



Anticipating and Preparing

December is one of my favorite months. Certainly, we have plenty to do as we plan for the special celebrations that take place throughout the month. For the most part, December is a season of anticipation. It includes the season of Advent in which waiting and preparing are essential elements.

December begins with the excitement of the coming season and ends with the hope of the new year. I pray that this will be a wonderful season for each and every person around First Baptist Church. I look forward to our time together as we celebrate the coming of the Messiah.



In Worship

- ▷ December 02 - Why? (Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:3-6, 17-19)
- ▷ December 09 - Esther (Esther 4:1-17)
- ▷ December 16 - Light of the World (Isaiah 42:1-9)
- ▷ December 23 - Emmanuel (Matthew 1:18-25) Combined Service at 10:45 AM
- ▷ December 24 - The Time Came (Luke 2:1-20) 7:00 PM
- ▷ December 30 - Shepherds Visit (Luke 2:8-20) Combined Service at 10:45 AM

Legacy Campaign

We are into the second year of our campaign with \$199,647.00 collected so far. An anonymous \$10,000 arrived last month. What a great gift! We thank that donor for a big surprise. We thank all of you for your faith in our church and community into the future. Thank you all for your gifts and prayers for this campaign.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

'Tis the time for bell ringing. We are going to bring our annual support inside this year to our church. Standing outside at the mall in inclement weather when one is a senior citizen is not always smart. We have had at least two ninety-year-olds ring year after year. This year we will ring bells at our church on **December 9, and December 16**. Opportunities to ring begin at **8:30 AM** at the west and north sanctuary doors, **10:15–10:45 AM** in the lower auditorium at the east or west entrance, and at the end of the service at the west and north entrances. We usually raise around \$500–\$600 for the Salvation Army. We are setting a goal of \$550 for this season. If you want to donate a check, please make it out to Salvation Army. We can evaluate after this season whether we can move to this new model. Sue Mutter will be looking for volunteer bell ringers for these times . You can contact Sue at 765-749-3484.

Christmas Caroling Event

The annual Christmas caroling - dinner - program is **Sunday, December 9**. If you plan to go caroling, be at Riverside Avenue Baptist Church at **3:30 PM**. We will leave Riverside at 4:00 PM. The dinner will be at **6:00 PM**. The program will be after dinner. This year's program will be Common Ground. They will do a great job. Please bring a dish or two to share. The meat, drinks, and table service will be furnished. If you plan to go caroling, please contact Terry Harke 765-284-2852 or Jane Patton 765-393-5085 or Anne Crow 765-282-0676. This information will help set up the caroling groups. We look forward to a great evening!

Business Meeting

We will gather in an all-church business meeting on **Sunday, December 9**, to adopt the proposed 2019 budget and approve recommendations from the Nominating Team for the 2019 CCT. We will begin promptly at **10:15 AM**. You can pick up a copy of the 2019 budget

from Dan Lemen following services on November 25 and December 2. Please contact Dan or a member of the CCT if you have questions.

Life Groups

Most of our life groups are on break during December and January. The new life group session will begin in February. If you are interested in being in a life group, please see Julie Davis.

World Mission Offering

Thank you for your donations to the World Mission Offering. This year \$165.10 was collected for our World Missions.

Children's December Newsletter

For those who have children, Britney Sue and the Children's Ministry team are sending out a Children's newsletter with important dates and events for children. If you need a copy, please let Britney know so she can add your name to the list.

Special Services

During the holiday season, we will gather in a combined worship service for both Christmas (**December 23**) and New Year (**December 30**) services at 10:45 AM. Sunday school classes will meet at **9:15 AM** on these Sundays. Please check with your class teacher to make sure that your class will be meeting on these days. We will also gather at **7:00 PM** on **Christmas Eve** for our annual candlelight communion service.

Reserve Your Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to remember or honor someone, plan to sponsor a Christmas poinsettia. The flowers will decorate the sanctuary on the Sunday before Christmas and on Christmas Eve and then may be taken home. Watch the bulletin for how to order and for the price. Deadline for purchase will be **Monday, December 10**.

Contribute to Christmas Gifts for FBC Staff

Each year the pastors receive a Christmas gift from the congregation and church. If you would like to contribute to a gift for Wade's family (pastor), Clif's family (worship arts pastor) or Bruce's family (first service worship director), please give cash or a check made out to First Baptist Church. Contributions may be given to Bill Eidson, Dan Lemen, Ray Conley or Molly Flodder.

Women's Mission Circle

The Home Mission Circle invites any women of the church to join them at the Red Apple Cafe on Oakwood on **Tuesday, December 18 at 11:30 AM** for a Christmas luncheon.

Pillowcase Project

The women and ladies from the YWCA and A Better Way will not sew in December. We will take about 60 pillowcases to Christian Ministries Sleeping Rooms, Kids Peace (an organization that assists foster children and their families), and the YWCA blanket cupboard. We will also donate new pillows to go with the new pillowcases. Dedication of these pillowcases will be December 9. We thank all of you for your help, your donations and your prayers for this neighborhood project.

Thank You Notes

Clif, Julie, Sandy, Heidi, and Ian Davis – Dear FBC family, Thank you so much for the lovely basket of fruit and goodies you gave us in November. We appreciate the many ways, big and small, you show us Jesus' love throughout the year. So glad we are part of your church family!

The Allen family – Thank you so much for the fruit basket. We enjoyed the wonderful fruit and snacks. We are grateful for this ministry and know that those who are unable to get out feel the love of the their church family as they receive their basket.

Outreach Team – A big thank you to Britney Sue and the 12 cars that hosted Trunk or Treat in our parking lot. Dressed children from the neighborhood and our church families had fun and collected lots of candy. The children were appreciative and thanked the providers. It was a busy hour.

YWCA Donations – Thank you again for your wonderful donations to the YWCA. Your clothing, food, cosmetics, toiletries, blankets and towels are so appreciated.

Betty Arthur – Dear First Baptist Church, The fruit basket you delivered to me was greatly appreciated. It was filled with fruit and other delicious treats — Thank you so much!

Pam Williams – Thank you so much for the flower I received during my recent recovery. In God's love.

Visitor or Bulletin Information

If you would like an announcement in the January Visitor, please email it to wade@fbcmuncie.org by **Sunday, December 16**. You can also email articles for the weekly bulletin by Tuesday of each week.

December Birthdays

We would like to say Happy Birthday to the following people in the month of December. Please let them know that you are thinking of them on their special day.

12/01 - Ann Heilman	12/21 - Danielle Heimlich
12/02 - Katy Cardwell	12/25 - Brian Green
12/02 - Tyler Stinson	12/26 - Grace Wright
12/04 - Shirley Johnson	12/26 - Josh Barr
12/06 - Eliana Heimlich	12/26 - Randolph O'Bryant
12/06 - Justus Hendrickson	12/27 - Winona Frey
12/08 - Emma Wright	12/29 - Ginger Hendrickson
12/09 - Julie Morency	12/30 - Jennifer Howard
12/11 - William Eidson	12/30 - Robert Kirklin
12/19 - Levi Allen	12/31 - Paula Furnish
12/20 - Harold Gill	12/31 - Rodney Head
12/20 - Willow Brown	