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 worshiping 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 many 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 worshiping with you again this Sunday as we think about the peace the birth of Christ brought to us!

In Christ, Bro. Trent



First Baptist Church

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

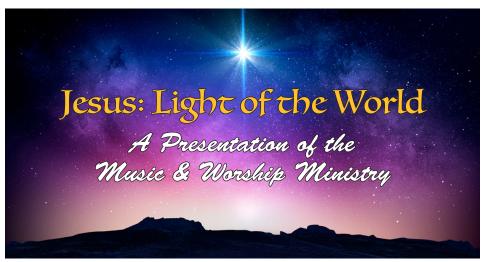




Mission Opportunity

Saturday, December 16 10:30 a.m. • Meet in CLC

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



Sunday, December 17 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 Candelight 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

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FINANCIAL REPORT

December 3, 2023

Worship Attendance	. 331
Sunday School Attendance.	317
Budget Required \$27,40	4.62
Budget Received \$42,48	30.91
Other Designated \$7,18	0.00
Total \$49,96	0.91

WEDNESDAY NIGHT **December 13**

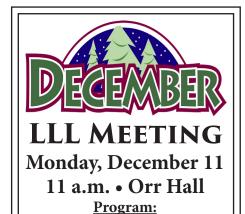
Bacon-wrapped Chicken Apple Walnut Stuffing Green Beans Orange Cranberry Salad Roll/Dessert

Alternate Menu:

Chicken Tenders/Fries/Dessert

Important Notice

To ensure the deductibility of vour 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 vour tax return before receiving a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Contributions must be postmarked by December 31.



HCHS Madrigals

Foundations Bible Reading Plan

Week 49 (Week of December 3) Hebrews 8-9 Hebrews 10 Hebrews Hebrews 11 Hebrews 12

Week 50 (Week of December 10)

1 Timothy 1-3 1 Timothy 4-6 2 Timothy 2 Timothy 1-2 3 - 41-2 1 Peter

Church Volunteers for Sunday, December 10

Bus Ministry Driver Sound **Lance Smith Pro Presenter** Children's Ministry Deborah Noble

Babies Roxanne Flood 1-year-olds Kaylynn Poole 2 & 3-year-olds Baldo & Katie Hernandez

Media Ministry Barry Flood

Kevin Nanney

Media Room Kevin Buie Will Jelks

Security/Usher Ministry

Security Ushers **Bob Irbv Jeff Atkins Bob Moultrie Dave Bennett Bo Sinclair** Josh Hendricks Jim Solvedt **Bryan Irby** Randy Peale John Spencer **Adam Steedly** John taylor **Chris Townsend** Joey Williams