

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

we are Second
where He is first

Published monthly by the Second Baptist Church of
Russellville, Kentucky

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www.secondbaptistrussellville.org

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Live internet streaming of Sunday morning worship service
Sunday School-10:00 A.M. Sunday Morning Worship-11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship—6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—7:00 P.M.



Instead of mailing Christmas cards to your church family, place your cards in the mailboxes in the foyer, and leave your postage donation in the blue box. Your donation will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

10:00 AM

Sunday

FOCUS: State of Sunday School at SBC

Hello SBC family! I hope you and your family had a Happy Thanksgiving and I want to also wish you a Merry Christmas. Most of all, let's keep Christmas about the birth of Jesus and not so much commercialization.

SBC has just experienced a different kind of revival services. This revival, and what I have read and studied since becoming your Sunday School Director, has really made me aware of how much work we need to do in order to get our Sunday School in a position to grow. Just a few facts for you to ponder. We currently have only 23 enrolled in our adult Sunday School classes between the age of 20-40. From age 20-100 broken down in 10 year increments, the largest group is between ages 70-80. 70% of our adult Sunday School enrollment is between the age of 50-80. Are you as stunned as I am? This also means all of the other ministries of SBC are not ready for the future. You and I both love our seniors, we need their wisdom and experiences. We must work together, reach the LOST and unchurched, the regular worship attendees not involved in Sunday School and especially, the younger generation or SBC will die in a few years. Numbers, statistics and strategies doesn't save the LOST, only the Spirit of God does. But it does aid in where and how to reach the unchurched. Pray in this holiday season that God will work through you. The best gift you can give is the plan of salvation. Looking forward to seeing you throughout this holiday season.

All Sunday School workers and spouses are invited to our home on Monday, December 17th at 6:00pm for our annual Sunday School Christmas fellowship. God Bless you And Merry Christmas!

Gaylen Baugh, SBC Sunday School Director



With Sympathy

Second Baptist Church would like to extend its deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one. May God give peace and comfort to you and your family.

To Russell Poore in the loss of his mother, Blanche Poore Tummond.

KIDS KORNER

Preschoolers and Children: Join us Wednesday, December 12th, 6:45-8:00 in the gym, for our International Mission Study: Beijing. We'll have foods to try, games, crafts AND a special guest, Whitney Smith, who knows what is like in East Asia. Maybe she'll show us how to use chopsticks!

3 GAs attended the GA JAM in Louisville. They met someone involved with the lunch bag ministry in Lexington-the very ministry we had sent decorated lunch bags in September. They met Hannah, a MK, whose parents serve in Taiwan (ask Brissa how to get marshmallows in a bowl using chopsticks), as well as the Northern KY/Cincinnati Airport Chaplain.

Ninety-one Operation Christmas Child boxes were completed. Monetary donations will still be accepted-checks payable to Second Baptist. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In Christ,



The True Meaning of Christmas

Sometimes with all the hustle and bustle we forget what Christmas is really all about. This is a story that I came across a few years ago that reminds me of what the true meaning of Christmas is. I hope you enjoy it.

Author - Dr. Scott Brooksby.



When I was a child of about twelve years old, we had a Christmas that I have never forgotten. We grew up in humble means to say the least, but we generally always had one or two gifts under the tree even if they were only socks and underwear.

During this particular Christmas, by good fortune we had many gifts. For the first time in a long time, we received a lot of the things we actually wanted. I was one of seven children, so this was a very big deal. We were all so excited and could hardly wait until Christmas morning.

However, on that Christmas Eve, after careful reflection and much heated discussion, my father decided that it was much too much, and that in this frenzy that we had lost the true meaning of Christmas.

With much trepidation, we were instructed to hand over all but one of our unopened gifts. There was some crying, some anger, some shock and disbelief. What happened next truly astounded us. My father loaded all those gifts into his truck and we all piled in. We went from house to house in our community and handed out our things. Some of the families we knew, some we didn't. All were as poor as we were. Some had no gifts except for ours. As that truck rounded corner after corner, slowly, very slowly, the anger left. The shock and disbelief vanished and were replaced with a different sort of emotion. We all started to feel an overwhelming sense of joy in this service. The mark that this experience left on our lives has changed the way we look at Christmas forever.

Never before had I grasped what Christmas was truly about. It is about unselfish giving. Not of toys or gifts, but giving of ourselves. It was of Christ who would give the ultimate gift of eternal life.

That experience taught us that at the celebration of his birth, our "giving" should reflect his ultimate sacrifice. He gave the whole of his life in our service and for our sake showing us His love. Hence the best gift we can give to others at Christmas is our time, sharing our talents, and genuine love, as acts of kindness.

Merry Christmas from your Pastor!

Mike's Minutes



Merry Christmas!

This year, I'm on a "Merry Christmas" mission, and I'm in full throttle. I've decided this month I'm going to trek off each day to work with a message that seems to offend people. At stop lights, I think I will turn my music up a little louder, and to top it off, I just might sing along with it. But don't I know that stopping at a red light and rolling my windows down only to share the joy of Christmas carols on public streets is a no-no? Don't I fear that someone will be offended by my music and the message of the songs?

I'm sorry, folks, but the only One I'm concerned about "offending" during this Christmas season is the Lord Himself. **LEAVE THAT MANGER ALONE!** We've allowed the Baby Jesus to be kicked out of His lowly manger, and those offended by Christmas are still not happy. Can I express myself?

I refuse to let this happen. So, I'm going to do my part to make sure "Merry Christmas" doesn't become extinct. Because like it or not, if the believers in Christmas don't take a stand now, it, too, will be gone forever.

It's happening right before our eyes! Look around & notice how many store & restaurant signs have "Holiday" greetings & not "Christmas". We've got to get the message out. "Go Tell It On the Mountain ... that Jesus Christ is born."

Let's look at some of the special services that we will be holding that will help us celebrate this time-tested tradition (how about 2,000 years?) of the Christian religion.

On **Sunday evening, Dec. 2nd**, we will once again decorate the auditorium with the "**Hanging of the Greens**" service. As in years past, this is always a special evening of sharing the meaning of the symbols of Christmas.

Sunday morning, Dec. 9th, your family will be given an opportunity to give to the "**March to the Manger**" Christmas offering.

Sunday evening, Dec. 16th, our Worship Choir will present the **Christmas musical, "Silent Night! Holy Night!"**.

Along with the musical, we will visit with Simeon and Anna in the outer court of the Temple, we'll visit in the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth. We'll stop on the road to Bethlehem for a visit with Joseph and Mary. At the stable in Bethlehem, we'll listen in on a conversation with Joseph and the Innkeeper's daughter, Hanna. Last, but not least, we'll also see what took place on the hillside near Bethlehem as the shepherds heard the announcement of the Savior, the Promised Messiah. What a night that must have been!

Sunday evening, Dec. 23rd, will be a **Candlelight Service**. Candles will be lit, Scripture will be read, songs will be sung, and instrumentals will be played in a quiet setting. Bring your family, and let's reflect on the True Light. Jesus called each of us to be the light in darkness. I know you will receive a blessing by attending each of these highlighted services.

Pam and I want to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas. May this Christmas be a blessing to you.

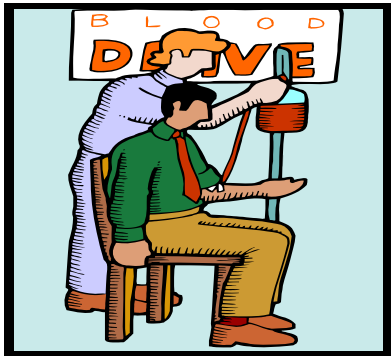
— Bro. Mike



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**AMERICAN
RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

Wednesday, Jan. 16th
2-6pm
FLC Gym

All donors are welcome to enjoy beans and cornbread after donating blood to thank them for giving the gift of life!

**FROM
YOUR
LIBRARY**



The library is full of wonderful reading material for all ages (from 1 to 98). Cindy Coffman brought in several good books which have been processed and put on the shelves. Also, I have been bringing my AARP and Kentucky Living magazines, if anyone would like to read those in the library. So visit your library soon.

Have a wonderful Christmas season and hope 2013 is everyone's best year yet.

Librarian,
Suzann Coles



- 1 Suzann Coles, Nikki Clinard
- 2 Ethan Spencer
- 3 Meagan Cherry, Eliot Wheat
- 4 Donald Ballard, Joe Laird, Taylor Bibb
- 5 David Hopper
- 6 Kim Bird, Joey Young
- 7 Lindsey Gipson
- 9 Van Allen, Billie Simpson
- 10 Charles Tinch, Nancy Kinkade
- 11 Pat Henderson, Paige Gilliam, Taylor Wilson
- 13 Ruth Ethridge
- 14 Mike Dorris, Dustin Chestnut
- 15 Ashley Hankins
- 18 William Owens
- 19 Miranda Cowan
- 20 Faye Page, Shell Peters
- 21 Jon Blick
- 22 Virginia Wood, Freddie Anderson, Cindy Offutt, Christy Hooper, RaShawn Jones
- 24 Patsy Poore, Ryan Davenport
- 25 Sandy Taylor
- 26 Venita Hall, Lynette Baker, Crystal Arnold
- 27 Eleanor Tinch, Alex Dodson
- 28 Casey Wright, Noble Clark
- 29 Harold McIntyre
- 30 Brenda Barton, Linda Taylor, Carl Sandage
- 31 Lee Duncan



- 2 Hanging of the Greens Service, 6pm
- 3 Bldg. & Grounds Committee Mtg.-7pm
- 5 Business Meeting, 7pm
- 9 March to the Manger-during morning service
- 11 GH to Grand Rivers, 11:30am
Nursing Home Visitation-7pm
- 13 Men's Ministry, 8pm
- 16 Worship Choir Musical, 6pm
- 20 Neighborhood Christmas Dinner, 6pm
- 23 Candlelight Service
- 24-25 Christmas Holidays-Office Closed
- 26 Deacons Meeting-6:15pm
- 27 Men's Ministry, 8pm

Baptist Hour – Each Monday following 12:20pm news on WRUS-AM

Men's Breakfast –each Tuesday at 6:45am, Colonial Inn Restaurant

Women's Exercise Class- Each Tues. & Thurs. 10am

GO Visitation & Meal -Each Wed. night at 5:30pm, EXCEPT on Business Meeting night

Volleyball - Mondays & Thursday nights

Basketball – Tuesday nights



Happy Anniversary!

Ricky & Dana Stoker	05
Darrell & Vicky Bobbett	06
Neal & Tina Hamilton	08
Harold & Oma McIntyre	09
Eugene & Helen Ashby	12
Roy & Bettie Bond	12
Michael & Christy Wright	12
Rick & Lisa Browning	15
Marvin & Jackie Flatt	21
Scott & Casey Wright	22
David & Sandra Kinser	27
Randy & Susie Rigby	29
Dan & Faye Clark	31