

The Baptist Record

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH EUPORA



Remember the real meaning of Christmas...

All of the sounds and decorations are making it feel a lot more like Christmas. As we look at our hearts, are we remembering the real meaning of Christmas? Christmas Day is only one day a year but the importance of it should effect us every day of our life. May we celebrate the birth of Jesus as He lives through us.

On Sunday morning, our children's choirs will be singing in the service. Their smiles and actions bring out the little kid in all of us. They help us remember how special Christmas is to everyone.

Our adult choir will be presenting the Christmas Cantata during the evening service. Make plans to be in attendance with a heart ready for worship. They have put in much preparation for the glory of the Lord. He deserves all of our praise.

A special thanks to the handbell choir for blessing us this past Sunday night. Sometimes you just have to sing along with them. May we always have a song in our heart.

I hope to see you Sunday in God's house as we celebrate Christmas through worshipping Jesus. Merry Christmas!

*In Christ's Love,
Bro. Travis*



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Dec. 18 *Alan Springer*
Dec. 18 *Steve Mitchell*
Dec. 21 *Frank Flaig*
Dec. 21 *Parker Knight*
Dec. 22 *Matt Bagwell*
Dec. 23 *Wade Swindle*
Dec. 25 *Allene Wells*
Dec. 26 *Mike Ray*
Dec. 26 *Matt McGarr*
Dec. 26 *Nora Tindall*
Dec. 27 *Bonnie Gary*
Dec. 29 *Shirley Gary*
Dec. 29 *Lee Swindle*
Dec. 29 *Dale Thompson*
Dec. 29 *Macey Kate Ray*
Dec. 31 *Clint Davis*
Dec. 31 *Matt Knight*



Without Jesus, there would be no Christmas

This year's Christmas Cantata, "Christmas Is Jesus," at First Baptist Church of Eupora is "a reminder to all of us that Christmas really is about Jesus and only Jesus."

"We get so caught up in the busyness of the holiday, the giving and receiving of gifts that we tend to lose sight of the fact that God gave to us the greatest gift, that of His Son," Herring said. "He came to us when we were His enemies. He showed us love that we didn't deserve through the gift of His Son." Christmas Is Jesus will be presented at 6 p.m. Dec. 21 at First Baptist Church of Eupora. The event is free and open to the public.

"This event is more than just (the adult choir) singing," said Rev. Travis Gray, pastor of FBC Eupora. "It is an opportunity for everyone present to be involved in worship. I would like to invited everyone to join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Christmas is more than just a holiday; it is the only event that can change lives for eternity. Come worship with us the greatest gift of all — Jesus!"

Herring said he likes all of the songs in this year's Christmas Cantata, but a few favorites would be

"Simeon" and the title song, "Christmas is Jesus."

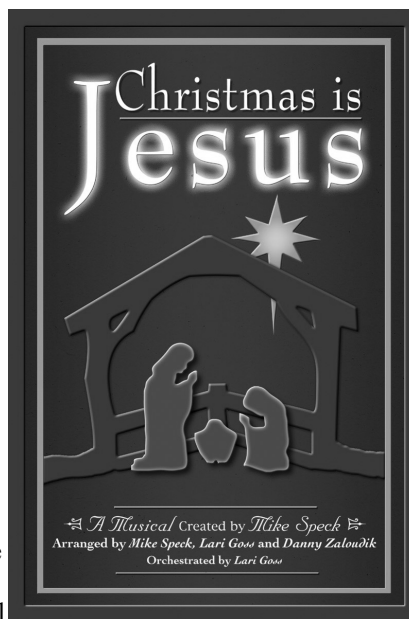
"Simeon is an often over looked individual in the Bible to whom God had made a promise that He would see the Messiah before his death," Herring said. "And He not only saw Jesus but held him. The song 'Christmas is Jesus' is a beautiful song that reminds us that God loves each one of us and gave the greatest gift. John 3:16 set to music!"

Herring said one of the real blessings of FBC Eupora is the amazing musicians and there are several solos throughout the cantata. Bill Stewart, Jr., has the first solo in the song, "Joy, Joy."

"It's a fresh take on the traditional hymn, 'Joy to the World,'" Herring said. "It's an amazing worship experience."

Other soloists include, Charles McClellan, Tracy Palmer, Jo and David Faulkenbery, Angie Curry, and Shelby Garrard. There will also be a trio of youth and a sextet of adults as part of the presentation.

"My hope and greatest desire for this Christmas presentation is that people will come and worship," Herring said, "that the Spirit and Presence of the Lord will fill this



place and that lives will be changed because we've met with the Lord. Also it is my hope that we all would stop and think about the true meaning of Christmas. We all tend to get into habits, and traditions, and that's not all bad, but sometimes, I lose sight of the fact that Christmas is Jesus!"

For more information about this year's "Christmas Is Jesus" Cantata, call the church office at (662) 258-3491 or more about FBC Eupora, go to <http://fbceupora.com>.

AT CHURCH THIS WEEK:
Thursday, December 18
*** Poinsettias need to be at the church For POINSETTIA SUNDAY
Sunday, December 21
*** POINSETTIA SUNDAY
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Morning Worship
11:00 G-Force
5:15 Youth Bible Study
6:00 Evening Worship
Wednesday, December 24
*** Church offices will be closed for the Christmas Holidays
*** NO MISSION: Wednesday
5-7 Silent Communion
6:30 NO Prayer & Praise Service
December 24—January 2
*** Church offices will be closed for the Christmas Holidays

The FBC Sanctuary Choir is seeking contributions/memorials to be made to help cover the costs of the purchase of the new ladies choir performance apparel.
THANK YOU!

SUNDAY SCHOOL RECORD 12/14/14

Adult.....	128
Young Adult.....	4
College/Career.....	6
Youth.....	16
Children.....	21
Preschool/Nursery.....	17
Nursing Home.....	24
TOTAL.....	216

FINANCIAL 12/14/14

Weekly Bud. Rec.....	\$10,935.25
Weekly Bud. Need.....	\$10,368.69
Budget Needs to Date.....	\$518,434.50
Gifts to Date.....	\$515,331.46
UNDER Budget.....	\$3,103.04

BUILDING FUND 12/14/14

Gifts this week.....	\$120.00
Current Balance.....	\$195,350.52

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS 12/14/14

Lottie Moon Goal.....	\$27,500.00
Gifts to date.....	\$13,161.00
Short of goal.....	\$14,339.00

CHURCH STAFF

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

