

Third Baptist Church COURIER

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Owensboro KY
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Advent

*A Season of Hope
& Expectation*

Trust God, Bless Others, Celebrate Grace

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Owensboro Choral Society's
78th Annual Presentation of
G. F. Handel's

Messiah

Sunday, December 2 at 2:30 pm
Proceeds to benefit the Goodfellows Club

White Christmas Benefit Gospel Concert

*The Glory Bound Singers and
The Conquerors*
Friday, December 7 at 7:00 PM

Bring new, unwrapped toys,
non-perishable food items, or monetary donations
and help us fill 100 baskets!

A Time of Remembrance



Sunday, December 9 at 10:45 am

Children's White Christmas Musical
Sunday, December 16 @ 3 PM



Rev. Micah Spicer
Senior Pastor

As we approach Christmas, I am enjoying my time spent preparing for this sermon series on Jesus' family tree. Each week, we examine another woman listed in Jesus' family tree according to the genealogy in Matthew's Gospel. Five are mentioned: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Uriah's wife, and Mary. As we read the introductory verses in the New Testament, the regular drumming pattern of a list of male names is jarred by mention of these women. Simply put, they do not belong in a formal genealogy of the royal family. The author purposefully injects these women into this lineage. Strikingly, these women share a common thread—sexual promiscuity. Tamar, a widow desperate for a child, purposely got

pregnant by dressing up as a roadside prostitute and enticing her own father-in-law. Rahab was a prostitute. Ruth was a Moabite woman who crawled into the bed of Boaz after getting him drunk one night. Bathsheba had an adulterous affair with King David and ended up pregnant, bringing shame on the Great King of Israel. Mary is an unmarried teenage girl who becomes pregnant. Such scandal!

Unlike the women whose stories are told in the Hebrew Bible, Mary becomes a focal figure in Christian theology very early in the life of the church. The earliest creeds affirm, based on Scripture, that Jesus was "conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary." A friend told me that he listened to his preacher deliver a sermon on his belief in the "immaculate conception." This friend, a Biblical scholar, then had

the audacity to correct the preacher by saying, "you do not believe in the 'immaculate conception;' instead you support the 'virgin birth' theory." It is easy to confuse the 'immaculate conception' with the 'virgin birth.' I would like to end by sharing the distinctions with you. The Immaculate Conception, as taught by the Roman Catholic Church, refers to the conception of Mary by her mother Anna, not to the conception of Jesus. This teaching holds that Mary was born without "original sin." Because she was without sin, she was able to give birth to Jesus in a special state of moral purity. The 'virgin birth,' on the other hand, is the belief that Mary, without a man, became pregnant through the agency of the Holy Spirit. It refers more to the source of pregnancy than to the birth itself.

Jan Lampkin, Minister to Children

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." *Proverbs 2:6*

Hope all had a great Thanksgiving! John and I missed being at church on Sunday. Thanks to all that filled in for us and took over our responsibilities for that day. We are grateful to you and appreciate you giving of your time and talents to the children. We missed being here and missed our kids.

The children are preparing for their Christmas program on Sunday, December 16 at 3:00 p.m. We hope that all will come to enjoy their music and contribute to the White Christmas baskets. We will provide 100 baskets to our community, many of them to our TBC families. We have several families that are requesting assistance for their families in providing Christmas gifts for their children. Because of the many requests we will handle this situation in a different way than usual. Each of these families will receive a Christmas food basket which will include a toy item for each child in the family. This year the church will provide additional items and toys to this basket to help cover the

requests that have been made. We will not solicit classes to sponsor a specific family, however, we will encourage classes and individuals to give money to help us with the additional items. We will make sure that any family that has requested, will receive additional items to be included in their baskets. We feel that this is the only fair way to provide as the requests are so many. Please see Jan Lampkin if you or your class is interested in assisting.

On December 7, 7-9 p.m., TBC will host the annual Christmas Benefit Concert featuring The Glory Bound Singers and The Conquerors. We collect canned goods, new toys and money to assist in providing these 100 baskets to the community and TBC church families. In this way, John and I celebrate our anniversary each year. It is a special request from us to you to help support this effort. It means so much to us, not only to help with the baskets, but to show your support to John and I. Thank you for your kindness and support in advance.

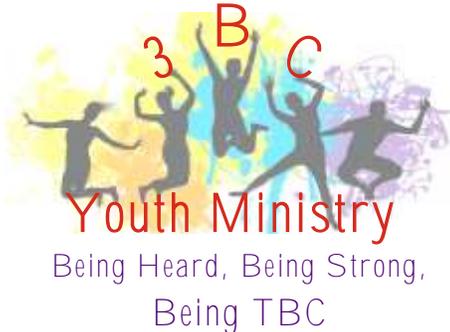


White Christmas
Food Baskets

It's time to start collecting food and pantry items! This is our largest mission project of the year and we need everyone to help! A list of needed items and a white bag to bring your items in can be found on the atrium desk. We will be collecting new toys for children and items for teenagers to be included in the baskets. Please bring your items to the atrium desk or send your monetary donations no later than Sunday, December 16th. Once the items are collected, we will need help sorting the food, assembling the baskets, and making deliveries.

If you know of someone who could benefit from a basket, please contact the church office.

We are the Voice for Jesus



Court Lewis, Youth Minister

recently pondered how I would grade the Youth.

There have been days they earned an A: making goodie-bags and flowers, leading a nonviolence panel, creating a peer-support group and participating in thoughtful discussions about life and God. There have been days they earned an F: fighting and being disrespectful. There have been days they earned somewhere in between: disobeying rules, being a distraction, and refusing to listen. It is easy to get excited about the As., or to forget them when you encounter an F-day; but the in-between days are often the hardest. They make evaluation ambiguous. How many “meh” days equal an F, or take away an A?

I imagine most of us struggle with the ups, downs, and in-betweens of everyday life. I know I do, as do the Youth. What I teach the Youth is that we must find time each day to center our lives on what is

important: Christ, family, friends; to rid ourselves and our place in the world. This often requires we change the rubric in which we grade ourselves: we broaden our understanding of what counts as an A and an F, using both as motivation to Trust God, Bless Others, and Celebrate Grace. As a result, grading becomes easier, and instead of negatively counting things against ourselves, we look for ways to bump our grades up a little. We see that life is an assignment that we control, counting what is a joy and what we’re going to let bring us down. We count it all as part of a life that we should cherish, no matter the grade.

The Youth are in need a laptop computer with WiFi capability and has a good DVD/CD drive. If you are upgrading yours soon, or have an extra, please consider donating it (or selling it for a small fee) to the Youth. We have worn ours out!

Thanksgiving is the time of year to ponder the tension between the need for assignments and the desire to grade those assignments. Since I am the one requiring the work, I try not to complain. I also strive to create assignments that are meaningful and interconnected; ones that help students understand the material instead of simply memorizing facts. Assignments and grades are good when they promote growth and understanding, bad when they are busy work. So, with this in mind, I



DAVID ROBERSON

With Thanksgiving behind us we look ahead to the Christmas season. There are so many musical experiences planned for the season I can’t list them all. But I do want you to know of a few!

Nov. 29/30 7:00 PM	KWC Festival of Lessons & Carols St. Stephens Cathedral	Tickets are \$10 or \$5 for Seniors and Students
Dec. 2 2:30 pm	OCS Presentation of Handel’s Messiah TBC Sanctuary	Offering taken for Goodfellows Club
Dec. 7 7:00 PM	White Christmas Benefit Concert TBC Sanctuary	Bring a toy, food item or cash to fill baskets
December 8 7:30 PM	“Christmas with Encore” Elizabeth Mundy Center	\$15 admission
December 15 7:00 PM	Christmas Pops Concert Riverpark Center	Tickets at the box office
December 16 9:00 AM	Symphony Sunday at First Christian Church	TBC & FCC Choirs with Symphony Orchestra
December 23 10:45 AM	Christmas at Third Baptist Choir, Handbells, Accompanists, and Brass Quintet	

All of these concerts except KWC have members of our TBC congregation participating. (We have a lot of talented folks at TBC!) there are many, many more Christmas concerts and worship experiences happening around our community during this joyous season. Make sure you get out and enjoy the holiday with the gift of music!

BLESS OTHERS WITH BLESSING BAGS!



There are times when a ‘little’ can mean a lot. TBC is collecting items to create personal care kits for members of our community who need a little ‘blessing.’ What goes in these gallon size zip-lock bags? Travel size shampoos, lotions and soaps; toothbrush, toothpaste and mouth wash; combs or brushes; hand sanitizers; Band-aid packs with antibiotic creams; hand and foot warmers; extra socks; gloves, sock hats; personal cleansing wipes; granola bars; snack packs...these are just a few of the items that can be used to make the “blessing bags.” These ‘blessings’ will be used within our local community.

Our goal is to have 100 bags! A collection bucket is located behind the atrium desk for your donations. Contact Karen Grise for more information about how you can Bless Others through your generosity!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:00 AM Atrium Social
 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Morning Worship
 2:30 PM Handel's Messiah

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

6:30 PM Solo's Christmas Dinner

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

10:00 AM Senior Adult Fellowship
 5:00 PM KYC Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

5:00 PM Kids/Youth Meal
 5:30 PM Kids/Youth Activities
 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting
 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal
 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

4:30 PM Community Meal
 6:00 PM Leadership Team Mtg.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

7:00 PM Gospel Concert

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00 AM Game/Gym Reserved

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00 AM Atrium Social
 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Morning Worship
 A Time of Remembrance

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

5:00 PM KYC Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

5:00 PM Kids/Youth Meal
 5:30 PM Kids/Youth Activities
 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting
 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal
 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

4:30 PM Community Meal

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:00 AM Atrium Social
 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Morning Worship
 3:00 PM White Christmas:
 Back to the Manger
 4:00 PM Church Fellowship

SYMPATHY

The Church extends its deepest love and sympathy to:
 the family and friends of
Judith Atender (11/23);
 and to Sheila Hagan and her family
 in the loss of her mother,
Beaudine Brigrance (11/28).

PRESCHOOL PRAISE

December 2

Jan Lampkin

December 9

Cissy Bishop, Jennifer Spence

ATRIUM SOCIAL

December 2

New Millennium Class

December 9

Esther Class

ATRIUM DUTY

December 2

Larry Catron, Lee Kincaid

DEACON INFORMATION

December 2

Debby Smith, Lee Kincaid

Hope and Harvest Team

Elaine Williams, Lee Kincaid

December 9

Vickie Wells, Gary Kirtley

Hope and Harvest Team

Ron Williams, Gary Kirtley



Just Older Youth

Having Fun...Loving Life
 Invite someone to join you!

Senior Adult Fellowship

Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, December 4 at 10:00 AM
 Fireside Room

DAVID ROBERSON WILL LEAD US IN SINGING CAROLS
 The meal will be Ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, baked
 apples, Jello salad, rolls and chocolate for only \$6.00 per person!
 Call and make reservations today!!

2018 CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions must be received by December 31, 2018 or postmarked
 by that date to be included on your 2018 Contribution Tax Statement.
 Contributions received after this date will be recorded for 2019.