



Connecting our Community to a Complete Life in Christ

December 2011
Volume IX, Issue XXXII

First Baptist Church, Orange, Texas

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IMPORTANT DATES FOR DECEMBER

Christmas Parade	December 2
Christmas on Green/Christmas Musical	December 11
Children's Christmas Party	December 18
No Activities	December 21
Candles & Carols	December 24
One Service Only (No CG)	December 25
Office Closed	December 26 - 31

the journey matters

BUDGET RECEIPTS

Weekly Requirements.....	\$14,606.81
Budget Receipts forNovember 6.....	\$31,855.70
Budget Receipts forNovember 13.....	\$11,286.10
Budget Receipts forNovember 20.....	\$17,416.10
Budget Receipts forNovember 27.....	\$ 6,353.00

TAG (To All Generations) To Date\$696,999.27

Inside this Issue:

First Impressions Thank You Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Online Giving Hot Hearts Wed. Night Meal Mission Office Needs	2
Upward Basketball Merry Christmas Candles & Carols Sr. Adult Christmas Luncheon Men's Bible Study Church Services Schedule Church Office Schedule Christmas on Green	3
Financial Report Dates to Remember	4

Groundbreaking 2011



Ministerial Staff

Barry Bradley.....	886-8101	Pastor
John Bickham.....	746-2573	Music
Jason Fuller.....	988-0268	Students
Todd Beasley.....	670-1581	Spiritual Development

First Impressions

On Sunday, November 20, after a unanimous vote, First Baptist Church of Orange held the formal groundbreaking for the church's new facilities to be constructed on our property along MLK Drive in Orange. This vote approved N&T Construction of Beaumont as the builder for the 32,000 square foot building at a price of just over \$4.2 million. Approval is pending loan closing with Community Bank of Texas which is providing the financing for the building's construction.

It will be a place for worship, Christian education, community ministry, and recreation. We want this facility to be a place where people want to hang out. When our church first bought this tract of land in 2003, a friend of mine challenged me when he said, "Look at this land and ask, what can we do with this property that no one else in Orange is doing?" This building was designed as a tool for our church and a gift for the community.

This modern and functional building is also designed to be more than a place of worship, but a community center as well. We want the building to be a resource for members and non-members. It will house a full size gymnasium for sports and games, an indoor playground for children and preschoolers that can also be rented for birthday parties and other functions, and an indoor/outdoor cafe where folks of all ages can gather for coffee, light snacks, and connect with others.

Actual construction is scheduled to begin in January 2012 and the facility should be completed in 12-14 months. After Hurricane Ike's floods devastated this area and our downtown facilities in 2008, our church made a bold commitment—to be in this new facility in 3-5 years. If all goes well, that is, according to God's blessings, we should be in the building with a year to spare.

Praise be to God Alone!

Thank you to the Ground Breaking team for all the time that you spent planning & decorating to make our Ground Breaking day so special. It was a day that we will never forget!

2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

National Goal \$175 million
FBC Goal \$8 thousand

Please be in prayer about what God would like for you to give to this wonderful mission.

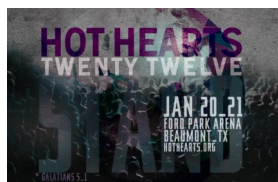


Lottie Moon Mailbox

If you would like to mail your Christmas Cards to church members please place your cards in the Lottie Moon Mail Box in the Family Life Center lobby. Pay 15 cents per card and all of the money will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for global missions.

Coming Soon – Online Giving

In a few weeks you will be able to make payments online thru our website. The online site will be set up to accept payments by ACH (your checking account) or by debit or credit cards. You will be able to pay your tithe, TAG pledge, or make payments for trips, camps, and other events sponsored by our church. Once the site is set up we will send out information with all the details you will need to know to take advantage of this option.



HOT HEARTS JAN. 20,21

Don't miss Hot Hearts this year. It's going to be awesome. Skillet and Press Play will be the concert artist. Matt Papa will lead us in worship and Kevin Phillips will be

our speaker. Come join us for an awesome weekend of worship and fun. The cost this year is \$30 if paid by December 18 and \$35 after December 18.

Wednesday Night Menu for the Month of December

- December 7 - Beans & Rice
- December 14 - Chicken Fried Pork Cutlet
- December 21 - Canceled
- December 28 - Canceled



MISSION OFFICE

List of Items

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Spaghetti & Sauce | Macaroni & Cheese |
| Saltine Crackers | Oatmeal |
| Peanut Butter | Cookies |
| Canned Meats | Bars of Soap |
| Canned Soup | Dishwashing Liquid |
| Canned Peas | Small Detergent |
| Sugar | Toilet Paper |



Needed for Food
Pantry in the Month of December

Upward Basketball

League Schedule:
Practices begin the week of Monday, January 2, 2012.
First Game– Saturday, January 14, 2012
Awards Celebration—Saturday, March 3, 2012

We need 4 scholarships for kids who cannot pay to be in Upward BB. If you would like to help please make your check payable to FBCO and memo it Upward BB scholarship.

If you would like to coach a team or volunteer to help in other areas such as devotions, evaluations, etc., please call the church office.



Christmas on Green December 11, 2011 (Immediately following the Christmas Musical In The Family Life Center)

We need all Adult Connection Groups to help decorate a table and bring finger foods, sweets, drinks, etc. Please contact John Bickham or the church office if your class can help on this night. This is a wonderful time to fellowship with each other during the Christmas Season.

Senior Adults Christmas Luncheon December 15, 2011 12:00 Noon @ Nancy Gunstream's Home 8717 S. Dana - Orange

Bring a covered dish and a friend. Meet at the church at 11:00 am and we will take everyone to Nancy's home by bus or van.

Men's Monday Night Bible Study Locations 6:30PM

- December 5 - Al Rogillio - 2703 E. Tanager Trail
 - December 12 - Fred Byington - 641 Pioneer Drive - Bridge City
 - December 19 - Canceled
 - December 26 - Canceled
- Men of all ages are welcome to join us for a time of fellowship, food and Bible study.

Church Services Schedule for the Holidays

- December 11**
Christmas Musical & Christmas on Green
- December 21**
No Wed. Night Activities
- December 24**
Candles and Carols
- December 25th**
One Service at 11:00 am No Connection Groups
- December 28**
No Wed. Night Activities
- January 1**
One Service at 11:00 am No Connection Groups

Holiday Schedule for Church Office

Closed-Christmas Eve, December 24
Closed-Week of 26th
Reopen - January 3

It Never Grows Old...the story of Christmas. Isn't that the truth! The story of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the greatest, most compelling story in all of human history. I love the story of Christmas. Indeed, it is always fresh and always speaks directly to our heart. We will tell that story again in musical form on Sunday evening December 11th at 6:00 p.m. in our Worship Center. I hope you will come and invite someone to join you.

You'll hear beautiful music of Christmas from our Celebration Choir as well as our Children's Choir. The evening will also include music from the Handbells and our Instrumental Ensemble will bless us as well. So it will be an evening well spent as we gather with our family and friends to celebrate and worship the birth of the Christ Child.

And then we eat! Immediately following the musical, we'll empty out into the foyer where tables and tables of Christmas goodies await. Christmas on Green is a terrific feast of all sorts of seasonal treats furnished by all the Connection Groups in our church. You can go from table to table sampling all the wonderful food to your hearts delight.

Wouldn't this be a grand opportunity to invite someone who doesn't have a church home to attend with you and your family! Maybe you invited someone to Friend Fest back in October. Invite them now again to join us for Christmas.

All the choirs have been working diligently to prepare for the night. We'll be looking for you!

Merry Christmas,
John Bickham



Candles & Carols
December 24, 2010
6:00 PM