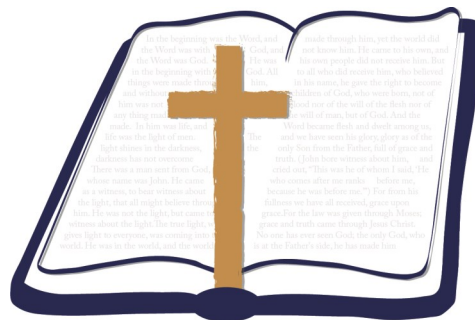


# IN THE LOOP

Landon Byrd, Pastor

Tim Shivers, Minister of Music

Heather Dees, Ministry Assistant



2963 Mulga Loop Road

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www.westmontbaptist.org

**Westmont**  
Baptist Church

A PUBLICATION OF WESTMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

JANUARY 2024

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Sun, Jan 7th

8:30 am - Men & Ladies Breakfast

3:45 pm - Deacon Meeting

Wed, Jan 10th

6:00 pm - Children's Choirs Resume

Wed, Jan 17th

6:00 pm - Business Meeting

Sun, Jan 21st

5:00 pm - RA/GA/Mission Friends Night

Sun, Jan 28th

11:00 am - Lord's Supper

Youth Recognition

5:30 pm - GA Coffee Shop for Lottie Moon

Mon, Jan 29th - Wed, Jan 31st

11:00 am - 1:00 pm - January Bible Study & Lunch



**JANUARY**  
Birthdays

- 1 Kristi Carpenter
- 4 Linda Holcombe
- Paula Brown
- Cindy Bell
- 8 Jacob Self
- 14 Gail Coyle
- 22 Penny Anthony
- 28 Sam Nix



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

Never be lacking in zeal, but  
keep your spiritual fervor,  
serving the Lord.

Romans 12:11

**A  
NEW YEAR  
FOCUSED  
ON JESUS**

Church Family,

What is a church covenant?

What is a church covenant? Simply put, the church covenant is our promise made to one another and before God that we will together do what God calls a local church to do in the scriptures. It helps us identify who is a member of this local body as opposed to brothers and sisters who are members of another local body.

But church covenants aren't in the Bible, so why do we bother with them? A church can absolutely exist without a formalized church covenant. It can assemble together, preach the Word, administer baptism and the Lord's Supper, fulfill the "one another" commands and practice discipline- all without having any kind of written agreement that they will do so. But historically churches (Baptist churches in particular) have found that a covenant helps to succinctly summarize for its members what scripture teaches they must do as a church of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Baptist Faith and Message (our church's statement of faith) defines a church in this way: "A New Testament church of the Lord Jesus Christ is an autonomous local congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel."

The church covenant as a summary statement is helpful for admitting members in explaining clearly but succinctly what it looks like to be a member of this local body. It is helpful for frequently reminding members what the scriptural expectations of them are as a member of the body.

Over the next few months, a group of seven church members (Mike Jackson, Jeff Nix, Heather Dees, Dan Duncan, Linda Holcombe, Jacob Isom and myself) will be serving on a committee to review our church covenant in an effort to consider what way we can best summarize the scriptural commitments we have to one another as the body of Christ at Westmont Baptist Church. We ask that you please join us in praying for the Lord's gracious aid in this undertaking.

In Christ,

Pastor Landon

Budget Report (through December 24, 2023)

Receipts Month - \$17,013.22 YTD - \$215,418.16

Budget Month - \$17,646.08 YTD - \$211,752.96

