



FREEDOM CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

Newsletter

DECEMBER 2025

FREEDOM CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

STUDENT MINISTRY

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Thursdays at 6:15 p.m.

Worship Service**EVERY SUNDAY AT 10 A.M.****Nursery & Children's Activities**

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK

Hi friends,

As I type these words, the song playing in the background is declaring, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" I hope that the Christmas season will be just that for you this year; it will certainly be a fun and festive time at Freedom Church. Let me point out a few things that I hope you can take part in this December.



I hope that all of you will plan to take part in our church-wide **Christmas breakfast** at 9:00 am, on Sunday, December 14th. As we did last year, be sure to wear your most festive, or most gaudy, Christmas attire that morning. We will have judges selecting those with the best outfits. We will award prizes to the winners during worship that morning, so plan to come hungry and dressed to celebrate the season! Also, following worship on December 14th, Kids' World will be having a **Christmas party for all of our children** who are 2 years old through 6th grade. Please see either Mrs. Lyn or Mrs. Sabrina for more details.

My favorite worship service each year is the **Christmas Eve candlelight service**. I hope that you will join us on Wednesday, December 24th, 4:00 pm, as we celebrate Jesus' birth through Scripture, video, Communion, and great Christmas songs. This will be an ideal event to bring friends and family to, and we will be finished by 5:00, so as not to interrupt dinner plans.

Also, as we have done in the past, we will be receiving a **special Christmas offering** during the final worship services of the year. The Fairhope campus of Freedom Church International has been more generous this year than ever before, sowing more than \$200,000 in 2025 into our seven Nigerian campuses and into the ministries of our sister church, God's Standard Bible Church. It has been a huge blessing to hear the reports of all that God is doing there. Unfortunately, our generosity has also left us with virtually no financial reserves here at the Fairhope campus as the year comes to a close. To put it simply and bluntly... we need a really strong giving month in December to enable us to enter 2026 doing ministry full-speed in Baldwin County.

In December we all tend to give gifts to a lot of people. It only seems fitting that we give a gift to...

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A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MARK CONTINUED...

... the One whose birth we celebrate this month. Jacque and I make it our habit to make our two most generous Christmas gifts each December to be our gifts to our Nigerian campuses and to the special Christmas offering here in Fairhope. If you would like to take part in the Christmas offering, you may do so online (www.myfreedomchurch.net) or by using the special Christmas offering envelopes provided during worship. I look forward to celebrating this wonderful season with you!

You Are Loved,
Pastor Mark

CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2025

8

MON

LEADERSHIP CHRISTMAS DINNER

6:00 p.m. Don't forget to RSVP!

14

SUN

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST CELEBRATION

9:00 a.m. Grace Room

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

KIDS' WORLD CHRISTMAS PARTY

11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Don't forget to RSVP!

22...

HOLIDAY BREAK

SMALL GROUPS OFF

Meetings will resume on Jan. 12th

24

WED

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

4:00 p.m. Worship Room

Bible Reading Plan

December 2025

Nov. 30-Dec. 6...Ruth 4; Proverbs 1-6

Dec. 7-13.....Proverbs 7-13

Dec. 14-20.....Proverbs 14-20

Dec. 21-27.....Proverbs 21-27

Dec. 28-31.....Proverbs 28-31

CELEBRATE RECOVERY

Thursdays at 6:15 pm

At Freedom Church International, we believe that everyone is recovering from something. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery ministry for anyone struggling with hurts, habits, or addictions of any kind. It is a safe place to find community, encouragement, and freedom from the issues that are controlling your life or the life of someone you love. We hope you will join us on Thursday nights from 6:15-8:30 pm in the Grace Room. *Dinner and childcare are provided.*

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 14th at 9:00 a.m.

We hope everyone will join us for our church-wide Christmas breakfast at 9:00am on Sunday, December 14th. Just like last year, we'll all be breaking out our most festive - or most delightfully gaudy - Christmas attire! Judges will be on the lookout for the best outfits, and we'll award prizes to the winners during worship. So, let's **come hungry, come joyful, and come ready to celebrate** the season together!



SAYING THANK YOU...

Kids' World Staff & Volunteers

Thank you to our Kids' World staff and volunteers for serving so faithfully this year. Every smile you share, every lesson you teach, and every moment you spend showing the love of Jesus to our children makes an eternal difference. You show up week after week with patience, energy, and a servant's heart, creating a safe, joyful, Christ-centered environment where our kids can grow, laugh, learn, and feel genuinely loved. **We are truly blessed to have such a dedicated team**, and your commitment does not go unnoticed. Thank you for all you have done and for the many ways you have poured into our children this year. We appreciate you more than words can say.



KIDS' WORLD CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 14th

Parents, we hope the kids can join us on Sunday, December 14th from 11:30 AM–2:00 PM for a Christmas Party! Kids ages 2 years old through 6th grade are invited to join us for fun activities and lunch. While the kids enjoy their party, you're invited to take this time for a lunch date, Christmas shopping, or a little rest in the busy season. If your child would like to attend, please **RSVP at the Kids World desk or online [HERE](#)**.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

So many boxes packed...

Thank you, Freedom Church family, for your incredible generosity! This year, our church built and turned in 71 shoeboxes filled with gifts and the love of Christ. In addition, you donated \$450, allowing 18 more boxes to be built online - bringing our grand total to 89 boxes sent out to bless children around the world. Every box represents a seed of hope, a message of God's love, and a reminder that even small acts of kindness can make an eternal difference. Thank you for being a church that gives, serves, and shares Christ joyfully!



DIGITAL Giving Options

Did you know that you can tithe online? If you would like to give in a digital form, click or scan the QR code to be directed to our website's Giving page. *You can also set up an automatic tithe, helping you stay faithful when life gets busy.*



Sermon Library

LISTEN TO PAST SERMONS

If you are going to miss church, be sure to check out Pastor Mark's sermon by clicking [HERE](#).

FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

Support your local food bank.

The holiday season reminds us not only of God's generosity, but also of our calling to serve others in His name. Many families in our community are facing real need this winter, and local food banks are working hard to meet it. Here are just a couple of the food banks in our area:

Prodisee Pantry
9315 Spanish Fort Blvd (Hwy 31)
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Ecumenical Ministries
566 Fairhope Ave
Fairhope, AL 36532

Freedom can make a difference by giving to our local food banks. A few cans, a small donation, or a simple act of kindness can become a powerful expression of Christ's love! Let's make this holiday season one of giving to our neighbors (and strangers) in need.



A CALL TO SERVE

Helping Families in Need

Scripture reminds us of **our calling to care for widows and the fatherless**, and one of the most impactful ways we can live that out is by sharing the gifts God has already placed in our hands. Whether it's your time, your skills, or your resources, what you have to offer can be a lifeline to someone in need.

Simple acts- like repairing a leaky faucet, changing a car's oil, or helping with household projects- can become powerful expressions of God's love. **These small but meaningful gestures bring hope**, comfort, and practical support to families navigating life without a husband or father. When we serve in love, we remind others they are not alone- and that the Church is here to help carry the load.

If you feel called to serve, or if your family could use help, please **reach out to Bob Shotlander** at shotsy8o@hotmail.com or call (251) 367-3166. Let's be the hands and feet of Christ, together.