

First Baptist Church of Spring Hill

The Messenger

December 2020

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As we go into December most people are thinking about Christmas and giving and receiving gifts. John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that He gave..." The sharing of gifts at Christmas is but a pale shadow, a feeble imitation of what the Father did for us when He gave His Son to us at Bethlehem and for us at Calvary. If Christmas is a time for giving, then it was God who started it all in the first place.



It takes grace to receive and grace to give. You and I are never more Christlike than when we are giving to others, not that we might get something in return, but that we might help to bring some love and joy into their lives. We are especially like Christ when we give to those who (in our opinion) really don't deserve it. After all, God gave His best to us, and we didn't deserve it!!

If our Lord's birth at Bethlehem says anything to us, it tells us that we are all important to God and that He cares for us. The first announcement of the miracle birth was to humble shepherds, not to priests and kings. Those shepherds were at the bottom rung of the social ladder in that day, and yet God invited them to be among the first to worship the newborn Savior in Bethlehem.

In his very birth, Jesus identified with poverty and rejection; He brought to the world of forgotten people the assurance of God's care and God's grace. Christmas reminds us that out of the billions of people on this earth, God knows us and that we are important to Him!

Though you and I may never understand it, and though it may be beyond our ability to comprehend, you and I desperately needed the gift of Jesus Christ. We need Christmas. We really, really do.

What is a perfect gift? A perfect gift is a gift that completely expresses the personality of the giver and completely meets the need of the one who received it. That's why when God gave His Son Jesus Christ at Christmas, it was the perfect gift. His gift perfectly expresses that personality of the giver and totally meets the need of the one who received it. I needed a Savior who could do something about my sin problem, who could answer the loneliness and the heartache and the emptiness in my life. God perfectly met my need when He gave His Son, the Lord Jesus. What a gift!!!

From my family to yours, "Merry Christmas with Love!"

— Bro. J

From the Library...

Happy Birthday to You!

December—Merry Christmas!

Do you truly know who Jesus is? Is He more to you than a baby born in Bethlehem? More than just a religious leader in whom you're supposed to believe? Is He your life, your hope, your future?

We know the facts: Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem and raised in the village of Nazareth. We may even realize the impact of His life. He didn't travel far from home, yet He has influenced the entire world. Satan couldn't tempt Him, death couldn't destroy Him, and the grave couldn't keep Him. He is the living God—and we know Him because He sacrificially gives Himself to us (Philippians 2:5-11).

But do you really honor Him in the way He deserves? He's certainly worthy of all that you are. So, this Christmas, really think about who He is and give Him the gift that truly represents what He means to you.

Matthew 16:15: *Who do you say that I am?*



Here's a few books from our library...

Vintage Jesus by Mark Driscoll. If you think you already know Jesus, think again. This book will open the eyes of many who have yet to see the radical nature of Jesus; life and teaching. For the spread of the gospel and the advancement of the kingdom, one can

only hope many will read this book and embrace Jesus as the true Lord, God, Savior, and King that He is.

Christmas Stories for the Heart compiled by Alice Gray. Curl up by the fire and warm your heart and soul this holiday season with these wonderful stories. Tender and uplifting, this collection will greatly renew your faith, hope, and love for the Christmas Season.

This Christmas Night by Billy & Ruth Graham. Christmas is when our minds go back to that lowly manger in Bethlehem, and we hear beyond the noise of our materialistic world the soft flutter of angels' wings. We see the tenderness of a mother with her firstborn Son...we feel the softness of a Baby. Amid the glitter and busyness of the season, the authors pray that you will experience anew the miracle and meaning of that first Christmas night.

We pray for a Blessed Thanksgiving for our church.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Robertson & Joan Frank

2	Grant Terrillion
4	David Lovely
	Maggie Stooksbury
8	Doug Williams
	Phillip Pullen
9	Archie Emery
	Rebecca Crawford
11	Sharon Burkhalter
13	Kane Zhang
14	Angela Wiley
16	Paul Wilson
21	Prentice Moore
22	Kendall Wright
26	Ann Johnson
27	Tyler Wright
	Tom Holloway
28	Bryan Crawford
	Finley Johnson
31	Deric Keltner
	Vickie Anderson



Thank you for your generous support of The Well. We continue to collect food for this local food pantry – bring items when you come to worship on Sunday or if you are not

attending "in-person" worship yet, feel free to drop by the office during office hours and we will come pick up the items from your car. We are also taking monetary donations – mark your offering "The Well". We took 121.5 lbs. of food to The Well during November. **We would like to make another delivery by December 15.**

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering & Week of Prayer for International Missions

A Great *Multitude* + You
Rev. 7:9

November 29 - December 6, 2020

Church Goal: \$3,000.00

December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10 am Ladies Prayer Group	2 6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study	3	4 Facility in Use Homeschool	5
6 Deacons' Meeting Worship Service 9:00 & 11:00 am	7	8 10 am Ladies Prayer Group	9 6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study	10	11	12
13 Worship Service 9:00 & 11:00 am	14	15 10 am Ladies Prayer Group	16 6:30 pm Facebook Live Bible Study	17	18	19
20 Worship Service 9:00 & 11:00 am	21	22	23	24  CHRISTMAS EVE 5 pm Christmas Eve Service Office Closed	25  CHRISTMAS DAY Office Closed	26
27 Worship Service 9:00 & 11:00 am	28	29	30 <div>Paula out of the Office</div>	31		

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Worship – 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Children's Worship – 11:00 am

Wednesday

All Activities other than Sunday Morning Worship are currently suspended until further notice.
Thank you for your patience as we work through the Guidelines for re-opening during the pandemic.



THANK YOU!!

We collected and delivered 81 boxes to the drop off station on November 18.

Thank you for your generous giving.



Christmas Card Exchange

First Baptist Church Christmas Post Office is now open for business.

Please place your Christmas Cards **BEHIND** the first letter of the Last Name of the Recipient. Check the box each week for cards addressed to you. Please place money that you would have spent on postage stamps in the can provided. All proceeds benefit Operation Christmas Child.

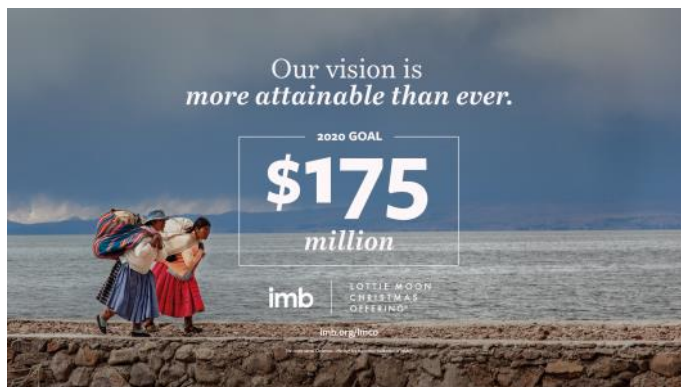
When not in the lobby, the Post Office will be in the Senior Ladies Sunday School Classroom.

Merry Christmas!!



Future Growth Funding

\$20,111.62 in a Construction Acct.
at First Farmer's & Merchant's Bank
\$354,917.10 in a Building Fund at the
Tennessee Baptist Foundation.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
Church Offering Goal: \$3,000.00
Received to Date: \$435.00

Lottie Moon Bakery & Sweet Shop is now open for business to fill your holiday baking needs. Let us put together a variety of goodies for a teacher or a favorite pastor. We offer cakes, pies, candies, and breads for family gatherings. We also offer breakfast items for your family.

Order blanks are available on the table in the lobby - decide what goodies you would like and when you need them. All preparation will be done in the church kitchen. Pick up your order and make your donation to the Lottie Moon Offering.

Questions or need to place an order? Contact Patty Welch (615-308-9114 or pwelchm@aol.com) or Vivian Bowen (931-486-9008 or vivana924@gmail.com).

A Great *MultiFide* + You
Rev. 7:9



Praying your heart is filled with the Hope, Peace, Joy, & Love of Christmas that only comes from Jesus!

Bro. J, Josh, Jonathan, & Paula