



First Baptist Monroe

THE VISION

Vol. 52 Issue 4

Newsletter

November 27, 2024



WARE IT IS

Todd Ware
Senior Pastor

In a world where we can be overly critical of others, situations, and even ourselves, it's refreshing to be around those who have learned the art of being thankful. My dad was one of those people. He enjoyed life and appreciated the simple things. During the last year of his life, I had the privilege of spending a day each month with him and Mom as he visited the oncologist. On one particular trip we stopped at a Cracker Barrel restaurant for lunch. As we were waiting for our meal to be brought to us Dad remarked, "You know, I've had a good life. If I could go back and do it all again, I wouldn't change a thing." This was a powerful word from a man who was battling prostate cancer for a second time.

Dad reminded me of Mike Wazowski, a character in the movie "Monster's Inc." Mike is an assistant to his good friend and successful "kid-scarer," James P. Sullivan - also known as "Sully." Whenever Mike and Sully were promoted in a magazine or television advertisement, Mike's image ended up being covered up. His reaction was consistently opposite of what you would expect. He was never disappointed. Instead, he was just glad to be in the promotion - even if you couldn't see him!

Toward the end of my dad's prostate treatment, his PSA was well above 1000. As a point of reference, a healthy number is somewhere below 10 depending on your age. I remember being with Dad on one occasion when the doctor gave him his new PSA number. It was still close to 1000. Instead of being upset about the exceedingly high number, Dad was excited it had dropped by about 100. Ever the consummate optimist, he left the doctor's office thankful.

As we stand on the edge of Thanksgiving Day, we all may be tempted to be critical of someone, something, or even ourselves. But there is a different way. Even in the midst of challenges and less than desirable situations, there are blessings for which we can be thankful. Somewhere along the way, Dad learned the secret. In his walk with Jesus, he learned to "**Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus**" (I Thessalonians 5:18). May God lead us to do the same! Thanks, Dad.

Thankful for the Ladies Tea Team

More than 400 ladies were blessed by an evening of inspiration and fellowship. I'm thankful for the leadership Karen Brown & Karen Shiver gave to the team for this important ministry event that touched countless lives in a meaningful way.

Thankful for the Hanging of the Green Team

Debra Smith served as a Hanging of the Green assistant to Decie Miller for years with the expectation that she would one day take the lead. That day came much too soon when Decie passed away unexpectedly during the summer of 2022. I have no doubt Decie would be pleased with the way Debra continues to lead this ministry. I'm thankful for Debra and our church family that worked to prepare our sanctuary for worship during the season of Advent.

Thankful for The Cookie Thing Team

We are only two years into this wildly popular cookie fellowship. I'm thankful for Lisa Nash and her team for creating an incredible environment for our church family to connect with one another.

Happy Thanksgiving!,
Todd

PRESCHOOL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

DECEMBER 1: TEAM LEADERS:
MORGAN BROWN & TERI HEAD

One Sunday

Infants:

Kaitlin Bradshaw
Cathy Gleaton
Amy Smith

Toddler/2's:

Camie McGaughey
Ashley Smith

3-5 year olds:

Shelly Blair
Buddy Leach



The Remembrance Brunch

December 7

11am

for Widows/Widowers

register at fbcmonroe.com or in the church office

DECEMBER

- 1st - Deadline to register for Student Ministry Ski Trip
- 5th - Downtown Monroe Christmas Parade
- 5th - Wayfarers (Senior Adult) Lunch
- 7th - The Remembrance Brunch
- 10th - Volunteer at the OCC Processing Center
- 12th - Deadline to order a Christmas Poinsettia for the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall
- 29th - First on Last Prospective Members Class

REGISTER

REGISTER

REGISTER

REGISTER

REGISTER

REGISTER

REGISTER

JANUARY

- 29th - Deadline for early registration for Surge (DNOW)

REGISTER

REGISTRATION
LINKS

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 1st - ONE Sunday & Christmas Musical
- 1st - Adopt-an-Angel Begins
- 15th - Adopt-an-Angel totes are due
- 21st - Adopt-an-Angel Delivery
- 24th - 4 PM & 6 PM - Christmas Eve Services
- 25th - 10:30 AM - Christmas Day Service
- 29th - ONE Sunday

JANUARY

- 5th - ONE Sunday - Youth Sunday



Prayer List

IMMEDIATE CARE:

Disaster Relief Communities
 Kevin & Karen Barrett
 Lori Brown
 Elizabeth Cabanis
 Don Culpepper (friend of Stanley Brown)
 Sally Deese
 Russ Dillard
 Jenny Ferguson (sister of Julie Sargent)
 Rick Gove
 Brenda Jett (aunt of Caprice Jones)
 Lindsey Gregory (friend of Debra Smith)
 Shirley Guhl
 Kati Haggerty (niece of Sharon Rothrock)
 Ja.R. Harwell
 David Hicks (friend of Willene McNeal)
 Bruce Millians
 Rachel Moyers
 Juan Prado
 Bill Stone (father of Barry Stone)
 John Vaughn (son-in-law of Susanne Autry)
 Libby Williams (daughter of Shirlene Huff)
 Betsy Yancey
 Shelia Young

ONGOING CARE:

Doris Adams
 Susanne Autry
 Norma Barnes
 Alan & Jayne Bolton
 Bobby & Judy Burrow
 Penny Carithers (sister of Linda Head)
 Gail Carrell
 Tyrone Carrell
 Margaret Cooper (mother of Steve Akery & Rita Millians)
 Diane Davis
 Dianne Gove
 Sherry Hanes
 Chris Hooks
 Roemelle Holloway
 Shirlene Huff
 Shirley Johnson
 Kathy Kamienski
 Lois Kemper (friend of Susanne Young)
 Jayson Lowe (brother of Stacy McCullers)
 Ruth McClellan (friend of Suzanne Young)
 Maggie McGaughey
 Willene McNeal
 George Moyers
 Shawn Phillips
 Trisha Rackley
 Jim Register
 Steve Reynolds
 Bob Richards
 Tariq Shakoor
 Sherlene Shiver
 Tappey Squires

Joshua Stachowicz (grandson of Evelyn Barganier)
 Barry Stone (husband of Sharyn Stone)
 Dennis & Carol Story
 Bruce Wainwright (neighbor of Todd & Teri Ware)
 Steve West
 Mark Wilkinson, Sr. (friend of Herbie Malcom)
 Eddie Young (son of Elizabeth Young)

CHRISTIAN LOVE & SYMPATHY TO:

Peggy Jordan at the passing of her brother Tommy Gill.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

-Steve & Teresa West at the birth of their granddaughter, Thea Jean West.

-Garrett and Kayla Nestor at the birth of their daughter Oakley Blake.

GIFTS

In Honor of Bruce & Beth Baggett
 given by Mr. & Mrs. Ron Smith
 to the Barnabus Fund

In Memory of Tom Ballard
 given by City Barbeque
 to the General Fund



**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
 NOVEMBER 27-29**

GREETERS FOR DECEMBER 1

Jimmy & Debbie Bolton
 Edith McKay & Glenda Molton

NEXT WEEK

ONE SUNDAY, DEC 1

9:15am Sunday School
 10:30am ONE Sunday Service in Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

5:30pm Bible Drill Youth/High School
 5:45pm Bible Drill Kids 4th-6th Grade
 6:15pm Discipleship Classes for all Ages
 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY MEAL, DECEMBER 4

Salad Bar, Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes,
 Green Beans, Rolls, Dessert
 Kids: Same
Helpers: Nancy Hightower, Steve
 Brown, Norma Oliver

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

BIRTHDAYS DEC 1 - 7

1 Larry Bradley
 2 Loretta B. Brown
 2 Sarah Beth Brown
 2 Caprice Jones
 3 Anthony O'Kelly
 3 Bill Stokes
 4 Elaine Dillard
 4 Sam Eckles
 4 Cledus Jones
 4 Marcia Murdock
 5 Emily Music
 5 Susan Zupko
 6 Reese Baker
 6 Isabella Kimelman
 6 Eliza Malcom
 6 Kathie Snead
 7 Doug Bowick
 7 Nevaeh Hairell
 7 Jenn Richardson

DEACONS OF THE WEEK NOV 28 - DEC 4

Russell Ward & Wayne Haynie

MISSION PARTNER OF THE WEEK

Conestoga Ministries

SHUT-IN OF THE WEEK

Robert Sells
 PO Box 753
 Social Circle, GA 30025

LAST WEEK

November 24, 2024

WEEKLY FINANCIAL NUMBERS

Weekly Budget Required	\$32,874.44
Weekly Budget Receipts	
Sunday Offerings	\$117,918.75
Online Giving	\$7,943.00
Stock Gifts	\$0.00
Budget Required to Date	\$1,545,098.68
Budget Received to Date	\$1,533,506.26
Designated Gifts	\$1,515.00
Give to Go Goal	\$75,000.00
Give to Go YTD	\$119,713.43

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Adults	267
Students	23
Kids	27
Preschool	27
Total	344



First Baptist
Monroe
202 McDaniel Street
PO Box 351
Monroe, Georgia 30655

fbcmonroe.com

OFFICE HOURS

8:30am-5:00pm Monday-Thursday
8:30am-1:00pm Friday

Office 770-267-5904 Fax 770-207-7383

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



fbcmonroe.com



PUBLICATIONS

If you'd like to be added to the distribution list (print or digital) for The Vision, our weekly newsletter, please contact the church office (770-267-5904) or email Kim at kim@fbcmonroe.com.

AFTER-HOURS

On-Call Pastor Care Number
706-389-9804
November 29 - December 1
Todd Ware

BRUCE BAGGETT Associate Pastor
ALEX BOSKOFF Early Worship Leader
MARIA BRANNEN Minister to Children
KYLE BROWN Minister to Students
CHRIS BRYAN Informal Worship Leader
DARLENE CHRISTIE Director of Weekday School
BROOKE GOUGE Family Ministry Assistant

JOE GRAHAM Church Administrator
KIM HENSEL Ministry Assistant
CARROL HOLMAN Financial Secretary
CURTIS MURDOCK Traditional Worship Leader
GLORIA NGUYEN Minister to College and Young Adults
TODD WARE Senior Pastor

