



# Newsletter

DECEMBER - 2020

Greetings!

HO! HO! HO!

When we hear those words we think about Christmas and the fun, excitement and celebration we have as individuals and as families. As we have now entered December and we prepare for the coming of the Christ child into the world, we may not be feeling as excited. Many families did not meet over Thanksgiving and may not be meeting at Christmas as well.

The coronavirus has taken its toll on us. We are more ragged, frustrated and ill-at-ease than ever before. We all need a break! But this is not about bad news, this is about good news, in fact, this is about the **greatest** news ever.

In Luke 2 we read,

**8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.**

Ah, the great news shared with the shepherds, a Savior, the Christ, the Lord . . . has been born! That my friends is the greatest news! It's the news we need to hold onto this Christmas season. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing, can you take time every day to say thank you, Father for sending your Son into the world to love us and to redeem us.

The power of Christmas will never fade. It can never be defeated. And because of that, we too can never be defeated when we say yes to Jesus, the Child, who came for you and me!

Blessings to all!

Pastor Michael

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Volunteering at Pete's Pantry

For the past couple of weeks I have been helping out at Pete's Pantry. Debbie is the one who encouraged me to come out as she is there most every Thursday. She as well as many others are faithful volunteers for this ministry.

This morning (Tuesday) we carried in 600 pounds of food from Second Harvest. My body certainly feels it. Thursday is distribution day. Last week they helped 93 families and the week before was 128. If you are looking for a place to help out, Pete's Pantry offers you that opportunity. As I spoke with the folks who lead this ministry, they never have a day off and are oftentimes on site 2 or 3 times per day. They need help! Even as this picture shows, if you can lay out grocery bags, you can help. They go through 100's of these every week.



If you would like more information about how to volunteer for this ministry or others, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Pastor Michael

### Business Meeting

In December we have a Business meeting in which the budget and nominations are voted on and approved for the next year. Obviously, this year has been very different. With that in mind, we will still have our business meeting, but it will be conducted via Facebook Live. There might not be an opportunity to ask questions, because of the time delay, however, you have received a link below to view the budget. If you have questions, you can forward them to Pastor Michael, who will then present them to the Finance Committee. Since we would normally vote at this meeting, we will ask you to simply give a yes / no answer in the comments section

when we vote on these items. Hopefully this will help you stay current regarding what is happening at the church.

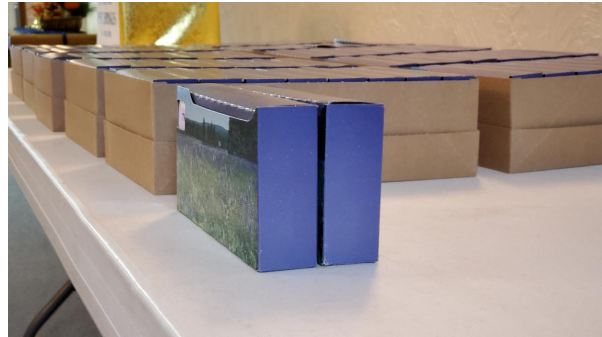
Please click [HERE](#) to access the church budget for 2021.

## Christmas Eve Service

There will be a Christmas Eve service this year, but we are unsure if it will be in-person or online at this time. We will send out an email letting you know as soon as a decision has been made!

## Giving Envelopes

You are welcome to stop by the church to pick up your 2021 giving envelopes. They are on tables in the main hallway.



### Sunday

10:30am: Online worship

### Tuesday

7:00pm: Ladies Zoom Bible Study with Debbie Deutsch

### Wednesday

6:30pm - 7:30pm: Impact (7th-12th Grades) online

## RESOURCES



### Bible Reading Plan

Pastor Michael has created a Bible reading plan that will allow you to read the entire New Testament in 90 days. Please click [HERE](#) to access November's readings, or find them at the bottom of this newsletter.

It is so important for followers of Christ to

know their spiritual gifts. Please feel free to carefully complete this assessment and turn in the answer sheet to Pastor Michael. He will be happy to go over it with you! Click [HERE](#) to access the assessment.



## Pastor Michael's Blog

Pastor Michael does a video blog Monday through Friday in which he takes a passage of scripture and talks about it. The video blogs are relevant and only last 3-5 minutes on average.

To watch Pastor Michael's Blog, click [HERE](#).

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world."

C.S. Lewis

## The Fight Before Christmas

by Tony Cooke and David Beebe

'Twas the fight before Christmas,  
And all through the house,  
Not a creature was peaceful,  
Not even my spouse.  
The bills were strung out on our table with dread,  
In hopes that our checkbook would not be in the red.  
The children were fussing and throwing a fit,  
When Billy came screaming and cried, "I've been bit."  
And Momma with her skillet, and I with the remote,  
She said, "You change one more channel and I'll grab your throat."  
When on the TV there arose such a clatter,  
I sat up on the couch to see what was the matter.  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,  
The cable was out, it was my worst fear.  
"The Cowboys, the Celtics, the Raiders, the Knicks,  
Without the sports channel I'd soon need a fix!"  
And then in the midst of my grievous sorrow,  
I remembered the times I had promised, "tomorrow..."  
"Not now, my children, but at some soon time,  
Dad will play with you, and things will be fine."

Now under conviction, I looked at my wife,  
Where was my kindness? Why all the strife?  
My heart quickly softened; I now saw my task,  
Some love and attention was all they had asked.  
I gathered my family and called them by name,  
And told them with God's help I'd not be the same.  
We'll keep Christ in Christmas and honor His plan.  
No more fights before Christmas—on that we will stand.  
My children's eyes twinkled; they squealed with delight.  
My wife gladly nodded; she knew I was right.  
It was the fight before Christmas, but God's love had come through,  
And just like He does, He made all things new.

### Bible Reading Plan - Month 3

December 1 - Colossians 1-4	December 16 - 1 Peter 4-5
December 2 - 1 Thessalonians 1-3	December 17 - 2 Peter 1-3
December 3 - 1 Thessalonians 4-5	December 18 - 1 John 1-3
December 4 - 2 Thessalonians 1-3	December 19 - 1 John 4-5
December 5 - 1 Timothy 1-3	December 20 - 2 John 1; 3 John 1; Jude
December 6 - 1 Timothy 4-6	December 21 - Revelation 1-3
December 7 - 2 Timothy 1-4	December 22 - Revelation 4-6
December 8 - Titus 1-3; Philemon 1	December 23 - Revelation 7-8
December 9 - Hebrews 1-3	December 24 - Revelation 9-10
December 10 - Hebrews 4-6	December 25 - Revelation 11-12
December 11 - Hebrews 7-9	December 26 - Revelation 13-14
December 12 - Hebrews 10-13	December 27 - Revelation 15-16
December 13 - James 1-2	December 28 - Revelation 17-18
December 14 - James 3-5	December 29 - Revelation 19-20
December 15 - 1 Peter 1-3	December 30 - Revelation 21-22

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CONTACT  
US

Phone: (765) 724-2457

Address: 2107 S Park Ave  
Alexandria, IN 46001

Find us on Facebook!

