



**The Vine:
Newsletter Of The First Baptist Church
December 2016**

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On The Vine:

As we enter this Christmas season let me share this understanding with you from Tim Keller well known author and pastor.

*"If Jesus didn't come, the story of Christmas is one more moral paradigm to crush you. If Jesus didn't come, I wouldn't want to be anywhere around these Christmas stories that say we need to be sacrificing, we need to be humble, we need to be loving. All that will do is crush you into the ground [But] if Jesus Christ is actually God come in the flesh, you're going to know much more about God ... If Jesus is who he says he is, we have a 500-page autobiography from God, in a sense. And our understanding will be vastly more personal and specific than any philosophy or religion could give us. [Because of Christmas] look at what God has done to get you to know him personally. If the Son would come all this way to become a real person to you, don't you think the Holy Spirit will do anything in his power to make Jesus a real person to you in your heart? Christmas is an invitation by God: **Look what I've done to come near to you. Now draw near to Me. I don't want to be a concept; I want to be a friend.**"*

Tim Keller's words are really convicting to me. We either believe in the Christmas story 100% or we must separate ourselves as far as we can from this Holiday season. We must not let Christmas just be a concept. We must let Christmas and the story that follows in the Gospel consume us to the point that we draw even closer to the Lord at this time of the year.

I would like to wish all the members of the First Baptist Church of Chrisman a very Merry Christmas! *Kevin*

Christmas Cantata

Our choir will again be joining the First Assembly of God Church as they present the Christmas cantata, "**Come Let Us Adore.**" This special concert will take place at the Paris Assembly of God on Sunday evening, **December 11** at 6:00pm. There will be a time of fellowship and food following this presentation. Invite your friends and join us on this important evening.

Kevin Coe—Pastor

Guthrie Gardner—Youth

Debbie Sims—Choir

Shannon Ellis—Office

All Church Business Meeting

This important year end meeting will take place on Wednesday, **December 14 at 8:00pm** here at the church. We will be voting on the 2017 church budget and the proposed officers and boards. Your attendance at this meeting is appreciated!

Christmas Eve Service

This special service will take place on Saturday, December 24 starting at **8pm**. Please join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!

ABW Meeting

This meeting will take place on Monday, December 5th at 12:30pm at Diane Williams. Bring a side dish for the luncheon and a Christmas gift exchange gift.





**Retired Ministers
& Missionary Offering**

The American Baptist Churches use the month of December to honor those who have faithfully served as **ministers and missionaries** in the ABC by taking up a love offering in each church. This offering is used to meet the needs of these retired saints. By giving to this offering, you are honoring the service of these former ministers and missionaries including those who have served this church.

Salvation Army Bell

Please make sure that you remember to ring the bell at Casey's General Store on **Saturday, December 3**. The funds collected during the month of December remain in our community to meet various needs. We appreciate everyone's participation in this important community project.

Thank You!

- To everyone who put together a box(s) for Operation Christmas Child. A total of **37 boxes** were given to this project.
- To the Deaconesses who put together this years all church Thanksgiving Dinner.
- To everyone who gave items to Operation Sleighbell.

Worship Attendance

November 6	57
November 13	70
November 20	55

Sunday Moring Messages In December

Dec. 4	Design Not Despair!
Dec. 11	Guthrie Gardner
Dec. 18	What's So Special About This Little Child?
Dec. 25	Guthrie Gardner

Happy Birthday!


December 1 Ryan Avenatti & Trevor Rikken	December 15 Katelyn Tarter
December 3 Debbie Sims	December 16 Mike Marvin
December 4 Jerry Hoult	December 19 Laura Fidler
December 7 Devin Taylor & Larry Daily	December 20 Lorie Gardner & Amy Ingram
December 9 Brooke Bolen	December 21 David Willming & Michael Hoult
December 10 George Furnish	December 23 Tony Avenatti
December 12 Mike Wyatt & Becky Rodriquez	December 29 Kara Ingram
December 13 Ann Ferrante & David de la Torre	

"Merry Christmas...Jesus is the Reason for the Season!"

First Baptist Church
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
 9:00am Sunday Sch. 10:00am Worship 11:15am Deacon & Trustee Meetings 6:00pm Youth	4 12:30pm ABW Meeting @ Diane Williams	5 6	7 6:00pm Choir @ Paris Assembly of God	8 9	10 11 9:00am Sunday Sch. 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Christmas Cantata @ Paris Assembly of God	12 13 14 15 16 17 No Choir 7:00pm Church Business Meeting	18 19 20 21 22 23 24 9:00am Sunday Sch. 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth 5:00pm Philathea Class Christmas Party @ FBC No Choir Winter Begins! 8:00pm Christmas Eve Service @ FBC	25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Merry Christmas! 9:00am Worship No Sunday School on this day. 