

## BAPTIST MESSENGER Special Edition for

**FIRST  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

*Family of Faith*

Dr. Russell Duck, Pastor  
Danny Ringer, Associate Pastor  
Doc Ware, Minister of Music  
Ryan Young, Minister to Youth  
Ann Koonce, Director of Children's Ministries  
Josefath Sanchez, Sr., Hispanic Pastor

www.fbcelkcity.com

1600 W Country Club Elk City, OK 73644  
(580) 225-7951 November 26, 2009



### From our Pastor

Beloved,

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in our country to commemorate the harvest of the Plymouth Colony in 1621 that followed a winter of great hardship for the colonists. George Washington proclaimed a day of thanksgiving in 1789, but it was not observed nationally. Only a few eastern states even participated.

All of that changed because of a lady named Sarah Joseph Hale. She launched a crusade in 1846 with emotional editorials on the subject and letters written to people all over the nation. She wrote the governor of each state each year, requesting that he declare a thanksgiving holiday. She eventually was able to persuade President Abraham Lincoln to establish Thanksgiving Day as a national holiday. He did so on October 3, 1863, establishing the last Thursday of November as the day we know as Thanksgiving Day, a time for the recognition of God's blessings in our lives.

Of course, giving thanks is nothing new for the people of God. As far back as Psalm 92 we read these words, "It is good to give thanks to the LORD and to sing praises to your name, O Most High...for you, O LORD, have made me glad by what You have done, I will sing for joy at the works of Your hands." Why is it important to give thanks to the Lord? First, it humbles us. Giving thanks reminds us of the source of our blessings. Second, it is pleasing to the Lord. Third, it makes us appreciative of others. All of us are what we are in large measure because other people supported us, loved us, and invested in us.

I hope all of us will take a moment this season to express our gratitude to God. But let's not stop at one day. Instead of just *thanksgiving*, let be involved in *thanksgiving*, 365 days per year!

*Pastor Russell*

**WHO'S\*  
WHOSE MISSING?  
MISSION?**

WEEK OF PRAYER  
FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS  
AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION STUDY  
NOV. 29 - DEC. 6, 2009

Our Goal: **\$32,000**

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING\* National Goal: \$175 million  
IMB.ORG | INTERNATIONAL MISSION BOARD, SBC

**Our S.I.S. *Jesus is the Heart of Christmas* tree is up!**

**Please take a tag from the tree and return it with your gift to the church office or place it in an offering envelope indicating it's for the *Heart of Christmas*.**

**This year your gifts will go towards coats, school uniforms, & plush throws for children in our bus ministry; blankets for Elk City Nursing home residents; and the Pregnancy Care Center among others.**

"FLUFFERS" are needed  
Tuesday, December 1  
at 10:00 a.m. to  
*fluff the greenery* in the  
auditorium.



The final  
Olan Mills  
Photography  
date is

**Monday, December 7.**  
November 30 has 3 time  
slots remaining. You may  
sign up at church Sundays &  
Wednesdays or by calling  
Cindy at the church office  
at 225-7951.



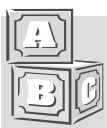
Join us Sunday, December 6 at 4:00 pm for this GriefShare event. This is one 40 minute session and will meet in Adult 3.

**Wee School Openings!!!**

One available spot in the 1-year-old class as well as the 3-year-old class.

Contact Katy Womack (225-7951) to enroll.


*Wee School Substitute Teachers are needed. Contact Katy.*



**ACTIVITIES BUILDING SCHEDULE**

Gym Hours:

Nov 30	4:00-8:00 pm
Dec 1	6:00-8:00 pm
Dec 2	5:00-9:00 pm
Dec 3	6:00-8:00 pm



**Join our VIP Workers for Extended Session. We have had a baby boom recently! Please contact Katy at 225-0720 or 225-7951 if you're willing to help.**

**Doc's Notes**



**Sunday, Nov. 29**  
NO Sunday afternoon rehearsals – youth or adult!  
Happy Thanksgiving!

**Toys for "old Mexico"** [deadline – Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>]  
The Sanchez family will be leaving for Mexico on Friday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. They are asking that our church family help out with the following items: Sweaters or jackets sizes small and medium for 38 youth boys and girls; toys for 16 Preschool children under age 5, and toys for 63 children ages 5-12. Smaller/compact toys are the easiest for them to transport.

**Combined Christmas Program** [Dec. 13, 6 p.m.]  
CHILDREN, YOUTH and ADULT choirs have "2" more rehearsals before our program. Everyone needed at rehearsals! Invite your family to come!

**"Thank You" Tunney's**  
Dick and Mel Tunney are always a joy to have at FBC Elk City. They continue to have an impact with their testimony in song but the artist that have performed their original and beautiful music. Our next special guest will be Christian Davis for "Hanging of the Green", Sunday Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Doc*

**Coming Events**

- Nov 29 **5th Sunday Building Fund Offering**  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship  
4:00 p.m. Fin Peace Univ, AD4  
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
- Nov 29-Dec 6 Week of Prayer for the Lottie Moon Foreign Missions Offering
- Nov 30 3-9:30 p.m. Olan Mills Photography  
6:30 p.m. C.A.R.E. Team E
- Dec 1 6:45 a.m. Men's Prayer Meeting, FH  
10:00 a.m. "Fluffers" Needed
- Dec 2 4:00 p.m. Graded Choirs  
5:00 p.m. Weds Meal  
5:45 p.m. Weekly Teacher's Mtg, AD6  
6:00 p.m. AWANA; ESL; Youth Teach Mtg  
6:30 p.m. Weds Worship, Regenerate The Island
- Dec 3 8:00 p.m. Girls Night Out, Parlor
- Dec 4 6:00 p.m. Deacon's Banquet, FH

**Extended Session:**

**Babies:**  
Phylesha & Marianne Tabor

**Creepers:**  
NEED HELP!!!

**1 year olds:**  
David & Shana Dyson

**2 year olds:**  
Pete & Sheri Stover

**3 year olds:**  
NEED HELP!!!

**4 year olds:**  
Wayne & Stephanie Poole

**Weekly Report**

November 22, 2009



**The People Came...**

Sunday School Attendance	
Adults.....	286
Youth.....	67
Children.....	85
Preschool.....	69
Fellowship.....	24
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>531</b>
Hispanic Mission.....	33
<b>Total *incl. mission.....</b>	<b>564</b>
New S.S. Members.....	3
Enrollment: .....	1427

**The People Gave...**

Budget Needs.....	\$29,380.00
Received.....	\$21,797.45
Below.....	\$7,582.55
Bldg Received.....	\$908.11

**And the Lord Added...**

By Letter .....	0
By Statement .....	0
By Baptism .....	0
Professions of Faith.....	0

**Year to Date**

Additions

By Letter.....	7
By Statement.....	1
By Baptism.....	16
Total.....	24

**Giving**

Budget Need.....	\$1,351,480.00
Received.....	\$1,380,840.24
Above.....	\$29,360.24
Bldg Rec'd To Date.	\$114,886.14

**LOOK FOR OUR DECEMBER CALENDAR!!!**