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## From the Pastor

The coming of a new year often causes us to reflect deeply about the passing year as well as about the soon-coming year. As I think about this year and the privilege to serve you as pastor, my mind is filled with both remembrances of 2007 and resolutions for 2008.

Looking back, I will always remember 2007 as a year in which God's hand of blessings, grace, and guidance was clear and powerful.

I remember the first phone call I received from Bill Thompson, who served as chairman of the Pastor Search Committee, and I also remember with joy the numerous hours that he and I, as well as other committee members, spent on the phone seeking to discern what the Lord might have for us.

I remember arriving in Bucharest, Romania, in March, checking my email, and receiving the wonderfully surprising news from Amy that we would again be welcoming another child into our home in 2007! As our team from Union University shared the gospel with surrounding Roma people that week, God was confirming in my heart that He indeed had so much in store for the Bradys back home.

When Amy and I reflect on the three-and-a-half hour meeting that took place with the Pastor Search Committee in the waiting room of the Drs. Slaughter's office one Saturday afternoon, smiles always come to our faces.

June 3, 2007, was a great day. What proved to be a God-ordained and God-directed process culminated in the coming together of pastor and people.

The last half of 2007 has been nothing less than a joyous journey for me and my family. A new calling, a new people, a new city, a new baby...a new everything! God has indeed been good to us Bradys by bringing us to the dear people of First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Now, as we prepare to flip the calendar from 2007 to 2008, I find myself looking ahead and thinking about what God has for us in the coming year.

Someone once said that the best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother. I agree! I'll also add that it is my opinion that the best thing a pastor can do for his people is to love his God and his family.

With that being said, and with 2007 slipping further and further into our rearview mirror, I offer to you several "Pastoral Resolutions" as we move forward together toward all that God has for us.

In addition to loving God and my family, as pastor, in 2008 I will:

- Resolve to work diligently in the tasks to which I have been charged—to preach the Word, to love the people, and to provide godly leadership.
- Resolve to "shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock." (1 Peter 5:1-3)
- Resolve to model and provide leadership that honors God and adheres to God's Word—all the while being "eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:3)
- Resolve to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," (2 Peter 3:18) and to pass along truths of the faith to others so that they might do the same. (2 Timothy 2:22)
- Resolve to lead out by loving you and encouraging you to love one another, for "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35)
- Resolve to intentionally, passionately, and simultaneously pursue our core commitments to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission. (Matthew 22:37; 28:18-20)
- Resolve to speak in a manner and to provide leadership which is obedient to the command: "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear." (Ephesians 4:29)
- Resolve to provide leadership which continually prioritizes the practices of God-Focused Worship, Biblical Community, Expository Teaching, and Christ-like Ministry.
- Resolve to lead our ministerial staff to constantly value and exhibit God-Centered Approaches, Pastoral Orientation, United Ministry, and Excellent Practices in all things.

**...I offer you several  
"Pastoral Resolutions"  
as we move forward  
together...**

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- Resolve in all things, to be able to say with the Psalmist, "Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!" (Psalm 115:1)
- Resolve to "pray without ceasing," (1 Thessalonians 5:17) asking that God might do among us more than we could ever imagine—for the good of our fellowship, for the good of the peoples of Paducah, Kentucky, and beyond—and for the glory of our great God.

In the midst of remembrances and resolutions, I thank God for allowing us to walk this leg of our journeys together. As we think about our shared fellowship, please join me in praying Psalm 90:17 for our new year together.

Revelation 22:21,

Todd Brady  
Pastor

## Upcoming Events @ FBC

### Holiday Schedule

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

Tuesday, January 1

Office Closed

### First Monday Prayer

First Monday Prayer will be held on Monday, January 7. First Baptist's chapel will be open from 6:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. on that day for those who wish to come to the chapel and pray. As you pray this month, please include these specific points:

- Pray that in 2008, we as members of First Baptist Church will continue to grow in our fervent desire that Jesus Christ will abide with us and in us throughout the year.
- Pray that as opposition to Jesus and His followers mounts in our society, we as Christians will take courage and comfort in being His children of light in a dark and needy world.
- Pray that our Heavenly Father will bless our pastor, Todd Brady, and his family with peace, good health, and safety as they begin their first full year in Paducah.
- Pray in thanksgiving for God's provision of Steve Moore, our new pastor for worship and media services, as the Holy Spirit leads us in praise to our great God through him.

### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

As of December 26, our total giving stood at \$110,654.40. As you give a gift toward the Lottie Moon Offering for foreign missions, please clearly mark your giving envelope with the words, "Lottie Moon." For your donation to be applied to the 2007 mission offering, all donations must be postmarked by December 31, 2007.

—Dean Carpenter

## Senior Adult Ministry

### "Souper" Game Night

The 55+ Senior Adult Ministry will be having their second annual "Souper" Game Night on Friday, January 18, from 6:00—9:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is no cost for this event—just bring your favorite soups, sandwiches, breads, salads, or desserts, and stay for large and small group games afterward. Call Christi at the church office (442-2728) for more details.

## Children's Ministry

### 4th Grade Sunday School Opportunities

We have immediate openings for two Sunday School teachers for our Fourth Grade Department. No experience is necessary; all training will be provided. Contact Hutch Hutcherson at 442-6038, ext. 206, for more details.

## First Sports

### Upward Basketball and Cheerleading

The Upward Basketball and Cheerleading season is under way. There are still opportunities to serve as assistant coaches, referees, and concession helpers. If you are interested in helping this season, please let Jeremy Hudgin know as soon as possible.

## Miscellaneous News

### Open House at Former Parsonage

Bob and Jean Gross would like to invite the members of First Baptist Church to come to their Christmas Open House at the former FBC Parsonage, 343 Wallace Lane, on Sunday, December 30, from 2:00-4:30 p.m.

### Choir Christmas Program CD's and DVD's

CD's and DVD's of First Baptist Church choir's Christmas program, "Christmas Is Jesus," are available through the church office. DVD's only of the Children's Choir program, "Miracle on Main Street," are also available. Please contact the church office to request your copies.

### Planning for Year End Giving

If you or a loved one are planning on making a year end contribution and want to receive credit for it on your 2007 giving statement, please note that it must be received by the church office or postmarked on or before Monday, December 31. Also please include your giving number with your check if you are not using your preprinted giving envelopes. This will assure that your gift gets properly credited. If you do not have preprinted giving envelopes but would like to receive some, please call the church office with your request. Likewise if you are receiving giving envelopes in the mail and would like to stop receiving them, please call the church office with this request as well. God bless you this Christmas season and thank you for your faithfulness throughout the year.

### Pastor for Worship and Media Ministries

Steve Moore will begin his ministry at First Baptist Church on Sunday morning, January 6, 2008. The evening of January 13, there will a church-wide reception to welcome Steve and his wife, Cassie, immediately following the evening worship service. Join us in welcoming them with a traditional "pounding," by bringing staple foods, canned goods, cleaning supplies, paper products, etc. NO perishable items, please.

## 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.

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

## Special Gifts

Gifts have been received by the church in honor of Barbara Campbell, Judge Craig Clymer, Maria Unici, Joyce Rudolph, Jim Dimino, Stephanie Duck, and Jeff Modglin. Memorial gifts have been received for Dick Thomas, Willodene Cagle's sister, Mae Etta Rottgering's daughter, and Barbara Johansen's father.

## 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 rocker-recliner, dressers or chests, couch, chair, all sizes of beds, curtains, rugs, TV, kitchen table & chairs, pans, hide-a-bed sofa, apt. size electric stove, refrigerator, towels & blankets. 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 to ALL Volunteers

Let us all give thanks for those who gave their time and talents to make this a beautiful and memorable Christmas season for our entire church family. Some of the activities for which people volunteered include:

- Children's Christmas program
- Church building Christmas decorating
- Sanctuary Choir Christmas program
- Operation Christmas Child Shoebox donations and delivery
- Angel Tree donation and delivery
- Church-wide Christmas brunch decorating
- Ushers for special services
- Bus drivers for special programs
- Kitchen workers and servers for all Christmas meals

## Thank You Angel Tree Angels

Thanks to everyone who provided gifts for the Angel Tree ministry this Christmas season and to those who delivered the presents. Your loving efforts will result in eternal blessings in the lives of these children.

Carl and Alva House

## Thank You Notes

Thanks to all for your prayers for me. I need them and am so grateful for the many cards that I've received from you.

Nettie Dickinson

Thank you for your cards and prayers in memory of my daughter, Cheryl Butler. Your thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered.

Mae Etta Rottgering

## Weekly Schedule

### Sunday, December 30

- 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
- 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship—Worship Center

### Monday, December 31

**Tuesday, January 1**  
Office Closed

### Wednesday, January 2

- 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
- 7:00 p.m. Choir/Orchestra Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 3

### Friday, January 4

- 9:00 a.m. Fit For Life
- 6:30 p.m. Scrapbooking Class

### Saturday, January 5

### Sunday, January 6

- 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"
- 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship—Worship Center

### Monday, January 7

- 6:00 a.m. First Monday Prayer
- 9:00 a.m. Fit For Life

### Tuesday, January 8

- 9:30 a.m. MOPS
- 10:00 a.m. Ministries of Outreach/Card Writing

### Wednesday, January 9

- 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. Livewire Experience
- 6:00 p.m. AWANA
- 7:00 p.m. Choir/Orchestra Rehearsal

### Thursday, January 10

### Friday, January 11

- 9:00 a.m. Fit For Life

### Saturday, January 12



# LifeLine

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## What You See!

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

### Sunday Morning Schedule for Comcast Channel 37:

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)

## Financial News

### December 16, 2007

Budget Received: \$63,468.80  
Designations: \$63,085.03

### December 23, 2007

Budget Received: \$117,106.77  
Designations: \$15,924.41

### Totals to Date:

Total Budget Received: \$2,710,759.77  
Total Budget Required: \$2,623,282.70  
Total Designations: \$422,068.77

### Lottie Moon Offering

As of December 26: \$110,564.40

## Sunday School Attendance

December 16 - 723

## Menu

### Wednesday Night Meals

#### December 26

No evening activities.

#### January 2

Roast Beef with Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls, and Assorted Desserts

#### January 9

Chicken Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Mexican Beans, Mexican Cornbread, and Assorted Desserts

**Children's Menu Available upon Request**

## LifeLine Deadline

The deadline for items to be submitted for the next LifeLine is January 4, 2008.  
You may e-mail your items to [cperkins@fbcpaducah.org](mailto:cperkins@fbcpaducah.org)