



Monday Morning Missive

What a weekend we've had! In the midst of sorrow and grief, we have watched our glorious Heavenly Father reach down and minister His grace, peace, and love to so many people. And the amazingly wonderful thing is that He did it through so many of you. I cannot tell you how blessed I am to see you become the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus as you reached out to the Harrelson family.

Blessed – but not surprised. I have seen our church family do this over and over again in the last two years, and I simply give praise to the Father for the church body He has created in Dadeville. Words literally cannot express the feeling that I have in my heart this morning as I type this.

Do you remember what I said yesterday? About

how much I love Christmas? I think I fell in love even more last night as I watched and listened to “The Ding-a-Lings” share their precious gift of Christmas with us. Mrs. Martha Faye and her handbell choir always do a great job, and I want to thank them for the beautiful songs that were played and sang. Oh, one more thing: if you have never heard [“The Christmas Waltz,”](#) [click on the link](#) and you will be able to watch a YouTube Video, but don’t blame me if you can’t get it out of your head.

Sonya and I were blessed yesterday when we found a package on the counter addressed to us. It was a box of beautiful, and no doubt delicious, Candy Shop Pretzels. However, one of two things happened. Either these were sent to us by mistake, or someone put the wrong gift message in the box. It said that this was for “Tom and Tony” from “Uncle Terry.” I don’t know a Tom and Tony, nor do I have an Uncle Terry. So, if you sent them to us, thank you so very much. Please let us know so that we can send you a proper thank you.

If no one did send them, well, I will let you know how they taste.

Just FYI, we have two more big Christmas events coming up, and I hope you are already planning to be part of them both. This Wednesday night, Bro. Forrest has planned a special Christmas celebration for everyone. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m. to have a wonderful finger food fellowship. Don't go to lots of trouble. Just bring your leftover Christmas goodies – and some other good stuff to eat. There will be a dramatic presentation of the Nativity that will guide us in creating our own Nativity scene. This is for all ages, so make sure you come even if you don't have children with you. You never know how you might bless a child or their parents by your presence.

Then, on Christmas Eve, we will have a candlelight communion service with Christmas carols and Bible readings. It starts at 6 p.m. and won't last more than 45 minutes. It will be a great

way to spend your Christmas Eve with the church family.

On that note, let me say that I am looking forward to 2020 and all that God has in store for us. Join me in praying for God to do an incredible work in our church so that He might do an incredible work in our community through us. But we need more than your prayers. We need your presence in every service you can possibly attend, and we need your service in every area of our church. I believe with all of my heart that God has placed you at First Baptist Church because we need your spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities. God is placing on the hearts of His people new ministries for the purpose of touching lives in our city. We are expecting exciting things as all of this takes place. I promise you – you don't want to miss out on any of it.

So, with that said, Merry Christmas!

Bro. Ben