



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF PENSACOLA

The View from the Hill

December 2025



Hear. Live. Share. The Story of Jesus.

A NOTE FROM DAVE



Dave Snyder
Senior Pastor

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Our church campus looks beautiful with decorations and lights. The excitement of Christmas has invaded our hallways and rooms. Cheerful music celebrating the birth of Jesus surrounds our worship gatherings. Bible study groups are having annual parties. Local outreach needs are met with generosity of food, utility assistance, shoeboxes, and other expressions of Christ-centered charity. I love this time of year. I am excited to share my 8th Christmas with you here in Pensacola.

The word Advent itself means "arrival" or "an appearing or coming into place." As a church, it is an opportunity to approach every day in anticipation for the birth of Jesus, our Savior. Make sure you pick up a free devotional guide, assisting your joy in a 25-day journey leading to Christmas morning. My hope is for your joy to grow this Advent season.

Amid busy schedules, joyful gatherings, and cherished traditions, may our hearts be drawn back to the humble manger in Bethlehem. There, in the quiet, God stepped into our world with grace, truth, and redeeming love. *"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."* (Luke 2:11)

My prayer for you and your families is that the peace of Christ will fill your homes, the hope of Christ will anchor your hearts, and the joy of Christ will overflow in your lives. Whether this season brings celebration, reflection, or even moments of longing, may you know the nearness of the One who is Immanuel—*God with us*.

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas. Enjoy this month. Soak in every moment, provided by God's amazing grace. Jesus has come. Rejoice.

I love being your pastor.

Blessings,

Dave

LESSONS FROM SHEPHERDS

DECEMBER 23

I've always been a fan of the shepherds in the Christmas story. I can't get these guys out of my mind when this time of year arrives. God, in His marvelous grace, gave the Gospel announcement



to the lowest of society while they were at work... watching sheep in a field. The Gospel announcement was given to the least of these. In one humble, the majesty of God was displayed in the story of the birth of Jesus. To shepherds with a heart of sheep. As you look at this part of the story this Advent season, let it serve as a reminder that in this world, there are no class. Thus, our culture must have political leaders and celebrities that draw much attention. Yet, in comparison to the power and majesty of Jesus, all of us are in the same category: broken people in need of redemption.

The shepherds took a great risk in their journey to see Jesus. It was a major financial risk, as they were willing to risk all they had to follow the will of God by

DECEMBER 2025

Sermon Series

THE STORY OF ADVENT



Christmas Eve has become my favorite day of the entire Advent season. The excitement, wonder, and anticipation in my heart and home. I enjoy our family time and seeing the church gathered. Christmas music blares in our home along with the aroma of Christmas candles invading rooms.

I love the sound of laughter and anticipation in my children as the day turns to night. Friend, we have a reason to rejoice today. Tomorrow, we get to

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With family and friends, read Luke 2:1-20. Of course, read it on your own as well. The details of the story fuels worship and radiates joy.



THE LIVING WORD



DECEMBER: JESUS ABOVE ALL

read Luke 2:1-20. Of course, read it on your own as well. The details of this story fuels worship and radiates joy.

I enjoy hearing Christmas Eve traditions in other homes. Over the years, I always orders pizza and comes around looking at lights while and my family serves enchiladas. My family may serve the next whole another



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

HEAR. LIVE. SHARE. THE STORY OF JESUS



Peter Burmeister

Executive Pastor

Church family,

As we move into December, our church family steps into one of the most meaningful seasons of the year. This month gives us several opportunities to gather, celebrate the birth of Jesus, and welcome friends and neighbors who may be looking for a place to connect.

We'll start with **A Pensacola Christmas on December 6 and 7**. This Christmas music presentation has become a highlight for our church and our city. It's a joyful way to begin the season, and it's one of the easiest moments to invite

someone who may be open to attending during Christmas. A simple personal invitation makes a real difference.

On **December 17**, we'll host **Family Christmas**, which will also be our final Wednesday night gathering of the year. The evening will include activities for children, a time of worship, and a Christmas dinner. It's a relaxed and meaningful way for families of all ages to spend time together as we head into Christmas week. If you know a family who could use a warm and welcoming night out, encourage them to join you.

We'll close the month with two **Christmas Eve services at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m.** Both services will be identical and feature carols, candles, worship, and a message, centered on the hope Jesus brings. Choose the time that works best for you, and encourage those you know to join you!

Our Christmas Advent Devotional is ready and available for pickup at the church or online on our website. It's a great way to guide your family and personal devotions as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

December gives us many chances to point people to Jesus. I'm grateful to walk through this season with you and look forward to seeing how God uses these moments in the lives of our church and community.

Together for the Kingdom,

Peter

A PENSACOLA Christmas

DECEMBER 6 & 7 | 6PM

WITH THE PENSACOLA CHILDREN'S CHORUS

DECEMBER 6 | 4PM

FAMILY CONCERT WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

December 6, at 4:00 p.m., will be our Family Concert featuring the Clarion Choir, Kid's Praise, and special guests from the Washington High School choir and band.

December 6 and 7, at 6:00 p.m., will feature our festival chorus, orchestra, soloists, and the Pensacola Children's Chorus.



Join us on **Wednesday, December 10** in the Sanctuary for our First Kids Christmas Musical at **6:00 p.m.!**



We will be having two Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve, **Wednesday, December 24, at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.** We hope you, friends, and family will make plans to join us!

Holiday SCHEDULE

December 24 & 31
NO MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

December 24-26 & January 1
OFFICE CLOSED

December 28
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP | 9:30 AM
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP | 11:00 AM

On **Sunday, December 28**, we will have two services only—**9:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship in Chipley Hall and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary.** Bible Studies will not meet that morning. Our regular three-service schedule will resume the following Sunday.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

WHAT IS THE LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®?

At 18, Lottie Moon chose to follow Christ, and her life became a testimony of hope. Years later in China, she gave herself to serving others and sharing the light of God's love in the midst of great need.

In her letters home, she pleaded for prayer and support — so that more people could bring that same hope to a world in darkness. Her words sparked a legacy that continues today through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®.

Every dollar you give becomes more than a gift — it brings hope, it brings light. 100% of your offering supports missionaries who carry the gospel to the ends of the earth.

This Christmas, carry the light of Christ to others. Together, we can shine in the darkest places. Thank you for giving today.

CELEBRATE GOD'S WORK IN 2024

As reported by IMB missionaries and national partners:

- 3,577 Missionaries on the Field
- 68,628 Baptisms
- 84,430 New Leaders Trained
- 2,409 Churches Planted
- 144,969 Professed Faith in Jesus
- 1.6 MILLION Heard the Gospel Presentation

This year, our goal as a church is to raise \$150,000. One hundred percent of your gifts directly support missionary presence and efforts around the globe so that lives can be transformed by the gospel.

We will have a special day of giving to this offering on **Sunday, December 7.**

MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

FOUNDATIONS: BUILDING A MARRIAGE THAT ENDURES

January 23 and 24

Join us for a transformative two-day event to strengthen your marriage and build a lasting foundation. Dr. Jamie and Tara Dew from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary will be our guest speakers. Whether you're newlyweds or have been married for years, this conference will provide practical tools and spiritual insights to help you thrive together. Childcare is available for birth - 4 years old. Register at fbcp.org/events.

LEISURE TIMERS

Tuesday, December 16 at 10:15 a.m. in Chipley Hall

Join us for our last Leisure Timers meeting of the year! We will celebrate the season with festive Christmas music performed by our own church members and enjoy delicious food together. Come share in the joy, fellowship, and warmth of this special holiday gathering.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

MOMCO

Wednesdays, twice a month, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Motherhood can be challenging, but it doesn't have to be lonely. Come enjoy a moment of fellowship, breakfast, and learning together on how to navigate parenthood. The group is open to mothers of children from birth through age 18. Register at fbcp.org/events.

Last 2025 Meeting: December 10

2026 Meetings: January 7 & 21, February 4 & 18, March 4 & 25, April 8 & 29, May 6

NURSERY WORKERS FOR MOMCO

Looking for those who love kids and has interest in keeping the nursery for MomCo meetings. MomCo meets twice a month on Wednesday mornings in the ROC at the church. Contact Lori Kizziah at womensministry@fbcp.org for more information.

GATHER

Sunday, January 4 at 6:00 p.m. in Chipley Hall

Excited to start back to this wonderful time of fellowship and biblical devotion. RSVP for dinner and if childcare is needed by December 31. Sign up on the events page of our website.

FAVORED WOMEN: SPRING RETREAT 2026

Destin, FL

April 17-19, 2026

We are so excited to announce Spring Favored 2026 in Destin, FL! This year, the theme for the weekend is "Redeemed", as Isaiah 43:1 reminds us that He is with us and we are His! There are three days and two nights planned especially for you with powerful speakers and uplifting musicians, all while enjoying a few spring days! Kelly Minter, CAIN, Karen Kingsbury, Micah Tyler, Joy Greene and Favored Worship Team will be leading our Worship experience. More detailed information at favoredwomen.com.

If interested in this opportunity, reach out to Lori Kizziah, womensministry@fbcp.org.

STUDENT MINISTRY

December: YHWH - Forgiving and Just

Wednesday, December 3: Invite Night - Christmas Party

Monday, December 8: Challenger Banquet

Wednesday, December 10: Family Groups - Pancake Study Break

Wednesday, December 17: Family Christmas Dinner

December 22 - January 5: Christmas Break

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

As 2025 Operation Christmas Child season comes to an end, we are so blessed to report that First Baptist Church of Pensacola had a record number of shoeboxes packed. With everyone's help, we packed **7,152** shoeboxes! That's **7,152** children who will hear about Jesus in the next year. This is 1,348 more shoeboxes than we packed last year and 626 more shoeboxes than our previous best year in 2023. Shoeboxes can still be packed online until **December 31** by using the QR code.



Thank you all for your time, your energy, your financial support, and your prayers over this past year. Please continue to pray for the children who will receive these shoeboxes, hear the Good News of Jesus Christ and return to their local church to attend the 12-week discipleship program called "The Greatest Journey." It will soon be time to begin preparing the 2026 shoeboxes, so watch for January dates! Until then, have a blessed and merry Christmas.

TRIP TO ATLANTA PROCESSING CENTER

Contact Judy Leatherwood at 850-450-5440 to process shoeboxes in Atlanta on any or all these 3 days: **December 4, 5 and 6**. It is an amazing, rewarding experience.

WARMTH FOR WEIS SHOE PROJECT

We had a wonderful day putting new shoes and socks on 550 students at C.A. Weis Elementary School. This project makes a big difference for each student at Weis and it changes the hearts of every volunteer! We are so thankful for our church family that supports ministries that make such a big impact in our community. Thank you to our prayer warriors who prayed for the volunteers, for everyone who has given to this project, and thank you to every volunteer that made the decision to give up their time to be a part of this wonderful day.

You can still support this project financially, the cost per student is \$30.

For questions, please contact Jennifer Daniel at 850-572-0856.

CHURCH TO CHURCH

Our November food distribution was another day of FBCP's efforts to be the hands and feet of Jesus as we help food insecure families in our community. It was a beautiful day weatherwise and a beautiful sight to see many volunteers working hard sorting produce and loading boxes.

36 churches and several foster families received food. Each family received 7 bags of produce, a box of dry and canned food as well as a ham. This is what fresh collard greens for 650 families look like!



Hard working FBCP volunteers!



The Lord continues to affirm our ministry in surprising ways. The Midwest Food Bank, a Christian organization that helps the food insecure, provided us emergency food boxes for furloughed federal workers due to the government shutdown.

UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS

February: North Africa (registration is closed)

Spring Break: Longmont, Co. - Jr/Sr high school students

June 19-28: Liberia

June 8: Salt Lake City

July 10-19: Liberia

July 16-24: Longmont, Co.

TBD: Guatemala

All Dates subject to change.

Contact Craig at cbonelli@fbcp.org for more information.

LOVE ON WHEELS

Love on Wheels, a ministry that transports our male and female In-Home Ministry members to and from medical appointments, needs male and female church members to volunteer to serve in this ministry. If you are interested, please contact Lista Bodree at 850-207-9252 or cbodree@yahoo.com.

FLOWER DELIVERY

The flower ministry needs church members to volunteer to deliver flower arrangements on Mondays to our In-Home Ministry members. If you are interested in volunteering to deliver flowers, please contact Lista Bodree at 850-207-9252 or cbodree@yahoo.com.

FLOWER ARRANGING

Due to restructuring the Flower Arranging Ministry and for the safety of our volunteers who deliver the flowers on Mondays, we are no longer accepting vase donations. Goodwill on Olive Road will accept your vase donations.

KINGDOM PARTNERS

December 7:
Pine Terrace Baptist Church
6212 Pine Blossom Road
Milton, FL 32570
Pastor - Nathan Brown

December 14:
Church with No Doors
230 W Main St.
Steele, MO 63877
Pastor - Bobby King

December 21:
Harmony Baptist Church
3725 Harmony Dr.
Brookhaven, MS 39601
Pastor - Preston Gordon

December 28:
Greenwood Baptist Church
1504 Greenwood Cutoff Road
Weatherford, TX 76088
Pastor - Brian Bond

MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUMS

Memorials

Sheldon Bernau

Lisa Bernau, Traditional Music
Interns

Jerry & Diane Norris

Lisa Bernau, Martha's Vineyard

Dorothy Strickland

Pete & Ann Robinson, Building
Fund

Peanut & Ann Johnson,

Building Fund

Bob & Joan Goodrich, Building
Fund

Honorariums

George & Sarah Stedham

Carol & Susan Stedham, Media
Ministry

Mary Washington

Andy & Carolyn Keith, Music
Ministry

Bill & Marcia Howell

Wade & Dianne Curington

Bill Farris

Joseph John, III, SHM

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The Pastor, Staff and Church Family extend Christian sympathy to the following:

Family and Friends of Grace Robinson who passed away on October 15, 2025.

Gail Infinger and family in the loss of her husband, Otey Infinger, on November 5, 2025.

Family and Friends of Mrs. Jimmie Simmons who passed away on November 3, 2025.

David Luttrell and family in the loss of his father, William "Bill" Luttrell, in Missouri on November 13, 2025.

Leslie Scott and family in the loss of Alan Scott, on November 22, 2025.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

DECEMBER 7, 2025

SANCTUARY - As a loving reminder of our sweet Alecs Barona from his family: Mom, Dad, Kristen, Grey; Dec 9, 1990 - Oct 25, 2011.

DECEMBER 14, 2025

SANCTUARY - In loving memory of Edward "Ted" Ziel, given by Joan, Timothy and Mark Ziel.

DECEMBER 21, 2025

SANCTUARY - In loving memory of Brett Cobb, given by his family.

DECEMBER 28, 2025

SANCTUARY - In honor of our Savior's birth, Christ Jesus.

NEW MEMBERS

Cari Ann Allen, Baptism

Evelyn Bass, Baptism

Sawyer John DeLaMare,
Baptism

Belle Dieperink, Statement

Grayson Franks, Statement

Rene Garrett, Letter

Louise Noeth, Statement

Will Portwood, Letter

Reagan Portwood, Letter

Vivian Powell, Baptism

Cason Vasques, Statement

To register for meals and events stop by the
Welcome Desk or visit fbcp.org/events

To sign up via phone, call us at (850)433-5631.

FAMILY DINNER

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT
5:00 P.M.**

Make your reservation each week
by Tuesday at noon by visiting
www.fbc.org/resource-center
or call the Welcome Center Desk
(850)433-5631

TICKET PRICES

Adult Meals: \$5 | Child Meals: \$3
Family Max*: \$20

**Family Max = 8 immediate
family members*

DINNER MENU

**No alternate or kids meals
for this month.**

Wednesday, December 3
Spaghetti and meatballs,
green beans, salad, bread,
and dessert.

Wednesday, December 10
Chef's special: Chicken OR
pork, steamed veggies,
roasted potatoes, bread, and
dessert.

Wednesday, December 17
Christmas Dinner: Ham, Mac
and cheese, steamed broccoli,
carrot raisin salad, bread, and
apple crisp for dessert.

OFFERING REPORT

October 26, 2025

Weekly Needs.....	\$116,096
Weekly Receipts.....	\$344,959
Year to Date Needs.....	\$464,385
Year to Date Receipts.....	\$554,061

November 2, 2025

Weekly Needs.....	\$116,096
Weekly Receipts.....	\$58,648
Year to Date Needs.....	\$580,481
Year to Date Receipts.....	\$612,709

November 9, 2025

Weekly Needs.....	\$116,096
Weekly Receipts.....	\$89,178
Year to Date Needs.....	\$696,577
Year to Date Receipts.....	\$701,887

November 16, 2025

Weekly Needs.....	\$116,096
Weekly Receipts.....	\$49,747
Year to Date Needs.....	\$812,673
Year to Date Receipts.....	\$751,634

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PENSACOLA

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