



# 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 50

## *Blessing Boxes*

### *Potluck Lunch*

*Sunday, December 16  
after Morning Service*

*We will also pack our  
Blessing Boxes and deliver  
some of them.*



*Plan on bringing a potluck dish and joining us in  
preparing boxes for this worthwhile ministry.*

## Pastor Paragraph

I am very appreciative of the kind comments about the Christmas coat I wore Sunday morning. I appreciate Scott Bounds allowing me to wear his coat. It was a challenge from the Deacons to wear it. As I mentioned during our morning worship service, I would like to pass the challenge on to us as a church to consider asking God what He wants us to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions and consider giving over and above what we have previously given. Our goal is \$26,000. One hundred percent of the monies given to this offering goes to our missionaries. We will collect this offering during our Christmas Eve Service and report the total given at the end of that service.

*Follow The Star* was an outstanding presentation of the Christmas story by our Children's Choir. Thanks to all the boys and girls who practiced and presented this message through drama and song. We are very blessed with some wonderful children who are multi-talented. Thanks to our Children's Choir Leaders: Jackie Cheatham, Morgan Jay, Jennifer Prince and Bro. William.

During our Men's Bible Study time on Monday mornings we are concluding Max Lucado's book entitled, *Unshakable Hope: Building Our Lives On The Promises Of God*. He concludes this book by reminding us that the promises of God work. He challenges us to find promises that address our needs and to compile a list of these for future reference. Instead of standing on the problems of life may we stand on the promises of God.

I am looking forward to the continuing celebration of the birth of our Savior as we meet together Sunday.

Love,  
Bro. Dan

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### HOSPITAL

Myra Thrash

Laird Swingbed 103

### SYMPATHY

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Abby Jim Payne.

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### THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your calls, visits, and prayers during my recent hospital stay. I thank God for my wonderful First Baptist Church family.

Love,  
Gloria Burkes

## OPPORTUNITIES

### **EXTENDED SESSION**

December 16 (Babies)

Cody & Anna Spence

December 16 (Toddlers)

Clay & Jessica Byars

December 23 (Babies)

Chris Jones

Leigh Ann Jones

December 23 (Toddlers)

Mike Edwards

Barbara Edwards

### DECEMBER TEAM MEMBER:

Natalie Scruggs

### **LIBRARY**

December 16

Kay Bates

December 23

Gloria Burkes

### **DEACON OF THE WEEK**

December 16

Bob Henson

Ryan Jenkins

December 23

David Durant

Bill Griffis

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## *Sanctuary Flowers*

We will **NOT** make reservations for Sanctuary Flowers for December. The Advent wreath will be used on the altar table.

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## **NESHOBA BAPTIST FOOD PANTRY**

First Baptist is responsible for collecting food for the Neshoba Baptist Food Pantry from now until the end of January. There is a box outside the church office for donations of non-perishable food items. Thank you for helping with this important ministry.



### **NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES**

The offering envelopes for 2019 are available outside the church office. They are in alphabetical order. If you do not find your envelopes, please contact the church office.

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**B.A.L.L. Luncheon**  
**Tuesday, December 18**  
**12 noon**

**Home of Pat Mioton**

Please bring a covered dish and join us. Standing Firm will be our special guests.



# ATTENTION!

**NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS  
FROM DECEMBER 19 - JANUARY 9**



Thanks to everyone who participated in "Sanctuary", our church wide Christmas musical this year! God truly blessed our efforts with His presence and help. Everything flowed together without a hitch. The praise band blended, Teresa Hill was at her best, our choir shouted with joy, our soloists hit every note, the Audio Visual team hit every cue, and Dee Dee Bailey and the "Sanctuary Drama Team" were better than Broadway. We will remember this one in a good way for years to come.

We hope that everyone enjoyed our Children's choir this weekend when they presented "Follow the Star". We are very proud of them. They put in a lot of time and effort in learning all of those lines and music. Praise God for the good results their efforts produced this year. As you can probably see from Sunday evening, we have a great youth choir in the making. Thank you FBC church family for supporting them. They notice when we show up to see and hear them and we filled the sanctuary this weekend. Thank you also Children's Choir Leadership Team and Audio Visual Team for your commitment and good work. Jackie Cheatham, Kevin Cheatham, Barbara Edwards, Morgan Jay, Jennifer Prince and my wife Melanie are earning crowns in heaven for their patience and dedication. We are very blessed at FBC with great talent and faithfulness.

*William W. Smith*  
William W. Smith  
Ps 100



**Lottie Moon  
Christmas Offering**  
Church Goal: \$26,000  
Given to Date: \$2,740

## Youth Christmas Party



The Youth Christmas Party will be at the home of Joey and Beth Kilgore on Sunday, December 16. We will leave the church at 7:00 pm and return at 8:30 pm.

*Christmas Party*



A Service of Lessons & Carols  
Sunday, December 23  
6:00 pm

## Gifts of Gratitude

On Sunday, December 30, we will honor three of our employees who will be retiring or moving. Pam Phillips and Gail Turner will both be retiring and Teresa Hill will be moving to Alabama. Anyone wishing to give a gift of gratitude may do so through the church office.

The Finance Team

## Reception

*The First Baptist Church family is invited to attend a reception honoring Pam Phillips, Gail Turner, and Teresa Hill. The reception will be held on Sunday, December 30, from 2 - 4 pm in the Christian Life Center.*

## Children to Lazy Acres

Our children will travel to Lazy Acres on Friday, December 14, to view the Christmas Lights!! We will leave at 5:00 pm and return about 9:30 pm. The cost is \$10 and includes: admission, cookie and hot cocoa. There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office.



## Churchwide Christmas Caroling Wednesday, December 19 6:00 pm

Meet in the Fellowship Hall  
We will have cookies & hot chocolate after caroling.



*Christmas Caroling Party*



**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight Service**  
Monday, December 24  
6:00 pm

## WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

CMC Team Meeting .....	8:30 a.m.
Media Center .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service .....	11:00 a.m.
Potluck Lunch to pack Blessing Boxes (CLC).....	12 noon
Children's Bible Drill .....	4:00 p.m.
Youth Worship Arts .....	4:00 p.m.
Handbell Choir .....	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.
Evening Worship Service .....	6:00 p.m.
Youth Christmas Party .....	7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

NO Men's Bible Study.....	7:00 a.m.
NO G.R.O.W. IN DECEMBER.....	6:00 p.m.
Deacon/Staff & Wives Christmas Dinner .....	6:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Retired Men's Coffee.....	9:00 a.m.
B.A.L.L. Luncheon at Pat Mioton's home.....	12:00 noon
NO Good News Club .....	3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

NO Wednesday Night Supper.....	5:00 p.m.
NO Media Center .....	5:10 p.m.
Preschool Christmas Party .....	6:00 p.m.
Churchwide Christmas Caroling .....	6:00 p.m.
NO Chancel Choir .....	6:20 p.m.
NO Mission Friends.....	6:30 p.m.
NO G.A.'s and R.A.'s .....	6:30 p.m.
NO Youth.....	6:30 p.m.
NO Contemporary Worship .....	6:30 p.m.
NO Prayer & Bible Study .....	6:30 p.m.
NO Praise Team Practice .....	7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Last Upward Practices in December

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23

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.
NO Youth Worship Arts .....	4:00 p.m.
NO Handbell Choir .....	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.
Evening Worship Service (Lessons & Carols).....	6:00 p.m.

## CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Dan Howard .....	Pastor
William Smith .....	Minister of Music
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

### December 9, 2018

Budget .....	\$19,370.14
Wee Care.....	\$3,060.00
Wednesday Night Supper.....	\$481.00
Upward.....	\$210.00
Brotherhood .....	\$52.00
Choir Fund .....	\$147.00
Office Refund.....	\$27.22
Annuities Refund .....	\$147.00
Christmas Blessing Boxes .....	\$2,290.00
Lottie Moon Offering .....	\$2,085.00
Annie Armstrong Offering .....	\$10.00
State Missions .....	\$10.00
CMC Direct Deposits .....	\$6,515.00
CMC Deposit .....	\$3,745.00
Lottie Moon Offering Given to Date.....	\$2740.00
Budget Requirement to date .....	\$314,134.50
Budget Offerings to Date .....	\$236,161.19
Under Budget .....	\$77,973.31
Wee Care Given to Date.....	\$517,139.57

<b>WEEKLY BUDGET REQUIREMENT:</b>	<b>\$20,942.30</b>
<b>BUDGET AMT. RECEIVED 12/9/18:</b>	<b>\$19,370.14</b>

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

	<u>December 9, 2018</u>	
Departments	Enrolled	Present
Preschool	37	16
Children	48	27
Youth	34	17
Adults	324	134
Total	443	194