



FROM THE PASTOR'S HEART



We are in full Christmas Season mode at FBC! The church building is decorated, Sunday School departments are celebrating, special programs are taking place throughout the month, and there is a great sense of anticipation in the air! Let's remember, too, that one of the highlights of our year is upon us. The Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra will present "Almost There" on December 10 during the morning worship service. I can tell you that the music and lyrics for this fantastic presentation will definitely focus our hearts clearly on the Lord, "God with us!" Let's make sure to have a high attendance on this Sunday and invite many neighbors.

Have you heard the big news? Christmas has come a bit early to FBC this year. During the fall months, Vince and I met with some children's ministry leaders, the Properties Committee, and the Finance Committee gaining input and exploring ideas for creating a children's ministry wing in the church building. All children's ministry meeting space currently is outdated and highly spread out throughout the campus. When young families come to our church, it is not only difficult to give directions but also it is not feasible to create an environment where families experience the full scope of our dynamic church's ministries. We do not always have children, except for those in the nursery, in a totally secure area.

So, we've all come up with a plan. Here it is: All children's activities (Sunday School and Kingdom Kids) would be moved to the first floor of the Education Building, where the CDC used to be. Renovations

would take place to this area, including the installation of an indoor playground from a group called Worlds of Wow from Denton, Texas. The playground would be used for year-round outreach. Our Servants by Grace department would also be asked to take over the entire third level hallway and classrooms of the Education Building for ministry expansion. This is where the children's Sunday School is located at present. We have a goal of increasing our young family membership (people under 40) by 30% in 2018. The Properties Committee and the Finance Committee have unanimously approved this plan. The plan will come to the wider church body for approval after the first of the year.

What is this going to cost? Here's the bottom line. Rocky has set a budget of \$31,329.37 for reconfiguring walls and ceilings, updating flooring and paint, and preparing for electrical work. The total cost of the playground—delivered and installed—is \$63,000. The Finance Committee approved financing the project through the church's Special Estate Fund (account 84062), which will provide \$32,500 for this project. The remaining cost of approximately \$65,000 would come from the Sale of Properties Fund (account 84065). We anticipate the project starting soon after church approval (likely in mid to late January 2018) and being ready by Easter (April) 2018. It is a goal to have all the children's activities and Sunday School move to the new area by Easter.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Vince, Rocky, Melodie, or me. We are very excited about this project and see it as a catalyst for excitement and ministry growth in the near future.

Pastor James

Sunday, December 10

Almost There

presented by the Christmas Choir & Orchestra, 10:30 A.M., Sanctuary

The Music of Christmas,

presented by the Glory Choir
5:00 P.M., BRC Chapel

Sunday, December 24

Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.

Morning Christmas Eve

Worship Service, 10:30 A.M.

No Evening Worship

Monday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Church Office closed

(Reopens 8:30 A.M., December 27)

Wednesday, December 27

No Wednesday activities

Saturday, December 30

Monte Maxwell Organ Concert

3:00 P.M., Sanctuary

Sunday, December 31

Sunday School, 9:00 A.M.

Morning Worship, 10:30 A.M.

No Evening Worship

Monday, January 1

Happy New Year!

Church Office closed

(Reopens 8:30 A.M. January 3)

Share
in the Joy
of the Christmas
Season



Children enter foster care through no fault of their own, because they have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. These children are in temporary custody of the State, and in Tom Green County, 67% of the children have to be placed 100 miles or more away due to a lack of foster homes in our area. These children lose connections to their home, school, teachers, friends, relatives and sometimes even their siblings. They enter a world of unknowns.

You can be a part of the solution. The development of local foster homes is crucial. While not an easy task at times, the opportunity to offer a child a safe home and connectivity to their community is a life-long reward.

Child Protective Services and area child placing agencies have launched the *Is There Room in Your Inn?* campaign to run until January 1, 2018. For more information on how to help fill this critical need in our community, visit www.adoptchildren.org or contact Tony Rastetter, Child Protective Services Faith Based Specialist for Region 9 at 657-7400.



Holiday Publications Schedule

The Equipper special eight-page issue will be published on December 19, with information on the year-end and first of the year events schedule. This issue will also include pictures from the many Christmas events happening around FBC, so remember to send photos from your department and class parties, keeping in mind that digital photos work best. These may be emailed to powers@fbcsanangelotx.org. Please include a brief caption about the event. The deadline is noon on Monday, December 18, but it will be a big help if you will send the information and photos as soon as you have them.

Because the office is closed on Tuesday, January 2, the first issue of 2018 will be on Wednesday, January 3, and information will need to be submitted by noon on Tuesday.

Fun & Fellowship
 Monday, December 18
 6:00 p.m. in First Place
 Wear your festive clothes, bring your favorite Christmas dish to share, and invite your friends to join us for a joy-filled night of great food & fellowship.

Year-End Giving

As you pray about your stewardship during this Christmas Season, please remember the following:

- Any gifts received in worship services through Sunday, December 31, 2017 will be considered as tax deductible for 2017, as well as gifts that are mailed and postmarked by December 31, 2017.
- You may bring your gifts to the church office between now and the end of 2017, but please note that we will close at 2:00 pm on Friday, December 29, 2017 and not re-open until Wednesday, January 3, 2018.
- These gifts will be applied to the 2017 budget. Any other gifts will be applied to the 2018 budget and will be considered as tax deductible for 2018.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Mac McCarson, Financial Director

'Tis the Season

Responders (4)
 Thursday, December 7, 6:00 p.m., Northgate Clubhouse

Encouragers (6)
 Friday, December 8, 6:00 p.m., Northgate Clubhouse

Staff
 Tuesday, December 12, 5:30 p.m.
 Church Office closes at 5:00 p.m.

Youth
 Wednesday, December 13, 5:00 p.m., CLC

Seekers (5)
 Sunday, December 17, 9:00 a.m., Chapel

University
 Tuesday, December 19, TBA

For more information on Sunday School events, call the church office for the Department Director's contact information.

2017 Global Missions Offering

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions and the CBF Global Missions Offering
\$3,343.00

BIRTHDAYS

December 6 Sue Mansfield Wyatt Morris	December 13 Frances Beck Paul Henson Eddie Williams Jerry Williams
December 7 No FBC Birthdays	December 14 Lane Whitney
December 8 Norma Cummings Chris Garcia	December 15 Christopher Grady Jane Landers
December 9 Alexis Garcia ALyssa Garcia John Paul Johnson Jean McDonald Wanda Owens	December 16 Janis Baucom Coy Byrd
December 10 Lea Beyerlein	December 17 Debbie Conn Bob Harthcock Gerald Lackey
December 11 Janet Gregory Luke Hogg Robby Truelove	December 18 Desiree Garcia Diane Jennings Vance Palmer Carla Williams
December 12 Bobby Fletcher Nyla Rosenstrom	December 19 Bill Fannin Jackie White

COMING UP @ FBC

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6 6:00 p.m. Special Called Business Meeting, Fellowship Hall
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7 12:00 p.m. Threads of Blessing, First Place 1:00 p.m. Glory Choir concert, Lyndale
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 4:45 a.m. Any & All (Adult 2) Trip to Prestonwood Baptist program 6:30 p.m. Christmas Choir Dress Rehearsal
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 9:00 a.m. Threads of Blessing, First Place
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18 6:00 p.m. Fun & Fellowship, First Place
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19 5:15 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting, C207
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 5:15 p.m. Deacon Council Meeting, W203

Christmas Parties are listed on page 2.

WITH SYMPATHY

We express our deepest sympathy to those who have lost loved ones:

Jeanne Jones in the death of her husband, Truman Jones.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

November 26	
FBC Sunday School	
Enrollment	757
Attendance	244
Baptist Retirement Center	
High Rise Class	8
Talley House Class	8
GRAND TOTAL	260
December 3	
FBC Sunday School	
Enrollment	758
Attendance	272
Baptist Retirement Center	
High Rise Class	8
Talley House Class	8
GRAND TOTAL	288

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

December 10	Tim Reid Charlie Smith Tommy Moran
December 17	Bill Spraggins Kenny Wright Craig Terrill
December 24	Don Ball Greg Baucom Gary Allen

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Week Ending November 26	
Weekly Budget Needs	\$27,292.37
Tithes and Offerings	\$18,959.89
YTD Budget Needs	\$1,310,033.24
YTD Tithes & Offerings	\$1,322,033.54
2017 Budget	\$1,419,203.00
Week Ending December 3	
Weekly Budget Needs	\$27,292.37
Tithes and Offerings	\$30,304.02
YTD Budget Needs	\$1,337,325.90
YTD Tithes & Offerings	\$1,353,044.10
2017 Budget	\$1,419,203.00

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

November Report

During November, the Homebound Ministry Team made 245 visits, 8 phone calls and sent out 12 cards/letters.

This ministry team meets for lunch on the last Wednesday of each month, except for July and December. For more information, please contact Barbara Rowland at 949-6492.

INFORMATION NEEDED

If you or a family member is having surgery or is hospitalized for any reason, please make sure to let us know so that the staff may extend pastoral care. Contact Becky Powers at 655-4101 or powers@fbcsanangelotx.org.

**ELEVATOR REPAIRS
WILL BEGIN IN EARLY
JANUARY 2018.**
More details coming soon.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Mid-Week Meal

December 6

Tacos, King Ranch chicken, pinto beans, Mexican corn, chips, salad bar and dessert

December 13

Hamburgers, chicken nuggets, baked beans, chips, fried okra, salad bar and dessert

December 20

Turkey tetrazzini, vegetable beef soup, steamed broccoli, mashed potatoes, corn, salad bar and dessert

Menu is subject to change.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

37 E. Harris, San Angelo, Texas • Mail: PO Box 2138, 76902 • Phone: 325.655.4101 • Fax: 325.659.2517 • www.fbcсанangelotx.org

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Dr. James Hassell, Pastor
Bill Gillum, Minister of Music

Vince Smith, Minister to Families
Melodie Penland, Family Ministry Associate

AJ Deardorff, Director of
Broadcast Media
Brian Thomas,
Broadcasting & Media Sound Tech

Dr. Jerold McBride, Pastor Emeritus
Linda Bratcher, Organist
Janet Faulkner, Pianist
Rocky Stone, Building Engineer
Pam Granger, Food Service Director

Becky Powers, Pastor's MA
Martha Bailey, Office MA
Mac McC arson, Financial Director

FBC MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Live at 10:30 am on KCLL 100.1 FM; Rebroadcast at 8 am on KIDY, Cable Channel 10/110 and at 10 am on My San Angelo, Cable Channel 141

The First Baptist Church Christmas Choir & Orchestra presents

Almost There

A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

Created by **MICHAEL W. SMITH**,
WES KING, **BRADLEY KNIGHT** & **LUKE GAMBILL**

Sunday, December 10
10:30 am, FBC Sanctuary

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

3:30 p.m. Free 8th, CLC

WEDNESDAY

4:30 p.m. Library Open
4:15 p.m. REACH Youth Hang Time
5:00 p.m. Sunday School Teachers Meeting
5:00 p.m. Mid-Week Meal
6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Kingdom Kids
5:45 p.m. REACH Youth Worship, CLC
6:45 p.m. Worship Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY

10:30 a.m. Glory Choir
2:30 p.m. Backyard Bible Club @ Ft. Concho Elementary

SATURDAY

10:00 a.m. BRC Highrise Bible Study

SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. Fellowship Time
9:00 a.m. Bible Study for all ages
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship Service
5:00 p.m. Southern Gospel Worship Service at Baptist Retirement Center

See page 3 for changes in weekly schedule.

A Christmas Collection

Presented by the
First Baptist Church Glory Choir

Sunday, December 10
5:00 pm in the BRC Chapel

Special Recognition and Reception for Rocky Stone

It's time to celebrate! Please mark your calendars for December 17, as we will recognize Rocky Stone for his 30 years of fantastic service on our church staff in the morning worship service. Also, you are invited to a reception that same day in the Fellowship Hall from 3:30-4:30pm. Gifts are welcomed and encouraged.