

# F B C N E W S !

## WE WISH YOU A

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

December | 2020 |



### Pastor's Perspective

#### *Trusting God Through It All*

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5

2020 has been the year we've all learned to trust God, or at least we should have learned to trust God. Never before in my lifetime has the world seemed so uncertain. Yet God has been faithful, and there is still much to be thankful for and hopeful for. We've learned to adapt. We've learned to appreciate what we have instead of what we wish we had. I for one am so grateful for such a strong and faithful church. We've had to change plans, cancel and rearrange so much this year, but our church has adjusted perfectly through everything.

The church council has agreed to continue our current protocols for the time-being. Our current protocol is to have in-person worship services at 8am and 10:15am each Sunday, with masks, and to continue to postpone the Sunday School program. Kid's Club Worship and Nursery are still available at the 10:15am service, and the Refuge Student Ministry continues to meet weekly. We are committed to offering virtual worship via facebook, youtube and our website at 10:15am each Sunday as well on WRMJ.

We hope these options will continue to be a blessing to everyone. As we have always said, and will say again. If you're sick, vulnerable, or in any way uncomfortable attending in-person, we totally understand, and hope you'll tune in virtually. We also hope you know we care about you and miss you. Since there are so many people "missing" at church, you may not have been personally contacted. We are here for you, whatever you may need. Don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Finally, I wanted to share with you the plans for the Christmas Eve Service. Understanding that things may look very different for people through the holidays, we decided to offer two services for Christmas Eve. You are invited to attend at 5pm or 7pm on Christmas Eve, and we would truly appreciate it if you would register in advance. The registration is very simple and just lets us know how many people to expect. Walk-ins will be welcome. We will also be live-streaming the 7pm service for those who would like to watch at home. Christmas may look a little different this year, but as always, it's about glorifying Jesus. If we keep Him high and lifted up in our hearts, we will have a great Christmas.

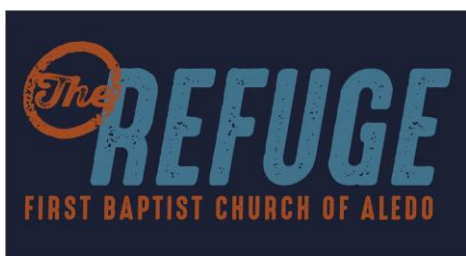
In Christ,  
Pastor Luke

Giving Details

November Giving Through Nov. 22

\$40,497.87

Monthly need to meet budget-\$48,599.33



**Refuge Jr. High Gathering** - Students grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> continue to meet from 6:30pm-8pm at First Baptist. Come have fun, play games and dive deep into God's word! No need to sign up, just show up! Please note, we will not be meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd.

**Refuge High School** - High School Refuge continues to meet on Sundays from 6-7:30pm at FBC. Grab a friend and join us in the Refuge Room. Please note, we will not be meeting on Sunday, Dec. 27th.

## Update on What's Happening in FBC Kids Ministry

Until further notice, there is no Sunday School for our kids. Watch and listen for details about when that will be starting again.

Kids Worship will continue for children ages 3 years old through 4<sup>th</sup> grade during the 10:15am service. We will continue with east door check in and temp checks and ask that the kids please wear masks. A nursery is available at the 10:15am worship service for our 0-2-year-old babies.

Questions, call Children's Pastor Mollie Dunn at 309-371-6962.

# Thank you from Mollie!



**Family Advent Kits** - Free Family Advent Kits will be available starting Sunday, Nov. 29th while supplies last.



Dear Church Family, A HUGE thank you to FBC & all those who helped make celebrating 10 Years of Kids Ministry so sweet! Thank you to those who wore t-shirts, the cards, gifts, the quilt, those who sent in videos, the basket of goodies & the kind words. Thank you!! You guys are great! It's an honor to serve at FBC.

~ Mollie





## Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 5pm & 7pm on Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24th

We will offer 2 Christmas Eve Services this year, one at 5pm & one at 7pm. We would truly appreciate it if you would register in advance on our website [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) or by calling the church office at 309-582-7812. The registration is very simple and just lets us know how many people to expect. Walk-ins will be welcome. We will also be live-streaming the 7pm service for those who would like to watch at home on our website [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) and on our facebook page.

Please note, the church office will be closed on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> & Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>. The church office will close at noon on New Year's Eve Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> and be closed on New Year's Day, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In January, we invite you to join us as we begin a new Sunday series titled **Coping with Covid: What the Bible teaches about Emotional Battles**. We will address topics like Anger, Anxiety, Fear, Depression and Loneliness.



### Christmas Gifts for the Nursing Home Residents

Our annual ministry of giving Christmas gifts to the nursing home residents has begun! Your unwrapped gifts may be placed in the boxes marked NURSING HOME GIFTS in the church lobby until **10 am on Tuesday, Dec. 15th**.

Gift suggestions include: Small fleece blankets, Word Search books, dressy scarves, lotion, shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, aftershave, stamps, stationery, diabetic socks, slipper socks with grips, small stuffed animals, adult coloring books with markers, metal tins of cookies, sugar free candy-especially gummy worms, chocolate candy, candy bars, small bags of chips, costume jewelry, cube boxes of Kleenex, Christmas wrapping paper, tape, and tags. Please **DO NOT** give powder or open back slippers.

Laurie Louck is coordinating this effort and would love to have anyone interested in helping sort and pack the gifts come to the church lobby on **TUESDAY, DEC. 15TH** at 10 am. Any questions call Laurie Louck 309-236-9751 or the church office at 582-7812.



**Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed**  
On Saturday, Dec. 19th from 9am-7pm First Baptist Aledo is providing bell ringers for the Salvation Army Kettle at the Aledo Walmart. There are ten - 1 hour slots that need to be filled. The sign-up sheet is on the Men's Ministry bulletin board in the lobby or call the church office at 309-582-7812 and we'll get you signed up.



### Christmas Poinsettias

We will once again be placing poinsettias in the sanctuary "In Memory Of" loved ones. Sign up on the Connect Card no later than Sunday, Dec. 6th. Cost is \$8. Checks can be made to FBC with "Poinsettia" in the memo.

# Women's Ministry & Other Events

## Women's Mentoring Program 2021!

The 2021 Mentor Season starts in January! Small groups will be walking through "Lies Women Believe and the Truth that Sets Them Free" by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth. This study focuses in on 45 lies commonly believed by Christian women towards God, themselves, sin, priorities, emotions and more, while offering the Truth to overcome the deception with God's Word.

Please sign up by December 13<sup>th</sup> on the church website [firstbaptistaledo.com](http://firstbaptistaledo.com) or call the church office 582-7812 to be placed in a mentoring small group.



## The Ladies of the Church Are Invited to a Baby Shower for Amanda Leng

The Drive By Baby Shower for Amanda and Baby Girl Leng will be **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** from 1pm to 3 pm. Drive by \*608 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Aledo. *\*Please note this is an address correction from the November Newsletter.*

Chris and Amanda are registered at Target, Amazon Direct & Babylist.com. If you have any questions, see Robin Huffstutler or Betty Leng.



## Baptism Sunday will be Sunday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>

Have you made that all important decision to follow Jesus and now, in a step of obedience, you would like to be baptized? If so, call the church office at 309-582-7812 or fill out Sunday's Connect Card at the bottom of the bulletin and turn it in to Pam at the information table in the lobby following Sunday's service. Pastor Seth will be in contact with you about all the baptism details.

## Communion Sunday

Sunday Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> is Communion Sunday we remind you to bring non-perishable food items for our Blessing Box. Items can be left in the Pink tote in the lobby.



Isaiah's family is hosting a drive thru dinner in memory of Isaiah. All proceeds will go to help the Bereavement Suite being built at Genesis in Davenport! The menu is homemade chicken and noodles over mashed potatoes, a biscuit and green beans. It will be held at the First Baptist Church in Aledo of a drive through style. Delivery will be available as well! An RSVP is not required but is helpful, call 309 582-4492 to reserve your meals. Cost is by donation and checks can be made payable to Gracie Olson. Questions, see Gracie, Joe or Kathy Olson.



From the First Baptist Staff

# WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS



Pastor Luke, Mollie, Maddie & Lucy



Pastor Seth, Denise Natalie & Jadon



Kevin, Pam, Alex, Kathryn, Andy, Vidalia Rose, Jon, Lindsay & Caroline Joann



Josh, Jenny,  
Orion, Blair, Molly  
& Parker



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PERMIT NO. 102 —

# Stay Connected!

- We are having In-person worship at 8am & 10:15am but we will NOT be having Sunday School at this time. We will still have Kids Worship at the 10:15am service as well as a nursery.
- For all the details about our upcoming events and live streaming Visit [FirstBaptistAledo.com](http://FirstBaptistAledo.com).
- Listen to WRMJ 102.3 at 10:15am on the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays & at 5:10pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays.
- Download our Church App by texting *fbcaledo app* to 77977.
- Find Us On Facebook
- Call the Church Office at 309.582.7812.



*Love Christ.*

*Love Others.*

*Think Biblically!*