

the FIRST Edition

AT THE HEART OF THINGS DOWNTOWN



✠ From the Pastor ✠

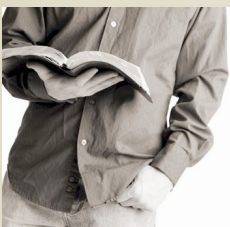
*“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us...From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.”
John 1:14a & 16*

Have you ever opened a large package that was full of individually wrapped gifts just for you? When we think of the coming of Christ and the gift of His salvation, we come to realize that this single gift contains many other gifts as well. We should not be surprised that God is able to do more than we can imagine. Our Heavenly Father is wonderful at giving “one blessing after another”.

As we prepare for the celebration of Advent, our theme this year will be “The Gifts of Christmas”. We will hear from the Word of God about the many gifts within the greater gift of God’s salvation. The climax will be on Christmas Eve as we light the Christ candle and celebrate the gift of Immanuel with our annual candlelight service. And then on Christmas Day, we will celebrate the One who paid the price of our sins and fulfilled the promise of salvation.

On a second note, there is another piece of exciting news worth mentioning. For the first time in many years, we have the potential of reaching our 2011 church budget. Through November, we are ahead of our expected income. These are exciting days. You have been faithful to the Lord in your giving. You have sacrificed for the capital campaign, mission offerings, and the regular budget. Thank you for giving. Let’s finish strong and meet our annual budget and our Lottie Moon International Missions offering goal of \$36,000. To God be the glory for the great things He has done!

In Christ,
Michael



*December 2011 Bible Reading Challenge
I & II Timothy*

Hanging of the Green - Sunday, December 4, 6:00pm

Christmas Parade - First Baptist is sponsoring a float in this year’s Downtown Springfield Christmas Parade. With the theme “Rockin’ around the Square”, the parade will be held on December 10 beginning at 1:00 p.m. We are needing volunteers to walk alongside the float and hand out candy canes and information promoting the FBC/SRO Christmas Program on December 18. Please contact Kathy Bowler at 889-2246 if you would like to sign up.



Children's Happenings and Updates

I truly cannot believe we are approaching the end of another year! And what an amazing year it has been as God has done a work within our children's ministry. While this is the last month of 2011, it will be a busy one. Virginia Harper and her assistants have been preparing our children's choirs for their performance on December 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. The final rehearsals are critical, so please make sure your children attend every Wednesday. (The dress rehearsal/pizza supper is scheduled for December 9 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.) I hope our entire church family will come to see our kids perform. I know you will enjoy it!

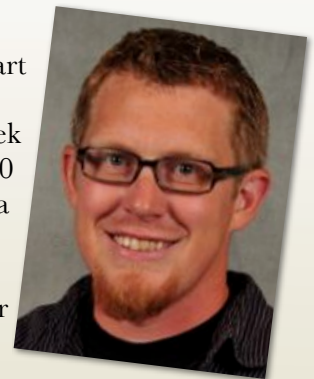
On December 14, we will be having our annual Progressive Dinner from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on the second floor of the CLC. This is a time when we focus on Lottie Moon and international missions. We will have a three-course meal with a different international missionary speaking during each course. Dr. Edgar Burks will share of his missionary experiences in Nigeria, we will focus on Lottie Moon and her story during the main meal, followed by Kathryn and Bill Richardson speaking about their work in Brazil. This will be an incredible night, and I hope we will have a huge turnout. Mark your calendars!

Finally, on a personal note, let me thank you for another wonderful year at FBC. I am so honored to be a part of this church and humbled that you allow me to care for your children. As most of you know, I will begin the year as a married woman! Richard and I look forward to see what exciting things the Lord has for us in 2012!

Blessings,
Stacy Adamson

Overflow Student Ministry

This month we have several opportunities to minister in the student ministry. Dec. 9 we are bell ringing for the Salvation Army at the Bistro Market from 10am-7pm. If you would like to volunteer, contact me to be placed on the schedule. December 10 the Special Education Christmas Party is taking place in the CLC. We could use help painting faces, serving snacks, and in the bowling alley. During that same time we need more volunteers to walk with the Christmas parade float. Contact me for more details. Anyone is welcome and encouraged to help with these ministries. Finally, it is time to start planning for the summer. This is going to be a very exciting summer of missions and camps. We will be taking students to Student Life Camp at Lake Williamson, IL the week of July 30-Aug. 3. We will have a youth mission opportunity the week of June 25-June 30 in Nashville, TN. Also, the church is working on plans for trips to Nebraska and Atlanta for the summer of 2012. Begin planning now for this summer. I encourage each family to try to make the camp week and at least one mission week a priority in your student's summer. I also will be looking for some adults to join us at camp and on mission. If your schedule allows and you would love to spend a week serving and worshipping alongside students, please contact me for more details!



In His Service!
Brock

Don't miss the FBC/SRO Christmas Concert

Mark your calendar now for one of two concerts on December 18 to be presented in the Worship Center of First Baptist Church. There will be performances at 2 & 5 pm. Make plans to attend, and invite your neighbors, friends, and family.

“For the Glory of the King”

December 11, 2011, Worship Center, 6pm

Don't miss our Preschool and Children's Choir
musical presentation and drama.



Music & Administration

Your Capital Campaign dollars have been hard at work over these past many months. The steeple renovations are complete, and the front porch of the church is done. The masonry around the Worship Center has been cleaned, repaired, and sealed. The Worship Center window repairs and the new roof on our CLC building are very near completion. We've done a great deal of work in a relatively short period of time. As we enter the Christmas season our efforts will shift gears somewhat as we turn our focus on the programs and emphasis of the season. The FBC/SRO Christmas concert will once again be a great time of celebration. Help us pack our Worship Center for two great performances this year on December 8 at 2pm and 5pm. Our Children's Choirs have been working hard on their musical presentation for the evening of December 11. Christmas brings us opportunity every year . . . opportunity to reflect, remember, and renew our relationship with Jesus Christ. Try not to get caught up in all the stress. Remember the profound meaning that Christ's light brings to each of us and the world.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT FBCSPRINGFIELD.COM

Our church has a new website! We've been working on it for months, and it is finally online. While not all pages and functions are complete, the majority of the site is up. Take some time to visit the site. You will be able to view our most recent newsletters, watch Sunday sermons, download information about the different ministries of First Baptist and much, much more. Go to www.fbcspringfield.com.

REMEMBER, REBUILD...

RENEW, REJOICE!

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

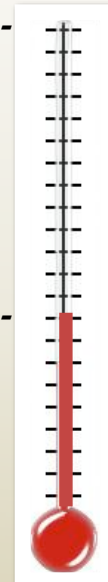


PLEDGES TO DATE - \$1,412,450

GIVEN TO DATE - \$559,439

\$1,412,450-

\$559,439-



*“The God of heaven will give us success.”
Nehemiah 2:20*



“His Heart, His Hands, His Voice”

Focus Scripture: Acts 1:8

2011 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS DECEMBER 4-11, 2011
OUR GOAL IS \$36,000 WITH 250 PARTICIPANTS.

Upcoming Events

Missions Emphasis Every Wednesday Night through December

November 30, Chapel, 6 pm—Mission Trip Report from Southeast Asia with Layton Jones, Herb Barker, and Michael Overton. December 7, Chapel, 6 pm—Mark & Barbara Stevens will share the amazing things God is doing in Indonesia and how we can be part of their work through our prayers and contributions to the Lottie Moon Offering. December 14, Chapel, 6 pm, Missions Video

Book Club Meeting, December 8, 7 pm

The December book is The Winter Seeking by Vinita Hampton Wright. Becky Young will host our meeting at 2134 E. Sequiota.

Prayer Time for New Service

Every Monday the Fireside Room will be open for prayer from 6:00-9:00 pm. The purpose of this time will be to pray for the new service that we plan to start early in 2012. This prayer time will be a come-and-go format.

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias are available for purchase in honor or in memory of someone. The price is \$12.00 for a red poinsettia. Please call the church office at 866-7202 to reserve your plant.

50+ Christmas Brunch, December 20, 10 am, MPR

Please join us for our Christmas Brunch in the Multi-Purpose Room. The Parkview Choir will be our special guests and will present a Christmas-themed program. Please bring a brunch type dish to share with everyone.

December Birthdays at First

December 2 Anna Brandenburgh Michael Cass Jackie Lindsay	December 14 Wally Hemingway Gerald Hickey Robert Killian	December 20 Bill Crane Rich Lee	December 26 Rita Downey Mauro Gonzalez Virginia Mace
December 3 Betty Ready	December 15 Brandon Gould	December 22 Charles Bogart Trina Randles	Arthur Mallory
December 6 Becky Miller	December 16 Tonya Price Dave Rush	December 23 Sharon Akin Connie Blythe	Sheila Nolte
December 8 LuAnn Proctor	December 17 Linda Downen Jeri Murren	Janice Jones Mary Owens	December 28 Preston Lindsay Donna Prudhoe
December 9 Alice Skiles	Betty Tharp	December 24 Hershel Demore Charlotte Northrip	December 29 Juanita Evans Leon Krutsinger
December 10 Joetta Rader Don Stark	December 18 John Burkey Jan Hamilton	Dale Wiser	Betty Lewis
December 11 Vicki Kingsley	Gloria Holley Terry Hudson	December 25 Kim Legere	December 30 Gavin Armstrong Peggy Hedrick
December 13 Herb Barker John Baurichter Anna Larson			

December 2011 Church Council Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3 -Ladies' Brunch 10:00 AM
4 Lottie Moon Week of Prayer Advent -Choir luncheon 12:00 PM -Hanging of the Green 6:00 PM	5 -Prayer Meeting 6:00 PM	6 -Men's Prayer Brkft 6:45 AM -Craft Class 6:30 PM	7 -Music/Missions 5:45 PM -Missions Emphasis 6:00 PM -Momentum 6:00 PM -Focus@First 6:30 PM	8 -Adult 4 Dinner 6:00 PM	9 -Children's Choir Reh. 5:30 PM -Adult 2 Christmas Party 6:00 PM	10 -Special Education Party 1:00 PM
11 Lottie Moon Week of Prayer Advent -College Christmas Party 12:00 PM -Children's Choir Program 6:00 PM	12 -Prayer Meeting 6:00 PM	13 -Men's Prayer Brkft 6:45 AM -Craft Class 6:30 PM	14 -Children's Progressive Dinner 6:00 PM -Missions Emphasis 6:00 PM -Momentum 6:00 PM -Focus@First 6:30 PM	15 -Chapel Bible Class Christmas Party 5:00 PM -Lighthouse Christmas Program 6:00 PM	16 -YA1 Party 5:00 PM	17 -Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal 2:00 PM
18 Advent -SRO Concert 2:00 PM -SRO Concert 5:00 PM	19 -Prayer Meeting 6:00 PM	20 -Men's Prayer Brkft 6:45 AM -50+ Brunch 10:00 AM -Craft Class 6:30 PM	21 -Trustees 5:00 PM -Momentum 6:00 PM -Russell Newport concert 6:00 PM	22	23 Offices closed/holiday	24 -Christmas Eve Service 6:00 PM
25 10:45 am service only Christmas	26 LCFDC closed for week Offices closed/holiday	27 Youth Winter Retreat -Men's Prayer Brkft 6:45 AM	28	29	30	31

DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

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CHURCH INFORMATION

Worship with us at 10:45 am & 6:00 pm Sundays

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9AM - 5PM

Telephone: 417.866.7202, Fax: 417.862.4925

Check us out on the web at www.fbcspringfield.com

The First Edition is a monthly publication of the First Baptist Church of Springfield, MO.

THE RECORD SPEAKS

	11/6	11/13	11/20	11/27
ATTENDANCE	357	374	369	319
FINANCIAL				
WEEKLY OFFERINGS	\$35,158	\$20,582	\$48,424	\$11,438
MONTHLY TITHES TO DATE.....\$115,604			
MONTHLY BUDGET TO DATE.....\$74,657			
MONTHLY NEEDED TO DATE	OVER \$40,947			
RECEIVED YTD.....\$921,930			
BUDGETED YTD\$864,452			
YEARLY NEEDED.....\$57,472			

YOUR CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR	MICHAEL OVERTON
PASTOR OF WORSHIP & ADMINISTRATION	DAVID NOLTE
YOUTH PASTOR.....	BROCK KENNEDY
CHILDREN'S MINISTER.....	STACY ADAMSON
COLLEGE PASTOR.....	SCOTT BRYANT
FINANCIAL.....	RON CONN
PASTOR'S SECRETARY.....	JANE ADAMSON
ADMINISTRATION SECRETARY.....	BETTY AUSTIN
RECEPTIONIST/MUSIC SECRETARY.....	VALERIE MCBRIDE
ORGANIST.....	BLYE MOORE
PIANIST.....	JANICE BRANDENBURGH
MAINTENANCE.....	DOUG MCKINNEY
BUILDING SUPERINTENDENTS.....	JACOB JONES & CHARLES GOODWIN
CONTRACT CLEANING.....	JIM SMITH



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

525 South Avenue

Springfield, MO 65806