



# FIRST BAPTIST ST. MARYS, GA

HELPING PEOPLE FIND & FOLLOW JESUS

## DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



**Hanging of the Greens Service**  
Sunday, December 1st, 5:30 pm  
This is always a special time of worship, so come and join us as we decorate our church!



**Mom's Meetup**  
**Friday, December 6th**  
**9:00am -11:00am**  
This is for Mom's around our community to come together and be encouraged. Phyllis Milstead will be sharing a testimony and we will have breakfast casseroles to share. Child-care is available but limited spaces Call the church office to reserve childcare.



**Rock-n-Around the Trunk**  
**December 7th, 5pm - 7pm**  
We will need trunks decorated for Christmas, candy donations, popcorn and hot chocolate donations and someone to help run the movie in the fellowship hall. Please contact Ms. Ashli or the church office for more information!



**Thankful Christmas Dinner**  
December 8th, immediately following Morning Worship  
Meat will be provided!  
We will "fill the pan". So bring your favorite things and come have a wonderful time of food and fellowship!



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering  
Week of Prayer is  
Sunday, December 1st - Sunday, December 8th  
Our Church Goal is \$2500  
<https://onrealm.org/fbcstmarys/give/lottiemoon>



**Annual Ladies' Exchange**  
December 12, 2024, 6:00 - 8:00pm, Shawny Thorpe's House,  
561-302-5943, 916 Riverview Dr. E., St. Marys  
Bring an ornament and favorite food/dessert to share.  
Bring a friend too!

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Childcare will be provided in the children's annex at FBCSM from 5:30 - 8:30pm. Call the church office at 912-882-4250 by December 9th if you will need childcare services to ensure there is enough food, activities, and supervision for the children.

## *From the Heart of the Pastor*

As we step into the joyous season of Christmas, let's pause to give thanks for the greatest gift ever given—the baby Jesus. In this tiny child, born in a manger, we see the love of God in action, a love that offers hope, peace, and eternal salvation. The angels declared to the shepherds, “I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people” (Luke 2:10). This good news is worth celebrating with hearts full of gratitude and voices lifted in praise!

We have many special opportunities this month to gather and celebrate the birth of our Savior as a church family. I encourage you to mark your calendars and invite friends and neighbors to join us:

- Hanging of the Greens: This Sunday evening, December 1<sup>st</sup>, we will be kicking off our Christmas season by decorating our Worship Center. This is always a special service that sets the tone for Christmas.

- Rocking Around the Trunk: Our Children's Ministry will host this festive event on Saturday, December 7th, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Come enjoy the Christmas spirit with fun activities for the whole family.

- Worship Choir Presentation: On Sunday morning, December 8th, our choir will present “It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year.” You don't want to miss this uplifting musical celebration of the Christmas season. After the service, join us in the fellowship hall for our Thankful Christmas Dinner. Let's share a meal and celebrate God's blessings together!

- Christmas Caroling: On Sunday evening, December 22nd, we will spread joy and encouragement to our home-bound members through Christmas caroling. This is a wonderful opportunity to bless others and be blessed in return.

- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: On Tuesday, December 24th, at 5:00 PM, join us for this beautiful and reflective service as we celebrate the birth of Christ with Scripture, song, and the glow of candlelight.

Let's embrace this season with hearts focused on the true meaning of Christmas—our Savior, Jesus Christ. May our celebrations be filled with joy and gratitude as we share His love with our families, church, and community.

*Merry Christmas!*

*Pastor Gary*

### Attention

There will be no Children's Worship on Sunday, December 8th. The children will participate in a live nativity during worship time and then will sit with parents after the nativity is over.



**Senior Adult Covered Dish Dinner  
November 19th at 6:00pm  
Bring a dish to share and enjoy  
some time together.**



Our church has an account with this great resource. There are Bible studies, movies, books and all sorts of great material that you can access. e-mail Robin at [robin@fbcstmarys.com](mailto:robin@fbcstmarys.com) and she will get you plugged in. For more info, check the site out at [www.rightnowmedia.org](http://www.rightnowmedia.org)

*thank you*

**God is blessing First Baptist,  
Thank you for your faithfulness!**



First Baptist Church  
 102 W. Weed Street  
 St. Marys, GA 31558  
 (912) 882-4250  
 www.fbcstmarys.com

Gary Smith, *Senior Pastor, Music Ministries*  
 Mike Gaskin, *Interim Music Director*  
 Roland Norris, *Look to the Nations, Missionary*



You can worship with us online!  
 On YouTube go to FBC St. Marys  
 On Facebook go to our page FBCSM  
 These links are also be available on our church website -> [www.fbcstmarys.com](http://www.fbcstmarys.com)  
 Don't forget about Sunday School!  
 Sunday Morning's at 9:15am

**UNDESIGNATED**

Budgeted – Need to Date  
 \$359,520.17

Giving – Received to Date  
 \$373,544.05

Monthly – Budgeted Need  
 \$30,597.46

November-Giving Received  
 \$33,978.75

*thank you*

God is blessing First Baptist,  
 Thank you for your faithfulness!

**SUNDAY - December 1 First Sunday of Advent**

- 8:45 am Coffee Fellowship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Morning Worship Service/Kidz Church
- 5:30 pm Hanging of the Greens
- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

**MONDAY - December 2**

- 12:00 pm Lunch with Pastor Gary

**WEDNESDAY - December 4**

- 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Supper
- 6:30 pm Evening Bible Study/RA's & GA's/Youth/ Young Couples Class

**FRIDAY - December 6**

- 9:00 am Mom's Meet-up/Children's Building

**SATURDAY - December 7**

- 5:00 pm "Rockin' Around the Trunk" Kids Event

**SUNDAY - December 8 Second Sunday of Advent**

- 8:45 am Coffee Fellowship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Morning Worship/KIDZ Church
- 5:30 pm Evening Worship
- 6:30 pm Worship Choir

**WEDNESDAY - December 11**

- 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Supper
- 6:30 pm Evening Bible Study/RA's & GA's/Youth/Young Couples Class

**THURSDAY - December 12**

- 6:00 pm Ladies Ornament Exchange/Shawny Thorpe's Home

**SUNDAY - December 15 Third Sunday of Advent**

- 8:45 am Coffee Fellowship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Morning Worship
- 5:30 pm Evening Worship
- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

**WEDNESDAY - December 18**

- 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Supper
- 6:30 pm Evening Bible Study/RA's & GA's/Youth Bible Study

**SUNDAY - December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 8:45 am Coffee Fellowship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am Morning Worship
- 5:30 pm Church Christmas Caroling
- 6:30 pm Choir Practice

**TUESDAY - December 24 Christmas Eve**

- 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**WEDNESDAY - December 25 Merry Christmas**

**THURSDAY, December 24th - THURSDAY - January 2nd**  
 Church Office Closed

