



FBC January Newsletter

Photography by
Clarice

*O Lord, make me know my end and what is the
measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!*
Psalm 39:4

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, January 4th • 8:00 am

Women's Breakfast

Saturday, January 18th • 8:30 am

DECEMBER GREETERS

- Jan. 5 - Karen Dow & Vicki Brooks
- Jan. 12 - Clarice & Sheldon Cary
- Jan. 19 - Charlotte Davis & Carolyn Henry
- Jan. 26 - Carol & Fred Sherburne

WEEKLY CHURCH EVENTS AND TIMES

- Sunday AM Worship: 10:30 AM
- Childrens' Sunday School Class, downstairs: 9:15 AM
- Youth Sunday School, downstairs: 9:15 AM
- Adult Sunday School, *The Fear of the Lord*, by Michael Reeves, Reeves shows how the gospel repels our misplaced fears while drawing near to God in holy fear. Fellowship Hall: 9:15 AM
- Sunday Youth Group, Youth Room: 6:15 PM till 8:00 PM
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 9:30 AM (Fall/Winter Schedule), 1 John, starts January 14 Fellowship Hall: 9:00 AM Refreshments
- Wednesday Prayer Meeting, Fellowship Cafe: 7:00 AM
- Book Club - Wednesdays, this month: January 15 and 29 at 3 PM (In His Image by Jen Wilkins)
- Friday Morning, Moms in Prayer, 7- 8:00 AM (Speak with Amanda Bermudez if you would like to know more)
- Good News Club - Follows School District Calendar



CANTATA NEWS

This year's cantata, *Ballad of Bethlehem*, was enthusiastically received with a full house on both Saturday and Sunday afternoons! Friends and families of the singers gathered to celebrate the true story in song, written by our favorite composer, Pepper Choplin. Thankfully, good weather and mostly good health blessed our weekend.

Shirley Grant announced that after 24 years of directing both the Easter and Christmas cantatas she will now plan to be a singer only! She will continue to assist in many ways but hand over the directing responsibilities to Dr. Kathie Clark from St. Albans. Kathie has been a faithful member for many years, was a music teacher before becoming a chiropractor, and is anxious to assume this new role.

We welcome new singers and old each season and we are pleased at FBC to continue this outreach ministry. Both Pastor Jay and Pastor Andrew have been very supportive and helpful through the years, and we extend our sincere thanks.

2025 is approaching quickly.

No matter what the new year brings, we can continue to depend on our Faithful and Loving God. We are a strong church family here at FBC and together we will continue to serve wherever God calls. Let's all support our pastors, Andrew and Jay, as they both bring us challenging messages each week and as they both live lives that honor the Lord. Let's support each other as new opportunities arise!

ADULT CLASSES:

TUES AM BIBLE STUDY: We will finish our study of the book of *Joshua* and move back to a New Testament study for this semester. *1 John* will be the spiral bound study books we order and prepare the lessons each week. Plan to join this weekly gathering where delicious refreshments and coffee are served and the discussions can be lively!

SUNDAY AM BIBLE STUDY: Starting January 5, *The Fear of the Lord* by Michael Reeves.

HIS LIGHT FOR HAITI

Our pastor there in Port au Prince and his wife have had to escape the gang violence. The gangs knew that money was being dispersed there and our pastor felt there was a target on his back. They were able to get to the US to be with their daughters but nothing of their whereabouts or their names is being made known. The Lord is in the whole escape plan and their fervent hope is to be back in Haiti one day. We can continue to donate money, as they have a way to get it to Port au Prince safely. Prayers needed, for sure!

THANKS TO OUR NEW FLORIST IN TOWN

Abby Brooks, new owner at Black Dog Blooms, very generously donated beautiful red and pink poinsettias for us to distribute after the Christmas Eve service. We had some very appreciative ladies that night!

NEW BAPTISMS

With joy, on Christmas Sunday morning, three teen girls, Izzy, Bella and Shelby, were baptized here in our baptismal at FBC! We welcome them into our fellowship and pledged to nurture them in Christ on this journey of a lifetime.



PRAYER SHAWLS DISTRIBUTED

The Deacons and friends visited the residents at Dexter Healthcare in early December with shawls for every resident. They sang Christmas carols together and had a really fine visit. We welcome any of you who like to knit to see Carol Sherburne about the prayer shawl ministry.

The church has
TWO NEW MISSION OPPORTUNITIES:
This month, January
the offering at the back of the church will go to
Kingdom Rain to support Caleb Bermúdez

In February the offering will support
Kontaktmission's Charles and Kim Redburn
who will be heading to Ireland to work with a
recently established small church.
(Gospel-believing Christians have declined to
approximately 1% of the population)



Birthdays

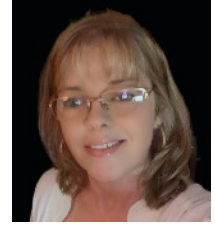
- **January 9 - DeAngelo Bettis**
22 Hill Side Apt. 22
Dexter, ME 04930
- **January 16 - Mildred (Mimi) Bermúdez**
68 Main St
Dexter, Maine 04930
- **January 17 - Ruth Gustin**
32 Nokomis Rd
Corinna, ME 04928
- **January 20 - Ryan Leighton**
655 Bear Hill Rd
Dover-Foxcroft, Maine 04426
- **January 28 - Meagan Whitten**
391 St. Albans Rd
Palmyra, ME 04965
- **January 30 - Shirley Patterson**
59 W. Front St
Skowhegan, ME 04926
- **January 31 - Karen Dow**
28 Main St. Hill, Apt. A
Dexter, ME 04930

There are many opportunities to serve in the church and one of those is providing snacks on Sunday mornings;

THEY NEED NOT BE HOMEMADE!

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church

The Quiet Seat: Daily Devotional



PICKED LAST

Were you ever one of those kids in school that was always picked last to be on the ball team at recess? You may have waited anxiously to play but the two captains always picked someone else and you were reluctantly chosen last, needless to say there was actually no choice left for you. This is the part where you walked over to the sideline of the team because you were their last choice.

You knew you would be the last kid up to bat and if it were a dodge ball game, you were the first target to get the ball pummeled at you.

I am thankful that God does not "pick" His children on the merit of who will be best qualified for service. If He did we would all end up last. Like it has been said by many, "He does not call the qualified, He qualifies the Called!" His free gift of Salvation is offered equally to all. Come as you are.

But you know, sometimes we get caught up in that same mindset when we want someone to serve in the church. We sometimes overlook the qualifications of God's standards for the child of God (a servant's heart, loving kindness, faithful in little things and a love for the things of God) and we base it on outward stuff, what do they drive for a car, will we benefit from their service, and what kind of a job do they have. How well educated are they.

How many local "fishermen" serve in your church?

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.