

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Dec. 3
 8:15 A.M. First Worship
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 Hispanic Worship FLC
 10:45 A.M. Second Worship
 4:00 P.M. Last Beth Moore Study
 Choir Chimes
 Youth Handbells
 Orchestra
 4:45 P.M. Adult Handbells
 5:00 P.M. Children's Bible Drill
 Grades 1-3 #329
 Grades 4-6 #324
 Youth Bible Drill #330
 6:00 P.M. Evening Worship
 7:00 P.M. Youth Tree Trimming

Monday, Dec. 4
 5:00 P.M. Harp Rehearsal
 7:00 P.M. CBS
 Deacon's Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 5
 8:45 A.M. MDO
 9:45 A.M. WOM Day Group

Wednesday, Dec. 6
 3:00 P.M. FLC Opens
 5:00 P.M. Supper Line Opens
 Chi Rho Youth Choir
 Pres/Children's Choirs
 ESL # 145
 Youth Track Times
 6:30 P.M. Missions
 Prayer Meeting
 Youth Bible Study
 7:30 P.M. FLC Open until 9:00
 Reflection

Thursday, Dec. 7
 9:00 A.M. Happy Travelers to Nash.
 9:15 A.M. CBS
 10:00 A.M. Happy Tones Rehearsal
 6:30 P.M. Christmas Dress Reh.

Friday, Dec. 8
 8:45 A.M. MDO
 9:30 A.M. Fun Friday
 5:00 P.M. Parents Night Out
 6:30 P.M. Christmas Dress Reh.

Saturday, Dec. 9
 6:00 P.M. Class Act S.S. Party

Sunday, Dec. 10
 8:15 A.M. First Worship
 9:30 A.M. Sunday School
 Hispanic Worship FLC
 10:45 A.M. Second Worship
 12:00 P.M. Senior Adult Lunch
 4:00 P.M. Choir Chimes
 Youth Handbells
 Orchestra
 4:45 P.M. Adult Handbells
 5:00 P.M. Children's Bible Drill
 Grades 1-3 #329
 Grades 4-6 #324
 Youth Bible Drill #330
 6:00 P.M. Christmas Musical
 7:00 P.M. Tasting Party

Crossover Jackson County

December 16

9 a.m. to 12 noon

Meet at Sunlight Baptist Church on Highway 56

Jackson County is a rural area with 46 churches, only four of which are Southern Baptist.

BUDGET & ATTENDANCE REPORTS

Budget (11/26/06)		Sunday School Attendance	
Budget Goal per Week	\$28,919.00	<i>Attendance Reports (11/26/06)</i>	
Budget Gifts this Week	\$40,313.39	General Officers	5
Difference from Goal	+\$11,394.39	Preschool	59
Total Designated Gifts	\$2,225.00	Children	56
Total Gifts this Week	\$42,538.39	Youth	41
Budget Goal to Date	\$636,218.00	Adults	370
Budget Gifts to Date	\$610,712.54	Total	531
Difference from Goal	-\$25,505.46		
Budget Gifts to Date Last Year	\$574,790.25		
Increase from Prior Year	\$35,922.29		
Higher, Greater, Together Year to Date	\$50,112.29		
Higher, Greater, Together Total Gifts	\$2,483,213.75		



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Larry Beck - Chief Deacon
 Harold Garrett
 Ron Kinser
 Richard Newman
7 p.m. Phone Duty: Neil Alcorn

WEDNESDAY DINNER - 12/06

Chili & hotdogs, kraut & fixings, dessert

WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS - 12/06

5:00- Don Williams, Shirly Roberson, Dorothy Hawkins, Lillie Cantrell
5:45- Jenny Kinser, Melanie Hutcherson, Mike Shirley, Bob Lovell

EXTENDED SESSION - 12/03

Bed Babies - Stefanie Manhart, Fran Hutchinson, Lois Weatherholt
Creepers - Katelyne Snope, Virginia Fletcher, Connie Hawkins
Toddlers - Judy Miller, Martha Head
Red Room - Fran Ott, Debbie Dalton
Green Room - Cicely Scott

Blue Room - Russell & Shelley Fredley

To add prayer requests please call the church or visit our web page at www.fbccookeville.org.

Volume 7
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 Newsletter Date:
 December 3, 2006
 Page 1

First Chronicles

Chronicling the life of the First Baptist Family

Advent season begins today

**By Jonathan Nelms
Associate Pastor for Music**

Today begins the Season of Advent. This is a wonderful time of preparation. Throughout these four weeks we will be preparing to celebrate both the birth and the return of Jesus Christ. On our pilgrimage to Christmas we will look ahead to His eminent return. Just as the Wise Men were led by the star, the Holy Spirit will lead us to find that same child, that same person, Jesus Christ. We will worship Him and bring to Him the precious gift of our lives.



*1st Sunday
in Advent*

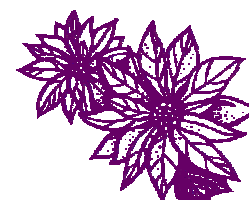
The word "Advent" is derived from a Latin root which means "coming" or "arrival." The church has celebrated Advent since the fourth century. Historically, this has been a time of penitential season of preparing for the Christ's return. Over the centuries, Advent has grown to include preparations for Christmas.

The celebration of Advent can help us balance the commercialism and sentimentality of the holidays. Rather than simply preparing for Christmas, Advent challenges us to move beyond the infancy of Jesus and to embrace Him as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He was born to die that we might live.

Sanctuary Poinsettias

The time is coming for us to decorate our sanctuary for the Christmas celebration. The cost is \$7.50 per poinsettia. Orders and money must be turned in by **today**. Please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or bring it by the church office.

Your Name _____
 Please place _____ poinsettia(s)
 In Memory of _____
 _____ OR _____
 In Honor of _____



_____ I will pick up the plant at church.
 _____ (after the Christmas Eve Service)
 _____ Please take the poinsettia(s) to a shut-in.

Pastor's Heart

Wow! I am not so much worried about global warming as I am about global time shrinkage. The Christmas season is here, and I am sure the season has come again more quickly than ever before.

Each Christmas we make all kinds of choices. We determine what we will buy others and perhaps, what others will purchase for us. We decide how and how much we will decorate our homes. We decide where and with whom we will spend the holidays.

There is one decision that we all make each year that is more important than any other. Yet, we often make it unconsciously. We do not plan it, consider it greatly, or think it out clearly. Still, we make it every Christmas season.

Each year we decide whether Christmas will be about Jesus or whether Christmas will be about holidays, gifts, and gatherings.

It is no wonder that stores neglect the real meaning of Christmas, because most Americans (Christians too) neglect the real reason for this holy day. We protest when some company replaces 'Merry Christmas' with 'Happy Holiday,' but we ignore the protestations of the Holy Spirit in our own hearts as He calls us away from the temporal and commercial to the real meaning of the manger and to the Savior born Christ the King.

We must make a conscious decision each year to make Jesus the center of our Christmas. If we do not, we are no different than those who do not know Him or His grace.

See you in worship.

In His Love,
 Pastor Randy

8,786 boxes collected for Operation Christmas Child

Thousands of children around the world will be receiving a special gift this Christmas thanks to the efforts of people throughout the Upper Cumberland. First Baptist, which is a drop off location for the Upper Cumberland, collected 8,786 boxes that will go to children in countries like Chile, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Zimbabwe, and India.



Wade Raines (left) and Al Bertram (right) take a break from loading boxes into the 52-foot trailer.

“Operation Christmas Child was a huge success this year,” OCC team member Brenda Spain said. “What an exciting week the OCC team had in watching people bring in their boxes and getting them packed into a 52-foot trailer! Wow! It is amazing how God works in people’s hearts when it come to helping little children.”

The total number of boxes collected was 1,386 more than last year. First Baptist members brought in 250 boxes.

“Next year we will begin earlier, advertise sooner and reach our goal of 500 boxes,” Brenda said. “Thanks to everyone that helped. This wonderful Franklin Graham project could have never been accomplished without all your help and support.”

If you would like to be part of the Operation Christmas Child team next year, contact Brenda Spain.

Parent/Child Dedication

Parent/Child Dedication service is a special time of commitment for parents and their children. During the service, parents commit to raise their families under the authority and protection of the Lord. This is a special time for the church family also as it makes a commitment to help in the vital area of raising children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

First Baptist will hold a Parent/Child Dedication service as part of the Morning Worship on Dec. 10 at either the 8:15 or 10:45 service. Families need to be registered in order to participate in this special time of worship.

Please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate or call the church office to register your family. The registration deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Parent/Child Dedication Form

Child's Name _____

Parent's Name _____

Worship Service _____

Birth Date _____

Youth Christmas Tree Trimming

Sunday, December 3
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Youth Department
Cookies, cider, and hot chocolate will be served. Youth and leaders are asked to bring ornaments, garland, etc.

YOUTH PROGRESSIVE DINNER & CHRISTMAS PARTY

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15
6:30-9:30 P.M.

Appetizer at Katie & Lacey Mills'
Main Course at Sallie Forrester's
Dessert at Timothy Keyt's

Please sign-up by Wednesday, December 13.

A Festival of Christmas

Sunday, December 10
6 p.m.

Featuring the Sanctuary Choir, FBC Orchestra, Chi Rho Youth Choir, Praise Ringers Handbells, and the older children's choirs

After the service, join us in the Fellowship Hall for the annual Tasting Party

Who was Lottie Moon?

Lottie Moon — the namesake of the international missions offering — has become something of a legend to us. But in her time Lottie was anything but an un-touchable hero. In fact, she was like today's missionaries. She was a hard-working, deep-loving Southern Baptist who labored tirelessly so her people group could know Jesus.

When she set sail for China, Lottie was 32 years old. She had turned down a marriage proposal and left her job, home and family to follow God's lead. Her path wasn't typical for an educated woman from a wealthy Southern family. But Lottie did not serve a typical God. He had gripped her with the Chinese people's need for a Savior.

For 39 years Lottie labored, chiefly in Tengchow and P'ingtu. People feared and rejected her, but she refused to leave. The aroma of fresh-baked cookies drew people to her house. She adopted traditional Chinese dress, and she learned China's language and customs. Lottie didn't just serve the people of China; she identified with them. Many eventually accepted her. And some accepted her Savior.

Lottie's vision wasn't just for the people of China. It reached to her fellow Southern Baptists in the United States. Like today's missionaries, she wrote letters home, detailing China's hunger for truth and the struggle of so few missionaries sharing the gospel with so many people. She shared another timely message, too: the urgent need for more workers and for Southern Baptists passionately supporting them through prayer and giving.

In 1912, during a time of war and famine, Lottie silently starved, knowing that her beloved Chinese didn't have enough food. Her fellow Christians saw the ultimate sign of love: giving her life for others. On Christmas Eve, Lottie died on a ship bound for the United States.

But her legacy lives on. And today, when gifts aren't growing as quickly as the number of workers God is calling to the field, her call for sacrificial giving rings with more urgency than ever.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

For International Missions

How would the Lord have you give?

National Goal: \$150 million

Church Goal: \$32,000

Week of Prayer for International Missions

December 3-10

Pray for West Africa

The gospel has been carried to West Africa for more than 150 years. But today, it remains parched ground. In today's bulletin insert, you can read about eight missionary couples who have sacrifice everything to be Jesus' witness in a harsh and unforgiving land. Use your bulletin insert as a prayer guide for the week.

WMU Day Bible Study
Will meet at the home of **Marilyn Holland**
(266 Brookside Drive)
December 5
9:45 a.m.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Randy, Melinda, Nathan, and Natalee Allen
507 Ledford Lane
Alpine, TN 38543



Gary & Cita Pickett
1025 Mt. Vernon Road
Cookeville, TN 38501



Floyd & Lauree Wise
3225 Haney Drive
Cookeville, TN 38506



Tonya Wright
341 Willis Martin Road
Cookeville, TN 38501



Jackson Callahan
870 Oaklawn Ct.
Cookeville, TN 38501