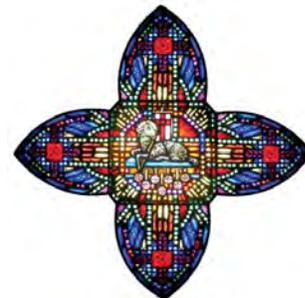


Third Base

The Monthly Newsletter from
Third Baptist Church - Saint Louis, Missouri
In the City for Good



VOLUME 77 ISSUE 12

www.third-baptist.org

December, 2013

This Month's Speakers

December 1
Dr. Terrell Carter

December 8
Lessons and Carols
Chancel Choir

December 15
Dr. Greg Hunt

December 22
Adam Banks

December 29
Dr. Greg Hunt



Ministerial Staff

Dr. Gregory Hunt
Interim Pastor

Dr. Terrell Carter
Minister of Administration

Rev. Maria Stinnett
Associate Pastor of Children
and Communications

Allyn Harris Dault
Interim Minister to Youth

Kad Day
Director of Worship
and Music

third-baptist.org
[facebook.com/ThirdBaptistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/ThirdBaptistChurch)

Getting Along Together



Conflict in life is inevitable. Real families have real conflicts. Real couples have real conflicts. Real churches have real conflicts. Conflict comes because we are all individuals with our own opinions and desires. Conflict comes because we all have a voice that we want to have heard.

If we all can be honest, we can admit that there has been a fair amount of conflict that has occurred at Third Baptist Church over the past few months as we have traveled through the unexpected process of congregational change.

I admit that conflict is not necessarily pleasant, but the good thing about conflict is that it doesn't have to damage relationships. If conflict is handled in a loving way, it can actually lead to the growth and strengthening of relationships. Conflicts can open doors for honest communication and help move relationships to a better place.

Ultimately, the harm is not in having a conflict or disagreement. The damage is not done just because we disagree with each other. The reality of conflict doesn't cause the most hurt and pain. The damage is done by how we respond to each other in the midst of that conflict. The damage is done when we circle the wagons and point fingers at someone else. The damage is done by recruiting people to be on our side so we can show that we have the most people that agree with us and that makes us right. The damage is done when we stand with our arms crossed waiting for someone to seek our forgiveness.

One of the main challenges with dealing with conflict is recognizing that when there is conflict in our relationships, we don't have to make each other out to be enemies. Managing conflict was one of the challenges that Christ's disciples faced in Matthew 18. Within Matthew 18, we read that Christ's disciples spent an unnecessary amount of time arguing about petty things, like who would be first in the coming Kingdom. This type of discussion led to tension within the group.

Jesus responds to these conversations by telling the disciples that when a brother or sister does something to hurt you, go to that person and try to restore the relationship. Jesus tells them to take the initiative to fix the damaged relationship.

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Can you believe it is December already?! Our kids at Cole are getting a little restless already, day dreaming about presents, candy and all that goes with Christmas.

This is the time that is hardest not to bring Christ into our meetings, He is the reason for the season and I can't talk about it with my little guy! What precious news not to be able to share! Pray for the mentors this time of year as we struggle to pass on the news of Christ's birth without breaking our contract with KHUSA.

We will have a little "holiday" party with them, nothing outstanding, just to let them know that we love them and want to share the joy of Christmas with them. Most of the children celebrate Christmas and know of Jesus' birthday, but how many will be able to participate in the joy of worshipping on Christmas day?

There is good news! We have a new child to mentor; Lois Reinhardt will be his new mentor. Pray for them as they journey through the rest of the school year.

Hopefully, by the start of 2014 (WOW is it really 2014?!) we will have another child for Deborah Watson who recently came back as a mentor. It is good to have you back, Deborah!

As you prepare for the Christmas holidays, please pray for the chil-



The Community Ministry Team thanks all those who supported the Harvest Trivia Event on Sunday, Nov. 10 by giving donations of merchandise, time or money, purchasing food and actually playing trivia. Your generosity helped us raise over \$2000 for the Christmas Basket ministry that will serve around 150 families in December.

Christmas Basket day is Saturday, December 21. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Food Pantry request for the month of December 2013 is donations for **CHRISTMAS BASKETS.**

Thank you,
Your Food Pantry Team



dren we mentor. Some of them are not going to have a great Christmas. We are sharing through the Christmas Basket program with each family we mentor, plus others at Cole.

Merry Christmas to each and every one and a Very Happy New Year!

Environmental Ministry Team & Food Pantry

The Environmental Ministry and Food Pantry teams are...teaming up! Grocery store bags are being collected near the paper recycling point on the ground floor near the kitchen. We appreciate donations of clean and dry plastic (or paper) bags for use during this monthly event. Thank you for your donation to this worthy endeavor.

Preparing for Christmas: Advent Activities for Families

I am excited to be a part of Third Baptist and all of the church's celebrations of Advent and Christmas. As we move into this time of preparation, think about how your family might prepare for Christmas in your own home. Celebrating the Advent season as a family can heighten the anticipation of Christmas day and our celebrations of Christ's birth. Below are some ideas which I have gathered on celebrating Advent as a family. These ideas could be used with children, grandchildren or any children who are a part of your life. Perhaps some of these will become a part of your family's holiday traditions.

Wishing you and your family hope, peace, joy and love,

Rev. Maria L. Stinnett

Associate Pastor of Children and Communications

- **Count the characters.**

Use your nativity scene as a teaching tool during Advent. When you put out your nativity scene, don't place all of the characters in the stable at the same time. Add more characters to the scene as Christmas day draws closer. As you add a character, discuss with your child that person's role in the birth of Jesus. Wait until Christmas morning to add baby Jesus to the scene.

- **Make a birthday cake for Jesus.**

Every birthday party needs a cake! While baking and decorating a birthday cake for Jesus, remind your child of the reason we celebrate Christmas.

- **Re-enact the Christmas story.**

As a family, re-enact the Christmas story. Use your own home as the set. Use common household items for props. Re-enact the story multiple times, allowing children to fill different roles. At the end of the performance, take a "cast" picture with everyone in costume. In a few years, you will have collection of photographs and memories.



Youth

Allyn Harris Dault

Interim Minister to Youth

Another Advent season is upon us. Advent, of course, is a time of hope and anticipation, a time for reflecting on the past and pondering the future. It's also a time where liturgical nerds like me yell out "Happy New Year" a month sooner than most people expect!

As you prepare to celebrate anew the coming of the Hope of the World, I'd like to invite you to join a group that will help bring to fruition the hope we have for our Youth Ministry. This new group consists of persons who have committed to praying twice a week for the TBC Youth Ministry: 1) for the youth and families and leaders involved, 2) that we might clearly discern God's direction for the ministry. In return, I have committed to sending this group monthly updates.

Of course, you're always welcome to pray for us at any time, whether or not you're an official part of what I've been calling the TBC Youth Villagers (because "it takes a village"). If you'd like to be counted among us, though, please make sure to let me know so I add you to the update list. You can talk to me in person (make sure I write your name and address down), by email (altheconductor@gmail.com), or by phone. If you let me know by December 7, I'll make sure you get the December update!

Be God's,
Allyn

We would like to acknowledge milestones and achievements of our members in Third Base. This could include a retirement, a special anniversary, years of volunteer service, awards or honors, etc. If you have information

about yourself or a friend that could be listed, let us know.



CITYARTS DONATIONS

Our CityArts program, which provides music education for city children who cannot afford private lessons on their own, is low on funding. If you would like to make a donation, please indicate on the envelope or check that it is for the CityArts program. Thank you!

Join Third Baptist Church Through the holiday season!

Christmas Jazz & Dessert Concert featuring Dawn Weber

Sunday, December 1, 7pm in Johnson Hall

Enjoy great music of the season along with gourmet dessert and beverages. Seating is family style at tables of seven for \$15 per person. Tickets will be available through MetroTix, or from Kad Day.

Choir and Orchestra

Sunday, December 8, 10:40am in the Sanctuary

The Chancel Choir and orchestra will lead us through a service of lessons and carols with Joseph Martin's *A Celebration of Carols*.

A Service of Comfort and Hope

Sunday, December 8, 1pm in Memorial Chapel

The holidays are often the most difficult days of the year for people who have lost love ones, or have experienced other losses in the year. Pray, remember, find comfort.

Choir and Brass

Sunday, December 15, 10:40am - Sanctuary

The Chancel Choir, accompanied by organ, brass and percussion, will perform music of the season, featuring Randol Alan Bass's *Gloria*.

Children's Christmas Presentation

Sunday December 22, 10:40am in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Tuesday, December 24 at 5:00pm - Sanctuary

Brent Johnson will present a 30 minute concert of organ music beginning at 5pm, and at 5:30pm the choir will lead us in our traditional Christmas Eve candlelight service.

First Night Celebration

Tuesday, December 31 in Grand Center Ring in the New Year as we participate in this family-friendly performance-art-oriented New Year's Eve celebration.



Dawn Weber in Concert with St. Louis' top jazz performers

Join us for a special holiday concert featuring Dawn Weber, trumpeter/singer/songwriter, with some of St. Louis' top jazz musicians. You will hear a variety of genres of music from classical to jazz to funky and soulful arrangements.

During the concert, enjoy a gourmet dessert with coffee, tea, and hot chocolate! Seating is family style at tables of seven, and tickets are just \$15. Reserve an entire table and bring your family and friends! Tickets will be available through MetroTix or from Kad Day.

The New Horizon's class will be happy to receive any new toy donation (not gift wrapped) through Wednesday, December 18 for the Annual Christmas Toy Drive. If you prefer to let us do the shopping for you, you can make a cash donation designated for the Toy Drive through the church office.

The Christmas Basket and Toy Event is scheduled for Saturday, December 21. We would also appreciate donations of gift bags (of all sizes, but particularly of larger sizes), rolls of Christmas gift wrap, tape, gift tags, etc. There is a box designated for donations in the library. As always, we appreciate your support!



A total of 511 shoeboxes filled with new gifts for children around the world were collected from members and friends of Third, other churches and organizations in our community, and various individuals. Of these, 93 boxes were from Third.



Thank you to each person who shopped, packed, prayed, and/or volunteered. OCC is a unique mission project in which children not only receive gifts, many for the first time in their lives, but also are introduced to Jesus, the Greatest Gift of All.



TBC

Choir Needs YOU!

IMPORTANT NOTICE: To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2013 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgment of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church.

Continued from page 1

Don't stand in the parking lot and gripe about what someone has done. Don't unfriend the person on Facebook. Don't wait for someone to come begging for your forgiveness. Don't storm out of the church and tell everyone how you will never darken the doorway again.

Instead, Christ says go to that person and work it out among yourselves. Take initiative and take the first step to make things right. This is clearly contrary to the common practice today of publicly placing the responsibility for reconciliation on the shoulders of the person who we think has hurt us. One of the problems of this practice is that when we turn a conflict into a public spectacle it can have an even greater negative effect on the entire congregation. When two people are not getting along, the conflict has the potential to divide the congregation and make people think that they must choose a side to support. The potential for relationships to be further damaged is increased.

Instead of marking our territory and digging in for a long fight, we can follow the advice of Christ and show forgiveness to others as we have also experienced forgiveness. In doing this, showing forgiveness and grace to each other, our church can manage the conflicts that come with change and growth and we can all come out on the other side of this season of our lives stronger and reflecting God's love.

Pastor Terrell Carter



**Please be in PRAYER
during our interim period.**

FOR:

Our Church Staff as they welcome and learn new and interim staff.

Church Council and Ministry Teams as they prepare budgets for 2014.

The Pastor Search Committee as it is selected and begins its work.

Our Church body as we strive for God's will.

Women's Missionary Society

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

9:30 Gateway 180 Service project, Fellowship Hall

10:45 Business Meeting

11:00 Spiritual Growth, Leslie Limbaugh

December 17, Mission Project – Room 2

December

Recurring TBC Events:

Sundays

(see Sunday Schedule)

Mondays

Jobs for Life

Tutoring

Tuesdays

TBC Staff Meeting

Wednesdays

(See Wednesday Schedule)

Sunday Schedule

9:00 Prayer—Library Open
Coffee/Donut Fellowship

9:30 Sunday School

10:40 Worship Service

Wednesday Schedule

4:00 Tutoring

4:30 Library Open

5:15 Fellowship Dinner

6:00 Children/Youth Activities
Tae Kwon Do

Bible Study

7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

This Month at TBC

1 ADVENT 1

Worship

Lord's Supper

Sasser Offering

Mission Luncheon/Projects

Christmas Jazz - Dawn Weber

7 Choir Rehearsal

8 ADVENT 2

Worship

Choir with Orchestra

Bereavement Service

15 ADVENT 3

Worship

Choral with Brass/Percussion

Special Called Business Meeting

20 Christmas Basket Assembly

21 Christmas Basket Distribution

22 ADVENT 4

Worship

Children's Program

Coffee Fellowship

24 Christmas Eve Service

25 CHRISTMAS DAY – Offices

Closed

26 Christmas Holiday – Offices

Closed

29 Worship

R. Haywood Birthday

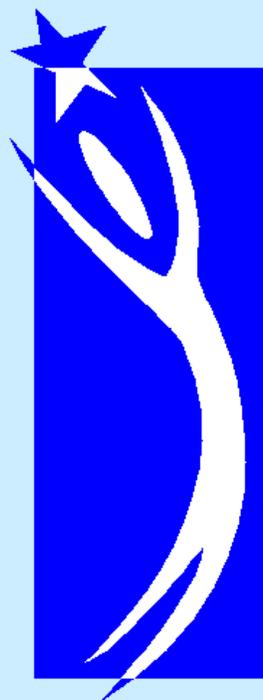
31 First Night Celebration

Others at TBC This Month

Preclarus Mastery Academy

Friendship International

Grand Center



Unified Budget

October, 2013

	Actual	Budget
Pledged	\$34,254	\$43,331
Un-Pledged	\$5,214	\$4,130
UNDER	\$7,993	

Year-to-Date

	Actual	Budget
Pledged	\$264,305	\$332,440
Un-Pledged	\$77,158	\$38,374
UNDER	\$29,351	

Income/Expense

Year-to-Date

Income:	\$ 743,612
Expense:	\$ 696,112
OVER	\$ 47,500

Thank you for your contributions.

Articles for the next issue of Third Base are due **December 15**. Please submit articles to the church office, or e-mail to Melissa Sasser at sasserpm@aol.com.

Do You Wish To Receive Third Base by Mail?

Please send \$15 for printing and postage to:

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