

sfbc

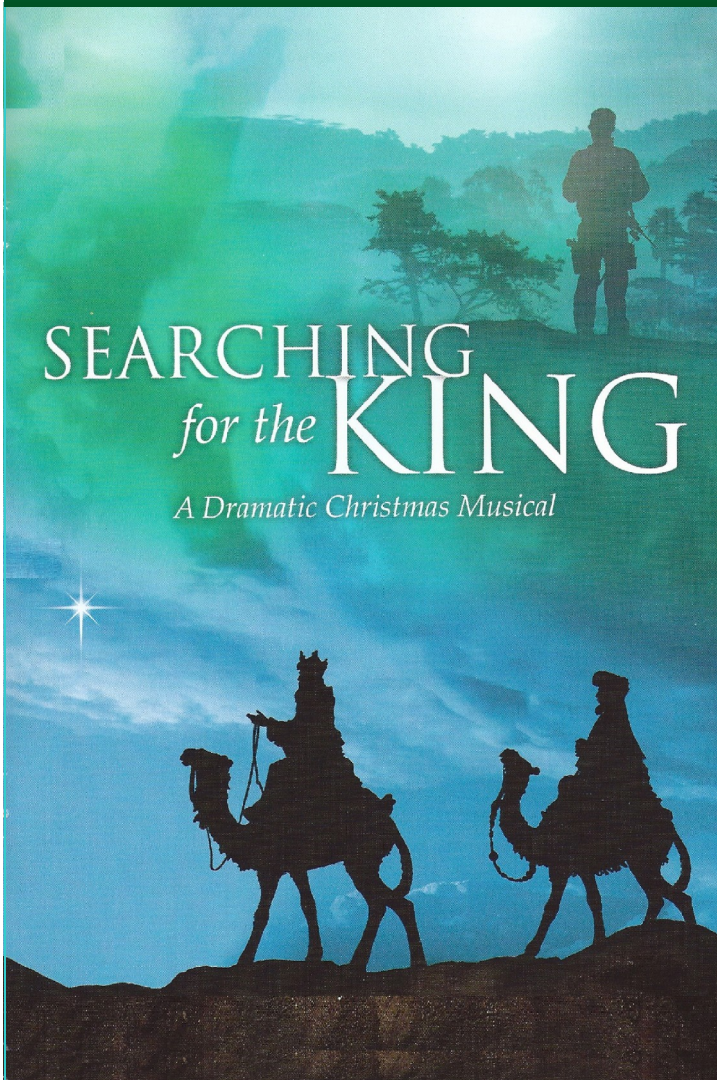
# CHIMES

[www.shelbyvillebaptist.com](http://www.shelbyvillebaptist.com)

SHELBYVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

December, 2011

## TWO DIFFERENT WORLDS SEEKING THE TRUTH



Ever since Joseph and Mary undertook the first journey to Bethlehem and wise men traveled under starry skies, journeys have been a part of Christmas. More often than not, families date the Christmases of their lives by recalling the destinations of their journeys.

Some retrace familiar steps leading to home. Their destination is a warm fire, family and friends. For others, the destination of their journey is but a doorway to unanswered questions, uncomfortable situations, the reopening of still unhealed wounds and apprehension of a shadow-filled future.

***Searching for the King*** is the story of two journeys separated by two millennia, yet the questions faced by our two travelers are universal in time and scope. For both, the way is difficult and filled with unknowns, yet both will ultimately stand in the same place: the holiest of ground where the God of the universe chose to begin the difficult, Christmas journey...where His Son would one day travel to the cross and the empty tomb.

Our prayer for the viewing of ***Searching for the King*** is it would become the doorway of a new and fresh journey leading others onto the high and narrow path to walk with the One who declared Himself ***“the Way, the Truth and the Life.”*** *John 14:6*

Join for **One Combined Service**

Sunday, December 18

***Searching for the King***

11:00 a.m.

Bible Fellowship at 9:45 a.m.

## Welcome New Members

Joined by Letter

Mike and Cynthia Pettit  
Charles Meador

## Complete the Journey

**November 20, 2011**

Offerings—\$397,177.44

Pledges Remaining—\$360,365.76

Complete the Journey Total—\$757,543.20

Loan Balance—\$1,570,000.00

## End of Year Offerings

End-of-year tithes and offerings can be accepted for 2011 if received in the church office or post-marked by December 31, 2011. They will appear on your annual contribution statement.

Offerings postmarked or brought in after December 31, 2011 will go on your 2012 record. Thank you for your love and support in 2011.

## Sunday Attendance

	October	10/2	10/9	10/17	10/23	10/30	Avg
Bible Fellowship	Park	397	335	362	388	371	
Worship		423	533	478	480	491	481
	November	11/6	11/13	11/20	11/27		Avg
Bible Fellowship		433	354	425	386		400
Worship		576	506	529	495		527

## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

for

### International Missions

The Lottie Moon Christmas offering for this year for international missions is \$20,000. Watch for special offering envelopes in the worship guide.

## Staff Anniversary

We are so blessed to have Niki Nelson on our staff as our Finance Administrative Assistant. She joined FBC in December of 1988.

Niki and her husband have two sons and four grandchildren who keep them busy with soccer games and birthday parties. Among her other interests and talents is making beautiful floral arrangements.

Congratulations to Niki on 23 years of loyal and faithful service to our church.

## Mark Your Calendar

- Dec. 4** Hanging of the Green—6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 5** The Albright WMU Group—6:30 p.m.  
Pot luck dinner at church with the Coker family as our guests.
- Dec. 7** Olya Coker gives us a glimpse of Russian traditions and ministries.  
Room 300 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 8** Christmas Cookie Exchange  
Contact Suzanne at 477-2056.
- Dec. 11** Sunday-6:30 p.m.  
Combined Children's Choirs sing  
*Songs of Peace*.  
Children's Musical following with  
*"Census Time in Bethlehem"*
- Dec. 11** Marshall Phillips and Adam & Olya Coker will be sharing about missions. Marshall will have a book signing afterward.
- Dec. 14** Christmas for Families—6:00 p.m.  
Contact Joyce Sanford at 321-7079.
- Dec. 14 & 16**—Ring the Bell for the Salvation Army. To schedule a time, contact Lou Elliott at 220-0495.
- Dec. 18** Adult Choir & Orchestra Christmas Musical—*"Searching for the King"*.  
Combined worship at 11:00 p.m.
- Dec. 19** Christmas at Claudia's will not be serving a meal. Volunteers are needed to package toys. Contact Geoffrey at 633-1317.
- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve service at 5:00 p.m.
- Dec. 25** No Bible Study  
**One** combined worship service at 11:00 a.m.



## "Stories from the Holy Land"



Kate Matthews and Pastor Steve on the Sea of Galilee as he prepares to read Matthew 14:22-23.

On a recent trip to the **Holy Land**, we visited Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus. Things have certainly changed in Bethlehem in the last 2,000 years. Nestled in and around the hilly topography, Bethlehem is now part of the West Bank and is largely inhabited by Arabs.

It is a fairly large city with a current population of 30,000 that extends to the city limits of Jerusalem. In Jesus' time it was just a small town located about 6 miles from Jerusalem.

What you may not realize is that Bethlehem played an important Biblical role in addition to being the birthplace of Jesus. Jacob's wife, Rachel, died there as she gave birth to Benjamin. It was the home of Ruth and Boaz as well as the birthplace of their great-grandson, David, who was anointed King in Bethlehem by Samuel.

In AD 385, a church was built on the traditional site of the Nativity. The emperor Justinian erected the building as it stands today. Although most religious buildings were destroyed during the Persian invasion of the 7th century AD, the Church of the Nativity was not destroyed.

It is written in Micah 5:2 that Bethlehem would be the birthplace of a future king of ancient origins. This prophecy was fulfilled with the birth of Jesus about 2000 years ago.

For Christians, the prophecy is very powerful in a very simple way. It eliminates all other cities and towns throughout the world as a place in which the Messiah could be born. It narrows the possibilities to one tiny village just south of Jerusalem.

A few days ago, Laura and I along with seven others from Shelbyville First Baptist walked those same streets that Joseph and Mary traversed 2,000 years ago. We entered the cave and knelt at the manger. I suspect that Christmas will never be the same for any of us again. Kate Matthews



Laura Rice shows the camera her lunch of St. Peter's fish.

As your pastor, Laura and I wish you and your family a merry Christmas. I pray that the truth of the **Messiah's birth** will leap off the pages of the Word of God and bring new meaning to

# Geoffrey McGillen

Senior Adult Pastor

---

## Young At Heart

**Dec. 1—Science Hill Christmas** luncheon. Meet in the Courtyard at 11:00 a.m. Please feel free to tour the Gallery "dressed up" by Vanessa Clemmons, Ann Dean, Judy Scarce, and others, led by Pat Burnett. We are blessed by their talents and devotion to keeping "CHRIST" in Christmas. Reservations are necessary during this busy Christmas season. Check with Daisy Baxter, 633-4836, for a possible opening. Following our meal, we will visit Crescent Place at 2:00 p.m. and go caroling.

**Dec. 8—Cattlemen's.** We will meet there at 11:00 a.m. At 2:00 p.m., we will go to the Senior Adult Citizen's Center.

**Dec. 11—Sunday—Rev. Marshall Phillips** and other missionaries will be interviewed by Dr. Rice during the two services. Rev. Marshall then will have his new book, "*He Leadeth Me,*" available for purchase. The book is about his missionary adventures.

**Dec. 15—Our Christmas Potluck** meal at 11:30 a.m. in the small dining room will be led with the singing of Jerry Franklin. Please come and remember "**The Reason for the Season.**" Then we will journey to Crestview and serenade the residents with Christmas songs.

**Dec. 19—Monday—Christmas at Claudia's.** Due to severe financial cuts, Claudia's will not be providing a meal this year.

However, volunteers are still needed during the day for "stuffing" bags of toys and other items for distribution to parents.

Parents only will be invited to pick up the toys on the evening of December 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Please check with Geoffrey regarding additional information on how you can be a part of this event.

---

**YAH** will not meet December 22 or December 29 due to family holiday activities. Please keep in mind that the CHRISTMAS EVE service is on SATURDAY, at 5:00 p.m., and Christmas Day is SUNDAY, with one service at 11:00 a.m. There will be NO Bible study due to Christmas family activities.

**Merry Christmas, Geoffrey**

---

We **welcome** Joyce and Bill Heady, Mary Wilson, Dudley Bottom and Betty Brown to the **55 Plus Committee** for 2012. We have a called meeting with the other ministries on Sunday, January 22, at 5:00 p.m. We salute Myron Bozell, Phyllis Fox, and Jo Hammond who are "rolling off" the committee. Many thanks for your love toward others.

## Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to our church members for their contributions to Operation Christmas Child. We have 351 boxes ready to be sent from our church. We also had \$388 donated by church members to prepare and ship additional boxes. This amount will be mailed to Samaritans Purse.

Your participation in this ministry is greatly appreciated and will bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to many children.

## The Mission Council

It's that time of year again! We will be hosting this years' Christmas for families meal on Wednesday, December 14. We plan to be serving 50 families.

Please watch the worship guide and flyers around the church for ways you can help. We will need monetary donations to help with food and also will need people to help in several areas. Contact Joyce Sanford at 321-7079 or Andy McDonald.

# Gene Wright

Music Pastor

---

## **Children's Choirs Present** *Census Time in Bethlehem*

What is a census, you ask? Well you might inquire of one of our **Young Musicians** to get an answer to your query. By the way, our most recent choir census found us with 9 boys and 21 girls in Young Musicians.

At any rate, the Young Musicians will present a children's musical entitled "**Census Time in Bethlehem**" on Sunday evening, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. You won't want to miss seeing census taker Mr. B.A. Countable come to grips with the fact that he need not inquire a **second** time of Mary and Joseph as to what sex their expected child might be. B.A. first meets the parents prior to the birth of Jesus.

Having been told previously by God, Mary and Joseph are adamant that their Baby will be a boy and that His name will be called **Jesus...and Emanuel, Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace**. Can you imagine the frustration of the census taker as he tries to record all of those names on his census? We hope that you will join us for this fun presentation. Hold onto your hats as three of our Young Musicians become angels in "**An Angel's Eye View**". This skit gives us



another account of the Christmas story as the angels in heaven try to process the idea that **Jesus** will leave the splendor of heaven for the squalor of earth as a love gift for mankind.

And have you ever wondered why we give gifts at Christmas? We have a special dramatic reading for you to answer that question.

Shew! We do have a dramatic group in our Young Musicians this year. They will also be singing, in addition to playing recorders and Orff instruments.

To add an extra measure of sweetness to the evening, the **Music Makers** will take the stage with the Young Musicians in our census taking drama. Our **Melody Makers** will sing for us with the addition of handmade props which help us to both "hear" and "see" what these little ones accomplish each week in choir. And who can forget our sweet **Cherub Choir**? It has been said by their leaders that they will be "Oh, so cute!" no matter how many (or how few) musical notes of Christmas they sing.

From our combined Children's Choirs we wish you a Merry Christmas and hope to see you on December 11<sup>th</sup>.

---

## **Youth Choir Will Lead** *Hanging of the Green*

Join FBC's youth choir as they lead in worship on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, for the Hanging of the Green service. The evening service, beginning at 6:30 p.m., will feature students in grades 6-12 as they perform three musical selections and two dramatic readings. It will be a wonderful time of worship and a great start to the advent season.

Any youth interested in joining the choir would be gladly welcomed as we start back after the first of the year. The group rehearses each Sunday night from 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m. in the adult choir room. Come join us!

Wishing you a wonderful  
Christmas season,  
Marcie Wright



# next level

## Wednesday Night



5:00 P.M.  
Adult Meal  
\$5.00

### December 7

- Polish sausage with red beans and rice
- Fancy holiday green beans
- Garlic smashed potatoes
- Garlic bread
- Spring greens salad with fruit
- Dessert
- Alt: burger

Only one meal in December!



## UPWARD BASKETBALL K through 8th Grade Boys/Girls

**Deadline for registration is December 10**

**Evaluations** begin **Tuesday, Dec. 6.**  
**Practice** begins **Monday, January 2.**

Early registration cost per child is \$55;  
after December 2, the cost is \$65.

Forms are available in the church office.  
Make check payable to First Baptist Church.

Dear Church,

Thank you to everyone for your encouragement as I lead Upward Basketball. Upward is a huge ministry and there are many areas in need of volunteers. Some of those areas include: kitchen workers, building security, officials, scorebook keepers and clock keepers, and many other areas. Contact me if you can volunteer.

Scholarships are available for the Upward fee of \$55. If you want to sponsor a child, please contact me or the church office.

With your help, 2012 will be a great season! If you have any questions about Upward, please don't hesitate to call me at 502/321-1599.

John Raizer

# sfbc

eXchange student ministry  
presents:

## Summer 2012 Camp and Mission Trip Opportunities

*Mark Your Calendars!*

### Crossings Camp40 June 15-17

For those who have completed grades 5-7  
No money is due until February 12.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

### Road Show Mission Trip June 21-29

For those who have completed grades 8-12  
No money is due until January 18.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

### Ecuador International Mission Trip

July 12-21 (tentative)

For College Age, Acts 1:8, other Adults  
No money is due until December 7.

For more information, call Andy McDonald at 633-1317 or email at him at church at amcdonald@shelbyvillebaptist.com.

## **Thanksgiving...**

As I reflect over the past few months I am increasingly aware of the many acts of kindness exhibited by our church family here at First Baptist. As most of you know, my mother, Margie Racer, suffered several mini-strokes in late May. Subsequently, she spent one week at Jewish Hospital in Shelbyville and three weeks at Frazier Rehabilitation Center in Louisville. During that time (and even now as we approach the Holiday Season), she has received countless cards and other expressions of love that have boosted her spirits and encouraged her immensely.

While at Frazier we had every available flat surface covered with cards from her Shelbyville church family! A steady stream of doctors, nurses, technicians, therapists, dieticians, and house-keeping personnel continually came into her room and each commented on the profusion of cards that she had received. Her reply to each went something like this. "Why don't you know that we are Christians and we go to Church? These cards are from our church family!"

So, you are to be commended for the many kindnesses that you show one another and especially those kindnesses shown to those whom you may not even know. The witness that each thoughtful act exhibits for our Lord Jesus Christ is evident in this community as well as in the halls of Frazier Rehab Center in Louisville! May God be glorified as you continue to do random acts of kindness in His name and for His sake. It is our hope that this holiday season be a blessed one for each of you and your respective families. Thank you for your many kindnesses to my mother and our family. Joanna and Gene Wright

## **Thank You**

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank my church family for the many prayers, cards, visits and phone calls at the time of my surgery and rehab at Oaklawn and home. I really appreciate the visits made by all the FBC ministers. Thank you for continued support and prayers!

Respectfully, Patti Griffin

## **Carlotta**

By Don White

For those who know Carlotta,  
we would surely all agree  
that she's a special lady and  
her heart of love is key.

Our friend is small in stature  
but stands so tall in grace.  
And if you need a smile today,  
just find Carlotta's face.

She is always ready  
with a hug for everyone.  
She radiates the love of God  
and even makes it fun.

Her faith is truly steadfast  
though troubles she has known.  
They've just made her stronger  
and in kindness she has grown.

I'm so glad our pathways  
did somehow intertwine.  
She makes a life seem better.  
I know she has for mine.

## **With Sympathy**

The church offers condolences to the family and friends of:

- ❖ Waldeen Adcock who passed away at the age of 89.
- ❖ Zuella Billie Heyser who passed away at the age of 95.
- ❖ Dr. Herbert Kays who was a brother to Dot Hanna, Peggy Kays, and Barbara Coleman.
- ❖ Mary Jones of LaGrange who was Bob Jones' step-mother.
- ❖ Lynville Slaven who was Sherry Allen's father.
- ❖ Wesley Franklin Curtis who was the older brother of Wister "Dub" Curtis.

**Mission Statement: "love God, love people, make disciples."**



**December, 2011**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Shelbyville, KY.  
Permit No. 48

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

1516 Midland Trail  
Shelbyville, KY 40065  
Phone: 502-633-1317  
Fax: 502-633-3923  
Preschool Office: 502-633-4595  
**www.shelbyvillebaptist.com**

Information for the **JANUARY** Chimes  
should be received in the office or by  
email at [chimes@shelbyvillebaptist.com](mailto:chimes@shelbyvillebaptist.com)  
by **December 15.**

## Staff

**Steve Rice, Senior Pastor**  
[srice@shelbyvillebaptist.com](mailto:srice@shelbyvillebaptist.com)

**Gene Wright, Worship Pastor**  
[gwright@shelbyvillebaptist.com](mailto:gwright@shelbyvillebaptist.com)

**Andy McDonald, Discipleship and Outreach,  
Student Pastor**  
[amcdonald@shelbyvillebaptist.com](mailto:amcdonald@shelbyvillebaptist.com)

**Geoffrey McGillen, Senior Adult Pastor**  
[gmcgillen@shelbyvillebaptist.com](mailto:gmcgillen@shelbyvillebaptist.com)

**Luke Wisley, Contemporary Worship Leader**  
[lwisley@shelbyvillebaptist.com](mailto:lwisley@shelbyvillebaptist.com)

## **Merry Christmas** from the church staff

**Church Office Closed  
for the Holidays on:**

- FRIDAY, December 23
- MONDAY, December 26
- TUESDAY, December 27
- MONDAY, January 01 & 02