

From Your Pastor

Dear Church Family,
Politics at Christmas?

In my lifetime, I don't remember having an election two weeks before Christmas- until this year. It has been a strange time in our state, as the entire nation has shined its light on the senate race here in Alabama. By the time you read this article, the election will be over. There are some things we need to remember as followers of Christ with regards to this election.

1. Jesus is Lord, no matter who wins. If your candidate didn't win, that doesn't mean the world will suddenly fall apart. Our nation is in trouble, and this one election will not determine the rest of history. And, it is important we keep a Kingdom perspective at all times. No matter how bad things become here in America, Jesus is still in control.

2. Our Gospel witness is more important than party loyalty. Please here my heart- if winning elections or standing with our political party means compromising or putting aside our biblical principles, our Gospel witness will be diminished. Whether you vote Democrat or Republican, your first priority should be to bring glory to God by being an effective witness for Him in every facet of your life- including politics.

I for one am very grateful that this political election is coming to an end. Join me in praying that our state can heal from the division that has been created, and that we can get our eyes and hearts focused back on what is most important, mainly the birth, life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,
Bro. Carl

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

FBC Goal: \$25,400.00 Given: \$10,626.97

The LMCO helps Radford and Sarah Bagby get to 28 people groups who live in the mountains of Nepal. The journey takes weeks by car, plane and trekking on foot and that's if everything goes just right.

Pray God will continue to open hearts in Nepal and raise up local believers who will boldly take the gospel to other villages.

♪ A Note from Tim

I am so proud of our Children's Choir Kids. They did a great job last Sunday night as they presented the musical, *Christmas in KidCity*. Thank you kids for working so hard to present the message of redemption through Jesus, just as the prophets foretold. And it was also a joy to see and hear our Preschool Choir sing as well. That is always a special time. Thank you parents for bringing your kids to choir each week. And Thank you to all the choir leaders who tirelessly work in the ministry of Preschool and Children's Choir.

And looking forward to this Sunday, I encourage you to invite your friends and family to come December 17 at 11:00 am, as our Adult Choir presents the Christmas Musical, *"The Greatest Story Ever Told"*.

Please sign up for caroling to our shut-ins scheduled for this Sunday evening.
Seniors, Don't forget *"Rosalyn and Friends at JOY Day"*, Dec. 21 at 10:00 am.

In Loving Memory of Glen Bridges

December 19, 1932 - December 7, 2017

Record of Attendance Sunday, December 10, 2017

	Enrolled	Total Present
Sun. School Attendance	368	169
New Members (0)	Visitors (7)	Riverside (0)

God's Tithe and Our Offering Sunday, December 10, 2017

2017 Budget: \$634,772.00

Weekly Budget Needed: \$12,207.15 Sunday Offering: \$39,010.16

Offerings Year to date: Given: \$604,502.09 Needed: \$598,150.35

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering:

Goal: \$25,400.00 Given: \$10,626.97

December 17 Bus Ministry - Rick Dunn 216-0667

Deacons on call December 17 - December 23

Bob Collins 341-9878 & Jeff Holley 289-3551

December Church Lock-up: Arthur Evans 216-0502

Nursery Workers: December 17 - Whitney Mosely, Dana Eddins,

Colton M^cGilberry, Mary Catherine M^cGilberry, Marsha Pugh

(Nursery workers please be in the Nursery at 10:40)

All check requests/announcements for the Reminder must be in the church office by Monday noon. Sanctuary Screen information deadline by Wed., 5:00p. m. **PLEASE NO FOOD OR DRINK IN SANCTUARY.**

Pray With Me

We are in the second week of December and that means the second candle is lit on the advent wreath. The second candle is "The Bethlehem Candle" or "The Candle of Preparation." The wise men, the shepherds, and all the Nation of Israel prepared for hundreds of years for the arrival of the Messiah. The arrival didn't come as many expected it to. Instead of a political/military king and ruler to free them Jesus came as a suffering servant.

We light this candle in celebration of the Messiah who has come and as a reminder for us to be prepared for His second coming. Pray with me that we will not try to put our wishes on God's will for Christ's second return. Let's not look at it as an escape from this world. It is the fulfillment of our Father's will and to be longed for but, not at the expense of preparing our lives and the lives of others for that return. I pray that I am not met with an unfamiliar Jesus at that time. I pray we all are met with a familiar master who looks upon us as "good and faithful servants." I pray we are prepared!

In God's Grace,
Trent

If you would like to serve on the Offertory Committee, please contact Bo McAlpine 289-1898 or the church office 289-0473.

Memorial gifts have been received in loving memory of: Glen Bridges, Mildred Hoggle, Alease Evans, Sarah M^cBrayer and Gladys Franks.

Mark Your Calendar:

There will not be a Reminder published the week December 27 (Christmas) or the week of January 3 (New Years) Please refer to the December 20 Reminder, the Sunday Bulletins or the sanctuary screen for church activities. Thank you!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12/17 Bill Glover, Rebecca England
 12/18 Anna M^cAlpine, Shelia Tucker,
 Cassi Pruet
 12/19 Punk Williams
 12/21 Diane Cleveland
 12/22 Erin White



4 POINSETTIAS left: If you would like to purchase one of the poinsettias in the sanctuary in honor/in memory of a loved one, please come by the church office to fill out a form. (\$25 for each poinsettia ordered/ make checks to FBC). You may pick up your poinsettia after the morning service on December 17.

2017 Contributions: In order to receive contribution credit for the year 2017 you must have your contributions in the church office by noon on Friday, December 29 or postmarked no later than Sunday, December 31.

The 2018 Church flower calendar: If you would like to put flowers in the sanctuary/foyer for a loved one or for a special occasion, please sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board near the church office.

The **Lottie Moon Post Office** is up and ready for you to mail Christmas cards to CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY for \$.25 per card. Please do not put cards for homebound members in the mail box. Thank you!

Our love and prayers go out to.... Ida Lee Bridges, Tory Colvin, Katie Thomas, Gail Hedrick, Donnie Cannon, Eddie & Agnes Willingham, Nell Ree Ballard, Harold & Myrtle Dunn, Juliette M^cNamara, Charles Stroud, Goldie Millsap, Irma Parr, Jimmie M^cCollum, Mary Flowers, Rebecca Henderson, and those who have lost loved ones, those who are in the hospital, Nursing Home, Assisted Living, the homebound, the care givers and unspoken prayer requests.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U S POSTAGE PAID
 DEMOPOLIS, AL
 PERMIT NO 90

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 P. O. DRAWER 1009
 DEMOPOLIS, AL. 36732

If you have any requests
 for the financial secretary, please
 turn in to the church office by:
Wednesday, December 13.

Prayerfully Prepared For:

WEEKLY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. December 17

9:45 Sunday School
 11:00 Adult Choir Christmas Musical
 4:00 Church-wide Caroling

Mon. December 18

10:00 Grief Share Support Group -Hugh Lloyd Class room

Tues. December 19

10:00 No Ladies Bible Study
 1:30 JOY Choir

Wed. December 20

No church activities

Thurs. December 21

6:45 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Simply Delicious
 7:00 Powerhouse @ Jacks

The Richly Indwelling Word - A 365 Day Devotional
 Book are available in the church office. Cost: \$25.00 each
 Make check out to: Servants Alive Ministries

First Baptist Church
 Demopolis, Alabama

The Reminder

A Great Commission Church...

Loving God, Loving Others.

Carl Williams, Pastor
Tim Hall, Minister of Music/Senior Adults
Trent Nolen, Minister of Youth
Betty Sue Gandy, Financial Ministry Assistant
Bernice Johnson, Church Ministry Assistant

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Christmas Musical



presented by the FBC Worship Choir

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 Phone: 334-289-0473—Website: www.firstbaptistdemopolis.org
 Church office hours: Mon. -Thurs. 8-5:00 / Fri. 8:00-Noon