

The Baptist Record

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EUPORA



How deep is our bucket?

Sunday morning during our worship service we will have an opportunity to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. This offering goes to help support our international missionaries who literally go around the world to tell people about Jesus. May we give as God directs us. May we also examine our lives to see what is in the well our God has provided. How deep is our bucket being let down? What condition is our bucket in?

I want to say thank you to our youth and children for their acts of service during the holiday season. The sacrifice of your time and talents touches lives in ways you may not ever be aware of. Thanks also to our staff and teachers for helping provide opportunities that open our eyes a little wider to how blessed we are.

At the close of our Sunday morning service we will vote on the proposed budget for 2014. Thanks for every penny you give to fund the ministries of God's church in Eupora.

Sunday night we will go over and worship with First United Methodist Church of Eupora as they present their Christmas program. Be in prayer for them as they sing praise to the Lord.

*In Christ's Love,
Bro. Travis*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Dec. 6 **Kayla Bagwell**
Fisackerly
- Dec. 7 **Jacob Carson**
- Dec. 8 **Pam Brooks**
- Dec. 9 **Kimmy Mixon**
- Dec. 10 **Janice Wade**
- Dec. 10 **Pam Shaw**
- Dec. 11 **Dr. Dan Hall**
- Dec. 11 **Samantha Cooper**



Self denial and spiritual growth go together

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Luke 9:23 (ESV). If we truly seek to follow Christ, He clearly tells us in scripture to DENY ourselves. We have to do that first.

Have you made efforts on a daily basis to deny yourself? Have you ever thought about how hard that really is? Our human nature demands that we be selfish. It is truly

a difficult task to deny our person in everything we do or say, right down to the smallest decision that has to be made, and one major issue is that many times we don't even realize how selfish we really are! The good news is that the closer we grow to Christ, the less we have the need to hold on to worldly things. WE will decrease and HE will increase.

We grow closer to Christ first by spending time in the study of scrip-

ture and with Him in prayer. This must be a daily "task" for us, and we must be diligent. The more we do this, the less it seems like a task. We will soon desire to spend this time with Him, and ultimately we will grow in our relationship with Him. Make efforts to pray self denial and spiritual growth today!

Have a blessed week,

Bro. Jason

We are to serve a Holy God who was willing to send His Son

One of the first times I ever went to a homeless shelter I was scared to death. There was something about what I had seen on TV that made me think that all homeless people were crazy and could hurt you if you got close to them. It seemed like I thought they were wild animals or something. As I walked into the shelter I was nervous and what I saw and smelled didn't help. I saw men sitting around reading, playing cards, watching a small TV in the corner with the evening news playing, and some just staring into nothing. I thought to myself, this is not to bad. Then I started to notice something. As I looked into the eyes of those men, my perception changed. They were embarrassed, ashamed, and had a look as if they had been hurt. Then I realized why I had come to serve at the homeless shelter in the first place. It wasn't to make myself feel better about who I was. It wasn't to show my parents and my youth minister that I wanted to do the right thing. But, it was to

serve a Holy God who was willing to send His son to die for me.

This past weekend the youth traveled to Memphis Union Mission to serve at their emergency shelter. There were many men that had the same look on their face as I had seen before but some of them had a different look. Some of them during the Chapel service were filled with the Holy Spirit and you could tell their hope is in Salvation through Jesus Christ. Even through trail and homelessness they praised God for what they did have. It was a huge eye opener for a lot of students and I hope it opened the door for God to use them in serving the homeless again some day. So remember this week as you go through you're life not to forget where to find your hope and what a great God we serve as believers in Christ Jesus.

*Blessings,
Kevin Barnette*

Children's Christmas Party set for Dec. 13 — games, food & fun

Hey everybody! I hope you've had a good week back at school. I hope you're remembering to pray for the prayer request you were given on Sunday.

Remember, God wants us to be

persistent in prayer.

Don't forget that we will not have G-Force again until January.

Our Children's Christmas party will be Friday, Dec. 13. We will meet in the gym at 6 p.m. for

games, food and fun. This will be for kids in first through sixth grade. I hope you will plan to join us.

Have a great weekend.

*Love,
Mrs. Anita*

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

- Thursday, December 5**
2:30 Stella WMU
6:30 Lighting of the Eupora Christmas Tree featuring FBC Handbells
- Sunday, December 8**
*** 2014 Budget VOTE
*** Lottie Moon Offering
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 NO G-Force
*** Bro. Travis @ Jail Ministry
4:45 Adult Handbells
5:00 GROW
5:15 Ignite (Bible study for youth)
6:00 NO Evening Worship @ FBC — we will join First UMC for their annual Christmas Cantata
- Tuesday, December 10**
6:30 Deacon/Staff Christmas Party
- Wednesday, December 11**
4:45 MISSION Wednesdays
4:45 Acteens
6:30 Prayer and Praise Service
6:30 Revelation (Youth Bible Study & Worship)
7:15 Adult Worship Choir Practice
- Thursday, December 12**
*** Please have all POINSETTIAS At the church for special Service Dec. 15

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD

Adult.....	150
Young Adult.....	1
College/Career.....	10
Youth.....	28
Children.....	16
Preschool/Nursery.....	12
Nursing Home.....	20
TOTAL.....	237

FINANCIAL

Weekly Bud. Rec.....	\$14,511.00
Weekly Bud. Need.....	\$10,413.35
Budget Needs to Date.....	\$499,840.80
Gifts to Date.....	\$507,583.23
Over Budget.....	\$7,742.43

BUILDING FUND

Gifts this week.....	\$535.00
Current balance.....	\$188,715.52

VOLUNTEERS THIS WEEK

Children's Church — Carol Turner
Sanctuary Flowers — POINSETTIA SUNDAY

CHURCH STAFF

Travis Gray—Pastor
Jason Carson—Music Minister/Assoc. Pastor
Kevin Barnette—Youth Director
Anita Russell—Children's Director
Yvonne Hitt—Financial Secretary
Marcelle Robertson—Custodian
Kathy Bailey—Librarian
Sara Hitt—Church Clerk
Gwen Sisson—Church Secretary