



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# THE TIE

**JANUARY**  
**2014**  
**SPECIAL**  
**EDITION**

**300 WEST MAIN ST**  
**LAURENS, SC 29360**  
**864.984.7500**

## MINISTER ON CALL

December 30-January 5  
Rickey Letson—678-230-8341

January 6-12  
Tommy Cox—864-684-7424

January 13-10  
Adair Rogers—864-923-1631

January 20-26  
Rickey Letson—678-230-8341

January 27-February 2  
Tommy Cox—864-684-7424

**THE TIE**  
First Baptist Church  
300 West Main Street  
Laurens, SC 29360

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 70  
Laurens, SC 29360

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## JANUARY 2014 BIRTHDAYS

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Linda Lanford<br>Kevin Luiz   | 9 Rusty Cox, Jr.  | 17 Sidney Lee<br>Jackie Coggins               | Neal Culbertson   |
| 2 Bette Hood<br>Ricky Poole   | 11 Doris McCall<br>Bob Sumerel<br>Peter Lindley                     | 18 Nolan Burns<br>Hatchell Hardy              | 25 Mary Alice Barnes<br>Margaret Ellison<br>Kimberly Martin<br>Jacob Griffin      |
| 3 Jeff Owings   | 12 Blanche Pulley<br>Corey Munden                                   | 19 Margaret Crews<br>Lea Severin<br>Seth Crow | 26 Bill Ellison   |
| 4 Don McIntyre  | 13 J.C. Byers<br>Kathy Crotts                                       | 20 Mary Hayes Owings<br>Eloise Hughes         | 27 Nellie Hill  |
| 5 Albert Sharp<br>Wanda Strawhorn<br>Kim Holman<br>Wells Croker<br>Feagin Hardy | 14 Mitchell Trotter   | 21 Janet Garrett<br>Betsey Holmes             | 28 Bev Kennedy  |
| 6 Ann Marie Letson  | 15 Buddy Hudson<br>Julia Craig<br>Wayland Sherman<br>Tommy Marchman | 22 Ed Cox                                     | 30 Pat Leopard<br>Jerry Garrett<br>Christian Griffin<br>Lance Putnam              |
| 7 Carroll Thompson  | 16 Buddy Crow<br>Laura Brown  | 23 Jimmy Garrett<br>Seth Strickland           | 31 Margaret Lee<br>Ruth Garrett<br>David Crotts<br>Michele dickens<br>Lauren Moyd |
| 8 Billy Wilson  |   | 24 Will Bryan                                 |   |

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

The month of January is good for the soul. What I mean by that statement is that January signals the chance to break bad habits and to begin good habits as we move into a new year full of possibilities and the chance to start again. All of us, without exception, need to seize this opportunity. No matter who we are, these are good days within which we have the rare chance to evaluate where we have been and where we want to go. This is the time to pledge to set the right priorities, to foster the right disciplines and to use wisely the twelve months ahead of us.

As people of faith, part of our evaluation should certainly include the life of faith. Where do we need to make changes? What do we need to improve? What do we need to let go of? What do we need to add? How do our priorities need to shift? Please, please join me in wrestling with these very personal questions in the early days of 2014.

Likewise, as you do begin to set goals and to make changes, consider investing in one of the Bible studies and other opportunities previewed in our abbreviated January newsletter. Any of these opportunities can enable us to start the new year on the right foot...**Rickey**

## WINTER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

### WINTER WEDNESDAY ADULT STUDIES

Beginning January 15, we will be offering two studies on Wednesday Evenings for Adults. They will take place in conjunction with our normal children and youth opportunities from 6-6:50pm and are open to any adults who would like to participate. The two options are...

- ***1 Corinthians – Overcoming a Distracted Faith***: One of the most dysfunctional churches in the New Testament was the church at Corinth. The young congregation there struggled to live obediently as a result of numerous issues that continuously consumed their time and energies. At the same time, Paul's letter to the Corinthians remains valuable to us because many of the same issues and concerns that distracted them hamper our own efforts as believers. Rickey will lead this study in the FLC.
- ***The 4:8 Principle by Tommy Newberry***: This study is based on Philippians 4:8 where the apostle Paul challenges us to seek out and dwell on the positives in our lives. Using this verse as a filter is the true secret of vibrant health, satisfying relationships and lasting fulfillment. Tommy Cox will lead this study in Bobo Hall. The cost for the book is \$5.

### WINTER SUNDAY EVENING ADULT STUDIES

Beginning January 12, we will be offering two studies on Sunday Evenings for Adults. We encourage you to join us for one of the small group, informal opportunities for study and growth. Both studies will begin at 6pm. One is for all adults and the other is designed for men. The two studies are...

- ***A Man and His Traps***: This will be our second Men's Study at FBC and is designed to help men avoid or escape the destruction that falling into common manhood traps can bring. The cost is \$10 which covers your workbook. Tommy Cox will facilitate the discussion in the Conference Room.
- ***A Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster***: This Christian classic is a practical guide to basic spiritual disciplines that any growing person of faith can benefit from cultivating and adding to their life such as prayer, silence, reading the scripture, service and living simply. All of these as well as the other disciplines to be discussed are great aspects of the spiritual life to consider as we begin a new year. The study will be led by Phillip Dean, David Corley, John Topping and Rickey Letson. The group will meet in Bobo Hall and the book will be available for participants at a cost of \$18.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES

- Sunday Evening Restart – January 12<sup>th</sup>
- Wednesday Evening Restart – January 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Super Bowl Breakfast – January 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Youth Super Bowl Party—February 2<sup>nd</sup>