

The Lamplighter

First Baptist Church of North East

VOLUME 55, ISSUE 3 DECEMBER 2023/JANUARY 2024

Weekly Services & Group Meetings

Sunday

8:30a: Worship Service

9:30a: Sunday School/
Bible Study
(classes available for Pre-school through Adult)

10:30a: Worship Service & Children's Worship

5:30p-7:30p: Youth (grades 6 to 12)

Wednesday

6:30p-7:30p: Kids' Klub
(grades K to 5)

6:30p-7:30p: Youth
(grades 6 to 12)

6:30p: Prayer Meeting/
Bible Study
(Monthly Business Meeting immediately to follow, 3rd Thur. of each month)

Thursday

10a: Ladies' Prayer Circle

10:00a: Men's Discipleship with pastor Dan

6:30p: Business meeting (every 3rd Thur)

Dear church family,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have just finished collecting the Christmas shoeboxes for our 27th year. This year our church set a record thanks to all your efforts working together and collecting things throughout the year. We had 246 boxes in hand and another 42 that were done online, for a grand total of 288! Altogether we collected 2339 boxes from all who brought them in during the week.

We are taking a group of volunteers to the Operation Christmas Child Processing center in Baltimore on December 9th to help in that important processing work. If you would like to go along, there are a few slots still available. You will get a free Operation Christmas Child tee shirt! Woo Hoo!

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." That truth is never more evident than at this time of the year. We are doing many different things at Christmas that require all of us working together to make them happen. There are the Angel Tree and Lottie Moon Christmas offering to name a few. Our goal this year is to raise \$2,750.00 for our International missionaries. 100% of this offering goes to get the gospel to the world. The national goal is \$200 million. It represents nearly 2/3 of the International Mission Board's (IMB) total mission budget for the whole year.

Last year your 3,521 International missionaries led 178,177 persons to faith in Christ! 102,417 persons were baptized, 21,231 new churches were started, and 67 new people groups were reached with the gospel! Isn't it great to cooperate with brothers and sisters of like precious faith?!

Lately we have been studying the passages on giving in the book of 2 Corinthians. Paul says that our generosity in the grace of giving is a test of the sincerity of our love (2 Cor. 8:7-8 & 21). Thank you all for your generous and sacrificial giving to the work of the Lord, here and around the world through our missionaries.

Jesus is the One who gave the most loving gift of all. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Cor. 8:9 & 9:15). We will be praising God throughout eternity for the unbelievable sacrifice of Himself on the cross for our sins! To God be the glory.

I pray that you all have a most joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Steve Hokuf

Pastor Steve





December



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00pm: JLMCC Christmas concert	2 2:00pm: LBC Christmas Concert Leaving at noon. 8am: Men's Breakfast and deacon meeting to follow
3 5:30pm: Youth	4	5 10:30am: Ministers' & Wives' meeting at CMB	6 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub & Youth 6:30p: Youth	7	8	9 1p: WOM Christmas party at Sylvia's home 4:30pm: OCC processing center
IMB: Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Week of Prayer: Sun. Dec 4-Sun. Dec 10						
10 5:30pm: Youth	11	12	13 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth	14 5:30pm: Council meeting	15	16
17 Angel Tree gifts are due 5:30pm: Youth Christmas party	18	19	20 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth	21 6:30pm: Business meeting First day of Winter!	22	23
24 7:00pm: Christmas eve service	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub/ Youth	28	29	30

<u>DECEMBER</u>			David Naggie	10	Lucille Goins
1	Wendy Clough	20	Carol Patrick	11	Sandy Jackson
3	Ronald Johnson	21	Sylvia Hobson	13	Mike Strohecker
	Jason Weicksel	27	Sharon Hodanics	14	Wanda Hollerman
5	Jesonnie Wright	28	Craig Hudler		Folashade Johnson-Aremu
9	Darrell Hamilton		Eric Jackson		Tanya Area
	Ken Hodanics, Jr.	29	Kayla Lewis	17	Carl Davis
	Grace Shores		John Hamilton	18	Ali Cullum
10	Eden Marvel			19	Abby Veasey
	Gideon Hokuf			20	Sophie Hodanics
14	Peggy Clough			23	Jim Lewis
15	Rebecca Bibey	4	Ed Evans	24	Charlie Hook
16	Violet Osborne		Ben Hokuf	28	Linda Gocolinski
18	Samantha Johnston	5	Amanda Hobson	29	Adam Marvel
18	Lucias Sanders	7	Ivan Mehosky	30	Judy Wahlgren
19	Laura Bayer	9	Amber Rhoades	31	Judy Veasey
			Stacie Marie Rhoades		



The youth performed a couple songs for us during the Thanksgiving Eve service! Thank you Robert Hall for preaching!

WOM Christmas party on Saturday, December 9th at 1:00pm at Sylvia Hobson's home!

Its that time again! Angel tree gift tags are on the Christmas tree located in the back of Church. Help out a family with Christmas gifts this year. Instructions are on the back of the angel ornament!



BCM/D will be hosting their annual women's event March 8th-9th 2024. This event is called "Revive". It will be held at Riva Trace Baptist Church. The event cost \$40. If you have any questions please reach out to Morgan Hill. This event fills up quickly!

SBC will host their annual meeting in Indianapolis! The dates are June 9th-12th 2024. More information in the future!

Want to get involved at FBCNE? Reach out to Morgan Hill and we will get you connected!!





The youth held a party for Thorn. Thorn moved to Texas on November 29th. Please pray for her as she starts this new transition. She has been such a blessing to our Church!



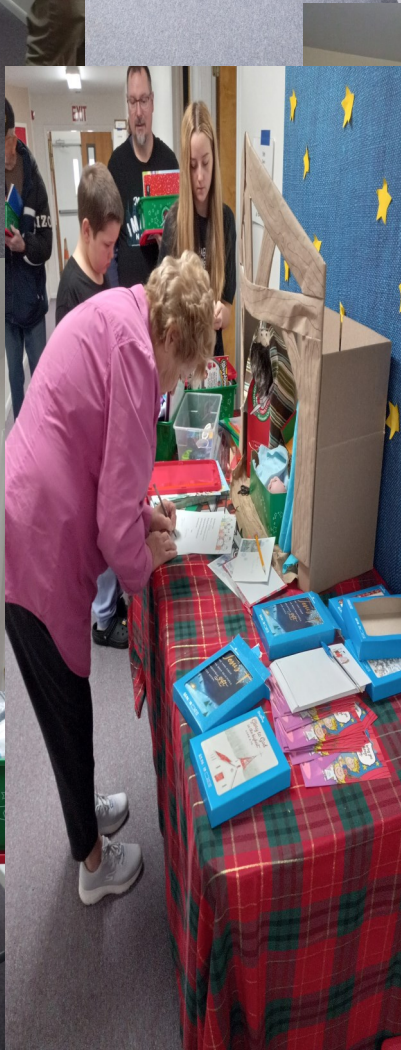
James Shipley loves entertaining people with his Puppets! He has recently starting a puppet ministry within the children's ministry! He will also be preforming during Night to Shine in February!

We have just finished collecting the Christmas shoeboxes for our 27th year. This year our church set a record thanks to all your efforts working together and collecting things throughout the year. We had 246 boxes in hand and another 42 that were done online, for a grand total of 288! Altogether we collected 2339 boxes from all who brought them in during the week.

We are taking a group of volunteers to the processing center in Baltimore on December 9th to help in that important processing work. If



Thank you Bobby and Nancy Hudler for being a light and leading this great ministry! Also, thank you to those that came to help in anyway with OCC!!



For Such A Time As This

Esther 4:14

I thank God for the times in which we live. And even though there is so much evil in the world, yet I can rejoice and praise GOD and love Him with all my heart, and with all my soul, and with all my mind, and with all my strength for all His uncountable blessings in His world in the 21st Century and upon His people.

We are in the sixth millennium of human history since creation, and that means 60 centuries of Satan's war against God and his people for the very souls of men: whom will you worship? God, or Satan and his demons? Where will you spend eternity? And that has been the battle of the ages as witness to man's inhumanity against man. The wheat grows up with the tares; good with evil in every generation, in every century; and so it has been before the Cross, and so it has been now in the twenty centuries after the Cross.

Jesus said there would be war and rumors of war, and earthquakes and plagues in various places, but the end is not yet. The Bible speaks of deception in the last days. It seems we are living at the end of the Church Age, and some might even say, "the end of the world?"

But the end is not yet. The past century saw two great world wars, and plagues and earthquakes, and natural disasters that killed millions and millions of people all over the world.

And the miracle of the church, the miracle of Christianity, the miracle of life, God made it so that in every century, everywhere, His glory could be proclaimed amid all this. Even in the most terrible of times, and the good times, God, the Father has been calling people to His Son, Jesus Christ, by the Holy Spirit.

And what of our new century of just twenty-three years and counting?

Well, we had 9/11; we had the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; suicide bombers and more and more terrorist attacks. There has been an increase of earthquakes and natural disasters world-wide, and then in 2020 came the dreaded COVID-19 plague that killed millions and keeps coming back! Our nation is divided, our schools are divided, and our churches are divided! Right is wrong and wrong is right! Light is dark and dark is light! Famine is a constant nightmare that haunts the world!

In self-defense, Israel has been at war with Hamas for years. But now, as of October 2023, Israel is set to invade Gaza, and destroy Hamas for the brutal, demonic, frenzied murder attack of over a thousand innocent Jewish men, woman and children, and the barbarous kidnapping of over 100 Jewish people who survived the horrific slaughter of October 7th, 2023! An Israel invasion of Hamas and Gaza is imminent! And the Mid-East powder-keg is ready to explode!

Yes, people are worried. But to counter that, we have the peace of God that passes all understanding; we are overcomers of the world; we are victorious; we are dead to sin and alive in Christ; and one day we shall have eternal life with Him in Heaven. All this and more, much, much more because we have Jesus Christ in His great love for us. Much more because we have that "blessed hope" of a promised "imminent" event that is soon to happen to the believing church.

To be continued.

If you are interested in helping out with Night to Shine please reach out to Morgan Hill for more information!! Night to Shine is a one night event on February 9th at 6pm. This event is a prom for those with disabilities. Ages 14 and up. We have positions open! From doing registration, being a buddy, helping with set up and tear down. You can also help with decorations or hair and make up! So many positions you can be a part of this special event!

If you are interested in playing men's softball in spring of 2024, reach out to Jakob Hill for more information!!

On November 29th, Tim Bayer came to preach for us. Thank you for coming to FBCNE to share His word!!





On November 19th we celebrated our 67th anniversary. We also celebrated 25 years of Jesus Loves Me Childcare!! We are blessed to see the great work the Lord has done within these ministries! We can't wait to see what He will continue to do! All glory to Jesus!





January

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
31 New Years Eve! Youth Sunday! Vote on budget	1 	2 10:30am: Ministers' & Wives' mtg at MVBC	3 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth	4	5	6 8a: Deacons breakfast and meeting to follow
7 Communion Sunday 5:30pm: Youth	8	9	10 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth	11 5:30pm: Council meeting	12	13
14 5:30p: Youth	15	16	17 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study & Business Mtg. 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth	18 6:30pm: Business meeting	19 Skycroft youth trip 19-21	20
21 5:30p: Youth	22	23 February Lamp-lighter articles due	24 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth	25	26	27
28 5:30p: Youth Men's day and fellowship meal to follow	29	30	31 6:30p: Prayer/Bible Study 6:30p: Kids Klub 6:30p: Youth			

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES			JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES		
5	Gregory & Danita Walker		10	Darrell & Connie Hamilton	
6	Everett & Lucille Goins		13	Andre & Judy Wahlgren	
8	Henry & Doris Morris				
10	Larry & Linda Thornton				
21	Mike & Cheryl Marvel				
22	James & Tanya Area				

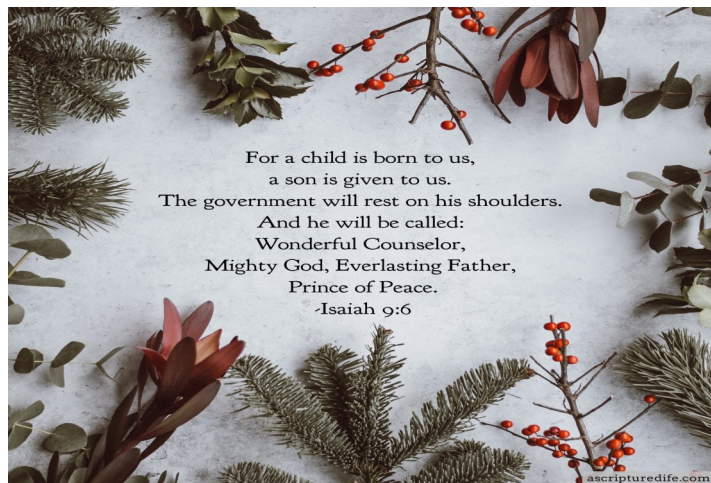




Our Church Goal for Lottie Moon Offering: \$2,750

imb | **LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

Together, we can bring help and hope to a hurting world.



For a child is born to us,
a son is given to us.
The government will rest on his shoulders.
And he will be called:
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.
-Isaiah 9:6

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES EARLY!

RE M I N D E R :

DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IS

Tuesday, January 23rd

February 2024 Lamplighter
Please email articles to
Morgan@fbcne@verizon.net.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



7:00pm

The Lamplighter
Published 10 times a year.

An electronic version of our newsletter is available on our website as a pdf file and may be emailed to you upon request. It will be emailed to you instead of a mailed, printed copy.

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Dan Mohler, Associate Pastor

Morgan Hill,
Editor/Ministry Assistant

Budget Analysis

Budget/General Fund Weekly
Average as of 11/30/2023
(4 weeks): **\$4,055.34**

New Needed Weekly:
\$4,515.52

Maintenance/Building Repairs Fund:
\$10,722.74

Building Fund for New Garage:
Received to date: **\$16,612**

Lawn Mower fund:
Goal: \$9,522.09
Raised so far: \$6,405.00

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Received to date: **\$350**
Church Goal: **\$2,750**