



# The Trumpeter

A PUBLICATION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PORTLAND, OREGON



# Expecting

“Expecting” is a word with multiple applications. “I’m expecting a phone call...” “a package in the mail...” “a call back from my interview...” “results of the biopsy...” “a visit from the kids...” And how about this: “The doctor confirmed it; **we’re expecting!**” Sometimes our expectations make us excited, even giddy; sometimes they are wrapped in dread.

This edition of *The Trumpeter* stretches across the end of the old year and into the new year. It’s a time of high expectations in our society. What are *you* expecting?

What are *we* expecting as Christian believers, and as a congregation?

This year we celebrate Advent, the Christian season of expectation of Christ’s appearing, the first four Sundays of December. For centuries, the Jewish people expected *Messiah*, the Anointed One, to bring about the End of the Age and the Reign of God. “*For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulder ... His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace...*” (*Isaiah 9:6-7*). As Christians we believe that this fervent expectation is being fulfilled through Jesus

Christ, and we live in the joy of that expectation, especially at Advent.

It’s all too true that the world around us presents us with multiple reasons for anxiety. Sometimes they are personal: health challenges, financial insecurity, relationships gone painfully awry. Thus the coming of the New Year, instead of a hopeful event, a clean canvas as it were, seems more likely to mock us with memories of broken and discarded resolutions and the spectre of “more of the same.” Sometimes we transcend self-concern only

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enough to worry about errant children or grandchildren, or to brood over “global issues” such as the threat of terrorism or the effects of climate change.

I would not be in the ministry, or a committed Christian at all, if I did not believe that God can change hearts, that God can transform unjust and broken systems, and that finally, God’s kingdom *will* come and God’s will *will* be done, “*on earth as it is in heaven*” (Matthew 6:10).

Thus I enter into Advent every year full of expectation — that the magic of the Christmas story will awaken cynical and discouraged hearts and that the living Christ will capture persons and transform them into his own image. “*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new*” (2 Corinthians 5:17). And I never open the calendar pages of the New Year without the lively expectation that the people of God

can transform systems — cultural, economic and governmental — into the Jubilee reality of God’s Reign, “*for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea*” (Isaiah 11:9).

As for the life of our congregation, I anticipate the inspiring worship experiences of Advent and Christmas with great joy, and the prospect of deep and serious reinvisioning of our congregational identity, purpose and strategy in the New Year fills me with great hope. We are not simply a function of our demographics, or of our past stature and achievements, as praiseworthy as some of these achievements have been. Our future is in God’s hands.

I am expecting a great 2013 for First Baptist Church, Portland, and for our newly reconfigured region, the American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast. I hope that you are too.

—*Dr. David L. Wheeler*

## **Pleasing God: The Stewardship of Life**

Stewardship honors God with all of the relationships and resources in our life?

1. Stewardship is a priority! We need to take what God has entrusted to us and put it to right use.
2. Stewardship is exercising the gifts God has given and not letting them waste away, but rather using them with joy for His glory.
3. Stewardship is recognizing that we belong to Him by His grace, and as the body of Christ we gather for worship and sharing, and then leave for ministry. If we just attend for worship and leave, we have done little for the well-being of the body of Christ.

“Be very careful, then, how you live — not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity ... always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” (Ephesians 5:15–21).

## **December brings the opportunity to thank our retired ministers and missionaries and their spouses for their commitment, service, and spiritual guidance.**

Since 1948 American Baptist churches have given a Fellowship Offering each fall to provide financial assistance to the denomination’s elderly ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses.

Today the **RMMO** (Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering) is a tangible way for us here at First Baptist Church in Portland, Oregon to say “Thank you” to those who have served our churches and missions across the world for Jesus Christ. This offering helps these retired ministers, missionaries and spouses by providing emergency assistance in their times of

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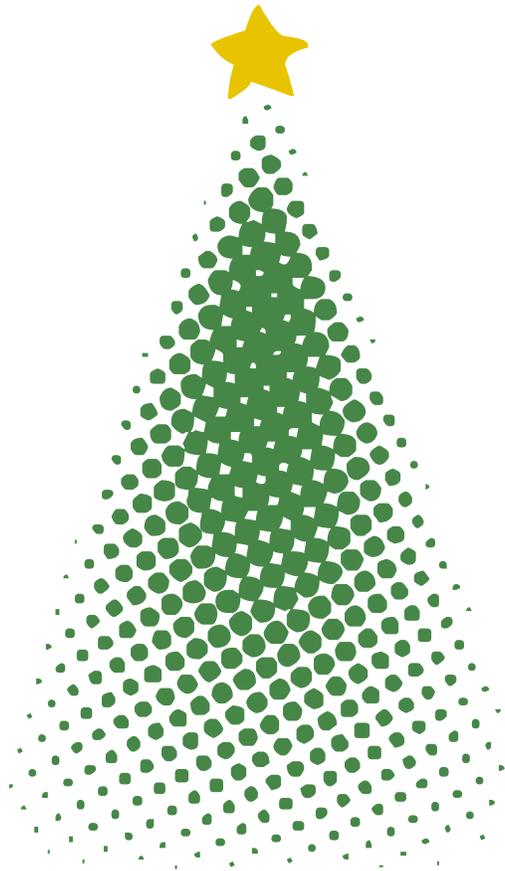
need, and they are sent a “Thank you” check at the end of each year. Last year more than 3,300 recipients received checks. This extra money helped some buy hearing aids which they could not otherwise afford. For others, this bit of extra money helped pay some of their medical or dental expenses which were draining their resources. Most of all, the checks are a great encouragement to these dear people in their advancing age, showing them that they are not alone or forgotten. As one retired pastor said, “Thank you for being my strong, inspiring American Baptist family!”

We have a number of retired Am. Baptist ministers, their widowed spouses, and missionaries in our own congregation. Let’s remember to express our gratitude to them, and tell them how much their ministry has meant to us personally. We will start receiving the RMMO the first week of December, and special envelopes will be in the pews for this purpose. It seems appropriate that as Christmas approaches we give this early Christmas gift to thank the persons who invested their lives in sharing the good news of Christ with others.

—*Dr. Marian Boehr for Mission Committee*

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

INVITES YOUR FAMILY TO



*FAMILY CHRISTMAS SUNDAY*

DECEMBER 16, 2012, 11:00 AM



*CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE*

DECEMBER 24, 2012, 8:00 PM

## Weekly Schedule and Activities

### SUNDAY

- 9:00 Contemporary Service
- 10:00 Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary  
Cambodian language, Rose Chapel  
Children's Church for ages 3 through 2nd Grade, follows the Time for Children at 11:00
- 6:00 & 8:00 pm: Solid Rock

### SUNDAY, MONDAY, THURSDAY

5:00 pm: Transitional Youth

### MONDAY—SATURDAY

6:00—8:30 am: Eye Opener (AA meeting)

### MONDAY & THURSDAY

2:00—4:00 pm: Drop-In Center

### TUESDAY

5:30 pm: Dinner And A Movie

### WEDNESDAY

- 5:45 pm: Wednesday Night Dinner
- 6:30 pm: Kids Choir (K–8)
- 6:30 pm: Adult Bible Study
- 6:30 pm: High School Bible Study
- 7:35 pm: Choir Rehearsal

### FRIDAY

- Office closed
- 6:00 pm: FOCUS

### SATURDAY

- 8:30—10:30 am: Cambodian Men's Fellowship Bible Study

# Cambodian Congregational News



I am grateful I had the opportunity to join ABCO's annual conference in Alameda, CA recently. It was an historic meeting about the name of ABCO changing to American Baptist Churches of the Central Pacific Coast. I was inspired by the fellowship with other church leaders, messages from outstanding speakers, and the workshops as well.

We thank God for the baby shower for Samantha Khem and the baptism of Anthony and Samnang on Sunday, November 11, and the baby dedication of Angelina Beatty on Sunday, November 18. There were three great dinner fellowships happening recently in our ministry in November: our monthly potluck dinner, Cambodian Thanksgiving dinner, and all church Thanksgiving dinner. For the last great fellowship of

the of the year, you are invited to join our Christmas Potluck on Sunday, December 9, right after church in the dining room followed by a short program. Please also join our first monthly potluck on Sunday, January

6, right after church as well and pray for my three week mission trip starting January 10, 2013. During my trip, I will give scholarships to the certain students who need school supplies for the new year. I will be also working



*(from L to R): Dr. David L. Wheeler, Anthony Preston, Samnang Sin, Pastor Peter Im*



on the Children's Center bathroom, strengthening the leadership, planning for their activities and programs, working on projects for the actual building center, and the chicken project. I am also recruiting a team for the next mission trip, November 1–15, 2013. I would love you to join us. Please visit our website for more information about the needs of this current trip and the trip in November 2013. If you would like to take part in supporting my trip or provide a scholarship, you can also give to our church Christmas gift. 50% of the Christmas offering will go toward supporting these projects.

I am deeply grateful for your contributions to both my personal support and ministry projects for the Cambodian Children Ministry. Your contributions enable us to operate this ministry on your behalf for the sake of His Kingdom. Our Cambodian worship service starts at 10:30 am and ends at noon. Our Sunday school starts at 9:30am. Cambodians will also be joining the Christmas celebration of the Khmer Christian Pacific Northwest in Tacoma, WA, on Saturday, December 15. Our Cambodian youth band, accompanied by Denny Bishop, started to play for our worship services. This team will be spiritually led by Pastor Francis and joined by church youth group.

We would like to give thanks for the Eugene Emerald Bible Fellowship committee members who came to join our worship service as well as update us about recording the Khmer Old Testament in audio format.

May you all have a blessed holiday and a Happy New Year!

—Pastor Peter Im

**និយោជន៍សំពះស្រីខ្មែរ**

យើងខ្ញុំសូមអរគុណដល់ព្រះវិហារយើងដែលបានផ្តល់ឱកាសឱ្យខ្ញុំបានចូលរួមប្រជុំសន្និបាតរបស់ពួកជំនុំអាមេរិកាំងពាទីស្តនៅក្រុងអាឡាមីដា រដ្ឋកាលីហ្វ័រញ៉ាពីខែ១០ ដែលខ្ញុំបានរៀននូវវិធីនៃការងារព្រះអង្គ យើងមានកម្មវិធីពិសេសៗ ជាច្រើននៅពេលកន្លងមក ដូចជាពិធីបុណ្យអរព្រះគុណដល់ព្រះជាវរបៀបផ្សេងៗ និងពិធីបង្កកូនដល់នាងសាម៉ែនតា ភីម ផងដែរ។ សូមចូលរួមកម្មវិធីបុណ្យគ្រីស្ទម៉ាសរស្រីខ្មែរយើងនៅថ្ងៃអាទិត្យ ទី៧ ខែធ្នូនៅព្រះវិហារយើង។ នៅថ្ងៃសៅរ៍ ទី១៥ ខែធ្នូនេះដែរ សូមពួកជំនុំយើងចូលរួមកម្មវិធីបុណ្យគ្រីស្ទម៉ាសរបស់ពួកជំនុំខ្មែរភាគពាយព្យនៅទីក្រុងតាកូម៉ា ម៉ោង១១ព្រឹក1427 East 40th Street Tacoma, WA 98404 ។ ផ្តល់ការងារនៅថ្ងៃអាទិត្យទី១៦ ខ្ញុំនឹងធ្វើដំណើរទៅបំពេញបេសកកម្មនៅមណ្ឌលកូនក្មេងស្រុកខ្មែរ នៅថ្ងៃទី១០ ដល់ថ្ងៃទី១២ ដល់ថ្ងៃទី១២ សំរាប់ជំនួយដែលពួកជំនុំមានចិត្តសម្រេចចិត្តចូលរួមជួយពេលបុណ្យគ្រីស្ទម៉ាសនៅមណ្ឌលកូនក្មេងដែលយើងកំពុងរៀនចំនួន៦០០នោះ សូមចូលរួមជួយនេះជាមួយលោក សេរី គង ឬទាក់ទងនឹងខ្ញុំបានដែរ។ ហើយប្រសិនបើចង់ចូលរួមជួយក្នុងការងារព្រះដែលខ្ញុំនឹងទៅខែ១នោះ សូមថ្វាយជំនួយទៅព្រះវិហារ ថ្វាយជំនួយតាមលេខ៣៣៦២២ ខ្ញុំសូមថ្លែងអំណរគុណដល់ការគាំទ្ររបស់ពួកជំនុំដែលជួយជំនួយដល់ខ្ញុំនិងការងារព្រះនៅមណ្ឌលកូនក្មេង ដែលបណ្តាលឱ្យយើងខ្ញុំមានសមត្ថភាពនឹងធ្វើការងារទាំងអស់នោះបានជាគង់យ៉ាងជោគជ័យ។ ពួកជំនុំខ្មែរយើងនឹងចាប់ផ្តើមថ្វាយបង្គំព្រះនៅម៉ោង១០កន្លះព្រឹក ហើយសាលារៀនចាប់ផ្តើមនៅម៉ោង៧កន្លះព្រឹកពីខែធ្នូនេះតទៅ។ ក្រុមគ្រីស្ទម៉ាសយុវជននារីខ្មែរយើងនឹងចាប់ផ្តើមលេងក្នុងពេលថ្វាយបង្គំព្រះរាល់ថ្ងៃអាទិត្យផងដែរ។

សូមព្រះប្រទានពរដល់ពួកជំនុំក្នុងពេលបុណ្យឆ្នាំរំលឹកនេះ និងសូមឱ្យពួកជំនុំបានសេរីស្មោះនៅក្នុងឆ្នាំថ្មី២០១៣នេះ!  
សូមអានភាសារអង្គរសង្គមយើង ដែលមានរបាយការណ៍ច្រើនថែមទៀត។ ផ្សាយដំណឹងដោយលោកគ្រូ ភីមី អ៊ឹម

# I love, I love, I love, I love My Calendar ... Glass?

*Christmas is right  
around the corner!*

*Only 23 shopping  
days left!*

*Buy now and make  
your loved ones happy.*

I admit that this article is an advertisement ('tis the season), but I don't want to use the same tactics as Madison Avenue. Their favorite tactic seems to be what I call the "Happiness Scheme."

The desire for happiness is rooted inside of us and never seems to be satisfied. The Rolling Stones had it right when they sang, "I can't get no satisfaction" (well, except for their grammar, of course). We live in a society permeated with the belief that having money, power, and fame is critical to happiness, but if you can't have that, then at least you should get your hands on a bunch of stuff. We may have a nice TV but then one day while we are watching that TV, we see an ad for a new HD 1080p 80" LED flat screen. The guy in the commercial looks happy watching his favorite team on it. The announcer even tells me that this TV will make me happy. So now when I feel unhappy I think about the TV and say to myself, "I got to get me one of those."

It saddens me that Christmas, a season set aside to remember the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, has been twisted by advertising

agencies to be focused on stuff. In truth, that empty spot that we try to shove a TV into just was not made for a TV. Roughly paraphrasing, Augustine said that at the center of every man is a God-shaped hole that only He can fill. Christ, coming to us as a man, living among us for a time and taking his place on the cross as the Lamb of God set into motion the redemptive process for all men so that anyone who believes in Him shall be saved. And through salvation comes relationship with Jesus, and it is in relationship with God that empty place is filled.

But again, I am not here to talk theology or event marketing. I just want to advertise something. This December and into January, the Student and Children's Ministries of First Baptist Church will be selling calendars made completely in-house. Each month of the calendar features a beautiful close-up photo of FBC stained glass by staff member Jason Chastain.



Last year 20 students participated in iQuest, our local missions trip. We also sent 10 students (5 each from grade school and high school) to Camp Arrah Wanna. For many, these events were significant spiritual milestones. For some, they were life changing events. This year as we plan our mission trip and look forward to the summer camps at Arrah Wanna, I want to make sure every student who wants to go has the opportunity. **For a suggested donation of \$10 per calendar, you can help a student participate.**

With that in mind I will now shamelessly use all my marketing skills to persuade you. You know that you need presents for Christmas – why not give a calendar to everyone you know? Send one to your favorite nephew in Butte, Montana! Why not get one for your office and your home? How about friends you have not seen for a long time? How about gifts for your employees? These calendars may not actually have the power to make you happy. But the money you help us raise may just help a student come into a redemptive relationship with Jesus and in that find true happiness.

**Our calendars will be on sale in Fellowship Hall each Sunday in December and for the first few weeks in January. You can also buy them from our students. Get yours today!**

*—Pastor Rick Francis*

# Member Birthdays

Lucille Gates .....	12/1	Nelva Kibble .....	1/4
Florin Ionescu .....	12/1	Sandee Maslen .....	1/4
Ratanak Jenkins .....	12/1	Pha Men .....	1/4
Dominick Gambino .....	12/2	Beth Paul .....	1/4
Singbory Nem .....	12/2	Kathleen Arndt .....	1/6
Dan Beard .....	12/5	Ethel Fazzolari .....	1/6
Mike Woolwine .....	12/5	Rob Knauerhase .....	1/6
David Wheeler .....	12/8	Duane Nelson .....	1/7
Allen Hogeweide .....	12/10	Damres Nem .....	1/7
Mary Bird .....	12/11	Brian Perkins .....	1/7
Joann Metcalf .....	12/11	Dagny Regan .....	1/7
Tom Muller .....	12/11	Joe Miles .....	1/8
Devon Greer .....	12/11	Sudge Budden .....	1/9
Evelyn Nix .....	12/11	Genevieve Hollenbeck .....	1/9
John Mitsch .....	12/14	Sharonann Jones .....	1/9
Don Garrett .....	12/15	Tuon Iem .....	1/10
Dale Johnson .....	12/15	Donna Riddell .....	1/11
Bettie Schweinfurth .....	12/15	Ann Borquist .....	1/11
Carol Darlington .....	12/16	Dieudonne Mayi .....	1/12
Charles King .....	12/16	Kevin Durrell .....	1/13
Robin Mills .....	12/17	Charlene Fischer .....	1/14
Lois Knopf .....	12/18	Eric Lee .....	1/14
Pauline Pagulayan .....	12/18	Alexander Noble .....	1/14
George Hartman .....	12/20	Salisa Williams .....	1/14
Wayne Cody .....	12/20	Khemavan Chan .....	1/14
Kakrona Khem .....	12/21	Sivy Luy .....	1/15
Alberta Sanchez .....	12/21	Carmen Pasley .....	1/17
Charlene Millan .....	12/22	Luigi Flammia .....	1/20
Jaimee Gubrud .....	12/24	Eloise Ferguson .....	1/21
Carol Wheeler .....	12/24	Cindy Beeks .....	1/21
Tina Kirkendall .....	12/28	Mary Lynn Parodi .....	1/22
Vila Tan .....	12/28	Robert Bowin .....	1/23
Seren Lay .....	12/31	Sandra Montgomery .....	1/23
		Jennifer Smith .....	1/24
Vanna Kann .....	1/1	Kristi Auvil .....	1/24
Irvin Voth .....	1/1	Ellen Chellis .....	1/27
Merle McNeel .....	1/1	Adelaide Andrews .....	1/28
Leakana Suy .....	1/1	Louie Paul .....	1/29
Calvin Taylor .....	1/1	Lari Paul .....	1/30
Ethel Lawrence .....	1/2	Dorothy Pickard .....	1/30
James Wetmore .....	1/2	Steve Bils .....	1/30
Nuon Suon .....	1/2	Janis Parke .....	1/31
Emily Bryans .....	1/3	Tommie Young .....	1/31

## Sermon Schedule

### December 2

#### “Sign of the Times”

Jeremiah 33:14–16

Luke 21:25–36

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: Hope  
Celebration of the Lord’s Supper*

### December 9

#### “I am confident of this”

Malachi 3:1–4

Philippians 1:3–11

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Love*

### December 16

#### “No Way! Amazing!”

Luke 2:1–7

*3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Peace*

#### FAMILY CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

### December 23

#### “The child leaped in her womb!”

Micah 5:2–5a

Luke 1:39–45

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: Joy*

### December 30

#### “Now what?”

Colossians 3:12–17

Luke 2:41–52

### January 6

#### “From Somewhere Else”

Isaiah 60:1–6

Matthew 2:1–12

*Epiphany*

*Celebration of the Lord’s Supper*

### January 13

#### “Called by Name”

Isaiah 43:1–7

Luke 3:21–22

### January 20

#### “From Somewhere Else”

*Becky Mann preaching, American Baptist  
Missionary to Thailand*

### January 27

*Rev. Margaret Marcuson preaching*

# DECEMBER 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 Christmas Tree decorating 8:00 am
2	3	4	5 Special Business Meeting for First reading of Budget & Elections 6:30 pm	6	7	8 Homemakers' Christmas Party 1:00 pm
9 Cambodian Christmas potluck following 11:00 am service	10 Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	11 Diaconate Meeting 6:35 pm	12	13 C.E. Committee Meeting 6:30 pm	14	15
16 Family Christmas Service 11:00 am	17	18 White Cross Meeting 10:00 am	19	20 Downtown Fellowship 10:30 am	21	22
23 Combined service 11:00 am	24 FBC office closed Christmas Eve service 8:00 pm	25 FBC office closed	26 No Wednesday Night Dinner and Bible Study	27	28	29
30	31	<b>CHRISTMAS</b>				

# JANUARY 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1 FBC office closed  <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b>	2	3	4	5
6 Cambodian Potluck following 11:00 am service	7 Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	8	9	10 C.E. Committee Meeting 6:30 pm	11	12
13	14	15 Diaconate Meeting 6:35 pm	16	17 Downtown Fellowship 10:30 am	18	19
20	21 Trumpeter Deadline	22 White Cross Meeting 10:00 am	23	24	25	26
27 Annual Business Meeting 12:30 pm	28	29	30 Next Trumpeter Mailing	31	1	2

Periodicals Postage  
Paid at Portland, OR

*Time Dated Material*

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