

### **Christmas Concert: Behold Your King** | Sunday, Dec 14 | 6pm

Join us for an evening of music and worship as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ this season with the FBC Worship Ministries and Choir! You can find invitations at the Welcome Center; you're encouraged to invite friends and family to this special concert! Childcare will be provided through age four.

### **Prime Timers Event (age 55+)** | Tuesday, Dec 16 | 11:30am

The Prime Timers' will gather at Russ's restaurant on Dec 16 at 11:30am. Sign up at the Welcome Center. (6444 S. Division Ave, Grand Rapids)

### **Youth Group Christmas Party** | Wednesday, Dec 17 | 6-8pm

All High School and Middle School students are invited to join us on Dec 17 for our annual Christmas Party. There will be an ugly sweater contest, hot cocoa, Christmas themed games, and prizes. Invite a friend and join in the Christmas holiday cheer!

### **Adventure Club Christmas Party** | Wednesday, Dec 17 | 6:30-8pm

All 1st-5th graders are invited to join us on Dec 17 for our Adventure Club Christmas Party! There will be a variety of fun games, Christmas treats, and presents! Invite a friend as we remember and celebrate the coming of our Savior Jesus!

**Middle School Basics Retreat 2026** | January 16-17 | Cost \$55, due December 21  
Middle School teens, don't miss our overnight winter retreat at First Baptist Church of Middleville! Invite some friends and join us for a variety of exciting winter activities, such as 9-Square, sledding, a polar plunge and much more. On this retreat students will learn the basics of the Christian faith. This is a great opportunity to build relationships, have fun, and study God's word together!

### **Christmas Breakfast** | Dec 21 | served 9-10am

A free Christmas Breakfast will be served downstairs in the Fellowship Hall from 9am-10am on Dec 21. There is no sign up to attend and all are welcome! No Sunday School on the 21st or 28th.

### **Christmas Cards** | One drop off date left Dec 21

Want to save on postage & send Christmas cards to those who attend FBC? You can drop off cards on Dec 21. It is very helpful to us if you put a return address or senders name on the envelope, so that we can get it back to you if they were not picked up.

### **General Fund and Capital Improvement Giving** | [fbcmiddleville.net/giving](http://fbcmiddleville.net/giving)

Joyful giving to the Lord is an act of worship. You can give by using the box in the small foyer or online at [fbcmiddleville.net/giving](http://fbcmiddleville.net/giving). Setting up reoccurring giving is a great way to make sure your giving is consistent. Thank you for helping us finish this year strong!

### **ESV Journal for the Gospel of John** | \$4 each

ESV journals for the Gospel of John are available at the Welcome Center for \$4 each. Use them to take notes as we continue with the new series.

### **Offering Envelopes**

The 2026 tithing envelopes are available at the Welcome Center for pick up. If you currently don't have some and would like a set, please let the church office know.

### **Marriage Retreat** | Apr 24-25 | Cost \$60 (Price increase after Dec 31)

We are planning an exciting marriage retreat for April 24-25. See the brochure at the Welcome Center for details. Register and pay at the Welcome Center or online.

### **Upcoming Dates**

Dec 14 | Christmas Concert | 6pm  
Dec 16 | Prime Timers at Russ's Restaurant | 11:30am  
Dec 17 | Youth Christmas Party | 6-8pm  
Dec 17 | Adventure Club Christmas Party | 6-8pm  
Dec 20 | Women's Bootcamp in the Willis Center | 8-9:30am  
Dec 21 | Free Christmas Breakfast & Service (No Sunday School)  
Dec 21 | Middle School Basics registration due  
Dec 24 | No Wednesday Programs

### **AM SCHEDULE**

**9:00-9:30:** Coffee in the Large Foyer

**9:20-9:30:** Drop off window for elementary age Sunday School kids

**9:30-10:15:** Adult Sunday School (6-12 grade classes starts at 9:30 also)

**10:30-11:45:** AM WORSHIP SERVICE

### **Adult Sunday School Classes**

Sundays 9:30-10:15 AM

**East Overflow Class** - Open to all adults, co-ed - East Overflow (room 101)

The Letters of John - Led by John Schmid

**West Overflow Class** - Open to all adults, co-ed - West Overflow (room 102)

*Angels & Demons*, by David Powlison - Led by David Williamson

**Family Class** - For parents with kids in the house or young couples - Fireside Room (111)

Systematic Theology: Gender, Marriage, and Sexuality - Led by Pastor Nate Archer

**Women's Class** - Conference Room (room 118)

*Loving God with all your Mind*, - by Elizabeth George - Led by Pam Jacobson

**Young Adult Class** - For graduates through early twenties (room 122)

1st Peter - Led by Jake Herrera

### **Sunday Children's Programs**

See AM Schedule Above for Times

**Nursery:** For kids under age 2, during Sunday School & during the AM service.

**Pre-School Ministry:** 2 & 3 year olds will meet in room 125 for Sunday School & room 127 for the AM service. 4 & 5 year olds will meet in room 125 for Sunday School & the AM service.

**Elementary Sunday School:** K-5 grade (Downstairs) — See AM Schedule Above

**Youth Sunday School:** Middle School (Willis Center) — High School (Willis Center)

**Kidz Blast:** K-3 grade (Downstairs) — Kidz Blast kids will stay with their parents in the service during singing and then are dismissed for Kidz Blast before the sermon

### **Wednesday Programs**

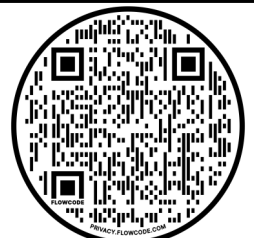
Wednesdays | 6:30-8:00PM

- **Men's Bible Study**—Ephesians (East Overflow)
- **Women's AM Bible Study**—9:15-11:15 AM (Fireside Room) Philippians
- **Women's PM Bible Study**—6:30-8:00 PM (Fireside Room) Philippians (Nursery available for the PM study)
- **Youth Group**—6 to 12 grade (Willis Center)
- **Adventure Club**—1 to 5 grade (Downstairs)
- **Gophers**—4 years to K (Room 125)
- **Nursery**—3 & under, for parents attending a study or helping in ministry

### **Giving Is an Act of Worship**

Thank you for supporting the ministries of FBC with your faithful giving! You can place your tithes and offerings in the box in the small foyer. Contact the office if you would like giving envelopes. You can set up online or reoccurring giving at [fbcmiddleville.net/giving](http://fbcmiddleville.net/giving). Tip: Minimize service fees by using you bank routing number rather than using a credit card. Also, many banks offer automatic check services.

[fbcmiddleville.net/giving](http://fbcmiddleville.net/giving)



# THE TRUE LIGHT

First Baptist Church • Pastor Nate Archer  
12/14/25 • 10:30 AM

## John 1:6-13

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the Baptist was sent as a \_\_\_\_\_ to the light. (6-8)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the true \_\_\_\_\_. (9-13)

## John 1:4-13

<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the **light** of men. <sup>5</sup> The **light** shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the **light**, that all might believe through him.

<sup>8</sup> He was not the **light**, but came to bear witness about the **light**.

<sup>9</sup> The true **light**, which gives **light** to everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

<sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

## John 3:19-21

<sup>19</sup> And this is the judgment: the **light** has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the **light** because their works were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone who does wicked things hates the **light** and does not come to the **light**, lest his works should be exposed. <sup>21</sup> But whoever does what is true comes to the **light**, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

## John 8:12-18

<sup>12</sup> Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the **light** of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the **light** of life." <sup>13</sup> So the Pharisees said to him, "You are bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true." <sup>14</sup> Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness about myself, my testimony is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. <sup>15</sup> You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. <sup>16</sup> Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. <sup>17</sup> In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. <sup>18</sup> I am the one who bears witness about myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness about me."

## John 12:35-36

<sup>35</sup> So Jesus said to them, "The **light** is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the **light**, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. <sup>36</sup> While you have the **light**, believe in the **light**, that you may become sons of **light**."

## John 12:44-46

<sup>44</sup> And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. <sup>45</sup> And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. <sup>46</sup> I have come into the world as **light**, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness.

Also see 1 John 1:5, 7; 2:8,9,10

# FBC Giving Update

December 14, 2025

**Year to Date Budget:** \$653,415.00

**Year to Date Giving:** \$641,753.65

**Year to Date Shortfall:** \$11,661.35

For the General Fund as of November 30 (49 weeks)

Weekly Budgeted Amount: \$13,335.00

20% of the FBC budget goes to Missions and Evangelism.

**Capital Improvement Raised:** \$58,273.53

You can give ONLINE or set up REOCCURRING giving at

**FBCMiddleville.net/GIVING**

Note: Reoccurring giving from your checking or saving account (not credit card or debit) is the most beneficial to the church.



**Guest Wi-Fi Password: GodisGood**

**Office Hours | Tues - Fri 9-3:30pm**

**Church email: [office@fbcmiddleville.net](mailto:office@fbcmiddleville.net)**

## **First Baptist Church Staff**

**Senior Pastor: Dr. Nate Archer**

Nate's cell: 616-366-2018

[natearcher@icloud.com](mailto:natearcher@icloud.com)

**Associate Pastor: Zach Spiller**

Zach's cell: 616-438-2657

[zachs@fbcmiddleville.net](mailto:zachs@fbcmiddleville.net)

**Worship Director: Jake Herrera** [worship@fbcmiddleville.net](mailto:worship@fbcmiddleville.net)

**Office Manager: Nina Wiersma** [office@fbcmiddleville.net](mailto:office@fbcmiddleville.net)

**Office Assistant: Lana Quist**

**Bookkeeper: Beth Berkimer**

**Custodians: Kim Boonstra & Crystal Biesbrock**

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