

pastor's perspective



Christmas Eve/Christmas Day
Worship – Our traditional Christmas Eve Worship – “Carols, Candles and Communion” will be as special as ever this year. We will gather for worship at 5:30 pm in the sanctuary. Christmas Eve worship is one of the most beautiful times of worship we experience all

year. To see families together, friends united, and guests in attendance makes our worship a holy time indeed. Not only will we sing familiar carols and hear the Christmas story read from Luke’s Gospel, but we will celebrate communion together. This year allows us a unique opportunity to worship together as well on Christmas Day. **Christmas Sunday Worship**, December 25, begins at 10:30 and will intentionally be brief yet meaningful for all. It will be good to be with our church family on Christmas morning! I so appreciate our ministers and worship staff giving their time on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to lead us in worship. I hope you and your family will join us as we worship together.

End of Year Contributions – You have been so faithful in the giving of tithes and special offerings this year. Your grace and generosity have been evident each month as our finance committee has managed our receipts and expenditures. Not only have you supported our general church budget, but you have given generously to our Building Fund to help pay down our building debt. You have been most generous to support other special funds such as Missions, Memorial, Scholarship, and the Organ Repair Fund. I trust you received a letter from the Finance committee which included the 2023 Adopted Church Budget and your 11-month contribution statement. I thank Laurie Hefner, our finance officer, for all her work in preparing these documents. If you have any questions, please reach out to Laurie before the year ends. If you find you might be behind in your giving or simply want to make a special year end gift, please know it will be humbly accepted and appreciated.

We are blessed - 2022 has been a most incredible year. God has blessed us with new and ongoing ministry opportunities, unity and oneness, many new members, as well as much laughter, joy, and happiness. Indeed, we have lost friends and family members to death and others have struggled with illness, but God’s grace, the Lord Jesus’ peace, and the presence of the Holy Spirit has been most evident day by day. Continue to pray for your church and all our leaders. I am so thankful to minister alongside the greatest team of ministers and staff I have ever worked with. We will all miss Dan, Katie, and Eden, but know God will bless them in their new church home and community. With great anticipation and expectation, I look forward to 2023.

Merry Christmas and as always...I’m so proud to be your pastor,

Pastor Mark

Christmas Eve

CAROLS, CANDLES & COMMUNION

5:30 PM

Christmas Day

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

10:30 AM

Holiday Hours

Church Office Closed

*12/21 at noon - 12/23

*12/26-12/27

*12/30 at noon & 1/2

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

Must be received in the office by 12:00pm on 12/30 or in the mail POSTMARKED by 12/31.

BIG & LIL CHILL WINTER RETREATS

@ CAMP CHO-YEH

FEB 10-12 // \$125 PER CAMPER



YOUTH GRADES 7-12
 REGISTER AT FBCLUFKIN.ORG/YOUTH



KIDS GRADES 3-6
 REGISTER AT FBCLUFKIN.ORG/CHILDREN

new members



Allen & Christina Wilson
 Emma, Madalyn

Deacons for the month of December

Ed Domingue: 936-635-1123 (cell)
 Steve Hogue: 936-465-8598 (cell)
 Matt Lowe: 936-366-0295 (cell)

memorials & honorariums

Memorial and Honorarium Gifts have been given to the following Funds & Ministries of FBC:

Building Fund

In Memory of:
 Chris Browning
 Benny Stevens

Helen Collmorgen McCarty
 Bryan McCarty
 Barbara Brookshire
 John Turpin
 Jewel Kirkland
 Nell Hill
 Mel Gibbs

Organ Repair Fund

In Memory of:
 Chris Browning
 Carole Lawson
 Sarah Williams
 Bob Garrett

Organ Repair Fund

In Honor of:
 Richard & Liz Byler

Benevolence Fund

In Memory of:
 Chris Browning

FBC Missions Fund

In Memory of:
 Edwin Aldredge
 Angela Aldredge

Christmas Day & New Year's Day

No Sunday Morning Bible Study

Worship at 10:30

SAVE THE DATE

Winter Ladies Retreat

THE UN-TOLD STORIES

January 28

9 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the FLC

WEDNESDAYS @ FIRST

BEGIN

JANUARY 25

Year-End Giving

The last Sunday of 2022 is December 25. All year end gifts must be received in the church office by noon on Friday, December 30. All offerings and tithes received on or after Sunday, January 1 will be reflected in 2023 giving unless postmarked by December 31, 2022.

Online Giving Available:
fbclufkin.org/give-online

Text to Give
 Text any AMOUNT to
 (936) 209-5079

(936) 634-3386 / www.fbclufkin.org

Update your Information

With the new year approaching please take a moment to call the church office and make sure we have our current address, phone number, and email address on file. It is important that we have accurate records for our church members in order to communicate effectively.

Sympathy to

The family of Chris Browning.

Dustin and Jessica Hill and family in the loss of his grandfather, Wadih (Wade) Jabbour Sr.

Church Office Hours

M - Th: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Closed during the lunch hour (12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.)
Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Financial Report Year to Date

Budget Needs	\$1,485,894.00
Budget Receipts	\$1,492,347.00
Building Fund	\$269,611.89
Other Designations	\$321,817.50
Other Receipts	\$117,731.20

Staff

Mark Newton, Senior Pastor
Katie Baker, Minister to Preschool & Children
John Lassiter, Minister of Music
Walker McWilliams, Associate Pastor/ Minister of Missions
Dan Venzin, Minister to Students and Graduates

