



“Being the presence of **Christ** in the world by **celebrating** the worship of God, **connecting** people to people and **caring** for others.”

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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**CHURCH STAFF**

ANDE MYERS  
Pastor

BRIAN LOGAN  
Minister of Music

MIKE GREEN  
Associate Pastor for  
Students and Families

NORMA DUNSTON  
Office Administrator

DENNIS LAWSON  
Custodian

LENA LAWSON  
Assistant Custodian

ALEX STONE  
Pianist

PAT PREWITT  
Nursery Coordinator

**The Advent Conspiracy**

In 2006 a group of pastors started an informal conversation and asked, Is our focus on the right things? And they asked, Is the way we are living a reflection of the most important things in life?

As they pondered these questions they noticed something we’ve all noticed. At Christmas they spent more money than they should have spent on things they did not necessarily want or need. Also, instead of celebrating the birth of Christ at Christmas, they noticed that they aimed to simply survive the holidays. They began formulating what they would call the *Advent Conspiracy*. This *Conspiracy* focused on these four themes during Advent: Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All.

**Worship Fully.** Of course we see in the Christmas story worship and praise at every turn when people stop and realize God’s great love for the world. Mary sings ‘My soul magnifies the Lord!’ The angels sing, ‘Glory to God in the highest!’ Zechariah exclaims, ‘God has looked favorably on his people and has saved them.’ During Advent let us worship fully.

**Spend Less.** Every year Americans spend \$450 billion on Christmas. Yes, you heard me right, \$450 billion. I wonder, Would spending less change the meaning of Christmas?

**Give More.** What if we focused not exclusively on monetary giving or gift giving, but on giving of ourselves? Give your time to those you love. Give your attention, your complete undivided attention. It is about quality ... not quantity, so to speak.

The final theme is: Love All. And here the focus is on taking some of the money saved in Spending Less and sharing it with those truly in need either in our community or in the world.

This is the content of the Advent conspiracy – Worship Fully. Spend Less. Give More. Love All.

I don’t think that is such a bad idea, do you? These themes point to the question, Are we giving our attention to the most important things in life? And this question, in one form or another, is exactly what we can reflect on ourselves as we prepare for the birth of our Savior.

Merry Christmas,  
Ande



**DEACONS OF THE WEEK**

**December 21-27, 2014**

Rick Loudermelt (215-0510)  
Pat Ramey (549-2871)

**December 28-January 3**

Ernie Siler (549-5707)  
Michael Colegrove (524-0666)

**January 4-10, 2015**

Willard Reeves (549-8998)  
Donnie Rains (549-0510)

**USHERS OF THE WEEK**

**December 21, 2014**

John & Erica Harris  
Evelyne Dupier & Ernie Siler

**December 24/Christmas Eve**

George & Pat Ramey  
Steven & Julia Moses

**December 28, 2014**

Mike & Gail Bordes  
Tom & Tammy Stephens

**SUPER CHURCH WORKERS**

**December 21, 2014**

Erin White  
Katelyn & Haley Harris

**December 28, 2014**

Mike Green & the Youth

**January 4, 2015**

Kathy Karr  
Eddie & Kathy Byrd

**Christmas Events**

- ◆ **“Christmas Forget Me Not”:** Select a “Forget Me Not” with the name and address of one of our homebound or nursing home residents. Mail a card, take a gift, or pay a visit to let them know they are not forgotten.
- ◆ **Christmas Cookie-making for Children:** Come make Christmas cookies on Sunday, December 21, at 2:00 pm in the CLC Kitchen. For all children 5th grade and younger. Bring a container to take home your treats!
- ◆ **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service** is Wednesday, December 24, at 5:30 pm.
- ◆ **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and the CBF World Missions Offering** are collected during December. Watch for the envelopes in the pew racks.



**Basketball & Cheerleading**  
Will you coach, referee, present a devotional, or work concessions? Contact Mike Green (859)940-2869!

**2014 GIVING**

Since First Baptist Church is a charitable organization and gifts to it are tax-deductible, IRS regulations and rules must be followed. Gifts to FBCW must be received by **Wednesday, December 31, 2014**, to be counted as a 2014 gift. Donations by check mailed to the church are considered to be made on the date the check is mailed. **TO QUALIFY AS A 2014 DONATION, YOUR GIFT ENVELOPE MUST SHOW A 2014 DATE POSTMARK.**

**December**

**Sunday, December 21, 2014**

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 10:00 am Kids Connect
- 11:00 am Morning Worship
- 11:00 am Super Church
- 2:00 pm Christmas Cookie Making for Children (CLC)
- 5:00 pm Guitar Lessons
- 6:00 pm Youth Christmas Party
- 7:00 pm Praise First

**Monday, December 22, 2014**

- 11:00 am Food Pantry (FH)

**Tuesday, December 23, 2014**

- 3:30 pm Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, December 24, 2014**

- 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service (Sanctuary)
- 7:00 pm Open House at Mike & Lora Green’s home

**December 25-26, 2014**

Office Closed due to Christmas Holidays

**Sunday, December 28, 2014**

- 10:00 am Bible Study
- 10:00 am Kids Connect
- 11:00 am Morning Worship
- 11:00 am Super Church
- 6:00 pm Youth Study

**RECORDS-Dec. 7, 2014**

Bible Study: 126  
Budget: \$ 7,696  
Designated: \$ 2,459  
Budget Gifts 2014: \$ 283,713

**Christmas Joy:** The Finance Committee would like to invite you to give an honorarium or memorial to a ministry of First Baptist. It may be any ministry of the church you wish. The donation should be marked “Christmas Joy” and be accompanied by this form. The honorariums and memorials will be listed in the worship folder (without amounts) on December 28 and in the *Western Recorder* the first of the new year. The donation must be turned into the church office by Monday, Dec. 22.

Please print names as you want them listed:

In Memory/In Honor of (circle one):

Given by:

Designated Ministry: