#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

By Bethany Davenport, Chair, Children and Youth Committee

Happy New Year! As we begin 2024, we are looking forward to another wonderful year of activities and fun with our FBC families. Our first scheduled event is Internet Safety Training (for parents) on February 21st. See the graphic for more details and feel free to share with parents you think might be interested! Other plans are in the works, and details will be shared as they become available. If you have any ideas or questions, feel free to reach out to Bethany or any members of the Children's Committee. Thank you for your continued support and prayers as we work to expand our children's ministry at FBC!





Our goal through December was to give \$5,000 to CBF Global Missions. We surpassed this goal with a total of \$7,730.00!



#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES**

9:30am Sunday Bible Studies 10:45am Worship Service

#### **CONTACT INFO**

(865) 475-3826; (865) 262-9026 (Fax) **Church Office Hours:** 

Monday-Thursday, 8:30am to 4:30pm

Find us at www.fbcjeff.org or follow us online on Facebook and YouTube

## STAFF

Sierra Bevins (sbevins@fbcjeff.org) Ministry Assistant Organist Angie France Josh Gibson (jgibson@fbcjeff.org) **Administrative Coordinator Chad Hartsock** Interim Minister of Youth & College Students Steven Lloyd (slloyd@fbcjeff.org) **Facility Caretaker** Nenette Measels Interim Minister of Music **Cameron Rowlett** Video Editor Gage Rustin Youth Ministry Intern Melanie Simpson

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# THE MESSENGER

## **JANUARY 2024**

#### FROM MAJOR TREADWAY

Hello First Baptist! Thank you for a warm welcome on the Second Sunday of Advent. Karen, Edward, Andrew, Moses, and I could not be happier about joining with you in ministry in Jefferson City.



Thank you in advance for your patience as we learn all of your names. Learning names is an important practice, as it is a first step at knowing and being known. There is something warming about being called by name (the correct name). Whether at your favorite shop, the grocery store, at school, or in church, being called by name connotes a sense of familiarity.

Isaiah quotes God in chapter 43 saying "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine." Here, God demonstrates a connection between the calling of one's name and a dynamic relationship where the creator of all that has ever been created lays claim and does so by calling one's name.

Now, you don't need me to redeem you, but I will aim to learn your name as soon as possible. In the meantime, feel free to tell me your name anytime you see me. As we begin to learn to know one another, it seems that names are as good a place as any to begin.

See you soon, Major



#### **HYMN HIGHLIGHT**

By Nenette Measels, Interim Minister of Music

#### The First Nowell

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" Luke 2:14

This anonymous 17<sup>th</sup> century English carol is a standard of the Christmas season which is immensely popular. This is not only due to its wonderfully lyric tune, but also to its narrative text, which simply relates the flow of events in the birth of Christ. Scholars disagree about the meaning of the word "nowell" or "noel". Some agree that it means "news" in Latin, *novellae*, while others connect it with "birthday" from the Latin, *natalis*. For singers of this and other carols, it is a word of joy, celebrating the good news of Jesus' birth.

The first nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

#### Refrain:

Nowell, nowell, nowell, born is the king of Israel.

For all to see there was a star shining in the east, beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

And by the light of that same star the wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain] Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord, who hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his blood humankind hath bought. [Refrain]

What a meaningful song of praise for those who understand the implication of the incarnation with God's provision of a means of redemption through the death of Jesus Christ!

(Adapted from *The Worshipping Church: A Hymnal, Worship Leader's Edition*, Hope Pub. Co., 1991)



#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

By Josh Gibson, Administrative Coordinator

# Summary of Operational Budget Income & Expense through November 2023

#### **Items of Interest**

- Online Giving is simple and convenient, and you do not have to set up a Realm account to give online. Visit: https://onrealm.org/ fbcjeff/give/now to initiate an online gift today!
- Designated Benevolence Fund total (as of 12/21/2023) = \$112.47
- Please remember there will be a called business meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, December 3 to vote on the amended 2024 Budget Proposal.

	August	September	October	November
Income	\$18,237.70	\$21,909.44	\$41,537.86	\$27,244.46
Expenses	\$26,372.43	\$23,614.63	\$25,566.67	\$23,733.09
Net	\$8,134.73	\$1,705.19	\$15,971.19	\$3,511.37
YTD	\$4,553.61	\$6,258.80	\$9,712.39	\$13,223.76

ATTENDANCE				
SUNDAY	BIBLE STUDY	IN-PERSON WORSHIP		
December 3	55	113		
December 10	45	112		
December 17	53	98		
December 24	9	80		

### **DEACONS & MINISTER OF THE WEEK**

January 7: Pam Hester & Heidi Thomas/Chad Hartsock

January 14: Bruce Davenport & Ken Morton/Nenette Measels

January 21: Ray Dalton & Betty Watkins/Josh Gibson

January 28: Leon Shoemaker & Karen Smith/Chad Hartsock



#### **YOUTH MINISTRY**

By Chad Hartsock

On January 12-14, our students will be traveling to Huntsville, Alabama for the Winter Youth Summit. Summit is a conference that meets every other year, and it is put on by CBF Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia. It is the favorite event for all of our students, and we look forward to a great trip.

Please pray for our students that they will have a meaningful experience that impacts their faith.



#### **DEACONS' REPORT**

By Jim Wilson, Deacon Chair

Deacons are exploring the development of Focus Groups (such as Crisis, Hospital Visitation, Outreach, Welcoming, etc.), as a way to augment the Deacon Family Ministry groups.

We appreciate our Deacons and their service this past year. Three new deacons have begun their service: Angie France, Mel Hawkins and Peggy Dalton. We will have a Deacon's Ordination Service on Sunday, Jan. 28th during the morning worship service.

Jim Wilson is serving as the new Chairperson and Pam Hester is the new Vice Chairperson.