

The Current

fbc Newsletter



DECEMBER 2018

Pastor's Notes

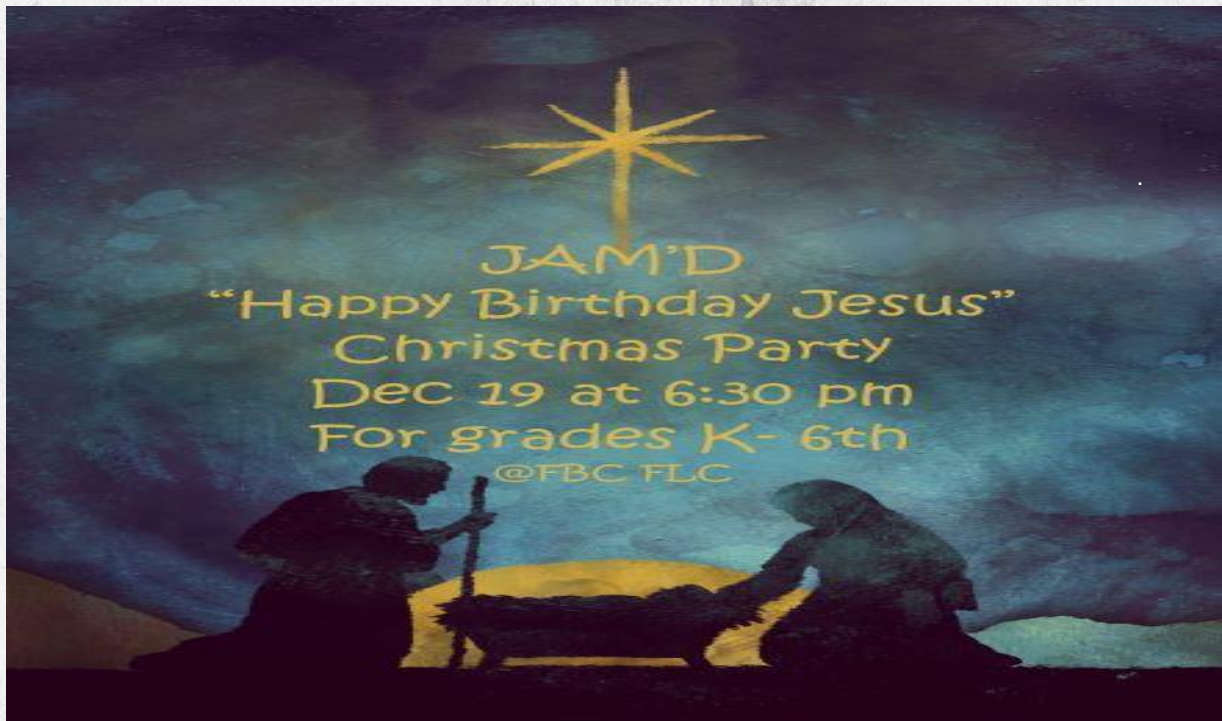
Let me begin by saying Merry Christmas! Christmas is always a special time of the year, as we reflect on the greatest Christmas gift ever given: The Lord Jesus Christ! We have so much to be thankful for.

I hope you will make a special effort to put Jesus where He belongs this Christmas. I would encourage you to not let Christmas pass you by without reading the Christmas story from the Scriptures with your family and friends.

With Christmas, we find the New Year rapidly approaching. Your ministry team has been in fervent prayer for God's vision and plan for our church in 2019. We will be revealing some of what the Lord is showing us in the near future. He is going to challenge us and move us to make some sacrifices and bold moves as we seek to reach our community for Christ and grow the kingdom.

I would also like to take a moment to let you know how thankful I am to be your pastor. Rhonda and I love you and we are so thankful the Lord sent us here to be with you. We look forward to the New Year and the excitement of what all the Lord has in store for us and we are just as excited, as we reflect back on 2018, and see how God used us in our community. Church keep on keeping on for Jesus!

Bro Monty



It is hard to believe that 2019 is upon us, but here in just a few days, we will usher in a New Year. One of my prayers for 2019 is our children's ministry. I am so grateful to the Lord for the children He has been sending our way. I am asking you to make a commitment with me to earnestly pray for God to increase the borders of our children's ministry. I have been praying for God's wisdom in not only how to get them here, but how to better impact their lives. We have so many children in our community that are living in terrible conditions. They are subjected to drugs, sex, violence, varying forms of immorality at such a young age. Their little eyes have seen more than the eyes of folks who have lived many years. But I stand before you today writing about a great God who loves these kids and desires to see them saved, delivered and transformed! Here's some great news: He wants to use us to help transform their lives. I am going to be asking for volunteers in the near future that will be willing to open their homes this summer for the purpose of reaching some of these kids through back yard Bible clubs, outreach events, etc., to do all we can to get them under the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bro Monty

The Lord continues to bless us with more and more children in our ministry. Because of this, we are in need of more volunteers. Hey folks, that's a great problem to have, right?

If you would be interested in helping either in the Nursery or in the Children's Ministry, first just let me say "bless you" and secondly, please see me, Ms. Paula or contact the church office. We would be honored and blessed to have you work in these ministries with us. Nursery, Sunday school, JAM'D on Wednesday evenings, Children's Church or even to bake cookies or cupcakes for any of these classes...there is always a need. Do you have a great speaking voice? I've got a place for you. Do you love to teach? Perfect! Were you a pretty good athlete or competitor when you were in school? Then you'd be perfect for our "GAME TIME" in JAM'D. What a privilege it is to be a part of the Kingdom work here in Doniphan and Ripley County.

Please continue to pray for the ministries here at FBC.

God bless, Ms Rhonda

Youth Pastor's Pen

It's the most wonderful time of the year (as the song says)! Christmas is just a few weeks away and so is 2019...believe it or not! 2018 has been one of the most amazing years in ministry I've ever witnessed. We've seen over 50 decisions made for Christ this year alone with the vast majority of them being salvation decisions! God has moved in ways and done such mighty works in 2018 that it makes me even more excited to move forward into 2019. Of course, all of this has come with its fair share of spiritual warfare and Satan trying to mess everything up because that's what he does. But praise God that

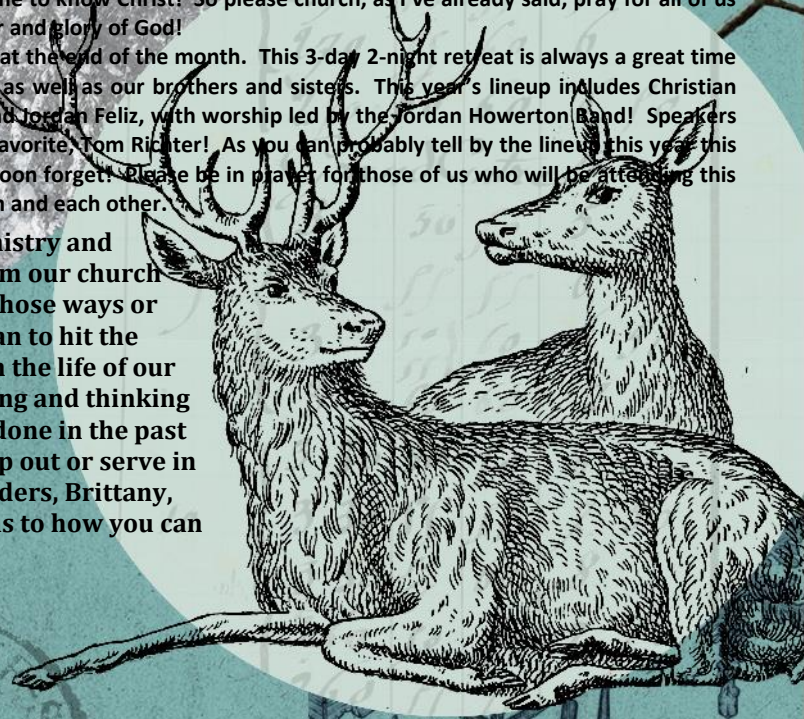
Jesus has already defeated Satan! So, he can try his best, but my God will ALWAYS prevail! Coming up later this month, we've got our annual CHRISTmas Party and like our back-to-school party. This year, we partnered with His Place church in order to reach as many students as possible with the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. We hosted the back-to-school party at FBC, but this time pastors Dan Craig (Senior pastor of His Place church) and Tim Shockley (youth pastor at His Place church) have graciously agreed to host this event at their church as well as provide all the food! It's always such a tremendous blessing and privilege to have brothers like those guys to team up with in order to complete the Great Commission and we thank them for their generosity. Tim and his very talented team will be leading us in worship for the evening and I have the honor and privilege of bringing the message. This is normally our biggest outreach event of the year and I believe this year will not disappoint. Please be in prayer for Tim, me, and the rest of our teams as we go above and beyond seeking to honor and glorify God. I've attached a copy of our promotional flyer and I'm sure you'll see copies of it around the church and on social media as well. Please like and share any post you see about it and invite any student you know (grades 7-12th) to attend this awesome event! We've got some SWEET prizes that I know will grab the attention of any teenager around! Plus, as I always like to point out, we'll have FREE FOOD! That's always a draw for me because, as I like to say, if it's free then it's for me ☺! The reason we team with other youth groups, give out free prizes, serve them free food, spend time and money promoting this kind of stuff all over town and the internet isn't just because we want to draw a big crowd and throw a big party, that's not the case at all. All those things, as good and great as they may be, are not why we are doing all of this. We are doing it because we believe that it's our job, as followers of Christ, to reach as many students as possible with the lifesaving and heart changing Gospel message of Jesus Christ so that they may be saved! Yes, we are working overtime to put all of this together. Yes, lots of money and time is being spent in order to make this happen. Yes, it can be very stressful, nerve-wracking, and overall challenging doing outreach events like this. As true as all of that is, it's SO WORTH IT when we see students, even if it's just one, come to know Christ! So please church, as I've already said, pray for all of us as we seek forward into turning this vision into a reality all for the honor and glory of God!

We've also got the Xtreme Winter Conference in Branson coming up at the end of the month. This 3-day 2-night retreat is always a great time to get away and focus on God and spend some quality time with Him as well as our brothers and sisters. This year's lineup includes Christian recording artist Toby Mac, Casting Crowns, Colton Dixon, Jen Ledger, and Jordan Feliz, with worship led by the Jordan Howerton Band! Speakers this year include Brock Gill, Zane Black, Johnny Hunt, and my personal favorite, Tom Richter! As you can probably tell by the lineup this year this conference is going to be something special that these students won't soon forget! Please be in prayer for those of us who will be attending this event and for God to give us safe travels as well as a great time with Him and each other.

There is a VERY bright future ahead for asylum Student Ministry and as always, we will need all the prayer, love, and support from our church family that we can get, so please continue to help us out in those ways or start helping out in those ways if you're not already. We plan to hit the ground running in 2019 as we continue to seek God's will in the life of our student ministry. We've got lots of new things we are praying and thinking about trying this year as well as some former things we've done in the past to see if we can give them some new life. If you'd like to help out or serve in Asylum Student Ministry please just holler at any of our leaders, Brittany, or myself, and we'd be more than happy to share with you as to how you can get involved with our student ministry.

God Bless!

Drew Simmons





Women on Mission

Church on Mission

Lottie Moon kicks off the month of December with thought of “cookies and the gospel.” Her story of making cookies for the children, the smells of fresh baked cookies would draw them as she shared the story of Jesus. This is called being on mission intentionally. If we sit back and wait, sometimes we miss great opportunities to be salt and light to those in our community. December is a great time to determine to be intentional on sharing how Jesus has been good to you and how He has changed your life, just share your story.

Our Lottie Moon church goal is \$1500, the full amount goes for supporting missionaries that serve around the world through the International Mission Board.

Christmas “Socks for Seniors” will be delivered each Wednesday during the Nursing Home Ministry. It’s a fun time of singing songs, we even take request occasionally. We have the opportunity to share the joy of the season with these dear saints and we get to share the love of Jesus with them. All is welcomed to join us.

During the Bread Shed, Christmas gift bags will be given to the children attending Kids Corner as the story of Jesus is shared. We are in need of meat donations for the drawings; suggested - hams, turkeys, roast, or chickens would be a blessing for many of these families. As you purchase your Christmas meat, buy another one to donate on December 15th then, come and share in the joy of seeing happy faces. Let’s make the Christmas Spirit and Joy unforgettable this month as we worship together.

Remember those in our community in prayer as they deal with the colder weather issues.

Our call is to live in **Unshakable Pursuit of His Mission, His Word, and His Glory.**
Remember to stand firm and everything you do for the Lord is worthwhile. (1 Corinthians 15:58)

FBC Missions Team wishes you and your family a very Merry Christmas

Many hands and feet make Kingdom work, a work of joy. Thank you, for serving in the missions of our church.

Carol Wilhelmy, Missions Director

Upcoming Events

December 2: Change The World Through Change

December 4: Staff Christmas Dinner

December 13: Yahoo’s Christmas Party

December 15: Bread Shed

December 16: Christmas Cantata 10:15 am
Christian Walk-Around 6:00 pm

December 23: Candlelight Service 6:00pm

December 26: Wednesday night service canceled.

December 30: No PM Service

