

# THE BANNER

## Letter

A PUBLICATION OF  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
MIDLAND, TEXAS

DECEMBER 23, 2020  
VOL. 41 - NO. 17

My beloved First Family,

Grace, Peace and Merry Christmas! May God's kindness and favor be upon you this highest and holiest week. My prayer is for you to know the joy of Christ's birth afresh and anew and that the Lord will lighten your heart with his peace. These uncertain days have certainly taken a toll on us all haven't they? On Monday, I received a well-timed blessing from our friend Dr. Todd Still. It was a copy of his newest book, "With Radiant Hope." It's an edited collection of the Christmas messages of Dr. George Truett, longtime pastor at First Baptist Church of Dallas and ardent supporter of West Texas' own Paisano Baptist Encampment. In December 1941, right after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Dr. Truett wrote these words, still as true today as they were 79 years ago.

"In these difficult and desperate days, it surely behooves us all to find our thoughts on those "unshakable things that remain" (Hebrews 12:27) as pointed out in the Bible, and to cleave trustfully and obediently to Him who is "the same yesterday, today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8). His purposes are as changeless as His own being and His righteous will is bound to prevail. "He shall not fail nor be discouraged till He have set justice in the earth. (Isaiah 42:4)" Let us, therefore, courageously face both the present and the future with the love that suffers long and is king and with a command and assuring hope."

### JANUARY 10th – A FULL AND BLESSED DAY

While I'm confident you'll want to be a part of each and every gathering our church holds, may I invite you to plan on participating on January 10th? Let me give you three solid reasons:

1. We'll be returning to our normal schedule that day! 8:15 AM Blended Worship, 9:30 Sunday School and 11 AM Contemporary Worship.
2. January 10th is our church's 135th anniversary! On January 10th, 1886, a group of believers met together to form our church. We will do our best to honor them well on that Sunday.
3. Our Business Administrator Candidate Rev. Moe Bomer will be with us in view of a call. At the conclusion of each of our services, our church moderator J.D. Faircloth will call us into a specially called church conference to vote on calling Rev. Bomer. As an added bonus, we invite you to meet Moe and his wife Jamie at a Question and Answer period on Saturday, January 9th 2 PM in our Fellowship Hall.

### BIBLE READING PLAN

If you didn't pick up a copy of the 2021 Bible reading plan, I invite you to do so this weekend. You'll find them on our glass table in the Welcome Center. As I said at the conclusion of our services on Sunday, if I could choose only one thing to make a spiritual difference in your life in 2021, this would be it – letting the Word of God speak into your life everyday of 2021 WILL make a difference. If you're interested in finding it online, please go to our website.

Merry Christmas to each of you, my beloved First family,

Darin

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE, DEC. 27<sup>TH</sup> & JAN 3<sup>RD</sup>

- 10 AM Blended Worship Service  
Live in Worship Center with Simulcast to Chapel and Fellowship Hall

### JAN. 10<sup>TH</sup>

- Regular Sunday Schedule
- FBC's 135th Anniversary
- Business Administrator Candidate vote.

### STEWARDSHIP REPORTS

December 20, 2020

| Offering           | Weekly     | Year to Date |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|
| FBC Offering       | \$ 191,683 | \$ 1,670,469 |
| Budget Requirement | \$ 251,596 | \$ 1,897,787 |
| Over/Under Budget  | \$ -59,912 | \$ -227,318  |
| Hope 1:8           | \$ 10,050  | \$ 511,855   |
| Lottie Moon        | \$ 8,875   | \$ 60,205    |



## END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

2020 CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE BY 5 PM ON DEC 31. MAILED GIFTS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2020.

DETAILS AT:

BUSINESS OFFICE 432-683-0615

