

## Praise & Prayer

(If you would like a Praise or Prayer Request put on our list, or if you know in advance of a scheduled surgery or extended hospital stay, please let the church office know by filling out a blue Prayer Card and placing it in the offering plate. Please remember to keep us updated.)

### ONGOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

- \*Pray for the Gospel to continue to be shared throughout the world. Pray for the Lord's soon return.
- \*Pray for the Global Church to be faithful to God and His Word.
- \*Pray for Persecuted Christians, Missionaries, SBFN, our Church Staff, Elected Leaders, Courts, and our Country.
- \*Pray for Hannah's House, and other Crisis Pregnancy Centers that are helping mothers who keep their children from abortion.
- \*Pray for an end to legal abortion in the U.S.
- \*Pray for conflicts to end in Ukraine and other world areas.
- \*Pray for U.S. Soldiers, Police, First Responders, and families.
- \*Pray for those who have lost loved ones.

### SPECIFIC PRAYER CONCERNS: (New is in bold)

- \***Robert** - (Liz Radabaugh son) having heart issues, has to see a cardiologist on 12/18.
- \***Len Holt - UPDATE** - in the hospital with congestive heart failure. Still having difficulties as of 11/30. He has been moved to the 3rd floor for closer monitoring, and so they can start removing the extra fluid quicker. Doc's are saying he will be getting a heart valve transplant in the VERY near future. Please continue to pray for him.
- \***Terry - UPDATE** - (Daniel Little's Father-in-Law) kidney transplant on 11/30 was successful. Was able to sit up and move around a little on 12/1. Continued prayers for no complications, or rejection of the kidney, and for complete and full recovery.
- \***Darren - UPDATE/PRAISE** - (Scott Snyder's 28 yr old nephew) was born with Muscular Dystrophy (MD). Admitted to the hospital in Ohio on 11/28 with extreme difficulties breathing. Doctor's were very concerned. **PRAISE:** As of 11/30 doctors have finally found a medicine that seem to be turning him around a little. Darren is starting breathe a bit better, still not out of the woods, but praising God for some good news.
- \***Dorothy Fowler** - passing of Dorothy on 11/25. Prayers for the family as many of them will be traveling in to town. The Viewing & Funeral are on Friday, December 15, at Miller - Stewart F.H. in Middlebury.
- \***Eckert/Freeman Family** - passing of Renae on 11/22 and Albert earlier this month. Visitation & Funeral on 11/28. Continued prayers for their children during this difficult time.
- \***Todd** - (Barb Motuelle's son) had a very complex sinus surgery done on 11/20 at Northwestern University Medical Center on 11/20, and doctor's are saying the surgery was a success. PTL!!! Todd is now at home and resting peacefully. Thank you all for praying him through this. Please pray for pain relief, healing, and no further issues.
- \***Reggie Nicholson** - request prayer for his friend and his friend's family. He asked for prayers for their emotional, home, and physical concerns and that they have a good life.
- \***Gerry Wood - UPDATE** - (Janet & David Dodd's mom) in her last stages of pancreatic cancer. The family believes that God can heal.

# 2023 Holiday Services

- December 3 First Sunday of Advent
- December 10 Second Sunday of Advent & Kids' Christmas Program
- December 17 Third Sunday of Advent & Adam's Voice Concert
- December 24 Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve Service 7pm

### QUICK VIEW OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

#### DECEMBER - Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

- 11/30 - 12/3 - Youth - St. Louis All Star Bible Quiz
- 1 - NMI @ Hannah's House
- 2 - Parents' Day Out (4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.)
- 9 - Youth Quiz @ SBFN (Noon)
- 9 - Children's Christmas Program practice/Party (10-2)
- 10 - Intergenerational Final practice for All Participants (9a)
- 10 - Intergenerational Christmas Program (10:15 a.m.)
- 17 - Adams Voice Christmas Concert - (10:15 a.m.)
- 17 - NO Youth Quiz Practice
- 24 - NO Youth Quiz Practice
- 24 - Christmas Eve Service - No Childcare (7 p.m.)
- 25 - Merry Christmas - Office Closed
- 31 - NO Youth Quiz Practice

#### January

- 1 - New Year's Day - Office Closed
- 2 - Office Opens



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# WELCOME!

## December 3, 2023

**We're so glad you worshiped with us today!  
Our prayer is that you would experience God's love and truth through Jesus Christ!**

- \* A staffed nursery is available during this morning's worship gathering.
- \* Aid for the hearing impaired is available. Please see an usher for assistance.
- \* Need Internet? SBFN Guest Password: **SBFNet!10**

### TODAY'S WORSHIP GATHERING

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/OFFERING

Angels From The Realms Of Glory  
Glory In The Highest  
O Little Town Of Bethlehem

**MESSAGE FROM GOD'S WORD**  
"What if... Mary and Joseph Said 'No'?"  
Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38  
Lead Pastor, Andy Lauer

#### LAST WEEK'S STATISTICS

Sunday a.m. Discipleship	92
Sunday a.m. Worship	157
Midweek Activities	13
On-Line Views	14

#### SBFN MINISTRY TEAM

Lead Pastor - Andy Lauer  
Children's Pastor - Brenda El-Talabani  
Youth Pastor - Christina Fischer  
Worship Pastor - Rebekah Gilbert  
Missions Director - Sue Harris  
Office Administrator - Carole Snyder

### THIS WEEK AT SBFN

#### Sunday

8-11:15 a.m. Prayer Room is Open  
8:00 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal  
9:00 a.m. S.S./Discipleship: Children, Youth & Adult  
10:15 a.m. Morning Worship Gathering  
12:00 p.m. Youth Quiz Practice

#### Wednesday

All Day Prayer and Fasting  
9:00 a.m. Women's Sewing  
6:00 p.m. "Come to the Water" - Rev. Ransom Ebersole  
WIRED Youth Group  
6:30 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

#### Saturday

9:00 a.m. Mixed Ensemble Practice  
10-2:00 p.m. CM Christmas Rehearsal & Party  
3-5 p.m. Youth & Adult Final Christmas Rehearsal

#### Next Sunday

8-11:15 a.m. Prayer Room is Open  
8:00 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal  
9:00 a.m. Christmas Program's Final Rehearsal  
9:00 a.m. S.S./Discipleship: Children, Youth, & Adult  
10:15 a.m. Intergenerational Christmas Service  
12:00 p.m. Youth Quiz Practice

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Thank you for your faithful & generous giving!

#### Tithes & Offering

Received week of (11/26/23)	\$5,803.80
Needed Weekly	\$6,473.33
Average Giving YTD	\$6,742.11

#### October Missional Giving

World Evangelism Fund	\$1,557.66
Child Sponsorship	\$30.00

#### Church Building & Facilities

Mortgage Balance	\$609,905.79
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## UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

#### CURRENT SERMON SERIES: "WHAT IF . . . ?"

Every year we retell the Christmas accounts - How Jesus' birth was foretold by God through the prophets. How Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. How the shepherds and wise men worshiped the new born King. But have you ever stopped to consider *What if things had turned out differently?* Join us this Advent and Christmas season as we ponder what *could have been* and why we are so blessed that events turned out the way they did.



#### INTERGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Join us on Sunday, December 10th at 10:15 a.m. for "A Present For You" an Intergenerational Christmas program. Come along as we explore all the feelings that rise up during the busy holiday season and see where our focus really should be - on the gift of grace that is given through the birth of Jesus. Bring your family and friends as we see SB First family of ALL ages share this message of hope!

#### ADAMS VOICE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Make plans to join us on Sunday, December 17th, during our morning worship gathering to hear Adams Voice share a Christmas Concert with us. Adams Voice has shared God's love through song to people all across the United States. National Radio stations are currently playing their songs and Christian television programs have featured them as well. They were also honored to be featured vocalist at the Church of the Nazarene General Assemblies and Conferences. Their music will challenge, uplift, and echo in your heart. Invite a friend or family member to come and enjoy this Christmas Concert with you. Hope to see you there.



#### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - Sunday, December 24th

It's easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season. This year, to help us put our focus where it truly belongs - on the birth of Jesus Christ - SBFN will be having a Christmas Eve Service @ 7 p.m. This is a great opportunity for you, your family and friends to prepare your hearts for Christmas as we retell the story through readings and Christmas carols sung by candlelight. We hope you and your loved ones will join us in reflecting on Jesus' birth this year.



#### SBFN MEMBERS & FRIENDS YEAR END GIVING

As we are getting very close to the end of the 2023 year, the Stewardship & Finance Committee would like to express our appreciation to our members and friends for your faithful support. Your prayers and your sacrificial giving have allowed us to gather, prepare, and send followers of

Jesus. **We would also like to remind you that for tax purposes your year end giving for 2023 must be RECEIVED here at the church office or postmarked on or before Sunday, December 31st, 2023 to be counted for the 2023 year end giving. If your gift is received or postmarked AFTER December 31st, 2023, it will have to be considered as a gift for 2024 year, EVEN IF THE CHECK IS DATED 2023. We thank you for your understanding.**



#### "COME TO THE WATER": MID - WEEK WORSHIP

This week's "Come to the Water" Mid - Week Worship will be lead by Rev. Ransom Ebersole. "Come to the Water" meets every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

#### MIXED ENSEMBLE GROUP PRACTICE - Sat., Dec., 9

The Mixed Ensemble's Groups final practice for the Intergenerational Christmas program will be on Saturday, December 9th, at 9 a.m. in the sanctuary. Practice will be an hour. Any questions see Pastor Christina.

#### CM CHRISTMAS REHEARSAL & PARTY - Sat., Dec., 9

The SBFNaz Kidz will have a final Christmas program rehearsal on Saturday, December 9th, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Practice will include a Christmas party with games and lunch as well.

**PARENTS: Children ages 3 years and younger will need a parent to stay with them to help.** Contact Pastor Brenda if you have any other questions.



#### ATTENTION YOUTH & ADULTS FINAL PRACTICE

Both the Youth & Adults that are participating in the Christmas program will have a final practice on Saturday, December 9th, from 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. in the sanctuary. Any questions please see Pastor Christina.

#### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM'S FINAL REHEARSAL: ALL PARTICIPANTS

The final Christmas program rehearsal is on Sunday, Dec. 10th, during the 9 a.m. hour. ALL participants (SBFNaz Kidz: 5th grade and younger, Youth Group, and Adults) will need to arrive to the sanctuary no later than 8:55 a.m. Contact Pastor Brenda or Pastor Christina with questions.

#### PARKING TO SHOW WE CARE

We all love to find that perfect parking spot, but when your mobility is limited or you're a guest in a new place, few things are more important to making you feel welcome. At SBFN, we want to make sure that visitors and those among us who truly *need* them find the best parking spaces. **With the weather changing we ask anyone that is able to please consider parking along the edges or towards the back part of the parking lot and reserve the spaces in the center and directly beside the building for our guests and those who need them. Thanks for being a servant for the Lord!**

