

First Baptist Church Montgomery

BEACON

bring them in...build them up...send them out

Volume 71 | Week of December 16, 2018 | Number 50



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®
FBC GOAL: \$230,000



FBC Stewardship Goal: \$6,825,000

Pledged to Date: \$5,907,242.00 (86.55%)

Remember, it's never too late to make your commitment!

www.montgomeryfbc.org/stewardship

www.montgomeryfbc.org | Office: 334.834.6310 | Prayer Line: 334.834.4585



CONNECTIONS

from your Pastor's Heart

The 2018 Living Christmas Tree – Abundant Fruit Continues!

Ed Cleveland, Josh Jacobs, Donna Haney and the whole Tree Team honored the Lord and blessed everyone who entered the Sanctuary with an extraordinary worship experience. More than 450 of our faithful friends worked together in perfect harmony to create a masterpiece for the Master.

The Tree is a study in holy harmony. The choir and orchestra flawlessly presented the soul-stirring music celebrating our Savior's birth. The technical team used elaborate staging, complex sound amplification, theatrical lighting effects, complimentary visuals, along with a dramatic flair to fashion a worship experience that magnified the Lord and touched the hearts of His people. God turned the Tree into His Gospel megaphone and many people made commitments to Christ that will impact their earthly journey and eternal destiny!



We owe a debt of gratitude to everyone who beautifully sang, skillfully played, faithfully directed parking, drove golf carts, prepared meals, kept children in the nursery, greeted our thousands of visitors, and the servants who constructed, decorated, and disassembled the Tree.

The weather was soggy and frightful but the response was delightful! As the rain poured, the people poured into the Sanctuary. We carried on like faithful soldiers holding high the Lord's light on a stormy night.

There were so many Tree highlights for me. To see God's FBC team working together with joy and excellence to share the good news of Christ's love makes my heart soar because I know we are pleasing the Lord. Seeing so many people raise their hands high when asked if they committed to follow Christ creates a geyser of gratitude in my spirit and a party in heaven. The musical presentation provides a feast for our souls. The diversity of those who attend is truly astonishing. There was every type of person in our sanctuary and a huge number of internationals in attendance. I was in the balcony and watched as our global guests used their cell phones to capture images that were sent all over the world as a witness for Christ. One man came up to me who lives in Birmingham but is from India. He said, "Pastor Jay, I am a believer in Jesus. I discovered your Living Tree last year and it touched my heart. So this year I brought nine of my Indian friends who are Hindu and work in the computer world with me because I wanted them to experience the Living Tree and learn about Jesus." The Tree's Christ-honoring fruit continues to be ASTOUNDING and ABOUNDING!

Let's Keep Using Every Way to Share Christ's Love and Light with EVERYONE,

FBC Faithfulness | Sunday, December 9, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Bible Fellowship Enrollment 5197 | **Bible Fellowship Attendance** 1645
Weekly Attendance 2060 | **Discipleship Attendance** 917

OFFERING

Required Weekly \$128,365.38 | **Received Sunday** \$146,457.13
Required To Date \$6,289,903.62 | **Received To Date** \$5,941,101.76
Building Fund Sunday \$75.00 | **Building Fund to Date** \$20,441.35
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering \$97,059.29

Under Budget | \$348,801.86

Year-End Giving

All gifts must be postmarked by
Monday, December 31

For more information, contact the
FBC Business Office at 241.5181

Ministry Announcements

Preschool Ministry

All preschool children are asked to **Help Decorate the Christmas Tree** that will be at the preschool registration desk. Please bring **new** socks and/or shoes to cover our tree. All items will be donated to children in the Panama City area. Please bring your items to your SS Class by **Sunday, December 16**.

Mission Friends will begin again on **Sunday, January 6** at 5:00 PM. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this exciting group.

Children's Ministry

Artificial Christmas Trees needed for VBS 2019. Trees can be any size, with or without lights. For more information, contact Glen Leathers at 241.5164 or gleathers@montgomeryfbc.org.

GAs and RAs will begin again on **Sunday, January 6** at 5:00 PM. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of these exciting groups.

Bible Drill begins on **Sunday, January 6** for all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students. Join us at 6:00 PM in room A311 as we learn the books of the Bible, the location of key scripture passages, and memorize scripture. Register online at www.montgomeryfbc.org/childrens-bible-drill.

Student Ministry

Save the Date for **Disciple Now** on **Friday, January 18 through Sunday, January 20**. Register online at www.montgomeryfbc.org/event-registration.

College Ministry

Catch up with all of your friends over Christmas break at the **College Christmas Party!** Dinner is provided. You just need to bring a \$10 Dirty Santa gift! The party is on **Wednesday, December 19** at the Chapman's home (8049 Lakeridge Drive) at 6:30 PM. We'll see you there!

Adult Ministry

Join Jay as he continues a new round of his **Pastor's Class** on **Sunday, December**

16 at 10:00 AM in the main sanctuary. The 13-week class, open to everyone, will be an overview of the Bible.

Music Ministry

It's a great time to jump into the Music Ministry opportunities. Join us on **Sunday, January 6** for One Heart and One Voice Youth Choir rehearsals and on **Wednesday, January 9** for Sanctuary Orchestra rehearsal at 5:30 PM; Preschool and Children's Choirs at 5:45 PM and Sanctuary Choir rehearsal at 6:35 PM.

Missions Ministry

The **2019 Missions Menu** is now available! You can pick up your copy in the main sanctuary foyer or visit www.montgomeryfbc.org.

A special prayer event, **Journey of Prayer**, will take place on **Sunday, January 6** at 5:00 PM in the main sanctuary. This event is your opportunity to start the year in an attitude of worship and intercession. For more information, contact Brian Gay at 241.5131 or briang@montgomeryfbc.org.

First Baptist Foundation

You're invited to join us in the fellowship hall after the 11:00 AM Worship Service on **Sunday, January 20** for **Lunch with Jay Wolf and world-class estate specialist, Dave Keesling**. Please make plans to come hear about our partnership with PhilanthroCorp, a Christian estate design firm whose professional services have been paid for by FBC. This is a great opportunity to receive free stewardship coaching! For more information or to RSVP, contact Alissa Parrish at 241.5127 or airvin@montgomeryfbc.org.

Churchwide News & Events

There will be no **Churchwide Visitation** on **Sundays, December 16, 23 or 30**.

Cruise to Alaska with Jay and Mary Ruth on September 18 through 25, 2019! You don't want to miss this spectacular Alaska Inside Passage trip on Princess Cruises. Space is limited, and cabins are reserved first-come, first-served. Come see majestic scenery from God and hear His mighty Word revealed from Jay. For more information, contact Ben Hulseley at ebjhulseley@gmail.com or 399.9876.

Volunteers are needed in the Prayer Room! Available time slots can be found on the prayer room door (located next to the elevator on the 3rd floor, main building) or contact Sally Frazier at 274.8989 or 224.9895.

Will you be away from FBC on Sunday? Then join us **Sunday** at 11:00 AM as we broadcast our service live on the FBC app and website (www.montgomeryfbc.org/livestream) as well as our main **Facebook page, First Baptist Church Montgomery** (@montgomeryfirstbaptist).

New Members

By Letter/Statement of Faith

Ms. Frances Hill

330 Carol Villa Drive | Montgomery, AL 36109

Our Church Family

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, contact Carolyn Bryan at 241.5120.

Sympathy Extended to

Ms. Sharon Bryan in the death of her mother,

Ellen; Mr. Josh Bryan in the death of his grandmother

Mr. & Mrs. JC Webb (Karla) in the death of her grandfather

Mr. & Mrs. Stan Snyder (Heather) in the death of his father

Capitol Hill Healthcare

Renis Jones

Congratulations Extended to

Mr. & Mrs. Douglas McElvy (Eleanor) in the birth of a granddaughter

Mr. & Mrs. Rush Stallings (Shan) in the birth of a grandson; Mr. Bill Carner in the birth of a great-grandson

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Christmas

SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 16

Lord's Supper Vesper Service
(5:30 PM • Main Sanctuary)

Wednesday, December 19

No Evening Activities or Services

Sunday, December 23

Regular Morning Worship Schedule
(8:30 & 11:00 am • Main Sanctuary)

No Evening Service or Activities

Monday, December 24

FBC Offices Closed

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
(3:30 & 5:00 PM • Main Sanctuary)

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

FBC Offices Closed

Wednesday, December 26

No Evening Activities or Services

Sunday, December 30

Regular Morning Worship Schedule
(8:30 & 11:00 am • Main Sanctuary)

No Evening Service or Activities

Tuesday, January 1

Happy New Year!

FBC Offices Closed

Wednesday, January 2

No Evening Activities or Services



WAR ROOM

PRAYER IS A POWERFUL WEAPON

01.02.19 :: MAIN SANCTUARY :: 12:10 TO 12:50 PM

DISCOVER

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

*Interested in joining First Baptist?
Want to know more?*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

12:15 PM | FELLOWSHIP HALL

This week at FBC

For the complete calendar, visit www.montgomeryfbc.org.

Sunday, December 16

- 8:30 Worship Service
Prayer Room in Media Center
- 9:45 Bible Fellowship Classes
- 11:00 Worship Service
Prayer Room in Media Center
- 4:15 One Heart/One Voice/Reflections
Rehearsal
- 5:30 Lord's Supper Vesper Service

Monday, December 17

- 5:30 Men's Bible Study
- 6:30 Freedom in Christ Recovery

Tuesday, December 18

- 5:30 Women with Emotional Pain
- 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Wednesday, December 19

- No PM Service or Activities
- 6:30 College Ministry Christmas Party

Thursday, December 20

- 10:00 Caregivers Support Group

Friday, December 21

- 7:00 Friday Morning Men's Group

Saturday, December 22

- 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday Worship

Morning Worship (8:30 & 11:00 AM)

Ding Dong Merrily on High | Ichthus Ensemble

That Night | Sanctuary Choir

Midnight Noel | Max Graham

Message | Jay Wolf

Prayer Room

Brian Castleberry (Seabrook/Monroe Class)

Evening Worship (5:30 PM)

Lord's Supper Vesper Service

In Home Ministry Member Deborah Kay Campbell

928 Felder Avenue

Montgomery, AL 36106-1933



305 South Perry Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
montgomery



CrossRoads Broadcast Schedule for the Living Christmas Tree

Watch the sermon at the time below or
online at www.montgomeryfbc.org.

Frazer Channel 13 (Montgomery & Prattville)

Brighthouse Channel 122 (Elmore County)

Sunday, December 16 | 1:30 PM* & 6:00 PM

Tuesday, December 18 | 8:00 PM

Thursday, December 20 | 1:30 PM & 6:00 PM

Sunday, December 23 | 1:30 PM* & 6:00 PM

WSFA-TV Channel 12

Sunday, December 16 | 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 23 | 10:30 AM

Tuesday, December 25 | 2:00 AM* & 4:00 PM*

*full hour

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