

WOW! What an amazing Christmas night at First Baptist!

COMMUNITY

53 (wow!!) people volunteered hours out of their Christmas day to join me in blessing 96 guests on Friday Night. Some of our regular servers brought their out of town guests and family members to serve alongside them. Teens were a big highlight as they served with smiles and compassion. 27 of our 50 had never been to a Friday Night at FBC before!

We wowed our guests as they entered the social hall with dimmed lights while candles illuminated green and red tablecloths, placemats, real silverware, cups and plates. 20 of our 49 volunteers waited on tables and provided drinks, dinner, dessert and toiletries for each of our guests. A three piece band played a wonderful backdrop of music through the evening. Dessert was a large candle-lit *Happy Birthday Jesus* cake. All lights were off while the band played and everyone sang *Happy Birthday* to our Lord and Savior. The band then led our guests in a Christmas Carol sing along. As our guests departed they were given sack lunches complete with fudge supplied by many wonderful FBC cooks.

So many thanks to each person who was a part of this wonderful evening of caring for our community! **Tonya Jenne, Ruelyn Nelson, Eva LaStrange, Paul Abbitt, Leona Holttum, William and Sally Ring, Cindy Falor, Kevin, Derise, Ashton and Kramer Hansen, Shain,**

Joanne, Nathan, Dakota, Aaryn and Charles Van Horn, Thyron and Alice Fatzinger, Bob and Gerrie Meyer, Cheryl and Robert Phillip, James and Debra Estep, Harry Alexander, Roy and Margit McCowan, Chris Coerber, Keleen McHenry, Paul Aldrich, Dakota Green, Dennis and Carol Coerber, Dan Jakob, Sharon Young, Dee, Frank and Heather Riddell, Laura Linson, Skyler Conn, Heather Conn, Rick Fortier, Sandra Putney, Janet Tracy, Steve and Carol Matheisen, Cheryl Roth, Donna Sorensen and Helen Strube - Thank you and God Bless you ALL! Chris

Please join me in praying for the following requests this week -

S - for my husband **M** - mental clarity, legal problems, financial problems, problem with drivers license.

S&S - Mom needs help with health and pain that can't go away.

JN - for uncle, **FC** in hospital going thru dialysis and has had two heart attacks

S - my friend and payee, **T** is in the hospital for a partial stroke.

AK - My best friend and brother in the Lord Jesus Christ, **SC** has a severe infection in his leg. Pray for healing in all areas.



“On behalf of the Pastoral Staff at FBC we wish you all a Happy New Year.”

Life group prayer and praise

- **Darcy Stanyo's mom, Patricia**, just went back into the hospital for surgery to get rid of some infection, please pray for her quick recovery.
- Please pray for my best friend **Stacey** that she does not have breast cancer. She goes in to have the cyst removed soon and they have to do a biopsy on it. They said they haven't seen a mass like hers before so the doctors are a bit worried. Right now, Stacey is not telling her family and she needs all the prayers she can get. She has two little girls, **Samantha** 9 and **Myah** 7. Stacey and her family just lost her brother-in-law to brain cancer two days before Thanksgiving. ~ **Priscilla Hahne**
- I had back surgery on Tuesday, Dec. 29th at Colby Campus. I would also like to have prayer for the women of our house and extend another thank you to the congregation and God for all of your prayers that have been answered. I thank you and God Bless ~ **Naomi**
- **Janet Tracy's mother, Evelyn**, was admitted to Colby Campus because of weakness on her left side, she had a scan and they have found an inoperable brain tumor. Please pray for her and the family.
- Please pray for **Ruth LeMaster's step son, Terry**, was robbed on Christmas eve and all his tools were taken.
- **Jim Webster** asks that you pray for him, he needs wisdom and to find a job.
- Please pray for **Sharon Young's, mother Evva**, is recovering from MERSA. And please pray for **Sharon** that she can handle what is ahead of her and that she would be able to take care of her own health issues.
- **Christen's brother Bill**, had his tonsils removed, please pray for quick healing and no complications from surgery.
- Please continue to pray for **Rose Toscano** as she recovers from back surgery at home. She just loves phone calls and visits.
- My son **Stephen** is still in the hospital but has all the tubes removed and is moving on to rehab at Harborview. Praise God and pray that he can come home really soon. ~ **Robert Johnson**
- Praise God that **Karla** was able to come to service on Sunday. Thanks for all your prayers. Please continue to pray for her, she still has lots of headaches still, please pray that God will heal her and relieve her headaches and that she can get into Mayo Clinic soon. ~ **Sandra Signs**
- Please pray for my **sister Sharon** and her family. They need the Lord's strength. Please pray for my son **Nathan**, he needs to get a job. Please continue to pray for the pain in my lower back. ~ **Carolyn Kelly**

Celebrate Recovery at FBC—Current Schedule

Tuesday, January 5th—NO CR

Tuesday, January 12th—CR Meeting...**New Schedule: Meal (6:15 pm start) and Open share Groups (7:00 pm start)**

Only. This new schedule will continue on until mid-February.

As we come to the end of the year, your Board of Elders want to thank you for your faithful giving through the year. Much ministry and many lives have been touched by your generosity, and FBC continues to have a reputation in our community for practically sharing the love of Christ with people.

At the same time, all of us are aware the present financial climate in our country with many losing their homes, losing their jobs or losing hours of employment. The needs in our community have

never been greater, and yet we have not felt led by God to reduce our commitment to help people.

This is all to say that presently, we are down \$10,000 of receipts for the same period last year and we are behind in our giving to our ministry budget. We are not gripped by fear. Our faith is strong and our faith is in the Lord. We are believing God to speak to hearts—perhaps yours—about a yearend gift to your church.

Pray for our Military

- Jonathan Michaels Estrella— son of Sharon Boswell.
- Jason Bjazevich—Megan Owenby's husband—Army Special Forces— Stationed in N. Carolina.
- Joel Ellis—son of John & Midge —Serving in Iraq.
- Scott Harpell—son of Brian & Lynne— Stationed at Fort Carson, CO.
- Aaron Weston—nephew of Ken and Kathy—Stationed in San Diego.
- Eric Schmidt — son of Gene and Pat Schmidt — Camp Fallujah, Iraq.
- Benjamin Lagonia—dear friend of the Naylor family—stationed in Manitoba.
- David Coyle—son of Karen Mark— residing in Seattle, member of the National Guard.
- Adam Flynn—a young Marine safely home and out of military.
- Brett Love—grandson of Wilma—Army National Guard-Serving at home.
- Robin Swartz - Serving in the military - currently home in Everett.
- Christian Chmielewski—nephew of JoAnn Couturie' - in the Marines.
- ENS Andrew E. Timpner (fiancé to Christin Suthard) on deployment with USS Momsen.
- Devin Abbitt—nephew of Paul Abbitt - Marine, stateside.
- Duane Neyens—brother to Kathy Chapman—Nat. Grd. Afghanistan.
- Philip Ankney-LCPL Afghanistan Cousin of MaryAnn Peterson.
- Jeffrey Lillard—son of Barbara Lillard — Srg. In Army, Stationed in Afghanistan.
- Aaron Chmielewski— joined the Marines. Nephew of JoAnn Couturie



Life Group Happenings

All in the Family by **florence miller**

A sad note: **Walt Funk**, a former long-ago member of FBC and the Clipper Class, passed away on this past Monday, December 29th. He was residing in an Alzheimer facility in Arlington. **His wife, Elayne**, has currently not been told as she too, suffers from the same debilitating affliction. A farewell memorial will be held on January 2 at 11:00 a.m. in the Camano Island Senior Center.

We also received word that long time member **Delores Heller** passed away on the 14th of December in Seattle. Her memorial will be on January 17th at 1:00 pm at Seattle First Baptist Church. Our prayers go out to both these families.

An urgent prayer request has been emailed from Baghdad, Iraq, via friends from Faith Presbyterian for **Gary Hogman and his wife Cindy**. His email follows: "My name is **Gary Hogman**. Some of you know me; some do not. **My wife, Cindy**, is 32 years old and has just been diagnosed with stage 4 Cervical cancer. Her chances for survival are very slim. She was pregnant with our second child and had miscarried recently at three months. Now we know why. Please pray and ask everyone you know to pray for the healing of Cindy Hogman and for the removal of all cancer from her body so she may enjoy all that life has to offer and continue to be the wonderful mother to our 5 year old son **Michael**. The power of prayer is unsurpassed. I want the whole world to have her in their prayers. God will hear our cry. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for reading this and helping with our request for healing. No words can express the power we have when we each do a little to come together. Regards, Cindy's husband. Gary.

Norma Eastep's current address is: The Courtyard at Willows in Puyallup, I know she would appreciate cards and phone calls.

Hope you read Spanish! The office received the following from **Gama**: Estimados Amigos y Hermanos: Damos gracias a Dios por su amor, amistad y vidas que han sido de bendicion para nosotros. rogamos a nuestro Dios multiple godos deseos para con El. Tambien les deseamos que Dios se glorifique en sus corazones y travez de nuestras vidas redimidas. Feliz Navidad, y un prospero afio 2010 donde Dios les otorigue bendiciones para su familia y prosperen en todo lo que hagan les desea Familia Canul

Adrian, Alex, Andrea, Ligia y Gama

Update from **Pat and Lou Alvarez**:

Now that Christmas is over (and we hope you had a very Merry Christmas!), it's time for Lou and I to focus on our upcoming trip back to Merida, Mexico to continue our work with the construction of Camp John 3:16.

Our plan is to leave the U.S. at the end of January, and we're praying for direction on how to do that. We're leaning towards flying and buying a car when we get to Merida. Actually, God has not presented us with another option at this point, so we're praying about that.

We expect to be in Merida through the end of March, with our minds and hearts open to staying longer if there are construction funds to continue with construction beyond that.

In mid-March, we will be hosting a construction team led by **Pastor Jake Krestinski** from Bethel Baptist Church in Everett. I'm working with Jake now on the trip plans – cost, lodging and ground transportation, daily schedule, etc. The team will be 10-12 men and they're kindly keeping their minds open to working on anything that's needed when they arrive. Our hope is to have enough done on the pre-construction of the camp so the team can begin building the dormitory walls. There's a lot to get done between the time we arrive in Merida and the middle of March when the team arrives, so we'll see what happens.

We'd love it if you'd pray with us for specific needs:

- God's direction in our transportation to/from Mexico (drive or fly).
- God's direction towards a vehicle we purchase for ourselves for our lengthy stays in Merida.
- The project needs a reliable work truck, too – a small pickup or a 4-door mid-sized pickup would be perfect. Pray for God's direction and funding for this.
- Safety, health, and God's protection over us and our family members, as well as Gama and his family.
- Continued protection over our home in Lake Stevens (God has blessed us with a wonderful couple who stay in our house while we're gone.)
- God's wisdom for Lou and Gama in all things surrounding the estimating, planning, etc. for the camp.
- God's direction in leading Lou and Gama to a good Construction Foreman and others needed for a reliable construction team in Merida.

Thanks for staying interested in Camp John 3:16 and our work in Merida. I'll keep you posted on the progress of the project and on how Lou and I are doing. Lou and Pat Alvarez

Lifegroup Contributing Opportunities

Update
December 27th

Adult attendance: 195

Children: 9 am: 15+4 10:30 am 20+7

Youth Small Group: NA Middle School NA



January 1st, Bounxone Maitirichith

January 2nd, Norma Eastep, Patti Ingalls,
Lois Pickard, Jo Shively

January 4th, Lou Alvarez, Evelyn Haney,
Leslie Ivelia

January 5th, Alvin Beesinger, Steve Dittoe,

**Tithe envelopes are
now available in the
Pacific Room**

USHER CAPTAIN 2009:

January—Pete Sontra
Luckey Elkins

COFFEE HOUR 2009

January 3rd
Frank Riddell
Lake Stevens LG

January 10th
Dan Clark
Life Group

January 17th
John VanDalen
The Followers

January 24th
David Brock
Men's Life Group

January 31st
Alex Tarin
20-30 Something

February 7th
Lyle Gordon
SAM

Help Needed

We need your help to put our Advent decorations away for the season!! Please join us at **10am on Wednesday, January 6th - 2010.** Let us know if you will be able to help so we can plan lunch for you. Any questions ??- call Ruelyn .

Lela Meadows Scholarship

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS, COLLEGE STUDENTS, POST GRADUATE STUDENTS: Application for the 2010 Lela Meadows Scholarship are available, beginning January 4th in the church office. To be eligible to apply you need to be a current and active member in our church. Application deadline is Wednesday, **March 31st, 2010 at 4:00 pm**

AVALANCHE RETREAT

4th thru 8th Grade Avalanche Retreat is coming soon! Register now with either Pastor Nathan or Pastor Alex—cost is just \$70.00. They will be going to Cascade Meadows Camp in Leavenworth on January 29th, returning on the 31st. You won't want to miss this exciting time, playing in the snow, inner tubing and having fun and fellowship with your pals. Experience God in the snow.

The office will be closed Monday, Jan. 4th