

Volume 29 Issue 1

January 2025



OUR MISSION: Impacting The Kingdom Of
God One Person At A Time

USBC NEWS

Pastor: Dr. Dennis Felder



As we welcome the New Year, many of us reflect on the past and look forward to what the future may hold. It can be a time of excitement and anticipation, but also of uncertainty and challenges. However, as Christians, we can find comfort and guidance in the timeless wisdom of the Bible.

Trust in God's Plan – Proverbs 16:9 reminds us that *“In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.”* As we enter into the New Year, it is important to trust that God has a plan for each of us. Even when circumstances seem uncertain or overwhelming, we can take comfort in knowing that God is in control.

Seek God's Guidance – Psalm 32:8 tells us, *“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.”* As we navigate the challenges of a new year, we can turn to God for guidance and direction. Through prayer and seeking His Word, we can find the strength and wisdom we need to face each day.

Find Strength in God's Promises – Isaiah 41:10 assures us, *“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* In times of difficulty or uncertainty, we can find strength and courage in the promises of God. His love and presence are a source of comfort and hope as we move forward into the new year.

As we embark on the journey of a new year, let us hold fast to the truths of the Bible and find strength in God's Word. May we trust in His plan, seek His guidance, and find comfort in His promises, knowing that He is with us every step of the way.





Pastor Turning "60" - I want to thank my church family for the surprise birthday party that you gave me following our worship service on December 8th. I was truly blessed by everyone's generosity and well wishes. It is a day that I will always cherish as I live out the next 60 years. Well, maybe not that long. THANKS!



Thank you ladies for all you do! Jackie Grantham and Mae Settles are the hard-working ladies who handle the church's Coffee Shop and all other events. Jackie made these beautiful aprons with the church's logo for each of them. Great job ladies! Thank you.



Lucas' address at boot camp:
 AB FELDER, LUCAS T.
 324 TRS / FLT 129
 1320 Truemper St
 JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-6407
DO NOT SEND FOOD OF ANY KIND

JANUARY SERMONS

Pastor Dennis Felder

In January, I will be focusing in the book of James. Each weekly message will deal with life challenges that all Christians face in their daily walk with Christ.

Jan. 5th

Sermon Title: *“Greetings from James”*

Scripture: James 1:1

Synopsis: Calling someone a “servant” can carry different connotations and implications. For some, a “servant” is a demeaning term, and yet James welcomed the title. James called himself a “servant” because he humbly and faithfully served the Lord.

Jan. 12th

Sermon Title: *“Testing – 1,2,3”*

Scripture: James 1:2-12

Synopsis: In life, you cannot avoid trials. Therefore, believers need to maintain an unwavering faith to persevere in such times. One needs to recognize such trials as opportunities for growth, maturity, and ultimately, a closer relationship with God.

Jan. 19th

Sermon Title: *“Trials Can Produce Backsliders”*

Scripture: James 5:19-20

Synopsis: Every Christian has the potential to turn away from God’s truths. As believers, we are to actively seek out and help those who have wandered from their faith, emphasizing the significance of restoring them to a right relationship with God.

Jan. 26th

Sermon Title: *“The Power of Prayer”*

Scripture: James 5:13-18

Synopsis: When one is unhappy; pray! When one is joyful; pray! When one is sick; pray! When one has sinned; pray! Why all the prayer? Because prayer has the power to turn one’s life around.



Several **ladies** met at Ledo’s for food and fellowship with each other.

**Help Take Down
Christmas Decorations**



Immediately after Worship Service on Jan. 5th, the church will be taking down the Christmas decorations and placing them back in storage until next year. Please stay around for about 30 minutes to help.

USBC NEWS

Upper Seneca Baptist Church
23401 Davis Mill Rd.
Germantown, MD 20876



God's Plan Of Salvation Trust Jesus Christ today! Here's what you must do:

1. Admit you are a sinner.

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23)

2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent).

Jesus said: "I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5)

3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried, and rose from the dead.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your life to become your personal Savior.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

What to pray:

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His **precious blood** and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart and life as my personal Savior.

Next Newsletter Deadline
January 19, 2025

Weather Policy

If the church cancels or postpones any service or activity due to inclement weather or wintery conditions, a cancellation notice will appear on the church's Facebook page, church's website, through church email, and on the church's voice recorder. To access the church's voice recorder, please dial (301) 972-3686. The church will only post a cancellation message if a service or activity is canceled or postponed.

Also, if you have something to be included in the newsletter, an announcement, an article, a birthday, we are always looking for information and new ideas!

Church Office: 301-972-3686

E-mail: Church@USBChurch.org

Web Site: www.USBChurch.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/usbchurch/

USBC Christmas Service 2024



The Candy Store Skit



ENJOY OUR 2024 FAMILIES CHRISTMAS TREES

During the month of December, everyone was invited to share a picture of their Christmas tree. Below are the pictures that were received. Enjoy the beauty of Christmas.



Kathy Brake



Browning Family



Felder Family



Felder Family



Fogarty Family



Hanks Family



**Kirschenmann
Family**



Knicley Family



Lisimaque Family



Rogers Family



Steiding Family



Woodfield Family



On Sunday, January 12th, we will be having a meeting immediately following our worship service to talk about organizing the **Blessing Bags**. (“Blessing Bags” are bags that contain personal necessities, toiletries, food, and some extras that you can handout when you come across an individual dealing with poverty.)



On Sunday, January 26th, our **Dive Deeper Bible Study** topic will be “**Are Birthday Celebrations a Pagan Ritual?**”. Within the Bible, there are only three references to birthdays and all three are mention in a negative connotation. So, should we celebrate birthdays? Initially, birthdays were celebrated along with witchcraft and is still used today with the practice of horoscopes. So why have we adopted this tradition which has never been in any way or form, a Jewish ritual?

So, join us Sunday, January 26th immediately following our worship service for this informative Bible study and for lunch.



If you are planning on using **offering envelopes** for your tithes and offerings for 2025, the new offering envelopes will be available

in the church’s foyer. Upon picking up your box of envelopes, please place your name next to the envelope box number on the signup sheet. If you have leftover envelopes from 2024, you can continue to use them in 2025.



On Saturday, December 14th, USBC had a cheerful time celebrating Christmas with an awesome **Christmas Party**. Tummies were satisfied with the vast selection of food that only the Golden Corral can provide. It was an enjoyable night of fellowship and everyone went home with Christmas cheer.



\$1,080.00
Received

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for January 26th for our next **Church Chat**. As usual, immediately following our Sunday morning worship service, we will gather in the church foyer/coffee shop for a 10-minute informal meeting. During this 10-minute time period, I will be sharing with everyone about upcoming events, areas where the church needs help, and receiving vital input from our church family. **Church Chat** is a great way of keeping everyone informed about all the activities and church events that will be taking place.



The **Forever Young Luncheon** will take place on Tuesday, January 14th at 12:30 p.m. We will be meeting at the **Golden Corral** in Frederick, MD. Remember, anyone is welcome.

HIGHLIGHTS

Below are some wonderful events which happened in the life of USBC during the months of November and December.

Thanksgiving Gathering – On Nov. 26th, all who attended the Thanksgiving Gathering, gathered around the table and shared our thankfulness in a fun and creative way.

Thanksgiving Food Drive – USBC collected non-perishable foods and donated them to “Damascus Help”.

Christmas Decorating – On Nov. 30th, a group of people gathered at the church to decorate the building for Christmas.

Samaritan’s Purse – USBC packed 50 shoeboxes for “*Operation Christmas Child*”.

Gabriel Project of Montgomery County – USBC collected items to assist pregnant/young mothers with baby needs.

Benevolence Offering – During the month of December, USBC collected money for benevolent needs within our church family. Also, special ornaments were made available and the funds received went to the Benevolence Fund.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering – Throughout the month of December, USBC not only prayed for our missionaries around the world, but offered our support through financial donations. All the funds collected will go directly to help support our missionaries around the world. Thanks to all who gave to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. USBC collected \$1,080.

Christmas Memorial Tree – Christmas is considered to be a joyous time of year. However, for some who have a loved one that has died, it can be a time of loneliness and grief. So, to help keep their wonderful memory alive during the Christmas season, USBC placed a Christmas Memorial Tree in the church foyer. If you had a loved one who had passed, you were invited to place a Christmas ball on the *Christmas Memorial Tree* to remember them.

Christmas Party – On Dec. 14th, many in our church family gathered to celebrate Christmas in a fun-filled fellowship at the Golden Corral.

Communion – On Dec. 8th, we celebrated the birth of Christ by recognizing His purpose for coming: To die for our sins. It was a special reminder as we took communion.

Christmas Service – USBC had a spectacular Christmas Service on Dec. 15th. We sang beautiful Christmas songs, touched by heartfelt special music that highlighted the precious birth of Christ, and were blessed watching the children share the true meaning of Christmas. We enjoyed “*The Candy Store*” skit with a surprising ending.

Women’s Christmas Party – On Dec. 19th, the women at USBC had a great time at their Christmas Party celebrating Christmas with fun, food, and fellowship.

Christmas Caroling Service – On Dec. 22nd, USBC dedicated the service for singing Christmas carols that expressed our joy for Jesus being born in this world to save us from sin.



Each and every year, we mark an important milestone in the life of USBC. As each new year begins, we, as a church, have the important and awesome responsibility to adopt a church budget that will be our guide in how we give and why we give.

On Sunday, January 5th, the *2025 Proposed Church Budget* will be available for your review and careful consideration. Copies of the budget will be placed in the back of the sanctuary so that you will have time to pray over it before adopting it on Sunday, January 19th.

This budget is more than a financial document. It is a statement of faith. The affirmation of this budget is a wonderful testimony and witness of how we, as God’s family, will support the financial needs of the church.