

December



Emmanuel Baptist Church

1600 E. 12th Street

Sioux Falls, SD 57103-2279

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: (605) 336-6780

PASTOR BRETT'S CELL PHONE: (605) 305-6294

CHURCH OFFICE EMAIL: emmanuelbaptistsf@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.emmanuelbaptistsf.org

Watch video recordings of messages

on YouTube at "EBCSF"

PASTOR'S BLOG: wouldbbest.wordpress.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 9:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY: Women of God Bible Study 5:00 p.m.

THURSDAY: Nehemiah Prayer Group 10:00 a.m.


Adult Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study 2:00 p.m.

*May you have
the gift of Faith,
the blessing of Hope,
and the peace of His Love
at Christmas and always*



December

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 5:00 pm Women of God Bible Study	2 10:00 am Nehemiah Prayer Group 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Men's Bible Study	3	4
5 9:15 am Prayer in Library 9:30 am Worship w/Communion	6	7	8 5:00 pm Women of God Bible Study	9 10:00 am Nehemiah Prayer Group 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Men's Bible Study	10	11
12 9:15 am Prayer in Library 9:30 am Worship	13 4:00 pm Advisory Board Meeting	14	15 5:00 pm Women of God Bible Study	16 10:00 am Nehemiah Prayer Group 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Men's Bible Study	17	18
19 9:15 am Prayer in Library 9:30 am Worship	20	21 6:00 pm Prayer @ City Council Mtg. 7:00 pm BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE	22 5:00 pm Women of God Bible Study	23 10:00 am Nehemiah Prayer Group 11:00 am Bible Study 2:00 pm Men's Bible Study	24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP TIMES 2:00 pm 6:00 pm	
26 9:15 am Prayer in Library 9:30 am Worship	27 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	28	29 5:00 pm Women of God Bible Study	30	Pastor Brett will be on Vacation December 27 - January 2	

NOVEMBER REPORT

	ATTENDANCE	VIEWS	OFFERING*
11/7	39	15	\$3,137.06
11/14	42	16	\$1,145.00
11/21	51	3	\$1,933.25
11/28	42	14	\$3,441.00

2021 Year to Date received: *\$110,001.07

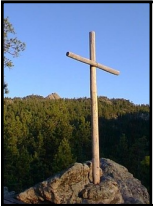
2021 Budgeted Amount: *\$116,984.16

Amount Needed Per Sunday: \$2,437.00*

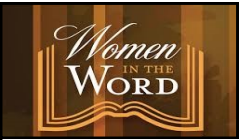
*These figures are for General Fund and Missions only.

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' " Acts 20:35

USHERS FOR DECEMBER RONNIE TIEMAN & LARRY MOHR



2022 Camp Judson Camping Schedule has been posted on the bulletin board downstairs.



Ladies, the book of the month for **DECEMBER** is **JOB**.

BLUE CHRISTMAS
Worship Service
Tuesday, December 21,
7:00 pm



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Mike Talbert
4 Amy Lindstrom
5 Brian Best
6 Tim Behrends
8 Michael Wise
20 Gary O'Connell
13 Megan Gilk
14 Wayne Van Der Vliet
27 Tim Hoover

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

5 Roger & Fern Best
18 Kevin & Katrina Kruse
19 Jacob & Mavis Hawkins

THOSE FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Paul Cleveland 12/1/2018



Recognize anyone? This picture was given to Val Thompson from Joy Ingalls. It was taken the day the choir robes were dedicated with the Lacey's who purchased them. Great memory.



QUILT RAFFLE

Still time to get your ticket!! The ABW Ministries are selling raffle tickets for a quilt. The proceeds go to the Church of Hope that is inside the Women's prison in Pierre, SD.

The tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for five tickets. The tickets are available from Val Thompson or Joan Cleveland. Drawing will take place on December 6, 2021.

Retired
Ministers &
Missionaries
Offering
2021

*Transformed
by Generosity*

RETIRED MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES OFFERING 2021

2 Corinthian 3:18: *"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit".*

During these unprecedented times, we have learned new ways to transform, exist and embody the kingdom with the same goal in mind—to reflect the gospel. Through the deep commitment and faith of the church, great efforts have been made to remain connected and build relationships within their congregations and community. The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO) acknowledges and appreciates the extraordinary commitment of such church leaders, congregants, and missionaries.

"Transformed by Generosity" as our theme with supporting scripture from This timely theme lifts up the true strength and perseverance of ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have devoted 15 or more years of service to the American Baptist family.

Through RMMO, we hope you are inspired to give to those who continue to transform and embody the spirit of Christ.

We thank you.



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

Because of a generous donation to buy poinsettias for the sanctuary for Christmas, we will not be taking orders for poinsettias this year.

In the January Newsletter, there will be a remembrance page dedicated to the memory of our loved ones. If you would like to have a name(s) on this page, please call Marlene @ 605-366-6323 or the church office 605-336-6780 by WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8.



"Our Church understands the importance of giving. Even through the rough times of the pandemic, we can testify about God's hand amidst our families, community, and ministry. Being able to give forward is the best form of blessing we can count."

Rev. Julio González-Paniagua
Pastor
First Spanish Baptist Church
of Central Islip
Long Island, New York

**Retired
Ministers &
Missionaries
Offering
2021**

What is God Thinking?

In Luke 13:1-5 Jesus reflected on a pair of current events. Both were tragic events. In one case, Pilate (the governor of Judea) had some Galilean worshipers killed as they were in the middle of offering sacrifices in the temple. Imagine the outrage of the Jews at the offense of murder in the sacred district. The loss of their countrymen would have been a deep offense, but murder in the temple added blasphemy to the crime! They must've wondered why God allowed such tragedy and injustice to occur.

In contrast, the second instance might be described as an "act of God" versus the "act of man," an atrocity committed by Pilate. Jesus commented about the tragic loss of eighteen people who died when a tower in Siloam fell on them.

In both cases, Jesus asked His listeners if they supposed God's purpose in these tragedies was to punish sinners. Did they think the people who were killed were WORSE SINNERS, somehow more deserving of death? The obvious answer to His question was "No." These people were not WORSE sinners, just the everyday common variety of sinner. The truth is we are all sinners deserving of death, but it is God's grace that spares us for life eternal.

The pandemic has raised a lot of questions with competing answers. As Jesus did here in Luke 13, we need to reflect on our own current events from a faith perspective, looking through the lens of the Bible to understand what's going on and what it might mean for our daily lives.

Let's start with the obvious: the pandemic has been a tragedy. The loss of life is the worst. The loss of health, especially for "long haulers," is next. The loss of freedoms comes next (history shows us that when governments assert new powers, they do not readily return them to the people). Then there is the loss of relationships. The pandemic has been a divisive issue. Finally, the economic losses have disproportionately affected the most vulnerable members of our society.

That's just the pandemic. There are other tragedies, other things that divide us. You don't need to be a conspiracy theorist to list hands full of threats to life and liberty.

What is God's purpose in all this? It may be that history is advancing to its conclusion, that we are closer to the end of time as God predicted in the Bible. It may be God's condemnation of a culture increasingly antagonistic to Him.

Let's simplify this by remembering the point of Jesus' teaching in Luke 13, "I TELL YOU AGAIN THAT UNLESS YOU REPENT, YOU WILL PERISH TOO." One of God's purposes in the pandemic is to prompt people to repent. Our first and best response is always to repent; to turn from our sins and cling to God, trusting in Him instead of worldly things. Tragedy is always intended to turn people back to God, starting with self. To fail to repent is to turn one tragedy into an even greater one. What does God want? First, He wants us to repent. Then He wants to help others to do the same.