

# THE CARILLON



Hello First Baptist Family,

I hope all of you are doing well and enjoying this holiday season! You may remember for the past few months we have been taking a closer look at the newly adopted motto and vision statement of First Baptist – *Love. Grow. Commit. Go.* We previously discussed the *Grow*, *Commit*, and *Go* components of this vision as we looked at the various times offered for preaching, teaching, and Bible study, opportunities we must fellowship and commit our lives to one another, as well as the necessity and

privilege we must actively engage in sharing the gospel with our community and beyond.

This month we will conclude by beginning to look at the **LOVE** component of the vision. The basis of all we do as a church is wrapped in our understanding of God's love. Indeed, *we love because he first loved us* (1 JOHN 4:19). As we consider this, I want to share with a quote that I recently came across. As we think about love, particularly this time of year, consider the words of this author and spend some time reflecting on what it means that God is love and what implication that has on your life individually and on our church.

*"God is love."* says scripture. It's one of the weightiest and most precious truths imaginable for the Christian. God is love, like oceans are wet and suns are hot. Love is essential, love is definitional of God.; His goodness is loving, His judgements are loving, His affections, motions, purposes, and persons are loving. Father, Son, and Spirit abide together purely and forever as love. How sweet is that! The One who designed comets and acorns, who sustains our souls and bodies, who knows every one of our days before each comes to be – he is love. Yet slow down, we need to think about what the Bible means here. When it says, *"God is love"* (1 JOHN 4:8), it's not saying there is this thing out there called love and that God measures up to it. There is no dictionary definition of love hovering outside the universe, independent of God, so that God answers to it. Rather, God in Himself provides the definition, the reality, of what love is. Love is not an abstract concept but a personal quality of God. It is super important that you understand this. God's own character gives us the definition and standards of love."

In Christ,  
Pastor Chance



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Christmas time is here! What a wonderful time of celebration. It's this time of year we set aside to ponder and celebrate the birth of Jesus. We consider the humble earthly beginning of the King of Kings! We celebrate together by eating meals and sharing gifts. And we share the joy of Christ birth by singing songs of praise.

Just last week as the Christmas season officially began, a friend was out shopping and noticed that the malls and the stores where she was shopping was not playing Christmas music. We are so accustomed to music being a part of Christmas that when it isn't present, we become bewildered.

Consider for a moment the first Christmas night. As the shepherds in the field heard of the birth of Jesus they were suddenly overtaken by a Choir of Angels. The first song of Christmas Celebration was sung by a choir singing ***"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"***

After the humble shepherds heard the message of the angels they were so moved by the method and message that they ran with haste into the village of Bethlehem to see the newborn king.

Think about this for a moment. The Angels were so enthusiastic about their message that they filled the sky with singing on the night of Christ birth. This was the most appropriate response to the birth of the one who would take away the sins of the world. And in doing so they motivated their audience to worship the Lord and share the good news with everyone they could find.

I ask you now, how moved are you by the birth of Jesus? The greatest message the earth has ever known began in a humble stable in Bethlehem. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords was introduced by the greatest choir the world has ever known to the humblest men in town and yet the life of Jesus was lowly and simple. He was raised as a

carpenter's son, lived a life free from sin and eventually was killed by the ones he came to save. Yet death could not hold him and after three days he rose from the grave defeating sin and death!



So, I ask you again, how moved are you by the birth of Jesus? Does the message of Jesus Gospel excite you? Are you ready to sing with the Angels and share the most wonderful news the world has ever been given? If so, then it's time for you to join the choir at First Baptist. The purpose of the choir is lead others in the worship of our Lord by sharing his message in song. Don't be concerned about your level of musical ability. Bring your joyful noise and share in the leading of the church in worship to the King! We would love to have you.

The choir will be ending the calendar year on December 9<sup>th</sup> with a special in the morning service and then take off the rest of the month. We will then kick off the new year on January 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 A.M with rehearsals once again. I really hope you will consider using your love for Christ and your love for music to serve the Lord in the coming year.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

*Bro. Carl*



## THANKSGIVING MESSAGE

First Baptist welcomed Reverend Dr. Charles E. Burton, Sr. to share the word of God during the Sunday morning worship service on November 18th. Dr. Burton retired in January of this year after faithfully serving the members of Second Baptist Church and the residents of Taylorsville and Spencer County for 43 years!

Dr. Burton is a wonderful friend to First Baptist! He has shared the word of God in many pulpit exchanges between First and Second Baptist Churches.

Pastor Chance McConnell presented Dr. Burton a Certificate of recognition and appreciation for his service and dedication.

## TAYLORSVILLE COMMUNITY

# TREE OF LIFE

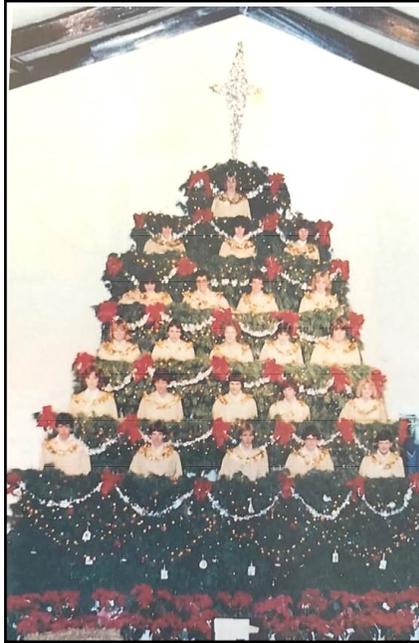
For the eighth consecutive year, First Baptist hosted the Taylorsville Community Tree of Life on November 30th, December 1st & 2nd.

This year's program entitled "All on a Silent Night" recognized the 200th Anniversary of the beloved Christmas Carol, "Silent Night" and told the story of the life of Christ from His birth to death and resurrection. More than 1,400 adults and children from Kentucky, Indiana, West Virginia, Florida, Illinois, and Tennessee attended the six performances including one person from Italy! Each audience included many who had never seen the Tree of Life before this year. At the conclusion of each service, area Ministers offered a time of invitation before closing with the tradition of joining hands and singing "Silent Night."

The current structure of the Tree has a long history! More than 32 years ago, the Highview Baptist Church in Louisville gave the tree to the Bloomfield Baptist Church. Since the tree was too large for the Bloomfield Baptist sanctuary, the program was held each year at the Bloomfield Methodist Church! Leland Parks, Bloomfield Baptist Minister of Music directed the program for many years. Other directors included Tom Pierce and Bob Lugenbeal. For the 25<sup>th</sup> and final year in Bloomfield, Leland Parks served as Director.

From the beginning the Tree of Life has been a community ministry. Many members of the First Baptist Choir and musicians have participated in the tree while in Bloomfield. Knowing the interest and love for the music ministry, First Baptist was approached to see if they were interested in the continuing the ministry in Taylorsville. The answer was yes and as they say the rest is history! However, this was not the first Tree of Life at First Baptist! You may recall in the 1980's, Minister of Music Bro. Ben McNees introduced the first Tree of Life. The First Baptist Youth Choir, Christian Company, sang in the first tree and then the Adult Choir continued the Christmas program for a few years!

Four director's have worked diligently many hours on the new Tree of Life. Minister of Music Chris McDonald directed the first year. His mother, music composer Mary McDonald, composed a special presentation of "O Holy Night" dedicated to the Tree of Life Ministry at First Baptist! Her music is a favorite of the choir and musicians and each year since, many of her songs are performed in the program! After Chris' graduation from Southern Seminary, he assumed a new position at a church in Florida. The members of the tree approached life-long resident Joy Day Thompson, a retired choral and band teacher for Spencer County Schools about directing. Joy always had a desire to lead a community program and this was a perfect opportunity not only to use her musical talents but to share in her faith. Other First Baptist Ministers of Music helping have been Cody Libolt and for the past two years, Bro. Carl Newman. Joy shares "I love having the opportunity to share Christmas with the community through song. I appreciate all the volunteers who give of their time and talents for months to be able to share the story of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. I have greatly enjoyed working with Bro. Carl. We have shared the directing responsibilities and it has been a wonderful experience and he is a pleasure to work with."



*The First Tree of Life*

more than 20 different churches from Spencer, Nelson, Bullitt, Shelby, and Jefferson County have composed the singers, musicians, and Biblical characters. Three of the singers, David Ballard, Roxie Hardin, and Doug Pollett started singing in the Bloomfield Tree and have continued in Taylorsville. David Ballard has never missed a year singing and he can always be found in the very top of the tree! Roxie Hardin, has sung every year in Taylorsville and only missed the first year in Bloomfield! Roxie helps with music selection and the tree lighting. Roxie feels, "the hardest job is putting on the lights. Each strand is individually secured and measured on each row. It is a lot of climbing and work."

The musical selections are chosen to tell the life of Christ. A variety of musical styles from traditional, calypso, spiritual, to classical are included. Since the program proclaims the story of Christ, not all songs are traditional Christmas carols and all the music needs rhythm to coordinate with the light patterns. Joy works with the music teachers in the school system to recruit band and chorus students to form the instrumental ensemble and to sing. Often Joy has written the instrumental parts for songs if the music was not available.

Many members from First Baptist volunteer during the year to coordinate the ministry. Leading the work include Janet and Franklin Barnett, Murrell and Kitty Lawson, Linton and Sarah Hickman, and David Stevens. In addition, to this group it takes many more volunteers to help with construction, lights, advertisement, music, and feeding all the singers and musicians each night which is approximately 100 people. Janet Barnett shares, "I am so thankful for all the people who help each year to make the Tree of Life a success. It takes many people who volunteer many hours and days. All of the help is greatly appreciated. We are always looking for new people to join in the work."



*Tree of Life 2018*

According to Roxie, "It is a lot of hard work and you get tired of standing in the tree for the performances but by August, the excitement hits and you are ready to go again! Everyone can't be a preacher or a missionary and this is one way to spread the good news!"

Many thanks to all the members and friends of First Baptist for their work and support to the Tree of Life Ministry. Please continue to pray for everyone who shares their talents and for the people who hear the message in word and song each Christmas season. May the Taylorsville Community Tree of Life continue to be a blessing for many years to come.

If you would like to participate in the Tree of Life Ministry, contact Bro. Carl Newman or Janet Barnett.

Work on the Tree of Life is year around. The music is selected in July and letters are sent to area churches of all denominations requesting participation. Each year

According to Janet, the tree has more than 25,000 lights! The greenery has all been replaced with new in the past three years and the electrical system under the tree has been updated. Each year new lights are added and replaced. Since the beginning, the lights on the tree have been controlled by individuals turning switches on and off during the performance. The light board has been modernized and some of the light patterns are now controlled by a computer as well as manually.



**NEW CLASS!**  
**For Young/Middle Aged Adults**  
**9:45 a.m. - Annex Building Room 206**  
**TEACHERS**  
**BRO. CHANCE MCCONNELL & DR. JOHN SNIDER**

**SERMON RECORDINGS**

If you missed a Sunday Morning worship service or just want to hear the message from the Pastor again, you can replay the sermon on the internet. Go to [www.taylorvillefbc.com](http://www.taylorvillefbc.com) and select "Sermons".

The current weekly service along with an archive of sermons since September 2018 can be played.



**SPECIAL CALLED**

To Approve the  
**2019 Church Budget**

**December 16, 2018**

*Immediately following the morning worship service*



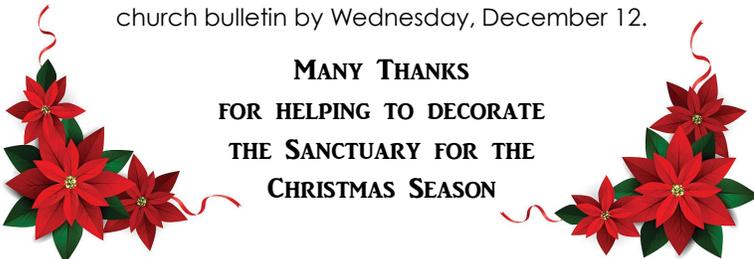
**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS**

**Purchase a Poinsettia  
 In Memory or In Honor  
 Family & Friends**

**Cost - \$15**

Please contact the church office or complete order form in church bulletin by Wednesday, December 12.

**MANY THANKS  
 FOR HELPING TO DECORATE  
 THE SANCTUARY FOR THE  
 CHRISTMAS SEASON**



**EVERY CHURCH, EVERY NATION  
 LOTTIE MOON OFFERING 2018**



The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering theme this year is "Every Church, Every Nation." The International Mission Board of the SBC reports over 2.8 billion people who have little or no access to the Gospel. Your prayers and gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering are a tremendous support and blessing in getting His Message out to the nations. The Lottie Moon national goal is \$160 million. The First Baptist goal is \$1,000.

# LOVE + GROW + COMMIT + GO



On November 25th, First Baptist hosted the 27th consecutive Hanging of the Greens Service at 6:00 p.m. The annual service is a time for family and friends to worship together with singing of Christmas carols and reading the Christmas story and meanings of the symbols of Christmas. As the carols are sung, different decorations are placed in the sanctuary. The service concludes with everyone decorating the Christmas Tree and then singing "Happy Birthday, Jesus."



**Above:** Jennifer Newman and Bro. Carl's mother place each piece of the Nativity on the organ.

**Below:** Marilyn Sweazy hangs a Christmas ornament on the tree. Marilyn helped to make many of the cross-stitched ornaments and banners used each year.



**Above:** Belinda Snider helps her grandson John Mark Snider, III hang a Christmas ornament on the tree.

**Below:** Phyllis Jenkins and Marilyn Sweazy hand out ornaments while Carl Fletcher and Ronald Thomas are finding a place to hang their ornaments.



**Above:** David Shelburne reads the Christmas Story in Luke Chapter 2 to the children. David shared, "this is the greatest story you will ever hear in your life."

Pastor Chance McConnell holds his daughter Layli who is celebrating her first Christmas! Other children pictured include Bailey and Tristan Crenshaw, Colton and Joshua Goodwin and Joseph.



# LOVE + GROW + COMMIT + GO

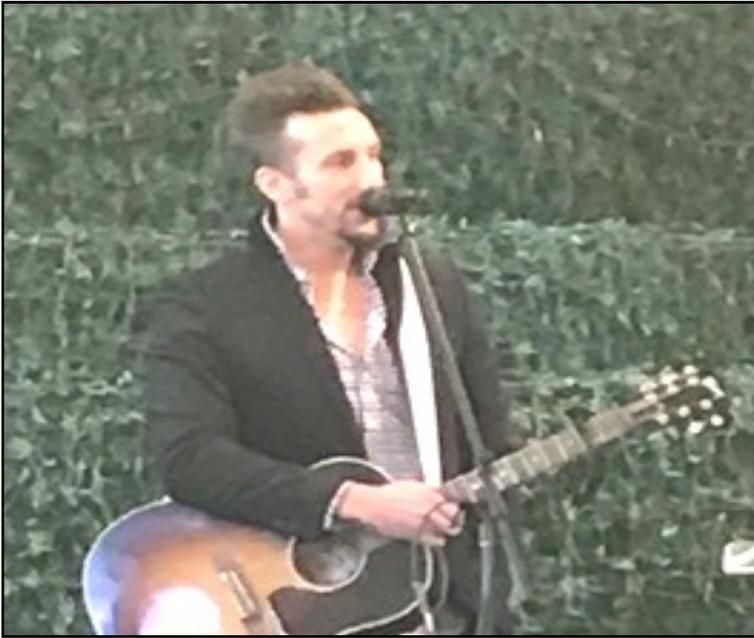
## SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF FIRST BAPTIST!

JD Shelburne and Chelsey Robinson shared special music in recent worship services.

Brian & Erin Crenshaw along with their children Tristan and Bailey shared a reading at the lighting of the Advent Candle.

Bro. Carl Newman, Pastor Chance McConnell, Dr. John Snider, Dr. Bethany Snider, Joy Shouse, and Charlotte Nedros distributed treats at the Annual Christmas on Main Street event. David Stevens helped but was not in the photo.

The Kids Choir sing Silent Night in the morning worship service.



# YOUTH CORNER



January 19 - 21, 2019

Sign Up Sheet

Youth Bulletin Board Across from Kitchen  
Pay Retreat Fee by December 18!

## EXCITING NEWS AHEAD! PLEASE KEEP READING!

January 19-21st the youth of First Baptist Taylorsville will be participating in the EDGE Student Conference in Gatlinburg Tennessee. This three-day, two-night retreat will focus mainly on growing in our relationship with Christ. It is being led by Craig Tackett of Inlightened Ministries based in Nicholasville KY. Craig is the lead pastor of Nicholasville Baptist Church and director of Inlightened Ministries.

The conference will include several speakers, musicians, and comedians. Each student will be placed in "small groups" where they will be challenged to dig deeper in their relationship with Christ. Adult youth leaders will have the opportunity to grow through small group sessions geared specifically for them and their work with teens. As a group we will have "free time" to explore Gatlinburg and experience some of the sights as we grow in unity.

Just last week I had an opportunity to speak with Craig over the phone regarding the retreat. During our conversation we spoke about the needs of students which go well beyond exciting concerts and dynamic speakers. We agree students need solid training and encouragement to grow in their relationship with Christ which can only come from purposed small group and one on one encouragement.

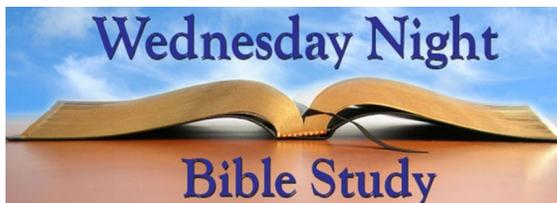
So, are you excited to join us as we attend the EDGE Student Conference? I hope you are! Here are the details:

The student cost for the retreat will be \$20 per student. There is a signup sheet on the youth bulletin board in the hallway across from the kitchen. Please sign up and pay the retreat fee by December 18th to secure your reservation.

We will meet early Saturday the 19th of January to begin our journey to Gatlinburg. Upon arrival in Gatlinburg we will be checked into the hotel and conference center where we will spend the next three days. The students will be responsible for one fast food meal each day and any extra snacks they may wish to have. All other meals will be included with the retreat. The conference will end Monday January 21st around noon and we will begin our journey home.

I am really looking forward to this conference and I hope you are too!

Serving Him,  
*Bro. Carl*



The Book of Mark - Youth Room 7:00 p.m.



## THE BOOK OF JOB

**Bible Study  
Youth Sunday School Class**

**9:45 a.m.**



One of many Christmas traditions is cooking and eating. First Baptist is blessed with many families who have wonderful recipes of special dishes prepared during the holiday season!

This edition of the *Carillon* features three recipes from sisters: Marie Donovan Thomas, Laurie Donovan, and the late Christine Donovan Ware, mother of Carole Broyles.

## Jam Cake

5 eggs beaten	2 c. sugar
3 c. flour	1 c. butter or shortening
1 c. buttermilk	1 t. soda
1/4 t. salt	1/2 t. cinnamon
1 1/2 t. cloves	1 1/2 t. allspice
1 c. jam	1 c. chopped nuts
1 c. raisins or chopped dates	

Cream butter and gradually add the sugar. Cream together until light and fluffy. Add well-beaten eggs. Sift flour before measuring and add it to the spices and salt. Dissolve soda in buttermilk and add it and the flour mixture alternating to the egg, butter, and sugar mixture. Beat after each addition. Lightly dredge the fruit and nuts with extra flour and add. Next add the jam. Stir to get good distribution. Pour into 2 nine inch greased and paper lined cake pans. Bake at 325 degrees for 40 minutes. Frost with caramel icing.

### Caramel Icing

2 c. brown sugar  
1 c. cream

Cook together brown sugar and cream in saucepan until the mixture reaches the soft boil stage. Remove from heat. Beat until creamy. If the frosting gets too hard before all the cake is covered, beat in a little more cream.

From The Kitchen Of  
Marie D. Thomas

## Baked Ham with Raisin Sauce

1/2 or whole smoked ham  
1 c. brown sugar  
1/2 c. - 2/3 c. of orange juice  
1 t. of ground cloves

Place ham in baking pan. Mix brown sugar, orange juice and cloves and pour mixture over the ham.

Cover with foil (I use the precooked ham.)

If half a ham cook on 350 degrees for one hour – two hours for a whole ham.

### Raisin Sauce

1/3 c. raisins  
1/2 c. water  
1/3 c. currant jelly (can be blackberry, concord grape, or raspberry but no seeds)  
1/2 c. orange juice  
2 T. corn starch  
Dash of allspice and salt

Combine ingredients and cook over medium heat stirring constantly until mixture thickens and bubbles

Serve warm with ham slices.

Makes 1 1/2 cups.

From The Kitchen Of  
The Late Christine D. Ware  
Mother of Carole Broyles

## Fruit Salad

1 can peach pie filling  
1 large can pineapple chunks, drained  
2-3 bananas depending on the size

1 can (large) pear slices, drained and cut into small pieces  
1 lb. frozen strawberries, cut in half if large  
Blueberries (optional)

Combine pineapple chunks, pear slices in the peach pie filling. Refrigerate overnight. Next morning, before serving, add frozen strawberries and banana slices. If the fruit is tart, add a small amount of sugar (1/2 to 1 Tablespoon).

From The Kitchen Of  
Laurie Donovan

# DECEMBER

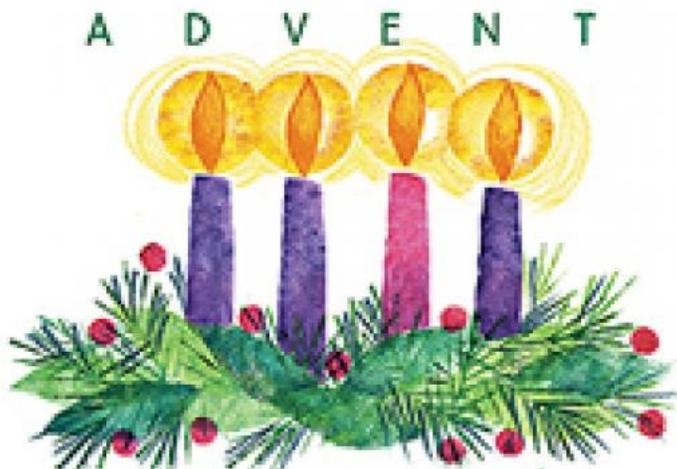
						
<b>WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b> 8:30 a.m. - Worship Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. - Men's Prayer Group 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 6:00 p.m. - Evening Worship						1  Tree of Life 5:30 & 8:00 p.m.
2  Tree of Life 5:30 & 8:00 p.m.	3  Tree of Life Deconstruction 8:00 a.m.	4 Coffee With Carl 6:30 a.m. The Tea Cup  Love My Neighbor	5 	6  Empty Spool Quilt Friends 10:00 a.m.	7  Grown N Love Ingram Class Christmas Party	8  CHRISTMAS ON MAIN ST. 6:30 P.M. PARADE
9  Christmas Luncheon  No Evening Service	10	11 Coffee With Carl The Tea Cup  Grossman WMU Love My Neighbor Trustees' Meeting	12 	13	14	15  YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY 6:00 P.M.
16  Special Called Business Meeting Following AM Service	17	18 Coffee With Carl The Tea Cup  Love My Neighbor	19 	20	21  Empty Spool Quilt Friends Christmas	22
23  No Evening Service	24  Christmas Eve	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26  Services Cancelled!	27  DARE TO CARE FOOD BANK	28	29
30  No Evening Service	31 	<b>DECEMBER CALENDAR CHANGES</b> Evening Services Cancelled on the following dates: <b>December 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, &amp; 30<sup>th</sup>.</b> The Church Office will be closed <b>December 24-26<sup>th</sup>.</b>				

# Celebrate Christmas With Worship

HEAR THE WORD OF GOD FROM  
*Reverend Chance McConnell*

**Each Sunday Morning - 11:00 a.m.**

NURSERY & CHILDREN'S CHURCH PROVIDED



## Celebrating Advent The Coming of Christ

December 2 - His Coming Promised

December 9 - His Coming Steadfast

December 16 - His Coming Revealed

December 23 - Implications



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115 West Main Street  
Taylorsville, KY 40071

**Bro. Chance McConnell**  
Pastor

**Bro. Carl Newman**  
Minister of Music & Youth

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**DECEMBER 2018**