

FSBC *Messenger*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | EL DORADO FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH | DECEMBER 2022

Youth

Merry Christmas!!!

I can't believe how fast this year has gone. Even the youth are talking about how fast this year went!!!

Please join us in giving gifts to students of incarcerated parents/family. We will have Angel Tree Ornaments on the tree outside the church office. Please ask God to lead you as you choose a student to shop for. Pray over it as you wrap it up. You will just put the angel sticker on the package. Thank you for being a part of this ministry!!!

We will finish out our Wednesday night youth group on Wednesday, December 14th. It will be a fun night of gift exchange without a lot of cost; food, games, and fellowship.

We will not meet December 21st or 28th, due to many activities for the students at school, church, and with family.

We have been having 16-20 students on Wednesday nights. Please pray for God to give wisdom and discernment as we head into 2023.

A huge thank you to Janna Davis for helping every Wednesday and being an amazing contributor to our group!

Love you all!!!

Lisa Crook



WILD GAME FEAST DINNER

Saturday, January 28, 2023

5-8:30 pm at the

4H Community Building

Tickets \$10

OUTREACH SERVICE

Sunday, January 29, 2023

10:45 am during Worship

EVANGELISM TRAINING SEMINAR

Sunday, January 29, 2023

9:30 am during Sunday School

Guest author, speaker, hunter

DR. R. LARRY MOYER

The Deacon's Corner

Hello, Church Family. I hope that you all had a Happy Thanksgiving. I know many of you look forward to gathering with family to celebrate the holidays. We are truly blessed not just during the holiday season, but every day. In the next couple of months, our church is going to be busy not only with the normal holiday preparations, but plans are already coming together for the Wild Game Feast that on January 28 of 2023. This may seem like a long way off, but the date will be here before we know it. This is an evangelistic event that we should all be looking forward to with anticipation of what God is going to do. Our recent Sunday worship service bulletins have included fliers with information on how you can help, but there has also been information on how you can pray. Over the next couple of months, please watch for updates in the church newsletter, bulletin and through the text message prayer chains on ways you can pray. At this time, the team working on this event is asking that you pray for their preparations. There is a lot of behind the scenes work taking place. Pray for the resources, time and energy to pull all of the details together. Also begin thinking about the outdoorsmen or hunters you know who would be interested in coming to this event. Thank you for praying.

Rod Luehrs

Chairman of the Deacons

The Pastor's Pen

Merry Christmas Church! I Love You Church!
And I LOVE Christmas!

There is much to promote, so I'll simply say, Merry Christmas to you all from Lisa and I and our whole family!

Take note of these upcoming emphases:

- My Christmas series will be Christmas at the Movies! We will show clips of Christmas movies and share the Gospel. This is a great time to invite a friend! Each week of the series we will be serving popcorn! Bring a friend!
- The children will perform during worship on December 11, so no movie.
- We will decorate the Worship Center at 3pm on November 27. Rumors are that there will be music, cinnamon popcorn, and wassail!
- Our Annual Meeting to approve the budget and the creation of a staff position for Worship Leader will be following our Holiday Meal on December 4
- Our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for our missionaries with the International Mission Board will begin November 27 and run through the end of the year. Our church goal: \$3000. One way to give is to donate the money you would have spent on postage through our Lottie Moon "mail box" in the foyer.
- We want to see people come to Christ at our Wild Game Feed on January 28, 2023, at the 4-H hall. Check out the details in this newsletter. PLEASE bring someone who needs Jesus!

Pastor
David Crook



Wild Game Feast, How You Can Help:

- ⇒ Bring pics of your hunting or fishing trips by January 10th
- ⇒ Invite an Outdoor Enthusiast who needs Jesus
- ⇒ Pray for Salvations
- ⇒ Save some fish or wild game meats
- ⇒ Prepare your favorite recipe
- ⇒ Buy a ticket for someone
- ⇒ Volunteer to help at the event

The decorating committee is collecting the following items:

- ◆ Spent shotgun shells
- ◆ Spent bullets
- ◆ Deer sheds (antlers)

You can drop off items in the camo wrapped box in the foyer
Label your items if you want to have them returned to you.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) Update



Well, another successful shoebox collection season has come and gone. This month we are focusing on praying for all of the boxes that have been collected. Pray that they reach their final destination without any hiccups, and that each one impacts not only the child that receives it but also their family and friends with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We packed 155 boxes (gospel opportunities) this year! Praise the Lord for His goodness in providing us with the resources to pack that many. I pray that next year we can reach the 200 mark. **Remember, Christmas sales are good chances to snag good deals on items needed for next years boxes.**

This year is an exciting year. The 200 millionth shoebox was packed since the start of Operation Christmas Child, the Samaritan's Purse project, beginning in 1993. Elizabeth Groff, who received a shoebox gift years ago as a lonely child in an orphanage in Ukraine, is currently traveling to different U.S. drop-off locations and processing centers with the symbolic 200 millionth shoebox to encourage people to prayerfully pack boxes in Jesus' Name.

The project reached this historic milestone as faithful shoebox packers brought their gifts to more than 5,000 locations across the country during National Collection Week (Nov. 14-21). We

praise God for the millions of children, as well as families and communities, who have been reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ over nearly three decades.

Elizabeth wants people to know that God is using these gifts to demonstrate His love to children who are in desperate need. "There are so many children out there just like me who have never heard of Jesus or experienced His everlasting love," she said. "I know the impact a single shoebox can make. It absolutely changed my life. There's no greater reward than being able to serve through this ministry."

At each stop along the national tour, Elizabeth has added a gift item chosen by voters on the Operation Christmas Child social media platforms. She started her journey Nov. 12 in Denver at a local church that serves as a drop-off location. Then she made her way to the Chicago area on Nov. 14. Then she went on to Nashville on Nov. 16, and Punta Gorda, Florida, on Nov. 18, where Samaritan's Purse is working after Hurricane Ian. The final leg of her U.S. journey ended at the Charlotte Processing Center on Dec. 3, where Franklin Graham, Samaritan's Purse president, added the final gift to the special shoebox.

Elizabeth's adventure will culminate later in December when she hand delivers the celebratory 200 millionth shoebox to a young girl in Ukraine affected by the ongoing war.

"I pray that this child realizes and understands that they aren't alone. With everything going on in Ukraine, it must be so difficult for them," Elizabeth said. "I want them to know that there is the hope

of Jesus."

Sending God's Love, Elizabeth's story:

Elizabeth, growing up as a young girl in Ukraine, received her shoebox gift during a time she described as "rock bottom"—when she felt completely broken. "I was alone. I felt lost. That is where Jesus met me. He didn't leave me there," she said. "He showed me that He loved and cared for me through a simple gift—through a shoebox." Elizabeth's favorite item in her box was a shiny yellow yo-yo. "It represented love. Someone cared enough to send me this box," she said. "That shoebox gift was a direct response to my prayers, and it was a beacon of hope. I felt God's love. He used that box to say to me that I was not an orphan—that I was His daughter."

An American family adopted Elizabeth when she was 13. She joined her new family in packing 150 Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts that first year. "I had this passion in me to fill more boxes and to share the love that I once received through this gift."

Elizabeth has never stopped packing boxes. She started a shoebox club at her school and introduced Operation Christmas Child to other teenagers. Then, as a student at Virginia Tech University, Elizabeth headed a 300-member shoebox club on campus. Now she's packing shoeboxes with family and friends and continues to share her incredible story of God's faithfulness. "No matter where I go, I take Operation Christmas Child with me. I can't tell my story without the shoebox—that's where it started."

Karen Leibbrandt

Member Spotlight

Member Highlight Questions:

1. What is your Name?
2. How long have you been a member of FSBC El Dorado?
3. Tell us a little about your family.
4. What is your day job, or how do you spend your time when you are not with us at FSBC?
5. What is your passion for service, what areas are you currently serving?
6. What can others do to help serve in those ministries?
7. What is your favorite Bible verse?
8. What is your testimony?

1. Deb Reinert
2. Joe and I, along with 3 toddlers came to First Southern in the Spring of 1996.
3. Joe and I were married 8/27/83. We lived in Rural Lincoln, Kansas, initially, but through a series of God-orchestrated events we moved to my home place in 1989 next to my mother. We brought our humbled cow herd down with us and began to run our operation in Cassoday. We were able to purchase our own ranch in 1999 and moved our farm again in 2000 to our present location on the Walnut River. At the time, we were attending a small Bible Church in Americus (1.5 hours away). With the third little Reinert on the way, we decided it was time to find a church home closer. We felt at home on our first visit to First Southern. We were especially drawn to the preaching and friendliness here. We have five children. Our first, Joanna Grace, is in heaven 32 yrs now. Jonetta and her husband, Taylor, with two year old, Navy Jo, live in Hays, Ks. Jonelle and Mike serve a Church in New Berlin, Illinois, and are expecting their first child in late February. Joseph and his wife, Leah, live two miles from us and have a bubbly seven month old named Emmalyn. Jordan and his new bride Mia live in Stillwater, OK, where he manages a Bobcat implement store.
4. With the Children all grown and moved away, needless to say, Joe and I are double overtime at the ranch trying to keep up with seasonal demands! I volunteer Thursdays at the pregnancy center in town and clean house for some friends in Vintage. I also work election polls on election years and help teach Bible Class to the primary students at Flinthills Primary School in Cassoday.
5. I enjoy serving as a children's Department



John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Teacher in 4th-6th grade Sunday School and Wednesday night kids Class. Joe teaches an adult Sunday School class and team teaches Children's Church with me on alternating months. I am on rotation to drive the Bus on Sunday Mornings and enjoy serving in Hospitality for meals when I'm free.

6. There are always openings for service for Christ if you just say Yes! I'll admit I was not always comfortable in some of these roles but if you have a teachable and willing Spirit, God can make up for any of your deficiencies! It is eternal Joy to see what God can do with a simple piece of clay.

7. John 10:10 stands out to me over my short life. "I came that you might have life, and that you might have it more Abundantly" Life with Christ is full and overflowing in good times and bad because he has all the answers and has proven Himself to be trustworthy.

8. God called me out in August, 1972. I had overheard some school friends discussing the second return of Christ and though I didn't understand much of what they shared, I knew in my heart, that if He came, I would not be taken. That sent me on a Journey of works and searching scripture to try to find the secret to eternal life. Finally, at a revival, I went forward and spoke to a counselor. He shared the four Spiritual Laws booklet with me and explained that our Faith must be solely based on the promises of God's Word and facts of what Christ did personally for me at the Cross! He explained that my feelings are only a byproduct of faith in the truth and reliability of God's Word. That night I put my trust in the Lord Jesus and His finished work at the Cross. I began to read God's Word and He opened up doors of understanding into Life and purpose. That's why I claim John 10:10. Life in Christ is truly Full & Abundant!

FSBC Kid's Ministries

First Southern Baptist Church

200 Oil Hill Road, El Dorado, KS 316-321-3465

Bus line 316-452-3594

Paula Moore 316-258-6596

December 2022

Excitement in The Air!

Excitement fills the air each December. That "first Christmas" was filled with lots of exciting trips. The first suitcase was packed even before Jesus was born.

After Jesus was born, two groups of people came to visit Him. The shepherds arrived first. They probably jabbered all the way there (sound like your family trips?), wondering what the Savior would look like and what they would say to Mary and Joseph.

The second group, who made the long journey, were wise men. They had to pack lots of luggage because they traveled a long way to meet the Savior. They brought expensive presents (the first Christmas presents) and presented them to Jesus. They treated Jesus like the royalty that He was.

These holiday journeys were filled with the excitement of the arrival of a great King, Jesus, the Son of God. This Christmas season, let God place in your heart the same excitement about the true meaning of Christmas, then think of ways you can share your excitement with others.

Have a blessed Christmas season as we all stop and recognize the greatest gift of all. . . Jesus Christ, and the salvation HE makes possible.

In His Service,

Ms. Paula



OCC Packing Party

The Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party was a huge success! We were able to pack 155 boxes in one evening, thanks to Karen Leibbrandt's hard work and organization on this mission. And a special thanks to the Youth for pairing up and assisting the kiddos in this activity.

The kids were very excited to be able to pack many boxes with school supplies, toiletries, toys, and small clothing items.

These boxes and more will be sent to a collection site and shipped to children all around the world. We are even able to track the boxes we packed to see where they are delivered!

What an exciting opportunity to serve our God!

We continue to journey through the books of the Bible on Wednesday evenings. We plan to finish up the Historical Books at the end of the month. We will have officially covered Genesis through Esther! With a few Christmas lessons added!

Fun On The Road

Looking for some ways to have fun on your next road trip? Look no further. Take your newsletter along for the next ride and see who is the master of the road.

Travel Alphabet as you gaze out the window, look for things that start with each letter of the alphabet. Begin with A and go to Z. Call out the answer when you find one. No 2 people can have the same answer for a letter. OR try finding the letters to the word CHRISTMAS.

License Plate Play Look for numbers in order on license plates. Start with the number 1. Each person must call out his number, and that plate can only be used by one person. Also try finding license plates from as many states as possible. Happy Hunting!

DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

11th Kids Christmas Program

21st No Evening Activities

**24th Christmas Eve Service,
6:30pm**

25th Christmas Service, 10:00am

28th No Evening Activities

**Activities will resume
Wednesday, January 4th**



“A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule over us, And He will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.” Isaiah 9:6 NIV

Wishing You A Blessed Christmas and New Year

DECEMBER 2022

Sundays 9:30 am—Sunday School 10:45 am—Worship 5pm—Women's Bible Study	Mondays 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting	Mondays 6:30 pm Celebrate Recovery	Wednesdays 6:15 Youth and Children Meal 6:30 Bible Study for all ages	1	2 Olivia Baca	3
4 Holidays Meal, Annual Meeting No Bible Study	5 Mark Wint	6 David Crook	7	8	9	10 Dianna Stroer, Paula Moore
11 Penny Nielsen Children's Program 12:30 pm A-Team	12 Kinley Nielsen	13	14	15 Newsletter Articles Due 5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting	16	17 Glenna Wise, John Meister 11am-Noon Bread of Life Food Ministry
18 3 pm Cookie Exchange	19	20 Nathan Wright, Mark & Melynda Wint	21 No Bible Study or Programs	22 Jerry & Sandy DeWitt	23	24 6:30 Christmas Eve Service
25 Christmas Service 10 am No Sunday School No Bible Study	26 Susan Ballard, Tom Edwards	27	28 Dylan Davis, James & Kelly Davidson No Bible Study or Programs	29	30	31 Barry & Sue Mohler

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters	Date (Wed)	Bus MONITOR (Steve R. Driver)
12/4	Steve & Cory	Ms. Paula	Christine B., Diane G.	Rod, Laura, Deb	12/7	Cory
12/11	Linnie & Sandy	Reinert	Gloria T., Cindy R.	Rod, Ulala, Shawn	12/14	Cory
12/18	Deb & Jackie	Reinert	Steve R., Johnie G.	Rod, Diane, Susan	12/21	Cory
12/25	Sandy & Diana	NONE	TBD	Rod, Glenna, Laura	12/28	Cory

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

2nd—Olivia Baca
 5th—Mark Wint
 6th—David Crook
 10th—Dianna Stroer, Paula Moore
 11th—Penny Nielsen
 12th—Kinley Nielsen
 17th—Glenna Wise, John Meister
 20th—Nathan Wright, Mark & Melynda Wint
 22nd—Jerry & Sandy DeWitt
 26th—Susan Ballard, Tom Edwards
 28th—Dylan Davis, James & Kelly Davidson
 31st—Barry & Sue Mohler

December Events

4th—Holidays Meal, Annual Meeting
 11th—Children's Program
 11th—12:30 pm A-Team
 15th—Newsletter Articles Due
 15th—5:30 pm Facilities Team Meeting
 17th—11am-Noon Bread of Life Food Ministry
 18th—3:00 pm Cookie Exchange
 21st & 28th—No Bible Study or Programs
 24th—6:30 Christmas Eve Service
 25th—Christmas Service 10 am No Sunday School
 28th—No Bible Study or Programs

JANUARY 2023

1 David Baca	2	3	4	5 Austin Prewit, Sophie Simpson	6	7
8 Willie Spivey Potluck, "A Team" Meeting	9	10	11 Calendar Dates, and Newsletter items due	12	13	14
15	16 Nathan and Nancy Wright	17 Gloria Tucker	18	19 5:30 Facilities Team Meeting	20 Walter Shepherd	21
22 Debbie Reinert	23	24 Jakiyah Warren	25 Lisa Crook	26	27	28 Wild Game Feast 5:00-8:30pm
29 Guest Pastor, Larry Moyer	30	31	Laura Out of Office			
	Laura Out of Office					

Date	Bus	Children's Church	Nursery	Counters	Date (Wed nights)	Bus MONITOR (Steve R. Driver)
1/1	Steve & Cory	Ms. Paula	Cindy R., Johnie G.	Johnie, Deb, Penny	1/4	Cory
1/8	Linnie, & ?	Ms. Paula	Janna D., Zara T.	Johnie, Ulala, Shawn	1/11	Cory
1/15	Deb & Jackie	Ms. Paula	Donna G., Julie H.	Johnie, Diane, Susan	1/18	Cory
1/22	Sandy & Dianna	Ms. Paula	Glenna W., Keith A.	Johnie, Glenna, Laura	1/25	Cory
1/29	Steve & Cory	NONE	Gloria T., John B.	Johnie, Deb, Penny	2/1	Cory

January Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st—David Baca
 5th—Austin Prewit, Sophie Simpson
 8th—Willie Spivey
 16th—Nathan and Nancy Wright
 17th—Gloria Tucker
 20th—Walter Shepherd
 22nd—Debbie Reinert
 24th—Jakiyah Warren
 25th—Lisa Crook

January Events

Sundays 9:30 am—Sunday School
Sundays 10:45 am—Worship
Sundays 5 pm—Women's Bible Study
Mondays 6:15 pm Prayer Meeting
Wednesdays 6:30 pm Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study
 8th—Potluck, "A Team" Meeting
 11th—Calendar Dates and Newsletter Items due
 19th—5:30 Facilities Team Meeting
 24th—31st Laura Out of Office
 28th—Wild Game Feast 5:00-8:30 pm
 29th—Guest Pastor, Larry Moyer



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

**OUR
CHURCH'S GOAL**

\$3000



imb.org/lottimoon
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100% of your gifts go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® to enable gospel transformation among the unreached.