

CHRISTMAS EVE

Candlelight

SERVICE

4:00 & 6:00 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

WORSHIP!

Welcome! Please fill out your Connect Card and place it in the offering basket. If you are a guest, please pick up a Guest Packet in the front lobby or by the covered entrance. Free Bibles are also available at the Information Desk! If you have children, childcare is available today in our preschool area for children: birth - age 5. There is also a cry room available at the NE corner of the worship center.

Last Tuesday evening God impressed me with the fact of his perfect timing when I was re- reading the passage in the book of Luke about Zechariah and Elizabeth who were visited by the angel Gabriel. Zechariah was told that they would have their prayers answered and given a child that they were to name John. The angel said, Luke 1: 14-16 "You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the eyes of the Lord.... He will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even before his birth." What is most intriguing about this story is that the answer to both Zechariah and Elizabeth's prayers took many years. They were the age of grandparents before God chose to bless them with John, who would later be known as John the Baptist.

I have never met anyone that liked waiting. At Christmas- time, children really have a struggle as the preparation for Christmas seems to get earlier and earlier each year. I remember as a kid thinking that the month of December was the slowest month of the year and that Christmas morning would never arrive. But, it seems that God show up in our lives at times we would never expect. He shows up sometimes when we have almost given up. Zechariah was in a state disbelief that what the Angel was saying to him could actually happen. Sometimes it feels like God has forgotten us and isn't listening to our prayers. But, this story which precedes the narrative of the birth of Christ is a great reminder that God is still listening and he is waiting for the right time to show his power in our lives. God showed up in the form of His Son, Jesus at just the right time in order to bring us salvation and forgiveness of sins. He pursed us in order to adopt us into his forever family. The Apostle Paul writes in the book of Philippians:

"Who, being in the very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!" (Philippians 2:6-8)

Elizabeth's response to the news of her pregnancy is a good reminder of what our response should be when God shows up in our lives. She said, "How kind the Lord is!" (v.25) Thank you God for your gift of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ!

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Ralph

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

We are excited that you have chosen to celebrate the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ at EGFirst. It is our prayer that this time of worship on Christmas Eve will help you connect with God and help the Christmas Celebration become more meaningful to you and your family. You are invited to Worship with us on Sundays during our normal schedule!

We currently have two worship services:

9:15 AM The Traditional Service:

This service contains traditional elements and allows for more reflection and observation in the way the congregation responds.

10:30 AM The Contemporary Service:

This service is more expressive and encourages participation from the congregation in the singing of praise choruses and rearrangements of hymns.

10:30 AM Energize Group Worship:

1st-5th Grade

Come to this exciting large group time - called Energize- where children 1st - 5th grades will play games, sing songs and dive deeper into the Word! Children are dismissed from the Contemporary Worship Service to attend the children's large group worship hour! Parents pick up their children in the Youth Zone promptly after the completion of the Contemporary Service.

A well staffed nursery is open for birth - age 5 for both services.

Melbourne Gospel Jubilee

Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from www.melbournegospeljubilee.com. A freewill love offering will be taken during the concert. There will be surprises, fellowship and great music!

2017 Contribution Envelopes are in the Hallway by the Library!

If you need a box assigned to you, please sign the paper on the table or let us know on your Connect Card.

THIS WEEK AT EG FIRST!

Sunday: December 25

Combined Christmas Day Service: 10:30 AM

Monday: December 26

Church Office Closed!

Tuesday: December 27

Library Open: 9:30 AM - Noon

Wednesday: December 28

No Wednesday Night Activities!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome New Members:

Wandell and Delilah Adkins

Albert and Larissa Robinson

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMBERS!

New Sunday School Members:

Bob and Mary Jane Dearmin - SALT Class

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

01/01 - Todd Skirvin, Antonia (Tony) Costa, Tiger Shung

01/02 - Bruce Ingersoll, Joshua Clement

01/03 - Dorman Fowler, Dan Morgan, Barbara Springstroh,
Taylor Burgess

01/04 - Ann Baumgartner, Janet Strimel, Shari Monteith

01/05 - Charles Meeks, Cheri Daubendiek, Candy Thomas,
Emily Hayworth

01/06 - Doug Stewart, Barbara Carnes

You can now give through texting! It's easy and 100% Secure!
Text to **321-234-1284**. Type in the amount you would like to give to EG First.

You will receive a text back with a link from Easy Tithe to fill out a short form. Just enter in your name and card information and you will automatically be signed up!

Memorials and Honorariums

Benevolence

In Honor of Paul and Pauline Fleming by Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Spencer.

In Honor of our Library workers by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kotowski.

Food Pantry

In Honor of Nellie Crees by Thelma Pomeroy.

Sympathy & Love:

Janet and Hal Stepp and family in the death of Janet's mom, Goldia Miller.

Facts and Figures December 18, 2016

Worship Attendance

9:15 AM (Traditional)	291
10:30 AM (Contemporary)	183
Energize:	27
Total:	501

<u>Weekly Budget Need</u>	18,866.88
Budget Offering	25,878.10
Designated	4,895.96
CTB Debt Retirement	825.00
Lottie Moon	3,209.00
Total Offering	34,808.06
Budget Goal to Date	962,210.88
Received to Date	932,330.30
CTB Gifts to Date	2,234,847.45
CTB Year to Date	19,417.00
Lottie Moon to Date	9,537.00

Wednesday Night Dinner Dec 28 • 5-6:00 PM

**NO
WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
DINNER
OR
ACTIVITIES**

Deacons on Call • Dec 25 - Dec 31

Ed Davis, 266-3966
Ray Kotowski, 693-0942
Roger Wiseman, 626-7322

Weekly Memory Verse

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 & 6:00 PM

Announcements

Noel

Video Clip

Prayer

Welcome

Joy to the World

Silent Night

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Offering

Violin Solo, Erin Shung

Message

King of Heaven

Unison Reading

Silent Night

When lighting
the candles, please
dip the unlit
candle.



Please return candles to the bins at the worship center entrances as the holders are reusable. Thank you.

10:30 AM Sunday Combined Worship 10:30 AM

Celebrating the Birth of Christ and
Sharing in the Lord's Supper

Message: What Child Is This? Isaiah 7:14

**Our Vision: Reaching our community by connecting
people to the family of God.**

Eau Gallie First Baptist Church
1501 W. Eau Gallie Blvd | Melbourne, FL 32935 | 321-254-2339
churchoffice@egfirst.org | Ralph Nygard, Pastor