## First of All

Thank you for choosing to worship with us at First Church.

Let's worship the Lord together with...

Worship "Shout for Joy (Christmas Version)"

First Family Fellowship

**Worship** "Angels We Have Heard on High"

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

"Away in a Manger"

"Emmanuel"

**Prayer** "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"

**Offering** "Birthday of a King" by Jim Forrester

Message "The Gift of Christmas"

**Closing** "Silent Night (Stille Nacht)"

# First Step

The most important thing that can happen to you is asking Jesus into your heart. It's as simple as ABC...

## Admit that you have sinned

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

Romans 3:23

## **B**elieve that Jesus died for you

"God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

## Confess that Jesus is Lord of your life

"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. It is with your heart that you believe and are justified and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved."

Romans 10:9-10

If you followed these steps and asked Jesus into your heart, please let Pastor Bobby know.

## First News

## 1 "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Party & Children's Missions

During Sunday School today, the "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party for children will be held downstairs. The Children's Mission Class will be held today at 10:00 AM.

## 2 Year-End Giving

All contributions to First Church need to be dated and postmarked on or before December 31, 2019, to get giving credit for 2019.

## **3** Holiday Schedule

The church office will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, December 24-25, for Christmas Eve and Christmas and on Wednesday of next week, January 1, for New Year's Day. No Wednesday evening events will be held this week or next week, on December 25 and January 1.

## 4 Items to Pick Up Today

**Poinsettias** - Check the Poinsettia List in today's bulletin. If you have had a poinsettia purchased in your honor or if you purchased poinsettias in memory of someone, you may take your plants with you today.

**Christmas Cards** - Check the card box in the foyer for cards addressed to you. **Church Directories** - Updated church directories are on the Welcome Center. 2020 **Calendars & Matching Pens** - These are also on the Welcome Center.

## 5 2020 Prayer and Fasting

Are you poor, brokenhearted or held captive? Join us in January as we proclaim 2020 to be the **Year of the Lord's Favor** through prayer and fasting. Let's trust God for a breakthrough!

## First Serve

Helpers Today:Next Sunday, December 29Greeters: Sue Daniel, Josh & Stephanie AllenConnie Graham, Gary Manion

Babies: Mary Alice Spann Jill Woodard
Toddlers: Debby Hunsaker Kathy Hulbert

# First FruitsDecember GivingNeededReceivedBalanceTithes/Offerings\$38,183\$18,122\$20,061Faith Promise - Missions\$5,173\$1,870\$3,303

## First Impression

We welcome you to First Church! Here are a few things that we would like you to know about our Church...

#### Denomination

The Church of the Nazarene is a holiness church that shares roots with the Methodist Church. With over 2.2 million members worshiping in over 29,000 congregations in 159 world areas, we are a part of something much bigger than ourselves.

### Worship

It has been said that, "Worship changes the worshiper into the image of the One worshiped." To achieve that transformation, First Church is willing to use everything from drums to organs and everything in between.

### Youth and Children

"It's a race to the heart of a child and the first one there wins." First Church is trying to outrun world influences with various programs to "train a child up in the way they should go."

### Adults

We are big enough to serve you and small enough to know you! Whether you are single or married, working or retired there is something for you at First Church.

### Missions

We believe that the mission of the church is Missions. First Church is a going, sending, praying and paying church so that the whole world may hear the Good News of Jesus Christ!

## Community

First Church cares for our neighbors. We want "our light to shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

## First Word

December 22, 2019

"The Advent Adventure"



"The Gift of Christmas"

Matthew 1:23

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To me

## First Glance

**Sunday, Dec. 22:** 8:30 a.m. - Prayer Gathering

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School

9:00 a.m. - Children's "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Party 10:00 a.m. - Worship Service / Children's Mission Class

Tuesday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve

Church Office Closed

Wed., Dec. 25: Merry Christmas

Church Office Closed

**Sunday, Dec. 29:** 8:30 a.m. - Prayer Gathering

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Family Worship Service (No Children's Church)

## First Staff

Bobby Howard, Pastor pastorbobby@Irfcn.org

Dr. Jim Daniel, Senior Care Pastor <a href="mailto:jimd-sued@att.net">jimd-sued@att.net</a>

Rita Powell, Discipleship Pastor pastorrita@Irfcn.org

Amy Howard, Children's Minister amyhoward9575@yahoo.com

David Powell, Youth Minister <a href="mailto:powellwoods@comcast.net">powellwoods@comcast.net</a>

Kathy Forrester, Administrative Assistant secretary@Irfcn.org

Office Hours: 8:30 - 4:30



Loving God,
Loving Others,
Loving Little Rock



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