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Issue Number 43
November 23, 2021



Pastor: *Peter Parker* ♦ Minister of Music & Discipleship: *Alan Headrick* ♦ Student Minister: *Stefan Valdez*

I would venture to guess that if I mentioned the name “Rittenhouse”, you would know who I am talking about. This court case has taken over the media and news for the last two weeks, and it still drags on even after the case was settled in court.

If we turn to the “Liberal News / Media” we hear about a young man who basically went on a racist rampage and killed two men and wounded one other. If we listen to the “Conservative News / Media” we hear about a young man who went to protect a business during riots and killed two men in self defense as well as wounding one other.

Here at First Baptist, I have seen Facebook posts that stand on both sides of the argument. Some say Rittenhouse got away with murder and some say he should never have been arrested in a clear case of self-defense. Because this is such an issue in our nation today, I feel a need to point some truth out. Everybody has an opinion on what the truth is. Most likely it is driven by the choice of news / media you tune in to. Which one is right? Obviously to you, it is the one you listen to. But are they right?

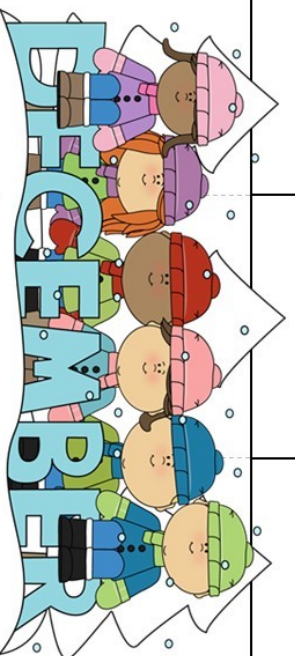

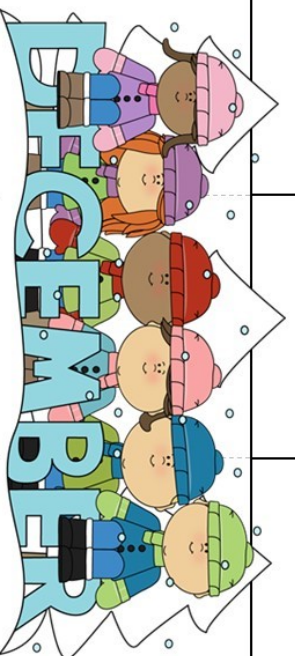

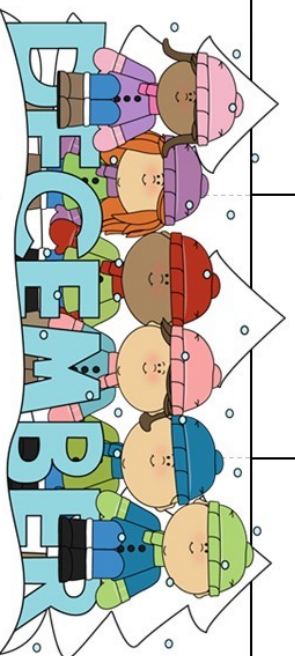

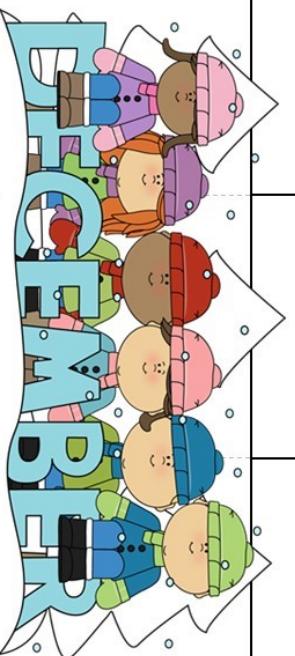
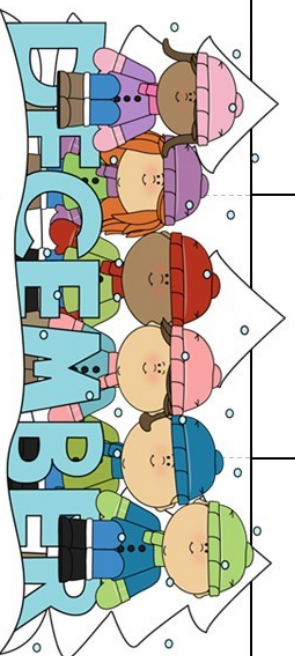
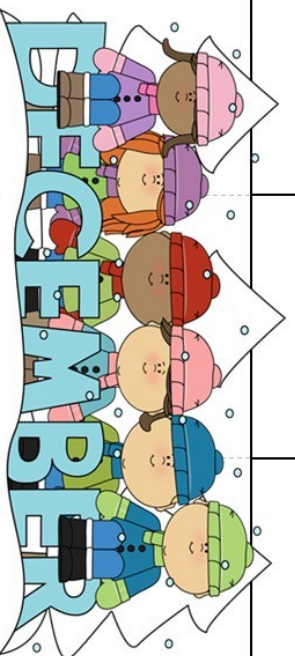
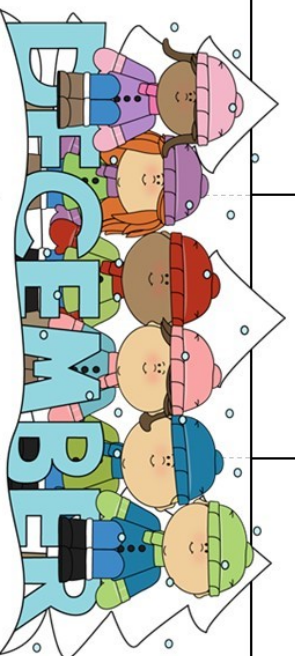
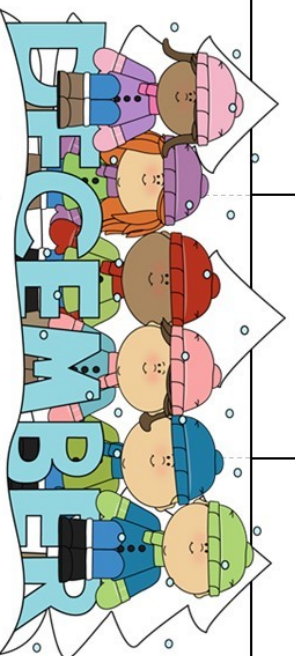


Beloved, when the news networks are willing to share completely opposite stories of a major event in our nation, there is reason that is bigger than most of us see causing it to happen. Satan is behind this because he heard Jesus say, “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand” (Matthew 12:25), and he believed it. Satan is the great deceiver and father of lies, and he is working overtime on this one.

How about we consider this: When this case went to trial, there were a group of men and women, just like you and I who were chosen to hear the arguments, look at the facts, and make a decision on what actually happened. They listened to eyewitnesses who were there, watched a more complete copy of video’s shot during the event than any news outlet shows, and were able to sense what the people were feeling during their testimonies. What if this case had been handled right here in Sayre Oklahoma and you were one of the jury members who listened for hours, discussed the facts with your fellow jurors for hours, and then made the best decision you could make based on the facts. How would you feel if everyone questioned your decision based on what they heard in the news / media? Do you really think those people wanted to be there? Would you if the case was here? When you decide to rip apart a court outcome, just remember, you weren’t there, and Satan wins if he can get people to question those who were.

Beloved, a nation divided against itself will not stand. We are quickly getting there. I just pray that in the church we can see Satan’s deceptions and rise above them by the grace of God.

Pete

P.S. I think it is time we start believing what Jesus said as well and get united in Christ.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 4:00 pm Hensley's Service Noon Business Meeting Pot Luck meal 6:00 pm Worship Choir Dress Rehearsal in sanctuary Morning Worship 12 Vote on Budget 3:30 pm Deacon's Meeting 6:00 pm Worship Choir Christmas Presentation 	 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00-7:30 pm Visitation night 10:00 am Sr. Adult Choir Baptist Village 10:00 am Sr. Adult Choir Bell Avenue Nursing Home 	 10:00 am Sr. Adult Choir Baptist Village 10:00 am Sr. Adult Choir Bell Avenue Nursing Home 6:00-7:00 pm Pastor's Class 19 Ministry 6:00-7:30 pm ConnectKids @ FBC Collide @ FBCCC 7:30 pm Worship Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Sayre Hometown Christmas @ County Barn No Activities Here 	6:00-7:00 pm Pastor's Class 19 Ministry 6:00-7:30 pm ConnectKids @ FBC Collide @ FBCCC 7:30 pm Worship Choir Rehearsal 6:30-9:00 pm Celebrate Recovery meet at FBC 	6:30-9:00 pm Celebrate Recovery meet at FBC Offices Closed 6:30-9:00 pm Celebrate Recovery meet at FBC 	 6:30-9:00 pm Celebrate Recovery meet at FBC Offices Closed 	ConnectKids Girls Look In (3-6 Grades) @ FBCCC  8:30 am-Praise Band Rehearsal 9:00 am-Group Prayer Time 9:30 am-Sunday School 10:50 am-Morning Worship 5:00 pm-Evening Worship 6:00 pm-Discipleship Classes @ church Youth @ FBCCC 
26	27	28	29	30	31	25
No Evening Activities 	Offices Closed	Offices Closed Sr. Adult Choir Homestead of Elk City	No ConnectKids	6:30-9:00 pm Celebrate Recovery meet at FBC		

Alan's Notes



For Music Ministry, the Christmas season begins in August. While not focusing solely on Christmas music, we introduce it, listen to it, let it penetrate our hearts and soak into our spirits. Now as Thanksgiving is upon us and Christmas draws nearer, we have been hard at work and are excited to tell the story of the birth of Jesus in song. We are excited to share with the church an eclectic mix of traditional favorites, fresh expressions of timeless classics and some new songs based on the old, old story. One of the new songs is an upbeat tune entitled, "Heaven's Heartbeat." The lyrics remind us that from the day God said, "Let there be light." It was His intention to enter humanity just as we do—as a newborn baby whose heart beats powerfully with love for this world.

I hope that you are as excited as we are to tell the story of Jesus coming into this world. Christmas provides each and every one of us with an opportunity to remind loved ones, friends and acquaintances of who we worship and why. We are just a few short weeks away from sharing these truths with you as our brothers and sisters and with the community at large. Here are some dates to remember:

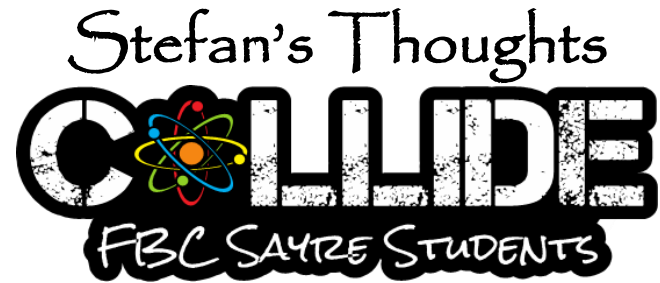
Sunday December 5 at 6 PM – Dress rehearsal for the Worship Choir and tech team.

Wednesday, December 8 around 7 PM the Worship Choir will sing as a part of the Sayre Chamber of Commerce's Hometown Christmas to be held at the County Barn.

Sunday December 12 at 6PM The Christmas Story presented by the Sayre Music Ministry.

We hope that you will set aside the time to celebrate The Christmas Story with us.

With Great Anticipation,
Brother Alan



"It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery." ~ Galatians 5:1

Thank the Lord for His saving grace who saved a sinner like me! If you have trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then you know the magnitude of grace in which Christ has saved us. Galatians 5:1, tells us that Christ died to set us free from sin and from a long list of laws, regulations, and traditions. CHRIST CAME TO SET US FREE! Paul reminds us in this text of the reason for which we have been saved. *"It was for freedom that Christ set us free."* Jesus desires for us to be set free from the bondage of sin, but so often many of us return to the old way of life rather than stand firm in the faith.

Christ came to set us free...not to be free to do whatever we want to do because that only leads us to our selfish desires. All thanks be to God that we have been set free from the grip of sin and are able to do what was impossible before Christ, which is to live life unselfishly. When we live in the power of Christ and walk by faith, Christ can accomplish His will and purpose in and for our lives. He also unlocks our hearts and gives us vision to see the hurts and needs of those all around us. When we live for Christ, He equips us for the task that has been set before us. No matter how big the task, our God is bigger and capable of handling all things. I wonder if you find yourself returning to a *yoke of slavery* or are you standing firm in the freedom Christ has purchased for us? Are you relying on Christ's strength or trusting your own to walk through life? When was the last time you thanked the Lord for setting you free from sin and saving you by His grace? Today would be a good time to do that.

Happy Thanksgiving!

BROTHER STEFAN

happy birthday i thank God for you	Betty Laxton	November 28
	Billy Goode	28
	Nancy Sanders	28
	Josie Kennemer	28
	Mary Patterson	30
	Mary Ann Killian	30
	Audry Moreno	December 04

Church News

November 21, 2021

86	Sunday School	94
0	Life Groups	0

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund	\$9,315.00
Birthday & Anniversary	70.00
Des: ConnectKids	10.00
Des: Kitchen	200.00
TOTAL	\$9,595.00

YEAR TO DATE

Required for budget to date	\$458,864.00
Given for budget to date	\$428,683.56
Other	46,276.50
TOTAL	\$474,960.06



It is once again the holiday season where we celebrate the birth of Christ, and enjoy spending time with family and friends. We celebrate by giving gifts to those we love. It is also the time of year when we as a Church, set aside a special time to recognize our Church staff. This year, we will once again be taking up a love offering for our staff. The combined offering total will be divided as follows:

Pete, Alan Headrick, Stefan: 23 1/3% each.

Terri, & Allen Gilpatrick & Courtney: 10% each.

Starting after Thanksgiving there will be multiple opportunities to contribute. On November 28th and December 5th, you may place your gift in an envelope, and either place it in the Sunday school offering box in your class room, or place it in the regular offering plate. On December 5th, we will also be taking up a love offering at the end of the morning worship service. You may also drop a gift by the church office during business hours. **Please mark all envelopes as "Christmas Gift"**. All contributions will be combined, and distributed as indicated above. We plan to recognize all of our staff members and present these gifts, on December 12th during the morning worship service. I hope each of you will take some time to send a card, letter, email, text or phone call. The tried and true way of showing your appreciation is to give them a hug, and actually tell them in person that you love them, and appreciate their dedication to our church and to the Lord.

Paul O'Briant
Chairman, Personnel Committee

Sunday Servants

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

USHER

Wes Fish, James Gurley, Larry Harless, Paul O'Briant, James Phyllaier, Phil Phyllaier, Rodney Rogers, Matt Thornbrough

NURSERY WORKERS

Laurie Parker

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP TEAM

Cynthia Krehbiel / Makenna Valdez

MEDIA TEAM

Mason Tucker, Annalyse Phyllaier, Brandon Wilson

DEACONS ON CALL

Hubert Pipkin580.729.1878

Gary Quinn.....580.729.9098

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

8:30 A.M. Praise Band Rehearsal
9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:50 A.M. Morning Worship with Bro. Pete
5:00- P.M. Evening Worship with Bro. Pete
..... ConnectKids Choir
6:00-7:30 P.M. Ladies Bible Study
..... Collide @ FBCCC

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2021

6:00 A.M. Men's Prayer Time
10:00 A.M. No Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2021

10:00 A.M. No Senior Adult Choir

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 01, 2021

6:00-7:00 P.M. Pastor's Class
..... 19 Ministry
6:00-7:30 P.M. ConnectKids
..... Collide @ FBCCC
7:30 P.M. Worship Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 02, 2021

6:30-9:00 P.M. Celebrate Recovery @ FBC

