FIRST THINGS FIRST

December 2025



A SEASON OF TRANSITION

We want to share with our church family that the FBC Activity Center and the Charles Jones Mission House—affectionately known as the White House—has been sold. The closing took place on December 18th.

This special place has been woven into the life of our congregation for many years. Countless memories were made within its walls: Bible School laughter echoing from the backyard, baby showers celebrating new life, senior luncheons filled with fellowship, missionaries finding rest and support, Grief Share gatherings offering comfort, and so much more. It has been a home for ministry, community, and love.

As we turn this page, we do so with gratitude for all the moments the White House has held. We pray the new owners will cherish it and care for it as deeply as we have.



NEW DEACONS

Our church family is joyfully invited to celebrate the ordination of two new deacons on Sunday, January 4th, during our morning worship. We give thanks for the calling and commitment of Mease Brockman and Stan Finch, and we look forward to supporting them as they step into this meaningful ministry.

A YEAR-END MESSAGE FROM YOUR DEACON CHAIRMAN

As we approach the close of this year, I'm reminded once again of how faithful God has been to our church family. It has been a very busy year—full of movement, ministry, and moments where we clearly saw the Lord at work among us. Together, we sponsored and participated in over 20 church-wide missions and ministries, and that number doesn't even include the many additional ministries carried out faithfully by our WMU circles. Each of these efforts represents people stepping forward with willing hearts, ready to serve, give, pray, and love in Jesus' name.

Our deacon body has been blessed to walk alongside you through all of this—supporting families, praying over needs, encouraging our ministries, and helping strengthen the bonds that make that make our church feel like home. I'm grateful for every volunteer, every teacher, every prayer warrior, every giver, and every person who simply showed up and said, "How can I help?" Your faithfulness is what keeps our church vibrant and alive.

As we look toward a new year, my hope is that we continue to build on this momentum. Let's keep growing in unity, deepening our spiritual roots, and staying attentive to the opportunities God places before us. The world around us needs the hope we carry, and God has clearly positioned our church to make a meaningful impact.

Thank you for allowing me—and the entire deacon team—to serve you. It is a privilege and a joy. May God bless you and your families richly as we step into a new year with renewed purpose and expectation for all He will do.

In Christ's love,
Debbie Thurman

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Autumn Care Christmas Shop! Our church family contributed over 110 items. Your generosity will bring so much joy to the residents as they choose gifts for their loved ones this Christmas.

BREAKFAST HOUR

The next breakfast will be on December 28th at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. A sign-up sheet for food is posted on the bulletin board at the kitchen entrance.

DAWN

Donations needed for a simple bean soup:
2 – 3 cans of vegetables (corn, peas, butter beans, green beans & carrots)
2 cans of beans (kidney, black, white or pinto)
4 cups of vegetable broth
1 can of diced tomatoes
2 small cans of tomato juice (5.5 ounces – comes in a pack of 6).

Please bring your donations by January 4th.

COMING UP

December 21	Christmas Music & Luncheon
December 24	Christmas Eve service
December 24 - 26	Church office closed
December 31	Closing of the books

PASTORAL UPDATES

Orders are pending for Alden to spend some time with his Marine unit at Camp Pendleton, California. If everything goes as planned, he will be gone from January 6 - 9, 2026.