



The Christmas Season is blessed with the love and inspiration of friends and family. It is a season of giving, loving, and caring; a season of warmth, devotion, and celebration.

*No church staff is more richly blessed than we who serve our Heavenly Father and the members of Memorial Baptist Church. All of us join our hearts and our voices in wishing all of you a blessed Christmas filled with God's joy and peace. May the Christ of Christmas fill your hearts and lives with His love and His Spirit.
Bro. Ridge and Church Staff*



Dear Saints,

I would like to be one of the first ones to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas! Christmas time is a wonderful celebration that God has given us to rejoice and proclaim our great King Jesus. Luke 2:14 says, “**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**”

Linguistically, the meaning of this first Christmas carol is “Peace on earth towards men of good will, towards men who are in God’s will.” Jesus said in John 6, “**This is the will of God that you believe on Him whom the Father has sent.**” If you believe on Him whom the Father has sent, if you believe on Jesus, you will indeed be one who, regardless of what’s happening around you externally, will experience a peace in your heart internally.

Don’t let anyone take that peace from you by implying that you should be doing more or trying harder. Instead say “thank you, Lord for the good news of great joy that unto me is born a Savior. I embrace this and I thank You for the peace I experience not because of what I’ve done, but because of what You did in coming to earth to die for me.”

I never tire of talking about the simplicity of the Gospel because I have discovered that it is constantly being challenged. Maybe even subconsciously, we find ourselves saying, “It can’t be that simple. Surely I am supposed to do something, to earn something, to prove something.”

But that is not the case. “**It is finished,**” Jesus cried out on the cross. (John 19:30) So, all that remains for you to do is to love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength in response to the goodness, grace and loving-kindness that He pours out upon you.

So with a very thankful heart, I thank “God with us,” (Emmanuel) for all of you, and the opportunity to walk beside you in this journey that we call “life.” I thank God (our Father) for the blessings and fellowship of friends and family. I thank God (our Creator) for the new babies in our midst, both physical and spiritual.

I thank God, for the ultimate gift of His Son, Jesus as the sacrifice for my sin. I thank God (Jehovah-Jireh) and His provisions in life, like food, shelter, and clothing. I thank the Holy Spirit for leading and guiding us in all truth, even stretching us to maturity in the grace and knowledge of our Lord. I also thank the great Shepherd who has given me the opportunity to be His under-shepherd and your pastor.

With some reflection on this year as it winds down, 2024 has been a wonderful and good year for Memorial! I am so excited about 2025 in the life of Memorial Baptist Church. I know God is working among His people and in our community. Thank you church family for adopting the 2025 ministry budget for this next year! We need your help, and God’s help to be faithful in these life-changing ministries that God has given to our church family. Together, as one body, we are moving forward and beyond to get involved in God’s kingdom work at home and to the ends of the earth.

I want to invite you to come and experience God with us throughout the Christmas season. This is the perfect time of year to proclaim our Savior Jesus Christ to our world. I hope you will share Him with boldness and humility.

Slow down, relish the wonder and awe of the newborn King, allowing the peace of God to rest and abide upon your life and home. My wife Traci and I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year! I love you, and I believe in you!

Abiding in Him,
Brother Ridge

Ready, Set, Go!

December 2024

**Love God, Love Others,
Serve the World**

**Memorial Baptist Church
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Temple TX 76502
(254) 773-6831**

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CHURCH STAFF

**Senior Pastor
Ridge Adams**

**Pastoral Care/Maintenance
Joel Shumate**

**Worship Minister
Dallas Holston**

**University Minister
Chris Dutton**

**Student Minister
A.J. Martin**

**Children’s Minister
Kacie Jumper**

**Preschool Coordinator
Skylar Martin**

**Ministry Assistant
Laurie Deaver**



Sunday Sermons

Christmas Courage Series

Dec. 1	Luke 1:18-24	Zachariah's Courage to Persevere
Dec. 8	Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-15	Joseph's Courage to Serve
Dec. 15	Luke 1:26-38	Mary's Courage to Submit
Dec. 22	Luke 2:21-38	Simeon and Anna's Courage to Wait
Dec. 29	Matthew 2:1-12	Magi's Courage to Seek

Adult Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

The Parables Study Outline

Nov. 27	Thanksgiving Break	
Dec. 4	Last Judgment	Matt. 25:31-46
Dec 11	Lost Sheep	Matt. 18:12-14; Luke 15:4-7
Dec 18	Lost Coin	Luke 15:8-10
Dec 25	Christmas	
Jan 1	New Year's Day	

Sunday Morning Bible Study Classes

All classes begin at 9:30 a.m.

Babies, Toddlers, Kindergarten: WeeKids Area

Children 1st through 5th Grade: KidMin Area

Students: Student Area

College: College Area

Young Adults: Room 2

Young Families: Conference Room

Median Adults: Great Hall Classroom

Senior Adults: Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Night Bible Study Classes

6:00 p.m - 7:30 p.m.

Babies, Toddlers, Kindergartners: Preschool Area

Children: 1st grade - 5th grade): Kids Area

Students: Student Area

Adult Bible Study: Great Hall Classroom

Women's Bible Study: Fellowship Hall

WORSHIP MINISTRY

SUNDAY SETLISTS | NOVEMBER 2024

November 3rd

- Living Years
- Ever Be
- Goodness of God
- Great are You Lord
- What a Beautiful Name

November 10th

- God so Good
- I Thank God
- Living Hope
- Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)
- Do It Again

November 17th

- Grateful
- I've Witnessed It
- Goodness of God
- Blessed Assurance
- King of My Heart

November 24th

- Praise
- Yes I Will
- Same God
- Great is Thy Faithfulness
- Promises

DALLAS'S TOP THREE CHRISTMAS SONGS

These are my favorite Christmas Themed songs. Give them a spin this holiday season!



The Best is Yet to Come
Ben Rector



Make Room
The Sing Team



All Glory be to Christ
Kings Kaleidoscope

WORSHIP MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Candlelight & Communion

Each year we celebrate the culmination of Advent with our Christmas Candlelight & Communion!

This year, we'll celebrate as a church on Dec. 22nd at 6p. I hope you will bring your family to this event. To me, it's one of the yearly events I look forward to the most!

As always, I am in search of singers who would like to be a part of the Candlelight & Communion Choir. If you're interested, let me know! Rehearsals begin the week of December 15th so please contact me before then!

Peace and blessings to you this holiday season!

Spotify Playlist

You can find a link to our official Spotify playlist at: mbctemple.net/worship/



COLLEGE

Howdy Church Family,

As December rolls around, our students are preparing to head home for the holidays. This semester has been a long one, and I'm glad for our students to be getting a break. Due to us starting a new year, I wanted to give y'all some victories we had this last semester.

One of the things that was great about this last semester, is that I finally made some connections on Temple College's campus. I tried to a few times when I first came here, but just never heard back. But now, every Thursday morning, I have been on TC's campus with Carl Love, serving students with food, and connecting with a few on campus. I hope to continue doing this next semester, and hopefully get some TC students involved in our church! In other news, the BSM Director for UMHB, Daniel McAfee, reached out to me a month or two ago, and asked if our church is interested in hosting one of their lunches this semester. So on, February 4th, we will be serving lunch to UMHB students. If you would like to help out in anyway, please email me at chris.dutton@mbctemple.net

- Chris Dutton

Upcoming Events:

- Co:Mission Conference - January 10th-11th
- UMHB BSM Lunch - February 4th



MBC STUDENTS

MBC STUDENT MINISTRY



Under Construction!

Joel has been working hard to merge the two rooms in the back of our area so the middle school group will have their own area to meet. Shout out to Joel for his talent, time, and skill!! Please join me in praying for more families to come and join our student body!

Looking ahead

We are having our Christmas party Wednesday December 4th. We will be wearing pjs and doing a gift exchange. The limit for the gift exchange is going to be \$10. The church will not be having any activities on December 25th or January 1st.



Contact info

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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MBC KID MIN - DECEMBER

BELONG. BELIEVE. BECOME.

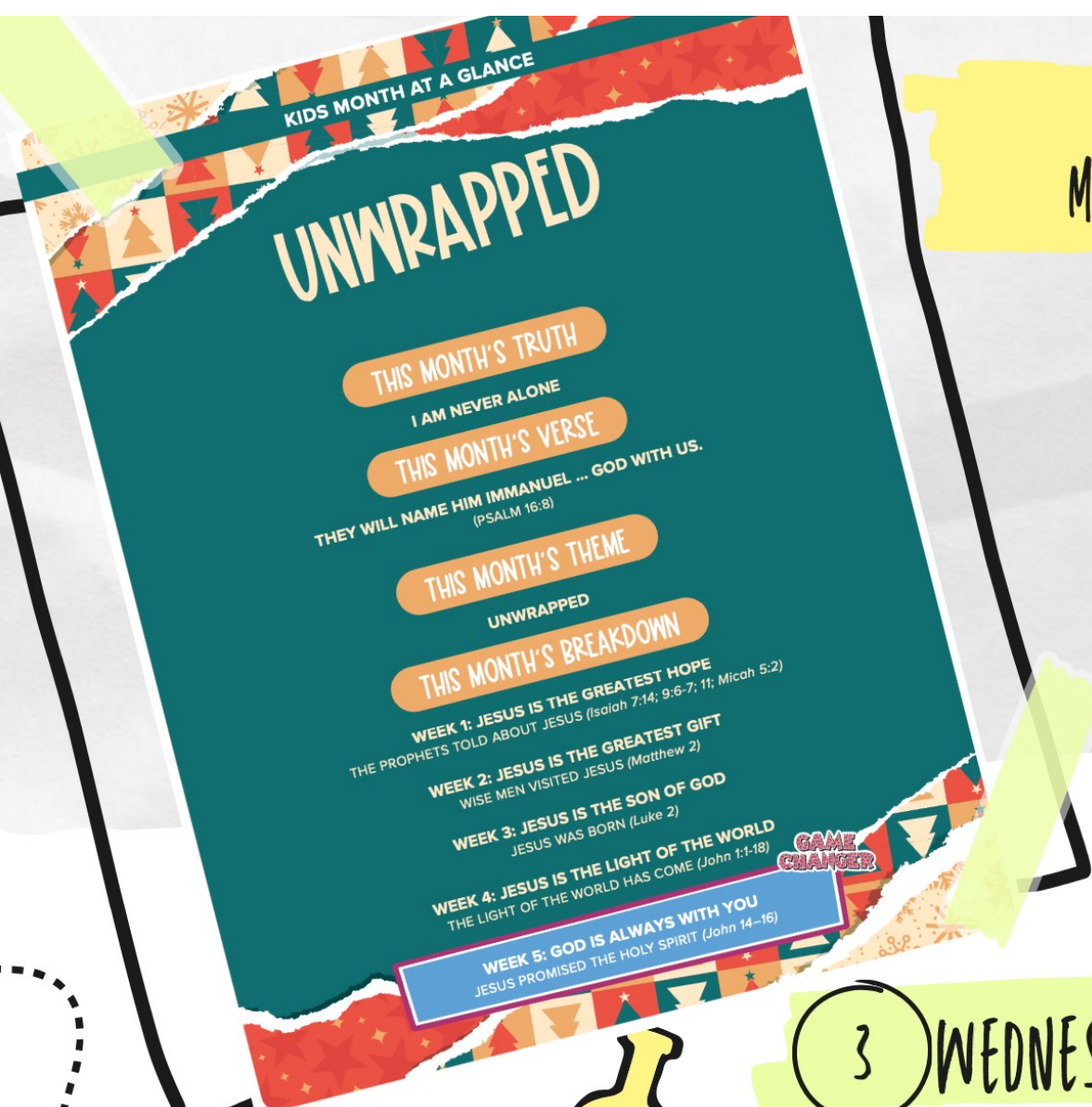
The KID in KID MIN isn't just a word to describe the demographic of people in this group, it's an acronym for Kids in Discipleship. My goal for kids is to Belong, Believe, and Become. By the way of encountering, committed, meaningful, intentional, and consistent time and space for them so they may know who Jesus is and are known by a body of believers (belong), to place their faith in Jesus and apply the Word of God (believe) and to reproduce their own discipleship so that a 3rd spiritual generation can lead and love like Jesus Christ (become).



1 DECEMBER EVENTS

- 1st 1st Sunday of Advent
- 8th Bible Drill Practice
- 11th KID MIN Worship Night
- 18th Last Mid-Week of '24
- 19th Movie Night at Jumpers House
- 22nd Family Worship
Bible Drill Practice
Candlelight & Communion
- 29th No Sunday Bible Study @9:30
Family Worship





KIDS MONTH AT A GLANCE

UNWRAPPED

THIS MONTH'S TRUTH
I AM NEVER ALONE

THIS MONTH'S VERSE
THEY WILL NAME HIM IMMANUEL ... GOD WITH US.
(PSALM 16:8)

THIS MONTH'S THEME
UNWRAPPED

THIS MONTH'S BREAKDOWN

WEEK 1: JESUS IS THE GREATEST HOPE
THE PROPHETS TOLD ABOUT JESUS (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; 11; Micah 5:2)

WEEK 2: JESUS IS THE GREATEST GIFT
WISE MEN VISITED JESUS (Matthew 2)

WEEK 3: JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD
JESUS WAS BORN (Luke 2)

WEEK 4: JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD HAS COME (John 1:1-18)

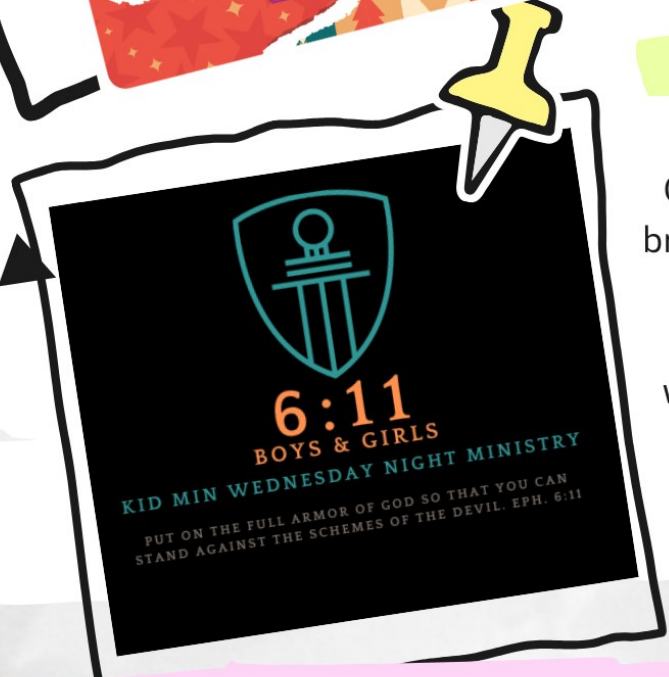
WEEK 5: GOD IS ALWAYS WITH YOU
JESUS PROMISED THE HOLY SPIRIT (John 14-16)

GAME CHANGER

SUNDAY MORNINGS 2

3 WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

On Wednesday nights the Bible is being brought to life with Superbook each week. Kids are having Bible adventures and in-depth lessons that challenge them with engaging, Christ-centered learning experiences. This month kids will be studying the birth of Jesus.



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Wee Kids

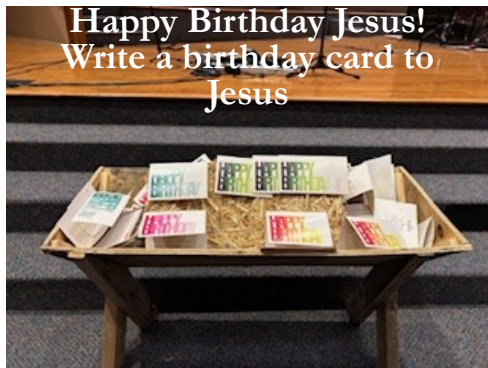
Here we are at the end of the year already! As I sit and reflect on the amount of change that has happened this year, I am so grateful for everything the Lord has done.

I am so grateful for the amount of people who have stepped up to pour into these littles. I am grateful for the donations we have received for snacks and supplies. I am grateful for the change we have seen in our littles.

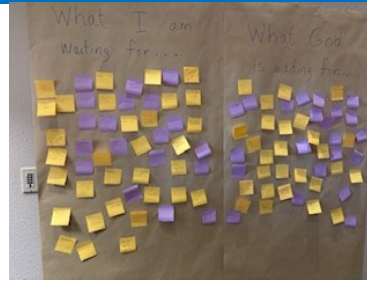
I get messages several times a month from parents talking about the impact we are making in these children. We have kids who are asking to pray, asking to read the Bible, and mentioning the love of Christ to others. Lets continue to disciple one another and spread the good news!



Advent Night



Happy Birthday Jesus!
Write a birthday card to Jesus



Waiting

Rev 1:8

Advent is a time of anticipation and waiting the birth of our Messiah, Jesus Christ. Hundreds of years God's people anxiously awaited the promised Savior and we, as Christians today, anxiously await His return.

What are you waiting for this Advent Season? What is God waiting for? Write what you are waiting for and what God is waiting for.

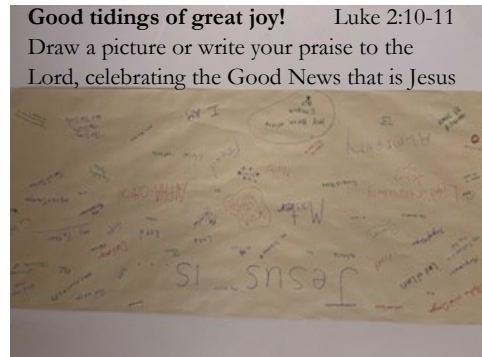


Light a candle Romans 5:4-5, Colossians 3:15, Proverbs 17:22, 1 Cor. 13:13

Which gifts do you need most in your life - Hope, Peace, Love, Joy?

Which of these gifts are you most called by God to share with others in their lives now?

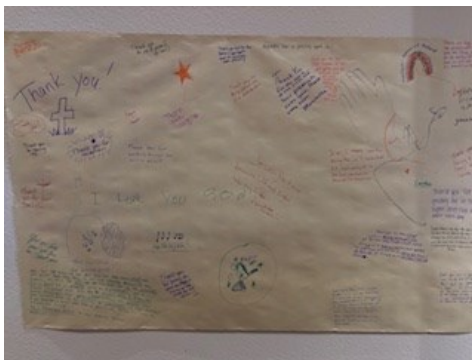
Light a candle and offer up a prayer to God asking Him to bless you with the gifts you need and those which you need to share with others.



Good tidings of great joy!

Luke 2:10-11

Draw a picture or write your praise to the Lord, celebrating the Good News that is Jesus



Who Is Jesus? Isaiah 9:6

Write the name of who Jesus is to you. Here are a few names to choose from or use one that is true in your life right now.

Almighty Alpha and Omega
Chief Shepherd Christ Deliverer
Friend Good Shepherd High Priest
Holy One I Am Immanuel
King of Kings Lamb of God
Light of the World Lion of Judah Lord
Lord of Lords Man of Sorrow Master
Mediator Messiah Our Passover Lamb
Perfecter of Our Faith Prince of Peace
Rabbi Resurrection and Life Savior
True God Way, Truth and Life Word

Jesus is



The Weight of it all

Matthew 11:28-30

Are you heavy with worry? Missing loved ones? Broken relationships? Unreached goals? Or something else? Give it to the Lord. Allow Him to give you comfort, peace, defeat Satan's lies, and rest at the feet of Jesus. Take a rock and write a word on it to represent your weight. Drop the rock in the water. Watch it sink to the bottom. Leave it there. Spend time in prayer asking God

to help you leave it there so you are no longer bound by the heaviness. Ask Him to help you walk in the freedom He provides.



Where were you?
Matthew 2:1-11

Think about which character in this scene you identify with most at this point in your life: the expectant mom, the worried father, the lowly shepherds, the traveling magi, the animals wondering at the spectacle happening in their stable

Write your name or draw a picture of yourself and place it in the Nativity Scene as a way of symbolically connecting yourself to the story and entering into the mystery of the Advent season.

WHAT IS THE LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING?

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is an annual offering collected by believers around the world to support international missions.

Growing up in Virginia, Lottie Moon and her siblings chose to rebel against Christianity. At 18, Lottie followed Christ and was baptized. When she was 33, she sailed to China as a Southern Baptist missionary. She saw firsthand the world's greatest problem – **LOSTNESS**. In letters to Southern Baptists in America, she pleaded for increasing prayer and giving. Her letters raised more support for missionaries to be sent to China. Because of Lottie's determination, WMU collected a Christmas offering to give to the Foreign Mission Board. In 1918, at Annie Armstrong's suggestion, WMU named the offering for Lottie Moon. Every year, Southern Baptists collect the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® where **100% of the money given sends and support missionaries.**



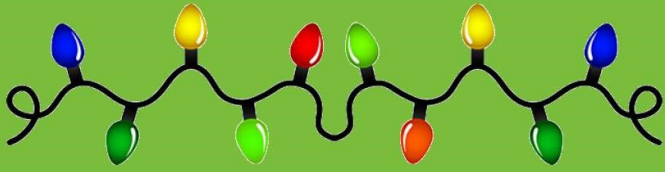
“Need it be said why the week before Christmas is chosen? Is not the festive season, when families and friends exchange gifts in memory of The Gift laid on the altar of the world for the redemption of the human race, the most appropriate time to consecrate a portion from abounding riches and scant poverty to send forth the good tidings of great joy into all the earth?” Lottie Moon

10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT LOTTIE MOON

1. Lottie was born in Virginia on December 12, 1840.
2. Her name was Charlotte Digges Moon, but everyone called her “Lottie”.
3. She was 4’9” tall.
4. Before she became a Christian while in high school, Lottie missed required chapel 26 times.
5. Lottie loved to pull pranks on others. Once, when asked what the “D” stood in her name, she replied, “Devil.”
6. Lottie was appointed to China as a missionary at age 33 and served there 39 years, primarily in Tengchow and Pingtu.
7. She wore Chinese clothes and lived like her Chinese neighbors.
8. Lottie had several nicknames in China - foreign devil, foreign lady teacher, heavenly book visitor, and the cookie maker. (Lottie baked cookies to win the hearts of the children and families who were frightened of her.)
9. Lottie led a campaign to end the practice of bound feet. The Chinese believed small feet made a woman more beautiful. So the girls’ feet were bound tightly with cloth. Girls with bound feet could barely walk, and infections, gangrene, and even death were common side effects of this practice.
10. In 1912 at the end of her career, famine, flood, and war encircled her China. Her friends were starving. In a final act of empathy, Lottie stopped eating and gave all her food away. When her friends realized the depth of her sickness, they put her on a boat to return to the United States. Lottie died on Christmas Eve while en-route to the U.S.

Memorial Baptist Church’s goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions is \$2,000. Please prayerfully consider what God would have you give for this offering.

DECEMBER EVENTS



1st - 8th Lottie Moon Week of Prayer

7th Deacons Social

8th Bible Drill

15th Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Received

19th KidMin Movie Night

22nd Bible Drill

Candlelight & Communion Service

25th Christmas

29th No Sunday school

Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.



2nd Ridge Adams
John Goff

4th Carlton Jurca
Emmilee Watkins

8th Mya Teschner

10th Martin Duran

11th Julie Deaver
Jaxson Burtchell

13th Candi Ketcham

14th Henry Alford

16th Brian Neese
Emma Adams

19th Holly Allen
Brooke Teschner

25th Clarence Oubre

26th Aubree Brashear

27th Dorothy Prinzing

28th Yadier Cervantes
Silvia Maltez-Vetor

29th Jim McDougall
Brooke Vasta

SUNDAY MORNING

9:30 A.M. Bible Study

10:45 A.M. Worship

Kids Worship

TUESDAYS

7:00 A.M. Prayer Time

Wednesday

12:00 P.M. Men's Bible Study

6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.

Wee Kids Bible Study

KidMin Bible Study

Student Bible Study

Women's Bible Study

Adult Bible Study

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Friday

8:30 A.M. - Noon



Join us in Room 2 for Men's Bible Study every Wednesday afternoon from 12p-1:30p as we study God's Word in the book of Ephesians.