

*Our mission is to lead people to faith and growth in Christ*

# ***The Network***



The Weekly Newsletter of First Baptist Church, Paris, Tennessee

Volume 62, Number 48

December 10, 2023

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10**



**4 p.m.**

Assisted Living/Nursing Home Facilities



**5 p.m.**

Time of Fellowship • Orr Hall



**6 p.m.**



We began the Christmas season last Sunday morning, enjoying a time of fellowship before Sunday School and then worshipping together as we focused on the gift of hope the birth of Christ brought to us. Thank you to our **decorating team** for enhancing the beauty of our facilities with amazing Christmas decorations and to our **fellowship team** for providing a wonderful atmosphere for fellowship to begin our morning. As always, our **music team** led us to praise the Lord and celebrate the birth of Christ, our Savior.

On Sunday evening, during a **special-called business meeting**, our church voted unanimously to receive a gift of property located at 409 North Poplar Street. The property, which adjoins our church campus, will become the new home of our biblical counseling ministry, which was recently certified as The Paris Biblical Counseling and Education Center, a ministry of First Baptist Church. The approved recommendation also provides up to \$150,000 from available undesignated funds for renovations, repairs and startup needs for the center. We give thanks and praise to the Father for His provision of this property, and we look forward to seeing many lives changed by the faithful instruction and application of His Word!

Throughout the month of December, I encourage you to consider giving to the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**. This annual offering provides needed support to our International Mission Board missionaries who are spreading the good news of the gospel around the world. Our church has set a goal of \$60,000 for this offering, which is the approximate average cost to support one missionary for an entire year. I hope you will prayerfully consider giving generously to support our missionaries this year.

The new year will be upon us in just a few weeks, and now is the time to be thinking about making spiritual commitments for the new year. For the last several years, our church has adopted a **Bible reading plan** we encourage everyone to follow throughout the year. For 2024, we will provide a five-day-a-week reading plan that will allow you to read the entire New Testament, one chapter per day, plus a daily Psalm and a daily chapter of Proverbs. Copies of the reading plan will be available soon so that you can begin planning your reading.

Along with a new reading plan, the new year provides an opportunity to be a part of a **D group** (discipleship group). We will continue to offer an opportunity on Sunday evenings in Orr Hall for you to participate in a discussion of each week's Bible reading. We will also continue to encourage small D groups of 5-6 men or 5-6 women to meet on Sunday evenings to discuss the Bible readings. If you are currently participating in a D group, you may decide to continue meeting together for another year. We also encourage the formation of new groups to include new individuals in this beneficial spiritual discipline. For more information about D groups, you can contact a member of our church staff.

Since reading, studying and applying the Bible is an important part of our spiritual growth, investing in **Bible study tools** is an excellent idea for a Christmas gift. I encourage you to invest in a good study Bible such as the CSB Study Bible, the ESV Study Bible or The MacArthur Study Bible (NASB). These Bibles provide introductions to each book and notes at the bottom of the page to help you understand the context and meaning of the passages you are reading. If you desire additional help on difficult passages, the Bible Exposition Commentary by Warren Wiersbe (6 volumes) is a good basic commentary. A newer commentary series would be the Christ Centered Exposition Commentary published by Holman and available as an individual commentary for each book of the Bible. Many of these reference tools are available for use in our church library if you would like to see them before you buy them.

I look forward to worshipping with you again this Sunday as we think about the peace the birth of Christ brought to us!

In Christ,  
Bro. Trent



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## First Baptist Church

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Submission deadline for  
the next issue is  
Monday, December 11, 2023

*Week of Prayer  
December 3-10*

# Lottie Moon

Christmas Offering

**FBC Goal:**  
**\$60,000**

**Received to Date: \$5,430**



**Christmas**



**Food Boxes**

## **Mission Opportunity**

Saturday, December 16

10:30 a.m. • Meet in CLC

*FBC will be distributing food boxes to the neighborhoods surrounding the church. Those who would like to participate are welcome.*

## **Jesus: Light of the World**

*A Presentation of the  
Music & Worship Ministry*

**Sunday, December 17**  
**6 p.m. • Sanctuary**

## **CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

**Wednesday, December 20**  
**6 p.m. • Sanctuary**



## **This Week At First Baptist**

### **SUNDAY, December 10**

**8:00** Prayer Time

**9:00** Sunday School

**10:15** Worship Service  
(Childcare Birth-3)

**4:00** Christmas Caroling

**5:00** Fellowship (Orr Hall)

**6:00** Adult & Youth  
Discipleship Groups;  
Children's Discipleship

### **MONDAY, December 11**

**11:00** LLL Meeting-Orr Hall

### **WEDNESDAY, December 13**

**2:30** Good News Club at PES

**5:00** Family Night Meal

**5:45** Adult Equipping Center;  
Children's Choirs;  
Youth-The Loft

**7:00** Adult Choir Practice  
& Orchestra Rehearsal

### **SUNDAY, December 17**

**8:00** Prayer Time

**9:00** Sunday School

**10:15** Worship Service  
(Childcare Birth-3)

**6:00** Jesus: Light of the World  
presentation by the  
Music & Worship Ministry

### **WEDNESDAY, December 20**

**6:00** Candlelight Communion  
Service-Sanctuary

### **FRIDAY, December 22**

**Church Office Closed**

### **SUNDAY, December 24**

**10:15** Worship Service Only  
**December 25 & 26**

**Church Office Closed**

### **WEDNESDAY, December 27**

**No Evening Activities**

### **SUNDAY, December 31**

**9:00** Sunday School

**10:15** Morning Worship;  
**No Evening Activities**

### **MONDAY, January 1**

**Church Office Closed**

### **GIFTS RECEIVED**

Don & Mary Kate Ridgeway in memory of  
**John T. & Lillie Ruth Ridgeway**; Ed &  
Holly Ledden honoring **the church staff**;  
Jimmie Isbell in memory of **Shirley Isbell**.



# First Baptist Church



313 N Poplar Street  
Paris, Tennessee 38242  
*One Block North  
of the Court Square*

## Sunday School

9 a.m.

## Morning Worship

10:15 a.m.



**Sunday, December 10**

## Sermon:

*"The Gifts of Christmas: Peace"*  
Romans 5:1-11  
Dr. Trent Bullock

## Foundations Bible Reading Plan

### Week 49 (Week of December 3)

Hebrews	7
Hebrews	8-9
Hebrews	10
Hebrews	11
Hebrews	12

### Week 50 (Week of December 10)

1 Timothy	1-3
1 Timothy	4-6
2 Timothy	1-2
2 Timothy	3-4
1 Peter	1-2

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## FINANCIAL REPORT

**December 3, 2023**

Worship Attendance ..... 331  
Sunday School Attendance .. 317  
Budget Required ..... \$27,404.62  
Budget Received ..... \$42,480.91  
Other Designated ..... \$7,180.00  
Total ..... \$49,960.91

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT

**December 13**

Bacon-wrapped Chicken  
Apple Walnut Stuffing  
Green Beans  
Orange Cranberry Salad  
Roll/Dessert

## Alternate Menu:

Chicken Tenders/Fries/Dessert

## Important Notice

*To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2023 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Contributions must be postmarked by December 31.*



## **LLL MEETING**

**Monday, December 11**

**11 a.m. • Orr Hall**

## Program:

HCHS Madrigals

## **Church Volunteers for Sunday, December 10**

### **Bus Ministry**

#### Driver

Lance Smith

### **Children's Ministry**

#### Babies

Roxanne Flood

#### 1-year-olds

Kaylynn Poole

#### 2 & 3-year-olds

Baldo & Katie Hernandez

### **Media Ministry**

#### Sound

Barry Flood

#### Pro Presenter

Deborah Noble

#### Media Room

Kevin Buie

Will Jelks

Kevin Nanney

### **Security/Usher Ministry**

#### Security

Bob Irby

Bob Moultrie

Bo Sinclair

Jim Solvedt

John Spencer

#### Ushers

Jeff Atkins

Dave Bennett

Josh Hendricks

Bryan Irby

Randy Peale

Adam Steedly

John Taylor

Chris Townsend

Joey Williams