

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

- 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 Luncheon
 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 FLC
- Monday, Dec. 11**
 5:00 P.M. Harp Rehearsal
 7:00 P.M. CBS
- Tuesday, Dec. 12**
 8:45 A.M. MDO
- Wednesday, Dec. 13**
 3:00 P.M. FLC Opens
 5:00 P.M. Supper Line Opens
 Pres/Children's Choirs
 ESL # 145
 5:30 P.M. Stewardship Com. #175
 6:30 P.M. Missions
 Prayer Meeting
 Yth to *The Nativity Story*
 Reflection
 FLC Open until 9:00
- Thursday, Dec. 14**
 9:15 A.M. CBS
 10:00 A.M. Happy Tones Rehearsal
 5:30 P.M. YWOM #177
- Friday, Dec. 15**
 8:45 A.M. MDO
 9:30 A.M. Fun Friday
 6:30 P.M. Youth Progressive Dinner
- Saturday, Dec. 16**
 9:00 A.M. Jackson County Crossover
 Hispanic Soccer FLC
- Sunday, Dec. 17**
 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. 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

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

HOLIDAY DATES & EVENTS

- | | |
|---|---|
| Dec. 13
5:00 p.m. Christmas Meal | Dec. 25 & 26
<i>Church Offices/FLC Closed</i> |
| Dec. 17
6 p.m. Children's Christmas Musical | Dec. 27
<i>No Wed. Night Activities/Service;
No Meal</i> |
| Dec. 20
<i>No Wed. Night Activities/Service;
No Meal</i> | Dec. 31
<i>No Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Service
Family Night - No Evening Service</i> |
| Dec. 24
<i>No Sunday school
10:00 a.m. Family Service
6:00 p.m. Lord's Supper Service</i> | Jan. 1
<i>Church Offices/FLC Closed</i> |

BUDGET & ATTENDANCE REPORTS

Budget (12/03/06)		Sunday School Attendance	
Budget Goal per Week	\$28,919.00	<i>Attendance Reports (12/03/06)</i>	
Budget Gifts this Week	\$30,296.01	General Officers	5
Difference from Goal	+\$1,377.01	Preschool	70
Total Designated Gifts	\$6,047.00	Children	59
Total Gifts this Week	\$36,343.01	Youth	45
Budget Goal to Date	\$665,137.00	Adults	376
Budget Gifts to Date	\$641,008.55	Total	555
Difference from Goal	-\$24,128.45		
Budget Gifts to Date Last Year	\$616,168.77		
Increase from Prior Year	\$24,128.45		
Higher, Greater, Together Year to Date	\$51,012.29		
Higher, Greater, Together Total Gifts	\$2,484,113.75		

What we do with our money is both an indicator and a determiner of where our hearts are.
 "Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation . . ." (1 Tim. 6:18-19)

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

- Don Williams - Chief Deacon
 Bob Miller
 Donnie King
 Mike Powers
7 p.m. Phone Duty: Richard Cashion

WEDNESDAY DINNER - 12/13

Christmas Meal: Ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, ambrosia, rolls, assorted sweets

WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS - 12/13

- 5:00**— Mr. & Mrs. Richard Newman, Pat Huskins, Rose & Marlin Collins, Fran Hutchinson
5:45— Mr. & Mrs. Donnie King, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Matheney, Howard Stephenson, Ann Hertzfeldt

EXTENDED SESSION - 12/10

- Bed Babies** - Ethan & Julie Bernhardt, Holly Turbeville
Creepers - Stacie Baugh
Toddlers - Steve & Rene Canfield
Red Room - Fred & Amy Ray
Green Room - Dennis & Karen Hicklin
Blue Room - Dennis & Judy Matheney



First Chronicles

Chronicling the life of the First Baptist Family

Pastor's Heart

December is a month full of wonder. Don't miss the music of Christmas as we gather together for worship tonight. After the program we will join together for our annual 'tasting party' as Sunday School classes, our Chinese Fellowship, Hispanic Congregation, and other mission groups prepare tasty treats from around the world.

Next Sunday evening will be filled with the music of a children's Christmas as our children's choirs bring their music to us.

Please make note of the service times for the holidays. There will be *only one worship* time on both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. We will meet for worship at 10:00 a.m. Of course we will also have our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:00 p.m. The church building will be open on both Sundays for any adult classes that decide to meet for Sunday School at 9:00 a.m., but there will be no children's Sunday School classes either morning.

This Wednesday we will have a short called business session to recommend Jason Fincher as a prospective seminary student. A church recommendation is always required in the application process. We will also have a report for a vote from the Committee on Committees.

I also want to bring you up to date on a proposal to make our church building more efficient and useful by moving our media/resource center upstairs and our chapel down stairs. I brought this to the attention of our deacons several months ago and asked our Building and Grounds along with our Stewardship Committee to look into the plan. Final figures are being gathered and I want to apprise you of the idea.

We are still in the preliminary phases of any change and of course will not proceed beyond committee work without a vote and approval of the congregation. I think you will like the idea.

See you in worship.
 In His Love,
 Pastor Randy

You are invited to a
Festival of Christmas
 presented by the
Music Ministry of First Baptist Church
Tonight
6:00 p.m.
This delightful concert of Christmas carols will feature adult and youth choirs, handbells, harps, and the church orchestra.
A Christmas Tasting Party will be held following the music in the FLC.
Join us next Sunday night as the Children's Choirs share some of their Christmas songs.

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Last Sunday afternoon during a particularly hectic moment, Todd Arnold turned to me and said with a note of irony, "Remember, 'it's the most wonderful time of the year.'" That phrase from a familiar Christmas song pushed my PAUSE button and for a moment the rush stopped. I quickly hit PLAY again and resumed the pace. It was a delightful evening and the service was a meaningful time of worship. However, that experience speaks to the frantic pace in which many of us live.

This time of year can be chaotic for many people as we busily juggle school projects, basketball practices, Christmas parties, rehearsals, etc. We need to remember that God has not called us to more activity. On the contrary He has called us to love Him and to love others (Mark 12:30-31). We all show love by serving, but you will remember that in Luke 10:38-42, Martha worked while Mary worshipped. Jesus commended Mary for spending time with Him and He will commend us for the same.

I have two sons and I love them dearly. It brings me joy to give them Christmas gifts and to fix up the house for them. However, I know that the one thing that they want most from me is relationship. They want to spend time with me and to have my attention. And frankly, this is what I want most from them. Rather than simply doing and buying and doing some more, I need to simplify my life and give them what they want and need most, my time and affection.

Our Heavenly Father wants our time and affection as well. He wants us to PAUSE and seek Him. He wants us to de-clutter our lives from all the complexity that keeps us from simply sitting at his feet and worshipping Him. Jesus died to set us free (Galatians 5:1). Like the prophet Isaiah, I want "to proclaim freedom to the captives" (Isaiah 61:1). Freedom from stuff. Freedom from too many commitments. Freedom from meeting the world's expectations. Freedom from sin that entangles us and keeps us from seeking the Lord. For if the Lord has set you free, then you are free indeed (John 8:36).

These are busy days, but they are beautiful days. Will you covenant with me and the Lord that we will live in faith and trust Him to work even while we rest? Do you have the faith to throw off the yoke of slavery and take up the cross of Jesus Christ? For His burden is easy and His yoke is light (Matthew 11:30). Do you believe this? If so, then those around you will see it in your attitude and your actions. You will be a witness to the joy of the Lord for that is your strength.

I challenge you to lighten your load and quit carrying the weight of too many commitments and too many deadlines. God has promised to bless believers with abundant life. Why would the world want to be like us if we just live like the world? God has called us to a fuller life and yet simpler life. I pray that God will give us the wisdom and the courage to claim it. For if we do, then this will truly be *the most wonderful time of the year!*

- Jonathan Nelms

**Special Called
Business Meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 13
6:30 p.m.
Agenda: Recommendation for Jason
Fincher for seminary; Committee on
Committees Report**

**Crossover
Jackson County
December 16
9 a.m. to 12 noon
Meet at Sonlight Baptist Church
on Highway 56
Be part of Evangelistic Teams that
will go out in pairs to share the Gos-
pel. Jackson County is a rural area
with 46 churches, only four of which
are Southern Baptist.
We need your help!**

**UPCOMING YOUTH
ACTIVITIES**
The Nativity Story Wed., Dec. 13
6:30-9:40 p.m. @ Highland 10 Cinema
Cost: \$5.00
Progressive Dinner & Christmas Party
Friday, Dec. 15 from 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Those needing a ride should be at the church at 6:15 p.m.
Please sign-up by Wednesday, Dec. 13.

What Kind of Builder Are You?

Mike Head

Associate Pastor for Administration

Anyone who has ever been personally involved in the construction of a building knows that the foundation is of utmost importance. The finest architectural design and the best construction materials are of little value if the foundation is not built correctly.

The same is true of life itself and of our giving. The Apostle Paul instructed Timothy to "Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God. . . . Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed" (1 Tim. 6:17-19).

Do not misunderstand: Jesus is the foundation. He is the Cornerstone. When it comes to the matter of our salvation, Christ and Christ alone is the "sure foundation." Nothing we can do — not even giving of our resources — can add one bit to that foundation.

But we can follow the counsel of the Apostle Paul concerning our giving. Through our giving, we can send our treasure on ahead. We can follow the admonition of the Lord Jesus and through our giving we can "lay up treasure in heaven." John Bunyan summarized both teachings in this statement: "Whatever good thing you do for Him, if done according to the Word, is laid up for you as treasure in chests and coffers, to be brought out to be rewarded before men and angels, to your eternal comfort."

Our giving, then, becomes a foundation, not concerning salvation, but rather, concerning our investments. Suppose for a moment that you had invested 100% of your life's savings in the stock of a company. Would you not be watching with great eagerness how that company was performing? Would you not be checking up on how well it was doing, on management's goals for the future, and on how it was faring against the competition? In a similar way, our investments in the work of the Lord not only indicate where we are placing our emphasis, but also, they will determine where our interest lies. We will be checking up on them, evaluating their performance, and giving thought to the day when they will yield eternal dividends in our behalf.

One writer expressed it this way: "We can trade temporal possessions that we cannot keep anyway to gain eternal possessions that we cannot lose. This is like a child given a chance to trade bubble gum for a new bicycle, or a man offered ownership of the Coca-Cola company in exchange for a sack of bottle caps. Only a fool would pass up this opportunity. What we keep we will lose. What we give and share and do in Christ's name will ultimately come back to us in heaven in a far better and permanent form."

Remember, Jesus Christ is the "sure foundation." Jesus is the Cornerstone. As we work and as we give, we are building on Him and on what He accomplished on Calvary. What kind of builder are you?

Snow Policy

1. Sunday Services, programs and activities will be determined by the severity of the weather. Every effort will be made to have Sunday School and the 10:45 AM worship service.
2. Wednesday Family Night (services, programs, fellowship meal and activities) will follow the Putnam County school closings and schedule changes *when prudent* and will follow policy #6 (below). Mother's Day Out will follow the Putnam County school closings and schedule changes in all cases. Any other Wednesday events will follow #6 (below) to announce changes.
3. Evening programs during the week will be determined by the severity of the weather. See #6 (below).
4. If at all possible, the church office will be open.
5. If at all possible, the Family Life Center will be open 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday on "snow days." Free Play policies are in effect: one guest only per person, children 4th grade and below must be accompanied by a person age 16 years or older.
6. ALL CANCELLATIONS WILL BE POSTED ON www.fbccookeville.org AS WELL AS THE FBC SNOW LINE 526-4685, AND, IF POSSIBLE, WILL BE BROADCAST ON WHUB RADIO (1400 AM/98.5 FM), CABLE TELEVISION CHANNEL 7. **ONLY CANCELLATIONS WILL BE GIVEN.**

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING



\$32,000

\$27,000

\$22,000

\$17,000

\$12,000

\$7,000

For
International
Missions
*How would the
Lord have you
give?*
National Goal:
\$150 million
Church Goal:
\$32,000