

ISSUE 11

December  
2022



HEARTLAND FAMILY MINISTRIES

# Heartland Happenings

## From the Pastor by Pastor Danny McCubbin

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Life can be challenging with jobs, children, activities, and pressure. In a world that is busy we stop and watch, and we even see the pressure of the culture around us. It seems we need some hope or peace on earth. Hope can come in different packages. As a child, I wanted toys for Christmas, but it was certain of me to get clothes as well for Christmas. I thought the best gift were the toys, but socks and underwear came in handy for me as a child all during the year. As adults, we look for hope in so many different things, such as our jobs, money, life working out, or even the government. The real gift is not all those items but the baby in the manger. His name is Jesus! He is the Lord of all salvation and our greatest need – salvation from our sin, guilt, shame, and death. He is great enough to silence storms, cast out demons, and heal people.

The world would tell you we need a political leader to help us and give us hope, but the world is so chaotic, and life is so fragile. This Christmas, be reminded that our hope for our personal lives, our nation, and our world is Christ. So why do we go searching for other gifts that just break like my toys? The gift that never wears out is Christ. He can give you joy and peace today

Father Josef Mohr needed this reminder. He pastored the small church of Arnsdorf near Salzburg, Austria. The congregation, like the village, was comprised of simple people. They were farmers and woodworkers. There was more poverty than affluence. They worked long hours and endured harsh winters. Christmas was one of their few respites. The pastor did his best to make the holiday service special for his flock. But one year, 1818, he had a prob-

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### **Save the Date:**

HCS Christmas Concert, Dec. 14, 7:00pm

FBC Christmas Cantata, Dec. 18, 10:15am

## From the Pastor, cont.

by Pastor Danny McCubbin

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lem. The organ had become unfit for use. It was old. Mice had eaten at the bellows. The church needed a new one, but they didn't have the money. Father Mohr went to his organist and expressed his chagrin, "We must have something special for midnight mass."

What is Christmas, they wondered, without music? On the day before Christmas Eve, the Father was called to administer last rites to a dying woman. By the time he returned to Arnsdorf, the hour was late. The valley and the village lay in darkness. The priest paused on a height overlooking the town. The events had left him sad: the useless organ, the death of a parishioner, the cold night, and long journey. His heart, like the valley, was lost in shadows. But then he saw a faint light of a distant home. Against the black curtain of night, it shone even brighter. The priest pondered the light, then thought to himself: It must have been something like this—that silent, holy night in Bethlehem. Suddenly inspired, he hurried home, sat over his desk and wrote:

Silent Night, Holy Night,  
All is dark, save the light,  
Yonder where they sweet vigils keep,  
O'er the Babe, who, in silent sleep,  
Rests in heavenly peace,  
Rests in heavenly peace.

Silent night, peaceful night,  
Darkness flies, all is light;  
Shepherds hear the angels sing.  
Alleluia! Hail the King,  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born.

Upon arising the next morning, he took his lyrics to Franz Gruber, his organist. Within moments, Gruber imagined the perfect melody. When he sang the song to his wife, she told him, "We will die, you and I, but this song will live."

It has. Christmas is not Christmas without the song, "Silent Night". We cherish its promise. The world still sits in shadows. Death casts its shroud. Misfortune silences the organ. Yet, whatever the generations bring, the light of Jesus still shines.

Thank God for Christmas. Thank God it's Christmas.  
Because this Christmas, we really need Christmas.

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### **Christmas Eve Service**

**Saturday, December 24, 7:00pm**

Come join us for our annual candlelight service  
on Christmas Eve!

This event is open to all.  
Please, spread the word!



# December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2 <i>Winter Sports Pictures</i>	3
4 <i>Business Mtg to Vote on Budget, 10:15am</i>	5 <i>PTF Mtg, 5pm</i>	6	7 <i>MOPS Mtg, 6pm</i>	8 <i>Sr. Adult Luncheon at IHOP, 11:30am</i>	9	10 <i>Marriage Ministry Christmas Party, 6pm</i>
11	12	13 <i>JH Elective Choices Due</i>	14 <i>HCS Christmas Concert, 7pm</i>	15	16 <i>Last Day of 2nd Quarter 12pm release</i>  <i>Polar Express Christmas Breakfast</i>	17
18 <i>FBC Christmas Cantata, 10:15am</i>	19	20	21 <i>No Midweek Activities</i>	22	23 <i>Offices Closed</i>	24 <i>Christmas Eve Service, 7pm</i>
Christmas Break—No School						
25 <i>Christmas</i>  <i>No 9am Bible Studies</i>	26 <i>Offices Closed</i>	27	28 <i>No Midweek Activities</i>	29	30	31 <i>Youth Lock-In, 8pm-8am</i>
Christmas Break—No School						

## Youth Section

by Cole Knowlton

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Praise be to God,

The first advent season is upon us, and it's an exciting time around FBC Belton. Seeker's Youth has been searching to understand the wonders and mysteries of God's transcendence. This past week we studied Psalms 33.

“By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; He puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him! For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm.”

PSALM 33:6-9

God has been exalted in our hearts and in our minds. As we look upon the birth of Christ, I am reminded of His humility. The God who can gather all of the waters of the sea, came as a human; but even more, He came as a baby in order to truly be a sufficient sacrifice and an empathic God.

This month, we will have two events. First, we have our annual Christmas party this Wednesday Dec. 7th at 6:30PM. Please bring a gift for our White Elephant Gift Exchange, \$10 maximum gift price. Second, FBC Belton will be hosting an all Youth Lock-In on December 31st at 8:00PM. If you are interested in serving or providing snacks for the lock-in please feel free to email me at [cknowlton@hfministries.org](mailto:cknowlton@hfministries.org). Please, continue to pray for our Youth as we seek the wonders of God together.

Praise be to God and Merry Christmas!

Your Fellow Servant,

Cole S. Knowlton

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### **FBC Youth Lock-In**

**Saturday, Dec. 31, 8pm—Sunday, Jan. 1, 9am**

The Seeker's Youth Group will be hosting its annual Lock-In on New Year's Eve.

Sign-ups will be in the school office the week of Dec. 12. Come ring in the new year with an evening of fellowship, games, snacks, and studying Scripture!

And Mary Said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me- Holy is His Name.

His mercy extends to those who fear Him,  
from generation to generation.” Luke 1:46-50

As we prepare for Christmas, let us also prepare our hearts to worship and glorify God for the precious gift of His Son. After all, the Mighty One, who owes us nothing has done great and amazing things for us! “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light” (Ephesians 5:8). As we join together each Sunday, may we consider this truth and glorify the Lord for His salvation as we worship together! Rejoice O Christian, your light has come!

In Christ,  
Bro. Brad

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### **Patch the Pirate Club**

Our Wednesday night Bible group for kids (Patch Club) is currently working on Christmas songs! They will be a part of our Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 18th, and will also help with the worship on Christmas day! We are currently meeting in the Choir room from 6:30 to 7:30pm each Wednesday.

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### **FBC Christmas Cantata** **Dec. 18, 10:15am**

Our FBC Choir will be performing “Good News from Home” on Sunday December 18th, along with our Children’s Choir. We look forward to sharing this cantata with you!

### **Music Notes**

Choir Rehearsal- Here are some dates to remember for our choir:

- Wednesday, December 7th at 7:30pm- Last regular Cantata rehearsal
- Sunday, December 11th at 11:45 (after morning worship)- Choir lunch fellowship (pizza- bring desserts to share) followed by rehearsal until 1:30pm.
- Saturday, December 17th from 10am-12noon- Final run-through of Cantata
- Sunday, December 18th at 9:45am- Meet in Choir room to warm up; service starts at 10:15am!



## Superintendent's Section

by Pastor Danny McCubbin

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In the mystery of Christmas, we find its majesty—the mystery of how God became flesh, why He chose to come, and how much He must love His people. Christmas is best pondered, not with logic, but imagination.

The first Christmas was messy. Messy with crowded inns, traveling families, and barnyard animals sniffing at baby Jesus. Messy with questions. How did Mary become pregnant? What is Joseph supposed to tell his friends? Why is Herod hell-bent on killing babies? The first Christmas was messy. No midwife for Mary, no bed for Jesus, no explanation to give the scruffy shepherds.

Is this one messy for you? Too many relatives? Divorce? Pink slip? Christmas can be messy. But just as with Bethlehem, good came out of the mess. May good come out of yours.

We as a school are here to partner with you, and if life is rough right now, then please let us walk beside you to point others to Christ in the middle of the mess.

The solution for the mess is in slowing down and gazing upon the majesty and glory of the Lord. Would you as a family celebrate Christmas by gazing upon the glory of the Lord and spending time with your family?

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### **Important Events**

HCS Christmas Concert—Dec. 14, 7pm

Last Day of 2nd Quarter—Dec. 16, Half-Day (Noon Dismissal)

HCS Christmas Break—Dec. 19-Jan. 3, No School

1st Day of 3rd Quarter—Jan. 4—full-day

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### **Polar Express Christmas Breakfast**

#### **December 16th, 6th-12th grade**

On the last day of 2nd Quarter, the day will begin with an all-school chapel.

The elementary students will go to their classroom parties, and the upper grades will adjourn to the cafeteria, where they will have a Christmas breakfast and hot chocolate bar and watch the movie Polar Express.

This is a joint event sponsored by Student Council and PTF. If you would like to volunteer to serve or donate food to this, there is a sign-up genius that was emailed out to parents on December 7th.

Students in the 6th-12th grades may wear school-appropriate pajamas on this day.

I trust that everyone had a great Thanksgiving! Basketball is underway! There are a slew of games that I hope each of you will come out and support the teams. You can find the schedule on the website. We are winding down the first semester! I can't believe that we are almost half-way through the school year! Most of our new students have settled down to the Heartland routine. Our school is much different than public schools and even home schooling. It takes a while to get used to our routines. We can always use volunteers to help out around the school in various capacities. If you feel called to volunteer, please contact the office for more details. As we move into the Christmas season, remember that we are celebrating the birth of our savior Jesus Christ! Without Him, life is meaningless. I pray that each of you know Him as Lord and Savior. If not, please feel free to contact me or any one of our staff members to help you along that path.

Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year!

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**The Unbelievable Super Fantastic  
Truly Amazing**

**Christmas Extravaganza**

**Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7:00pm**

The students (and Mr. and Mrs. Krigbaum) have been working very hard to prepare a wonderful Christmas program for us.

Please, come out to support them!

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**Lost and Found**

We have a number of items piling up in the Lost and Found locations. Please, be sure to check out the Lost and Found items arranged by the library before Dec. 16, as any items remaining after that date will be donated to charity.

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**3rd and 4th Grade Pajama Day  
Thursday, Dec. 15**

Luke Murphy, our Elementary Principal for a Day this year, has organized a pajama day for his class. This will include time for electronics during the last hour of the day. Parents, please note that this does apply only to 3rd and 4th grade students.

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**End of 1st Semester**

Friday, Dec. 16—Half-Day  
(noon dismissal)

**Christmas Break**

Dec. 17-Jan. 3

**1st Day of 3rd Quarter**

Wednesday, Jan. 4—Full-Day

## Sports Section

by Mrs. Tamra Atcheson

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Hello all,

Basketball season is off to a really strong start. Our varsity teams participated in the Warrior Classic with the boys taking first place. This month will be full of more games and exciting events. The Heartland STUCO has also begun preparations for Homecoming on January 20. Please watch Facebook and the website for more information as we prepare to welcome back our alumni.

If you are interested in partnering with our teams, please consider joining our Booster club! We have individual and corporate partnerships available. Forms can be found in the school office.

All team schedules and game locations can be found on the school calendar. Below is a list of games for the month of December:

**Thursday, 12/1 - Home Games vs. Plaza Heights Christian Academy**

4:30 pm - JH Boys

5:30 pm - V Girls

7:00 pm - V Boys

**Friday, 12/2 - Away Games @ Faith Christian Academy**

4:30 pm - JH Girls

5:30 pm - JH Boys

6:30 pm - V Girls

8:00 pm - V Boys

**Monday, 12/5 - Home Games vs. Overland Christian School**

4:00 pm - JH Girls

5:00 pm - JH Boys

6:00 pm - V Girls

7:30 pm - V Boys

**Tuesday, 12/6 - Home Games vs. Show Me Christian School**

5:00 pm - V Girls

6:30 pm - V Boys



**Monday, 12/12 - Away Games vs. Clinton Christian Academy**

4:00 pm - JH Girls

5:00 pm - JH Boys

6:00 pm - V Girls

7:30 pm - V Boys

**Tuesday, 12/13 - Home Games vs. Our Savior Christian Academy**

5:00 pm - JV Girls

6:15 pm - V Boys

**Thursday, 12/15 - Home Games vs. Outreach Christian Education**

4:30 pm - Elementary (3-4) Coed

5:30 pm - JV Girls

6:45 pm - JV Boys

**Friday, 12/16 - Away @ Center Place Restoration School**

4:00 pm - JH Girls

5:00 pm - JH Boys

6:00 pm - V Girls

7:30 pm - V Boys



# First Baptist Church of Belton - Schedules

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## Sunday

Bible Studies, 9am

### Children

Infants-5th Grade,  
Rms 32-39

### Seekers

6th-12th grades, Rm 33

### Reviewing Romans

Young Adults, Room 5

### Minor Prophets,

### Major Impact

Men's Class, Rm 142  
Ladies' Class, Rm 133  
Senior Adult Ladies'  
Class, Rm 141

### Joy-Filled

Adults' In-Depth Study  
of the Book of I John  
Rm 9

### World Changers

### (A Study of Acts)

Adults, Rm 3

### New Member's Class

Rm 30

## Sunday Worship

10:15am

## Wednesday

Bible Studies, 6:30pm

### Children

(Infants-K4)  
Rms 32-39

### Patch the Pirate Club

K5-6th Grade, Rm 30

### Seekers

6th-12th grades, Rm 33

### Godward Heart—

### Having a Heart for God

Young Adults,  
Rm 5

### Being a God-Centered Woman - A Study of the Women of the Bible

Women of Grace,  
Rm 133

### In the Beginning—A Study of the Book of Genesis

Men's Class, Rm 142

## Wednesdays, 7:30pm

Adult Choir Practice  
Rm 3 (Choir Suite)

## Wednesdays, 7:30pm

Adult Choir Practice  
Rm 3 (Choir Suite)

## Other Opportunities for Fellowship, Service and Study

## Tuesdays, 4-6pm

FBC Yarn Club  
Rm 133

## Wednesdays, 5:30pm

Midweek Meals

## Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm

MOPS, Rm 141  
Dec. 7

## Thursdays, 10:00am

Adults' Bible Study  
Personal Revival  
in Our Life  
Rm 205

## Special Meetings

Dec. 4, 10:15am  
Called Business Mtg