

LifeLine

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From the Pastor

God has been, continues to be, and will be at work in our world.

Two thousand years ago, God was faithful to bring His Son, Jesus the Christ, into the world. The birth of Jesus came as prophesied, fulfilling God's promises to provide a Messiah for the people. Our celebration this Christmas season is one of confidence and hope—confidence in our Great God who always accomplishes His purposes—and hope in the fact that our Christ who once came through the womb of a virgin will one day come again for us through the clouds!

...believers should be more attuned to God's passionate heartbeat for the world.

As New Testament believers, we anticipate the celebration of our Savior's birth—His first coming. However, our anticipation during this season is doubly meaningful, for we are also anticipating His second coming. *Joy to the World* is not just a song we sing looking back to the manger, but one we sing with an eye toward the sky—knowing that at any moment, He will return again.

The significance of Christmas is that God brought His Son to us so that we, in turn, might be brought to God. Jesus was born, lived a sinless life, and died a sacrificial death for the sins of the world. Peter tells us, "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God..." (1 Peter 3:18).

Not only was God at work long before Christ was born, and not only did God work through Christ's life and death, but God continues to work today—bringing people to His Son.

God is powerfully at work among the nations of the world bringing people to Himself through the efforts of those who labor in the Harvest. During this Christmas season, we believers should be even more attuned to God's passionate heartbeat for the world.

When it comes to God's work in the world, our first responsibility is prayer. For, after looking on the crowds, Jesus commanded us to "pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest," (Matthew 9:38). Prayer is not auxiliary or peripheral. Prayer is essential. This Christmas season, let's pray that God might raise up more and more laborers to send out into His Harvest.

Also, let's be good and generous stewards of the financial resources which have been given to us, and let's give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in a way that is in accordance with God's passion for the Harvest. (For more information about the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, go to www.imb.org)

Let's pray.

Let's give.

Let's go.

For the good of the peoples of the world and for the glory of our Great God!

Revelation 22:21

Todd Brady
Pastor

Upcoming Events @ FBC

Holiday Schedule

Sunday, December 16

9:00 a.m. Worship—Worship Center
10:05 a.m. Bible Study
11:10 a.m. Worship—Worship Center
6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Christmas Program

Sunday, December 23

9:30 a.m. Church-wide Christmas Brunch—Great Room
11:00 a.m. Worship—Worship Center
No Evening Activities

Monday, December 24

5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 26

No Evening Activities

Sunday, December 30

9:00 a.m. Worship—Great Room
10:05 a.m. Bible Study
11:10 a.m. Worship—Worship Center
6:00 p.m. Worship—Carson Chapel

Choir Christmas Program

Sunday evening, December 16

The 2007 Christmas Program, "Christmas is Jesus," offers something different—a program in two parts. Part 1 begins at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Room with a free meal and featuring music of the season performed by the sanctuary choir, ensembles, soloists, and traveling musicians. Part 2 begins at 7:15 when we move into the sanctuary to enjoy the telling of the Christmas story through song and drama.

The choir program will be also televised on Christmas Eve at 10:30 p.m. on WPSD-TV.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Church family, we CAN do it!

As you give a gift toward our church-wide \$100,000.00 challenge to the Lottie Moon Offering for foreign missions, please clearly mark your giving envelope with the words, "Lottie Moon," so it will go where intended. Every dollar goes directly to missions, but your envelope must have the words "Lottie Moon" on it! As of December 10, our total giving stood at \$49,022.13. We can do it!

—Dean Carpenter



By setting a goal of \$100,000 for our church to give toward the Lottie Moon Christmas offering this year, we are joining in a strategic global effort to reach the whole world. Every penny given to Lottie Moon is used to support Southern Baptist missionaries as they share the Gospel overseas. By supporting our international missionaries, it enables them to spend their time reaching lost souls instead of raising their own support. The cost to support a missionary breaks down as \$40,866 a year, \$3,405 a month, \$785 a week, \$111 a day, \$4.66 an hour or \$.08 a minute. The IMB budget is based on strategic planning and strong accountability.

The strategic planning is done by Southern Baptist individuals who give their lives to strategize how best to get the gospel to all people groups. A budget based on their planning goes for approval to the board of trustees named by the Southern Baptist Convention and is also audited by an independent accounting firm. The total goal for the Lottie Moon Offering this year is \$165,000,000 and supports approximately 5,200 missionaries around the world.

First Sports

Upward Basketball and Cheerleading

The Upward Basketball and Cheerleading season is now going on. Opportunities to serve include coaches, assistant coaches, referees, concession helpers and much more. If you are interested in helping this season, please let Jeremy Hudgins know as soon as possible.

Miscellaneous News

Pastor for Worship and Media Ministries

Our church voted unanimously on Sunday, December 9, 2007, to call Rev. Steve Moore to FBC as Pastor for Worship and Media Ministries. Steve and his wife, Cassie, are coming here from First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tennessee, where he has served as Media Minister and Music Ministry Associate. Steve has a Bachelor of Arts from Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, and a Master of Arts from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with an emphasis in Biblical Worship.



The Moores will be moving to Paducah soon. Please join us in welcoming them to First Baptist Church and Paducah!

Steve and Cassie Moore
450 Caney Lane
Clarksville, TN 37040

Responding to God's Abundant Blessing

During 2007, God has blessed our church family well beyond our anticipated financial needs through the sacrificial giving of our members. Having been so blessed, it is incumbent on us to be good stewards of these funds as reflected in Jesus' words from the parable of the slave found in Luke 12:48, "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more." We may never know for certain why we have been so blessed, but trusting God to shepherd the affairs of our lives, we must embrace this opportunity fully and with the intent of glorifying God and fulfilling His purposes.

To that end, I have asked that our ministerial staff and several of our operating committees begin a process of carefully and prayerfully making proposals for the use of these funds. As a guideline for developing these proposals, we will use the priorities from "Forward Together: A Guiding Framework for Our Shared Future," the Worship of God, the Word of God, the People of God, and the Ministry of God. The proposals will be brought forward by mid-January and evaluated by a group of our church leaders who will, in turn, help decide which are most consistent with our commitments.

Continued on next page

As we consider the way ahead, please pray that our ministers and our operating committees will think broadly, aggressively, and faithfully about possibilities for use of these funds. Our desire is to proceed in a way that honors God and His purposes.

—Todd Brady

Fit For Life

Fit For Life will break for the Christmas season. Wednesday, December 19, will be the last class before Christmas. It will resume Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

God's Care Corps.

A great idea!! When you are making out your Christmas card list this year, please include the following:

A Recovering American Soldier
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20307-5001

Thank you for making a difference in a recovering soldier's Christmas.

Marie Jackson and Judy Askew

Welcome New Members

By Letter:

Ann Taylor
6288 Birkdale Bend
Paducah, KY 42003

Ben & Shayna Lawrence
130 Cottonwood Lane
Paducah, KY 42001

Michael Youngblood
901 TenneVue Estate
Paducah, KY 42003

By Profession of Faith:

Tom Carter
4970 Jewell Lane
Paducah, KY 42001

Birth Announcement

A daughter born to Josh and Leann Kersey on December 4, 2007. Her name is Palmer Elizabeth. The proud grandparents are Lee and Ruth Ann Hook.

Christian Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to Jerry Stodghill in the loss of his mother, to Barbara Johansen in the loss of her father, to Willodene Cagle in the loss of her sister, and to May Etta Rottgering in the loss of her daughter.

Special Gifts

Gifts have been received by the church in honor of Joyce Bryant and Jane, Sarah, and Frank Kolb. Memorial gifts have been received for Mabel Zucker's brother.

SOS Items Needed

Share Our Surplus (SOS) is a ministry to connect those who have a material need with those who would like to donate an item such as kitchen table and chairs, electric stove,

refrigerator, blankets, rugs, all sizes of beds, mattresses, and box springs, daybed, all sizes of curtains and drapes, and a couch. Please call Colla Ro at 442-3725 if you can help with this ministry.

December Bus Driver

Pat Coughlin - 270-444-7017

January Bus Driver

Pete Watkins - 270-559-6877

Bus Ministry

The bus ministry is provided to members who are unable to drive to church on Sunday mornings. We have volunteer opportunities for anyone interested in being a part of this ministry, especially for the months of April and June, 2008. For more information, contact Larry Heavrin at 898-6056 or the church office at 442-2728.

Thank You Notes

Thank you for your thoughtful kindness at a time when it was greatly appreciated and thanks for the beautiful flowers.

Alma Montgomery

Thank you for your phone calls, cards, and prayers that you extended to me during the loss of my father. It is such a blessing to be a part of a loving church family.

In Christian Love,

Melinda Jackson

Weekly Schedule

Sunday, December 16

9:00 a.m. Worship—Worship Center
9:30 a.m. Library Open
10:05 a.m. Bible Study
11:10 a.m. Worship—Worship Center
4:30 p.m. "The Truth Project"
5:00 p.m. Adult Discipleship
5:00 p.m. Youth Discipleship
6:00 p.m. "Christmas Is Jesus," Part 1—Great Room
7:15 p.m. "Christmas Is Jesus," Part 2—Worship Center

Monday, December 17

9:00 a.m. Fit for Life Exercise Class

Tuesday, December 18

10:00 a.m. Ministries of Outreach/Card Writing
6:30 p.m. Choir Banquet—Great Room

Wednesday, December 19

6:00 a.m. Men's Fraternity
9:00 a.m. Fit for Life Exercise Class
5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
5:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting
6:00 p.m. Student Ministry
Christmas Party

Thursday, December 20

Friday, December 21

Saturday, December 22

Sunday, December 23

9:30 a.m. Church-wide Brunch
9:30 a.m. Library Open
11:00 a.m. Worship - Worship Center

Monday, December 24

Office Closed
5:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, December 26

No evening activities

Thursday, December 27

Friday, December 28

Saturday, December 29



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

What You See!

Here is a schedule of our FBC programs along with scheduled air times.

Sunday Morning Schedule for Comcast Channel 37:

- 8:00-8:30 a.m. - Sunday Morning Prayer Time (Taped) (Replayed on Wed. @ 7pm & Thursdays @ 8:30 am)
- 9:30-10:00 a.m. - FBC Music (Taped)
- 10:00-10:45 a.m. - Chapel Bible Class (Live)
- 10:45-11:10 a.m. - FBC Music (Taped)
- 11:10-12:10 a.m. - Worship Service (Live)

Sunday Morning Schedule for Channel 6:

11:00-12:00 - Sunday Morning Worship Service (Tape Delayed from Previous Week)

Christmas Eve Schedule for Channel 6:

10:30 p.m. Choir Christmas Program (Taped)

Financial News

December 2, 2007

Budget Received: \$53,527.32
Designations: \$19,126.60

December 9, 2007

Budget Received: \$59,522.41
Designations: \$13,730.62

Totals to Date:

Total Budget Received: \$2,524,598.86
Total Budget Required: \$2,520,487.30
Total Designations: \$341,767.12

Lottie Moon Offering

As of December 10: \$49,022.13

Sunday School Attendance

December 2 - 782
December 9 - 734

Menu

Wednesday Night Meals

December 16-Choir Program

Salad, Prime Rib au Jus, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Rolls, Assorted Desserts

December 19

Poppy Seed Chicken, Baked Potatoes, Green Peas, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Assorted Desserts

December 26

No evening activities.

Children's Menu Available upon Request

LifeLine Deadline

The deadline for items to be submitted for the next LifeLine is December 21, 2007. You may e-mail your items to cperkins@fbcpaducah.org