

HAND'S & FEET

Official Newsletter of Salisbury First Baptist Church



The True Message of Christmas

'And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.'" Luke 2:10

From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

In the midst of all upheaval, crisis, difficulty, problems, and fear comes the true message of Christmas with all of its hope, goodwill, and cheer. The message of Christmas has been terribly misapplied and misunderstood for many years. Some think of business profits, shopping, gifts, tinsel, toys, and celebration. Others think only of Bethlehem, of the star in the sky, shepherds in the field, and angels singing. Still others cynically ask, "Where is this Prince of Peace in a world filled with so much trouble?"

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Special This Month

- 12/4 Decorate for Christmas
- 12/7 Music Club Vesper Cantata
- 12/10 Ladies Christmas Party
- 12/13 Respite Night
- 12/14 Deacon Ordination
- 12/21 Children & Youth Christmas Program during Worship
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service
- 12/27-12/29 Youth Xtreme Winter Conference in Branson

Weekly Schedule

Sunday:
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am
Men's Prayer Time 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Wednesday:
Youth Group 7:00 pm

Thursday:
Women's Bible Study 9:30 am

The True Message of Christmas (continued)

The real Christmas message goes far deeper. It heralds the entrance of God into human history. It is Heaven descending to Earth. It is as though a trumpeter had taken his stand upon the turrets of time and announced to a despairing, hopeless, and frustrated world the coming of the Prince of Peace. It answers all the great questions that plague the human race at this hour. The Christmas message is relevant, revolutionary, and reassuring to us today. I believe it can be summed up in three words: a cradle, a cross, and a crown.

On that first Christmas night, the Bible tells us about the angel coming to those fearful shepherds and saying, “Fear not, I bring you good news” (Luke 2). This is the true meaning of Christmas—the Good News—that God sent His only Son to Earth to save people from their sins. Christmas is not a myth, not a tradition, not a dream—it is a glorious reality.

Most of all, focus; that is, deliberately take time every day to focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Read together from the Bible’s account of Jesus’ birth, and thank God for sending His Son into the world for our salvation. Especially help your children discover the wonder of God’s love for us. The Bible says, “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” (1 John 3:1).

Find peace with God today.

<https://billygraham.org/answers/what-is-the-deeper-meaning-of-christmas>

'See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.'

1 John 3:1





THE GOSPEL IS GOOD NEWS!

Club 2:52

✨ Club 2:52 Update ✨

Club 2:52 will be taking a break for the month of December. We'll kick off the new year together on Wednesday, January 7th! Kids are welcome to join us at any time—whether you're brand new or returning, we'd love to have you be part of the fun. ❤️ Registration is quick and easy at fbcsalisbury.com. We can't wait to see you there!



'Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.'
Luke 2:52





The Branch Youth Group The Branch would love to have you join them! All students in 7th–12th grade are welcome. Our Wednesday night youth group will continue meeting throughout December, and as you can see from the photos below, every gathering is full of fun, friendship, and encouragement.

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) FCA has been thriving this season, with great attendance and inspiring guest speakers who share valuable lessons with our youth. FCA meets each Wednesday at 7:45 a.m. in Mrs. Billington's classroom. All junior high and high school students are invited to be part of this uplifting time together.



PRAYER GUIDE for a New Pastor

1. Pray for the Pastor Search Committee. Here are six areas to pray for on behalf of our search:

- Pray for patience. Pray that our church would wait for God's timing.
- Pray the search committee will have the mind of Christ and agree.
- Pray for wisdom to choose the right person.
- Pray that the pastor search committee will renew their minds in the Bible so that they can have Word-centered wisdom (Romans 12:1–2).
- Pray for discipline for the search committee, deacons, and church council. The search process requires a great deal of follow-through and communication.
- Pray for unity and agreement between the church and the pastoral search committee.

2. Pray for our next Pastor. Here are six ways you can pray for the future pastor during the search:

- Pray God would increase his passion for preaching the Word of God.
- Pray God would give him a love for our church and the strength to leave his current position (if the candidate senses that is God's direction).
- Pray our next pastor would begin new relationships at our church in the right way, even during the search.
- Pray God would prepare our future pastor to shepherd the flock more effectively through the trials and blessings he has faced or currently faces.
- Pray for our next pastor's family. Of course, he may be single or married. He may have children or not.
- Pray God, who knows each detail about each member of our pastor's household, would give the members of his family strength as they consider leaving their current setting and going to a different church, or beginning pastoral ministry for the first time.

3. Pray for the people in our church. Here are four ways you can pray for our church family during the upcoming search:

- Pray for patience. The search process can go on longer than expected. It is hard doing the work of searching.
- Pray our people would trust the leadership and uphold them in prayer during the whole process.
- Pray our people would learn to place a high priority on biblical preaching over personality, programs, or any other ideals.
- Pray, above all, our congregation would call a pastor who will proclaim the Word without apology.

This resource was developed from Chris Brauns, When the Word Leads Your Pastoral Search: Biblical Principles and Practices to Guide Your Search (pp. 29-31). Moody Publishers. Kindle Edition. Original flyer found on www.harvestaz.org

Pastor Search Committee

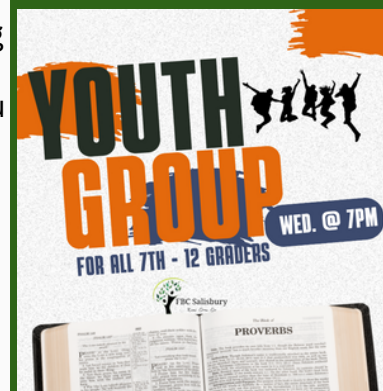
The Pastor Search Committee has officially begun accepting applications for our next Senior Pastor. We ask that you join us in prayer as the committee seeks God's guidance to discern the man He has called to lead our church.

To support the committee in prayer, please refer to the prayer guide provided to the left for specific ways you can be lifting them up.

More details can be found on our website:

fbcsalisbury.com. If you have any questions, please reach out to one of the committee members directly.

Thank you for faithfully standing with us during this important season.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Love in a shoe box

OCC Packing Party Success! We had an incredible turnout for our Operation Christmas Child packing party! In just one day, 400 boxes were packed and prepared to share the gospel around the world.

A huge thank you to Sara and Sue for their dedication and hard work in making this event possible. As a church, we've already exceeded the amount needed to ship the boxes—God is so good!

Special thanks to Sue Ponder, who faithfully served as the Drop-Off Leader for Chariton County.

Together, we are making an eternal impact!



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24th
at 5:00 pm

First Baptist Church
118 E. 3rd Street
Salisbury, MO.

Join us on Wednesday, December 24th at 5:00 p.m. for a beautiful evening of worship. Together we'll share in Special Music, Congregational Singing, and the Reading of Scripture as we reflect on the true meaning of Christmas.

If you would like to share in the special music portion of the service, please connect with Carol or Elda.

We look forward to worshipping together as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

Connect

December 4th at 9 am
The Flower Committee
will be decorating for
Christmas.
All are welcome to help.
If you have any questions
please see Missy Barton.

Salisbury Music Club Vesper Cantata



December 7th at 4:00 pm
at FBC Salisbury
See Carol Ratliff for more info



PRAYER NEEDS >>>

Pray for the children and families that will be receiving the OCC boxes.

Pray for our Pastor Search Committee. See the prayer guides for specific ways to pray.

Pray for our International Missionaries who serve in cities, remote areas, and closed countries.

Pray for our church family & community as we enter the Christmas season. May we share the true meaning of the season... Jesus!

YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE WITH US!

DEACON ORDINATION for LEE BARTON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
AT 2:00 PM

Cake reception following the service

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SALISBURY
118 E. THIRD ST. SALISBURY, MISSOURI

Respite Night Out for Foster Families

Saturday December 13th 2:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Children arrive at 3 pm

Volunteers Needed

- Helpers needed in each age group
- Crafts
- Bible
- Games
- Cooking & Serving Supper

Partnering with
Coyote Hill
Foster Care Ministries



DON'T MISS A THING

SIGN UP FOR OUR MID-WEEK UPDATE



Email Melissa at
executiveassitant@fbcsalisbury.com
with your name, phone and email address



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