# SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH we are Second where Leis first

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Bro. David Jicka, Interim Pastor Bro. Mike Duncan, Minister of Music & Youth Randy Whitley, Outreach Minister 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.



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 Joda Boley in the loss of his sister, Wanda Savage.





## KIDS KORNER

Merry CHRISTmas! Yes, it's officially here...when I was a child, stores were not decorated for Christmas until Thanksgiving. We excitedly watched the JL Hudson parade in Detroit from the comfort of our living room. Santa appeared at the end of the parade, along with "Christmas Carol.

It was then that our home, along with Granddaddy & Grandma's, took on the Christmas Spirit. My cooking baking tradition came from Mom, and I treasure the worn cookie cookbook she always used. It's one tradition I hope to pass down to the granddaughters. Traditions, memories, legacies...we all have them. Most important, though, is that all know Jesus Christ is first in your life. All the stuff we want to leave as an inheritance to loved ones does not come close to this! May this Christmas be Christ-filled.

Did you see the little elves in November pack Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes? The final total was 88 shoeboxes headed to Africa, South America and the country of Georgia. Many thanks to all who have supported this year-long project. We will start again in January. On Saturday, Dec. 6th, 10am-12 NOON, the Logan-Todd Association is sponsoring the International Mission Study: Cote d-Ivoire (Weet Life Chocolate Factory) for children in grades K-6 at the Baptist Building. They will learn about missionaries serving in that country, sample foods, play games, do crafts, and have chocolate! The sign-up sheet is posted at church. There is no cost for this event.

- In Christ, Konnie

Dear Church,

We have entered the seasons of Thanksgiving and then Christmas as part of your family. God has given this to reflect on how very blessed we are and then know Jesus the reason for all joy, peace, and love. Yes, the humble arrival of Jesus, God's precious son, moves our hearts, motives, and thoughts above the busy worldly pace. It is time to recall that God loved us that much!

I want to plead with Second Baptist Church to do the following: To focus on John 3:16 saying, "God so loved the world...." Would you make your priority gift a gift to Jesus for the Lottie Moon Mission Offering? This is a major portion of support to the ongoing ministry of our 4,816 missionaries. Whatever our goal lets double it because the need is great, the world needs the good news in desperate times and time is running out. PLEASE give sacrificially your best gift for Jesus.

I also plead that we obey Hebrews 10:22-25. Let's draw near, hold fast, and "let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together... exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." God is pleased when we worship Him. God is pleased when our hearts surrender to His leadership. God is honored when we love Him and each other. Come home if you've been away from church. God expects us to forgive as we have been forgiven. Come home and experience God's love in God's house.

Brenda and I wish you-all the best Christmas ever! How fortunate we are to partner with you in ministry. God bless you.

Bro. David Jicka

### Mike's Minutes

Thanksgiving and Christmas can be a busy, confusing, and stressful time. I've experienced it in my own ministry and in communicating with other pastor and worship leaders. All too often, we as



church leaders face the holidays with a sense of dread rather the delight for several reasons. First, we struggle to find creative ideas for something we have to do every year and feel pressured to come up with a new, better, and more exciting way to lead our churches to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas. Second, some of our church members and attendees often embrace a more secular celebration of Christmas. I have heard some say that many of the things they enjoy doing the Christmas season don't have anything to do with the birth of Jesus Christ. Finally, as church leaders, the business of the Christmas season often leaves little time to spend with our own families. This is something we all need to focus on better. Church should be all about encouraging more family time! I hope and trust you spent some memorable family time during Thanksgiving. While Thanksgiving is traditionally a time of being thankful and gathering with family around a Thanksgiving meal, for many it has become a frenzied time of "Black Friday" and "Cyber-Monday" shopping. Christmas can easily become a materialistic focus on expensive gifts, non -Christian traditions, shopping, and should I even say it, over-eating. While railing against the abuses of the holiday is counter-productive, consider offering opportunities to serve Christ by serving others during the holidays. I am so thankful that we choose to offer a church family mission experience opportunity, again this year, by giving our community a Thanksgiving/ Christmas dinner during the holiday seasons. Both help us to keep focused on serving Christ and the unchurched in our community. Unbelievers are more likely to accept an invitation to a Christmas service than any other type of church worship service.

Christmas is a beautiful and way of preparing our hearts and minds for the celebration of all celebrations, the first coming (the birth) of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is also a time of preparation as we look forward to His second coming. Are you ready? Let's prepare together! See you Sunday!

**NOTICE!** Sunday evening, Dec 21<sup>st</sup> @6p.m. the musical "Gift of Heaven" will be presented by our Worship Choir. Invite a neighbor and come out for a great evening of worship. Give them the gift of peace, hope, love, joy, and eternal life. Gifts only found wrapped up in One package—Jesus, the Greatest Gift of all, sent from the very heart of God.

- Bro. Mike



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### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Two thousand years ago the King of Kings was born. 'The Lamb of God' later made to feel the thorn, If His words are accepted and not scorned, They will make us all reborn.

Through God's grace, Joseph and Mary presented A gift to the world that day, which we can all repay. By living the tend commandments each and every day.

Try to remember and keep in your heart and mind Jesus's gospel while here on Earth, Redemption no a life lived in constant mirth. Peace on Earth, good will toward man Everyone should try, whenever they can.

The Lord gave us the option and choice of "free will," Now it's up to us to fill the bill.

So when you're Christmas shopping for family and friends, And money is tight at both ends, Remember that the greatest gift of all, Is your love of Jesus in the manger stall.

-Joseph P. Martino



01	Suzann Coles
02	Ethan Spencer
03	Meagan Cherry
04	Don Ballard, Joe Laird
05	David Hopper
06	Kim Bird, Joey Young
07	Tracy Heaton, Lindsey Gipson
09	Van Allen, Billie Simpson
10	Charles Tinch, Nancy Kinkade
11	Pat Henderson, Paige Gilliam,
	Taylor Wilson
13	Ruth Ethridge
14	Mike Dorris, Dustin Chestnut
18	Bill Owens
20	Shell Peters, Leslie Harper
21	Jon Blick
22	Virginia Wood, Cindy Offutt,
	Christy Hooper, RaShawn Jones
23	Jeweral Hughes
24	Patsy Poore, Ryan Davenport
25	Sandy Taylor
26	Venita Hall, Lynette Baker,
	Crystal Arnold
27	Eleanor Tinch
28	Casey Wright, Noble Clark
29	Emily Holt, Zachary Stafford
30	Brenda Barton, Linda Taylor, Carl
	Sandage
31	Lee Duncan



07	Building & Grounds Committee Mtg., 5pt
09	Nursing Home Visitation, 7pm
10	Business Meeting, 7pm
11	Golden Heirs to Grand Rivers, 11am
16	Community Christmas Dinner, 6pm
24-25	Christmas Eve & Day – Office Closed

Deacons Meeting, 6pm

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<u>Baptist Hour</u> – Each Monday following 12:20pm news

on WRUS-AM

<u>GO Visitation & Meal</u> -Each Wed. night at 5:30pm,

EXCEPT on Business Meeting night

<u>Volleyball -</u> Mondays & Thursday nights



# Happy Anniversary!

Ricky & Dana Stoker	05
Rob & Connie Gilliam	06
Neal & Tina Hamilton	08
Eugene & Helen Ashby	12
Roy & Bettie Bond	12
Michael & Christy Wright	12
Rick & Lisa Browning	15
Marvin & Jackie Flatt	21
Scott & Casey Wright	22
Randy & Susie Rigsby	23
Ken & Debbie Knight	24