

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

www.fbcstratfordiowa.com

Pastor Jim Mead
pastor@fbcstratfordiowa.com

December 3, 2023

Prelude

Song Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Song Light of the World

Welcome and Opportunities

Song Come Thou long expected Jesus

Worship in Giving **

Scripture: Matthew 1:17

Message: Christmas: Learning to expect the Unexpected

Communion***

Closing Song: Family of God

Postlude

▶ www.rightnowmedia.com: the industry leader in on demand Bible Studies

Locate the “Right Now Media” button on our website, click to begin.

www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/invite/fbcstratfordiowa or



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If you would like 3rd quarter budget and financial statements please let the church office know.

FBC wireless



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PRAYER REMINDERS

Genevieve Ferrari, Mike Lundberg, Laverne Weilbrenner, Judy Paulson, Madelyn Mead, Priscilla Davis, Lynn Conklin, Greg and Marlys Carlson, Scott Landreth, Pastor and Family, Elena Lindquist, Craig Sorley, Virginia Carlson, Matthew Bergman, Ava Richardson, Stratford Care Center.

Holding the Rope for: Rick and Tracy Groover
Africa
Global Impact Ministries

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|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|
| MONDAY & WEDNESDAY | 12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. | Broadcast of our worship service on Cable Channel 14 |
| DECEMBER 6 | 6:00 p.m. | CIA |
| DECEMBER 13 | 6:00 p.m. | CIA Pajama/Movie night |
| DECEMBER 17 | 9:00 a.m. | Christmas breakfast followed by Family Christmas |
| DECEMBER 20 | 6:00 p.m. | Community Winter service |
| DECEMBER 27 | | No CIA (New Year) |

**Online giving available on our website and Facebook Page.

***Communion cups are available on the welcome center

Congratulations to Stephen and Shaylee Lindquist. Their daughter Elena Brielle Lindquist was born Saturday, November 25.

In his book, **Because of Bethlehem** Max Lucado said, “...Mom pried open the top of the nondescript, unaddressed box. She reached in a pulled out nothing but tissue paper. One armful after another...finally she strikes pay dirt. A box within a box. She opens it to find another box. She opens it, then another. This happens a couple more times until at last she reaches the smallest of the boxes. A ring box. My brother and I shout, ‘Open it, Mom.’ She smiles at the camera. ‘Jack.’ I learned a lesson: a remarkable gift can arrive in an unremarkable package. One did in the Lucado house, and one did in Bethlehem...”

Christmas: Learning to expect the Unexpected

Scripture: Matthew 1

Proposition: We can expect God to do the Unexpected

I. God's pattern has always been unexpected...

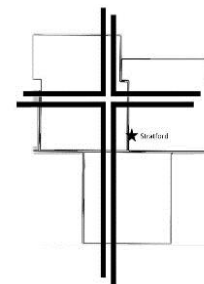
II. God's means of action has always been unexpected...

III. God's message has always been unexpected...



"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows..."
Matthew 1:18

Christmas: Expect the Unexpected



**First Baptist church
Stratford, Iowa
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