

## Newsletter: December 2025

### Our Mission Statement:

*Our purpose is to be a unified body seeking to reach up to God, out to people, and down within ourselves to expand God's Kingdom for God's glory.*

### Mark Your Calendars

#### EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

12/3 Wednesday Night Activities

12/4 Nursing Home Christmas Store

12/4 Grateful Hearts Book Club

12/6 Fellowship with Prospective Pastor and family

12/7 Sunday School & Worship

12/8 Budget & Finance Meeting

12/10 Wednesday Night Activities

12/14 Sunday School & Worship

12/14 Finance Comm. Meeting

12/14 Christmas Music

12/17 Wednesday Night Activities & Business Meeting

12/21 Sunday School & Worship

12/24 No Wed. Night Activities

12/24 & 12/25 Church Office closed for Christmas

12/28 Sunday School & Worship

12/31 No Wed. Night Activities

#### Sunday Service Schedule

Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.

#### Wednesday Night Activities

Meal @ 5:30 PM

Prayer Meeting & Bible Study @ 6 PM

Join us weekly for this time of study and prayer. The adults will meet in the fellowship hall. Youth and Children meet in their Sunday School rooms. We have a great time of food, fellowship,

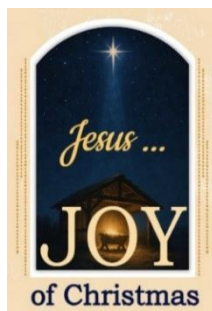
### Pastor Search Committee Announces Candidate!

View of a Call = Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>

Fellowship with Prospect & Family = Saturday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>

*After much prayer and seeking God's will, our Pastor Search Committee has extended an invitation to Rev. Wade Penfield to come in View of a Call. This will take place on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> during the Morning Worship Service. On Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, their will be a church wide fellowship from 2:00 – 4:00 PM to visit with Bro. Wade and Rebecca. Church members should have received a letter in the mail this past week with details. Continue to pray for God's will to be done for our church in selecting our next pastor, with our Pastor Search Committee, as well as the candidate. We are looking forward to this special time in our church. Make plans to be here for Sunday School, Worship Service, and our Holiday Meal on December 7<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Youth & Children's Christmas Performance** **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> during Worship Service**



*Bro. Mike Collier and some of our talented voices have been hard at work on the Christmas Musical that is set for Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. It is still not too late if you would like to join in. We practice every Wednesday night after prayer meeting. Come join and let us lift our voices in giving praise to God. Invite your family and friends to join us for this special event on December 14<sup>th</sup> to experience that "Jesus ... the Joy of Christmas".*

### *Church Holiday Meal on December 7<sup>th</sup>*

After the Morning Worship Service, we will have our annual holiday meal. This will be a covered dish meal with the church providing the meats, dressing, and drinks. You are asked to bring side dishes, salads, and desserts. Everyone is welcome to join us on this day for great food and a wonderful time for Christian fellowship.



### Business Meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m.

Church members need to attend this important Business Meeting. Several key items will be discussed and voted on. Please make plans to attend the Business Meeting. Come be a part of the business matters and decisions of the church.



## **LOTTIE MOON INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERING**

**Church Goal = \$6,000**

**Week of Prayer - Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**

*November 30<sup>th</sup> begins the week of prayer and emphasis for the Lottie Moon International Missions Christmas Offering. Prayer guides will be placed in the November 30<sup>th</sup> bulletins. Offering envelopes are in the pews and placed throughout*

*the church. This offering supports missionaries and helps take the life-transforming message of Jesus to the nations. For more information and resources go to [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org) Please do your part in supporting this mission by your prayers and giving financially.*

### **Budget & Finance Committees Meeting Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> @ 5 p.m.**

With the possibility of Calling of a new Pastor, members of the Budget and Finance Committees will need to meet to revise the 2026 Church Budget. All members of these committees are urged to attend. If you cannot attend, contact Paul Morris or the church office.

### **Nursing Home Christmas Store Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**



#### **Items needed for store:**

- Lap Throws
- Pillows (soft – do not overstuff)
- T-shirts (all sizes for Men & Women)
- Rubber soled & Crochet slippers
- House Shoes (men's larger sizes & women's)
- Socks with grips (Men & Women)
- Dolls and Stuffed Toys (new or very clean)
- Name brand Kleenex
- Jewelry & Trinkets
- Body Mist & Perfume
- Night Lights
- Walker Purses
- Room & Holiday Decorations
- Lotion, cream, mouthwash, deodorant, etc.
- Snack cakes
- Diabetic cookies & candy
- Homemade cookies & candy
- Small can or bottled soft drinks (regular & diet)

**NOTE – No Chocolate covered cherries please! They are a choking hazard.**

**Contact the Many First Baptist Church office for more details.**

Don't forget to support our annual drive for items needed for the Nursing Home Christmas Store. Lists of suggested items are located throughout the church and in this Newsletter. A box to place your donated items in is located by the church office.

Items need to be turned into the church by Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The residents truly enjoy shopping for gifts for themselves or loved ones during this time and look forward to this each year. Thank you for your sign of love for the local nursing home residents by supplying these gifts to them for the Nursing Home Christmas Store.

## **December Monthly Special Offering Emphasis is Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for North America Missions**

December is the month that we will collect the for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. We will not have a "Monthly Supplies Request" this month. Please be generous in your support of this mission focus.

### **CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURES**

**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup>**

**JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**Please use the Emergency Contact Numbers listed on page 4 of this newsletter to get in touch with the staff during any office closure. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Many FBC Church Staff! Praying for God's blessings for our church family.**

### **No Wednesday Activities & Studies on Christmas Eve & New Years Eve**

Due to the holidays, we will not have our Wednesday Night activities on December 24<sup>th</sup> & December 31<sup>st</sup>. We will return to our regular activities after the new year.

### **Grateful Hearts Book Club**

Ladies! Looking for a Christian book club? Come join us at Many First Baptist Church. Everyone is welcome. The next book we will discuss is "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. Get your book at your favorite bookstore or the library and come ready to discuss it at our meeting on Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2 PM. Bring a friend. For more info, contact the FBC office at 256-5655.

Please note, that if we do vote in favor to call Rev. Wade Penfield as our Pastor, a Pastor Installation Service will be scheduled for Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> during the Morning Worship Service.



## Women's Bible Study "Heaven – When Faith Becomes Sight"

Hey Ladies! Are you looking for a way to begin the year getting closer to God and His scriptures? Join us for this 7-session video-based study with Jennifer Rothschild to explore the subject of Heaven from a biblical perspective. She will separate what's true about Heaven from what's based on legend, media depictions, and hopeful guesses. Our group will meet on Thursdays at 9:30 AM for coffee and Bible Study from 10 AM until noon beginning on January 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like for the church to order your book (at cost of \$ 25), please sign up and pay for the book with the church office by Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. You can also buy a book from Lifeway or Amazon. If you purchase the book on your own, you can sign up through the day of the first study. We would love to have you join us for this ladies Bible Study.

## Wednesday Nights are Fabulous at Many FBC!

Join us each Wednesday Night for a great time of food, fellowship, and study. Our meal is covered dish so bring a dish or two and come have dinner with us. Prayer Meeting and Bible Studies begin at 6. Folks have really been enjoying this time of informal discussions, talking about current events, and Biblical applications. We even have studies and activities for our kids and youth during this time. If you have not been attending, you are missing out!

NOTE – We will not have Wednesday Night activities on December 24<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> due to holidays. For more info, contact Many FBC church office!





**First Baptist Church**  
Many, Louisiana

### Worship Leader Needed

First Baptist Church  
990 Main St.  
(318)256-5655  
[www.fbcmany.org](http://www.fbcmany.org)

First Baptist Church in Many is searching for a Worship Leader.

The Worship Leader will mainly be responsible for selecting and leading our music for Morning Worship Service on Sundays. This is a part time position.

If interested, please contact the church office for an application or email resume to [fbcmany@yahoo.com](mailto:fbcmany@yahoo.com) as soon as possible.

## Nursery Worker Position Opening

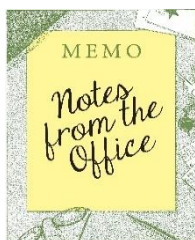
FBC is currently looking to hire an additional nursery worker. This would be a part time position. The applicant would need to be available Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, & as needed for special events. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact the church office for an application as soon as possible.

## Youth Worker Staff Opening

Our Church is now accepting applications for a Youth Worker to guide and disciple students in grades 7 – 12, helping them grow in their faith and walk with Christ. This is a part time position. If interested, please send resume or fill out application at church office in a timely manner.

## Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes Turned in 328 Boxes

Our church did a wonderful job at preparing 328 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We deeply appreciated everyone who prepared boxes or donated funds for us to prepare the boxes. Thanks again to everyone who participated.



## News from the Church Office

- The Church Office will be closed for the Christmas holidays on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. If you need to get in touch with the staff during office closures, please refer to the Emergency Contact section in the monthly church newsletter. Save it for future use.
- The Church Office will close on Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for the New Year's holiday.
- Please have any contributions that you would like to count towards your 2025 contributions into the church office no later than Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> no later than 12 noon.
- If you would like to know what your year to date financial contributions are, please use your Realm account or contact Karen in the church office. NOTE - We will send the yearly 2025 Contribution Statements for you tax purposes by the end of January 2026.



### **Proposed 2026 Budget passed vote**

The Budget and Finance Committees presented the proposed 2026 Church Budget back in November and the church members voted unanimously to adopt this budget for 2026 pass on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions regarding this or any budget matters, please contact Karen in the church office or Paul Morris. Be in prayer for this budget and your part in financially supporting the mission of FBC.

### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> @ 4 PM**

**All Committees should meet now!**

It is almost time for the Church Council Meeting. All church committees should meet prior to January to plan activities and events for 2026 as well as elect a chairperson for the year. Committees can contact the office to schedule meetings and to place them on the church calendar. All church leaders and committee chairpersons are asked to attend the Church Council Meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>. If you have any items for the agenda and church calendar for the council meeting, contact the church office to be placed on the agenda.

### **District Eight Baptist Convention Annual Meeting \* Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup> @ Clara Springs**

**Messengers for our Church to at December Business Meeting**

**On Agenda = Election of Dr. Jack Bell at District Eight Director**

The convention is a great way to know what all is going on within our association. At this meeting, Bro. Jack Bell will be presented as the candidate for the District Eight Director as well as other important matters in our association to be discussed and voted on. Please pray for the messengers from our church as well as other messengers that will be attending, for traveling safety and for the Convention.

### **W.M.U. Meeting**

**No Meeting in December**

**Next Meeting = Tuesday,  
January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 AM**

**Ladies that are interested in learning  
and participating in missions are invited  
to attend.**

### ***Bereavement Committee in Need of Volunteers***

*We are in the process of updating our list of people to help bereavement meals. If you could possibly make a dish or help serve during the meals, please contact the Church Office at 256-5655 to be added so that you can be contacted when the need arises. Thank you for considering to assist this ministry.*

The Church Office will be closed on Monday afternoons. This will allow the office staff to do some records work, cleaning, and maintenance with minimal interruptions. If it is an emergency, of course we will be there to take care of that. Thank you for your help and understanding about the closure.



### **Ways to Watch our Services**

The Facebook Live Stream is a very important part of our ministry here at FBC. It helps us reach those that are unable to attend our service as well as us telling others about our services so they can watch and receive the message. Our videos and audios of past services are also on our website and YouTube page. Log on and check it out as well as share this info with others. The church YouTube account has the worship videos for 2020-2025.

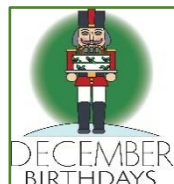
<https://www.youtube.com/@manyfirstbaptistchurch434/videos>

***The Church Flower Calendar for 2026 is now open. If you have a particular Sunday or two in mind that you would like to place flowers in our Sanctuary, please contact the church office so we can schedule you for a date. The flowers that are placed in the Sanctuary add so much beauty to our worship experience.***



*In the early morning hours of Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, Catherine Gentry went to be with our Lord and Savior. She was such a blessing to our church, especially with her love of cooking. For several years, she shared her talent of cooking by helping with our Wednesday Night Meals. She even held a couple of "cooking classes" with some of our church ladies. Our thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Dub, Robin, Paula, and Chris as well as the entire family. Please continue to lift up this family during this time of loss.*

**Does the church office have your contact information? If you are unsure, please drop us an email with your info (cell #, email, mailing address, anniversary date, etc.) so we can update records. Your help in making sure our membership records is correct is appreciated.**



1 Jerry Salley  
3 Shelly Wiggins  
4 Bob Geoghagan,  
"Dub" Gentry  
8 Reid Turner, Charles  
Strickland, Karen Robinson

10 Donnie Smith  
15 Josh Weaver  
18 Kimberly Horton  
19 Paige Alford  
20 Andy Knippers  
25 Becca Morris

27 Delores Geoghagan,  
Hannah Smith, Haley Smith,  
Anita Thedford  
29 Carolyn Cook

### **Members in Service :**

#### **Greeters**

#### **Deacon of the Week**

12/7	Nancy Wright, Cathy Kelly	Paul Morris
12/14	Kathy & Danny Warmack	Don Burkett
12/21	Phyllis Horton, Shirley Salley	Phillip Roark
12/28	Shirley Salley, Delores Geoghagan, and Rocky Wright	Mark Jordan

### **Bulletin & Newsletter Deadlines**

Bulletin for 12/7 = Thursday 12/4 @ 9 AM

Bulletin for 12/14 = Thursday 12/11 @ 9 AM

Bulletin for 12/21 = Thursday 12/18 @ 9 AM

Bulletin for 12/28 = Thursday 12/23 @ 9 AM

Newsletter for Jan. = Thursday, 12/23 @ 9 AM

*To have announcements to be placed in publications, have them to Karen or Phyllis by these deadlines.*

**Deacon Counters for December – Danny Warmack & Mark Jordan**

### **Emergency Contact Numbers**

#### **First Baptist Church of Many**

**Church Office = (318)256-5655 M – F 8 AM – 4 PM**

**AFTER HOURS CONTACTS:**

**Karen Sepulvado = (318)508-1138**

**Phyllis Horton = (318)602-5062**

### **Vital Statistics**

#### **Financial November 2025**

Monthly Budget Needs:	\$ 27,670.29
Gifts Received: (as of 11/23)	\$ 51,569.00
Budget Needs Over:	\$ 23,898.71



### **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OFFICE STAFF**

**Interim Pastor – Rev. Mark Robinson**

**Church & Financial Secretary – Karen Sepulvado**

**Church Secretary – Phyllis Horton**

# ADVENT

## Bible Reading Plan

1 Luke 1:1-4	2 John 1:1-5, 18	3 John 1:1-5, 18	4 Isaiah 9:6-7 & 11:1-5	5 Micah 5:2-4
6 Matthew 1:1-17	7 Luke 1:5-25	8 Luke 1:26-38	9 Luke 1:39-45	10 Luke 1:46-56
11 Luke 1:57-66	12 Luke 1:67-80	13 Luke 2:1-7	14 Matthew 1:18-25	15 Luke 2:8-21
16 Matthew 2:1-12	17 Luke 2:22-40	18 Matthew 2:13-15	19 Matthew 2:16-18	20 Matthew 2:19-23
21 John 1:6-8, 15	22 John 1:9-14	23 John 1:16-17	24 Isaiah 52:13-53:12	25 Revelation 21:1-8

## Christmas Card treasures

Turn old Christmas cards into beautiful keepsake ornaments! It's a fun, simple way to give new life to cards you've received and add a handmade touch to your tree.

**What you need:**

- Christmas cards
- Scissors
- Glue
- Circle pattern (cut from cardboard or trace around object)
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glitter (optional)

**What you do:**

1. Trace a circle onto two Christmas cards.
2. Cut out the circles and glue the backs together.
3. Decorate the edges with glitter or ribbon for extra sparkle.
4. Punch a hole at the top and thread yarn or ribbon through to hang.


*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.*  
— James 1:17 (NIV)

# Puzzle!

## The Christmas Story

Unscramble each set of letters to form a word from the Christmas story. One letter in each set doesn't belong. Write each extra letter below, on the line above the correct number. Then answer the question: What did we all receive at Christmas?

- (1) TGLBEHHEME \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) NEAGLO \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) NRMEDAG \_\_\_\_\_
- (4) ODEKSNY \_\_\_\_\_
- (5) AMGYR \_\_\_\_\_
- (6) OHESJIP \_\_\_\_\_
- (7) EFJSUS \_\_\_\_\_
- (8) ITEENMSW \_\_\_\_\_
- (9) SPHDSREEO \_\_\_\_\_
- (10) EMCFAL \_\_\_\_\_
- (11) TLSRA \_\_\_\_\_
- (12) CSSNUEO \_\_\_\_\_
- (13) HEVSPE \_\_\_\_\_
- (14) ENIN \_\_\_\_\_



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12 13 14

Answers: Bethlehem (5), Angel (1), Manger (10), Donkey (3), Sheep (14), Censur (1), Star (1), Camel (1), Wise men (1), Shepherds (9), Jesus (7), Joseph (11), Mary (6), Inn (8), God's gift of love (4).







# PUZZLE







## GOOD NEWS TO THE SHEPHERDS








What did the angel of the Lord say to the shepherds?






**Directions:** Write the first letter of each picture on the lines.







“
















”

**Luke 2:11, NIV**

Answer: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you." Luke 2:11, NIV