

THE CARILLON



If you were to ask my family what hymn is my favorite, I would hope they would all tell you “*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*”. While I am not very fond of poetry, simply because I have a hard time grasping the meaning, this hymn text speaks to me in a way that most do not.

You see the idea of the hymn is the mercy and grace of God is so bountiful and powerful it rushes over our sin like a stream. There is no escaping the unending flow of God’s work! Therefore, the only result would be that of praise toward the mount of God.

In response to God’s work Robert Robinson penned these words for the second verse:

***“Here I raise mine Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I’m come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home:
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.”***

The work of God was so real to Robinson that he had to sing about it. The Song that he asked for in the first verse is revealed in the second. He raises his Ebenezer (a stone of memorial) marking the place where God rescued him from the life of sin that ensnared him.

As we close out the year 2017 and begin the year 2018 let us now “Raise our Ebenezer”. Can you look back and see how the Lord has provided mercy and grace to you over the past year. I assure you there will be times over the next year when you will need to look back and be reminded of how God has proven himself faithful to you.

My Ebenezer will remind me of many things. As I look back on 2017 I will remember the final visits I had with my Uncle before he passed away. I will remember the addition to the family through my nephew Matthew as he was adopted into the family. I will remember the struggles that the church has gone through. I will remember God’s provision through the struggles. I will think of the new friends that I have made. I will remember that 2017 was the host of my most stupid life moment (the Carolina Reaper lunch). I will remember how God placed men in my life to lift me up and speak truth to me. Ultimately, I will remember 2017 as a year when the Lord never ceased to be faithful.

A Word of Thanks to Nathan Lawson

In July of 2016, I came to FBC Taylorsville in hopes of being called as the Worship Pastor. Immediately following the Sunday morning service after the vote, a young man came to me and asked if he may take my picture for the church Facebook page. This man has become one of my dear friends.

I use the term friend very intentionally. You see, I know for certain He loves me with the love of a brother and friend. He loves the good and the bad. He has cheered with me on the days when I was overjoyed and he has encouraged me on the days when I wanted to throw in the towel. This man is a constant reminder of Christ and His work. He always offers an ear when I need to talk and always speaks with intention of sharing truth in love.

As you may have figured out by now, I am speaking about my friend Nathan Lawson. He grew up at FBC as a child. Went through his teenage years in the FBC Youth group. Spent lots of time with Brother Bob Sutton before leaving for College.

Then, after College he and Wanda came back to FBC and to both their surprise Nathan became the Minister of Youth.

After 8 years of incredible service to the Lord through FBC Nathan and Wanda have experienced the Lord calling them away from the Youth Minister role. It truly saddens my heart to know at the start of the New Year I will no longer have my friend on staff with me. However, rather than leave on a sad note, I would instead like for Nathan to know how thankful I am for him.

When I first met Nathan, I was very intrigued by him. I knew he raised cattle and this was fascinating to me for two reasons. First, I grew up on a dairy farm and so the smells, sounds, and sights of a farm bring great joy to my heart. Second, I have an odd fear of cows. As a child, I was charged by momma cows enough times to where I wouldn't be found in the field if the cows were out!

Nathan, being the great friend that he is, helped me to conquer this fear without me even knowing it. I had told him of my irrational cow phobia and he empathized with me, told me stories about his cows and would light up anytime I asked him about his farm. One day, in hopes to

spend some time with my friend I went out to his farm to visit. He needed to check on the cattle, so we rode a short distance to the field and got out of the truck. We talked as we went through the gate and soon I found myself walking through a herd of 1500 pound black beasts! It was amazing! But that isn't all. A few minutes later we drove to another field. Nathan said he had to put out some mineral for the cows. I honestly had no idea what that meant but was happy to be out with him. We entered the field without a cow in sight. Before long he had emptied a huge bag of mineral into a feeder and was calling the cows.

Here they came, lumbering over the hill top. It seemed like hundreds of the massive mammals were headed toward us. In reality, it was probably 50. They

crammed in on that feeder as if they hadn't been fed in months. All the while Nathan was talking with me as I trembled inside. The cows inched closer and closer to me. Their tails were swatting flies and hitting me in the process.

Occasionally a bovine would look at me with their big eye as if to peer into my soul. Yet, Nathan just smiled and kept talking to me. At one point the cows were so close that I thought about jumping into the truck bed and yet my friend talked me through the trauma.

At the end of the day, I wasn't near as afraid of cows. Why? Because my friend led me through what I needed to do to get past it.

I know Nathan has done the same for many if not most of you. Maybe it was something on the farm, but most likely it was bigger and more important than that. He led you to scripture, prayed with you and then kept up with the issue to make sure you were making it through.

Friends like Nathan don't come along very often. I will miss him being on staff with me as I know you will too.

Nathan, you are loved and will be greatly missed!

Brother Carl



Welcome 2018!

Each year January is a new beginning! It is a time to rest from the busy holiday season and to reflect about the activities of the previous year and to plan for the future. One tradition most common is to make a "New Year's Resolution" in which a person resolves to change an undesired trait or behavior, to accomplish a personal goal or otherwise improve their life.

What's your goal for 2018? Is it to improve your health, volunteer for a church ministry, attend Sunday School? Read some of the goals from First Baptist friends and members:

Bob Gilbert—Have good health.

Janet Barnett—Make three more quilts for her family, have good personal health so I can continue to pray.

Jill Sharp—To live more Christ-like. Not get offended by things that people say and do. Learn to control my actions.

Hilda Snider—Walk closer with the Lord. Continue to give praise and thanksgiving for the many ways our family has been blessed in 2017 and hope to continue in 2018.

Lynn Goodlett—Live a healthy life.

David Stevens—For my vision to improve and to continue the music ministry singing with Victory Road.

Dr. Bethany Snider—Spend more time with my family.

New Year Prayer

Thank you Lord for giving me
The brand-new year ahead
Help me live the way I should
As each new day I tread.

Give me gentle wisdom
That I might help a friend
Give me strength and courage
So, a shoulder I might lend.

The year ahead is empty
Help me fill it with good things
Each new day filled with joy
And the happiness it brings.

—Author Unknown

JOY
NOEL
ANGEL
JESUS
PEACE HOPE
WISEMEN
CHRISTMAS
BELIEVE FAITH
PRINCE OF PEACE
THANK YOU

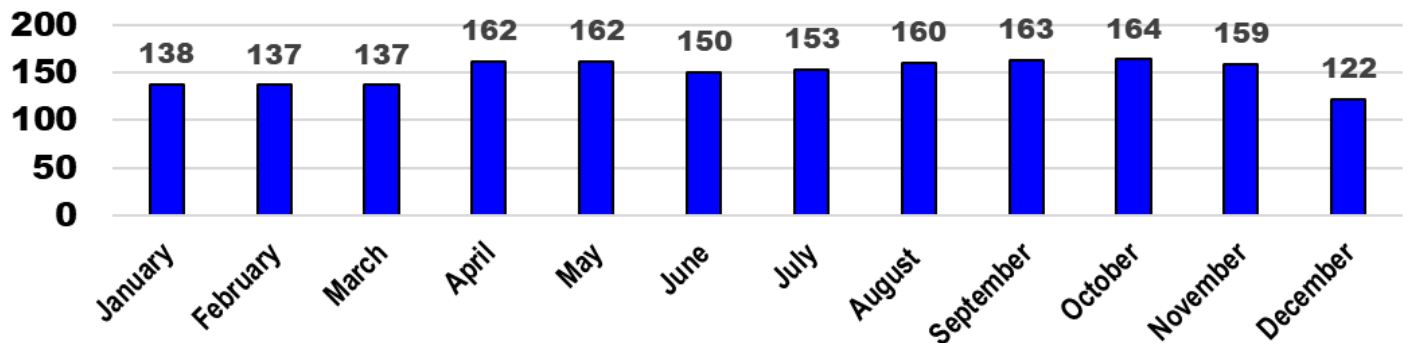
Thank you to everyone who participated with the many ministries, missions, worship services, and fellowships during the month of December at First Baptist! May God bless you for your generosity and service.



The Dare To Care Ministry had a busy 2017! A TOTAL OF 1,807 BASKETS OF FOOD WAS DISTRIBUTED TO 4,326 PEOPLE! Many thanks to everyone who volunteered to pick up and shelve food, prepare boxes, assist with distribution, and donate financial resources.

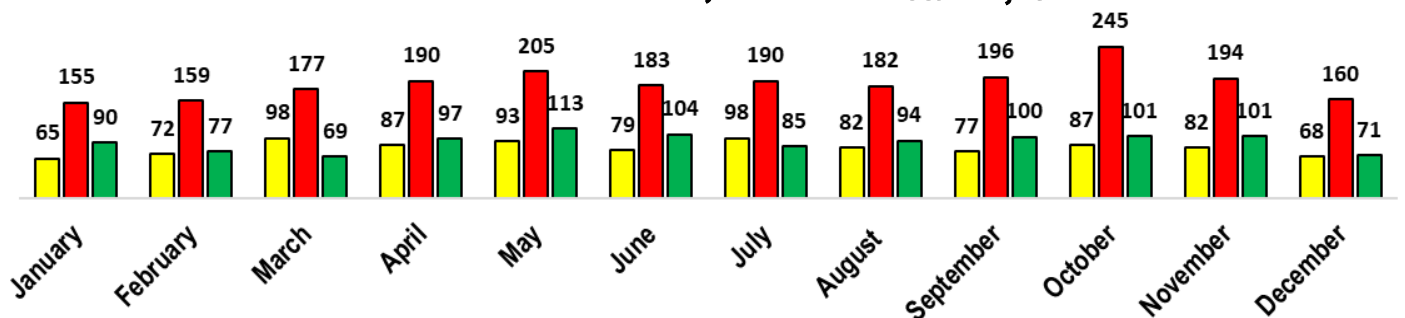
Dare To Care Food Distribution is held on the last Thursday of each month. Volunteers are always welcomed and greatly appreciated! Contact Bob Gilbert if you would like to help. Please continue to pray God's blessing on this ministry and for the families who receive the baskets of food.

TOTAL FOOD BASKETS DISTRIBUTED - 2017

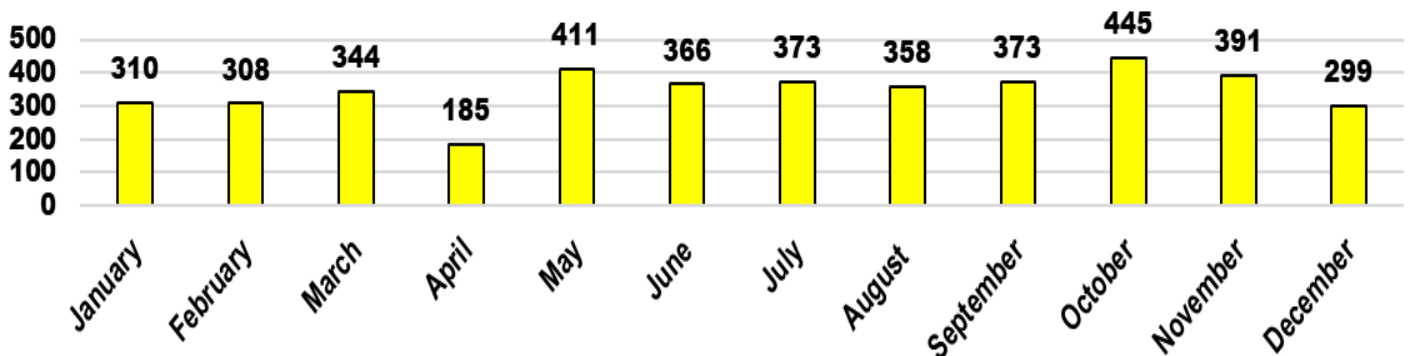


PARTICIPANTS BY AGE - 2017

■ # Children ■ # Adults ■ # Senior Adults
 Total—988 Total—2,236 Total—1,102



TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED 2017



EMPTY SPOOLS QUILTING FRIENDS

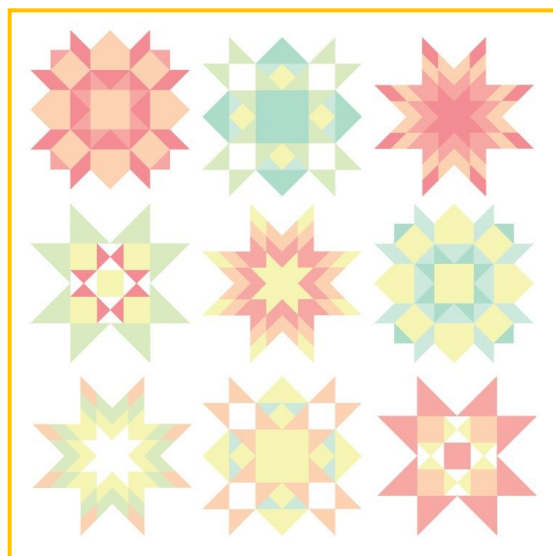
The Empty Spools Quilting Friends are busy working on a mission project for the newly opened Isaiah House located in Chaplin Kentucky. The Isaiah House is a residential/outpatient treatment center for men. Their mission is to provide the best possible addiction treatment care for clients and families. In addition to the treatment, they provide job skills training, and lawn care and snow removal services. The members of the Empty Spools have worked together to make a quilt to cover one of the beds in the residential facility. Individual members have also donated quilts.

This is not the first mission project by the Empty Spools Quilting Friends. In the four years since the First Baptist ladies have been meeting, they have made rag quilts with the WMU to distribute at the Sunrise Children's Home as well as participating in the Million Pillowcase Challenge by sewing pillowcases for Norton's Children's Hospital in Louisville.

The Empty Spools Quilting Friends share ideas and projects with other area quilting guilds such as Fisherville Baptist and Chaplin Baptist Churches. They have even taken a "road trip" to visit the Missouri Star Company in Hamilton, Missouri. Members Janet Barnett and Jane Waits excitedly share stories about their two-night adventure sewing and fellowshiping with quilting friends. They even prayed, sang, and sewed during a tornado storm!

Other projects over the years include participating in the "Block of the Month" project, attending a Quilting Event in Shepherdsville to see Jenny Doan of the Missouri Star Quilt Company, and each member making their own Eleanor Burns wall sampler. The group recently celebrated with Edith Judd as she and her granddaughter Abbey Daugherty were featured on the cover and article in the "Kentucky Living" magazine.

The Empty Spools Quilting Friends meet the last Monday of each month and any other time they have a project or just want to get together to sew or help each other. Each meeting has a time of devotion, fellowship, and always "Show and Tell"! If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Lvonne Gilbert their coordinator. They love to have new people join their group to learn the art of making a quilt.



REVEREND DR. CHARLES E. BURTON, SR. RETIRES!

Congratulations to Reverend Dr. Charles E. Burton, Sr. on his upcoming retirement as the Pastor of Second Baptist Church. Dr. Burton has faithfully served the members of Second Baptist and the residents of Taylorsville and Spencer County for 43 years! Dr. Burton is a wonderful friend to First Baptist! He shared the word of God in many pulpit exchanges between First and Second Baptist Churches.



The members of Second Baptist invite everyone to a special service of recognition on Sunday, January 14th at 3:30 p.m. A reception will be held immediately following the service.

Update from the Search Committees . . .

The Pastor Search and Youth Search Committees have met two times prior to the holidays. Members of both committees were able to participate in a joint meeting with staff from the KBC and Louisville Regional Baptist Association (formerly the Long Run Baptist Association) to receive current information about beginning the process for selecting new staff members.

The positions have been advertised in state Baptist publications, but all church members are encouraged to speak with family and friends if they know or can recommend a potential candidate to consider for either the Pastor or Youth Minister.

Please continue to pray for God's will and guidance as we seek the leaders God has planned to serve and minister at First Baptist.



Pastor Search Committee

Franklin Barnett, Erin Crenshaw, Phyllis Jenkins
Charlotte Nedros, David Shelburne
Dr. John Snider, Sandra Stewart

Youth Minister Search Committee

Chelsea Cole, Justin Pollett, Jill Sharp
Joy Shouse, Belinda Snider, David Stevens, Tom Willis



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

If you are interested in working with the Youth in Sunday School, group time on Wednesday evenings, or helping with events and activities, please contact Bro. Carl.

Your help and support during this time of transition with the Youth Minister is greatly appreciated!

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5	6
7 Lord's Supper	8	9 WMU Trustee's Mtg	10	11	12	13
14 Deacon's Meeting	15 MLK DAY Office Closed	16	17	18	19	20 Tree of Life Gathering
21 Business Meeting	22	23	24	25 Dare To Care Distribution	26	27
28	29 Empty Spools 1:00 p.m.	30 Red Cross Bloodmobile	31	<u>WEDNESDAY NIGHT EVENTS EACH WEEK</u> 6:30 pm.—Family Meal 7:00 p.m.—Adult Prayer and Bible Study Fishin' Friends, Youth, Young Musicians 7:20 p.m.—CiA		



SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

To Approve the 2018 Church Budget

January 7, 2018

Immediately following the morning worship service



Thank you to the members of the Finance Committee

Ron Miller—Chairperson

Judy Bowman, Larry Cheek, Phyllis Jenkins, Dr. John Snider, David Stevens
Marilyn Sweazy, Eddie Thomas, Ronald Thomas, Doug Williams

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®

FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

IN 1 YEAR

MISSIONARIES SHARED HIS
REDEMPITIVE STORY WITH
1.7 MILLION PEOPLE

THANK YOU

Your faithful giving has changed
lives and given hope to the lost
across the globe.

SUPPORTS THE
WORK OF MISSIONARIES

100%

IN 1 YEAR

MISSIONARIES
TRAINED **23,000 NATIONALS** TO
START NEW CHURCHES AND
HELPED START **6,200 CHURCHES**

***Thanks to all who participated in the Lottie Moon Christmas Card Drive and
to the Girls in Actions for their hard work in distributing the cards each week!***

Thanks to your generosity we were able to exceed our goal of \$1,000!

Please continue to pray for international missionaries and their impact on our world.

TAYLORSVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

115 West Main Street
Taylorsville, KY 40071

Bro. Carl Newman

Minister of Music

Phone: 502-477-8197

Fax: 502-477-8117

Secretary: Margie Jones

E-mail: margiefbctaylor@aol.com

Follow us on Facebook
for updates
[https://www.facebook.com/
FirstBaptistChurchTaylorsville/](https://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchTaylorsville/)

BULK RATE

U.S. Postage

Permit No. 28

Non-Profit

Taylorsville, KY 40071

CAR-RT Pre Sort

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED