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FBC MURPHY
Connect. Grow. Go.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MURPHYSBORO
401 NORTH FIFTEENTH STREET
MURPHYSBORO, ILLINOIS 62966
WWW.FBCMURPHY.ORG

SHAKER SAMUEL, PASTOR
KAY REIMAN, EDITOR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR



MID-WEEK ACTIVITIES

Wednesdays, December 12, 19
3:30 pm FBC Kids Club
3:30 pm Crossfire M. S. Youth
5 pm Family Dinner
6 pm Crossfire H. S. Youth
6 pm Adult Bible Study
7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal

CHRISTMAS BANQUET

5:30 pm Sunday, December 2

FBC KIDS CHRISTMAS PLAY

"No Time for Christmas"
7 pm Sunday, December 2

PRIMETIME TRIP

Giant City Lodge
10:30 am Tuesday, December 4

PASTA WITH SANTA

5:30 pm Wednesday, December 5

MCALISTERS FUNDRAISER

5-8 pm Thursday, December 13

COMMUNION SERVICE AT RIVER TO RIVER

6 pm Thursday, December 13

CROSSFIRE CHRISTMAS PARTY

5 pm Sunday, December 16

CHRISTMAS CHORAL CELEBRATION

10 am Sunday, December 16

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

6 pm Monday, December 24

FBC MURPHY

Connect. Grow. Go.
DECEMBER 2018 BAPTIES NEWSLETTER

GOD GAVE

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John 3:16

As Christmas approaches I have been thinking of how it was when I was a young boy. It was a time when our family came from far and near. It was a time to be with my cousins and nephews whom I had not seen for a year. It was a time to be with my aunts and uncles, help grandma make cookies and grandpa would sit and tell us stories. It was a good time to reflect back on God's blessings and also sad to remember the people who were not with us. It was a time to remember the past family gatherings. I do miss those times as I have grown older but still have a family to celebrate. At Christmas, I do wish that all of us could get back together. I know one day we will because of Jesus.

As I was pondering how Christmas got started in history, I came across some interesting information that I would like to share with you.

Christmas was not celebrated till after biblical times. The early Christians of the New Testament church celebrated the resurrection (Easter) but not the birth of Jesus Christ. In fact Christmas was not given any kind of official recognition by the

church until the middle of the 5th century.

The reason for this was so many Christmas customs seen to have roots in paganism. They were resistant to some of the rituals of the holiday. The puritans in early American rejected Christmas celebrations altogether. They even deliberately worked on Christmas day to make a point. There was a law passed in

England in 1644 that Christmas day was an official working day.

In America on Christmas Eve 1822 Clement Clarke Moore, a minister with children on his mind, shared a poem titled: "Visit from St. Nicholas." It was about Santa Claus and is now known as "the Night Before Christmas." Thus the door was opened for the holiday. In 1834 Charles Dickens published "A Christmas Carol," a story about charity, hope, love and family. The story made people take a second look at their values.

Now we are moving to more commercialism than the heart of what Christmas ought to be. We need to ask the question as Christians, how do we observe Christmas? Do we do this for the Lord or for our self-gratification? Do we even think about why and how we celebrate it? Christmas should be an opportunity to exalt Jesus Christ.

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Come, Join Us for Christmas!



18th Annual Christmas Banquet

Sunday, December 2

5:30 pm Appetizers 6 pm Dinner

7 pm FBC Kids presents: "No Time for Christmas"

The Christmas Banquet is a wonderful event for the church family to gather together for an elegant evening of great food, warm fellowship and great entertainment.

The cost is \$12 per person, \$5 for children, and children under 3 years old are free.

Following the meal, FBC Kids will present a Christmas musical. The kids have been working hard for weeks and this is a special event you don't want to miss.

Please invite your family, friends and neighbors.

Make your reservations today by contacting Kathie Grob or the church office.

Christmas Choral Celebration

10 am Sunday, December 16

It will be a morning of inspirational Christmas music with the FBC Choir proclaiming, the baby born in the manger is Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. This worship service is like no other with the choir telling the Christmas story with songs and hymns.

It will be a wonderful spirit-filled service for everyone!

Please be sure to invite your family friends and neighbors.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6 pm Monday, December 24

This very special service will feature the sights, sounds and spirit of Christmas with the sanctuary in its beauty with candlelight, holiday decorations and wonderful Christmas carols. It will be a beautiful and reflective service of the wondrous gift of Jesus. This is a perfect opportunity to invite your holiday guests to a wonderful Christmas service.

– Kristy Dunning, Clerk – Laura Sims, Treasurer
– Helen Payne; Kari Graff and Connor McBride for council. Have 3 vacant spots on council and need 2-3 Deacons. Slate approved by consensus.

Technology: Bradley Evans will be taking over for Jesse as Tech Volunteer. David Brooks will be taking over sound system. Planning meeting will be scheduled to go over the details.

Pastor's Report: Invitation from GRR to go on a mission trip to Thailand, Feb. 12-26, 2019. Will cost approx. \$3000. Shaker will pay for his flight and the balance will come out of his budget. There are a couple more kids that want to be baptized. December 1st Gene Ebersohl will be baptizing his great-granddaughter. Steve Wilkerson wants to take one week of vacation before Christmas. Will need someone to fill in.

Director's Report presented

The next Leadership Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 13th at 6:00 pm.

Next Business Meeting will be November 11th immediately following morning service.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSSES FOR HOLIDAYS

The church office will be closed **Monday and Tuesday, December 24th-25th** so the staff may spend the Christmas holiday with their families. Please bring your holiday guests and family to the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 24th.

The church office will also be closed on **Tuesday, January 1st**, New Year's day.

In case of an emergency, please contact a Deacon or Vicki Ardrey at home.

(continued from pg. 1)

Christmas is after all about giving. We are celebrating the greatest gift ever given--God's Son. God's gift was first of all a gift of love to an unworthy world. He gave not because He had to, but because He loves us. Our love should reflect that. We need to keep our perspective especially in the minds of our children. It can be one of the most blessed and enjoyable aspect of Christmas.

Christmas has become too commercial and materialistic. Every year Christmas buying gets worse. Some of the gifts are not practical. It just sits there after the holidays collecting dust. Our society is literally filled with the unnecessary, the insignificant and the meaningless. Some gifts are just obligatory.

This Christmas let us focus more on who Jesus is, why He came, what He did, and is coming back to take us with Him. Going back to where I started, let us bring back the old time celebration of being together with family and friends and remembering God's goodness and blessings.

The Samuel family will spend this Christmas with the church family.

Hope you have a blessed Christmas!

In Christ's steps,
Pastor Shaker

WEDNESDAY SECURITY NEEDED

A Wednesday Night Security Volunteer is needed. For more information concerning this position, please contact Pastor Shaker or Judy Rawls.

OUR CHURCH FINANCES FOR OCTOBER 2018:

| | This Month | To Date |
|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Needed | \$ 28,966.88 | \$ 319,774.40 |
| Given | \$ 24,388.08 | \$ 278,708.48 |
| Over (Under) | \$ (4,578.80) | \$ (41,065.92) |

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS OF OCTOBER 2018 MEETING

Meeting was called to order with prayer.

Devotional: David Brooks presented chapter 3 of "Becoming A Welcoming Church".

Next Council Meeting 11/13/18: Angie will take minutes in Gina's absence.

The September, 2018, minutes and the October 2, 2018, Special Meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

Financial Report: The September, 2018, Financial Report was approved by consensus. Deacon's Report

Ministry Team Reports:

Outreach and Evangelism: Report on Community Night Out 10/2 – went well. Report on Feed the Football Team 10/12 – went well, fed 55 kids.

Missions: Jamaica MT 2019; Tag MT Fundraiser 10/20; Dumpling Fundraiser 10/21. Ministerial Alliance to buy doughnuts for MMS FCA all school year. \$500 ABC USA Food Grant. ABC Disaster Relief trip to TX 10/22-10/26

Children Discipleship: Trunk R Treat 10/28. Halloween Outreach 10/31 – accepting candy donations, will be with other churches in the field across from 17th Street Warehouse. Pasta with Santa 12/5

Youth Discipleship: Parenting Conference 10/26-28.

Adult Discipleship: Names and locations of classes provided for Welcome Center? Will have Kay update and add locations.

Finance and Stewardship: Next gift of \$100K received from Young Estate. Placement of \$10,000 into Missions, and discuss how much to return to ABC Investment Account – Place \$90,000 into savings for the time being. 2019 Budget – Need a go-to person for the Kroger program – Kristy Dunning. Community & Family Ministry Funds - \$10,000, out of the Young Estate funds. Under Discipleship Ministries add matching grant back in - \$6000. Discussed salary increases for staff.

Stewardship Meeting plan for Spring 2019. Jesse's official resignation date is January 31, 2019.

Building and Grounds: Discussion on creating handicap access to the parlor. On hold, pending further discussion and research. Will be sensitive to events held in the parlor. Carpet Cleaner – Steve presented information on purchasing a commercial carpet cleaner at a cost of \$1669, on sale. Saves \$2300 per year. Approved by consensus, pay out of the Memorial Fund. Boiler – installation progress continues, have been shown how to operate it. Scott Hunziker has spent a lot of time on this. Will pay the balance due out of Business Savings. Playground Equipment Area – on hold, will take another look at in the spring. Update on flooring and doors for Fellowship Hall – had tile and carpet samples. Distinctive Flooring for supplies and labor is \$18,409.23. Doors have to be changed first at a cost of \$27,000 from Wright's. Someone has committed to paying for the flooring. Building Re-Keyed – will check with Bruce at Wright's. Bus in for repairs. North side gutters need replaced. Van – repairs needed.

Emergency Response Team: Wednesday Night Activities Security needed – need a volunteer to do, will put in the bulletin.

Special Events: 150th Anniversary Team – 10/2019 – Meeting scheduled on Nov. 8 at 5 pm. Christmas Banquet on 12/2 – kids play for the entertainment.

Worship Ministry: Continue to meet and plan worship services weekly. Veteran's Day Sunday/Slideshow 11/11. Hanging of the Greens – November 25th during morning worship. Decorating church following church on November 18th – light lunch provided.

Strategic Planning & Action: Legacy Team – Information and forms completed and submitted to ABC Foundation to create draft pamphlet for review.

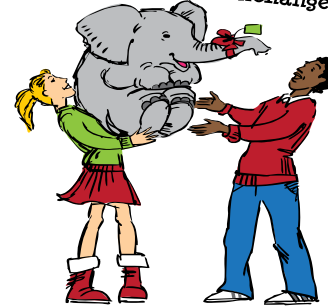
Nominating Team: Slate of names – Moderator



CALLING ALL CHILDREN PASTA W/ SANTA WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5 5:30 - 7:00 PM

All children and their families are invited to have dinner with Santa. Pasta, salad, drink, and Christmas cookies will be served. Santa will be on hand for consultations. So, kids make your list and be ready to have a heart to heart talk with Santa. He will have time for every child. This is an awesomely fun outreach. Be sure to invite your neighborhood kids and their families.

White Elephant Gift Exchange



CROSSFIRE CHRISTMAS PARTY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH 5 PM

All middle and high school students are invited to an evening of Christmas food, games, gifts and fun. Everyone is to meet at the church at 5:00 pm and will board the church bus for a Progressive Dinner; going from house to house enjoying what their hostesses and hosts have prepared. Following dinner, everyone will return to the church for some big giveaways, an ugly sweater contest and a white elephant gift.



FBC KIDS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 3:30-6 PM

All children Kindergarten through the 5th grade are invited to a Christmas party with all the trimmings at the Wednesday Night FBC Kids Club. There will be Christmas music, Christmas crafts, Christmas games, the Christmas story...Christmas, Christmas all afternoon. Dinner will be served at 5:00 pm and pick up time is 6:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES TAKING A CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Wednesday night groups will only **meet December 12th and 19th**. FBC Kids Club, Crossfire Youth, Family Dinner and Bible Study with Pastor will **NOT** meet on Wednesdays, December 5th, 26th, and January 2nd due to Pasta with Santa and the school Christmas break. All activities will resume on Wednesday, January 9th, 2019.

FBC KIDS PRESENT

NO TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2
7:00 pm

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF MURPHYSBORO

P.J. and his friends are learning that Christmas is a busy time of the year. But what happens if they get too busy to celebrate the true reason for the season? Will the kids let their Christmas activities and hectic schedules get in the way of remembering what Christmas is really all about? Find out how it all ends in this fun children's play. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to what will be a very entertaining Christmas musical.

There will be a love offering following the play. All donation will send children to summer camp.

FBC NIGHT AT MCALISTERS DELI SCHEDULED

The Summer Mission Trip Team is hosting a fundraiser at McAlister's Deli in Carbondale on **Thursday, December 13th, from 5-8:00 pm**. 10% of your purchase will go to the 2019 Mission Trip fund. The Mission Team will be at the restaurant waiting on tables and offering drink refills. No need to cook, bring the whole family or order through the drive up and help send the Mission Trip Team to Jamaica.

McALISTER'S
DELI
presents
**FUNDRAISER
NIGHT!**
HELP SUPPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION BY
PARTICIPATING IN FUNDRAISER NIGHT!



PRIMETIME TRIP

On **Tuesday, December 4th**, the PrimeTimers will be enjoying a leisurely lunch at Giant City Lodge. The Lodge will be all decked out in its holiday decor for everyone to enjoy. The bus will leave the church at 10:30 am. Lunch is dutch treat. If you would like to go, the sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall or contact the church office to have your name added to the list. All active senior adults are invited!!!



COMMUNION AT RIVER TO RIVER ASSISTED LIVING

Our Deacon Team is planning their quarterly Communion Service at the River to River Assisted Living facility on **Thursday, December 13th at 6:00 pm** in the east building. Everyone is invited to be a part of the service. The residents would love having the fellowship. You and the residents will both receive a blessing! Please plan to attend.

HOMEMADE COOKIES & CANDIES ARE NEEDED



The Deacon Care Team will be assembling and delivering Christmas care packages to our church's nursing home residents and shut-ins on **Monday, December 10th**. If you would like to brighten the holidays for our home bound and nursing home seniors, make some homemade cookies and candy. Please have your goodies at the church no later than **Sunday, December 9th**. Thank you for bringing some holiday spirit to those who

are unable to participate in our church family holiday events. Your thoughtfulness will be a blessing to you and our beloved shut-ins.

25TH MURPHYSBORO COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Everyone is invited to the 25th Annual Murphysboro Community Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, **December 25th from 11:00 am-1:00 pm** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 606 Plum St.

Meals for delivery to the elderly and disabled may be arranged by calling Mary Ann at 303-4768 before Dec. 22nd.

This is an community event and everyone is welcome.

During this Christmas season,
your church staff wishes you the gift
of faith, the blessing of hope and
the peace that knowing Jesus brings.

May your Christmas be filled with joy.
May God continue to bless you in the
coming year as He has blessed us
so richly this past year.

Thank you for letting us serve you in 2018!

Pastor Shaker, Kay, Steve, Jesse, Barb,
Grant, Traci, Karen, Lynn, Kathie,
Nicolette, Jonathan, & Nowel

GREETERS



December 2

Scott & Tina Evans Family

December 9

Bill & Kim Oploh Family

December 16

Matt & Elaine Hardwig Family

December 23

Anna Jenkins & Judy Raines

December 30

Angela Barke & Lauren Martin

If you are unable to help, please
contact Cindy Stamm at 319-0781.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

December 2

Vic & Patty Koenig

December 9

Matt & Melinda Guthman Family

December 16

Buddy & Helen Payne

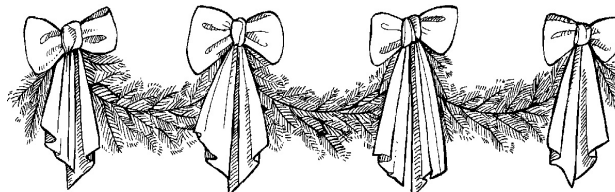
December 23

Ed & Terri Miller

December 30

Chuck & Kim Grammer

If you are unable to help, please
contact the church office.



MEALS ON WHEELS

December 24-28

Monday

Christmas Eve
No Delivery

Tuesday

Christmas Day
No Delivery

Wednesday

Jane Beese & Alice Berry
Mark & Darlene Pautler

Thursday

Jane Beese & Alice Berry
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leadly

Friday

Jane Beese & Alice Berry
Lou Polsgrove & Mary Leadly



December

**POST THIS ON YOUR
REFRIGERATOR!**

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

| | | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|--------------------|
| 3 | Carol Brown | 21 | Jesse Stille |
| 3 | Verna Nobel | 27 | Helen Payne |
| 5 | Justin Raines | 27 | Connor McBride |
| 6 | Karen Rahming | 27 | Karter Holland |
| 6 | Machelle Mifflin-Bivens | 28 | Courtney Raines |
| 6 | Carol Klaine | 28 | Ethan Penrod |
| 7 | Glenann Kiel | 29 | Terri Miller |
| 9 | Maddie Rowe | 30 | Christina Hunziker |
| 13 | Kay Hamilton | 31 | Mike Mifflin |
| 13 | Traci Hunziker | 31 | Joel Samuel |
| 13 | Nancy Ellis | | |
| 13 | Blake Derocher | | |
| 14 | Zander Smith | | |
| 14 | Dakota Smith | | |
| 16 | Tylor Grob | | |
| 21 | Sylvia Carvell | | |



“For God so loved
the world that
he gave his one
and only Son,
that whoever
believes in him
shall not perish but
have eternal life.”

John 3:16 NIV

WELCOME CENTER

December 2

Chuck or Kim Grammer

December 9

Lou Polsgrove

December 16

Betty Cox

December 23

Albert or Trish Boudet

December 30

Vic or Patty Koenig

Thanks to our many
VOLUNTEERS

DECEMBER 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| 25 8:30 AM Coffee Hour 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM FBC Kids' Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School & Life Groups 10:00 AM Worship w/ Hanging of the Greens | 26 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 5:30 PM M.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Adult Small Group 7:00 PM H.S. Guys Groups | 27 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 5:45 PM Worship Meeting 6:30 PM H.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 28 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 3:30 PM FBC Kids Club 3:30 PM M.S. Crossfire Youth 5:00 PM Family Dinner 6:00 PM Bible Study w/ Pastor 6:00 PM H.S. Crossfire Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 29 Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 30 H.S. Girls Making Peanut Rolls Meals on Wheels 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 1 10:00 AM Kids Christmas Play Rehearsal |
| 2 8:30 AM Coffee Hour 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM FBC Kids' Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School & Life Groups 10:00 AM Worship 5:30 PM Christmas Banquet 7:00 PM FBC Kids Christmas Musical/Play | 3 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 5:30 PM M.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Adult Small Group 7:00 PM H.S. Guys Groups | 4 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:30 AM PrimeTime Trip to Giant City Lodge 5:45 PM Worship Meeting 6:30 PM H.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 5 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 5:30 PM Pasta with Santa 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 6 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 7 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM Mission Trip Team Bell Ringing 6:00 PM Private Piano Recital | 8 9:00 AM Mission Trip Team Bell Ringing |
| 9 8:30 AM Coffee Hour 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM FBC Kids' Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School & Life Groups 10:00 AM Worship 2:00 PM Private Party in Fellowship Hall | 10 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM Deacon Care Team 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 5:30 PM M.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Adult Small Group 7:00 PM H.S. Guys Groups | 11 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 5:45 PM Worship Meeting 6:30 PM H.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 12 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 3:30 PM FBC Kids Club 3:30 PM M.S. Crossfire Youth 5:00 PM Family Dinner 6:00 PM Bible Study w/ Pastor 6:00 PM H.S. Crossfire Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 13 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 5:00 PM McAlister Fundraiser for Mission Trip 6:00 PM Communion Service at River to River Assisted Living | 14 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 15 |
| 16 8:30 AM Coffee Hour 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM FBC Kids' Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School & Life Groups 10:00 AM Christmas Choral Celebration 5:00 PM Crossfire Christmas Party | 17 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 5:30 PM M.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Adult Small Group 7:00 PM H.S. Guys Groups | 18 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 5:45 PM Worship Meeting 6:00 PM Leadership Council Meeting 6:30 PM H.S. Girls Group 7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal | 19 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 10:00 AM Ladies Exercise Class 3:30 PM FBC Kids Club 3:30 PM M.S. Crossfire Youth 5:00 PM Family Dinner 6:00 PM Bible Study w/ Pastor 6:00 PM H.S. Crossfire Youth 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 20 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 21 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 22 |
| 23 8:30 AM Coffee Hour 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM FBC Kids' Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School & Life Groups 10:00 AM Worship | 24 Church Office Closed 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | 25 Merry Christmas! | 26 Meals on Wheels 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 27 Meals on Wheels | 28 Meals on Wheels | 29 |
| 30 8:30 AM Coffee Hour 8:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 9:00 AM FBC Kids' Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School & Life Groups 10:00 AM Worship | 31 | 1 Church Office Closed Happy New Year! | 2 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal | 3 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 4 7:30 AM Prayer in Pastor's Study | 5 |