



FARMVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
132 N. MAIN STREET
FARMVILLE, VA 23901
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From the Pastor's Desk

"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!" Isaiah 43: 18-19a
New International Version (NIV)

One challenge to writing an old-fashioned paper newsletter is that it throws off my inner clock. It means trying to convey certain feelings on paper before you (the writer) have really gotten ready for them in real life. For example, you have to write about Thanksgiving well before Halloween, before the autumn turns its annual corner from bright yellows and oranges to somber grays and browns. Then you need to write about the extravagant joy of Christmas before you've even had a chance to savor Thanksgiving experiences and thoughts. Even today, as I write — having pushed the newsletter deadline to its allowable limit, and still a few days before Christmas — I've got to think and talk about a world I haven't seen yet: the New Year, 2019. "Life comes at you fast," the Nationwide Insurance ads claim. And as we look back over the days we've been given, or even just the 365 days of the year now ending, we would have to agree. Something new is always upon us.

One problem with welcoming a new year is that it comes at a time when nothing feels new. The Christmas decorations look out of place in January's cold light. Taking them down is a tiresome task. Winter hasn't fully gotten out of the gate at Christmastime even though we had a preview of winter's power with the recent heavy snow on December 16. By New Year's Day, winter's iciest, coldest two and a half months are still ahead of us, with precious few holidays to break up their tedium. According to Kiehm Family history, my late-February birthday often has some of the worst weather of the year.

And yet, even amid all the sameness of things, we can sometimes feel the moments passing. If we stop to listen to the rhythm of our hours and days, if we pay attention to the sometimes-monotonous march of seconds and minutes, we'll catch echoes of their footsteps drawing nearer, stomping past us, receding into the distance. When did that hair go gray on the head of the one you love? When did that wrinkle form on familiar brow? Time passes, bearing gifts richly with one hand and stealing them with the other.

In every season of life, there is a new thing that God is doing, if we will open our hearts and spirits to its unfolding. Whatever time it is in your life, whatever your age or occupation, the voice still calls out to you again from the shore. "Follow me." Or, as the God of Isaiah declares, "I am about to do a new thing... Do you not perceive it?" As the New Year unfolds there are some intriguing efforts in motion that, with God's continued blessing, will fill our sails with an energizing spirit. What new thing is our church being called to? It is my joy and privilege to be making new discoveries with you.

Happy New Year!

You are Much Loved!



Ronnie

The 2018 Christmas Season at Farmville Baptist Church



2018 Christmas Parade





Hanging
Of
The
Greens
2018



The Children's Skit:
Shepherds



2018 Deacon Christmas Party



Joyce Davis & Becky Kelly,
The Queen Bees!



Trustee Election

The passing of John Wingo has created the need to elect a Trustee. Per the Church Constitution in Article V, Section 3, which addresses the Officers of the Church and specifically Trustees - "Should a vacancy occur, a replacement will be elected at a special meeting of the congregation using the following guidelines:

Written nominations must be received at least one week prior to the election. Nominations should list the reasons for selection and must be signed. Prior consent of the nominee must be obtained.

A candidate must be an active member of Farmville Baptist Church, and have experience with financial matters, knowledge of property and property values, contracts, insurance, etc."

This election will be held on Sunday, January 20, 2019, in concert with our regular quarterly business session. It will begin at 9:45 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The seriousness of this election is deemed to be of high importance to the business meeting. Therefore, it will require a quorum of forty (40) members. Please forward any nominations to the church office. If you have questions, feel free to contact our moderator, Gene Watson.

Prayer Card Ministry

Farmville Baptist Church,

I have been receiving wonderful cards from many members of your congregation. Thank you so much for all the prayers and words of encouragement.

I'm fully recovered from my surgery now, and back to helping people recover from their pain.

I'm so grateful for the kindness shown to me by the members of your church.

With many thanks to all,
Dennis Fabiszak

Farmville Baptist Church,

Thanks so much for the prayers. We appreciate them. One of the best parts of Christmas is remembering people like you.

Ed & Vickie Roberts

Farmville Baptist Church,

Thank you so much for all the prayers.

I have fully recovered, and hope I can give support to others like you have to me.

Sincerely,
Joan Swearengin

Upcoming Events Through December 2018

<i>January 1</i>	<i>Office closed—New Year's Day</i>	
<i>January 20</i>	<i>Church Council Meeting - Parlor</i>	<i>8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>January 20</i>	<i>Quarterly Church-wide Business Meeting—Elect Trustee</i>	<i>9:45 a.m.</i>
<i>January 27</i>	<i>Deacons' Meeting - Parlor</i>	<i>8:30 a.m.</i>

Monthly Financial Report	
For the Month Ended November 2018	
YTD Budget Needs	\$186,514.13
November Receipts	\$ 11,213.55
YTD Receipts-undesignated	\$154,820.09
November Expenditures	\$ 12,583.65
YTD Expenditures	\$157,101.81

Personal Announcements

If anyone has anything to submit for the newsletter, such as events, wedding announcements, births, graduations, showers, etc., we are happy to include the announcement in the newsletter. Please let the church office have this information by the third week in the month.

Worship Volunteers

If you would like to help lead our worship services for January, you may visit our webpage, farmvillebaptist.org, and click on the link Worship Volunteer Sign-Up List "[Click Here to Sign Up](#)". Or, you may contact Janice Kiehm at 478-363-6499. Your participation is always appreciated and needed.

DEACON FAMILY MINISTRIES

Cindy Cave	A-Bh	Kerby Moore	Dr-E	Jack Davis	P-R
Jack Davis	Bi-Coo	Ken Copeland	F-L	Chuck Daniel	S-Tn
Janet Southall	Cop-Dq	Becky Kelly	M-O	George Carter	To-Z
Life Deacons: Peggy Cave, Jack Davis, Jim Davis, Joyce Davis, Gene Watson, Cecil Yeatts					