

DECEMBER 17, 2023

**WELCOME TO FIRST BAPTIST** - If you are a first-time visitor, we especially welcome you: we've been expecting you! When you see the offering plate in the middle of the service, we do not expect you to contribute; the financial support of the church is a responsibility we've taken on as a congregation. However, we do expect everyone (members, friends, and visitors) to place a Get Connected slip in the offering plate. Thanks for doing so!

**CHILDREN AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** - Children are important to us. They are welcome to stay with their parents. B.L.A.S.T. 2-4 year old's in the "**The Big Room**". Cuddle Cove is available to infants and toddlers. Elementary is in "**The Class Room #12**" and Jr High Classes is in the "**Youth Room**". (They are taken to those locations after children's moment) . **Please see dry erase board to see who is teaching and what student is helping for that Sunday.**

**AN INVITATION TO PRAYER AND COMMITMENT** - When the Holy Spirit stirs within you, we encourage you to listen and respond! If you have been moved spiritually and want to talk to the pastor or deacons, please let us know and we would be delighted to talk with you after the service.

**DISCLAIMER** - Services at First Baptist Church may be recorded or live streamed online. By entering these services or events you consent to, the possibility of being recorded or live streamed.

**MISSIONS OFFERING** - If you would like to give to missions, please designate it on your envelope. This is the only way we receive funds for our missions budget.

Dana Smith Administrative Assistant Church Office: 419-224-4921

Church e-mail: [firstbaptistlima@gmail.com](mailto:firstbaptistlima@gmail.com)

Parsonage Phone: 567-712-6592 (for use during non-office hours)

Pastor Andrew Shields email: [awshields1975@icloud.com](mailto:awshields1975@icloud.com)

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#### **WEEKLY OFFERING**

**Total Expense Budget for 2023 is \$270,778**

**Monthly Expense Budget for 2023 is \$22565 / month**

**Weekly Offering Needed is \$5207.00/week**

**Last week's offering received:**

**General Fund \$3293.00**

**Missions \$175.00**

Attendance: 74 (December 10, 2023)



OUR FOCUS IS TO INCREASE OUR COMMITMENT TO  
JESUS CHRIST AND INTRODUCE HIM TO OTHERS.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
MORNING WORSHIP  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

\*GATHERING SONG "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Adam Hawkins

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Men's Fellowship

OPENING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

\*GREETING TIME

\*PRAISE SONGS "Love Has Come"  
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

CHILDREN'S PARABLE Dana Smith  
Bundle of Joy  
Luke 2:10-11  
(sm.859, Lg.1576) NLT

MORNING OFFERING

PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAISES

MORNING PRAYER

MEDITATION SONG "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

THE MESSAGE Pastor Andrew Shields  
"Hope Through Christmas #3:  
Gift of Friendship & Togetherness"  
Luke 2:8-15  
(sm.859, Lg.1576)NLT

INVITATION AND PRAYER

\*SENDING SONG "Angels We Have Heard on High"

\*BLESSING

*\*Please stand if able*

## RMMO 2023

*"Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,  
who conduct their affairs with justice." — Psalm 112: 5 (NIV)*

### Good will come from community.

"So many servants of God gave all that they have but were not compensated enough during their active ministry day. I have been the beneficiary of their dedication and know of many who are struggling to make ends meet after their retirement. I think we are morally responsible to support them."  
— Rev. Sebastian Ong, First Chinese Baptist Church of San Francisco

### Good will come from caring.

"It is a blessing to know that our ministry has made a difference in the lives of the people and churches we have served for the past 50 years."  
— Pastor Bill of Ohio

### Good will come from giving.

"I am sure I represent many widows who are happy to receive this [thank you check] from the churches we served."  
— Widow of Florida pastor

#### **RMMO2023: Good will come.**

Goodness came from the pastors, missionaries, and leaders who have served ABCUSA churches and ministries. Through your giving to RMMO2023, goodness will come back to each of them in the form of a thank you check—a tangible expression of our enduring gratitude for their service.

#### **What is the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering?**

RMMO is a congregational offering and a joint project of ABCUSA and MMBB. Collected annually in December from participating congregations, RMMO funds are distributed as thank you checks to ABCUSA retired ordained ministers and commissioned missionaries who have devoted 15 years or more to our denomination, as well as surviving spouses. A certain portion is also allocated for direct emergency assistance. The offering originated in the mid-1930s as the Communion Fellowship Offering and since 1977 has been known as RMMO.

Please make your gift in the envelopes provided by your church.

ABCUSA  
PO Box 851  
Valley Forge, PA 19482

MMBB Financial Services  
475 Riverside Drive  
Suite 1700  
New York, NY 10115-0049

If you would like to sponsors  
flowers in memory or honor of a  
loved one please call the church  
office at  
419-224-4921 or Marlene Hefner.

### Our Church

Church Staff Relations

### Our World

Pray for Miracles in the Middle East

### Our Mission Outreach

Retired Ministers & Missionary Offering

### Shut-in of the Week

Jean Shrider - 3432 Musser drive, Lima, Ohio 45807

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
**WILL BE**  
**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:00 PM**

**DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR**

**EPIC YOUTH & KIDS**

**BRING YOUR \$5 GIFT EXCHANGE**

### FIRST BAPTIST WEEKLY SCHEDULE

#### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**

|                       |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| RESCUE MISSION DINNER | 5:00 PM |
| BIBLE STUDY           | 6:15 pm |
| EPIC KIDS             | 6:15 PM |
| EPIC YOUTH            | 6:15 PM |

#### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>**

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| PRIMETIMERS | 1:00 PM |
|-------------|---------|

#### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup>**

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| RUTH WHITNEY CROCHET | 10:00 AM |
|----------------------|----------|

#### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>**

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICED | 8:00 PM |
|------------------------|---------|