

Weekly Summary	11/19/23	11/26/23	12/03/23	12/10/03
Chi Alpha Wed.	-	13	13	-
AWANA	-	26	46	-
Sunday Bible Studies	164	-	145	127
WOW Bible Study	-	-	16	-
Worship Attendance: 8:30AM	116	120	130	118
11:00AM	96	72	90	107
Worship Totals	212	192	220	225
Offering	\$14,130.70	\$5,564.00	\$12,641.00	\$9,867.00
E-Giving 11/16—12/8/23	\$20,562.75	-	-	-

Ministry Opportunities

Monday, January 1
New Year's Holiday - Office & Building Closed

Tuesday, January 2

6:00 p.m. Pickleball (Gym)
6:30 a.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Wednesday, January 3

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)
7:00 p.m. Personnel Committee (CR)

Thursday, January 4

10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217)
10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café)
1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Saturday, January 6

9:00 a.m. Men's Basketball

Sunday, January 7

New Sunday Morning Schedule Begins

8:45 a.m. Prayer Warriors Pre-Service Prayer Time (CR)

11:30 a.m. New Committees Organizational Meeting/Lunch

5:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

Monday, January 8

1:30 p.m. History Committee (C211)
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (CR)
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
7:15 p.m. Properties Committee (C112)

Tuesday, January 9

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
10:00 a.m. Bramstedt Bible Study
11:30 a.m. May Clermont WOM
2:00 p.m. Prime Time Council (D-1)
6:00 p.m. Pickleball (Gym)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Wednesday, January 10

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball
10:00 a.m. Primetime Lunch & Movie

Wednesday Evening Activities Resume

7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee

Thursday, January 11

10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Saturday, January 13

9:00 a.m. Men's Basketball

Sunday, January 14

5:30 p.m. Sunday Night Connection

Monday, January 15

9:15 a.m. Wagner/Sherer WOM
6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (CR)
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice
7:30 p.m. Security Team Meeting (C112)

Tuesday, January 16

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels
10:00 a.m. Bramstedt Bible Study
4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes Ministry
6:00 p.m. Pickleball (Gym)
6:30 p.m. ESL Class Christmas Party

Wednesday, January 17

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

Thursday, January 18

10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217)
10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café)
1:00 p.m. Prime Time Game Time
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Friday, January 19

6:30 p.m. Drive-in Theatre

Sunday, January 21

12:00 p.m. Starting Point New Members' Class
12:15 p.m. Children's Committee (CR)

Monday, January 22

6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, January 23

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

Wednesday, January 24

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

Thursday, January 25

5:00 p.m. Remnants Sewing Group
6:30 p.m. ESL Class (B1, B4)

Friday, January 26

10:00 a.m. Primetime Shrine of St. Ferdinand and lunch

Sunday, January 28

11:30 a.m. Business Meeting

Monday, January 29

6:00 p.m. Pastor Search Committee (CR)
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, January 30

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

Wednesday, January 31

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)
10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAYS

9:15 a.m.—Bible Studies (All Ages)
10:30 a.m.—Unified Worship Service
10:30 a.m.—KidsZone
No KidsZone on 4th Sundays
Lord's Supper on 4th Sundays

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6:00 p.m.
AWANA
Youth Small Group
Women's Bible Study
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting
Adult Bible Study & Prayer

Welcome, New Members

On Sunday, November 26

Baptized: Nathan Eberts

Mobile Market

Due to the resignation of our church hostess, Kathy Webber, and the ever-decreasing food supplies provided by the St. Louis Food Bank, Fee Fee Baptist Church will no longer participate in the Mobile Market. We are exploring other ministries to assist hurting and struggling people in our community.

International Food Pantry

Food items needed for January include:

Chunky Soup
Stew
Chili

Please bring items by January 19

Christmas Cards

Don't forget to check the mailboxes in the Connection Center for Christmas Cards that your friends may have left there for you.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

As of December 17, contributions to our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering totaled \$18,184. We will continue receiving this offering through January 7, 2024. Our church goal is \$28,000. Please prayerfully consider what your part should be.

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*

Tyler Kiefer, *INTERIM YOUTH DIRECTOR*

Vance Stewart, *IT ADMINISTRATOR & OFFICE MANAGER*

Andrea Jennings, *ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT*

Kim Lewis, *FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT*

Mike Bayles, *MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR*

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THE FORERUNNER

FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

A Word from Interim Pastor, Derald Harris

This is a season of celebrations and transitions. We have celebrated the birth of our Savior. We celebrated the love of friends and family. We celebrated the wonderful blessings God has given us and we prepare for the end of one year and the beginning of another.

The New Year brings a blank slate, a fresh start and a wealth of new opportunities. 2023 is over and a brand new 2024 stretches before us. The turning of the calendar usually causes us to re-examine our personal lives – and make commitments to do some things differently. I hope you will take some time to work on your goals for 2024. Set goals for your spiritual growth. Don't just make "New Years' Resolutions" that you know you won't keep. Set real goals – realistic goals that you can measure. Don't waste this New Year that God has given you. Accept the challenge to find new ways to serve God and others through Fee Fee Baptist Church.

A new year also gives us the opportunity to re-examine our church life. Is Fee Fee Baptist Church a better church now than it was in January of 2023? If not, why not? I know many of you will say it is because of the lack of a full-time pastor, but that is just one person. What have **you** done in the past 12 months to move the church forward? How active have **you** been in ministry, prayer, worship, discipleship and evangelism? When you look at Fee Fee Baptist Church do you see the opportunities that God is giving us, the ministries that are touching the lives of many hurting people and the warm fellowship of loving people? Or do you just see negative things?

I believe God wants us to focus on the positives of the church and work as a congregation to meet the challenges that face us. Let me challenge you to look at what you are doing in ministry and at what needs to be done. How can you personally get more involved in building our church? When you see things that need to be done, ask yourself if you might be the one to accomplish that task. When you see problems, ask yourself if you might be the solution. When you talk to people about our church, talk about the positive things God is doing and not the negatives that Satan keeps pointing out.

I hope you are excited about the possibilities for more joyous worship and greater church fellowship that our new Sunday morning schedule gives us. I believe many will be surprised what a difference this will make for our church. If you are a bit hesitant about the new schedule – that is normal. Let me encourage you to give it a chance.

Look for the good that it will bring. Don't just focus on the few things you might not like about the schedule or the worship style or the fact that someone from the "other" service is setting in YOUR seat! If you believe God will bless Fee Fee Baptist Church through these changes, you will be amazed by the blessings you see.

God wants to greatly bless the ministries of Fee Fee Baptist Church in 2024. He is calling each of us to be a part of what He is doing here.

Blessings,
Pastor Derald

Prime Time Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

Happy New Year! I always like a chance for new beginnings – a time to reflect on the past and plan for the future. Most people go on diets or start a new exercise regimen. My question for you, however, is how do you plan to grow spiritually and to serve in your church and community? I have built some opportunities for service into our first quarter plans and would encourage all of you to participate in our Bible reading plan for starters.

We will begin in Matthew the first quarter of this year and do one chapter a day until we finish the synoptic gospels. If you don’t know what that means, this is your opportunity to continue learning. Make every effort this year to get to know God more intimately through prayer, Bible study, and learning.

On **Wednesday, January 10** at 11, we will have a soup and salad lunch followed by the movie, The Hill. This is the inspiring, true story of baseball phenomenon Ricky Hill. Ricky is an extremely talented player who is burdened by leg braces from a degenerative spinal disease. Will his faith and love of the game allow him to play professional baseball? Come and find out. The movie is free but your lunch is \$7.

Then on **Friday, January 26**, we will head to Florissant to the Shrine of St. Ferdinand, established in 1789. The shrine tells the story of St. Philippine Duchesne, the Jesuits, and the pioneer days of the Louisiana purchase. The tour itself is free but donations are appreciated. We will have lunch after at Cugino’s, home of the stuffed meatball - Yummy!

Praying you all have a blessed New Year!

Bible Study Corner

Don’t forget the new time for Bible study beginning January 7. All classes will begin at 9:15 and end no later than 10:15 so you can get to worship by 10:30.

The women will begin a new study on Wednesday, January 10 at 6 pm. We will begin Lisa Harper’s newest study entitled **LUKE: Gut Level Compassion**. We will quickly discover that perfection is not a prerequisite for a deep and personal relationship with Jesus. Jesus loves us and meets us where we are. This is an 8 week study.

All other groups including Awana, Youth, and Pastor Derald’s study will also begin at 6 p.m. on January 10.

Sunday Night Connection

Our next connection is **Sunday, January 14**, at 5 pm in the gym. Bring a snack and a game. The play room and active games will be available for the kids as will board games like Candyland and the game of Life. Adults, you need to bring your favorite game and plan to meet some new people! We will be done by 7 pm!

Ministry Assistant Needed

We are looking for a full-time Ministry/Administrative Assistant. This person is provides administrative assistance and support to ministerial staff; prepares publications; maintaining records for attendance and offering; and provides graphic design for weekly sermon presentations and announcements and any print materials needed. Additionally this person provides assistance to worship leaders by preparing Sunday service music (including choir music); maintaining organization with the music library (both physical and digital) and purchasing music, as needed.

If you are interested in this position (or know someone you can recommend) please call the church office.

Heart of Worship Melissa Eberts, Worship Leader

Writing this article is very bitter-sweet because it will be my last as a worship leader at Fee Fee Baptist Church. It's been an honor and a privilege to serve this church in this capacity. Please know I will miss you all greatly and will continue praying that God sustains you and brings your pastor in His perfect timing.

In praying about what I'd like to encourage you with, the words "continue to worship" come to mind. No matter your circumstances, I want to encourage you to continue to worship your faithful God. Remember what He's done for you. He is with you on the mountain, and He is with you in the valley. He is with you in every season of your life. Worship Him, as a living sacrifice, which is your "reasonable form of worship". (Romans 12:1)

January 2024 starts a new year, filled with so many new possibilities. Pray and ask God what He has for you specifically this year. Maybe He wants you to read His Word more? Maybe He wants you to grow in your relationship with Him? Maybe He wants you to invite your neighbor you've been praying for to church? We all have different parts to play in the kingdom of God, so be sensitive to what God is speaking to your heart in this new year - and say "Yes" to Him!

Please know this Heart of a Worshipper will be praying for you, and I ask that you pray for me too. God Bless You!

Music Musings Ronna Paden, Director of Music

Let’s begin this new year with good music and interesting arrangements of some favorites with a couple of new ones thrown in.

How Great thou Art

Carrie Underwood performance

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Melvin Crispell III

Come Thou Fount

A cappella - Eclipse 6

Blessed Assurance

Classical Guitar - Rafael Scarfullery - Christian guitarist

Holy, Holy, Holy

David Im Fingerstyle guitar cover

Amazing Grace

Bluegrass Singer Alison Krauss

Best African Praise Medley

by Tobi Richards

Thando Music BW // Osei Ye (Have You Heard

Indian Worship Medley

by Jasmin Fatch

Hosanna / Hindu Worship Song

Christ Alone Music

Ft. Vinod Kumar, Benjamin Johnson

Thank You

May I take this opportunity to say a big **THANK YOU** to my Fee Fee family for your support of our Christmas production featuring our Christmas choir, angels, instrumental musicians, narrators, many technicians, greeters and ushers. It takes a host of volunteers to contribute to the success of any event and our people definitely rose to the occasion.

I would also like to say thanks for the many Christmas wished and greetings you have sent my way. You have shown your love and appreciation in many heart-warming ways.

Chi Alpha Tyler Kiefer, Interim Youth Director

It has been an immense blessing to finish the year with Chi Alpha! We are looking forward to the new year and all the events that are coming with it. At the start of the new year, we are going to go through the ten commandments on Wednesday’s nights. Seeing that God gave these to us because He loves us and how to apply them to our lives to glorify Him. On Sunday mornings, we will continue our study, “*A Name Like No Other*,” in which we explore the importance of God’s name and His attributes.

Be sure to mark your calendars for **February 16-18** because we are going to **DNOW**. It is going to be an amazing weekend where we are going to explore what it looks like to follow Jesus. We will join several area churches for this event at First Baptist, O’Fallon. There will be hundreds of students there all fellowshiping and worshiping together. This is an amazing opportunity for our students to meet other believers their age, that they go to school with, and live around. More information will be coming soon! I ask that you pray for this event, that hearts will be softened and that lives will be changed as we wrestle with the gospel.

We are still looking for more leaders to help disciple our youth. I ask that you prayerfully consider partnering with us in this ministry. Serving can seem intimidating, but we are not looking for perfect teachers. Rather, disciples who love the Lord and what to invest in his children. Philippians 4:13 says “I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” You will not be without proper tools, prayer, and equipping. I want to pour into leaders as they are pouring into the youth. If you are interested or have any questions, please email me at tyler@feefeebc.org.

Family Front Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Happy New Year! I am excited at how God will use Fee Fee Baptist for His kingdom!

January 21, 2024, Derald and I will host a **New Member’s Class** in the dining room following Sunday service including lunch. This class is for you if you want to know more about what we believe and how to be a member. Watch for sign-up sheets in the Connection Center in January.

February 9-10 is Super Start event for pre-teens our 4th and 5th graders) right here in St. Louis. If your preteen is interested, I will need a deposit commitment by Jan. 7. We need to register early for the discounted price of \$50. After 1/10/24 it goes up to \$70. I will send out a permission form this month you can turn in with that deposit. I have taken our preteens to this for several years and it does not disappoint! We will need 1 male sponsor to attend as well. The event is held at Harvester Christian Church. We will stay in our gym on Friday night. Here is the link to see info about the event: <https://ciy.com/superstart/sup24mo>.

We have a couple family events planned for January and February. Watch for more info to come.

Committee Organizational Meeting

If you serve on a committee at Fee Fee Baptist Church for 2024, please mark your calendars for a church-wide **all-committee lunch**. We will meet in the dining room on Sunday January 7th, immediately after our service at 10:30am (new service schedule starts that day!). Families are welcome. We will eat lunch and then meet briefly in our new committees to get to know each other, choose officers, and schedule first meetings.

Childcare will be available after the lunch while committees meet. Please plan to join us to kick off the new year of church business! (If you aren't there you could get elected to an office – HA HA.)