelight Service with Hallelujah chorus and Pastor Ralph speaking.

**Next Week:** Let's gather together the last day of the year, reflect back and look forward. We will provide an opportunity for you to put the past behind you and make a few plans for a great year ahead. We will take communion together and give our thanks unto the Lord.

Listen to sermons online at [fblex.org/resources](http://fblex.org/resources)

OUR PURPOSE  
LOVING AND LIVING FOR GOD

