

Christmas Is Forever



From the Pastor's Desk

I don't know about you, but I am *excited* about Christmas at First Baptist Church this year! There is so much going on and so much to celebrate!

This Advent season, we will be taking a bit of a break from our regular series through the Gospel of Luke. Each Sunday we will be asking the question: "Who (or what) is Christmas for?" Each Sunday we will look at God's Word to reveal part of the answer, culminating in our Candlelight Christmas Eve Services.

On December 1st, "CHRISTMAS IS FOR 'THE LEAST OF THESE.'" Looking at Jesus' teaching on children and the kingdom of God in Luke 18:9-17, we will seek to have a Christ-centered attitude as we enter the Advent season. We will also be presented with the challenge to serve "the least of these" as we learn about the important ministry of the Emanuel Foundation, which is an outreach ministry to street children in Cochabamba, Bolivia, who are at high risk for human trafficking.

On December 8th, "CHRISTMAS IS FOR FAMILY." Looking at the flight to Egypt in Matthew 2:13-15, we will consider what it really means to be a family both at Christmas and throughout the year, especially during tough times.

On December 15th, "CHRISTMAS IS FOREVER." In anticipation of the Community Feast and Cantata, also happening on this same date, we will look at the eternal implications of the Christmas story, as captured by the prophet in Isaiah 9:1-7. December 15th will be an amazing day of word, worship and service for our church family!

On December 22nd, "CHRISTMAS IS FOR THE WORLD." This message, based on Psalm 98, will encourage us to sing praises to God, who offers salvation to all nations, because of the manger and the cross. It will be part of a special joint service with American Karen Baptist Church, celebrating the international and cross-cultural aspects of Christmas. The service on this day will also feature a musical performance by the children of both congregations: A fitting tribute. The collaboration between our two congregations and our annual theme, "THE GOSPEL IS GOD'S WORD FOR EVERYONE!"

On December 24th, "CHRISTMAS IS FOR YOU." On Christmas Eve, we will re-examine the account of the shepherds and angels in Luke 2:8-20. This is where the rubber hits the road! In light of the birth of the Savior, YOU will be challenged to GO tell others about Jesus and GO serve "the least of these."

In the midst of all of this excitement, may you and yours also experience the grace and peace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Merry Christmas!

-Pastor Matt

December, 2013

COLUMNS

First Baptist Church Omaha
421 Park Avenue
Omaha, NE 68131
Phone: 402-345-5009
Fax: 402-345-5009



email: office@omahafbc.org
www.omahafbc.org

STAFF

Matt Toupin
Pastor

Kyle Stanek
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Jim and Karla Musick
Music Directors

Phyllis Porter
Office Manager

Ben Martinez
Building Superintendent

Sunday Worship

9:45am: Sunday School for all

ages

11:00am: Worship in the Sanctuary

12:00am: Coffee Fellowship in the Parlor.

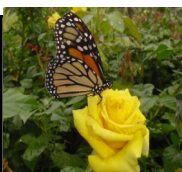
COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!

Please Remember The Following In Prayer



Beverly Tompkins, Nancy Clatterbuck, Velta Henson, Ruth Saklar, Bob Snyder, Pat Buie, Pauline Borromeo, and Floyd Webber.

- Those with other medical concerns.
- Our men and women who are serving our country in the military at home and overseas.
- Our kids and youth.
- The “Vision Team”.
- The staff of FBCO and the members of the



WE EXTEND OUT HEARTFELT SYMPATHY to the family of Eileen Haney who went home to be with her Heavenly Father on November 13. A

Celebration of Her Life Service was held on November 18. Pastor Ron French officiated.

Many thanks for the many cards, prayers, calls and visits during my recent surgery and recovery. I am doing better each day and I am grateful for all of you.

Marge Hayes

THANK YOU!

A HUGE thank you to the entire church family for your prayers, cards, visits, and food while I was recovering from surgery recently. Your outpouring of love and support has been an integral part of my healing process. It is such a blessing to see the body of Christ work as a team and step up to the plate when one of us is down!

-Pastor Matt

December Anniversaries

31—Darrell and Sue Reed

December Birthdays

1—Pat Fitl
6—Phyllis Porter
15—Robert Murray
18—Donald Lilly
19—Tony Marescalco
22—Mary Kay
25—Arlene Huberty
28—Carole Walling
31—Austyn Ferrell

It's Happening In December

- December 6 – Ladies “Re-gifting” or “White Elephant” party at the church starting at 6:30pm
- December 7 – Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study, 8:30am.
- December 7 – FBC serves the Community Meal.
- December 11 – Electric Wednesday “Christmas Wrap-Up”. Please bring gift items to church and place them in the box by the “Church Business” board. The kids will go “shopping” with these gifts for family members.
- December 15 – “Christmas is Forever” Community Feast and Cantata.
- December 18 – Rebecca-Ruth Circle meets at 1:00pm.
- December 22 – “Christmas Is For the World” special joint worship service with American Karen Baptist Church, featuring a musical presentation from the children of both congregations.
- December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight services at 6:00pm and 11:00pm

NO ELECTRIC WEDNESDAY’S ACTIVITIES UNTIL JANUARY 8.



CHRISTMAS IS FOREVER

UNCHANGING LOVE IN AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD

**Make First Baptist Omaha Your Church Home this
Christmas Season!**

**Join us for the "Christmas is Forever" Community Feast
and Cantata on Sunday, Dec. 15th.**

- Catered meal served at 4:30pm and 5:45pm. Reservations are required. FREE to first 300 people. Chose one time or the other.
- RSVP to the church office, 402-345-5009
email:office@omahafbc.org or the sign-up sheet on the Church Business Bulletin Board.
- You are invited to stay for the **"Christmas Is Forever" Cantata** presented by the church choir. The time is 7:00 pm and admission is FREE!

CREATED BY GARY RHODES AND CLAIRE CLONINGER
ARRANGED BY GARY RHODES