

First Baptist Church
401 E Main St
Troy, NC 27371

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TROY, NC 27371
Permit No. 30

Morning Service Live & ONLINE
Prayer Meeting
Student Ministry Services
Small Groups Bible Study (Teens & Young Adults)
Bible Study and Kid's Club

Sundays @ 11:00 a.m. & ON DEMAND
Sundays @ 5:30 p.m.
Sundays @ 5:30 p.m.
Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Troy First Baptist Church

Pastor Nick Allen—Senior Pastor & Students, Children and Music

inallen12@live.com

Dr. Dwight Croy – Interim Pastor

Dwightthelight@protonmail.com

December 2024



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Troy, NC 27371

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secretary@fbctroync.com

Web Site: www.TroyFirstBaptistNC.org

On Facebook or Instagram: [troyfirstbaptistchurch](https://www.facebook.com/troyfirstbaptistchurch)

App available for Android and iPhone

(In App Store, search for First Baptist Church Troy, NC)

Pastor Nick's Letter December 2024

Greetings, Church Family,

It is an exciting time of year and a busy one! I am looking forward to the many events we have coming up, including caroling, Hanging of the Greens, the Christmas play/dinner, and my favorite service of the year, the candlelight service! In the month of December, Dr. Croy and I will be preaching through a series on Christmas from Matthew, Luke, and even...Daniel! This past month on November we had a thanksgiving message from Psalm 103 entitled, "God is so good." And on November 24th we had a Gideon presentation and message from our very own, Gene Griffith. I want to thank all of those who packed showboxes this year for Operation Christmas Child. 308 boxes were sent out from Troy First Baptist! A big thanks to Bonnie Kelley for heading up this ministry at our church with her new sidekick, JoAnn Cummings. This Thanksgiving, we had volunteers from Troy First Baptist Church team up with Montgomery County's Coalition for Christ and delivered Thanksgiving meals to families in need. What a blessing! I look forward to partnering with the same organization to deliver gifts to children this month. Praise God!

In November, the children of Kid's Club had a theme verse of Colossians 3:15, being thankful. In Elevate, the children have been learning important sayings of Jesus and how they can apply it to their lives. I look forward to digging into the Christmas story with the children this month!

During youth, the Troy First kids and youth group have been practicing for the Christmas play which will be December 15th at 5:30. This year the play will tell the Christmas story through the eyes of the Shepherds. The youth had a retreat in the Uwharries and a visit to Whispering Pines Sanctuary this past month where they learned how to have a heart like David's. We enjoyed a time of fellowship, hiking, and most importantly, God's Word.

I am excited for the busyness of December as we have a full schedule ahead. All glory to God!

**In Christ,
Pastor Nick**



December 2024 Dr. Dwight Croy

Favor from God on those who Savor a Savior.

In the New American Bible (Revised Edition) Luke 2:14 reads "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom His **favor** rests." **Favor** is worthy of study. A Christian who suffers unjustly for Christ will have **favor** with God. In Genesis 6:8 we find an example of Noah, "But Noah found **favor** in the eyes of the Lord." We often leave the passage thinking that Noah is just another godly man. Noah endured unjust treatment and ridicule for at least a century or more. Exodus 33:17 The Lord said to Moses, "I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for you have found **favor** in My sight and I have known you by name." Moses also suffered much grief in following Yahweh. 1 Peter 2:20 "For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds **favor** with God." 1 Peter 2:19 "For this finds **favor**, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person endures grief when suffering unjustly." I also find it fascinating that **favor** is found three times with Mary who suffered a lifetime of judgement from her community. Luke 1:25 "This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked with **favor** upon me, to take away my disgrace among people." Luke 1:28 And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, **favor**ed one! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found **favor** with God. Jesus also suffered this same unjust judgement with Mary, and it is said of Him in Luke 2:40 "Now the Child continued to grow and to become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the **favor** of God was upon Him." Also, in Luke 2:52 "And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in **favor** with God and people."

Christmas contains a flavor of bitter sweetness if understood properly. I remember my mom giving me a bitter lesson by letting me taste vanilla extract straight off a teaspoon. Yuck! That was one lesson I did not have to repeat. Bitter sweetness can be flavorful if we have the right balance. Satan wants us to focus on the miracle of birth, an innocent baby, and a story without its cataclysmic and victorious ending. If Christmas is "all in" on cuteness, sweetness, bright lights, and abundance of peace, good will, and presents, you might want to take a step back and look again at the meaning of Christmas. For the true Christian, Christmas always has a hard edge to it. The birth, cross, and the empty tomb must all go together. God's love cannot be shown without the cost being told about. Peace cannot be experienced unless one knows the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) who gifted it to us with His precious perfect blood. It is a great season to celebrate Christ's birth because of the story downstream. This pastor does not want you to be a wet blanket at your Christmas parties but be clear eyed. Make sure your friends and family know the "reason for the season." Read out loud the Christmas Story. So, when you bite into some dark chocolate, or a heavily zested lemon bar, remember that the story of Christmas is not complete unless it ends with an empty tomb. It also ends with a Christian who is "all in" to the point of finding **favor** with God. Saints of God, I want you to have a wonderful Christmas full of traditions and family. Say "Merry Christmas!" boldly and without apology and be ready to tell the whole story, His (Jesus) Story (History).

Dr. Dwight Croy , Romans 12:1-2



In Honor of:

Pastor Nick & Jocelyn (Tithes & Offerings) by Larry & Carolyn Russell

In Memory of:

Donald (Don) Blake (Operation Christmas Child) by Robert & Cindy Liles



As we approach the Christmas season, we are reminded of the greatest gift ever given—the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Christmas is a time for reflection, joy, and above all, giving. As we celebrate this season, let us remember that the true spirit of Christmas lies not in what we receive, but in what we give to others. Through acts of kindness, love, and service, we can share the light of Christ with the world. May we, as a church, continue to embody the heart of Christ by giving generously and selflessly to those in need. Let’s make this Christmas a time of deep spiritual growth and compassionate giving.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – John 3:16

While WMU will not meet this month, please be sure to join our church in the many Christmas services.

December 2024

Elevate

**1-Lee Wright
Anna Sharpe**

**8-Evalane Poole
Alyssa Hampton**

**15-Joseph Huntley, IV
Denia Huntley**

**22-Elizabeth Nichols
Hannah Nichols**

**29-Trudy Saunders
Peyton Saunders**

Worship Nursery

**1-Carri Hampton
Hailey Wright**

**8-Denia Huntley
Gay Huntley**

**15-Jocelyn Allen
Alyssa Hampton**

**22-Wanda & Anna Sharpe
Kayla Millikan**

**29-Amber Hogan
Alana Dixon**



Thank you Troy FBC for your support of Operation Christmas Child. With your donations and the boxes you packed, we collected 308 shoeboxes. That is 308 boys & girls who will hear of Jesus’ love for them.

If you missed turning in a box, it is not too late. I can take it on the 21st of December when we go to Charlotte. Just bring it to the church.

I still have 9 spots available. Call Bonnie for details if you would like to go as a volunteer.

Trustee of the Week:

12/01/24	Benny Hogan	910-975-4652
12/05/24	Harry McRae	910-572-2562
12/15/24	Earle Poole	910-220-1753
12/22/24	Jim Sharpe	910-975-1470
12/29/24	Mitchell Whitesell	803-367-6398

**Why did the cranberry turn red?
Because he saw the turkey dressing!**



Seniors Together

**Lunch Pik-N-Pig Carthage
2:00 PM Matinee Temple Theatre in Sanford
“A Christmas Carol”
Leave church at 10:00 AM**

No events scheduled in January 2025

December 2024

Sunday School—9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship—Live & On Line 10:55 a.m.

Evening —Prayer Meeting & Youth 5:30 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>10:00 AM Classes 1 11: 00 AM Message 11:00 AM ONLINE Live 4:00 PM Play Practice 6:00 PM Hanging of the Greens Cake & Coffee after service</p> <p>Deacon of the Week Jeff Saunders 910-975-0160</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Trustee Meeting 6:15 PM</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Deacon Meeting 7:00 PM</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM Classes 11:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM ONLINE Live</p> <p>4:00 PM Play Practice 5:30 PM Prayer Mtg & Youth</p> <p>Deacon of the Week Jim Sharpe 910-975-1470</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Blood Drive 2:00 PM— 6:30 PM</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Kids Club</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Star Christmas Train Caroling Be at Starworks at 4:45 PM</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>9:45 AM Business Mtg 15 10:00 AM Classes 11:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM ONLINE Live</p> <p>5:30 PM Christmas Play 6:30 PM Christmas Dinner</p> <p>Deacon of the Week James Spivey 910-572-7277</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Churchwide Caroling 6:00 PM</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Seniors Together Pik-N-Pig Carthage Leave church at 10:00 AM Temple Theatre 2 PM Sanford</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Star Christmas Train Caroling Be at Starworks at 4:45 PM</p>	<p>21</p> <p>O.C.C. in Charlotte Leave church 3:00 PM Return about mid- night</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10:00 AM Classes 11:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM ONLINE Live</p> <p>6:00 PM Candlelight Service</p> <p>Deacon of the Week Fred L. Taylor 910-220-2598</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>Merry Christmas</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>25</p>  <p>Merry Christmas</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>5th Sunday Breakfast 29 10:00 AM Classes 11:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM ONLINE Live 5:30 PM Prayer Mtg & Youth</p> <p>Deacon of the Week Melissa Taylor 910-220-0998</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		<p>Audio Team Matt DeHart</p>	<p>Counting Team Kathy Kennedy Peggy Hampton</p>	<p>Hospitality Fellowship Hall Gary Kennedy ----- Vestibule Kathy Kennedy</p>