



THE CONNEC⁺ION

from First Baptist Church * 814 Buchanan Road * New Tazewell, Tennessee
Connect to God, Connect to Family, Connect to Community!



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Early Warning Signs Your Church is in Trouble

Many churches have a tendency to measure attendance and money as their primary indicators for success, and not necessarily always in that order. There are a lot of other indicators that churches can measure to understand if they're winning or not (baptisms, 1st time guests, and how many people are in bible studies just to name a few). Early indicators that a church is in trouble are often more difficult to detect however. Similar to the way many life threatening diseases behave a church can look healthy on the outside while wasting away on the inside. And like a life threatening disease it can be very difficult to detect. Here are a few early indicators your church should be paying attention to:



Fuzzy about the Future

Perhaps the single most life-threatening indicator that a church is in trouble is a lack of clarity. Clarity provides a church with the power to make decisions efficiently and align the organizational components of the church to move forward. If you don't know where you're going, and can't state it clearly, you've got no chance to get there.

High Rate of Turnover

When a church has trouble keeping staff and volunteers, the church is in trouble. Turnover is not only an issue when it comes to the paid staff of the church but also the volunteers. When turnover becomes the norm there is a cultural problem at play.

Playing Defense

When a church become risk averse and starts making choices based on who they are going to keep as opposed to who they are going to reach, the church is in trouble. The real danger in playing defense is that it becomes a cultural mindset that actually stands in opposition to the Gospel. You see the Gospel was never meant to be or does it need to be defended it's intended to be unleashed.

Inward Focus

When a church uses language that you have to be an educated Christian to understand, has a high giving-per-head ratio, is expecting nonbelievers to jump in on and participate in ministry programs that long-time believers participate in, have a poor guest experience and haven't thought through way-finding...that church is in trouble. For more on being an insider focused church follow this link.

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

PaulAlexanderBlog.com/leadership

ADVENT SEASON DAILY BIBLE READINGS

First Sunday of Advent

Hope/Purple

Date	Persons	Events/Theme	Scripture	Symbols
Sun., Dec. 1	Introduction to Jesse Tree		1 Sam 16: 1-3; Isa 11:1-10	The Tree
Mon., Dec. 2	God	Creation	Gen 1:1-2:3	Dove
Tues., Dec. 3	Adam & Eve	The First Sin	Gen. 2:4-3:24	Tree with Fruit or Apple
Wed., Dec. 4	Noah	The Flood or Ark	Gen. 6:11-22, 7:17-8:12, 20:9-17	Rainbow
Thurs., Dec. 5	Abraham	The Promise	Gen. 12:1-7, 15:1-6	Field of Stars
Fri., Dec. 6	Isaac	Offering of Isaac	Gen. 22:1-9	Ram
Sat., Dec. 7	Jacob	Assurance of the Promise	Gen. 27:41-28:22	Ladder

Second Sunday of Advent

Peace/Purple

Date	Persons	Events/Theme	Scripture	Symbols
Sun., Dec. 8	Joseph	God's Providence	Gen. 37, 39:1-50:21	Sack of Grain or Coat
Mon., Dec. 9	Moses	God's Leadership	Exodus 2:1-4:20	Burning Bush
Tues., Dec. 10	Israelites	Passover or Exodus	Exodus 12:1-14:31	Lamb
Wed., Dec 11	God	Giving the of the Torah at Sinai	Exodus 19:1-20:20	Tablets Torah
Thurs., Dec. 12	Joshua	The Fall of Jericho	Josh 1:1-11, 6:1-20	Ram's Horn Trumpet
Fri., Dec. 13	Gideon	Unlikely Heroes	Judges 2:6-23, 6:1-6, 11:8-28	Clay Water Pitcher
Sat., Dec 14	Samuel	The Beginning of the Kingdom	1 Sam 3:1-21, 7:1-8:22, 9:15-10:9	Crown

Third Sunday of Advent

Joy/Pink

Date	Persons	Events/Theme	Scripture	Symbols
Sun., Dec. 15	David	A Shepherd For the People	1 Sam 16:1-23-17:58, 2 Sam 5:1-5, 7:1-17	Shepherd's Crook or Harp
Mon., Dec. 16	Elijah	The Threat of False gods	1 King 17:1-16, 18:17-46	Stone Alter
Tues., Dec. 17	Hezekiah	Deliverance	2 King 18:1-19:19, 32-27	An Empty Tent
Wed., Dec. 18	Isaiah	The Call to Holiness	Isa 1:10-20,6:1-13, 8:11-9:7	Fire Tongs with Hot Coal
Thurs., Dec. 19	Jeremiah	The Exile	Jer 1:4-10, 2:4-13, 7:1-15, 8:22-9:1-11	Tears
Fri., Dec. 20	Habakkuk	Waiting	Hab 1:1-2:1,3:16-19	Stone Watchtower
Sat., Dec. 21	Nehemiah	Return and Rebuilding	Neh 1:1-2:8, 6:15-15, 13:10-22	City Wall

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Love/Purple

Date	Persons	Events/Theme	Scripture	Symbols
Sun., Dec. 22	John the Baptist	Repentance	Luke 1:57-80,3:1-20, 7:18-30	Scallop Shell

5th Day of Advent

Christ/White

Date	Persons	Events/Theme	Scripture	Symbols
Mon., Dec. 23	Jesus	Birth of the Messiah	Luke 2:1-20	Manger
Tue., Dec. 24	Christ	The Son of God	John 1:1-18	Chi- Rho Symbol

Persons	Events/Theme	Scripture	Symbols
Mary	The Hope for	Luke 1:26-38	White Lily a Future
Elizabeth	Joy	Luke 1:39-56	Mother & Child
Zechariah	Anticipation	Luke 1:57-80	Pencil & Tablet
Joseph	Trust	Matt 1:19-25	Carpenter's Square or Hammer
Magi	Worship	Matt 2:1-12	Star or Candle

What's Happening in Youth Jump Jam



December 11th, 2013
6:30pm Short Business Mtg.

October 2013

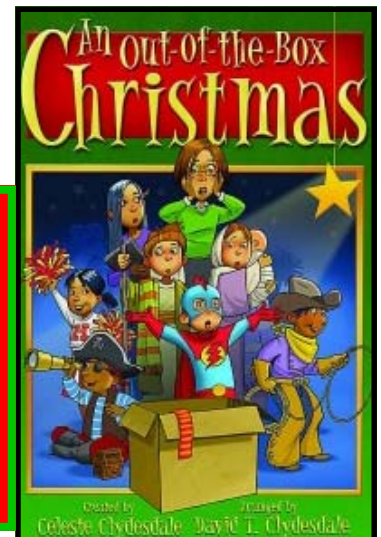
General Fund

Month's Receipts.....\$18,233.40
YTD Receipts.\$18,233.40

UN Sung SERVANTS

Joe and Sherry Martin for straightening up the Food Pantry Room and for rearranging the kitchen and installing the new refrigerator.

The Soup Ladies for providing and serving the Thanksgiving meal on the 25th of November.



KIDZCHOIR CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

December 15th
6:30pm

*May the love that came
that holy night
light all your days
with hope and joy.*

FBC & UMC
Community
Cantata



COME MESSIAH KING

Dec. 19
7PM
at UMC

Dec. 22
7pm
at FBC



THE CONNECTION

from First Baptist Church, New Tazewell, Tennessee

Larry Sharp, Pastor.....423-526-8038
 Todd Spangler, Music Director.....423-626-5401
 Barry & Tina Liles, Youth Directors.....865-585-1837
 Brad Austin, Contemporary Worship Leader
 Pam Worley, Deaf Interpreter

Barry Liles, Chairman of Deacons.....865-585-2554

Beverly Slayton, Administrative Assistant.....423-626-5401

Church E-Mail Address: fbcnewtazewell@centurytel.net

Church Website: www.ntfbc.org

Weekly Schedule

Sunday

9:45am Sunday School for All Ages
 11:00am Worship Service; Children's Church; Nursery
 5:30pm Choir Practice
 6:30pm Worship; Youth & High School to College
 Bible Study and Fellowship; Nursery

Wednesday

6:30pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study; Youth & High
 School to College Bible Study and Fellowship;
 Kidzchoir; Nursery

Thursday

10am to 5pm Emmaus Centre for Christian Counseling
 7:00pm "The Connection" Contemporary Worship Svc.

DECEMBER

December Offering - Lottie Moon

Sun (1)		Advent-Prophecy Matt Compton
	5pm	Deacon's Meeting
Sun (8)		Advent-Peace San Piercy
	5:30pm	Family Breakfast Dinner
	6:30pm	Family Meeting
Thu (12)		2nd Harvest Food Arrives
Wed (11)	6:30pm	Short Business Meeting
Sat (14)	9am	2nd Harvest Distribution
	1pm	Kidzchoir Dress Rehearsal
	6pm	Deacon Families Christmas Dinner
Sun (15)		Advent-Joy Jeff Lewis
	6:30pm	"An Out-of-the-Box Christmas"
Thu (19)	7pm	Community Cantata at UMC
Sun (22)		Advent-Love Barry Liles
	7pm	Community Cantata at FBC
Tue (24)		Advent-Christ Jim Crutchfield
		Candlelight Service
Mon (30)	6:30pm	Building & Grounds Mtg.