

FIRST FOCUS

THE ADVENT OF MISSION

Advent announces God's mission to the world. He sent his Son from his heavenly home to reign from a manger. Just as God sent Jesus, so we have the chance to participate in this mission throughout the month by hearing, giving, and sharing the good news. Several people among our church body and connected to our church demonstrate the power of God's movement. Some of them leave the comforts of home to share the gospel around the world.

Last Wednesday, we heard a report from Caleb and Terrah Mello. God has called our friends and church members from Tallahassee to go to South Africa and share the gospel. I am excited for them, amazed at their obedience, and praying for them as they go. On Wednesdays December 9 and 16 respectively, we'll hear from two of our missions partners about the CBF Offering for Global Missions and the International Mission Board (IMB) Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Wanda Ashworth will speak December 9. She is the Site Director for Touching Miami with Love (TML) in Homestead, Florida. TML is one of our annual missions budget partners as well as a recipient of the CBF Offering for Global Missions. Wanda will be sharing a report about the work of TML and Global Missions.

On December 16, following business meeting, "our own" Amber and Nick Sroka will be reporting about their work and the importance of the IMB Lottie Moon Offering. Amber and Nick are IMB missionaries to Brazil and are home in Tallahassee for a few months.

These programs will be in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. immediately following our fellowship supper. I hope you will have a chance to hear this good news and give to support these offerings. These are just another way we prepare the way for the Lord and come home to the manger this Christmas. Just as God sent his Son, so we go in His name.



THIS WEEK

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR INMATES

We need 3,000 religious Christmas cards that include a meaningful Christian witness to give to the 1,000 inmates in the Leon County jail. Each inmate will be provided with three cards to send to family and friends, along with a tract telling them of God's gift of love to them. Collection boxes are in the College Avenue foyer, library, and the Welcome Center. **PLEASE BRING YOUR CARDS BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6.**

SINGLEFOCUS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Join us for the "Sights, Sounds, & Smells of Christmas" on Friday, December 11, at 6:00PM. RSVP in SMBS, by emailing Joy at joy@fbctlh.org, or at <http://www.fbctlh.org/events/singlefocus-christmas-party/> by December 6th.

Please bring stocking stuffer items. We will be taking up donations to provide Christmas for three families, wrapping their gifts, and filling their stockings!

BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM

Share breakfast with friends and family, experience the Christmas story, participate in crafts, and have photos taken at the nativity! Saturday, December 12, at 9:30AM in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

BUS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

We are in need of someone to drive a church bus to pick up and return senior members of our congregation on one Sunday of each month for the Traditional Service and SMBS. No special driver's license is required. If you would like to volunteer for this ministry, or if you would like additional information, contact Jordan Mallory at jmallory@fbctlh.org.

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Be inspired by the music of choir, orchestra, and praise team. Be challenged by the story and writing of G. K. Chesterton as presented by our Drama Ministry. Come with us this season... "To the end of the way of the wandering star, to the things that cannot be and that are, to the place where God was homeless and all men are at home."

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS!

Sunday, December 13, 6:00PM.
Tickets required (free). An offering will be received.
Interpreted for the Deaf.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:45AM Coffee Gathering
8:00AM Median Adult III Bible Study, Parlor
9:00AM Traditional Worship - Sanctuary
10:00AM Church-wide Bible Study Options
11:15AM Contemporary Worship - Sanctuary
12:30PM Parent's Time Out

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

10:30AM First Joy, CC-2201
5:00PM First Brass, Adams 200
6:00PM Bells of Praise, Adams 211

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:30AM Knitting Ministry, Welcome Center
6:00PM Childcare for Internationals, D-209
6:30PM INTERNATIONALS - English Classes, C2201
7:00PM Capital Bells, Adams 211

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

11:00AM Senior Ladies' Bible Study, Large Meeting Room
12:00PM Young Ladies Lunch
4:45PM Fellowship Meal - Fellowship Hall
6:00PM Children's: Music and Missions - Duval 2nd Fl
6:00PM Mission Wednesdays - Sanctuary
6:00PM Youth - Collide - CLC-Quad
6:00PM Mom's Connect - Adams BSMNT
6:30PM Praise Team Singers - C-2203
7:00PM Chamber Players - A-200 Choir Room
7:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal - C-2201
7:00PM Youth Choir - Adams 211
7:00PM 3 Year Olds - KDG - Preschool #8
7:15PM Young Adult Bible Study: VERITAS - Adams 317
7:15PM Praise Team - Sanctuary
7:30PM Children's: Grades 1 - 5 Childcare - Preschool #8

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:00AM INTERNATIONAL - English Classes - C2201
9:00AM Childcare for Internationals - D209

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

6:00PM SingleFocus Christmas Party - Fellowship Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

9:30AM Breakfast in Bethlehem - Fellowship Hall

COMING SOON

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Christmas fun for the whole family – children will play Christmas songs, participate in a spontaneous nativity, and experience the true meaning of Christmas time at 4:00PM.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Come home for Christmas Eve. Carols and candlelight frame this service of joy as we gather around the manger, homeless no more at 6:00PM.

DESSERT THEATRE, JANUARY 22-24 2016

Dessert Theatre will be performed the weekend of January 22-24. We will be performing Disney songs from Mary Poppins, High School Musical and Frozen! There will be 4 performances: Friday evening at 7:00 pm, Saturday evening at 7:00 pm, Sunday Matinee at 2:00 pm and Sunday evening at 6:00 pm. Tickets will be available beginning Sunday morning, January 3, after both morning worship services. There is no charge for the tickets. A love offering to offset the cost of the youth choir mission trip will be taken at each performance.

DEATH AND BIRTH NOTICES

As part of the new strategic plan, we will begin notifying the congregation of the death of church members and the birth of babies with their family's permission. We ask that you subscribe to these notices by email. We'll continue to communicate to family members and extended family by the prayer list and through SMBS classes and normal channels of communication.

When a church member or attender dies, Pastoral staff will contact family and ask for their permission to publish information to the church. Information will contain a link to the obituary and information about service times. Email will be distributed when service times are confirmed or within 48 hours of the contact (whichever comes first).

Members and friends of First Baptist may call the information into the church and may distribute info to their SMBS groups and email lists. However, only members of immediate family have permission to ask the church to send out churchwide death notices.

CONNECT WITH US online @fbctlh



SERVE

FLORIDA BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

For the month of December, we will join the Children's Home in providing personal hygiene supplies: hand lotion, chap stick, tissues with lotion, knit gloves, scarves, and hats. Collection bins are in the College Avenue foyer, the Welcome Center, by the elevator on the first floor of the Adams building, and in the main office.

Check out the fbctlh.org/Serve page for more ways to get involved now in serving in and through FBCTLH.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF TALLAHASSEE

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PERIODICALS
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THE VISION NEWSLETTER

The Vision (USPS 662-400) is published weekly, except for Independence Day and Christmas, by First Baptist Church, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

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For submissions, address corrections, or to unsubscribe, contact x132 or hello@fbctlh.org.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Vision, 108 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301.

SERVICE RECORDINGS

fbctlh.org/sermons

Our Traditional Worship service is broadcast on Comcast Channel 21 at 11:00AM each Sunday.

Contact x215 or lee@fbctlh.org with questions.

If you are homebound and would like to be on our mailing list to receive a free DVD of our worship services each week, please contact x201 or lenoir@fbctlh.org. All other requests are \$5, and can be made at the front desk or online at fbctlh.org/contact.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Hamburger (meat or veggie) on bun, baked beans, green salad, fries, all the burger fixings, dessert

Kid's Corner: Hot dog

FINANCIALS

YTD budget: \$2,713,373

Receipts 11/29: \$29,269

YTD receipts: \$2,312,839

Winter Missions Offering: \$830.00

DEACON SCHEDULE

Deacon of the Day – Charles Lawson

Deacons of the Week

- 9AM Paul Lambert
- 10AM James Craig
- 11AM Al Eppinger

SECURITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 6

- 8AM Tim Barry
- 10AM Lyle Ragans
- 11AM Erik Eikeland

Wednesday, December 9

- 6PM Charles Maynard

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY

10:00AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

11:15AM

LEAVING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Luke 1:23-25, 39-56