Weekly Summary	11/17/24	11/10/24	11/3/24	10/27/24
Chi Alpha Wed.	16	7	7	8
AWANA	59	54	56	51
Sunday Bible Studies	155	154	158	145
WOW Bible Study	24	27	22	25
Worship Attendance: 10:30AM	219	199	201	195
Worship Totals: PreK/Kidszone/Online	250	229	268	229
Offering	\$11,893.00	\$8,670.00	\$12,208.00	\$4,894.00
E-Giving10/27/24-11/17/24	\$18,511.60	-	-	-

Ministry Opportunities

Sunday, December 1

2:00 p.m. Angel Practice (B rooms / WC) 2:00 p.m. Christmas Choir Rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Deacon's Meeting (C112) 7:00 p.m. Volleyball (Gym)

Monday, December 2

History Committee (Library) 1:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Properties Committee (CR) 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, December 3

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bramstedt Bible Study (B3) Pickleball (Gym) 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. ESL class (B1, B4)

Wednesday, December 4

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB) Pickleball (Gym) 10:00 a.m. Personnel Committee (CR) 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, December 5

Remnants Sewing Group (217) 10:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café)

1:00 p.m. PT Game Time (B3) ESL class (B1, B4) 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 6

Parent's Night Out (Gym/FLC) 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 7

9:00 a.m. Men's Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, December 8

Business Meeting (WC) 11:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Alaska Mission Trip meeting (Café) Angel Practice (B rooms / WC) 2:00 p.m.

Christmas Choir Rehearsal 2:00 p.m. Volleyball (Gym) 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 9

9:15 a.m. Wagner/Scherer WOM 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Tuesday, December 10

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels 10:00 a.m. Bramstedt Bible Study (B3) May Clermont WOM (FH) 11:30 a.m.

Prime Time Council (B1) 2:00 p.m. Pickleball (Gym) 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. ESL class (B1, B4)

Wednesday, December 11

Last Wednesday Night Before Winter Break 9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB)

10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gym)

Stewardship Committee (CR) 7:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, December 12

Remnants Sewing Group (217) 10:00 a.m. ESL class (B1, B4)

Saturday, December 14 9:00 a.m. Men's Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, December 15

2:00 p.m. Angel Practice (B rooms / WC) Christmas Choir Rehearsal 2:00 p.m.

Volleyball (Gym) 7:00 p.m. Monday, December 16 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice Tuesday, December 17

7:00 a.m. Meals on Wheels Bramstedt Bible Study (B3) 10:00 a.m.

4:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes 6:00 p.m. Pickleball (Gym) 6:30 p.m. ESL class (B1, B4) Wednesday, December 18

9:00 a.m. FB Bible Plan Discussion (FB) 10:00 a.m. Pickleball (Gvm) 4:30 p.m. PT Garden Glow / Three Kings 5:30 p.m. Missions Committee (FH)

6:00 p.m. Christmas Dress Rehearsal (WC) 8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, December 19

10:00 a.m. Remnants Sewing Group (217) 10:00 a.m. Bob Foster Small Group (Café)

PT Game Time (B3) 1:00 p.m. Friday, December 20

7:00 p.m. Christmas Concert (WC)

Saturday, December 21 Men's Basketball (Gym)

3:00 p.m. Christmas Concert (WC) Sunday, December 22

3:00 p.m. Christmas Concert (WC) 7:00 p.m. Volleyball (Gym)

Monday, December 23 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice Tuesday, December 24

Offices Closed

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (WC)

Wednesday, December 25 Offices Closed—Merry Christmas!

Saturday, December 28

9:00 a.m. Men's Basketball (Gvm) Sunday, December 29

7:00 p.m. Volleyball (Gym) Monday, December 30

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice Tuesday, December 31

Meals on Wheels 7:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Bramstedt Bible Study (B3)

Pickleball (Gvm) 6:00 p.m.

WEEKLY EVENTS SUNDAYS

9:15 a.m.—Bible Studies (All Ages) 10:30 a.m.—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 (Pre-K -2nd grade) RA's / GA's (grades 3-5) Chi Alpha Youth Small Group W.O.W. Women's Bible Study Adult Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Congratulations

to Sue and Bill Hunter on their 60th wedding anniversary on November 29th

Sympathy

To **Alan Rice** at the passing of his sister Karen Tolbert on 10/30/2024

To Teresa McKeever and Mary Lou **Townsend** at the passing of **Ralph** McKeever on 10/31/24

International Food Pantry

Food items needed for December include boxed cornbread mix canned beans canned fruit pasta sauce spaghetti noodles granola bars

Coffee With a Cause

Our Coffee With a Cause this month will go toward our annual

Angel Tree

12/1/24-12/8/24

Week of Prayer for International Missions.

Church Office Staff

Britton Carter, SENIOR PASTOR

Gloria Fox. DIRECTOR OF SENIOR ADULTS & BIBLE STUDY

Kathy Scott, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Ronna Paden, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Tvler Kiefer, Interim Youth Director

Yumeng Jin, DIGITAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Jim McMahon, MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Andrea Jennings, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Kim Lewis, FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT

Mike Bayles, MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Sharon Smith, Custodial Staff

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December 2024

THE FORERUNNER

FEE FEE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILD & PURSUE

A Word From Senior Pastor, Britton Carter

Preparing for the Holidays

Holiday season is officially upon us. As I write this article, home cooks are dusting off their Thanksgiving recipes, providing those well-worn pages with their annual dose of sunlight. Christmas decorations—and Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You"—fill every store I enter. Holiday-themed ads play during football games, soliciting way more emotion than a 30-second advertisement should. Love it or hate it, holiday season has arrived.

I personally love it. Many of you do too. For us, the holiday season represents family, traditions, and happy childhood memories (in addition to the powerful, gospel-centered celebration of the birth of Christ at Christmas). Due to these warm connotations, the holidays are a wonderful time that we are awaiting with eagerness and anticipation.

But that isn't true for everybody. For some people, the holiday season reinforces their feeling of loneliness. It brings up fresh feelings of sorrow, as they remember loved ones they have lost. The consumer-driven nature of the holidays places expectations on people to buy and spend, which can leave some families feeling anxious about their bank accounts or guilty about their inability to give nice gifts to their children. For some children, the holidays represent a break from school—which means more time at a home that isn't safe, with a family they can't stand. In short, there are people in our community—even people in our church—who are not looking forward to the holidays.

That's where the body of Christ needs to step in. If you are staying in town for Thanksgiving or Christmas, consider inviting additional church members to join your festivities—particularly church members who are going to be alone on Thanksgiving or Christmas. Consider providing gifts to families in need through Angel Tree. Rather than assuming the people around you are excited for the holidays, go out of your way to give them a reason to celebrate.

We serve a God who met us where we were—in our sin, our shame, our brokenness. Let's be a church that follows Christ's lead, meeting people where they are, and encouraging them with the hope of the gospel—in word and deed. May Christ be magnified in us this holiday season.

In Christ,

Britton

Prime Time

Gloria Fox, Director of Senior Adults & Bible Study

I love Christmas! I love the festivities, the good cheer and the lights. If you do too, please plan to join me on Wednesday night, **December 18** for a trip to Three Kings Restaurant and a walk around the Garden Glow at Missouri Botanical Gardens. This trip will definitely get you excited about Christmas. The bus will leave church at **4:15 pm.** We will go to Three Kings Restaurant first. 3 Kings supports local farmers and features wings, burger, slads and appetizers at moderate prices.

When we finish eating we will head for the Glow. It could be cold so dress accordingly. Wear walking shoes if you want to see the entire exhibit which will be over a 1 mile walk. The price of admission to the Garden Glow is \$16 for seniors unless you have a garden membership. There are vendors with hot chocolate, places to roast s'mores and incredibly beautiful lights. Hope you will plan to attend.

The senior council will be meeting this month to plan January, February, and March but at this time, those events have not been scheduled. If you would like to be a part of the senior adult council, please let Gloria know. We meet every 3 months to plan events and you will be asked to help with the preparations of in-house meetings with lunch. Thanks for your consideration.

Bible Study Corner

There is a place for **everyone** on Sunday mornings for Bible Study. Please ask a First Impression's team member to help you with options. We use a variety of scripturally sound materials (some use Right now Media, some use purchased literature, and others just use the Bible itself). Join us on Sunday morning from 9:15 - 10:15.

A Final Word From Vance

Fee Fee Family, Cindy and I want to **thank you** for all the well wishes and gifts that were given on our last Sunday at Fee Fee. It truly means a lot. We thank you for your friendship over the past years and your prayers as we move forward in what we believe is God's will for our lives. As I have told many of you already, you truly are like a family to Cindy and me. We have shared many laughs, a few tears and even fought covid together. But we made it through it all because as believers in Christ, we have a focus beyond this world.(**2 Cor. 4:18**) While we don't want to live in waiting for the return of Christ, instead we want to tell everyone we meet that the reason we are not afraid of the events of this world, is because we know the one that is truly in charge, he is using and orchestrating everything in this world to work for His good.

I joined Cindy at Fee Fee in 1996 after we were married, then I started working as an employee in 2014. After 10 plus years at Fee Fee I have worked under three different Pastors and seen many co-workers and ministers come and go. Each one of those changes could have spelled the end to Fee Fee as we know it, but here we stand, after 217 years of pastors and leaders coming and going, Fee Fee still stands in Bridgeton as a beacon, a place where God can be proclaimed and a place where the news of salvation can spread into the community surrounding the four walls of the church building. This truly means that no one man, woman, or child is the glue that keeps a ministry going. If it were, then we were not focused on the right man. God will use all our skills in the right time and right place to carry out His plan. (**Romans 12:3-8**)

I am excited to see where God is leading Fee Fee. He is truly moving in this church; I have seen the sense of excitement growing and hear the conversations shifting. This can be a new rebirth of Fee Fee if we continue to look toward Jesus by prioritizing seeking God's will in prayer.

Thank you again, Fee Fee Family, for your prayers and well wishes as we start our new journey in a new ministry area. I am excited to see what God has in store for us here in Florida and will be watching Fee Fee with excitement. May God bless Fee Fee Baptist Church.

Music Musings

Ronna Paden, Director of Music

Christmas!

Seems Christmas is all I think about these days.

We are still in need of **volunteers** to be greeters for our Christmas program. We also need decorators, stagehands, 1 spotlight operator and an environmental projection operator.

If you can help be a greeter, please sign the list in the connect center or contact Ronna@feefeebc.org Text message at 314-941-8711 to volunteer for the other positions.

Share Your Musical Talents

Please let us know about your musical talents. You may have singing abilities or a skill for playing an instrument. Please identify yourself to Ronna@feefeebc.org

Music is a Gift

The purpose of music and singing is to rejoice and worship the Lord, Psalm 95:1-2

Music Spreads the Word of God

Music shares the gospel of Jesus Christ through song and encourages believers in their walk with Christ.

Will You Sing Unto the Lord?

The music ministry of Fee Fee is open to all who have the desire to sing and worship the Lord.

If you play an **instrument** and would like to use your talent for the Lord, Fee Fee has a place for you. Join us to spread the Gospel through music!

Chi Alpha

Tyler Kiefer, Interim Youth Director

Hey Fee Fee Family!

So far the youth has been enjoying the holiday season. We had an amazing friends giving party where we gathered together, ate some good food, and were thankful for all the amazing things that God has done and is doing in our lives.

On **Dec. 7th** we will be joining some local churches for a nerf war and pizza night. It will be a fun time of fellowship and will also give our youth the opportunity to meet other Christians that they go to school with. We will meet here at **5:30** to head to **Remix church** for the event. Dinner and transportation are provided!

Last but certainly not least we are still looking for more **leaders** for the youth ministry. Having more leaders will help the youth ministry put on more and better events. It also gives our students more opportunities to be discipled. Our youth are not the future of the church, they are the church now. So let's build them up! If you are interested in helping with our youth, please email me at **Tyler@feefeebc.org**

Angel Tree

Our Angel Tree will be up on December 1 for you to choose an ornament or two to buy a gift for someone in our church or our Pattonville community. You will select an ornament from the tree (for example, boy age 4 size 4T athletic pants). Buy the gift on your ornament. Wrap the gift and attach the ornament to the front of the gift. Return it by December 15 and the gifts will be delivered to the appropriate families before Christmas. Thank you for serving through this ministry.

Family Front

Kathy Scott, Director of Children & Family Ministries

October 27 was a big day for our church! Thanks to everyone who took part from providing the candy to participating by decorating a trunk, to greeting people to leading a game. God used us to meet our community in a great way. **THANK YOU** for praying and for your participation!

December 6 is our **Parent's Night Out** for parents of kids age birth through 5th grade. Cost is \$5 per child that can be paid at the event. Drop off is 5pm and pick up is no later than 9pm. A small change is that you will need to provide supper for your kids. Send a lunch box meal or pick up something fast food on the way. We will provide drinks and a snack later in the evening. We need volunteers to care for kids, helping kids to 'shop' in the Christmas store for their family. If you cannot volunteer for that night, maybe you can donate new items for the store? You will find a donation box in the Welcome Center to put your donated items. Please provide new items for men, women and children. The kids can shop for free for their parents and siblings. **Sign up is a MUST by Dec. 1** and you will find the signup sheet in the Connection Center. Thanks so much for your support of this event.

Most of you know it takes many hands to have a God-honoring Children's Ministry. We have some openings that need adults to help make these ministries to our families successful and safe. None of these are hard and some are just once a month. It just takes willing individuals to be used by God to love our kids. 2 more adults each Sunday for preschool worship care (serve 1/month) KidsZone helpers (1 adult to assist the leader each Sun. 1/month) 1 more adult to help a child on Wed. nights to learn their scripture (each week) If you can serve, please talk to me. God can use you in a wonderful way!

Psalm 145:8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and great in faithful love.

Bible Reading Plan

I'm very excited about next year's Bible reading plan. We will be reading through the New Testament in chronological order. This approach will take us through the 4 gospels in a way that you have never looked at them before. Events in the early church will be embedded with the book of Acts. We will be reading a chapter per day and sometimes slightly less. It will give you a new appreciation for scripture as it is revealed when events happened. As always, we will have bookmarks and the plan will be listed on our web site. I am looking forward to going on this journey with you through the New Testament.

December Schedule Reminders

There will be minimal office coverage during Christmas week and the offices will be closed Tuesday, **December 24** and Wednesday, **December 25**.

Lottie Moon Ingathering

Our annual Lottie Moon ingathering offering will be taken Sunday, **December 8**. This year's goal is \$30,000.00.

Joy Has Dawned

Fee Fee's yearly Christmas program will take place 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.

Christmas Eve Service

We will have a Christmas Eve candlelight service and Lord's Supper Tuesday, **December 24** at 4:00 p.m. in the worship center.