



Lottie Moon Week of Prayer for International Missions

November 28–December 5

Generosity Transforms

"The Bible is a story of God's generosity from cover to cover. His generous gift of grace extends to you and the world. What does this mean? We've been entrusted with this grace, and we get to pour it out to others – 365 days a year. To live generously is to extend His fame –so that all nations, peoples, languages and tribes may know His name. We exist to take the gospel to every corner of the earth, and through your generosity, we deliver tangible help and the hope of Jesus to those who need it most."

100% of your gifts are given directly to IMB to fund ministry overseas.

Give during worship service on Sunday morning using the envelopes provided or online at fbcep.com/give.

Monthly Newsletter

December 2021

Starting Point
57th Annual Living Christmas Tree
December 10 • 7:00pm
11 • 4:30 & 7:00pm
12 • 4:30pm

Tickets \$5
fbcep.com
[IG @fbcelpaso](https://www.instagram.com/fbcelpaso/)
facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchElPaso
805 Montana Ave. 79902
(915)533-1465

 


CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
December 24 at 6:00 p.m.

UPWARD

Basketball & Cheerleading
2022 Season

New Season begins January 2022
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

UPWARD Basketball and Cheerleading is a high-energy ministry where children learn teamwork, sportsmanship, and Godly principles for daily living. Gear up for an all new 2022 season! We have lots of participants registered but we need volunteers. If you can be a hall monitor, serve in the concessions Snack Shack, coach basketball players and/or cheerleaders, or referee games, WE NEED YOU!!!

REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE IN PERSON IN THE GREAT HALL ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AND SUNDAYS AND ONLINE.

Contact trum4@aol.com for more information.



I'll admit: life and ministry has changed a lot in the past year and a half. Even though we are "back to normal" in a lot of ways, there are definitely things that are different today than they were before COVID shutdowns and health concerns became part of our daily lives. Since I've been leading FBC Youth, I've emphasized two main values for our group: we are a family, and we are trying to be world changers for the glory of God. Both of those values have been very difficult to live out because of the many restrictions and concerns that we've all been dealing with.

As we move into the Christmas holidays and into 2022, I, along with the rest of the amazing team that I get to work with in leading FBC Youth, will recommit to pursuing these values for our ministry as best as we can, and I'd like to ask you all as youth and parents of youth to join us in these efforts! Help us rebuild the connections that make us a church family by participating in our events, and be involved as a world changer by taking what we learn at church and applying it in your daily life, one small step at a time to influence others and serve God in the ways He has designed you.

Here are some things to look forward to in the coming months:

- Our annual FBC Youth Christmas party featuring our "Ding Dong Ditch" outreach activity will be on Saturday, December 18th from 4:00-8:00p.
- Sunday morning Bible study is where we are strategically teaching our students about the Bible and helping them understand how God's Word can shape everything we do in life. As we move into the Spring semester, we will be tackling issues that help our students have answers to other worldviews and confidence in the Truth of the Bible.
- "The Mix" continues to take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30p unless otherwise announced. This is a great place for students to connect through food, fun games and activities, and interactive Bible studies with small group discussion.

- "Sunday Night Life" will return in January along with our church's "Equip and Engage" schedule. We are using this time to show our students how to put our faith into action through hands-on outreach and training activities.
- "Real Talk for Parents" will return in January. Once a quarter, we meet on Sunday evening for a time to discuss real life issues surrounding our students and their families, and give a Biblical view of how families can interact on these things.
- "222," our youth mentoring and discipleship program, will continue to match high school students with an adult mentor for one-on-one meetings twice a month to help discuss and grow in life and in faith.
- Spring Break Mission Trip plans are shaping up, and we are excited about several possible ways that we can help be world changers. We are working through the plans and will be announcing dates and locations as soon as possible.
- Summer Camp this year will be "MFuge" at Glorieta, NM from June 11-15th. We will join with hundreds of other youth for amazing camp games, worship and teaching times, and group service and outreach projects in and around Santa Fe, NM.

For more information about any of these, please contact me anytime by phone (915-203-1231) or email (jkroeker@fcbep.com). Also, stay up to date on all things related to FBC Youth by subscribing to our text updates: send a text message to the number 81010 with "@fbcepyouth" in the message OR use the Remind app and look up "@fbcepyouth." You can also follow us on Instagram (@fbcepyouth) for a variety of posts featuring information about our ministry events and activities.

I am thankful for the privilege of leading FBC Youth, and I'm excited for what's ahead as we continue to build a family and help students become world changers for the glory of God!



We had an exciting Fall semester with our college and young adult ministry, and we are excited about what's ahead as we continue to help college students and young adults connect with the love and the life of Jesus!

We have had great Bible study and discussions on Sunday mornings though the leadership of our great team of Sunday school teachers, Robert and Celeste Guzman, Jordan Sherwood, and Stephanie Hommel. We invite all college students and young adults to join us each Sunday at 10:10a as we meet in the Bridges Worship Center in the Underground at FBC to have fun and learn together in interactive ways.

In addition to Sunday mornings, we had awesome home group gatherings on Sunday evenings twice a month at Elvin & Juli Porflit's home, and we had several Friday night hang outs that included a game night, an outing to the corn maze, a pumpkin party, and we hosted a citywide worship gathering with over 50 college students and young adults from various local churches and campus ministries. We have also built a strong partnership with the Baptist Student Ministry, and we are taking steps to help them reach more students at UTEP and EPCC as well as join with them for several missions and discipleship opportunities.

As we wind down this semester and look towards Spring of 2022, we are excited to continue connecting with college students and young adults here at our church and in our community, and our desire is to get help them grow through discipleship and use their God-given gifts to "build a bridge" that will help connect others to Jesus! Please pray for us, and if you're between the ages of 18-25, join us and be a part of FBC College as we build a great ministry that will impact many lives!

For more information about FBC College, please contact me anytime by phone (915-203-1231) or email (jkroeker@fcbep.com). Also, stay up to date on all things related to our college and young adult ministry by following us on Instagram (@fbcep.college).

—Jeremy Kroeker, Minister of Students

Sympathy

- Xiomara O'Neal Martinez in the passing of her aunt.
- Linda Tarpley in the passing of her mother, Eleanor Varela.
- Erick Jimenez in the passing of his mother, Esther Zamora.
- Bobbie Williams in the passing of her son, Dale Williams.
- Kelly Baldwin in the passing of her husband, Bill Baldwin.

Congratulations

- Asher Dunning
Parents: Caleb and Kelsey Dunning
Big Sister: Riley
- Zion Flores
Parents: Erick and Silvia Flores

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God."

October Giving

2020 (5 Sundays)

Budgeted	\$208,158
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Received	\$100,405
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2021

Budgeted	\$126,606
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Received (est.)	\$144,000
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Ways to Give

- Text "Give" to (915)975-7300
- Online at fbcep.com
- First Baptist Church El Paso Mobile App
- Mail Gift to:
805 Montana Ave.
Attn: Finance
El Paso, TX 79902



Grace Place had a successful start serving and reaching out to the community. We are grateful for all the support and for each of our volunteers. We are grateful to Mustard Seed Café for providing hot meals on Wednesday and Thursdays.

On December 18th is our Good News Christmas Party at Grace Place from 3pm to 5pm in partnership with Christian Women Jobs Corp and Child Evangelism Fellowship. This will be held with children from our neighborhood. We are grateful for the gifts that's being donated towards this Christmas event. We hope and prayers is to start a weekly Good News Club with these children in 2022.

We are certainly needing more volunteers. We encouraged to please sign up for our upcoming Orientation and Training to be held on the last Monday of every month (next training is Monday, January 31st 9:30am-12:30pm). You can sign up on VOMO at <https://app.vomo.org/project/grace-place-community-center>.

During this month of December we will be serving until December 16th (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays) and we will resume services on January 11th.

Grace Place Coordinating Team Wishes you a Happy New Year!

—Linda Misenheimer, Xiomara Martinez, David Evans, Mark Sida, and Edgardo Martinez

You're Invited to a Christmas Party!

COME AND ENJOY FREE GAMES,
SONGS, SNACKS, AND A BIBLE STORY
WITH OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Host: First Baptist Church of El Paso

Location: Grace Place Community Center
(900 Arizona Ave.)

Date: Saturday, December 18

Time: 3:00–5:00 p.m.

Contact: (915)533-1465

Note to Parents: Your child is invited to attend a fun, interactive Christmas party sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship, a Bible-centered ministry. All teachers and helpers have been trained and screened to ensure your child's safety. Parents are welcome to attend!



Women on Mission in December

The WOM Meeting will be held at FBC in person in room 107 at 11:00 a.m. on December 7. If you plan to attend and would like a meal, please contact Martha Caldwell at marthacaldwell99@hotmail.com or call 785-375-9404. This will give the kitchen staff an estimate of the number of meals to prepare.

Mission Service Project for December

Support International Missions by giving to Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Lottie Moon was a missionary to China from 1873 to 1912 whose letters pleading for mission support still resonate today. Because of Lottie's determination, WMU collected a Christmas offering to give to the Foreign Mission Board (now called the International Mission Board, or IMB).

In 1918, at WMU corresponding secretary Annie Armstrong's suggestion, WMU named the offering for Lottie. Today, we still give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (LMCO) in honor of her work and sacrifice to keep missionaries on the field. The LMCO provides critical funding for Southern Baptists' international missions efforts with 100 percent of the offering going to missionaries.

Pray for Missionaries Passage:

Psalms 86:9-13

All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, LORD; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God. Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your

name. I will praise you, LORD my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead."

The Bible doesn't record anything about Abram's faith before his momentous decision to leave Ur. What we do know is he obeyed when God told him to go. No questions asked. God didn't give Abram any specifics about the journey. He simply gave Abram the command to go.

In elementary school learning math like addition, subtraction and multiplication are easy compared to division. Unfortunately, division comes easily today. Yet we long for unity and a spirit of love and cooperation.

The psalmist longed for unity as expressed in Psalm 86:11. "Teach me your way" is a prayer for loyalty to the Savior. "That I may rely on your faithfulness" is a reminder we cannot depend on our intelligence or abilities but only on the faithfulness of Holy God. "Give me an undivided heart" acknowledges the need for devotion to the Lord and unity with others. "That I may fear your name" brings us back to the reality everything is futile without holy respect for the sovereignty of God.

Pray Psalm 86:11 for missionaries as they serve faithfully across this nation and around the world. Pray God would teach them and they would rely on Him alone and have an undivided heart for their calling. Ask Him for a sacred fear in all they do for Him.

Prayer Focus, Sub-Saharan African Peoples

A group of Karamojong women in Uganda has taken a leap of faith to stop consuming alcohol and selling it to supplement their income. The women have started a jewelry-making project called The Wildflowers, based on Matthew 6:30. Pray as missionaries teach Bible stories weekly that the women would know the character of God. Pray they would continue to find freedom from alcohol and trust God.

North American Mission Board

Florida, Carlos Lollett, Georgia, David Creswell, Illinois, Jonathan de la O, International Mission Board, Asian Pacific Rim Peoples, Jim Graham, JL, Central Asian Peoples, JF, ZG, Northern African and Middle Eastern Peoples: MM, Sub-Saharan African Peoples: Kyndra Moore, Chaplains, Volunteers, State Convention Missionaries, Retired NAMB: Elsa Cruz, Carolyn Dean, Vivian Tua, Marion Vance, Cherrie Lou Wells, Retired IMB: Andrew Flagg, Miriam Nunez, Mike Racey, Janet Stewart.

Pray for Glennda Cook, a missionary in Taiwan.

Thank you for your amazing faithful mission ministry. Many people are blessed by your generosity.

—Martha Caldwell, Director, WMU, and Pat Murtland, WOM Facilitator.