

# The *Focus*

December Edition for First Baptist Church

**| SYMPATHY**

Eric Williams and family, in the loss of his father, Norman Williams on October 20.

Margaret Kirkland and family, in the loss of her husband, Ben Kirkland, on October 20.

Donna Tate, Tanya Wyatt and Sue Tate and family, in the loss of husband, father and brother-in-law, Lowell Tate, on November 3.

Julie Sanders and family, in the loss of her parents, Fred and Peggy Maier, on November 7.

**| DECISIONS**

**NEW MEMBERS**

Lauren Ivory	DT
Brett Mitchell	DT
Caroline Fox	DT Morris
Robin Morgan	DT Morgan
Avery Vache	Sheppard
Ronny & Shawn Sawyer	West

**| DECISIONS**

**BAPTISMS**

Andrew Brinkman	DT
Ashley Atwood	DT
Alli Reily	DT
Harris Osborne	DT
Dylan Huff	DT
Chris Kirk	DT
Alli Reily	DT
Jake Tuggle	DT
Noah Ortiz	DT
Ava Avitia	DT
Keaton Fleming	DT
Payton Tonegate	DT
Savannah Boatman	DT
Carmer Adam	Sheppard
Selah Anderson	Sheppard
Mark Chavez	Sheppard
Athena Galbreth	West
Bella Landers	West
Cohlson Powers	1st Grade
Barrett Ezzell	3rd Grade
Connor Penney	4th Grade
Carolina Cason	4th Grade
Luke Teague	4th Grade
Kolter Wood	6th Grade
Graham Gonzales	6th Grade

**| DECISIONS**

**BAPTISMS**

Katie Gail Wynne	7th Grade
James Davis	7th Grade
Rylee Rhine	8th Grade
Arden Davis	8th Grade
Nicholas Mok	8th Grade
Malia Martinez	9th Grade
Kinsey Anderson	9th Grade
Ava Bosley	9th Grade
Kinsey Anderson	9th Grade
Taylor Long	9th Grade
Gavin Gonzales	10th Grade
Tammii Fowler	10th Grade
Taylee Powell	11th Grade
Kiera Jetton	11th Grade
Zander Wood	11th Grade
Mark Lee	12th Grade
Jemarr Myles	12th Grade
Corbin Cantwell	12th Grade
Caitlin Slowey	12th Grade
Jacob Diaz	12th Grade

**SALVATIONS**

Libby Rivera	Sheppard
Noelani Kennealy	2nd Grade

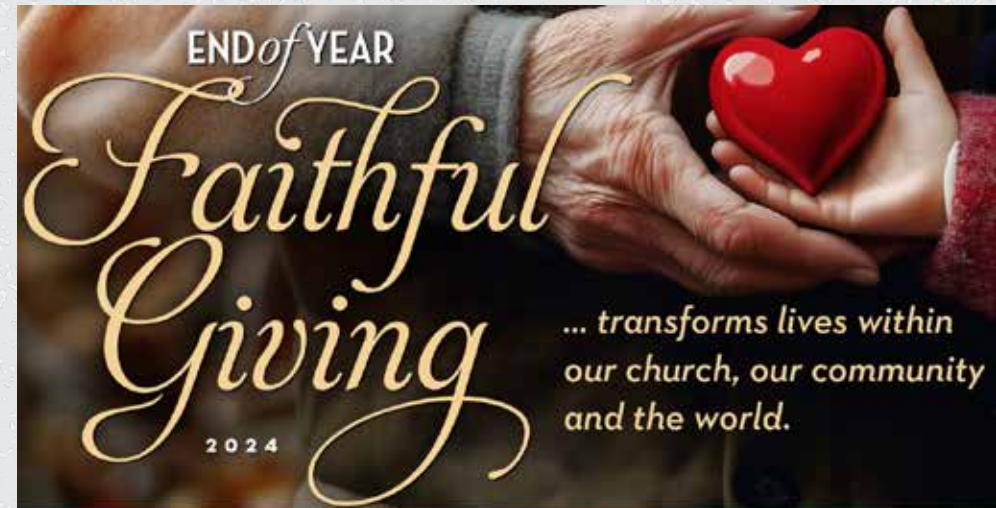
**| INSIDE THE FOCUS**

**Pastor's Column**  
Page 2

**News & Events**  
Page 2-3

**Decisions & Sympathy**  
Page 4

For more news and events check out our webpage at [fbcwf.org/events](http://fbcwf.org/events).



- Ways to continue your giving to First Baptist Church**
1. Online at: [fbcwf.org/giving](http://fbcwf.org/giving)
  2. Generosity Boxes
  3. Mail in
  4. Drop off at Church Office



**Upward Basketball/Cheer**  
Age 5 by 12/31/24-6th Grade Boys & Girls. Final Sign-Up: **December 15/12:30-1:30 pm/Downtown Campus Gym** (uniform sizing/skill assessment). [www.fbcwf.org/upward](http://www.fbcwf.org/upward).

**Student Life KIDS CAMP**  
Sign Up Now for Student Life Kids Camp for current 3rd-5th Graders! June 3-6/Mt. Lebanon Camp, Cedar Hill, TX. The cost is \$400/\$150 non-refundable deposit by Sunday, **January 19 to reserve your spot!** Parent/Camper Info. Meeting Sunday, December 8 at 12:15pm./Loft Room.

**Please note:**  
Our Focus is printed in advance. For up to date information, check our social media and your Life Group connections.





A MESSAGE FROM  
**Pastor Bob**



www.fbcwf.org/socialmedia

2024 has been a landmark year at First Baptist Church. Our worship attendance has continued to rise. We have celebrated over 170 baptisms. And this year, we sent mission teams around the world. All these things and more have been made possible because of your sacrificial giving. This year, perhaps more than any year since I have been your pastor, our future outreach and ministry is dependent upon giving in the months of November and December. I am convinced that the Lord will provide, but the Lord always provides through His people. Without margin in our budget, there is no mission.

I'm asking you to give obediently to scripture and generously from your heart to our church budget in December.

There are several ways you can give. Of course, you can give on any Sunday in the offering plate or Generosity Box. You can give on-line or through the mail. If you do give through mail, please make sure it is postmarked December 31, 2024. Also, our offices will be open on Tuesday, December 31 until 5 p.m.

Something else you might consider doing is donating stock directly to the church. Stocks have increased in value this year. If you give stocks, the church receives the full benefit of the sale price (the church liquidates stocks promptly), and you claim a charitable donation credit and you don't pay capital gains tax on the appreciated value.

Your church needs your support this year. You have always been faithful in the past and I know this year will be no different.

Bob McCartney  
Senior Pastor



**Join us Christmas Eve, December 24**  
We're coming together for a global, all campuses event at our downtown campus on **Christmas Eve, December 24**. Services will be at 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. and will feature great music of the season and an encouraging message from Pastor Bob. These services have become a wonderful holiday tradition for not only our church members but many in our community! Come, celebrate the real reason for the season with us, **Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve**.

### Angel Tree Ministry

Please help us bless children this Christmas season by being a part of the Angel Tree outreach. This ministry enables us to provide gifts to children in our community whose parents are incarcerated. Gifts need to be wrapped and brought back by **Sunday, December 8**. Thank you for making a difference in the life of a child! For more information, email: [ravenius@fbcwf.org](mailto:ravenius@fbcwf.org).

### Baptism

Our next Baptism is scheduled for **Sunday, December 22**. If you would like to be baptized that day or would like more information on baptism, please visit our website at [fbcwf.org/baptism](http://fbcwf.org/baptism).

### Lottie Moon

When you give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, your financial gifts go to enable gospel transformation among the unreached. Offering envelopes and prayer guides will be available in December. Please prayerfully consider what God would have you give this year!

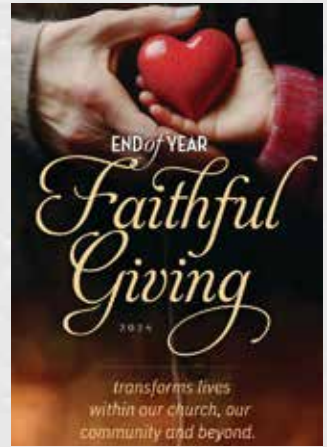
## Your Year End Giving Makes A Big Difference!

2024 has been an amazing year this year for our church! We've celebrated over 170 baptisms. We've sent mission teams to locations both in the United States and around the world. All these things, and so many more, are made possible through our faithful prayers AND giving. This year, as much as any year in recent memory, our church finances are counting on the prayerful, generous contributions of all of us.

- **In Person** – Please stop by our main church office anytime Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 – 1 p.m. to personally drop off your year end gift. We will be open until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31.
- **By Mail** – If you wish to mail in your contribution please remember it must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2024, to be counted for this year.
- **Donating Stock or cryptocurrency** – Something you may not realize is that you may donate appreciated stock as a year end gift to your church. When you donate stock that has increased in value you may claim a charitable deduction based on its fair market value at the time you donate it to the church. shared. It is recommended to start this process early to make the December 31 deadline for 2024 contributions.

*Questions about Giving – Please contact our Business Office at (940) 723-2764*

*FBC church members, thank you for your continued support, prayers and involvement in the ministries of our church.*



### Financials as of October 31, 2024

Annual Budget YTD	Tithes Received YTD	Under Budget
\$4,884,909	\$4,423,908	\$-461,002

While spending continues to be within budget, our giving has not kept pace.

We are seeing an increase in attendance on Sunday's and our ministries are reaching more people.

Thank you for your support and please continue to pray for God's blessings.

### Loft Life Group and Worship

Attend Loft Life Group and Worship and stay for the Loft After Party (LAP) at your Campus

**Sunday, December 8 12:15 -2:30pm** (Grades 3-5 Only)

- Kid Zone/All Campuses!
- Parent/Camper Info. meeting for 3-5 grader parents and kids to hear about Student Life Kids Camp 2025!
- After the meeting kids registered for LAP will stay for pizza, cookie decorating, Christmas crafts, games & fun!
- Sign up by **Wednesday, December 4!**

[www.fb.com/KidZoneWF](http://www.fb.com/KidZoneWF)



### Legacy Christmas Luncheon

Legacy Adults – Ages: 65 & Over. Lunch is by reservations only. Sign-up at the Event Centers or Church Office. Reservations are due **Sunday, December 8**.