

Weekly Summary	11-17-19	11-24-19
Sunday Bible Study Attendance	244	241
Small Group Attendance	14	—
WOW Bible Study	13	—
Men’s Fraternity	—	—
AWANA Wednesdays	63	—
<b>Total Bible Study Attendance</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>241</b>
Worship Attendance: 8:30 AM	192	184
11:00 AM	158	159
Offering	\$11,574.50	\$14,467.60
E-Giving (10/26-11/18)	\$22,774.00	

Continued from front page...

Do not abandon healthy habits. Eat healthy snacks, get plenty of sleep, and include physical activity each day. Everything in moderation.

Take a breather and Pray. Make time for yourself. Yes, it is allowed! Just 15 minutes alone without distractions may help clear your mind, slow your breathing, and restore calm. Do not lose focus on what Christmas is all about: Jesus. There’s no better time to renew joy, peace, and your relationship with Him than the holiday season.

Shalom,  
Nina Palumbo

Continued from back page...

Thursday, December 19

10:00 a.m. Gloria Fox’s Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. ESL Class Christmas Party  
6:30 p.m. Metro Baptist Volleyball League

Friday, December 20

9:00 a.m. Gym Walking  
1:00 p.sm. Prime Time Game Time  
2:00 p.m. Pickleball  
6:15 p.m. Production Call for Tree  
7:00 p.m. Singing Tree (Performance 1 of 3)

Saturday, December 21

7:30 a.m. Men’s Prayer Breakfast  
2:15 p.m. Production Call for Tree  
3:00 p.m. Singing Tree (Performance 2 of 3)

Sunday, December 22– 4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:45 a.m. Bible Study  
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
2:15 p.m. Production Call for Tree  
3:00 p.m. Singing Tree (Performance 3 of 3)

Thank You

The church has received a *Thank You* card from **Louis and Wilma Reisinger.**

Fee Fee Baptist Church Vision:

Intentionally reaching our community by living a lifestyle committed to Christ!



Every Wednesday

@ 5:30 p.m.

(RSVP BY 12:00 P.M. EVERY TUESDAY)

December 4, 2019

Ham  
Yams  
Baked Apples  
Brownies

December 11, 2019

Brats/Sauerkraut  
Hot Dogs/Chili  
Pudding Delight

December 18, 2019

Cooks’ Choice

December 25, 2019

No Meal

January 1, 2020

No Meal

Meals commence on  
January 8, 2020.

Adult Entrée

\$5.00

Child’s Nuggets or Entrée (Ages 4-10)

\$2.00

Child’s Nuggets or Entrée (Ages 0-3)

FREE

Ministry Opportunities	Church Office Staff
<b>Sunday, December 8 – 2nd Sunday of Advent</b>	
Both Services	Budget Vote
8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study
10:45 a.m.	KidsZone
11:00 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
3:00 p.m.	Tree Choir Rehearsal
3:30 p.m.	Tree Angel Rehearsal
<b>Monday, December 9</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Gym Walking
9:15 a.m.	Wagner/Sherer WOM
6:30 p.m.	Tree Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	Pickup Basketball
<b>Tuesday, December 10</b>	
7:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels
10:00 a.m.	Spirit Lifters NH Visits
6:30 p.m.	ESL Classes
<b>Wednesday, December 11</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Gym Walking
9:00 a.m.	Pickleball
5:30 p.m.	Church Dinner
6:15 p.m.	AWANA
6:15 p.m.	Bible Study
6:15 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study
6:15 p.m.	WOW Bible Study
6:15 p.m.	Youth Small Groups
7:00 p.m.	Personnel Committee
<b>Thursday, December 12</b>	
10:00 a.m.	Gloria Fox’s Bible Study
3:30p.m.	Texas Roadhouse Youth Fundraiser in St. Charles (until 10:00 p.m.)
6:30 p.m.	Metro Baptist Volleyball League
6:30 p.m.	ESL Classes
<b>Friday, December 13</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Gym Walking
2:00 p.m.	Pickleball
<b>Saturday, December 14</b>	
5:00 p.m.	Christmas Lights @ Jellystone & Dinner at Culvers
<b>Sunday, December 15 – 3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	
Both Services	Lottie Moon Offering Ingathering
8:30 a.m.	Traditional Worship
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study
10:45 a.m.	KidsZone
11:00 a.m.	Contemporary Worship
12:15 p.m.	Children’s Committee
3:00 p.m.	Tree Choir Rehearsal
3:30 p.m.	Tree Angel Rehearsal
<b>Monday, December 16</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Gym Walking
9:30 a.m.	Sewing Group
6:30 p.m.	Tree Choir Rehearsal
7:00 p.m.	Pickup Basketball
<b>Tuesday, December 17</b>	
7:00 a.m.	Meals on Wheels
11:30 a.m.	May Clermont WOM
2:00 p.m.	Prime Time Council
4:00 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes Ministry
6:30 p.m.	ESL Classes
<b>Wednesday, December 18</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Gym Walking
9:00 a.m.	Pickleball
5:30 p.m.	Church Dinner
6:15 p.m.	Tree Dress Rehearsal
<i>Calendar continued inside...</i>	

Vol. 59, No. 24

December 2, 2019

# THE FORERUNNER

## FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

*TO KNOW CHRIST AND MAKE HIM KNOWN*

### A Word From Pastor Zach

Well church, it is officially the Christmas season, since it is now AFTER Thanksgiving! While I have had some fun with our #Christmascannotbecontained and #respecttheturkey battles with Andrew and Kyle, I am thrilled that the Christmas season is upon us. It is incredible to think that God loved us enough that he sent his Son to save us. That is what we get to celebrate each and every year at Christmas.

However, I do know that Christmas can be a stressful time. That is why I am thankful for Nina Palumbo’s second article. She does a great job of outlining ways to help minimize stress during the holidays. Think about which of these you can put into practice in the days ahead.

In Him,  
Pastor Zach

***City sidewalks, busy sidewalks dressed in holiday style. In the air there’s a feeling of Christmas....***

Homes are being decorated, presents are being wrapped and Christmas has taken over the Hallmark channel. For some this may elicit feelings of excitement and joy. Yet for others, not so much. While holiday movies may be heart-warming, they may set us up for unrealistic expectations of what our holidays should look and feel like. Events may not go as planned, family members may challenge your patience, or you may find your circumstances completely different

this year. Stress creeps in. You can minimize your stress by practicing a few acts of self-kindness.

Acknowledge your feelings. If you lost a loved one this year or you’re not able to be with those you love, realize that it is normal to feel sadness and grief. If you are feeling lonely or isolated, take a risk and tell someone how you are feeling. Seek out community or religious social events, volunteer, or visit shut-ins.

Be realistic. The holiday does not need to be perfect or just like last year. Be open to new experiences or start new traditions. Be careful not to get caught up in comparing your experience with social media images or those portrayed in the movies. Try to accept family members and friends as they are. Everyone is experiencing stress and it may be best to save some conversations for another day.

Plan and stick to a budget. Plan menus, shopping lists and events you will attend. Before you go gift or food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend and stick to your budget. Can you shop when there may be less crowds in the stores or is it an item that you can buy online? Explore low cost gift alternatives.

Learn to say “No.” Saying “yes” when you should say “no” can leave you feeling resentful and overwhelmed. If saying “no” is not possible, try to remove something else from your schedule to not overload yourself.

*Nina’s article continued inside...*

PERIODICAL

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

The Senior Council will be meeting soon to plan activities for the Winter/Spring of 2020. If you have any ideas of something you would like to do, please let Gloria know. We will be happy to look into the feasibility of your suggestion.

While 2020 is fast approaching, we still have some great things planned for the rest of the year. Don’t forget to sign up for our trip to Santa’s Magical Kingdom at Jellystone Park on Saturday, December 14. The buses will leave the church at 5:00 p.m. We will either see the lights first or eat first, depending on the lines for the display. Do not come ravenous as you might have to delay gratification for Culvers until after driving through the lights. Cost for the event will be \$5 per person, plus your dinner.

Makes plans to attend the Singing Tree! There are only three performances this year: Friday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 21 at 3:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 22 at 3:00 p.m. Think about who you might bring along to hear the Gospel message!

Bible Study Corner

Sunday morning Bible study classes will either be studying Advent lessons or watching video Christmas lessons called “An Unexpected Christmas.” Please join us at 9:45 a.m. every Sunday morning in December.

Other regular Bible studies are winding down for the year and you will want to check the schedules in the bulletin and on the back of this issue to make sure your group is meeting.

Bible studies will resume on Wednesday, January 8 at 6:15 p.m. Precepts will commence on Sunday, January 5 at 5:00 p.m. We will continue studying the Gospel of John. You are invited to get involved in one of these studies.

Angel Tree

The Angel Tree is a great opportunity to minister to our church and community. Pick up an ornament today to get started making a child’s Christmas wish come true. Simply wrap the gift you buy and reattach the ornament tag so we will know who will receive the gift. Thank you in advance for sharing a small piece of Christmas with a child. This is such a great way to share the LOVE of Jesus!

Chi Alpha News

Kyle Baldwin, Interim Youth Director

**Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser** - Our next fundraiser for our summer mission trip to Morganton, North Carolina will be at Texas Roadhouse in St. Charles on Thursday, December 12! Please come out for a good dinner in support of our student ministry; a portion of your bill will come directly back to us. You can grab a flyer back by the Media Center or print one off our website. How could you possibly pass up an opportunity for those delicious rolls and cinnamon butter? Yum!

**Youth Christmas Party!** Our annual Youth Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 11! Come join us at 6:15 p.m. for a fun night of games, videos, and Christmas cheer! This will also be our last Wednesday night for 2019, so enjoy the holidays and time with your families!

**THE BIG CHILL** - This year’s Big Chill will be bigger and better than ever! All new events will be happening this year...and while we aren’t quite ready to spill those details yet, we can say that you will want to be ready to drive, dance, and hide! The event will be January 17-18, so mark your calendars now, and start inviting friends! (Hint for this year: We might be heading UNDERGROUND)!

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

**Thanks, Thanks and Thanks...**for the many "gophers" (go-fors), builders, and decorators who once again have assembled our gigantic tree and decorated our church so beautifully. Our Worship center, Welcome center, and foyer all look so festive as we anticipate another magnificent season of celebrating our Savior's birth.

**History of Christmas Carols** - Carols were first sung in Europe thousands of years ago, but these were not Christmas carols. They were pagan songs sung at the Winter Solstice celebrations as people danced around stone circles. Early Christians took over the pagan solstice celebrations – instead, celebrating Christmas by singing Christian songs. However, not many people liked these songs since they were written and sung in Latin, a language that most people couldn't understand. The people soon lost interest in celebrating Christmas by singing carols.

This was changed by St. Francis of Assisi when he began writing Nativity plays. The actors sang songs that told a story. The songs were written in the language the people could understand. They would often watch the play and join in singing.

The earliest carol was written in 1410, but sadly only a very small fragment of it still exists. It was about Mary and Jesus meeting different people in Bethlehem. Most carols at this time told untrue stories, very loosely based on the Christmas story and were seen as entertaining rather than being Sacred.

Before carol singing in public became popular, there were sometimes official carol singers called 'Waits'. They were called 'Waits' because they only sang on Christmas Eve. This was sometimes known as 'Watchnight' or 'Waitnight,' because of the shepherds were watching their sheep when the angels appeared to them. After 'Waitnight,' the Christmas celebrations began.

About this time many orchestras and choirs were being set up in the cities of England and people wanted Christmas songs to sing. Many new carols such as *Good King Wenceslas* were written in the Victorian period. New carols were created and became popular, as did the custom of singing carols in the streets. Candlelight services and services of lessons and carols soon followed. These events are celebrated and enjoyed in many countries today!



Pastor Zach...I'm sure we can work something out! ~ Ronna

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

**Planning Center** – We want to extend a thank you to our families and teachers for your patience as we are working out the kinks of Planning Center, our new Children’s Ministry check-in system. We believe it will be a much easier system to use. There is even a mobile remote feature that we will introduce after the first of the year. Thanks again for your cooperation and patience as we continue to do our very best to keep your children safe as we minister to them.

**Combined Worship Service** - On Sunday, December 29, our K-5th grade kids will be singing in the combined 11:00 a.m. Worship Service. Practice is during KidsZone on Sunday mornings. Mrs. Eva does a great job helping them get ready for the service. Parents, thank you for allowing them to lead us in worship.

**Loaves and Fishes Ministry** – On Tuesday, January 21, our children and their families are invited to help prepare dinner for the Loaves and Fishes shelter. Save the date and watch for further details in early January.

**Ministry Opportunities** - It takes many people to help make our Children’s Ministry great but we still have a few roles that need filled: Assistant Teacher in 4th-5th grade and Kindergarten on Sunday morning for Bible Study, and Childcare Workers during 11:00 a.m. worship (this can be just a once-a-month commitment). These needs are vital to the on-going discipling of our children. See Kathy Scott if you would like to serve.

Mark 10:13-16: *Then they brought little children to (Jesus), that He might touch them: but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, “let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them: for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it. And He took them up His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.*

Community Connection

Andrew Yakel, Interim Associate Pastor

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** – There are 4.5 billion people unreached by the Gospel. That’s a huge number of people that do not know the joy and freedom of living for Christ and will spend eternity separated from Him. That number can seem overwhelming. There are many ways to make a difference to those 4.5 billion, but one of them is by giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The money given to this will go directly to missionaries living among those 4.5 billion to share the Gospel with them. Pray about what you can give this Christmas season to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. You can give online or through a marked envelope in the Sunday morning offering. Thank you for caring about those who are far from Christ!

# 2019 Singing Tree

FRIDAY DECEMBER	SATURDAY DECEMBER	SUNDAY DECEMBER
20	21	22
7:00PM	3:00PM	3:00PM

**FREE ADMISSION**

**FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
11330 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044