

God Cares, We Care
About You



"Casting all your cares on Him,
because He cares about you."
1 Peter 5:7 CSB

THE OPEN DOOR

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
414 PECAN AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI 39350
601-656-1507

"To the angel of the church of Philadelphia write...behold I have before thee a door having been open, which no one is able to close." Revelation 3:7-8

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Number 47

A stylized illustration of a nativity scene. A wooden manger is set in a snowy landscape under a dark blue starry night sky. Inside the manger, Mary is kneeling, Joseph is standing, and the infant Jesus lies in a manger. A white ox and a brown donkey are also present. A bright, multi-pointed star shines in the upper left corner.

*We
Believe*

presented by

**First Baptist Church
Music Ministry**

**Saturday, December 2
Sunday, December 3
6:00 p.m.**

Pastor Paragraph

I pray that you had a blessed Thanksgiving. It was a wonderful time of being with family and being reminded of all for which we have to be thankful. I was reminded Sunday with four babies being dedicated to the Lord, that we have been blessed as a church with these parents and children. The sounds babies make in our worship service are very welcoming sounds. These sounds speak of new life and growth. Sunday night during our Christmas Carol-Okie, I was also reminded of how much talent with which God has blessed us at FBC. We had talented people sharing from all age groups. As I sat and listened to people sharing their talents, I was reminded once again about how thankful I am to be a part of FBC and how much for which we can be thankful. God continues to bless us.

As we begin to celebrate the Christmas season, I always look forward to our Chancel Choir's Christmas presentation. It is a wonderful way of being reminded of what God did for us at Christmas. The Music Ministry of FBC will present, "We Believe" on December 2 and 3 at 6pm.

This Sunday, December 3, is the first Sunday of Advent. Advent means "coming" or "arrival." Advent offers us a time to prepare for celebrating the birth of our Savior. Advent is also a time for spiritual reflection. Christmas is a time for focusing on peace, love, hope and joy. All of these things are made possible for all of us through the birth of the Promised Messiah and Savior, Jesus. As a way of helping us prepare for Christmas, every person attending Sunday will receive a copy of *The Christmas Code* written by O. S. Hawkins, President of GuideStone Financial Resources of the SBC. The Christmas Code is a 25 day devotional book to be read in preparation for celebrating Christmas.

Looking forward to worshipping together Sunday.

Love,
Bro. Dan

HOSPITAL

Don Culpepper	Rush
Linda Hantzis	Merit Hospital, Brandon, ICU
Roma Winstead	Methodist Rehab.

Christmas Blessings Boxes

We will purchase food for our Christmas Blessing Boxes again this year. The cost per box is \$30. Classes and/or individuals may donate money for boxes. The money is needed by **December 10**. We will have a potluck lunch and pack the Blessing Boxes on Sunday, December 17.



OPPORTUNITIES

EXTENDED SESSION

Month of December

Beth Henson, Linda Murray, Tonya Culpepper
Dee Dee Bailey, Morgan Jay

LIBRARY

December 3

Joan Hight

December 10

Pat Posey

DEACON OF THE WEEK

December 3

Randy Hanna

Troy Hight

December 10

Willie Jackson

Jim Johnson

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

Jeff Carter

Teddy Dyess

Jonathan Hight

Willie Jackson

Brian Jay

J. J. Johnson

Billy Sharp

Bob Turcotte

Joe Wood

Sanctuary Greeter for December

Joe Wood

Welcome Center Greeters for December

David & Nancy Williams



By Baptism

Charles H. (Charlie) & Cindy Brown
116 Macy Drive
Philadelphia, MS 39350
601-416-3782

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Tyler and Carly Rounsaville on the birth of their son, Tyler Rex Rounsaville II, born on November 14, 2017. Ty weighed 6 lbs., 9 oz. and was 20 inches long. He is being welcomed by his big sister, Tinsley. Proud grandparents are David and Roberta Byars and Rex and JoAnn Rounsaville, and great-grandmother Neda Byars.

Week of Prayer for International Missions December 3 – 10, 2017

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Church Goal: \$26,000

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER



DECEMBER 6

Chicken Spaghetti
Green Beans/Green Salad
Texas Toast
Dessert

Serve: Tammy Huber, Marsha Howard
Clean Up: Scott Huber, Suzanne Gheyri
Linda Murray, Polly Gilley
Money Table: Gail Turner

UPWARD BASKETBALL INFO

Please be in prayer for our Upward season. Contact Gail Turner if you would like to help in areas such as concession stand or devotions.

Children's Outing to Lazy Acres Christmas Lights

Friday, December 8
5:00-9:30 PM
Cost is \$10.

Includes admission,
cocoa and cookies

For 1st-6th grade and preschoolers with a parent
Please sign up outside the church office.
For more information see Jackie Cheatham.



B.A.L.L. Luncheon

Our B.A.L.L. Luncheon for December will be held on Tuesday, December 5, at 11:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church. The meat will be provided. Please bring sides dishes and desserts for our time of fellowship.



December 3



Thank you to everyone who participated in this years' Carol-Okie. All who took time to give of their talents, singing, or speaking, or playing musical instruments did an amazing job of ministering to us. Thank you to Bro. Dan for allowing us this fellowship time together and for opening up God's word so fluently as you always do. Thank you, Barbara Edwards for working the Sound and Teresa Hill for accompanying our Christmas Carol singing. All was good, but my favorite part of Carol-Okie was the fellowship. Sunday evening, we truly enjoyed each other in the Lord. There is nothing that warms my heart more than observing the family of God sharing and caring for each other. Maybe that's why Jesus told us that the world will know us, not by our talent, theology, or preaching, but by our love.

I hope you will be in prayer for us and each other as we make final preparations for this year's Christmas musicals and other special services in December. I also hope you will make every effort to join us and bring a friend. We have many special opportunities to worship during the Christmas season starting this weekend. Saturday and Sunday our Chancel Choir along with The Children's Choir, Youth Choir, Praise Band, and Christmas Drama Team will present "We Believe" a Christmas Musical Drama written by our very own Laura Thrash. We hear the Christmas story over and over again. Most of us can easily tell it by memory. We can tell about Mary and Joseph, John the Baptist, the Angels, the Shepherds, The Magi, Simeon, Anna and more, but do we really believe? Do we believe the true story of Jesus' birth, or is it more like a fairy tale that has little or no impact to us in the real world? It is our hope this Christmas season that the story of Jesus will be much more than just another story we share with each other at Christmas. It is our hope that Christmas will impact every heart and life and make a real difference in the way we live and thrive this side of heaven.

Shouting for joy!
William W. Smith

Some of the Christmas opportunities at FBC this year include:

December 2-3 – "We Believe" 6:00 p.m.

December 10 – The Children's Choir Musical
"Jingle Bell Beach" 6:00 p.m.

December 17 – "A Service of Lessons and Carols"
6:00 p.m.

December 24 – Christmas Eve Candle Light Service
6:00 p.m.

December 31 – Lord's Supper 11:00 a.m.

WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Media Center.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Children's Bible Drill	4:00 p.m.
Youth Worship Arts.....	4:30 p.m.
NO Adult Handbells	5:00 p.m.
Adult Discipleship Training.....	5:00 p.m.
Preschool Discipleship Training	5:00 p.m.
TeamKID (Grades 1-6).....	5:00 p.m.
Youth Discipleship Training.....	5:00 p.m.
“We Believe” Christmas Musical	6:00 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Men's Bible Study	7:00 a.m.
NO GROW – G Team.....	6:00 p.m.
NO Upward Basketball Practice (Christmas Parade)	

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

B.A.L.L. Luncheon (First United Methodist Church)....	11:30 a.m.
Women on Mission Meeting (Parlor)	6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Wednesday Night Supper	5:00 p.m.
Youth Christmas Party (Henson Camphouse)	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Media Center.....	5:10 p.m.
NO Kinder Korner (preschool only)	5:30 p.m.
Children's Choir	5:30 p.m.
Preschool Choir.....	6:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal.....	6:20 p.m.
Mission Friends.....	6:30 p.m.
G.A.'s and R.A.'s.....	6:30 p.m.
Youth (see above)	6:30 p.m.
Contemporary Worship.....	6:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study.....	6:30 p.m.
Praise Team Practice.....	7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Children to Lazy Acres	5:00 – 9:30 p.m.
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Children's Musical Rehearsal	10:00 a.m.
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Brotherhood Breakfast	7:30 a.m.
Deacons Meeting	8:30 a.m.
Media Center.....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Children's Bible Drill	4:00 p.m.
Youth Worship Arts.....	4:30 p.m.
Adult Handbells	5:00 p.m.
Adult Discipleship Training.....	5:00 p.m.
Preschool Discipleship Training	5:00 p.m.
TeamKID (Grades 1-6).....	5:00 p.m.
Youth Discipleship Training.....	5:00 p.m.
“Jingle Bell Beach” Children's Musical	6:00 p.m.

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Dan Howard.....	Pastor
William Smith	Minister of Music
Clay Pope	Minister of Students
Jackie Cheatham.....	Minister of Children
Laura Thrash	Financial Ministry Assistant
Pam Phillips	Education Ministry Assistant
Jennifer Prince.....	Child Ministry Center Director
Gail Turner.....	Christian Life Center Director
Church Office.....	(601)656-1507
Fax.....	(601)656-3664
Church Email	fbphilly@netdoor.com
Church Website	www.fbcphilly.com
Kindergarten/Child Care	(601)656-5015

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

November 26, 2017

Budget	\$10,499.30
Wee Care.....	\$1,687.33
Wednesday Night Supper.....	\$0.00
CMC Furnishings	\$200.00
Youth Xtreme.....	\$100.00
Christmas Blessing Boxes.....	\$30.00
CMC Direct Deposits	\$4,805.00
CMC Deposit	\$4,941.62
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Given to Date.....	\$215.00
Budget Requirement to date	\$242,312.97
Budget Offerings to date	\$194,129.46
Under Budget	\$48,183.51
Wee Care Given to Date.....	\$229,229.41

WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:	\$18,638.69
BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 11/26/17:	\$10,499.30

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

<u>November 26, 2017</u>		
Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	20	12
Children	42	21
Youth	37	16
Adults	362	121
Total	461	170