






January 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship Communion	2 Office Closed in Observance of New Years	3	4 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7 2:00 Memorial Service for Barry Almand
8 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship Gideon Speaker Business Meeting 2:30 Hands & Feet Meeting 6:00 Youth	9 	10 10:00 Women on Mission Fellowship	11 5:30 Family Night Supper 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	12	13	14 8:00 Garden and Pergola Cleanup Baptist Men Weather Permitting 
15 Baptist Men's Day 8:00 Baptist Men's Breakfast 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Youth	16 10:00 Dorcas Sew Day	17	18 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	19 7:00 Discipleship Meeting	20	21
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Youth	23	24 11:00 Birthday Buddies @ Cracker Barrel	25 6:30 Mid-Week Service Mission Friends & Son Shine Singers Older RA's & Acteens Children in Action 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal	26 7:00 Diaconate	27 Blood Drive 2:30 to 7:00 pm Signup Online or Call Office 	28
29 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Morning Worship 6:00 Youth	30	31	Reach Out Crisis Pregnancy Center: In January the Center requests: Diapers sizes 3-7 Prayers for new clients to come in for counseling in order that the center extends its outreach into the community.			

January 2023 Newsletter

4148 Deep River Road
Sanford, North Carolina 27330

Phone: 919-775-5922
Website: <http://www.flatspringsbaptist.com>

What is your 2023 Resolution for your SS Class?

Not a random resolution that won't last til the end of January, but a commitment that will last all year!

Teachers, please encourage all class members to make a year-long commitment to these suggestions:

- ✓ Read the Bible Daily
- ✓ Pray Daily
- ✓ Read and Study the SS lesson each week
- ✓ Invite someone to SS
- ✓ Do a random act of kindness each week
- ✓ Develop and share a SS testimony with someone ever month
- ✓ During SS class time, make a special effort for class members to share some of these experiences
- ✓ Faithfully review and update your class Prospect List

It's all about winning the lost, growing the believer, and equipping the worker. Over time every class member should be comfortable helping each other continue this ongoing process. Be prepared to watch your classmates grow stronger in their faith.

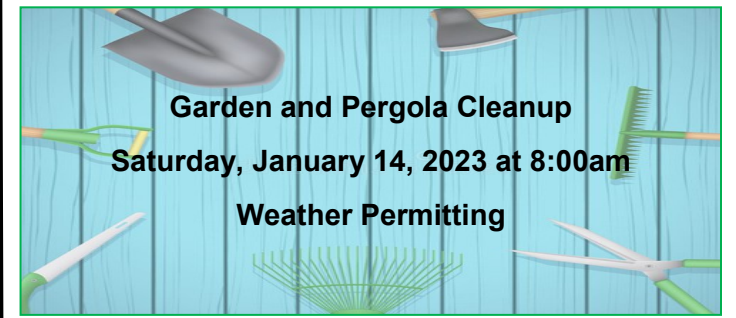
Did these suggestions become easier to obtain by the end of the month? Go forth and make this a habit!

Sunday School & Worship Attendance December 2022

Date	Sunday School	Worship Service
12/4/22	96	118
12/11/22	122	141
12/18/22	89	110
12/25/22	No SS	77

BUSINESS MEETING

January 8th
May the business we conduct
be to God's Glory!



Garden and Pergola Cleanup

Saturday, January 14, 2023 at 8:00am

Weather Permitting

Baptist Men's Day

Sunday, January 15th

8:00 am The ladies of the church invite our guys to a country breakfast kick-off Flat Springs Baptist Men's Day. Men, feel free to invite guests and bring your children.

9:00 am Sunday School

10:00 am Worship Service Lead by Baptist Men
Men's Choir



Blood Drive

Friday, January 27, 2023

2:30 to 7:00 pm
Register Online or Call the Office

Deacon of the Month: Reid Cagle

Message from Pastor Gary

Dear Friends,

Have you ever said, "It is already the new year? Boy, last year really flew by?" I have had that happen in past years but not in 2022. It felt like a long year to me! There may be many reasons for the fact that last year was long for me; my upcoming retirement, the loss of two staff members, the challenges of being the church in a post covid (I hope) world, just to name a few.

As we face 2023, we know that it will be new in so many ways. By the end of this year, I am confident, because of the hard work of our Personnel Committee, that we will have our Family Minister and Music Minister in place. We will have an interim pastor leading us and our Pastor Search Committee will be hard at work. I am equally confident that our church will continue to find meaningful ways to reach out to all the new neighbors who will be moving in to our area. Yes, 2023 will be different and an exciting time to be a part of this loving church family.

It is my prayer now and will continue to be my prayer that God will be honored in all that we do at

this church. I am privileged to begin my 19th year on January 1st 2023 and saddened that I will only serve for three more months as pastor of this very special congregation. I am sorry we have not been able to keep our numbers up after the pandemic. It is my prayer that when God brings our next pastor, that person will be able to energize our congregation and bring messages that people will make a priority to come and hear what God will say through this new servant. I am confident God will accomplish this.

As a new year dawns, it is a wonderful time to examine all the changes we need to embrace during the gift that is 2023. For we who are believers, we are assured that God is in control and that no matter what may happen, our faith is well placed in the one who made heaven and earth. May we commit to pray, attend, give, and work at Flat Springs to make this upcoming year all that God intends. The best is yet to be!!

Your Pastor,
Gary



To our church family, the church staff would like to express our appreciation for the many acts of kindness sent our way during this holiday season. Wishing you a year full of love and God's blessings.

Gary, Brad, Tim, and Barbara

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, Philippians 1:2-4

Youth News

Youth will be starting on Sunday, January 8th at 6:00 pm in the upstairs Youth room.

Laura Marks will be leading a video series ...



By Brock Gill

Come discover the truth on how God sees you.

Message from Flat Springs WMU



Ladies welcome! We are glad for "new" participants to join us for any of these meetings in the church Fellowship Hall. The **Hands and Feet** group usually meets on the second Sunday of each month at 2:30 PM. The **Women on Missions** group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM. **Dorcas Sewing Ministry** meets the third Monday, of each month in the morning.

SAVE THESE DATES: Caswell Women's Retreat February 17-19 and **Flat Springs Annual Ladies Retreat** Saturday and Sunday, March 4 and 5, hosted by Hands and Feet, with guest speaker Cheryl Bennett. Ladies, please see Stephanie NOW to make your Caswell plans. We have ten (10) bed spaces reserved in "Riverside E," offering the most privacy and the most beautiful views.

It cannot be overstated that your faithfulness in prayer and service is change-making for those hungry and thirsty for attention, sustenance, and the love of God. Thank you for consistently considering the many opportunities for outreach and for giving. Our next opportunities include **Week of Prayer for WMU NC** and the kick-off to

the **Heck-Jones Offering collection** (Feb 12-19), the **Soup-er Bowl canned food drive** as we "vote" for our favorite Super Bowl team (ends Feb 12), and the collection of coffee/hot chocolate pods and wrapped candies for staff at Deep River School before Valentine's Day (ends Feb 12).

While we may not be able to do everything we set our sights on, we come together to do what the Holy Spirit leads us to do. Thank you! One thing we need to be constant in prayer over right now is for the Spirit to intervene in our search for church staff in order that we connect with the right candidates for this time as well as for the future of Flat Springs Baptist Church and the Deep River community.

Let's not put away Christmas so fast. Here is an encouragement to take us into the New Year: **"God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them"** Hebrews 6:10. May we know good health, much joy, and many opportunities to let love burn bright in our hearts as we care for *"the least of these"* throughout the coming year.

Love in Christ, Stephanie



Message from Sandy Creek Baptist Association WMU

Together, you donated 17,736 pieces of hard candy weighing in at 283 pounds that will be part of the Christmas blessing touching the lives of approximately 2,000 women in NC prisons. Each box included a tract of the Christmas story. Thank you for your faithful participation in the RED BOX Prison Ministry.

As the New Year dawns full of promise in spite of the spiritual warfare that rages around us, I pray we will keep the words of 1 John 5:19-20 hidden in our hearts and in our

minds: *"We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."* May you grow more firmly rooted in the Rock in 2023. HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In Christ's Love,
Association WMU Director Susan T. Ferguson

