

WEEKLY SUMMARY	11-13--22	11-20-22
WOW Bible Study	19	—
Chi Alpha Wed.	22	—
AWANA	55	—
Sunday Bible Studies	150	181
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE		
8:30AM	89	120
11:00AM	128	142
WORSHIP TOTALS	217	262
Offering	\$7,584.00	\$14,853.37
E-Giving (10/26 - 11/7)	\$21,033.24	

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Friday, December 23—
Office & Building open till Noon, *by appt only*.

Saturday, December 24—
Christmas Eve (Building closed).
Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m. in Worship Center.

Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day. Combined Service 11:00 a.m. (*No Bible Studies*).

Monday, December 26—
Christmas Day Observed.
(Church office & building closed).

Saturday, December 31—
New Year’s Eve
(Church office & building closed).

Sunday, January 1—
New Year’s Day -
Regular Services and Bible Studies.

Monday, January 2—
New Year’s Day Observed -
(Church office & building closed).

Sympathy

Our love through Christian sympathy is extended to ...**Loretta and Nanette Tipton** on the passing of their son and brother, respectively, **Gary Tipton**, on **November 11**.

Mobile Market

The last Mobile Market of the year will be:

- December 12

Anyone is welcome to come get groceries on the second Monday of each month, at 10:00 a.m. (until the food runs out).

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you Church! Because of your generosity, we were able to pack 166 Operation Christmas Child boxes for this holiday season! There will be so many children excited to receive the surprises you have picked out for them, making this a bright Christmas for them. Thank you once again for your continued support of missions and your heart for giving.

OUR MISSION:

Fee Fee Baptist Church exists to make disciples who **build** their lives on Jesus and **pursue** the good of our community for the glory of God.

Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, December 11 - 3rd Sunday of Advent; - Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Emphasis (through Dec. 31)

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
8:30 a.m. Preschool Care
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible Studies
10:00 a.m. Youth Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
11:00 a.m. Preschool Care
11:00 a.m. KidsZone
12:00 p.m. Parents Connect
1:15 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal
3:00 p.m. Handbell Practice (217)
5:00 p.m. Sunday Night Connection

Monday, December 12

10:00 a.m. Mobile Market
6:30 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 13

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Bramstedt)(B4)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)
7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, December 14

9:00 a.m. [Facebook](#) Bible Plan Discussion
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)
5:00 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner
6:00 p.m. AWANA
6:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups
6:00 p.m. WOW Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer Time (DR)
7:00 p.m. Contemp. - Worship Practice
7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee

Thursday, December 15

1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time (B3)
6:15 p.m. Christmas Choir Dress Rehearsal
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Friday, December 16

7:00 p.m. Christmas Presentation

Saturday, December 17

3:00 p.m. Christmas Presentation

Sunday, December 18 - 4th Sunday of Advent;

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
8:30 a.m. Preschool Care
9:45 a.m. Adult Bible Studies
10:00 a.m. Youth Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
11:00 a.m. Preschool Care
11:00 a.m. KidsZone
12:15 p.m. Children’s Committee
3:00 p.m. Christmas Presentation

Monday, December 19

9:15 a.m. Wagner/Sherer WOM
4:00 p.m. Prime Time Way of Lights Display
7:00 p.m. Choir & Trad. Worship Practice

Tuesday, December 20

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Bramstedt)(B4)
11:45 a.m. May Clermont WOM
2:00 p.m. Prime Time Council
4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes Ministry
6:30 p.m. ESL Class Christmas Party (FH)
7:00 p.m. Volleyball - Open Gym

Wednesday, December 21

9:00 a.m. [Facebook](#) Bible Plan Discussion
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)
7:00 p.m. Contemp. - Worship Practice

Thursday, December 22

6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Friday, December 23

Office & Building open till Noon, by appt only.

Saturday, December 24—Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (WC)

Church Office Staff

Dr. Matt Easter, *INTERIM PASTOR*

Derald Harris, *INTERIM PASTOR*

Gloria Fox, *DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULTS & BIBLE STUDY*

Kathy Scott, *DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES*

Ronna Paden, *DIRECTOR OF MUSIC*

Kyle Baldwin, *DIRECTOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES*

Kim Lewis, *FINANCIAL OFFICER*

Vance Stewart, *IT ADMINISTRATOR & OFFICE MANAGER*

Tara Smith, *MINISTRY ASSISTANT*

Andrea Jennings, *ADMIN ASSISTANT*

Melissa Eberts, *WORSHIP LEADER*

Ty Meacham, *COLLEGE OUTREACH & MINISTRY INTERN*

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THE FORERUNNER

FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

A Word From Interim Pastor, Derald Harris

Fee Fee Family,

I am honored to be one of your Interim Pastors.

I am enjoying and being inspired by Pastor Matt’s messages on Sunday mornings. My role is more focused on the administrative side of the ministries of the church. I am working with our great staff as they lead in ministering to the community and to our members. I will be leading Bible Study on Wednesday nights. And I am available to assist in ministering to the spiritual needs of our congregation. My time will be somewhat limited until the end of the year when I officially retire from my full-time job at Missouri Baptist Children’s Home.

It is hard to believe, but Christmas is just around the corner. For all too many people, this is a season of high stress. We create much of that stress for ourselves by everything we try to do in just a few short weeks.

During the Christmas season we decide to have more parties in one month than the rest of the year combined. In addition, we say, “let’s write a personal note to every person we’ve ever met in our lives.” If that weren’t enough, we redecorate our houses on the outside and the inside. Then we try to buy a special gift for every person we love. And, as if all of this wasn’t crazy enough, we say, “Let’s

let the kids out of school for 2 weeks!”

It’s crazy what we do to ourselves. No wonder we have stress! Our hectic schedules and the stress they bring often cause us to lose sight of what Christmas is all about.

The most important thing about Christmas is seeking Christ. Much of the Christmas story is about people seeking Christ – from the lowly shepherds who were told by an angel how to find the baby to wise men who were led by a star.

But the most important element of the story is not the search for Christ. It is when both the shepherds and the wise men found Jesus. Matthew and Luke tell us that finding Jesus caused the shepherds to glorify and praise God and the wise men to fall on their knees in worship.

It is my prayer that you enjoy all the activities of Christmas – the various church and school programs, family events, etc. – but that through all of that, you will truly seek Christ. And when you find Him, be sure to share Him with others.

May you have a blessed Christmas season.

Pastor Derald Harris

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Shake Up Your Holiday Tradition...and Give Blood! – We will have another Blood Drive on **Friday, December 2**, from **12:00-5:00 p.m.** in the Gym/FLC. You can go to www.feefeebc.org/blooddrive or go to the Red Cross website (www.redcrossblood.org) and use the Sponsor Code **“FeeFeeBaptistBridgeton”** to find our event and schedule your donation. You can also call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767). If you have any questions about this, please contact Kathy Scott, kathy@feefeebc.org.

International Mission Study – December 4 will be our annual International Mission Study for K-5th grade kids during the Bible School hour and KidsZone (**9:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**). We will be studying what God is doing in the Philippines! The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal for our church this year is **\$30,000**. Consider setting a family goal!

Parent’s Night Out – Parents’ Night Out is coming up on **Friday, December 9** from **5:00-9:00 p.m.** Signup sheets are in the Connection Center. **Reservations are required and due by December 4!** Kids will have a safe and fun place to do their own Christmas shopping in our little store, as well as dinner. We are requesting **new items** (or **very gently** used items). Items should be things that kids would want to pick out for their siblings and parents to give them for Christmas. Items can be dropped off in the box in the Welcome Center. **Volunteers:** We will also need adults and students to help with various areas that evening. So, mark your calendars and come talk to Kathy to sign up to help!

Parents Connect – Once a month, families with kids are invited to attend our **Parents Connect** event for potluck and fellowship. Info and signup sheets are in the Connection Center. The kids will be able to have supervised play in the play area, and parents can get to know each other and have some quality grown-up time! The next one is **Sunday, December 11 at 12:30 p.m. in the FLC/Play Area.**

2022 Christmas Presentation – Our children will be featured in our Christmas presentation on **December 16 at 7:00 p.m.** and **December 17 and 18**, both at **3:00 p.m.** They have done a wonderful job acting out the Christmas story. Thank you, Justin Flack, for editing the video. Don’t miss this wonderful presentation during the Christmas Presentation, *Hope is Born, Emmanuel!*

Sunday Night Connection

Our next Sunday Night Connection is **December 11 at 5:00 p.m.** We will meet in the FLC/Gym and will have a **Chili Cookoff!** Bring a crockpot of your best recipe – mild, medium, or hot! Sign up in the Connection Center to register for the competition! But, if you just want to come and enjoy the night, and just eat a bowl of chili, sign up on a separate signup sheet in the Connection Center so we know how many to expect! We will have crackers, Fritos, hot dogs, and other items to round out the menu. There will be games and firepits on the back parking lot for S’mores, weather permitting. Bring your lawn chair and have a great church multi-generational experience as we connect. Our firepit/cornhole night had an age range from pre-K to senior adults. Put this on your calendar and make connecting with your church a priority!

Angel Tree

Did you notice the tree with the handmade ornaments in the Welcome Center? Each ornament represents an individual gift for someone in our church or community who could be blessed by you this Christmas. To participate, take an ornament off the tree, buy the gift listed on it, wrap the gift, attach that ornament tag to the wrapped gift and place your gift under the tree by **Sunday, December 18**. Gifts will be distributed during the week before Christmas. “If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion – how can God’s love be in that person?” (1 John 3:17).

Chi Alpha News

Kyle Baldwin, Director of Student Ministries

Christmas Luau Party – Our annual Christmas party is coming up soon, and this year, we are having a luau theme! So, combine your best Christmas attire with your finest luau wear, and come hang out with us for a fun night! This will be our last Wednesday night for 2022 and then we will take a break for the holidays. See you on **Wednesday, December 14** from **6:00 to 7:30 p.m.** in the Rafters!

Thank You Church! – I wanted to say a huge THANK YOU to all of you who came to our annual Trivia Night Fundraiser to help support our students going to camp and on mission trips next summer! Because of your generosity, we raised **over \$1,700** for our students! I also want to say a huge thank you to Justin Flack for running and creating the game. I am so thankful to serve in a church that prioritizes missions and loves on students so well. I already can’t wait for next year’s event, and you won’t want to miss it!

Youth Group will not meet for the following dates due to the holidays:

- Wednesday, November 23
- Wednesday, December 21
- Sunday, December 25
- Wednesday, December 28

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

By the time you read this, we will be marching quickly toward Christmas, my favorite season of the year. I love the lights, the decorations, and the generosity of God’s people who are willing to give to those they don’t even know. So, my last expression of gratitude for this season of thanksgiving is that I am thankful for God’s perfect gift of Jesus, our Redeemer.

We have some unique ways to prepare us for the Christmas holidays. On **Thursday, December 1**, the bus will leave the church at **5:00 p.m.**, and we will head to **Big Joel’s Safari Winter Wonderland** in Wright City. This unique venue has lots of animals and lots of lights. There are firepits to get warm, snacks and S’mores kits, and opportunities to feed the animals. I hope you will join me, bring some kids with you and some adults who still have that childlike wonder! The cost of admission is \$8. Eat before you come because we will not be stopping for dinner.

We will also be going to **The Way of Lights** at **Our Lady of the Snows** in Belleville on **Monday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m.** This display is free, but donations are accepted. They no longer have their buffet, so I have chosen Eckert’s restaurant for dinner in Belleville. We will eat first and then go through the light display. We can only take 28 so get your name on the list if you want to go. Sign up in the Connection Center!

Bible Study Corner

We have just had our first Sunday of Advent. Come to a Bible study and get a fresh look at the Christmas story, the birth of Emmanuel, God with us. There are opportunities for everyone. Let me help you find a place to plug in: gloria@feefeebc.org.

First Impressions & Bereavement Dinners

Do you like to smile and greet people with a friendly word? Then you are exactly who we are looking for! Join the First Impressions team as a greeter for Sunday worship services. Contact Kathy Webber to get in the rotation for January: kathyw@feefeebc.org. Or maybe you have a gift for hospitality, we are looking to expand our team who prepares Bereavement meals for church members/families. Food can be made yourself or store-bought. Talk to Kathy Webber (kathyw@feefeebc.org) about this additional opportunity to serve!

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

Greeters Needed – Once again, we will need greeters for each performance of our Christmas Presentation. Please sign up in the Connection Center if you would be available to help in this capacity.

We have three opportunities to serve this year:

- Friday, December 16 - 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 17 - 3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, December 18 - 3:00 p.m.

Those serving would need to arrive 30 minutes before performance time to be in place and receive any last-minute instructions. Thanks in advance to those who will be able to serve.

Advent is Here! – Let’s think about a very special carol. Of all the various carols, one of the most popular is *O Come All Ye Faithful*. It’s a carol that has stood the test of time. One of the reasons for its popularity is the joyful character of its words and music. "O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant." The music has a joyful triumphant lilt to support the text. The invitation to "come all ye faithful to Bethlehem" places the singer both among the shepherds who rushed to see the Christ child, and in the long procession of the "faithful" that have journeyed to Bethlehem in their hearts for over 2,000 years.

Christmas is a busy season, and we have a thousand things on our mind and a thousand things to do. Even so, let’s remember to come and adore the Christ who came into the world to bring light to our darkness – and joy and life eternal. Listen to this beautiful rendition of *O Come, All Ye Faithful*: <http://bit.ly/3V7HeGO>

Heart of Worship

Melissa Eberts, Worship Leader

With the holidays approaching, a lot of people like to listen to Christmas music. I know when I listen to Christmas music, I can’t help but smile a little bigger! I turn up the volume a few notches. I start singing the words with vigor. Listening to Christmas music really puts me in the “holiday spirit.” I feel the same way when I listen to praise and worship music. Listening to worship music helps me align my thoughts and attitudes with God’s. When I sing the words, I am reminded of His faithful love towards me. When I meditate on the words of the songs, faith rises up in me!

Romans 12:1-2 says, “Therefore, brothers and sisters, ... I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.” Our true worship to God is laying down our own ways and adopting His. It is a daily renewing of our mind to the Word of God and allowing His words to change us from the inside out. After our minds are renewed to His Words, the Bible says THEN are we able to “discern what is the good, pleasing and perfect will of God.”

Friends, I challenge you to go deeper in your worship with God. When you listen to praise and worship music, really listen to the words, and let them minister to you. If you have held onto certain truths that do not line up with the Word of God, ask that His Spirit help you discard the lies and hold onto His truth. I challenge you to put on your favorite worship song and practice this today!