

From the Pastor...

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions!

In an unprecedented year, First Baptist Church has been generous well beyond expectations to give to share the gospel with people around the world. Our all-time record offering was last year, \$74,000. This year's offering just reached an amazing \$110,815.20. Every penny goes from our church to the mission board, and they send every penny to work overseas, supporting missionaries, sharing the gospel, meeting needs, responding to crises, and planting churches to bring hope to a lost world! I think the world of our church family and am always impressed by the love and generosity of our people, but even I am amazed this year...and grateful to be a part of God's work here and around the world.

THIS SUNDAY

Last Sunday went as well as we could have hoped with the sun shining and the weather cooperating even though it was a bit cool. We had the livestream indoors for those who felt too chilly for the worship service. We will continue with this plan for this Sunday. Sunday School at 9:15 indoors, worship at 10:30am outdoors with an indoor room for livestream worship if anyone gets too cold outside. Our leaders and deacons meet next week, and we hope to have some new plans ready to go on January 24.

COVID

With the number of cases increasing still, we want to provide the absolute safest possible way to worship in person. I was at a meeting of pastors in Columbia this week, and every one of them had already had COVID, and they traced it back to a church service. A church in Barnwell had over 40 people contract the virus in one service. We will not risk our people's health like this, but we are learning from others' experiences and working on plans to make indoor gatherings for worship as safe as possible. Look for more information next week.