



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH FAIRDALE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

For the first two weeks of November, our church participates in the Operation Christmas Child program. You may have heard of this program before or this may be entirely new for you. According to their website, the mission of Operation Christmas Child is “to provide God’s love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

One major way this is accomplished is through the shoebox gifts. Each year, thousands

of people collect items and fill a box, then those boxes are sent around the world to various churches and community ministries. Those boxes are then distributed to children.

One thing that is important to note is that when we send these shoeboxes, we are not just sending a box filled with personal care necessities, school supplies, or fun toys. Operation Christmas Child also makes sure to include a gospel message when they distribute the gifts. Every child who receives a box is enrolled

in a 12-lesson program taught by local churches called “The Greatest Journey.” This teaching shares the story of Jesus with children and teaches them what it means to follow Him.

So this year, we encourage you to participate in this program in whatever way you can. We need volunteers to help sort and deliver boxes. We need people to take boxes home and fill them. And we need people to pray for the children who will receive these boxes – that God might draw them to himself and use them for his glory!

Whoever Believes: Promises from the Gospel of John

Josh Greene | Pastor

Do you believe that **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God**? And if so, upon believing, do you **have life in His name**?

I hope you are, and I hope you do.

This is the exact purpose for which John wrote his gospel. (John 20:30-31)

And at this point, we as a church have been studying the Gospel of John for a while. 10 months, actually. We began our study in John back in early February. And we have completed the first 11 chapters. There are 21 chapters in John, and so we are about halfway. It's been good. The best is still to come!

We have seen some of the best stories - Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the wedding at Cana, and many others. We have also encountered five of Jesus's seven "I am" statements. We still have two more to find. Together we are growing in our knowledge of the truth.

But the biggest thing that I have taken away from the first eleven chapters of John are the incredible promises. God has so much comfort for our lives and our souls.

*John 3:16 told us that whoever believes in him **"will not perish but have eternal life."***

*John 3:18 says, **"whoever believes in him is not condemned."***

*John 5:24 says whoever believes in him **"does not come into judgment."***

*John 10:28 promises us, **"I give them eternal life, and they will never perish."***

*John 11:25 says, **"Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."***

These are just some of the rich treasures that the Word of God gives us. I hope that they are so very comforting to your heart and life. I hope that your faith is informed and fortified by the very words of Jesus Christ. I hope you are believing!

May God be glorified in and through our church as His Word is taught and therefore many are strengthened in believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and upon believing, have life in His name.

I hope you are committed and looking forward to all of us together finishing out this study in the Gospel of John. See you this Sunday!

Sew Thankful: Senior Adult Ministry Update

Becki McBroom | Ministry Director

Just over a year ago, our church launched a new ministry. Created for those in our congregation ages 55 and older, Next2Him has been meeting monthly to share a meal, fellowship, play games, and encourage one another. Additionally, they often plan trips and outings together; they have gone to Opryland Hotel and the Ark Encounter this year. This ministry was created not just as a means for our seniors to have fun and connect with one another, but as a way for them to use their skills and gifts to serve those in our church and community.

Some ways the Next2Him ministry has been serving others:

- They provide Welcome Baskets for new members of our church.
- Quite a few volunteered at the local elementary school to spend time with kids whose parents were not able to attend the annual “Lunch Buddies” day.
- Most recently, many members made lap quilts for our home bound members. These will be delivered before the holidays.

Next2Him encourages each of you to send a card or make a phone call during the upcoming month. If you would like a list of our homebound members, you can contact the church office. If you would like more information about Next2Him senior ministry, you can join them on the last Monday of the month at 11:00 or call Becki McBroom at (502)299-9152.

