

First Baptist Church of Spring Hill

The Messenger

November 2020

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I first want to thank each one who showed their appreciation throughout the month of October. I truly appreciate the cards and the gifts. I thank God that He has allowed me to pastor this church!

The story is told of two old friends bumped into one another on the street one day. One of them looked forlorn, almost on the verge of tears. His friend asked, "What has the world done to you, my old friend?" The sad fellow said, "let me tell you. Three weeks ago, an uncle died and left me forty thousand dollars." The friend replied, "That's a lot of money." The man continued, "Yes, but, two weeks ago, a cousin I never even knew died, and left me eighty-five thousand dollars." The friend said, "Sounds like you've been blessed..." "You don't understand!" he interrupted. "Last week my great-aunt passed away. I inherited almost a quarter of a million." Now the friend was really confused. "Then, why do you look so glum?" The man replied, "This week...nothing!"



That's the trouble with receiving something on a regular basis. Even if it is a gift, we eventually come to expect it. This is the "entitlement mindset" that has permeated American society at almost every level. We have been blessed to live in a land of plenty and as a result, we become complacent and many times we are completely unwilling to give thanks to anyone for anything.

How, then, can we overcome this kind of mindset and move towards a true spirit of thanksgiving in a culture that is full of unthankful people? Well, I don't pretend to have all of the answers, but I do think we need to recognize God's blessing in all of their many manifestations and give thanks to Him even when it seems impossible to do so. Make an effort today to recognize the blessings you've come to take for granted. Focus on what you have rather than on what you don't have and see if it doesn't improve your attitude.

Make this Thanksgiving be a time for genuine expression of joyful gratitude to God. Thank Him for the persons, provisions, institutions, and groups that bless you.



Bro J

From the Library...

Happy Birthday to You!

November—Happy Thanksgiving God's Plan

No matter what your turkey day looks like—immediate family or in-laws, functional or dysfunctional—it's likely there is some situation that you need to go carefully. We love our families, but sometimes they bring out the worst in us. If those moments of insanity pop up between turkey and pie, today might be a good day to adopt the advice of Proverbs 21:23, and just keep quiet. If you're entering a troublesome situation today, know that you aren't called to fix the problem. God will be glorified in the words you speak in love. Ask Him to guard your heart and tongue today.

Proverbs 21:23: *Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles.*



A few books from our library...

The Applause of Heaven by Max Lucado. Certain things about God are easy to imagine. The author can picture Him creating the world and suspending the stars. I can fathom a God who knows me, who made me, and I can even fathom a God who hears me. But a God who cheers for

me? That's hard to imagine...but, that's the message of the Bible as shown in this book.

Desiring God by John Piper. The communion of a longing soul and a satisfying Christ is at the center of God's plan. The author makes this overlooked, contradicted, trivialized, and sentimentalized message clear and compelling. This book is a classic—now it's even richer.

Hear Me When I Call by Charles Swindoll. Do you ever find it difficult to express your thoughts or desires to God? You may be facing a stressful work situation, a frightening diagnosis, or the everyday challenges of marriage or parenthood. You want to pray but you feel empty, distracted, or uncertain about what to say. Approach the throne of grace alongside the author as he guides you through the prayers of your heart. This book will provide effective prayers on the themes of your life.

We pray for a Blessed Thanksgiving for our church.
Yours in Christ,
Mary Robertson & Joan Frank

1	Emily Vogt
7	Lisa Weston
8	Peyton Andre
9	Sarah Smathers
11	John Boyle
14	Denise Bearden Jason Terrillion
15	Hannah Long
16	Helen Huntzinger Lexi Mefferd
18	Pat Springer Brooks Hester
19	Brenda Bland
24	Jane Love Guinevere Smathers Bentley Andre
25	Tyson Peters
26	Don Owens David Long
30	Sam Long



Thank you for your generous support of The Well. We continue to collect food for this local food pantry – bring items when you come to worship on Sunday or if you are not attending "in-person" worship yet, feel free to drop by the office during office hours and we will come pick up the items from your car. We are also taking monetary donations – mark your offering "The Well". We took 89 lbs. of food and \$175 in donations to the well during October.

Coming in December...

A Great *Multifude* + You
Rev. 7:9

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering & Week of Prayer for International Missions

Sunday

Wednesday

All Activities other than Sunday Morning Worship are currently suspended until further notice. Thank you for your patience as we work through the Guidelines for re-opening during the pandemic.



It's Shoebox Time!

2020 has been a year full of changes. One thing that hasn't changed is that people need to hear the Gospel. Operation Christmas Child sends the Gospel around the world. Please begin praying now for the OCC program, the

volunteers, and the recipients of the shoeboxes.

We have many options for participation...

1. Go online to samaritanspurse.org where you can donate \$25 and they will pack a box for you.
2. You may pack a box yourself (boxes are available in the Sr. Ladies SS Classroom). When complete, return the box to church with \$9 to cover shipping. You may also pay your shipping online and track your box to its destination. (See list of Do's & Don'ts below)
3. You may donate \$money\$ and we will shop for you and pack your box.

Questions?? Please contact Vivian Bowen or Patty Welch

Do's: Washcloth, Comb/brush, Bar Soap, Band aids, Reusable plastic water bottles, blanket, flip-flops, hats & scarves, pencil sharpener, personal hygiene items, toys, Crayons, Coloring book, Notebooks, Playdough & plastic cookie cutters, stickers, craft kits, matchbox cars, balls, Slinky, clothes, musical instruments.

Don'ts: Candy, toothpaste, gum, used items, war related items, chocolate, food, seeds, fruit roll ups or snacks, drink mixes, medications, vitamins, breakable items, aerosol cans.

THANK YOU!!

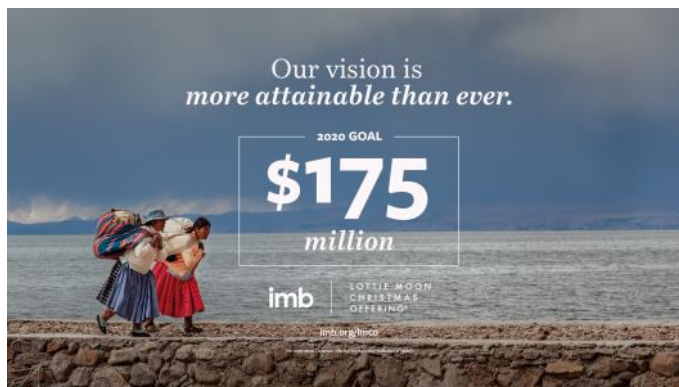
Shoeboxes should be brought to the church by November 7.

***The Crafty Sisters will be packing shoeboxes on November 7th since we can't have the traditional packing party due to COVID-19. The boxes will be in the sanctuary November 8th so we can pray over them. They will be delivered to a distribution center the week of November 16th.



Future Growth Funding

\$20,011.62 in a Construction Acct.
at First Farmer's & Merchant's Bank
\$354,917.10 in a Building Fund at the
Tennessee Baptist Foundation.



**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Coming in December
Church Offering Goal: \$3,000.00**

Lottie Moon Sweet Shop will be open during the month of December. Order blanks will be available. Let us do your Christmas baking and all proceeds will benefit the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. All baking will take place in the church kitchen. Begin planning now!

A Great *Multi-fude* + You
Rev. 7:9



Thankfulness, studies show, has multiple physical, mental and emotional benefits. Psychologist Robert Emmons calls gratitude "fertilizer for the mind" because of its powerful effects.

He admits gratitude isn't always easy—especially when life throws us curveballs (see year 2020) - but says it can be most helpful during and after difficulties. Emmons suggests reframing challenges using thankfulness-based language. Ask, for example: Though I wasn't grateful for the experience at the time, how can I be now? What lessons did I learn, and how did I grow as a person?

Throughout his letters, the apostle Paul reframes his extensive sufferings and urges us to do the same. "Give thanks in all circumstances," he writes, "for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18, NIV).