

# The Ambassador



## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

DECEMBER 17, 2006

10:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 



6:00 P.M.

CHILDREN'S PAGEANT  
& PARTY

DECEMBER 24, 2006

10:30 A.M.

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY  
CELEBRATION



7:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY  
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

11:30 P.M.

STARLIGHT  
SERVICE BY  
CANDLELIGHT



News

and Views

From the Hill



Christmas 2006



*He shall  
be great  
and shall be  
called the  
Son of the  
Highest.*

*Luke 1:32*

Join Us As We Worship  
The Christ Child At FBC

# Annual Christmas Pageant Set For December 17



This year's Christmas Party and Pageant will be on Sunday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. It will feature a traditional pageant written by Pastor Lord.

The evening will start with a potluck dinner and fellowship around the tables. At about 6:45 p.m. the kids will get dressed and shortly afterwards they will take the stage to bring the Christmas story to life in their pageant. There will be angels and shepherds, kings and of course, Mary and Joseph.

Afterwards we will await the arrival of Santa Claus who will share a small gift with each of the children. Santa wants make sure he has something for everyone, so please let Sandy Stone know if you are bringing children who do not attend the Sunday School. All of the children are invited to bring in mittens, gloves, scarves or hats to share with the families at the TVCCA Homeless Shelter. There is a mitten tree set up on the landing in the back entry way, for those who want to participate who cannot make the party.



## Two Candlelight Services Planned on Christmas Eve

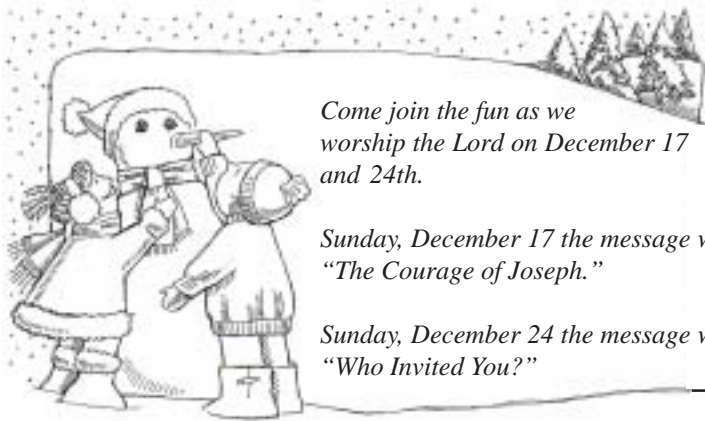
We will have two wonderful services filled with music, to choose from on Christmas Eve this year. The early service at 7:00 p.m. is geared more toward the family and will feature some special music and short message by the pastor, entitled "The Love of God." The late night service will be shorter and feature more carols, and this service will begin at 11:30 p.m. and end just after midnight, as we break in to Christmas morning. Make plans now to come to one service or both. They will contribute to your Christmas Joy!



## First Baptist Annual Meeting Tentatively Scheduled for Thursday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m.

*We would like to have all Annual Reports handed in to the Church Office by Sunday, January 14.*





Come join the fun as we worship the Lord on December 17 and 24th.

Sunday, December 17 the message will be "The Courage of Joseph."

Sunday, December 24 the message will be "Who Invited You?"



The FBC Stewardship Committee wants to thank all of you who have faithfully contributed to the ongoing expenses of our ministry. Your regular contributions help insure that we remain a beacon of light in our city as we try to share the love of Christ with our neighbors.

To date we have received 36 pledge cards totalling \$77,100 for ongoing local expenses and \$4,300 for mission expenses.

The Budget Committee will meet early in January to make changes to the proposed 2007 budget by plugging in the pledged amounts and adjusting the expenses accordingly.

Here at First Baptist, we ask our members and friends to make a good faith estimate, or what we call a pledge, as to how much they will be able to contribute to the ministry in the coming year. This allows us to prepare a good faith budget and plan for ministry accordingly. So when people make pledges, it helps us make an honest budget so we won't overspend our means.

Even if you don't make a pledge, your gifts make a tremendous impact. The weekly offerings allow us to operate the building, call a Pastor, set up a Sunday School, reach out to youth, host Bible studies, interact with the community and so much more.

If you haven't done so, please prayerfully consider how you can support the ministry of First Baptist next year and return your pledge card by January 1, 2007 so it can be counted.

Extra pledge cards are on a table at the back of the sanctuary or can be had by calling the church office (889-0369) during the week.

No Sunday School Classes will be held on December 31st.

## Join Us As We Worship With Central Baptist In January and February

We will take advantage of the exciting opportunity we have as sister churches to worship and work with Central Baptist Church for eight weeks again this winter. This will allow us to be good stewards and conserve energy while getting to know one another as we anticipate working together in mission and outreach. The following is the schedule for our united services with Central Baptist Church from January 7, 2007 to February 25, 2007.



January 7 at First Baptist Church  
Cal Lord Matthew 2:1-12  
"They Really Were Wise Men!"

February 4 at First Baptist Church  
Sheldon Keller Luke 5:1-11  
"A Boat-load of Fish"

January 14 at First Baptist Church  
Sheldon Keller I Corinthians 12:1-11  
"Everybody Has At Least One"

February 11 at First Baptist Church  
Cal Lord Jeremiah 17:5-10  
"Where Are Your Roots?"

January 21 at Central Baptist Church  
Cal Lord I Corinthians 12:12-31  
"Together For A Purpose"

February 18 at Central Baptist Church  
Sheldon Keller Luke 9:28-37  
"Going Up and Coming Down"

January 28 at Central Baptist Church  
Sheldon Keller I Corinthians 13  
"Don't Leave Home Without It"

February 25 at Central Baptist Church  
Cal Lord Romans 8:10-13  
"Don't Be Embarrassed By Your Feet"

Sunday School classes will be held at the host church from 9:08 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. each week They will feature Bible stories, drama and arts and crafts. We will also have tow classes for adults. Curt Brockway will be looking at the Book of Revelations and Pastor Keller will be hosting a "Faith in Action Class" that will focus on current events.

Focus on Our Ministry

# Our High School and College Age Youth Will Lead Us In Worship December 31

Our Annual Youth Recognition Sunday will be on December 31. This year Emily McFalls, a senior at Griswold High School, will be our featured speaker.

Emily will join a distinguished list of student speakers that include Sarah Lord, Jaclyn Vanase, Casey Rezendes, Rebecca Lord, April Rezendes, Amanda Guillemette, Joanne Clubine Paulsen, Timothy Rezendes, Curtis Royce, Amy Brockway Meyer, Brian Goldin and Kate Strouse Canada.

Many of our high school and college students will participate in the service as well.



Pictured above are some of those who participated in the service last year. Our kids will do everything from the sermon on down through taking up the offering. Our Praise Team will also be assisted by some of the teens as we worship and praise God together. So come join us as we salute the future of the church.

**The First Baptist Church**  
**239 West Main Street**  
**Norwich, CT 06360**  
**Vol. 22, No.7**

**Dated Material**

**Postage Paid**  
**Non-Profit Org.**  
**Norwich, CT**  
**Permit #26**

"The Ambassador" is the official newsletter of First Baptist Church, Norwich, Connecticut. It is published & sent monthly to members, friends, and community leaders.

This is the Mid-December 2006 Issue  
Volume 22 Number 7, 2006  
First Baptist Church of Norwich  
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web address: [www.fbcnorwich.org](http://www.fbcnorwich.org)  
e-mail: [fbcnorwich@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fbcnorwich@sbcglobal.net)

Sunday School Classes 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Mid Week Worship & Prayer Service  
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Clayton A. Lord, Jr., Pastor  
Adele DiBiagio Cofer,  
Organist & Choir Director  
Sandy Stone, Administrative Assistant  
June Pendleton, Harry & Doris Calkins, Carol Vaz  
and Bob Walker are the Production Assistants.