

January 2025

Newsletter

First Southern Baptist Church

LA JUNTA

January 2025

Issue 3

A Message from Pastor Brandon

During this Christmas Season, Pastor Brandon is enjoying some well deserved time off with his family with a visit to their families in the south east. He will be back for the next issue of the newsletter. Till then, something shared from another church.

A new beginning, a new year, setting Spiritual Goals

Daily Prayer and Bible Reading

Pray without ceasing...(1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. (1 Timothy 4:13)

Continue to Develop the Fruit of the Spirit

But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faith base, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. (Galations 5:22-23)

Increase My Love, Benevolence and Care for Others

But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices is well pleased. (Hebrews 13:16)

Improve My Attendance and Time Spent with the Church

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)

Increase My Involvement in Evangelism

How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? (Romans 10:14)

www.maudchurch.org/short-bulletin-articles (New Year)



Come on in and warm up with us!

SERVICES

Sunday School (all ages)	Sunday	9:30am
Morning Worship	Sunday	10:45am
Evening Worship	Sunday	6:00pm
Children's Worship	Sunday	6:00pm
Youth Group	Sunday	6:00pm
Women's Bible Study	Wednesday	6:00pm
Prayer Meeting	Wednesday	6:30pm
Men's Bible Study	Wednesday	7:00pm

Pastor Brandon Mills

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La Junta, CO 81050

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office number: 719-384-5185

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Ministry Leadership



Brandon Mills
Pastor

Tim Knabenshue
Deacon

Jim Collins
Deacon

Kathy Butler
Children's Leader/VBS
Coordinator

Jim Gabler
Deacon

Allen Lasater
Worship Leader

Wilma Collins
Youth Leader

Miracles and Praises to God

For December 2024

Austin Kuhn- Austin continues to heal at home. Making big advances in healing, he has advanced to eating any food and has been cleared to drive a car...Praise God.

Pastor Brandon's father walks a mile, four weeks before he was scheduled to walk this distance. For fast healing we... Praise God.

The Mondragon family expresses their deepest thanks to the church family for their support in the recent loss of their son Gabriel...for their comfort Praise God

For the generous church members who participated in making a few local kids Christmas morning brighter thru the giving tree...Praise God

That we have a great church with great leadership, and we can attend the services openly and free on our own will....Praise God

Thank God for the New Year-2025...Praise God

Reflect on the year 2024 and count your blessings and Thank God...Praise God

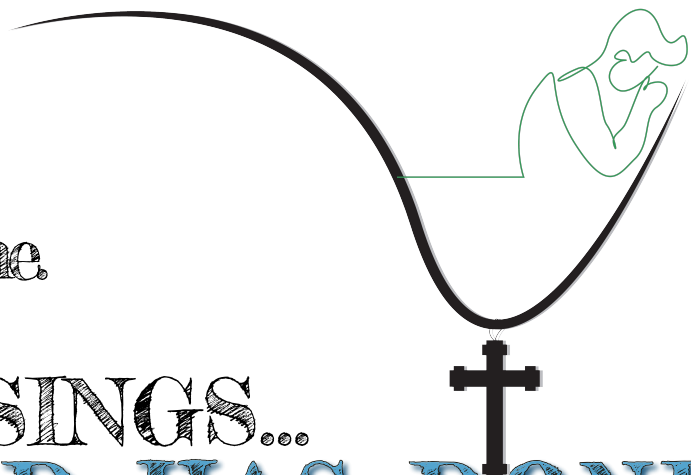
Austin Patton receives QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship...Praise God

A Love Offering was collected and given to the Kuhns Family from the church family, that we can help when there is need ...Praise God

Praise God for the Leadership at FSBC La Junta, for Deacon Tim Knabenshue leading worship with the message of filling our whole heart with Christ on Dec 29, 2024....Praise God

**Count Your
BLESSINGS.**
Name them one by one.

Count your
MANY BLESSINGS...
See what GOD HAS DONE.





ALL OUR PRAYERS FOR YOU....

Note: Prayer concerns are removed after 2 weeks, unless you contact the office.
Call 719 384-5185 to add a request or to renew a request.
Or go to fsbclajunta.com and select Prayer Request, to complete a form.

Prayer list made from all December's list. See weekly Prayer list during January for changes and new additions.

Bob Blair
Bill Remick Family
Ken Pierson
Steve Graham
Carolyn Hayes
Ida Mondragon
Jeff Reeder's Father
Hellen Mc Clure
Amber Mills
Carolyn Gerhart
Haley Kristine
John George
Amanda Martin
Kristine Lucero
Dr. Richard Shand
AJ Quick
Son Buyruk Church
Police Officers
First Responders
Military & their Families
Hurricane Victims
Our Nation
Our Leaders
Inauguration Day- a peaceful & safe transfer of America's leadership
Israel
Pastor Brandon and Family and all the Leadership of FSBC and their families-
-----God knows their needs.

*Celebrations Of Life,
Are God's Events
IN OUR LIVES*

January 2025

Please share the upcoming events in your life that will happen in January by emailing to benzshirley@gmail.com

Birthdays, Anniversaries, wedding announcements, births, passings or graduations.

December 02, 2024

Patton Earns Scholarship To Colorado College

Austin Patton, Swink High School senior, was informed December 2 that he has been accepted to Colorado College in Colorado Springs and will receive a full, four-year QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship. Austin, currently ranking top of his class, has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout all four years of high school. He also enjoys participating in extracurricular activities such as Knowledge Bowl and drama. The Match Scholarship is made up generous financial aid package provided by the college partner that covers the full cost of attendance, including tuition, housing and food, books and supplies, and travel expenses. Austin is the son of Shanæ Curry and he and his family attend FSBC. The church family at FSBC is very proud of Austin's success.

December 04, 2024

Our condolences to the family of Gabriel Mondragon, who went to be with his Lord and Saviour on Dec 04, 2024.

December 15, 2024

The grandson of Bob and Shirley Benz was in his first Christmas Church Program this year. He was the Prince, the main male actor. Brendon is 9 years old.

Dec 20, 2024

Sydney and Jake welcome to the Williams family, a son, Bohannan Boone Williams. Born December 20, 2024 at 12:44PM. Sister Georgia Pearl, Mom and Dad are doing well. Thank you for all your continued prayers. And Grandma, Elaine McIntyre, is feeling blessed again. Congratulations!

December 22, 2024

Our condolences to the family of William Remick, who went to be with his Lord and Saviour on Dec 22, 2024.

Please share news
to benzshirley@gmail.com



Church Christmas Meal and Worship

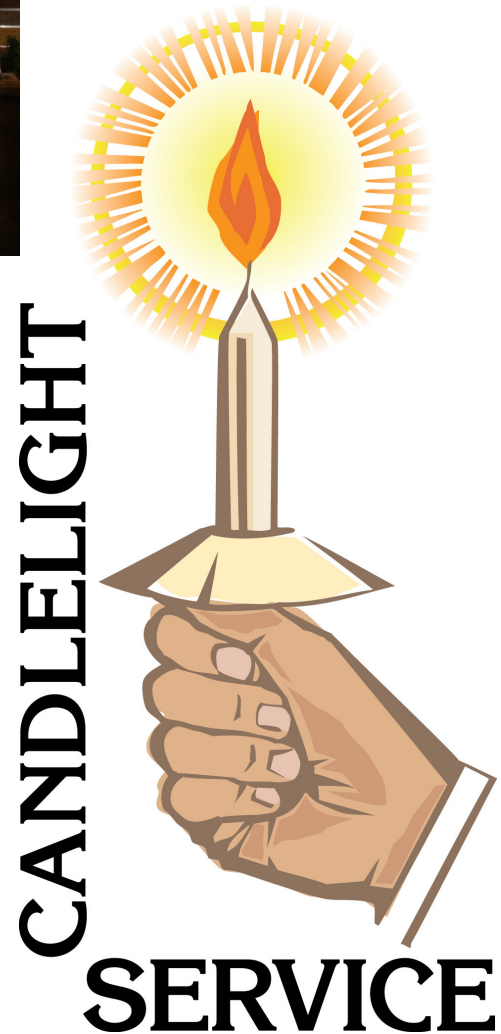
Close to 85 church members attended the Christmas meal and Worship Service held on December 8, 2024. Plenty of good food and desserts were served and enjoyed by all. There was lots of chatter among the guests, with time to meet a new friend or two... Fellowshiping is what we do. After the feast, we went upstairs to the sanctuary for music and singing. We enjoyed the talents of several of our Church members as they played their instruments and a few ladies added their beautiful voices as their words were heavenly sent.



The church family and guest gather to celebrate Jesus and his gift to us. Led by Pastor Brandon.



Dec 22, 2024





January 2025

NOTES

Needed... for the February newsletter: birthdays, anniversaries, new marriages, births, passings, or congratulations on anything you want, like your child's graduation, any praises you may have. Please share with me, any of the above events that are during the month of February, please share with Shirley before January 24, 2025, at benzshirley@gmail.com

Needed... Any suggestions or ideas for the newsletter.

Need... coloring books for Operation Christmas Child.

IMPORTANT DATES

JANUARY- 2025

JAN 01, 2025- NEW YEAR'S DAY

JAN 08, 2025- WEDNESDAY'S WOMEN BIBLE STUDY RETURNS AFTER CHRISTMAS BREAK. COMPLETE YOUR FIRST LESSON IN THE MOSSES STUDY GUIDE.

JAN 13, 2025- FULL MOON

JAN 20, 2025 - INAUGURATION DAY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

FEBRUARY (EARLY NOTICE)

FEBRUARY 15, 2025 SATURDAY- WOMEN'S MORNING OF INSPIRATION AT SILO CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (FORMERLY CHERAW BAPTIST CHAPEL) 302 GRAND AVENUE, CHERAW. 9:00 - 11:00 A.M. FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE JULIE WORLEY.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 2ND THRU 6TH
AGES 4 THRU 6TH GRADES**

IT WILL BE HERE SOON...

THINK BIG!



Volunteers are welcomed and needed.

Now is the perfect time to help with behind the scenes projects. And of course, we need help the week of VBS. In 2024, there were over 100 kids! We need a large number of adults or teens to help.

We are looking to fill a teacher opening for the kindergarten class.

Prayers for VBS appreciated.

Please contact Kathy Butler for information at FSBC at 719-384-5185 ~or~ catch her at church.

I wasn't on this boat...
but I did receive God's promise!



Ark Encounter Tour 2025

The Ark Encounter & Creation Museum Tour in Williamstown, KY

Dates: Aug 4-Aug 8, 2025 (Mon-Friday)

INCLUDES:

- 4 nights lodging in the Cincinnati area (like a Holiday Inn)
- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners. (Lunch we will be at an attraction, so we get our own lunch)
- Transportation in Cincinnati to attractions and to and from the airport, on a video and restroom equipped motorcoach.
- Admission to the Stunning ARK ENCOUNTER!
- Admission to the Famous CREATION MUSEUM
- AND a second 1/2 day at the CREATION MUSEUM-so much to see!
- BB RIVERBOATS SIGHTSEEING CRUISE along the Ohio River. (in the late afternoon/ evening, same day as the 1/2 day at the CREATION MUSEUM)
- The Tip for the Bus driver and restaurants are in the tour price. (So no need to add a tip)
-

WHAT "IS NOT" INCLUDED? You must get yourself from "your home" to the Cincinnati International Airport . No flights are included for this price. Lunches are not included because we will be on our own enjoying the attractions. So Diamond Tours won't be in our presence to pay for the lunch meal.

CAN I DRIVE MY CAR? Yes, you can drive your car, I plan to drive. It's about an 17 hour drive from my house in La Junta. HOWEVER, you will need to park your car at the airport (and pay for your parking) and get on the bus at the pickup location, which is the Airport. Once the hotel has been chosen and booked, I will see if we get lucky and get a hotel with extra parking and then maybe we can meet the bus at the hotel. But for now, plan on needing to pay for parking at the airport, should you drive. I can't answer the parking question yet, since the hotel isn't booked yet. But I plan on parking at airport.

WHAT IS THE TOUR PRICE?

For a DOUBLE OCCUPANCY ROOM- \$726.00 per person

For a TRIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOM- \$706.00 per person

For a PRIVATE ROOM FOR ONE PERSON- \$925.00 for the single person.

DO I NEED TIP MONEY? No, the tips are included in the tour cost.

CAN I BRING A PERSON THAT DOESN'T ATTEND THE CHURCH? Yes, the tour is open to all.

CAN KIDS COME? Yes kids are welcome. Kid rates are the same as adult. The ticket prices are not based on the age of a person, but on the seat itself. All the attractions on this tour are very good for kids.

WHAT COMPANY IS PROVIDING THE TOUR? Diamond Tours, Inc. is the tour company. Our La Junta Senior Center has been using them for years. This trip is also posted at the La Junta Senior Center. Many area churches are sharing the flyer for the tour also. Some of them have been contacting me.

THE ARK ENCOUNTER TOUR CONTINUED...

IS THERE TRAVEL INSURANCE OFFERED FOR THE TRIP? Yes there is and it's thru Travel Insured International . The cost varies with your total price of your trip. **PLEASE PURCHASE YOUR INSURANCE at the time you book your trip,** by doing so, it waives the "Pre-Existing Conditions": provided the participant is not disabled from travel when they purchase the plan.

<u>Trip Cost (per Person PP).</u>	<u>Insurance PP</u>
Up to \$500.00 pp	\$38.00 pp
\$501.00-\$600 pp	\$48.00 pp
\$601.00-\$700.00 pp	\$62.00 pp
\$701.00-\$ \$1,100 pp	\$72.00 pp
\$3001.00-3500.00.	\$246.00 pp

More options, Please ask Shirley Benz for a Insurance flyer and tour flyer.

HOW DO I SIGN UP & RESERVE MY SEAT ON THE BUS AND MY HOTEL? Just let Shirley Benz know: 719-469-1870 text or call or email to: benzshirley@ymail.com.

HOW MUCH MONEY DO I NEED TO RESERVE MY BUS SEAT AND ROOM? Only \$75.00 per person to reserve your spot for a double occupancy OR \$199.00 deposit for a single occupancy room. The sooner you put down your deposit, the better chance you have to get the room type you want and the bus seat location you would like. The hotels do book up, so don't wait.

ALL PAYMENTS ARE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO SHIRLEY BENZ. You may use money order or cashier's check. Sorry no credit cards. I will then send the payments to Diamond Tours, Inc . THE DUE DATE FOR DEPOSITS IS MARCH 25, 2025, So March 25 is the last day anyone can register for the trip...Don't miss the boat! There could be a small chance they can get you booked after March 25, but not if all the hotels room where we are booked are sold out. So don't wait.

WHEN CAN I START TO RESERVE MY SPOT ON THE TOUR? You may start now! We are open for booking now.

WHEN WILL THE FINAL PAYMENT BE DUE? Once the deposit has been paid, you have until May 25, 2025 to pay the trip in full.

WHAT ABOUT CANCELLATION OF THE TRIP? You may cancel up to 30 DAYS BEFORE THE TRIP Start date. Cover yourself with the trip insurance for other possible needed cancellations.

HOW MANY PEOPLE NEED TO SIGN UP FOR THE TRIP TO GET ONE BUS? In order for Diamond Tours, Inc to provide the tour bus, they need at least 30 people on the bus. The bus has 52 seats. But if the tour fills a total of 75 seats, they will add a second bus. The people who sign up and are number 53-75 in line, will go on a wait list. They will only get a seat on bus #2 IF we reach a count of 75 seats sold. So, it's better to sign up in the #1-52 seat numbers and to sign up sooner, to be assured a seat on bus # one. With two buses & a count of 75 people, there would be plenty of seating and room on the buses.

For more information you can find a Facebook Group Page called **"THE ARK ENCOUNTER TOUR BY ARKANSAS VALLEY TRAVELERS"**. Currently there are 57 members on this page.

WHO ARE THE ARKANSAS VALLEY TRAVELERS? Something had to be put on the flyer as the group hosting the trip. So I made this up. Arkansas Valley is what our area is called. It is not a travel agent or anything like that. Just a person, that enjoyed THE ARK ENCOUNTER and others were interested in taking a trip to THE ARK ENCOUNTER and THE CREATION MUSEUM, so I called Diamond Tours spoke with them and I (Shirley Benz) set up a trip.

To get the bus filled fast:
The first "ten groups" to book with paid deposits between January 4 -
January 24, 2025 will receive a gift.
One gift per group.
Note: others have signed up.

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



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