

WELCOME!

If you are visiting with us, we would like to give you a special welcome this morning and make you aware of a few things:

- Please stop by the welcome table across the hall to select a tote bag of your choice as our gift to you.
- If you would like to leave your children in our nursery, you will find it along the main hallway toward the North end of the building.
- You are welcome to join us for coffee and snacks in our fellowship hall.
- At 9:30am, we offer small group Bible studies, which we call ConneXion Groups. If you'd like help finding one, just ask a pastor.
- We would love it if you would take a moment to fill out the visitor card inserted into this bulletin so we have a record of you being here.

F.A.Q.

How can I know peace with God? You may be surprised to find that the Bible is very clear on this. You must:

Believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior (Acts 16:31)

Repent, turn from sin, and turn to God (Acts 3:19)

Confess Jesus as the Lord of your life (Romans 10:9)

What should I do after I have been saved?

You should follow the Lord's command to be baptized as a believer. Because He was baptized by immersion as an adult, we practice believer's baptism by immersion at First Baptist. Just step forward during the invitation time and tell our Pastor you'd like to be baptized.

How do I become a member of First Baptist Church?

- By profession of faith and baptism by immersion.
- By promise of a letter of recommendation from another Southern Baptist Church, or another Baptist Church of like faith and order, or
- By statement of prior conversion experience and baptism by immersion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eddie Pullen will be preaching **next Sunday morning**. Eddie is an IBSA Church Planting Strategist for the Gateway and Metro East Associations.

Lottie Moon Offering - 100% of our gifts go to the IMB missionaries who are making disciples and multiplying churches among unreached people and places. Our church goal is **\$2,150.00**. We have received **\$570.00** to date.

ConneXion Groups do not have an assigned study the week of **Dec 25-31**.

Christmas Cards - We have a card mailbox in the Fellowship Hall for you to deliver your Christmas cards to our local church family. Remember to deposit your "stamp money" into the basket on top of the mailboxes to help us reach our Lottie Moon goal.

Our Christmas Eve Service will be at **5:00 pm tonight**. Be sure to invite your friends to come to this special service with you!

2018 World Changers! We are set to return to Bonne Terre, **July 9-14!** Sign-up sheets are up outside Pastor Matt's office. Cost will be **\$300.00**, with your non-refundable deposit of **\$50.00** due **Sunday, January 7th**.

New Believers & Leadership I classes will begin **January 7th** at **5:00 pm**. Please sign-up on the sheet posted near the Nursery. These classes will meet every **Sunday night** in **January**.

The latest "Chad Chat" newsletter from Missionaries, Art & Denice Aviles is available to read in the Missionary News rack.

Christian Activity Center has two new thank you messages available to read on the Preschool hallway bulletin board regarding our Christmas Adopt-A-Child gift and our monthly support gift.

Start saving your coins! - Mosaic Pregnancy & Health Centers Annual Baby Bottle campaign will begin **Sunday, January 7th**. Our faithful partnership with this local mission project allows Christ-centered support to be provided to clients who feel hopeless and overwhelmed by their situation.

Southwest Illinois School of Theology (SWIST) Classes for **Spring 2018** information is available on the bulletin board near the Nursery.

Thank you messages - We have several "Thank You" messages posted on the bulletin board near the Nursery. Be sure to stop by and read them today!



Everyone is welcome to connect to our wireless guest network, FBCM-Guest. The password is **BeOurGuest**. Please note: All users of our network consent to monitoring.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MASCOUTAH

A Family Helping Families Connect With Christ

Senior Pastor, Duane Smith
Assoc. Pastor, Worship Pillar Head, Matt Burton
Evangelism Pillar Head, Not filled
Ministry Pillar Head, Not filled
Fellowship Pillar Head, Shelby Wilson
Discipleship Pillar Head, Kurt Grady
Secretary, Bev Reeves
Deacon, Kevin Hutchison
Deacon, Sam Graf
Deacon, Tim Seaney
Deacon, Randy Bodiford

Sunday Worship 10:45am
Small Group Bible Study 9:30am
Sunday Church Development 5:00pm
AWANA Wednesday 6:15pm

816 W. Church Street
Mascoutah, IL 62258
618-566-2195
fbc@fbcmascoutah.org
www.fbcmascoutah.org



A WORD OR TWO ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS STORY, Luke 2:1-20
Message Outline for Sunday Morning, 12/24/17

Reason for Message: to help us set our hearts and minds on the real reason we have Christmas and encourage us to share the story with joy.

INTRODUCTION:

- A. So Much Chatter about Christmas
- B. Focusing on the Story through Five Verbs

I. PREPARING, Luke 2:1-5

- A. God Did Quite a Bit to Prepare for that Night
- B. What Can We Learn?

II. ARRIVING, Luke 2:7

- A. Strangely Prophetic
- B. We Need to Take a Closer Look at our Lives

III. PROCLAIMING, Luke 2:8-14

- A. A Fitting Announcement
- B. The Message

IV. BELIEVING, Luke 2:15-18

- A. The Shepherd's heard the Message and Believed
- B. This Same Jesus is Set before You Today

V. REJOICING, Luke 2:20

- A. They had seen the Christ
- B. There was Wonder

CONCLUSION:

Family Discussion Questions:

- Read the Christmas story, Luke 2:1-20
- What stands out to you? Why?
- Discuss the reason for Jesus' birth. (Hint: John 12:27)
- What does Christmas really mean to you? Would you tell others?

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Today

9:30 am ConneXion Group Bible Study
 10:45 am Worship Service & Lord's Supper
 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Monday

Merry Christmas

Wednesday

No AWANA

MONEY COUNTERS

Today Candy Wiscombe & Angie Haas
Next Sun Lesley Grady & Lea Jones

NURSERY

Today Volunteers Needed

Next Sunday Tim Sisson & Mona Brown

WORSHIP PRAYER TEAM

Today Traci Wood & Sharon Reed
Next Sun Andrea Sisson & Need Volunteer

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE FIGURES

ConneXion Groups 113
 AM Worship Service 110

LORD'S SUPPER & BAPTISM SUNDAY

If you know Jesus as your Lord and want to be baptized, talk to one of the pastors about which date works best:

**February 25, April 1, July 22, September 30,
 December 23, 2018**

NOVEMBER BUILDING FUND

Received \$1,448.00
 Balance \$798,442.01

NOVEMBER TITHES & OFFERINGS

Undesignated Gifts \$13,580.63
 Expenses \$16,171.07
 Operating Loss \$2,590.44

WHO ARE WE PRAYING FOR THIS WEEK?

Mascoutah Dentistry
 Mascoutah Equipment Co. Inc.
 Mascoutah Eye Care

See bulletin board near the Nursery for more details about how to contact these businesses to let them know that we are praying for them.

If you did not use your visitor card/prayer request card, would you help us control costs and return yours to one of the ushers on your way out this morning? Thank you for your help.

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