



**2008  
PRAYER LIST**

Lorena Buehler	Homebound
Casel & Evelyn Bush	Homebound
Bill Cherry	Homebound
Posey & Gerri Gaines	Homebound
Dorothy Gilreath	Homebound
Maury Green	Homebound
Ardythe Hester	Homebound
Wanda Love	Homebound
Ruth Wilson	Homebound
Janie Allen	Good Samaritan
Raymond Ayers	Holiday Village
Mabel Georgesen	Heritage Center
Margaret Hollingsworth	Good Samaritan
Thelma Julian	Atria Assisted Living
Ruth McMillan	Core Nursing Home
Stella Neel	Holiday Village
LaVone Peach	Good Samaritan
Anne Peterman	Heritage Center
Bessie Pfingston	Mt Vernon Nursing
Gladys Rezek	Solarbron
Roberta VonHarten	Atria Assisted Living
Benita Williams	Solarbron
Dr. Robert Williams	Heritage Center
Allan Reeves	US Air Force, Afghanistan
David James	US Army
Steven A. Michaels	US Marines - Japan
Matthew Peninger	US Army
Tim Chrockrem	US Navy
Home & Foreign Missionaries	
The Howell Family	Marc Klein
Gretchen Barth	Alyce Sanders
Judi Schneider	Stella Neel
Ruth McMillen	Adolph Buente
Ruth Wilson	Roberta VonHarten
Raymond Ayers	

**Church Staff:**

Rev. Dr. George Huffsmith – Pastor, H. Posey Gaines - Pastor Emeritus, Julie Lauer - Music Director, Olivia Yates – Organist, Marge Baker – Pianist, Rhonda Wilson - Financial Secretary, Vada Chrockrem - Church Secretary, Beth & Sarah Bloss – Nursery Attendants, Julie Kremer - Custodian

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# THE CELEBRATIONS



First Baptist Church

Evansville, Indiana

Vol. 56, No. 92

November 24, 2009

**Vision Statement**

*We are building on our heritage and approaching the future with a vision relevant to our changing world while creating an atmosphere where Christ can bring healing, hope, and joy to all.*



Are you ready for Christmas? That's OK I'm not either, but it will be here soon none the less. Even though we have not crossed over Thanksgiving yet there is Christmas music on the radio, Christmas specials on TV and Christmas decorations about everywhere. It is easy to get overwhelmed by the push to make this Christmas a commercial success, particularly in light of the current economy, but as a Christian Church it is important that we highlight the Christ in Christmas and in that regard you are doing so well.

Outside the church offices is a mound of shoeboxes, all filled with gifts for children through operation Christmas Child part of the Samaritans' Purse organization. You were told of the need and you responded most generously. Thank you so very much. Many children will have a better Christmas because you cared.

So much on the calendar right now; the dinner Theater "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas", The Living Nativity, A Night in Bethlehem, Handel's Messiah, Christmas Eve Services and more. These are all great opportunities to bring your friends and point them to the Christ of Christmas. Jesus was welcomed to a manger in Bethlehem, this Christmas we hope that Jesus is welcomed into the hearts of folks who need to experience the love and salvation God has offered through Him. We also hope that people will be reminded that there is more to Christmas than stimulating the economy by purchasing gifts we cannot afford.

There is one more thing I would like you to consider signing up to help with. That is the "My Father's Love" display at the Washington Square Mall. From now until Christmas there is a beautiful display of wood mosaics depicting scenes from the life of Christ. This display is free and open to the public. One of the ways that this has been possible is through the efforts of volunteers to help to supervise the exhibit. Monday and Tuesday, December 7 & 8 I have suggested that volunteers from First Baptist Church would be willing to help man the display. A sign up sheet is posted on the glass outside the church office. Please sign up to help if you can fill one or more of the slots. The display is open regular mall hours 10 AM to 9 PM each day. For more information about the display go to [pray4evansville.com](http://pray4evansville.com).

I hope that you are blessed with a grateful heart this Thanksgiving and that your Christmas is one of the best ever. I am ever thankful for you and the privilege of serving Christ as your pastor.

Grace and Peace, Pastor George

God's House -- \$294

~ ~ ~

World Mission Offering -- \$931

**Evansville Association  
American Baptist Men  
"Honoring Our Veterans"**

Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm

Covered Dish Dinner at Deer Creek Baptist  
Church, 6733 Alamo Rd, Tell City, IN 47586

Call Ed Rush (812) 471-3498 for info

**A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM**

Haven't you always wished you could have been present in Bethlehem the night Jesus was born? This year you will have the chance to visit that busy city, participate in the census and visit the manger with the shepherds themselves. Begin now to invite your friends and families to attend "A Night In Bethlehem" on December 16, 2009 from 6-8:00pm. This event will be especially exciting for families with children. We will need lots of workers, along with financial and prayer support. Watch for information about how you can help make this a memorable event.

**CHRISTMAS DINNER THEATER**

On Sunday, Nov. 29th, following worship, the adult choir will be presenting a dinner theater, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas". Come and enjoy a delicious meal and a great show that will appeal to all ages. The menu includes spaghetti, lasagna, salad, bread, dessert and beverages. The dinner theater is a fundraiser to help the choir pay for the orchestra that will accompany "The Messiah". The cost for the dinner and show is \$7 per person with children 5 and under eating free.

**RMMO OFFERING**

The RMMO Offering is taken each year by the American Baptist Churches USA to express thanks to the retired pastors and missionaries. About 43% is used for emergency needs of retirees. Many of our retirees served when salaries were low and thus their retirement income is very low and costs of living have increased greatly. We also, have a number of retirees over 100 years old and their needs are very high due to medical expenses. The remainder of the Offering is divided according to a formula considering years served and age.

As a retiree for 23 years, I have appreciated being remembered by churches I have served and American Baptist Churches USA in general. I pray that FBC will share accordingly to how the Lord leads them as they remember the retired missionaries and ministers.

When I served as Area Minister in Southwestern Indiana, we had a number of retirees or widows who needed the special assistance. Our churches in Indiana have always responded generously and we are thankful to the Lord for that.

Rev. Dr. Posey Gaines

**FBC Christmas Dinner  
4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Business Meeting**

Plan to join us for our Church Christmas dinner on Dec. 13 at 6:00 p.m. The meat (Ham) and bread will be provided. Please bring a complimentary dish to share. Also our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Business Meeting will be at 7:00pm to approve our 2010 budget and elect our 2010 church officers and team members.

**INVITATION**

The Collage age and young adults of the church are invited to the Huffsmith home 1325 East gum Street, Saturday November 28



**Notes from Julie**

at 6:30 PM. Bring a snack to share and a swim suit if you would like to take a dip in the hottub.

"Go, tell it on the mountain..." and at your workplace, and in your neighborhood about all the opportunities here at First Baptist to celebrate Jesus' birth. From our "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" dinner theater, the Living Nativity, A Night in Bethlehem, " the Christmas Eve candlelight service, our Sunday morning Christmas celebration, and the presentation of Handel's "Messiah, you will hear Christmas music and sounds of all varieties. Even if you are not physically involved in these opportunities, there are still many ways you can help. There are flyers and posters to distribute and display, cookies to bake and serve, expenses to help fund, and people to invite. And, most importantly, in the midst of all this joy and activity, we need prayer partners to ask for God's blessing on these offerings of love.

**MESSIAH**

On Dec. 20, at 6:00 pm, the choirs of First Baptist and Eastminster Presbyterian churches will present Handel's "Messiah." This candlelight service will be accompanied by a 21 piece chamber orchestra and will be followed by a Christmas cookie and punch reception in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you will invite your family and friends to share this special celebration of the birth of our Savior.

**MITTEN TREE**

On Sunday, December 6th we will begin collecting socks, underwear, hats, gloves and sweatpants, in children's sizes, for our First Baptist Mitten Tree. Items of all sizes are welcome. Just place them on or under the tree in the Koffee Klatch area.

**LIVING NATIVITY**

FBC's Annual drive-thru Living Nativity will be held on Fri. & Sat., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. More volunteers are needed for both nights. Sign up sheets are outside the church office or call Dennis Don at 476-5131.



**The Path**

If you're in high school or middle school, please join us at The Path Sunday evening, Dec. 6th. Watch the mail for more details!

**Youth Christmas Party**

All high school and middle school youth are invited to a Christmas Progressive Dinner and Caroling Party on Friday, Dec. 18th. We'll leave from the church at 5:00. Bring a \$5 gift for a gift exchange. Give Joannie or Scott a call at 985-7555 if you need a ride.