

# THE *Banner*

A PUBLICATION OF  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
MIDLAND, TEXAS

NOVEMBER 18, 2020  
VOL. 41 - NO. 12

Give thanks to  
the Lord, for  
he is good; his  
love endures  
forever.

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1 Chronicles 16:34

**IMPORTANT:**

First Family Thanksgiving dinner,  
scheduled for November 22nd, has  
been canceled.

# Dear Beloved First Family



Dr. Darin Wood - Senior Pastor

Grace and Peace in Christ our Lord today. Let me begin by saying thank you for your willingness to go with us on this strange journey called COVID. The wonderful grace of Jesus will carry us through this and we can be certain He hasn't changed (Heb 13:8) nor has He abandoned us (Heb 13:5). My prayer is that, like Ephesians 6 tells us, we'll stand firm in our conviction on these two matters and walk with the Lord through this AND that we'll do so together.

The changes you'll find below are painful for me personally. The holiday season has (and will!) always be my favorite time of the year, primarily because of the chance to celebrate Christ's arrival, to connect with people, to share a loving meal and a kind word. While we can certainly still celebrate Christ's incarnation, for this year, COVID demands we'll have to make difficult alterations to our plans. These were not made haphazardly. Rather, with a passion for Christ, our Gospel mandate and our desire to shepherd and protect God's people, we've changed our plans. Thus, approved and endorsed by our Church Council at their meeting on November 16th, we've made the following changes to our plans for the remainder of 2020.

## THANKSGIVING DINNER

Our plans for Nov 22 were to have our customary First Family Thanksgiving dinner shared together in our Fellowship Hall. However, with the realities we are currently facing, we've decided to dismiss this meal for this year.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS

Wednesday, Nov 18, will be our last "normal" Wednesday schedule. For this Wednesday, Nov 18th, our Wednesday evening schedule will continue as planned with RAs, GAs, Mission friends, Children's choirs, orchestra rehearsal and choir rehearsal. However, on Dec 2, each of these ministries will conclude their semester, two weeks ahead of when we would normally conclude for the year.

## CHOIR CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION

Our Choir Christmas presentation, planned for Dec 13, will continue as planned for 6 PM. However, in the interest of protecting the First Family from the most dangerous means of transmitting the virus – singing – we'll hold this as a virtual event. Our choir will record this prior to Dec 13. If you'd prefer a DVD to our online broadcast, please call my office to make that request and we'll get that to you.

## A CHANGE OF SCHEDULE FOR THE FINAL TWO SUNDAYS OF 2020 AND THE FIRST SUNDAY OF 2021

For the last two Sundays of 2020 and the first Sunday of 2021, we'll alter our worship and Sunday School schedules. Please stay tuned for those changes in the coming weeks.

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

One Christmas Eve candlelight service will be offered at 4 PM. Given our desire to keep it small and socially distanced, we'll invite you to register for the service if you intend

to join us in person. Registration for that service will open on Dec 1. Our Candlelight service will be livestreamed and broadcast on local TV if you'd rather observe the occasion at home.

## SOME GOOD NEWS

I got an interesting email recently and I thought the news it contained was worth sharing. The email came from the descendants of Rev GHM Wilson, pastor of FBC Midland from 1894-1895, our 3rd pastor. They were emailing to ask if we would like to have his Bible and a photograph of Rev Wilson and his wife, her hand delicately placed on the Bible in question. Immediately, I said of course! In the days to come, we can look forward to receiving this part of our history and placing it in the Atrium, adjacent to our fellowship hall on our north end. As I thought about it, I reflected on the incredible change Midland has seen since he was our pastor. He was here before Santa Rita #1 – when we were still mostly a railroad town. He was here before the Spanish-American war in 1898, before WWI or WWII. Before cars and telephones were ubiquitous and only 30 years removed from the Civil War. Our church has been through so much and found God to be faithful at every step. We can be certain our God will guide us through this season too. May God's kindness and mercy sustain us today and everyday.

Your servant,

Darin



## CHRISTMAS TELEVISION BROADCAST SCHEDULE

### DECEMBER 24

10:00pm – Home for Christmas (Musical Production) – KPEJ TV (FOX)  
10:30pm – Christmas Eve Service – KWES TV (NBC)

### DECEMBER 25

9:00am – Home for Christmas (Musical Production) – KPEJ TV (FOX)  
1:00pm – Home for Christmas (Musical Production) – KWES TV (NBC)

# WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22ND

## Sunday Worship • 8:15 AM

- Blended Worship Service in Worship Center (extended care 8:15 only)
- Overflow in Chapel
- Live Streaming on our [Church Online](#) and [Facebook](#).

## Sunday School • 9:30 AM

### PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Thank you, parents, for your faithfulness as we partner together to build a foundation of faith for our kids. You are making an impact not only on your family, but on generations to come!

Parents, don't forget our Step-by-Step Guide for FBC Elementary and Preschool Families for check in. You can find the instructions at: [fbc-midland.org/childrens-check-in](http://fbc-midland.org/childrens-check-in)

### FAMILY MINISTRY

After checking in your preschoolers and elementary kids in the fish tank area, you can use the elevator or stairs by the C Hall to go directly to your classroom. Please return to pick up your kids immediately following Sunday School.

### STUDENTS

To protect our students and provide the safest possible environment, student's temperature will be checked at the classroom door. Students will wear masks for the duration of the class.

If your student has had exposure to anyone with COVID within the last 14 days or has run a fever in the last 48 hours, please have them stay home.

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Class led by Vernon Stokes will be available, online, for Sunday at: [www.fbc-midland.org/resources/sunday-school-lesson](http://www.fbc-midland.org/resources/sunday-school-lesson)

## Sunday Worship • 11:00 AM

- Worship Center • Contemporary & Live Sermon
- Chapel • Traditional with simulcast sermon
- Fellowship Hall • Families with simulcast service
- Español Service • Student Worship room
- Live Streaming on our [Church Online](#) and [Facebook](#).



## Wednesday

All Wednesday night activities are canceled for the Thanksgiving Holidays.

## Weekly Bible Study

### LADIES PRECEPT BIBLE STUDY

**Thursdays**  
**9 AM in the Fellowship Hall.**  
**Cost: \$20**

No Bible study on November 26th. This year's study will conclude on December 10th. Anyone is invited to join us as we restart on January 14th as we continue our studies of Kings and Prophets in 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, Obadiah, Joel, Amos, and Jonah!

Contact Katy Little to sign up:

Email - [klittle@fbc-midland.org](mailto:klittle@fbc-midland.org) or call - 432-557-9768.



## 1st Family News

### UPWARD BASKETBALL

Registration has begun! Online or in person registration at the Activities Building. Registration is \$90 and spots are limited! If you have any questions you can email [avanderveer@fbc-midland.org](mailto:avanderveer@fbc-midland.org) or call 432-683-0648.

### MOPS

MOPS Registration is open for 2020-2021! We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings of the month, September through May. Please contact us for more information! We look forward to meeting you.

MOPS is looking for MOPS Kids Volunteers! If you are interested in helping minister to our moms, please volunteer to watch these sweet babies while the moms study, fellowship, and bond with one another.

[mopsfbcmidland@gmail.com](mailto:mopsfbcmidland@gmail.com)

### WAINSCOTT/LACY SCHOLARSHIP

If you are attending a Baptist College, University or Seminary, you are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applications can be picked up in Cindy Eoff's office for the Spring 2021 semester and must be turned in by December 15th.

### MEDIA LIBRARY

Browse through our Catalog at home to see what is available for check out or to see if a book, audio book or video you are looking for is in our Library. On our website at: [www.fbc-midland.org/resources/media-library](http://www.fbc-midland.org/resources/media-library) you will find a search button, click it for information of what is available at the library.

## Serving Opportunities

### FBC KIDS KARE

We are looking for additional paid part time workers for childcare events. Must be at least 18 years of age to apply, with previous childcare experience with children of all ages strongly preferred.

Interested in joining the Kids Kare team or have any questions please contact Allison Ashmore at 432-683-0611 or email at: [aashmore@fbc-midland.org](mailto:aashmore@fbc-midland.org).

## Acknowledgments

### THANK YOU

*Thank you for your gift to Buckner Children and Family Services in memory of my father, Chessley McKenzie. Our family is honored by this thoughtful gift to an organization that he often contributed to. My parents moved to Midland in 1956 and were faithful members until moving to Austin in 2012 to be closer to family. They loved FBC Midland and the many friends there. My father told me often that the first thing you do when moving to a new city is to find a church home. That is what they did in 1956 and it made all the difference in their lives.*

Gene McKenzie

*Dear First Baptist Family,*

*We are grateful for the gift to Buckner in Jim's memory. He would be pleased with this special remembrance, for he had a heart for helping. The kindness and support of the church has been overwhelming and appreciated.*

Gratefully,  
The Henry Family

*Thank you First Baptist for being my church family.*

*For the past 72 years, I have made many friends. In 1948 I came to Midland First Baptist to become assistant education director after attending seminary. This is quite a journey that the Lord took me on, from being born out on the farm in the Texas panhandle, on a journey that ended in Midland. I stopped at many places along the way at different jobs to get to Midland. I came to Midland for the job at First Baptist and then married and had a family and I thank God every day for you my church family who have served with me in many ways.*

*On my 100th birthday, plans were made to make it special. And from many of my friends, I received 130 birthday cards. The special thing that I enjoyed on the cards were the notes that were written on them. It brought back memories of my work in Midland. I want to thank every one of you who sent a card with a note.*

*Thank you for just being my friend and helping me in so many ways. May God bless all of you.*

Sending my love,  
Lola Kerr

### BEREAVEMENT:

- Chris Whigham in the loss of his wife, Linda Whigham
- Donna Fulgham in the loss of her Husband and Candice Fain in the loss of her father, Bill Fulgham
- Trina Morgan in the death of her mother, Betty Morrison
- Juandell Roberts in the death of her husband, Red Roberts

Join us in **giving online** at our church

- Must add your name for your year-end report.
- Must use a new browser: Windows Edge, Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox

**fbc-midland.org**

- one-time gifts
- bank giving
- recurring giving
- manage account
- credit card

Give

## COVID19 – GIVE THANKS IN ALL...

I want to share some good news! Can't we use some? Sometimes it's helpful to take a step back and get a different perspective especially when facing difficult circumstances. We have much to be thankful for as we close the books on a financial year and a difficult season for our community.

We offer thanks:

- ◆ First, between March 1st and September 30th (7 months), our FirstCares (Benevolence) ministry helped 129 households with \$123,246 of rent/mortgage assistance for a total of 255 households and \$191,420 for all assistance during the budget year.
- ◆ Second, we provided housing for missionaries coming home from overseas, partners traveling through Midland, and a refugee family from South Asia in our Mission Houses.
- ◆ Third, we were able to fulfill our financial commitments to our budget partners during this season from caring for those in need in our community, planting Roots Community Church in Seattle, helping pastors along the border and interior Mexico minister during difficult Covid19 conditions, to printing Bibles in Vietnam.
- ◆ Fourth, we encouraged and discipled those in prison. Our prison bible correspondence ministry has continued, maybe when it was needed the most!

Because of our budget surplus last year, we were also able to generously support our local partners who have worked so hard under difficult conditions as they fed, clothed, and supported those in need in our community:

- ◆ \$84,000 to retire \$8.4 million in medical debt of those in Midland County.
- ◆ \$50,000 to Fields' Edge to help build a permanent, supportive, tiny-home community for the chronically homeless in Midland, Texas.
- ◆ \$120,000 to partners feeding people in our community: Midland Baptist Crisis Center, Midland Soup Kitchen, Breaking Bread, West Texas Food Bank, and Mission Agape.
- ◆ \$25,829 to feed, clothe, and protect children in our community.

May God allow our church family to continue sharing the love of Christ with people in our community and around the world during this difficult season.

Bryan Pinson  
Minister of Missions

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18



**#fbcfirstfamily**

People are posting about this

### Share your Thanksgiving with us on Social Media!

Post photos of your family at the dining room table, watching sports, or outside playing football in the family game. On Facebook use **#fbcfirstfamily**



Soooo looking forward to Turkey! Who's with me! [#fbcfirstfamily](#)



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Church Midland



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MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701-5972  
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## FBC DIRECTORY

[www.fbc-midland.org](http://www.fbc-midland.org)

Main Phone - 432.683.0600 Main Fax - 432.683.0660

Prayer Line - 432.683.0683

Pastoral Ministry .....	683.0604
Missions Ministry .....	683.0623
Music & Worship Ministry .....	683.0618
Administrative Office .....	683.0604
Activities Ministry .....	683.0647
Business Office .....	683.0615
Children's Ministry .....	683.0609
Preschool Ministry .....	683.0611
Child Development Center .....	683.0638
Children's Day Out .....	683.0632
Student Ministry .....	683.0606
Family Ministry .....	683.0612
55+ Ministry .....	683.0612
Media Ministry .....	683.0622
Membership .....	683.0612
Duplication Services .....	683.0626
Library .....	683.0625

### Sunday

Worship Services at 8:15 AM & 11:00 AM • Sunday School at 9:30 AM

Worship Services Online

• [fbc-midland.org](http://fbc-midland.org) • [facebook.com/fbcmidland](https://www.facebook.com/fbcmidland) • [vimeo.com/fbcmidland](https://www.vimeo.com/fbcmidland)

### Sunday Service Televised at

7:00 a.m. on KOSA (CBS) Channel 7

10:00 a.m. on MyTV, Channel 16 (or DirectTV Channel 40)

Televised services are on a one-week tape delay

## Prayer Partners

# PRAYER

Our Missionary  
in

AN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION  
DUE TO SECURITY CONCERNS

- Pray for the continued growth of the Persian-speaking church in the Iran region and beyond.
- Pray for safety and protection of trained leaders serving on the ground under the threat of persecution, particularly as they travel from city to city or within a city.
- Pray that persecuted Christians will be blessed with strength, joy and peace in the midst of various trials.
- Pray for the spiritual growth of new Christians and an increased awareness and participation in SAFAR (a 1-to-1 discipleship journey) and WEEKLY FELLOWSHIP (a resource for remote believers to participate in corporate worship).



## WEEKLY COUNT

November 15, 2020

Sunday School Groups	Attendance
Adults	393
Preschool, Children, & Students/College	227
Online Live Views	306

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

November 15, 2020

Offering	Weekly	Year to Date
First Baptist	\$ 141,512	\$ 964,446
Budget Requirement	\$ 127,000	\$ 889,000
Over/Under Budget	\$ 14,512	\$ 75,446
Hope 1:8	\$ 60	\$ 1,240
Lottie Moon	\$ 1,300	\$ 2,680