

First Baptist Church Hillsborough

201 West King Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278



The Messenger

January 2025

Sundays

9:00 am Community Grounds
9:45 am Bible Fellowship Groups
11:00 am Worship



In-Person Worship Attendance

December 1	96
December 8	87
December 15	103
December 22	157
December 29	69

YouTube Views

66
54
36
117
16

Bible Fellowship Group Attendance

December 1	53
December 8	59
December 15	50
December 22	55

For any ministerial needs,
please contact the Church
Office or any Deacon.

Administrative Assistant
Crystal Swisher
office@fbchillsborough.org
(919)732-8174

Music Director
Aaron Pickard

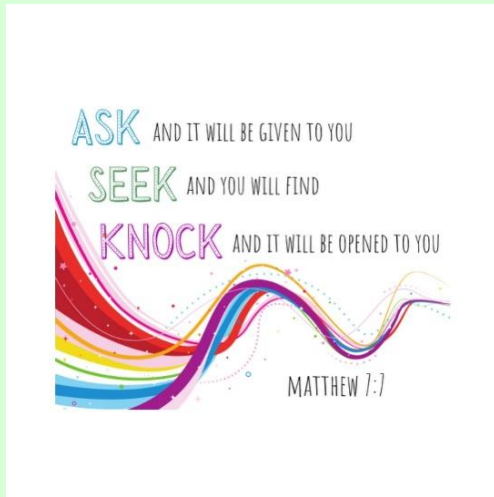
FBC Website
www.fbchillsborough.org

[Click HERE](#) to
Give Online

*WATCH US GROW IN CHRIST!
MONTHLY SCRIPTURE FOR KINGDOM KIDS*

Parents & other family members, please help your child learn these verses and look for them in their Bible. They will have the opportunity to recite the verse in class each week for a "punch" on their card!

January 5



January 12



January 19



January 26



Message from Outgoing Deacon Chair

Dear Church Family,

As 2024 comes to a close, I want to thank each of you for the trust you placed in me as Deacon Chair this past year. As many of you have felt when asked to take on a new responsibility in the church, I did not feel equipped to do this job and entered the role with trepidation and uncertainty. However, I also knew that God would provide the way, and He did.

He provided a supportive and active Deacon Board. He provided many prayer warriors. And He made certain that our church family remained strong and nurturing through the transitions we faced. No matter what we were dealing with, I knew that we were being covered in prayer and that strong, capable leaders were in place to help make the best decisions for moving forward. I thank each of you for your prayers and the assurance they provided. I am in awe of your commitment to serving this church family and I am humbled by the opportunity you have given me to serve each of you. It has been a year of challenges, but also one with many rewards, not the least of which has been the opportunity to serve alongside some of God's most faithful - for that, I am forever grateful.

I would like to thank the outgoing Deacons for their service: Gerry Anglin, Gary Bishop, Robert Compton, Duke Crawford, Terri DeLancy, Mandy Dickerson, Susan Harper & Rose Morrison.

And I'd like to welcome the incoming Deacons for 2025: Jim Church, Molly Compton, Don Dickerson & Steve Lopez. On behalf of all the Deacons, we thank our church family for your continued support, and we covet your prayers as the work continues in 2025.

May this new year allow FBCH to grow in abundance and make disciples of many!

With love and gratitude,

Lauren Dickerson

Deacon Chair, 2024

MEN'S BREAKFAST



MEN'S MINISTRY

This month, our Men's Prayer Breakfast will be at 8:30 a.m. on January 19, 2025.



Welcome House

WELCOME HOUSE HILLSBOROUGH

Prayerfully consider joining this ministry

Contact **Randall Austin**, Welcome House Coordinator, for details.

Continue to pray for our Welcome House ministry

Welcome House-Hillsborough needs team members who can be the face of Jesus to refugee families who arrive in Hillsborough scared and friendless.

Ask any of our team about what we do, such as **Joanne Berg, Jan Irwin, Bill Bulfin or Steve Lopez**. Then contact **Randall Austin** if you'd like to take the plunge.

MESSAGE FROM THE DEACONS

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.

Ephesians 4: 11-13 NLT

We are Christ's church. With or without a pastor. We are family. With or without a pastor. And, we are strong and will continue to serve the Lord, one another and our community - with or without a pastor. With those assurances, the deacons also recognize that this time brings uncertainty and some concerns about where we go from here. We want you to know that we are praying, planning and preparing for our future. We intend to be as transparent and communicative as possible with our intentions and plans. The deacons have planned for the short-term through February by supplying the pulpit with guest speakers.

There is a team working on identifying candidates for an interim pastor position. In January, the deacons will begin the process for selecting the pastor search team. In the meantime, we need to continue doing what we do best - to show up, to worship, sing, pray, love one another, witness our faith, allow grace, and as Paul said in Ephesians, to build up the Church by serving to the best of our God-given gifts and abilities.

If you need us, we are here. praying and serving.

With love and on behalf of the Deacons,
Lauren Dickerson - FBCH Deacon Chair, 2024

ENCOURAGER CHURCH UPDATE:

BOULOS MINISTRIES LEBANON AND MIDDLE EAST



The *Celebrate Jesus* event in Egypt was well-attended. Thank you for your prayers in support of this event. May God use it to change and heal hearts.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Prayer requests as listed in many of the previous Messengers are still current and in need of our prayer. However this month, let us as a group focus specifically on the conflict in the Middle East and its effects on the Bouloses and their ministries.

Currently they are safe; they have a plan if the conflict escalates to their geographical area; they are as prepared as they can be.

Please pray for:

- *Peace in the region,*
- *Safety for the Bouloses where they are now,*
- *God's leading and protection, and*
- *Discernment to know what to do, and when to do it, if their situation changes.*



As an Encourager Church, FBCH is committed to supporting the Bouloses and their ministries through prayer and financial resources.

If you have any questions on how to best to support the Bouloses, please contact Cherie Bevill 919-280-5222 or cheriebevill@gmail.com.

ENCOURAGER CHURCH PARTNERSHIP IN LEBANON - For those who may be new to FBCH, in 2018 FBCH entered into a ministry partnership agreement to be an encourager church to Maha and Chaouki Boulos, who are field personnel (missionaries) in Lebanon. That partnership was renewed in 2022. The Bouloses visited us on Sunday, December 8 and shared how their ministry has blessed so many this past year – what a blessing to hear that they see the work of the Lord and anticipate PEACE in their region despite all the violence and turmoil they have witnessed!

The Bouloses will continue to face extraordinary challenges in their efforts to share the love of Christ while attempting to meet the spiritual and humanitarian needs of the people they serve. Please pray about how we may encourage their efforts when they return to Lebanon in January through prayer and monetary donations. **To learn more about their ministry and donate please visit: Chaouki and Maha Boulos 2- Campaign**



Mission

The ministries of Young Life, Wyldlife, YoungLives and College Life are praying boldly for 2025: *to know 200 more kids by name, sustain relationships with the kids we already know, and see more young lives transformed by the Gospel.* We want to thank FBCH for its faithful missions giving to Young Life and show you how it helps our leaders continue *SHOWING UP* for students in our community and mirroring the God who came to us! Thank you for joining us in the quest to reach every kid with the Good News of Jesus.

Contact: Anne Brinkley 919-636-8136



**Buy one Bible for a
campaigners kid: \$10**



**Buy supplies for a
Young Life club: \$25**



**Fill up a gas tank for
one leader: \$40**



**Buy a sports pass for
one leader: \$125**



**Send a kid to
weekend camp: \$350**



**Sponsor a semester of
Young Lives club: \$500**
For teen moms and their babies



**Send a kid to summer
camp: \$1,200**
The best week of their life!



**Feed our heros - volunteer
leaders - twice a month: \$2,000**



The Shed-o-Plenty is Still in Need!

Thank you for your continued contributions to The Shed. It continues to meet the needs of families in Orange County—through large items and small!

Thank you again to all for your support and for the work of the Kingdom!

Below is a current list of the most needed items.

NOTE: Other items needed to help set up a small apartment are still welcomed.

Currently most needed:

- ⇒ Dressers or chests of drawers
- ⇒ Full and twin bed frames (or platforms)
- ⇒ Living room furniture (for smaller apartments)
- ⇒ Small kitchen tables and chairs
- ⇒ Twin comforters or spreads
- ⇒ Twin sheets
- ⇒ Drinking glasses (for families with children)

I wanted to share how the shed continues to assist our community. Thank you so much!
From an Alliance for Success case worker



Contact Sharon Richardson if you have questions about donations or ways to assist the families that use the Shed.
919- 636-1699 or sharonr3711@gmail.com



A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We write to you today with news of an upcoming transition in our ministry leadership. Our beloved Chaplain, Josh LeRoy, will be concluding his service with us this December. While we will certainly miss his presence and leadership, we are excited to share in his joy as he embarks on a new chapter in his ministry. Chaplain LeRoy has accepted the role of lead pastor at the Wesleyan church in Greensboro where he and his family have been worshipping for the past few years. This unexpected opportunity is a testament to his exceptional pastoral gifts, which we have been blessed to witness firsthand during his tenure with our ministry.

We want to express our deepest gratitude to Chaplain LeRoy for his dedicated service and the profound impact he has made in the lives of those we serve. His compassion, wisdom, and unwavering commitment to our mission have been truly inspirational.

Looking ahead, we want to assure you that the board is actively engaged in a thoughtful transition process. We are currently in discussions with a very promising candidate to assume the role of Chaplain and Director of Prison Ministry, and we are genuinely excited about the gifts and vision this individual would bring to our ministry. Our priority is to ensure a smooth and healthy transition that will allow our important work to continue without interruption. We are confident that this change will usher in a new chapter of growth and impact for Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry.

We appreciate your continued support and prayers during this time of transition. Your dedication to our mission is what enables us to bring hope and transformation to those we serve. We look forward to sharing more details with you in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of our board.

Thank you for your unwavering support of this organization, our chaplains, and all the residents at Orange Correctional Center.

MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY

We are excited to share a new opportunity to engage in *Holy Friendship* through the **Meal Train Ministry**. Meal Train is an opportunity to show love within the church family to those going through challenging life circumstances. Examples include during bereavement, following surgery or hospitalization, following the birth of a baby or for our homebound.

Once an individual need is identified, a Meal Train can be set up and the church family can be notified to ask for help. Volunteers are needed to coordinate the Meal Train Ministry.

Please reach out to **Crissy Wells** for more information at (919) 265-8553. Individual Meal Train requests should go through the church office at (919) 732-8174.

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MINISTRY PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

MINISTRY PLACEMENT: Bonnie Murphy, Chair

Chairperson(s) please confirm all names that make up your committee. Please send it to my email: bonnie7murphy@gmail.com. This updating is important to reach out to others willing to serve during our transition period and to say thank you to each person currently are serving. This corrected information will be posted on our website. Thank you.

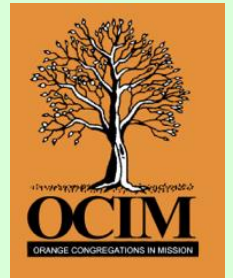
Contact: **Bonnie Murphy** bonnie7murphy@gmail.com; telephone (315) 709-1150

OCIM - ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION

Please remember to bring in food items for the OCIM. Place items in the blue barrels in the downstairs hallway or the baskets in each Bible fellowship room. Items like cereal, peanut butter, canned vegetables, soups and canned fruits. Also, toothbrushes, bar soap and deodorants are welcomed.

Remember ALDI is in Hillsborough now across from Walmart.

Please remember those who are hungry. Thank you!



REMINDER FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Attending to the financial needs of our church is worshipful work and we welcome your input at any time. Please contact **Sue Bulfin** via e-mail at srbulfin@gmail.com or by telephone at (919) 605-5645.

SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Happy 2025! If you feel God calling you to share some extra love, visit a Senior. They appreciate your time, and you will go away from the visit blessed yourself. God works that way!

Remember the enjoyable **Brookshire sing-a-long** which happens every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2:30. January's sing-a-long is **Tuesday, 1/21**. Consider joining us as we sing, glorify and praise God. The songs often bring back sweet memories, big smiles and testimonies from the residents. What a joy for all!

There's always a wonderful opportunity to join the residents at **Terra Bella**, rocking on the front porch and sharing in conversation in a gathering room. Let God's light shine through you.

A stop by **Villines** will bring many smiles for everyone. The residents love company and will be in the Living Room ready for conversation or just a hello. Be ready for the blessings given and received!

Contact Jan Irwin with any questions you may have.

<u>Parkview Health/Rehab Center</u> 1716 Legion Road Chapel Hill, NC 27517	Richard Hauth Room 803	<u>Brookdale</u> 4434 Ben Franklin Blvd. Durham, NC 27707	Billy and Nancy Baity Room 117
<u>Adorable Senior Living</u> (Villines Rest Home)	All Residents	<u>Holiday Cedar Ridge</u> <u>Senior Living</u> 2680 S. Mebane St. Burlington, NC 27215	Joyce Rippy Apt. 232
<u>Peak Resources/Brookshire</u> 300 Meadowlands Dr. Hillsborough, NC 27278	Lillian Swift/Rm 509 Joyce Bateman/Rm 501	<u>Croasdaile Village</u> 2600 Croasdaile Pkwy/Pavillion Durham, NC 27705	
<u>Terra Bella (Carillon)</u> 1911 Orange Grove Road Hillsborough, NC 27278		<u>Durham Nursing & Rehab</u> 411 S. LaSalle St. Durham, NC 27705	Mark Bullock
<u>Hillcrest Rehab and Asst Living</u> 1417 W. Pettigrew St. Durham, NC 27705			

January 2025 Birthdays



1-1 Lars* M. Murray
1-2 Keith Poole
1-3 Joyce Bateman
1-3 Katherine* Guill
1-3 Susan Harper
1-3 Lauren Wilverding
1-5 Kim Crispin
1-5 Barbara Scott
1-8 Stephanie Bass
1-6 Gavin* Wagner
1-9 Preston Dickerson
1-9 Lisa Baptist
1-9 Kent Murray
1-10 Katie* Clark
1-10 Janet Royal
1-10 Aislynn M. Morris
1-12 Ann Stubbs
1-13 Rebecca Wicker
1-15 Lee Gordon

1-16 Pam Staley
1-18 Melissa Maynard
1-19 Joyce Beasley
1-19 Dylan Skinner
1-21 Mandy Dickerson
1-21 Dakota Hawkins
1-22 Richard Hauth
1-25 Megan S.-Ferrell
1-26 Charles Cozart
1-27 James* Baldwin
1-28 Lauren Dickerson
1-29 Rachel Hawkins
1-30 Becky Gordon
1-31 Sharon Richardson