

OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST

"To be found faithful as God's People."

The First Family

DECEMBER 2024

FROM YOUR PASTOR

The Miracle We Celebrate


The Christmas season is certainly a special time of the year. The kids are looking forward to their break from school and the college students are ready to finish up exams. It is filled with anticipation surrounding the purchasing and exchanging of gifts with those we love and appreciate. It is also a time that many are a little more open and willing to discussions concerning the meaning of Christmas. It would be wise of us to be alert to the opportunities that are presented to us to share the gospel. I cannot think of a better gift to give a person than an explanation of God's grace and an invitation to receive His gift of salvation.

I applaud the hard work that so many of you accomplished with Operation Christmas Child and the Thanksgiving Meal Ministry. Families and children locally and around the world have been impacted by your love, kindness, and generosity.

This month we will receive our annual offering for the Lottie Moon International Mission Offering. This offering supports over five thousand of our missionaries that serve around the world. Please pray and give as the Lord leads. Please mark your calendars as our children will present their Christmas program on Saturday, December 7, and Sunday, December 8. The Adult Christmas Cantata will take place on Sunday, December 15. What a blessing these services will be as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

I love you church family and pray that you enjoy and celebrate the miracle of Christmas this month and throughout the new year.

Blessings,
Bro. Brad



LOTTIE MOON INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERING

During the month of December we will receive this special offering that goes to the support of our over 3,500 Southern Baptist Missionaries serving all over the world. Please pray and give as the Lord leads!



OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST

THE LOANED MANGER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 — 6:30PM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 — 6:30PM

DESSERT FELLOWSHIP AFTER PERFORMANCE



OWENTON FIRST BAPTIST WORSHIP CHOIR
PRESENTS

I Call Him LORD

Created by John Bolin, Cliff Duren, & Blake Walker - Arranged & Orchestrated by Cliff Duren

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 — 11:00AM

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias will be available to purchase in memory or in honor of a loved one. Envelopes are next to the bulletins in the church hallways and may be placed in the offering plate. The cost is \$18.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

BRAD BANKS — PASTOR
CHUCK HARRIS — WORSHIP & MEDIA PASTOR
ROSS FORD — YOUTH PASTOR
KILEY BLAIR — DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SUSAN STOWE — MINISTRY ASSISTANT

MUSIC AND MEDIA MINISTRY

IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE...CHRISTMAS?!

Welcome to December, church family!

As I write this article is currently Wednesday, November 20. That's right, if you are keeping track of our monthly articles (*and you should be of course*), you will notice I'm a whole 7 days earlier than last year!! However, just like last year, if your November has been anything like mine then you understand just how busy you get at this time of the year. Between a trip to Paducah for the KBC Annual Meeting, planning for and helping lead our Association's Annual Meeting, working on our upcoming Children's Christmas musical and adult cantata (more info below), visiting and spending time with family, and the 24/7 tech support I become when that family gathers together, I've barely had enough time to eat a third slice of pumpkin pie!! And yes, I realize that's it's not even Thanksgiving yet and I'm already eating pumpkin pie!

All in all, this is my favorite time of year! From the first of November to the beginning of January, especially. It's a time that we celebrate family, friends, and, most importantly, the birth of our Lord and Savior. I'm also excited because Christmas music is some of my favorite music (but ONLY after Thanksgiving).

As we move into this month, I want to encourage you to join our FBC Children on Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 at 6:30 pm as we present our Children's Christmas Musical, *The Loaned Manger*. Yes, you read that correctly...TWO chances to see this musical! These kids have been working tremendously hard on this musical and I am super excited that we get to share it with you!! You will be blessed by the songs, the jokes, and the talent of these kids, but, more importantly, you will be blessed by the story presented by them! This is a great opportunity to invite someone who needs to hear the Christmas story in a easily accessible way!! We will have a dessert fellowship after our Sunday evening performance — the Gospel and brownies...always a winning combination!!

Our FBC Worship Choir has been working diligently since September, preparing to present our cantata, *I Call Him Lord* to you! It takes a lot of time and effort to learn words, notes, parts, etc. But the members of our choir willingly take on the challenge each year. I am so proud of the work they do — not just at Christmas, but throughout the year. They do it because they love the Lord, they love this church family, and they love to serve by singing praises to our God. We will present our cantata on Sunday, December 15 at 11:00 am.

So, as you can see, this month is filled to the brim with excitement! I can't wait to celebrate Christmas with you!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Bro. Chuck

SHOPPING DAY AT OWENTON MANOR

We will once again bless the residents of Owenton Manor with a Resident Shopping Day. This is a day when residents are allowed to shop for members of their family free of charge. A group of women from the church will also wrap their presents and write name tags to be placed on the gifts. In order for this day to be successful, we need donations of small gift items. All items should be **new**. Residents will be shopping for family members. Suggested items are large tins of popcorn, peanuts, boxes of candy like Whitman or Russell Stover, men's and women's gloves and socks, new inexpensive jewelry, after shave lotion for men, body sprays and lotion for the women, Christmas ornaments, etc. A tub has been placed near the education wing desk for donations. The date is Friday, December 13, at 10:00 a.m. If you are available to help that day, please let **Susan Traylor** know.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Merry Christmas Church Family,

There is a common trend these days to ask yourself, "What's your why?" Maybe you're trying to lose weight or get debt-free. Asking "what's your why" can help you be more determined or driven to reach whatever goal you are trying to attain. This Christmas I think we can turn that a little bit. Instead of "what's your why?", how about we ask ourselves "why am I saying yes"? What's the motivation and drive beyond all we are saying "yes" to?

Recently at our Women's Gathering our speaker challenged us to get rid of anything that is either stealing our joy or making us a joy stealer. What is on our schedules that needs to go? We need to ask ourselves WHY we are saying yes to all the things and commit to only say yes to things that bring Christ's joy and point us and our families back to Him this Christmas.

For He alone is worthy, For He alone is worthy,
For He is alone is worthy, Christ the Lord!

Peace and Joy,
Kiley

YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello church family!

In October, we had the pleasure of hosting our annual fall festival. We had a great turn out and are very appreciative of all those who helped make this event possible. The fall festival is a great opportunity for people in our community to be introduced to the church and to God's love for them. Once again, thank you all for your help in this ministry!

In November, we wrapped up our last Sunday night of our small group Bible studies with a bonfire at my house. We enjoyed pizza, s'mores, and hot chocolate while the boys played cornhole and the girls made charm bracelets. It was a great time of fellowship to wrap up these studies. Our next Sunday night small group study will start in March so be on the lookout for that announcement.

Please be in prayer for the students as they wrap up this semester of the school year. As always, it is a blessing to work with the youth of this church and I am very grateful to serve in this role.

Blessings,
Ross



December



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Children's Practice</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Outreach</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Deacon and Staff Christmas Fellowship</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Trustees</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Midweek Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mission Kids</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Children's Practice</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Children's Dress Rehearsal</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Children's Musical</p>
<p>WEEK OF PRAYER FOR LOTTIE MOON INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS OFFERING</p>						
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Children's Musical</p> <p>Dessert Fellowship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mission Kids</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service/Business Meeting</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>CHRISTMAS PARADE</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Morning Service</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. CALL HIM LORD</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Outreach</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Evening Service</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Manna in the Morning</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mission Kids</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Mid-Week Service</p> <p>6:30 p.m. WMU party</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Main Street Youth</p> <p>7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Combined Christmas Message Service</p> <p>No Evening Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>OFFICES AND FLC CLOSED</p>	<p>25</p> <p>MERRY CHRISTMAS</p> <p>No Services FLC and Offices Closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Morning Services</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>No Evening Services</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>OFFICES AND FLC CLOSED</p>	<p>1</p> <p>HAPPY NEW YEAR!</p> <p>OFFICES AND FLC CLOSED</p> <p>NO MID-WEEK SERVICES</p>			



12/1.
 Cara Allnutt
 Robert Cull, Sr.
12/4
 Abby Osborne
 Kenneth Wooten
12/6
 G. L. Shryock
 Sandra Stafford
12/7
 Peggy Davis
 Carson Williams
 Rusty Williams
12/8
 Ella Mills
12/10
 Toby Bell
 Margaret Forsee
 Martha McGibney
 Adyson Perkins
12/11
 Glyptus Grider-Jones

12/12
 Aubrey Craigmyle
 Beverly Johns
 L C Lusby
12/15
 Caroline Smith
12/16
 Isabella Cammack
12/17
 Vanessa Humphries
12/18
 Brooke Kapfhammer
12/19
 Scott Risch
12/20
 Sidney Ford
 Ronnie Roberts
12/22
 Janet Turner

12/23
 Ben Bess
12/24
 Kate Gaines Camera
 Anna Riddle
12/25
 Suzanne Bowling
12/27
 Michelle Chitwood
 Matt Greenlee
 Tracy Hill
 Kyler Stephens
 Alaina Williams
12/28
 Kristin Marsh
12/29
 Michael Vannarsdall
 Gabrielle Welsh
12/30
 Karen Wash

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

12/1: Early-Kay Bush
 SS-Lisa McBurney
 Late-Heidi Williams
 Evening-Meleah
 12/8: Early-Rebecca Mills
 SS-Denise Humphries
 Late- Rae Gina Beatty
 Evening-No Nursery
 12/15: Early-Gail Forsee
 SS-Denise Humphries
 Late-Rae Gina Beatty
 Evening-Meleah
 12/22: Early-Lindsay G. Smith
 SS-Lesa Marston
 Late-Becky Shryock
 12/29: Late- Libby Banks

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12/1: Lindsay, Blair, Heidi, Gail
 12/8: Karen, Kelsey, Lindsay G. Smith, Dana
 12/15: No Children's Church
 12/22: No Children's Church
 12/29: Lindsay, Kelsey, Libby Banks

Return Service Requested

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OWENTON | FIRST BAPTIST 