

## Celebrating a Birthday

December 23

Shirley Calhoun

## Serving Our Church on Sunday

### Ushers

Tony Bragg, Mike Durkin, J. D. Dyches,  
Joe Jackson, Crawford Leonard,  
Terry Nappier, Larry Olliff, Jay Walea

### Counters

JD. Dyches, Co-Chairman  
Jay Walea, Co-Chairman  
Tony Bragg, Mike Durkin

### Nursery

Jackie Dyches, Gay Triplett

### Preschool

Worker Needed

## Food Collection

It is that time of the year when we bring food items to help those in need. The collection baskets are around the Christmas tree located in the fellowship hall. These items will be taken to the Baptist Center. Especially needing:

- ❖ Snack Bags of Chips
- ❖ Small Packs of Crackers
- ❖ Canned Pasta Sauce
- ❖ Pasta Noodles (small boxes)

*\*Please do not donate glass containers, opened items and/or expired items. \**

## Sympathy

As a church we express our deepest Christian sympathy to the family of Rocky Dekle.

## OPPORTUNITIES

*You're Invited to Join Us!*  
**Sunday, December 19, 2021**

9:30am – Church Library Open

10:00am – Sunday School Groups

11:00am – Morning Worship  
*(In-Person or multiple Saturday & Sunday opportunities for Church Online at FBCGC.live)*

**Wednesday, December 22, 2021**

**No Activities or Services at the church tonight**

**Friday, December 24, 2021**

**Christmas Eve Service – 6:00pm**

## VITAL SIGNS

Budget Gifts Sunday .....	\$6,873.45
Budget Gifts to Date .....	\$14,903.96

## Offering Envelopes

2022 is just around the corner. Offering Envelopes are available in the front foyer of sanctuary, Senior Adult Building and upstairs in Fellowship Hall for 2022. (Just for information - If you changed to monthly (instead of weekly) giving in previous years and want to continue, you can use the same envelopes. Your envelope number can simply be continued rather than changed to a new set for 2022.) Please record your name & the number on the sheet that is available when you pick up a new set of envelopes.

*Also, as a reminder: in order to receive a Contribution Record at the end of the year, it is necessary for you to record your name and the amount given on the envelope. We'll let you know when your 2021 Contribution Records are available for pick up from the church office.*



35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408  
912-964-1448 | office@fbcgc.net  
www.fbcgc.net

Office Hours: 10:00am to 2:00pm Monday - Thursday  
Closed on Fridays

Vol. 61 No. 49      December 15, 2021

Tommy Duke—Senior Pastor  
Randall Frantz—Associate Pastor  
Debbie Traywick—Worship Leader

GARDEN CITY BEAMS (USPS 213560) is published weekly, except one week in December, at no charge, by First Baptist Church, 35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408-1748. Periodicals postage paid at Savannah, GA. POSTMASTER: send address changes to GARDEN CITY BEAMS, 35 Nelson Avenue, Garden City, GA 31408-1748. Church phone (912) 964-1448 or 964-0355.

## FAITHFUL

*It was the early 1930s during the Dust Bowl days of Kansas, in the heart of the Depression—ground zero for misery.*

*The Canaday family—Mom, Dad, 7 children—were having a tough time existing. There would be no luxuries at Christmas that year. Mom told the children to go outside and find a Christmas tree and decorate it. After a lengthy search, they returned with a dead branch, which they stood up in a bucket of sand and decorated with pieces of colored paper tied with string. Little Judy, almost four, did not know how a Christmas tree was supposed to look, but somehow she knew it was not like that!*

*As Christmas approached, the Canaday children, like little ones everywhere, pestered Mom and Dad about what presents they might get under their “tree.” Dad pointed out that the pantry was bare, that they did not have enough to live on, and there certainly would be no money for gifts. But Mom, a woman of faith, said, “Children, say your prayers. Ask God to send us what He wants us to have.” Dad said, “Now, Mother, don’t be getting the children’s hopes up. You’re just setting them up for a disappointment.” Mom said, “Pray, children. Tell Jesus.” And pray they did.*

*On Christmas Eve, the children watched out the window for visitors, but no one came. “Blow out the lamp and go to bed”, Dad said. “Nobody is going to come. No one even knows we’re out here.”*

*The children turned out the lamp and got in bed, but they were too excited to sleep. Was this not Christmas? Had they not asked God to send them the presents He wanted them to have? Did Mom not say God answers prayer?*

*Late that night, when one of the children spotted headlights in the distance, everyone jumped out of bed and ran to the window. The commotion woke up Mom and Dad. “Don’t get excited, children,” Dad said. “It’s*

*just a car over on the highway.” The children kept hoping and the car kept coming, finally turning into their yard. Then, Dad lit a lamp. The children all wanted to rush to the door at the same time, but Mr. Canaday said, “Stay back. I’ll go.” A car door slammed and a voice called, “Could someone come help me unload these bags?” The children exploded out of the house. Mom grabbed little Judy as she ran by. “Stay here, honey, and help me put up everything.”*

*What had happened was this; a deacon from the church in town had gone to bed that Christmas Eve, and lay there tossing and turning, unable to get the Canaday family off his mind. Later, he said, “I didn’t know what kind of shape you folks were in, but I knew you had all those kids.” He had gotten out of bed and dressed and gone around town, rousing people from their sleep to ask for a contribution for the Canaday family. He filled his car with bags of groceries, canned goods, toys, and clothing. Little Judy got a rag doll which remained her favorite for years.*

*With so much food, Dad wanted to have a Christmas feast, to spread it all out and eat as they had never eaten before. Mom, ever the caretaker, said, “No, we need to make this last.” And it did last, for weeks.*

*The next Sunday, Mrs. Canaday stood in church and told what the members—and one deacon in particular—had done for her family. There was not a dry eye in the house.*

*Years later, the oldest daughter Eva wrote up this story for a school project. Eva said, “We were so thrilled by all the wonderful things in the bags, for a while we lost sight of the most special gift. The best gift that Christmas was not in brown bags at all. It was Mom’s faith, as she taught her children to bring their needs to Jesus and trust Him to meet them. And a Dad’s love that wanted only to protect his children from hurt and disappointment.”*

Definitely something to think about.

**Randall**



December 19 - Everlasting Father  
December 24 – Jesus  
(Christmas Eve Service)  
December 26 - Prince of Peace

## LOTTIE MOON

*Together,  
We transform lives through  
our prayers & gifts.*  
Given to date: \$1,965.00

