

FSBC *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | FSBC EL DORADO | DECEMBER 2021

Operation Christmas Child

Wow! What an exciting month it has been. As a church we packed 153 boxes or gospel opportunities. Good job church family! We also raised more than enough to cover our shipping for these boxes and then some! God is so faithful to provide! I would ask that you pray this coming month for not only our boxes but the millions of boxes that were collected around the world. God can use each one of these boxes in a mighty way.

Here is a short story of how he used some boxes from last year: We praise God that one of our ministry partners in Asia delivered shoeboxes and shared the Gospel in a village that formerly opposed any Christian witness. This partner—a local pastor—first asked community elders if he could bring in gifts for area children. The leaders became intrigued and gave permission. On the day of the festive outreach event the entire village showed up! The Gospel was presented

to 140 children and their families in this unreached people group, and many prayed to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior. “The entire village was buzzing with excitement as the children received a tangible expression of God’s love,” one of our local volunteers said. “Children from a village that had never heard about the one true God and His Son, Jesus Christ, have now been called ‘out of darkness into His marvelous light’ (1 Peter 2:9).” You just never know how God is going to use your shoebox gift.

A quick update on our church as a drop off location, people from around the area brought in over 650 shoeboxes! Last year we had 596! God is sooooo good!

Thank you, thank you, thank you church for your generosity this shoebox season! I am already looking forward to next year's harvest of boxes.

Karen



New Member Spotlight

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

My name is Paula Moore and I'd like to introduce myself to you. I am a mother to two, grandmother to four, dog mom to two, retired kindergarten teacher, and live here in El Dorado.

When I was fourteen years old, a friend at my new school invited me to attend church with her. I knew immediately that Jesus Christ was what I wanted and needed in my life. I was baptized and became a member of the First Baptist Church of Augusta.

Fast forward a marriage, two kids and a change in teaching positions, and my family and I felt called to join Haverhill Christian Church.

Fast forward twenty plus years and a divorce, and I found myself searching for a new church. I had attended FSBC on a few holidays and special occasions since moving from my farm and ranch roots into El Dorado.

This summer I made the decision to attend regularly and get to know the church and church

family. On October 24th, I happily joined FSBC knowing that this is the church and family for me. I cannot wait to see where God leads me to serve in this church. I have always been called to serve in community outreach, children's ministries, education, and women's ministries. Who knows what God will lead me to do here. The future of this church is before us all, and growth can happen if we listen for where God leads us.

Blessed In His Name,
Paula Moore

Youth News

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! Our youth will continue learning how to walk closer to Christ on Wednesday nights and will continue studying the book of John on Sunday mornings.

We will have our Christmas party on Wednesday, December 15th. We will start at 6:30 and will have Pizza and a gift exchange with dollar tree gifts purchased by the youth group. Some of our

youth have signed up for drinks and desserts. We plan to have some games and listen to some music...and probably not Christmas music!

We pray everyone has a blessed Christmas time full of love and reminders of the greatest gift ever given: Jesus Christ.

Lisa Crook





Illuminating Jesus

Greetings Church! (Holiday style!). Love you Church!

Are you ready for Christmas? (Sorry! I'll give you a minute to get off the floor.). This year has gone by with lightning speed! I feel so much like I'm trying to catch up to March! How could it be time for Christmas? But as the days run faster and the nights get longer, our calendar inevitably turns our attention toward the best time of the year.

This year it seems like the night has been longer and darker than ever. We have experienced so much loss this year in our church! The pandemic has refused to stop clouding our recovery skies. It feels like an oppressive darkness has a hold on this world that threatens to squash any stirring of hope for a brighter day.

Such was the night Christ was born. Rome had a firm grip on the land as foreign oppressors. It had been hundreds of years since any prophet had heard from God. The long night waiting for the dawn of the Messiah had all but destroyed all hope that He would ever come. Then, in the darkest night, the world was illuminated with a tiny candle laid in a manger! John begins his great gospel with this amazing line: "In him was life, and that life was the light of men. That light shines in the darkness, and yet the darkness did not overcome it." John 1:4-5 CSB. Neither can it today!

What is Advent? Advent simply means coming into place or being; arrival. Advent is all about being able to see what was veiled because the light has come. We use the advent season to prepare for that precious moment when this world's darkness was illuminated by the holy presence of God here with us. This year, as the darkness rises with each news cycle, may our advent be especially encouraging! Let us illuminate our city with Jesus! It is a good time for the world to see Jesus again! - in us, through us, and perhaps with His glorious return!

"Illuminate" will be our theme for advent this year. Our dark times could use peace, hope, joy, love. They are all found only in Christ and they light up our world.

Pastor's Pen

I hope you will do a little shining for Jesus this advent. As a believer in Jesus, the light has come to you. You are already prepared for the coming of Jesus. When the darkness is heavy, it is the best time to shine your little light! (Insert children's song) You can do so by intentionally loving someone in darkness. Invite some to church this advent or our "illuminating" Christmas Eve service. Let your smile from the hope, peace, joy, and love inside you light up those around you. Yes, this world is dark, but do not let the darkness around you overcome the light within you! Let every encounter with another this season be absent of hate, hurt, anger, scorn, judgment, or any other feature of darkness on your part. Let your attitude, words, and actions illuminate your world with Jesus!

A few items of business, Church:

- Please join us for our Holiday Fellowship Meal and annual business meeting December 12. This is a very important day in the life of our church. Not only will we enjoy our bond in Christ around the table, we will also vote on our 2022 budget. We will also be talking about things which affect the future of our church. Copies of the budget for your preview will be available at church. If you need one sent to you electronically, email office@fsbceldorado.com and request one.
- The children of FSBC will present a Christmas program on December 19 during our Sunday morning worship. I encourage you to bring someone with you to enjoy this special time when Christmas fills our hearts.
- December 19th we will be having a ladies' cookie exchange. See Laura for details.
- December 22nd, we will be having a first-time Christmas event. "An Old Fashioned Country Christmas" party at the Brickley house starting at 6pm. Snacks, drinks and entertainment provided.
- Our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:30 pm Christmas Eve. Be sure to invite a neighbor and any incoming family to join us. Pajamas are welcome :) at this special service.

DECEMBER 2021

28	29 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	30	1 6:30 pm GriefShare	2 Olivia Baca	3	4
5 Mark Wint	6 David Crook 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	7	8 6:30 pm GriefShare	9 Marty Scott	10 Dianna Stroer, Paula Moore	11 Penny Nielsen
12 Kinley Nielsen Holidays' Meal, Annual Meeting	13 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	14	15 6:30 pm GriefShare	16	17 Glenna Wise	18
19 Children's Program Cookie Exchange Newsletter Articles Due, NO LATE ITEMS will be printed	20 Nathan Wright, Mark & Melynda Wint 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	21	22 Jerry & Sandy DeWitt 6:30 pm GriefShare No Services 22nd—6:00 pm Old Fashioned Christmas at Brickley's	23 5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting	24 6:30 Christmas Eve Service	25
26 Susan Ballard, Tom Edwards	27 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	28 Dylan Davis, James & Kelly Davidson	29 6:30 pm GriefShare No Services	30	31 Barry & Sue Mohler	

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Edwards
28th—Dylan Davis, James & Kelly Davidson
31st—Barry & Sue Mohler

2nd—Olivia Baca
5th—Mark Wint
6th—David Crook
9th—Marty Scott
10th—Dianna Stroer, Paula Moore
11th—Penny Nielsen
12th—Kinley Nielsen
17th—Glenna Wise
20th—Nathan Wright, Mark & Melynda Wint
22nd—Jerry & Sandy DeWitt
26th—Susan Ballard, Tom

December Events

Sundays 9:30 am—Sunday School
Sundays 10:45 am—Worship
Mondays 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting
Wednesdays 6:30 pm Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study, GriefShare
12th—Holidays' Meal, Annual Meeting
19th—Children's Program
19th—Cookie Exchange
19th—Newsletter Articles Due, **NO LATE ITEMS** will be printed
22nd—6:00 pm Old Fashioned Christmas at Brickley's
23rd—5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting
24th—6:30 Christmas Eve Service

JANUARY 2022

26 Susan Ballard, Tom Edwards	27 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	28 Dylan Davis, James & Kelly Davidson 6:30 pm CR	29 6:30 pm GriefShare	30	31 Barry & Sue Mohler	1 David Baca
2	3	4	5 Austin Prewit, Sophie Simpson 6:30 pm GriefShare	6	7	8 Willie Spivey
9 Potluck, "A Team" Meeting	10	11	12 6:30 pm GriefShare	13	14	15 Vivian Thiessen
16 Nathan and Nancy Wright Calendar Dates and Newsletter Articles due	17 Gloria Tucker	18	19 6:30 pm GriefShare	20 Walter Shepherd	21	22 Deb Reinert
23	24 Jakiyah Warren	25 Lisa Crook	26 6:30 pm GriefShare	27 Lesa Rumsey 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	28	29
30	31 John Meister	1	2 Matthew Wint 6:30 pm GriefShare	3	4	5 Vicki Peacock

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st—David Baca
 5th—Austin Prewit, Sophie Simpson
 8th—Willie Spivey
 15th—Vivian Thiessen
 16th—Nathan and Nancy Wright
 17th—Gloria Tucker
 20th—Walter Shepherd
 22nd—Deb Reinert
 24th—Jakiyah Warren
 25th—Lisa Crook
 27th—Lesa Rumsey
 31st—John Meister

January Events

Sundays 9:30 am—Sunday School
Sundays 10:45 am—Worship
Sundays 6 pm—Women's Bible Study
Mondays 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting
Wednesdays 6:30 pm Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study, GriefShare
 9th—Potluck, "A Team" Meeting
 16th—Calendar Dates and Newsletter Articles due
 27th—5:30 Facilities Team Meeting

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters	Date (Wed nights)	Bus MONITOR (Steve R. Driver)
12/5	Steve & Allison	Karen	Keith & Allison	Deb, Shawn, Ulala	12/1	Cory
12/12	Deb & Jakie	Karen	Rod & Diane G.	Deb, Diane, Penny	12/8	Karen D.
12/19	Sandy & Dianna	Karen	Norma B., Hope	Deb, Laura, Susan	12/15	Cory
12/26	Steve & Allison	None	Sandy & Brenda	Deb, Ulala, Glenna	12/22	NONE
1/2	Deb & Jackie	Reinert	Dianna S., Julie H.	Rod, Shawn, Penny	12/29	NONE
1/9	Sandy & Dianna	Brickley	Diane G.,	Rod, Diane, Susan	1/5	Karen D.
1/16	Steve & Allison	Brickley	Johnie G., Donna G.	Rod, Laura, Glenna	1/12	Cory
1/23	Deb & Jackie	Brickley	Steve R., Cindy R.	Rod, Ulala, Laura	1/19	Karen D.
1/30	Sandy & Dianna	NONE	Kat H.,	Rod, Shawn, Penny	1/26	Cory

