

**Sunday Morning
Worship**

**December 23, 2018
10:30 a.m.**

Gathering

Welcome / Announcements / Sharing

Prelude: "Prelude, Trio, and Fugue on a French Carol"
arr. David Lasky
*He is born, the divine Christ Child, play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!
He is born, the holy Child, sing we all of the Savior mild.*

Lighting the Advent Candle: The Matt Shoemaker Family

*Opening Carol: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" 171

Offerings

Baptism of Leslie Frazier Scripture read by Nelson Janney

Ministry of Music: "Breath of Heaven" Chris Eaton, Amy Grant
Lexiana Krause, alto

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer
Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Offertory: "Carol of the Angels" arr. Jill Gallina
Sanctuary Choir

Sharing God's Word

Children's Message: Kadie Henry

*Carol: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" 155

Scripture Reading: Matthew 1: 18-25 Kelsie Cox

Sermon: "God is With Us" Rev. K. Scott Robertson

Departing to Serve

*Hymn of Invitation: "Angels We Have Heard on High" 152
Benediction

Postlude: "Joy to the World" arr. Michael Bedford
*Congregation stands as able.

Budget receipts needed by Dec. 31, 2018 to meet our 2018 pledge goal - \$ 57,725.89

Needed each week to meet 2018 Budget goal: \$ 7,400.00
Received 12/16- \$ 6,175.66 12/16 Worship Attendance: 181

Betty Creech Scholarship given this year: \$2,873.00
Stewardship Report – 59 pledges for a total of \$214,340

2019 Offering envelopes are available in the narthex. Please take them today. If you would like envelopes and they are not there, please write your name on the paper and Charles Montgomery will get them for you.

Pastor Scotty will be leading a mission board approved mission trip to Puerto Rico on July 20-27, 2019. Cost of the trip will be approximately \$700.00 a person, however we will be doing fundraisers to help offset the cost. Anyone who thinks they may be interested is invited to a presentation after worship on Sunday, January 6. If you would like to go on the trip, please confirm with Pastor by February 1. *This presentation is also for anyone who may be interested in what Pastor learned about the work we as American Baptist are doing on the Island on his recent trip there.*

Christmas Eve Service – Monday, December 24 at 6 p.m. This service will have a pre service prelude beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Scotty & Jami's new address: 4114 Windridge Court, Middletown, 45042

RMMO – Retired Minister's and Missionaries Offering will be taken at the 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. The envelopes are in the pews if you would like to contribute before then.

16 women, 20 men and 1 child - that's how many would have had no where to go if our community of churches was not involved with SHALOM (Serving the Homeless with Alternative Lodging Of Middletown). 37 people have received shelter, food and the message that Christ loves them. Plan to be part of this ministry when FBC hosts the week of February 17th. All types of volunteers are needed. Please consider spending the evening or overnight hours. Sign-ups continue today.

This Week at First

Today, December 23
9 a.m. Prayer
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
6 p.m. Bible Study

Monday, December 24
5:30 p.m. Pre-Service Prelude
6 p.m. Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 25
Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, December 26
NO ABY
NO Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, December 27
7:30 p.m. AA mtg.

Friday, December 28
8 p.m. Youth Overnight

Saturday, December 29
7 a.m. Youth overnight ends.

Serving Among Us Today

Senior Pastor:	Rev. K. Scott Robertson
Director of Music/Organist:	Christine Baird
Sanctuary Choir Director:	Brian Shepard
Children's Church Teacher:	Beth Daly
Greeters:	Ken and Ingrid Standafer
Deacons Greeting:	Barb Brown, Kristen Adkins
Video Technicians:	Tom Henry, Kristen Adkins
Audio Technicians:	Ron Cobb, Ryan Krause
Head Usher:	Dave Adams, Bob Welch

Attention Staff, Board, and Committee Chairpersons as well as Sunday School classes: In preparation of the Annual Business Meeting January 27, annual reports will be due in the church office by Thursday, January 10. Thank you for your thoughtfulness in meeting this deadline.

LEAVE A LEGACY THAT MATTERS

An integral part of Christian stewardship is management of a person's estate. Participants in the workshop on Sunday, January 20 will explore stewardship principles as applied to wills and living trusts that demonstrate a commitment to use God's blessings to be a blessing to ministries that matter. Planned giving includes the creative use of stocks, bonds, real estate, IRA's, collectibles, insurance policies and charitable gift annuities and trusts. Good stewards bless both family and their church.

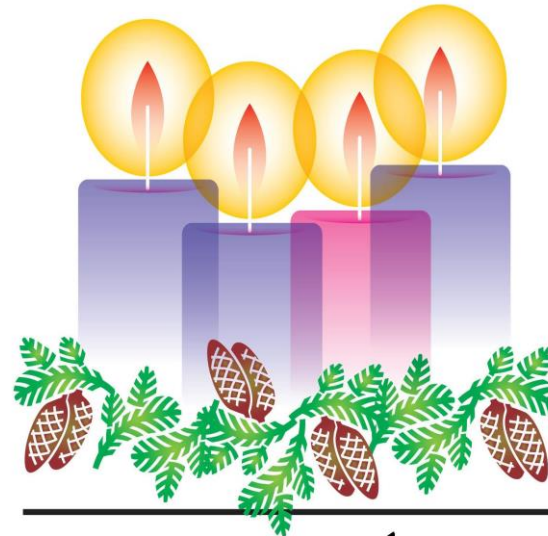
Come learn how you can be better stewards of your resources through the new Strengthening Your Financial Future program that is being established by your church. **Save the Date: Sunday January 20, 2019** A special workshop to help you strengthen your financial future presented by Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Huse, following the worship service

Governance Meetings – After meeting with the lay leadership, Pastor and the Governance Study Group have decided to postpone the educational events for the congregation in January, and there will NOT be a vote at this coming year's annual meeting. Our plan moving forward is to meet with the Board Chairs and to take the advice and the ideas from the rest of the lay leadership into account when forming a different structure to present to the congregation at a later date that is still to be determined.

Today we celebrate the following ways in which we have followed the call of Jesus into our world!

- Sent cards and made phone calls to friends who have been discouraged over this holiday season
- Provided food for several families who have need
- Delivery of Christmas gifts to families who have need.

First Baptist Church



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

Rev. K. Scott Robertson, Senior Pastor

**4500 Riverview Avenue
Middletown, Ohio 45042**

513-423-5721

513-649-8153 – FAX

513-423-5511 – Day Care Center
Website: www.fbcmiddletown.org

Coming Soon

December 30

Prayer

Sunday School

Worship

Bible Study

January 1

Happy New Year!!!

January 2

ABY

Sanctuary Choir

January 3

AA mtg.