



Volume 11 Issue 48 November 28, 2010

## Pastor's Heart



Thanksgiving is a wonderful holiday and it reminds us well of our prayer focus over the past few months. Psalm 100 reminds us that we are to "enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise." The Model Prayer reminds us that we are to focus our prayer upon worship and exultation: "Hallowed be thy Name!"

Though we are now moving into a series of sermons focused upon the advent of our Lord, worshipful prayer, in word and song, should still be our personal focus.

Speaking of thanksgiving. I give thanks to our Lord for you. You are a blessing to me as we worship and serve the Lord together. You are in my prayers, as I know I am in yours.

We have not stopped praying for our neighbors. In the next weeks we will provide you with a postcard you can use to let your neighbors know that you are praying for them in this season. Don't miss this most personal opportunity to minister and reach your neighborhood. Let's make this season a season of genuine prayer that God will again enter our neighborhood with light and glory.

Next week I have arranged for Dr. Randy Davis, the new Executive Director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, to be our guest. Randy is a strong preacher with a pastor's heart. He left First Baptist Church, Sevierville, to assume the post of Executive Director just a few short months ago. I am very impressed with Randy's abilities and wanted you to have an opportunity to personally hear and get to know him.

Make a special effort to be here to hear Randy. I believe you will be delighted to know that someone with Randy's strengths is leading our state convention of Baptists.

It is time to focus on missions. First Baptist exceeded our goal for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you Brenda, and all of the volunteers who spent hours promoting, leading, and working in this effort. Great Job!

Yet our mission's effort is not over, only beginning. Now our focus is upon the Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions. This offering taken once each year is the heart of our Baptist effort to reach the world for Jesus. Every dollar given is able to be used on the field (there is no administrative overhead in this offering) and that multiplies its worth over any other giving you may do this season.

I hope you will join others in our congregation who are digging deep even in these financial times to give graciously as we are reminded of God's gracious gift to us.

See you in Worship,  
Pastor Randy

## Pictorial Directory

If you have not already set up an appointment to have your picture taken for the church directory, please call 1-800-866-2263 to make an appointment. If you need to change your time, you will also need to call this number.

**WINTER WONDERLAND ON ICE**  
*Sunday, December 12th, 7:00 p.m.*  
 This year's Tasting Party takes place in Pine Tree, Vermont -- the site of the classic musical *White Christmas*. Reminisce with us as we sit amongst our family and friends at the Fellowship Hall Inn. Treats will be plentiful, surrounded by tables and chairs for your comfort. Straight from Radio City Music Hall, the touring Sister Act from New York City just might be the top billing for the evening. The Inn offers a celebration of the season with scenes depicting Christmas across America. Join us, sit a spell, and enjoy.

The cold winds of winter and the scenic countryside will unfold within the walls of the New England Family Life Center. Walk the paths around the tables of holiday goodies, warming your hands by the fire and enjoying ice skating down on Moose Lake. Gather your loved ones and delight in the sights and sounds of Christmas, with special features to delight the children in all of us.

Save the date for this year's Christmas Celebration at First Baptist Church. We invite our church family to host the community as we gather for this special evening of music and fellowship. Bring finger foods to share. Come expecting to experience the *Real Reason for the Season*.

**Church staff**

Randall L. Adkisson, Ph.D, *Senior Pastor*  
 Mike Head, *Associate Pastor of Administration*  
 Jonathan Nelms, DWS, *Associate Pastor for Music*  
 Charlie Hutchinson, *Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care & Senior Adults*  
 Bill Stone, *Associate Pastor of Youth & Collegiates*  
 Steve Farris, D.Min., *Assistant Pastor for Outreach, Adult Education and Missions*  
 Ann Hertzfeldt, *Director of Preschool & Children's Ministries*



*Worship/Childcare: For your comfort and that of others, childcare is provided for children under the age of four. Children 4 years old thru kindergarten may attend children's church in room 232. An usher will be glad to direct you to the childcare ministry located on the second floor.*

*\*If you are able, please stand as indicated.*

Please note that numbers are included for all hymns found in *The Baptist Hymnal*.

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship Ruth 2:4 Dr. Jonathan Nelms

\*Hymn of Praise 77 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" HYFRYDOL

Welcome and Fellowship Dr. Randall Adkisson

\*Carol of Adoration 86 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" ST. LOUIS

Lighting the First Candle of Advent Jonathan

\*Responsive Reading including Isaiah 9 and 1 John 1:5-7

\*Song of Anticipation "Here I Am to Worship" Hughes

\*Pastoral Prayer Dr. Adkisson

Message in Song "Reap What You Sow" Choplin

Sanctuary Choir with Jonathan Enix, soloist

### WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Sermon "1000 Miles of Camel's Breath" Dr. Adkisson

Matthew 2:1-12

\*Commitment Hymn 208 BEECHER

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

### WE RESPOND WITH THANKSGIVING

Offertory Prayer Jim Viar

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music "How Firm a Foundation" arr. Payne  
 FBC Orchestra

\*Presentation of Offering

\*Doxology 253 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD 100th

Sharing of Spiritual Decisions

### WE DEPART TO LOVE AND SERVE OUR GOD

\*Benediction Dr. Adkisson

\*Departing Chorus 657 "Go Out and Tell" PLANO

\*Postlude Instrumentalists

### SUNDAY EVENING - 6:00 PM TELEVISION REPLAY AT 7:00 P.M.

Prelude Todd Arnold, pianist

Welcome and Fellowship Dr. Randall Adkisson

\*Hymn of Praise 176 "Fairest Lord Jesus" arr. Nockles

\*Chorus of Devotion 473 MORE LOVE TO THEE

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

Testimony in Song Karen Cox, Kim Emrich and Lisa Hammons

with Glenda Nelms on guitar

Sermon "The Greatest Commandment" Dr. Steve Farris

Mark 12:29-31

\*Song of Commitment "More Love, More Power" Del Hierro

\*Offertory Prayer Joe Church

Musical Meditation "Thanksgiving" Winston

Jonathan Nelms, pianist

Sharing Spiritual Decisions Dr. Adkisson

Benediction Instrumentalists

\*Postlude

## News Highlights

### Deacons of the Week

Ed Griggs - Chief Deacon  
Greg Steeves, Joe Church, Chris Wilson

**11 a.m. Phone Duty:** Don Williams  
**7 p.m. Phone Duty:** Harold Garrett

### Wednesday Dinner - 12/01

Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, succotash, salad, dessert

### Wednesday Volunteers - 12/01

**5:00 p.m.** - Mike Shirley, Bonnie Rivera, Lynn & Cliff Taylor

**5:45 p.m.** - Melinda & Carl Johnson, Marta Sliger, Melanie Hutcherson

### Extended Session - 11/28

Bed Babies - Ralph & Paige Mills

Creepers/Toddlers - Melanie Hutcherson, Sissy Vick

2's - George & Neisha Hibbs

3's - Doreen Cox, Margaret Atkins

## Budget

Budget Goal per Week	\$28,738.65
Budget Gifts this Week	\$35,938.48
Difference from Goal	+\$7,199.83
Total Designated Gifts	\$1,906.00
Total Gifts this Week	\$37,844.48
Budget Goal to Date	\$603,511.73
Budget Gifts to Date	\$583,658.58
Difference from Goal	-\$19,853.15
Budget Gifts to Date Last Year	\$586,467.16
Decrease from Prior Year	-\$2,808.58
Higher, Greater, Together Year to Date	\$14,550.00
Higher, Greater, Together Total Gifts	\$2,779,844.23

## Stewardship Verse

**Giving is an act of worship that evidences our love for the Lord.**

"Your players and alms have ascended as a memorial before God." Acts 10:4

# Advent begins today

The season of Advent begins today, November 28, and ends with Christmas Eve. From the Latin word



which means "coming" or "arrival," Advent is a time for Christians to consider the first coming of Jesus Christ as a babe in Bethlehem as well as his second coming. Advent is a time of preparation. We are preparing not only to celebrate Christmas, but we are preparing for Christ to return. Throughout the next four weeks our corporate worship will feature carols, scripture readings, and sermons that follow this

theme of preparation.

Back in 2000, I published an Advent devotional booklet that featured daily devotionals written by members of First Baptist Church, some of whom have gone to be with the Lord. I will be posting these devotionals and other resources for Advent on our website: [www.tools4worship.com](http://www.tools4worship.com). Please visit our site for more information about beginning and maintaining your own daily times of personal and family worship. We hope this will encourage you to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ.

Grace and peace,  
Jonathan Nelms

## Advent & Christmas Musical Presentations

November 28: First Sunday of Advent

AM: First Baptist Orchestra and Sanctuary Choir  
PM: Ladies Trio

December 5: Second Sunday of Advent

AM: Older Children's Choir, Sanctuary Choir, and Handbell Team  
PM: Remnant Praise Band

December 12: Third Sunday of Advent

AM: Younger Children's Choir, Sanctuary Choir, and Orchestra  
PM: Christmas Musical Program and Tasting Party featuring the Sanctuary Choir, Orchestra, Handbells, and Youth Choir

December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent

AM: Older Preschool Choir and Happy Tones Senior Adult Choir  
PM: Harp Ensemble

## Parent-Child Dedication

First Baptist will have a time of Parent-Child Dedication during the morning worship service on Sunday, December 12. Families need to be registered to participate in this special time of worship. During this time, 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. Call the church office or place this form in the offering plate to register your family by Wed. Dec. 8.

Parent/Child Dedication Form	
Name _____	
Parents _____	
Worship Service _____	
Birth Date _____	

# Over the goal!!!

First Baptist, you did it! You brought in 750 shoeboxes! We are going to greater heights next year. Can you imagine all the little boys and girls that are going to receive your gifts in the next few months? How can I begin to



Children from Mother's Day Out bring their boxes to the volunteer team.

Thank every volunteer? You put up posters all over the church, made totes, packed boxes, lifted very heavy cartons, did secret shopping, brought in food and most of all prayed for the little ones receiving these boxes. If you haven't volunteered before, plan on helping us next year. I promise you will be blessed!

Overall we collected 15,817 boxes from the Upper Cumberland area. That is 1,223 boxes over our goal.

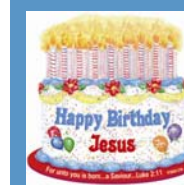
There will be 13 of us leaving today for the processing center in Atlanta to process shoeboxes from the Southeast. Please pray for us as we travel and learn more about Operation Christmas Child. God bless each and every one of you.

Brenda Spain

PS: Begin looking now for gifts for your boxes next year!

## Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Friday, December 10 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall & FLC



This is for children ages 3-6th grade. You must reserve a spot by Sunday, December 5. Please bring a gift of wipes, diapers and baby items for the CPC. Volunteers are needed to help with this. If you can help, call Ann Hertzfeldt at 526-7108.

## Sanctuary Poinsettias

The time is coming for us to decorate our sanctuary for the Christmas celebration. The cost is \$8 per poinsettia. Orders and money are due Monday, December 6. Please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or bring it by the church office.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please place \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettia(s)

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

OR

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I will pick up (after Christmas Eve service) \_\_\_\_ Take to shut in

## Weekly Activities

### Sunday, Nov. 28

8:45 A.M. Sunday School  
10:00 A.M. Morning Worship  
4:00 P.M. Handbells  
6:00 P.M. Now That I'm a Christian  
6:00 P.M. Evening Worship

### Monday, Nov. 29

### Tuesday, Nov. 30

8:45 A.M. MDO  
5:00 P.M. Harp Ensemble

### Wednesday, Dec. 1

3:00 P.M. FLC Open  
3:30 P.M. Study Hall  
5:00 P.M. Chi Rho Youth Choir  
Preschool & Children's Choirs  
Youth on Mission  
Stewardship Com.

5:30 P.M. Prayer Meeting  
6:30 P.M. Missions Programs  
Sanctuary Choir  
Parents Bible Study #143

7:30 P.M. FLC Open until 8:00  
8:30 P.M. Men's Basketball

### Thursday, Dec. 2

9:30 A.M. CBS  
10:00 A.M. Happy Tones

### Friday, Dec. 3

8:45 A.M. MDO  
9:30 A.M. Fun Friday

### Saturday, Dec. 4

11:45 A.M. Happy Travelers to see Rockettes

### Sunday, Dec. 5

8:45 A.M. Sunday School  
10:00 A.M. Morning Worship  
11:15 A.M. College Lunch  
Senior Adult Lunch  
4:00 P.M. Orchestra  
Handbells  
4:30 P.M. Outreach  
5:00 P.M. Children's Bible Drill  
Bible Buddies  
6:00 P.M. Evening Worship  
Now That I'm a Christian

To add prayer requests please call the church or visit our web page at [www.fbccookeville.org](http://www.fbccookeville.org).