

*Glory to God in the highest, & on earth PEACE, good will toward men. Luke 2:14*



## Newsletter December 2020

It's the Christmas season, and we are ready to celebrate! In fact, we've sort of already started! We exceeded our goal of packing 100 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! The youth & kids packed 100 boxes at their packing party and 18 more boxes were brought in already packed! Thank you so much for all your donations and work to bless children in need around the world! We have many more things planned for celebrating the birth of our Savior this month. Some things are the same and some things look a little different. Our Holiday Dinner will be a drive-thru this year, but will offer the same delicious food! Our Live Nativity will be drive-thru also, and will feature six different stations telling the story of Jesus' birth. We are excited to reach our community in this "same but different" ministry. Our FBKids and Youth will celebrate the holiday with parties, programs and caroling with a mix of same & different. And our Christmas Eve service will be much the same as we gather to quiet our souls and focus our hearts on the meaning of Christmas and prepare to celebrate Christ's birth with our families and friends on Christmas Day. It's going to be a great month! Join us when you can- either in person or online- and be part of what God is doing in both the new and the familiar this December at FBC Ramsey!

*Merry Christmas from the staff at FBC Ramsey!*



**[www.FBCRAMSEY.ORG](http://www.FBCRAMSEY.ORG)**

# From Pastor Jeff

“When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” Luke 2:15

The Shepherds were watching their flock, minding their own business when the angel came and messed everything up. Before now, these loners were content to be in the fields, away from all the troubles and turmoil of their day. But on this seemingly ordinary night, God did something extraordinary.

It seems odd, when you think about it, that God would first announce the birth of His Son to these guys. They weren’t the most influential. They didn’t have any followers (except for the sheep). They weren’t rich, powerful, or educated. They were the exact opposite.

It amazes me, when I search the scriptures at the incredible variety of people God uses to perform His wonders. He uses people from all walks of life. There is no one too poor, too uneducated, too untalented for God to use. He takes the worst of us to do His best in this world!

So during this time when we are giving gifts and trying to forget the year we have just endured, remember God has given you one of the most incredible gifts ever. He will use all you don’t have to accomplish His great will and you get to see it happen firsthand. How amazing is that?

We do pray you have a most joyous Christmas season, and you experience the wonder and love which Christ has given us when we deserved so much less. If you feel safe, we do invite you to join us for all the Christmas celebrations here.

Following Him,

Jeff





**Come and join us for our  
Christmas Eve Service  
and Lord's Supper on  
December 24th at 5 pm  
as we celebrate Christ's  
birth.**



**Children's Church will  
present their Christmas  
Program on Sunday,  
December 6th at 10 am  
(Practice on Sat. Dec. 5th at 6pm)**

### **CHURCH HOLIDAY DINNER 2020**

Our Holiday Dinner on Wednesday, December 9 will be drive-thru take out ONLY. The Church will provide turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, noodles, dressing and rolls.

Order slips are in the foyer. Place your order for the number of servings your family needs for each item. If you cannot get to the church for an order slip, call the church (618-704-7655) or Carol (618-423-2549) and we will fill out your order form for you. Return your order slip by Sunday evening, December 6.

You will pick up your meal on December 9 between 5-6 PM. Turn right from the driveway and drive to the door at the back of the church. Please stay in your car and someone will deliver your meal to you. If you need your meal delivered because you do not have a vehicle or do not drive after dark, write DELIVERY on your order slip and we will get your meal to you.

# From Pastor Andrew

The youth have enjoyed being back together for Ignite and L.I.T. On Wednesday nights the youth have been meeting at various homes of members in the church, mostly outside to provide some social distancing. On Sunday night they have been meeting in the church sanctuary to continue their study of Old Testament characters. The group is now on Jacob and is seeing how God has kept His promises all the way back to Abraham.

The youth girls enjoyed the Awesom conference this past month. They had a sleepover in the church and watched a livestream from IBSA. Our group of girls participated in a creative Gospel presentation, and they won! The girls and ladies enjoyed this time of fellowship and discipleship. Thank you to all of you who helped and supported this event.

The youth group set out for Shawnee National Forest in the early morning of Veterans Day. The groups' first hike of the day was Indian Loop Trail. It is a popular two mile loop up and down the cliff tops of Garden of the gods. On this trail everyone enjoyed climbing the large rocks and the breath-taking views. As they pressed on, they discovered a cave and some areas to explore at the base of the rock formations. After some time exploring, the group took a break to have lunch on the trail before finishing. Pastor Andrew picked up the groups speed after lunch to make time for one last trail. With time to spare the group drove up to Observation Trail, from there they took the quarter mile loop taking time to enjoy the unique terrain and views.

Mission Kids has been taking off with Ashley & Isaiah. They are using the gym Wednesday nights to accommodate for social distancing and have started a new curriculum. The group is always happy to be together and hear from Ashley and Isaiah.

The youth and kids partnered up to pack the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes this year. After filling up on chili and soup the group packed boxes for almost a full hour. The youth did a great job helping the younger kids with the boxes and the kids enjoyed being a part of this ministry opportunity. They ended up with 118 packed boxes!

Thank You to all those that donated!!

Pictures from the youth hiking trip to Shawnee National Forest





## Christmas Caroling

Wednesday, Dec. 16th at 6 pm, the Mission Kids, Youth and Adults will go caroling in Ramsey. DRESS WARM! We will return to the church for hot cocoa and cookies.

## Youth Christmas Party

The Waggoners are hosting the youth on Tuesday, December 22nd at 4 pm. Food, games and fun!!



Mark your calendars!!  
Live Nativity will be Saturday and Sunday, December 19 & 20, from 6-8 pm. This year the Nativity will be drive-thru with six stations and lots of fun surprises!

## Worship/Week of Prayer is November 29 - December 6

### LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

A Great Multitude + You  
Our Church goal is \$1400  
Revelation 7:9

Please use the Lottie Moon Offering envelopes

*December Food  
Pantry* Please donate to  
Caring & Sharing

*No evening services Wed., Dec.  
23rd. Church office will be closed  
Dec. 25th & 26th.*

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Diann Smith             | 19 Rozzalynd McDonald     |
| 9 Gerald & Evelyn Sanders | 20 Emma Braning           |
| 9 Rachel Strobel          | 20 Patty Carruthers       |
| 14 Andrew Lorton          | 21 Joey Eddy              |
| 14 Dee Temmen             | 21 Maryalice Estes        |
| 16 Kelvin & Sandy Worker  | 22 Jim & Debbie lay       |
| 16 Travis Strobel         | 25 Mykennah Willis        |
| 17 Dolly Miller           | 27 Devin & Kara Friesland |
| 17 Jewel England          | 30 Justin Hill            |
| 19 Dixie Carter           | 30 Torrie McDonald        |
| 19 Reed & Jewel England   | 31 Kenny Miller           |

***The Lord  
bless thee  
and keep  
thee.***

*Numbers 6:24*

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## December 2020

| Sunday   | Monday | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday                            | Saturday                         |
|--|--------|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  |        | 1  | 2<br>Ignite 7pm<br>Mission Kids 7pm<br>Bible Study 7pm | 3  | 4                                 | 5                                |
| 6<br>Children's<br>Christmas<br>Program<br>10:00 am<br>Service | 7      | 8  | 9<br>Drive-Thru<br>Holiday Meal<br>5-6pm Pick-up       | 10   | 11                                | 12                               |
| 13   | 14     | 15   | 16<br>Church Caroling<br>6pm                           | 17   | 18                                | 19<br>FBC Live<br>Nativity 6-8pm |
| 20<br>FBC Live<br>Nativity 6-8pm                               | 21     | 22<br>Youth Christmas<br>Party @<br>Waggoners 4 pm | 23<br>No Evening<br>Services                           | 24 Christmas Eve<br>Office Closed<br>Christmas Eve<br>Service & Lord's<br>Supper 5pm | 25 Christmas Day<br>Office Closed | 26                               |
| 27   | 28     | 29   | 30<br>Bible Study 7pm                                  | 31 New Year's Eve<br>Office Closed   |                                   |                                  |