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Jim Brown, *interim pastor*  
James Holder, *youth and family pastor*  
Faye Henthorn, *secretary* Karen Martin, *financial secretary*

First Baptist Church Tulia  
*Reaching In! Reaching Up! Reaching Out!*

December 11, 2017

Bi-Weekly Publication

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## Budget News

Thank you for your continued faithfulness in giving this year! Your gifts have gone to fund all of the various ministries of our church such as Sunday school, the youth activities and our missions organizations. They have also helped to support Citychurch and our growing Exodus Prison Ministry.

As of the end of November, we need just under \$50,000 to reach our designated budget of \$450,000. Please pray and give as the Lord leads you.

Our Finance Committee will begin meeting soon. Please be in prayer for them as they work on our budget for 2018. Chairman is Brian Hill. Other committee members are Eddie Womack, Charlotte O'Daniel, Jana Stephens, Ernesteene Aldridge, Gary Eastwood, Jim Hill, Larry Nelson and Glenna Crooks.

## Children's Choirs Perform

We hope you have enjoyed hearing the Children's Choirs during this Christmas season.

The Preschool Choir will perform their Christmas songs this Sunday, December 17, at the beginning of the morning service.



*May the Peace of Christ be in your hearts during this season and throughout the New Year!*

*Jim, James, Joshua, Faye, Karen & Melissa*



*Bring your family to our Annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Lord's Supper Service Sunday Night December 24 at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall*

We will not have a nursery so that our workers may enjoy this time with their families. Babies and children are welcome!

Dear Church Family,

When Gabriel appeared to Mary in Nazareth, we read:

**Luke 1:28 (NIV) – The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”**

Gabriel was telling Mary that God's favor had been extended to her. God had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus. Though she did not understand God's sovereign work in her life, notice what she was told to be sure of in the last phrase of verse 28 – **THE LORD IS WITH YOU.**

That may be the best thing that you can hear this Christmas. You may be facing financial issues, problems with your children or grandchildren, concerns over aging parents, uncertainty about the future, illness, awaiting test results, or whatever as the holidays approach. God promises to be with you! He will never leave his children, nor forsake them! **GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES!**

That's good news at holiday time or any time.

*Grace and Peace,  
Brother Jim*

## Happy Birthday

- 24 - Debbie Criswell  
 26 - Linda Foster, Barbara Fudge  
 28 - Harvey Foster  
 30 - Ty Bishop  
 January  
 1 - Corey Acker, Annette Holly  
 2 - Kason Eastwood  
 4 - Sue Westfall  
 5 - Cutter Runnels  
 6 - Jeffrey Pond  
 7 - Claire Johnson  
 8 - Don Henthorn  
 9 - Shirley Smith  
 11 - Don Crooks  
 14 - Joe Wood Mote, Aarika Proctor  
 15 - Glenda Gibson, Georgia Proctor  
 16 - Sally Wells

**John Criner**  
 January 4  
 PO Box 696  
 Tulia

**Flossie Payne**  
 January 5  
 417 N. Gaines  
 Tulia

**Hardy Burrow**  
 January 7  
 1018NW 9th  
 Tulia

## We Need Your Help!

The following ministries need volunteers. Please pray about your involvement in one or more of the areas listed below and call the church office as soon as possible.

- |                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Prayer Ministry                     | Citychurch  |
| Exodus Ministry                     | Youth       |
| Wednesday Night Children's Ministry |             |
| Children's Choirs                   | Sound booth |
| Sunday morning Worship Leaders      |             |

## Our Deacons

Here is a current list of our deacons. Please be in prayer for all of them.

- Joe Archer  
 Mikeal Barnes  
 Robert Chadwick  
 Gary Eastwood  
 Dusty George  
 Brian Hill  
 Ben Howard  
 Don Jackson  
 Clint Lewis  
 Bill Marten, Deacon Chair  
 Donnie Prater  
 E.W. Riley  
 Julius Stevens  
 Paul Swanson  
 Eddie Womack

## Thank You

I want to thank you for all of these Bible studies. I've learned a lot. I know it took me a while to finish, but I really enjoyed it. Thank you and God bless you all.

*Exodus Prison Ministry Graduate*

## Newsletter Subscriptions

If you currently receive your church newsletter by mail, it is **time to renew your subscription**. Cost again this year is \$15 to cover the cost of postage and supplies. If you would like to pay for a subscription for someone who can't, please do so. There are other options for receiving the newsletter. It is posted online to our website, sent out by email, and copies made available around the church for you to pick up. If you want to continue receiving it by mail, we need to know as soon as possible. Thank you for helping us with this.

## Congratulations

Jace & Casey Miller announce the birth of their sister



**Maci Jo**  
 November 30, 2017  
 7lb, 14 oz

Proud parents are Chad & Ami.

## Deacons of the Week

December 10	Robert Chadwick	995-4120
	Gary Eastwood	292-8111
December 17	Dusty George	517-0712
	Brian Hill	627-7455
December 24	Ben Howard	627-7556
	Don Jackson	627-8173
December 31	Clint Lewis	570-1001
	Bill Marten	676-2233

## Wednesday Activities

The last Wednesday activities for 2017 will be December 13. Since the school is taking an extended holiday, we will resume on January 10.

**This is the last newsletter for 2017. The next issue will be published on January 8, 2018.**

## Church Office Schedule

The church office will be closed for the holidays December 22 to 26 so the staff can spend some time with their families. Regular schedule will resume on December 27. We will be closed January 1.

## Sympathy

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Tim & Kerri Mercer and family in the death of his father, William "Dub" Mercer.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Camille & Greg Northcutt in the death of her father, Phil Carpenter.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Diann Dougherty and family in the death of her sister, Billie Louise Short.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Les & Ginger Rucker and family in the death of his brother, Eric Rucker.

## Prayer Ministry!

Are you looking for a quiet, peaceful place to spend time with God? We have a newly decorated room dedicated to prayer. You would have an opportunity to be still before the Lord and bring your own petitions before Him. You can also lift up those requests for special prayer that have come in to our Prayer Ministry.



You may come by or call the church office at 995-3591. Someone on staff will help you find a time and show you the procedures.

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints." (Ephesians 6:18)

**Pray and give generously to International Missions**

<p><b>SBC</b>                  Lottie Moon                  Christmas                  Offering</p>	<p><b>CBF</b>                  Global                  Mission                  Offering</p>
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- Dec 13** – Last Wednesday Activities
- Dec 24** – No Sunday school  
 11 am Service only
- Dec 24** – Candlelight Christmas Eve  
 Service 6 pm
- Dec 29 - Jan 1** – Ski Trip
- Dec 31** – Regular Schedule