

First Baptist Church of Spring Hill

The Messenger

December 2021

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What is Christmas all about? Is it about the tinsel and Christmas lights, the decorations and the overstocked stores? Is it about the gifts under the tree? One person said, "Christmas is the season of cranky clerks and jangled nerves. It is the season in which we spend more than we have and buy more than we can afford and eat more than we can hold." Is Christmas about all these things? ABSOLUTELY NOT! Christmas is about the good news of Christ.



The message of Christmas is that God who created this world and everything in it has come to us and is available to us. His wisdom is available to us as we face the decisions of life. His power is available to us as we confront the impossible tasks of life. His love is available to us as we handle the strained relationships of life. He is available to us every day of our lives. He is a God who come to us in Jesus Christ.

This God who comes into our world wants to come into our life! He wants to redeem us. He wants to release us from our bondage. He wants to rule our life. He wants to raise us to a new level of living. He wants to fill our life with meaning.

The problem with many, however, is that lives are so filled with the clutter of business and other demands on their time that they don't take time for Him. Like the inn keeper, there is no room in the in of their lives for Him. I'm not just talking about those who do not have a personal relationship with Him. I am including Christians in this category. We get so busy that we forget about Christ in our lives. We need to be very careful that we do not shut Christ out of our lives either willingly or inadvertently.

This Christmas, let's make the Kind of this world King of our Lives. In the midst of all the decorations and commercialization which surrounds this time of year, let us know the real meaning of Christmas! God has come to us so that we might have fellowship with Him. He provided the way for that fellowship by offering up His life on Calvary's cross. We must remember that the baby born in the manger was the Savior who died on the Cross!

From my family to yours, "Merry Christmas with love."

Bro J

Merry
CHRISTMAS

From the Library...

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

We have been offered the gift of Grace through the sacrifice of Christ. A gift to open if one chooses to. That precious hope for all humanity arrived on such a day as this...it's called Christmas.

We know the Son of God was lying in the manger; you know His message and you know He died and rose to life again. You don't need to see that baby with your own eyes; His truth is right in front of you in the words of the Bible. But those shepherds didn't have the Bible. They didn't know the wondrous gift of the whole story. We don't need to wonder; you can simply know by following His amazing plan in our very own Bible.

Luke 2:15: *When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord told us about."*

Here are a few books from our Library:

No Wonder They Call Him the Savior by Max Lucado. The Cross, you have seen it. You have worn it. Maybe you have even prayed to it. But do you know it? To accept or reject Christ without careful examination of Calvary is like deciding on a car without looking at the engine. So take a good look at the Cross. Examine this hour in history. Look at the witnesses. Listen to voices. Watch the faces. Most of all, observe the one they call the Savior.

Jesus of Nazareth by William Barclay. This author captures the simplicity, action, and drama of the film Jesus of Nazareth. The photos in the book were taken during production of this film. They are stunningly beautiful, but also present a powerful and moving story of the life of Jesus.

This Christmas Night by Billy & Ruth Graham. Christmas is when our minds look back to that lowly manger in Bethlehem, and we hear beyond the noise of our materialistic world the soft flutter on angels' wings. We see the tenderness of a mother with her firstborn Son...we feel the softness of a Baby. Amid the glitter and busyness of the season, we pray that you will experience anew the miracle and meaning of that Christmas night.

We pray our church has the best and merriest of Christmases.
Mary Robertson & Joan Frank

Happy Birthday to You!

2	Grant Terrillion
4	David Lovely
	Maggie Stooksbury
8	Doug Williams
	Phillip Pullen
9	Archie Emery
11	Sharon Burkhalter
13	Kane Zhang
14	Angela Wiley
16	Paul Wilson
21	Prentice Moore
22	Kendall Wright
26	Ann Johnson
27	Tyler Wright
27	Tom Holloway
28	Finley Johnson
31	Deric Keltner



GREETERS SCHEDULE

December 5: John Boyle & Archie Emery
December 12: Paul Wilson & Brent Johnson
December 19: Davis & Sharon Burkhalter
December 26: Raynell & Shavonnah Gaines

QUARTERLY Business Meeting

**Sunday, December 12,
6:00 pm**

**2022 Budget
Presentation**



**Cracker Barrel Fellowship
Wednesday, December 8
10:15 am**

(at The Crossings)



**Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions
Church Goal: \$3,000.00
(Offerings will be received during the month of December)**



December 2021

Sunday

Monday

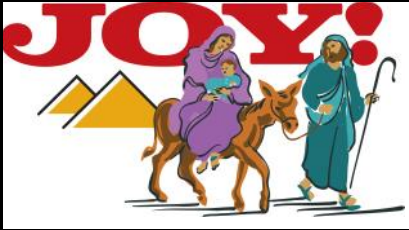


Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	<p>10 am Ladies Prayer Group</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10am-5pm Fellowship Hall in Use-Welch</p> <p>4-10 pm Youth House in Use-Stooksbury</p>
<p>5</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship</p> <p>Deacons' Mtg. 4:45 pm Adult Choir 5:30 pm Team Kid 6 pm Evening Service Youth Activities</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10 am Ladies Prayer Group</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:15 am Cracker Barrel Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:30-8:30 pm Kids Christmas Party</p>
<p>12</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Christmas Musical by Adult Choir</p> <p>5:30 pm Team Kid, 6 pm Qtrly Business Mtg, Youth Activities</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10 am Ladies Prayer Group</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9 am Sr. Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship</p> <p>6:00 pm Family Hot Cocoa Fellowship</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10 am Ladies Prayer Group</p>	<p>22</p> <p>NO Facebook Live Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Church Office Closes at Noon</p>	<p>24 Church Office Closed</p>  <p><i>Christmas Eve</i></p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Worship</p> <p>NO EVENING ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10 am Ladies Prayer Group</p>	<p>29</p> <p>NO Facebook Live Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>Church Office Closed</i></p>  <p><i>Christmas Day</i></p>

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

8:45 am Sunday School
10 am Worship Service
Children's Worship (1st & 3rd Sundays Only)
4:45 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal
5:30 pm Team Kid
6 pm Evening Worship
Youth Activities (in Youth House)

Wednesday

6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study



December 5: The Warrens (Babies), Sarah Long & Julie Crotzer (Toddlers), The Johnsons (Pre-K)

December 12: Billie Lingle & Rachel Stooksbury (Babies), Sarah Smith & **Volunteer needed** (Toddlers), Shelia Chitwood & Kimberly Pullen (Pre-K)

December 19: Linda Bland & **Volunteer Needed** (Babies), The Vaughns (Toddlers), The Howlands (Pre-K)

December 26: Family Sunday (No nursery care today)

Offering Envelopes



Do you need offering envelopes? If so, please contact the church office and a box will be prepared for you. Thank you!

End of year giving—Please remember that any contributions you wish to count on your 2021 giving record must be received by the church by December 31st. Please allow adequate time for your online gifts to be deposited to the church by December 31st. Please call the office if you have questions.



Christmas Cards

The First Baptist Church Christmas Post Office will be open from November 28 until December 26. Please put your cards in the box **BEHIND** the first letter of the last Name of the recipient. Remember to check the box each week for cards addressed to you. Please put any money you would have spent on postage in the can provided. All proceeds will benefit Operation Christmas Child.

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The Lottie Moon Bakery & Sweet Shop will be open December 5-19. Order blanks are available at the Welcome Desk. Choose the yummy treats you want and

the delivery date. Please include your name and phone number. As we did last year, we can make up gift bags with a variety of goodies for special folks on your Christmas List. We also offer pies and pastries for your Christmas parties.

Place your contribution to the Lottie Moon offering in the envelope or in the offering plate during any Sunday service.

Christmas Party



Kids' Christmas Party—Grades 1-6

Friday, December 10, 2021

6:30-8:30 pm

FBCSH Fellowship Hall

Parents may drop off their kiddos and enjoy a night out to dinner or do some last minute shopping! There will be food, crafts, and lots of fun activities! Make plans now to attend!



**Church-wide
Hot Cocoa Fellowship
Sunday, December 19
6:00 pm**



Please note these changes to Church Office Hours:

The Church office will be closed on December 23, 24, and 31 for the holidays.



Future Growth Funding

\$21,636.62 in a Construction Acct.
at First Farmer's & Merchant's Bank
\$366,606.33 in a Building Fund at the
Tennessee Baptist Foundation.