

PASTOR'S NOTES

If you are like me, it is hard to imagine that by the time you read this newsletter you will have finished off the leftovers from Thanksgiving dinner and are now charging full speed ahead into the Christmas season. Let the “madness” begin! Must we resign ourselves to the “madness” of the Christmas season? I think the answer is “NO”, but it will not happen automatically, it will require great effort on our part. I will give you a few ideas in a moment but before that, let us pause and look back on the things that we can be thankful for that took place in November.

October 31st - I know I said November, but I was unable to give a report on our Goodie Giveaway in our last newsletter. We gave away almost 70 bags of candy which included tracts and church information to area children who came despite it raining almost the entire evening. I want to thank Bobby and Beth Hanna and Kristy and Hannah Styers for helping with this event. I want to thank the youth for packing the bags for us this year.

November 2nd - We hosted a booth at the Holiday Bazaar in Grand Junction. I want to thank Bobby and Beth Hanna, Jim and Nell Cook, Bill and Paula Sensing, and Vera Downen for working the booth this year for us. It was a great opportunity to spread some Christmas cheer and let people know about our Savior Jesus Christ and our church.

November 5th - The WMU went to the Bolivar Christian Care Center to do an activity with the residents there. They will pick this ministry back up in the spring.

November 17th - Many of our members stayed after the Sunday AM service and helped us pack and pray over the Operation Christmas Shoe Boxes. We decided to do the boxes differently this year as we focused on several items and asked members to pick up these items throughout the year as opposed to each member packing a box. After we enjoyed a wonderful lunch, we all got to packing. I had challenged our church to pack 100 boxes which is about 2 and half times more than we usually have done. This year we were able to pack 115 boxes!! (Praise The Lord!!)

We are grateful for what the Lord has done for our church in the month of November.

Now back to fighting the “madness” of the Christmas Season. Here are some steps to take to tackle the “madness” of the Christmas Season.

1. **Pray** - ask God to give you the ability and strength to not become overwhelmed with the Christmas Season.
2. **Focus** - do something that helps you remember every day during this season - what the true reason of the season is: Jesus Christ!
3. **Involved** - involve yourself in the activities of the church which will give you an opportunity to worship and adore your Savior this Christmas Season.

I will mention three that you can be involved in:

- A. Grand Junction Christmas Tree Lighting Event on **December 7th** at 5:00p.m.
- B. Adult Ministry to the Singing Christmas Tree on **December 14th** at 2:00 p.m.
- C. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at FBCGJ on **December 24th** at 5 :00 p.m.

Let me be one of the first ones to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas!!

Bro. Troy



Donate to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in memory or honor of your loved ones.

(Please specify) In Memory / Honor of _____

Given by _____

Make all checks payable to:
First Baptist Church
P.O. Box 103
Grand Junction, TN 38039

November 2024 Report

Average Attendance in Sunday School:	34
Average Offering:	\$ 4,528.25
Golden Offering Grand Total:	\$ 8,961.00

