

From Our Pastor

December 6, 2023

HOLLYWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

With great anticipation we come to the close of an old year and begin a new one. There are always new adventures on the horizon for the new. One of the things that our church has been involved in for many years is giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions. The approach to this new way of giving is found in 2 Corinthians chapters 8 and 9.

Paul had a real burden to help out the Christians in Judea. His desire was to be a blessing because he recognized that it was “more blessed to give than it was to receive.” This is a biblical principle that many times is forgotten when it comes to giving. This is considered “grace giving” or as some would refer to it as “faith promise giving.” This concept is NOT just picking out a figure that you think computes with where you are financially but “faith promise giving” is going to God in prayer and asking Him to put an amount on your heart that you will have to trust Him to supply in order to give. This is an agreement between you and God. Do you realize that this approach to giving has the potential of having a greater impact upon your spiritual life than any other event this year? Faith promise is not designed to replace your normal giving, but to increase it and by increasing your giving, this also expands your faith. He wants us to give “beyond our power” as the church of Macedonia was able to do in 2 Corinthians 8. This is giving beyond our natural resources and looking to the Lord by faith to enable us to give according to His leading.

There are many ways in which God can supply but I think there are three basic ways that He does:

Unexpected ways – A check arrives in a letter from your insurance company stating that you had been overcharged for a certain period of time. The IRS sends a refund check to settle an estate of a loved one that had passed away years ago. An overlooked pay raise is made retroactive, and the total amount is exactly what God placed on your heart to trust Him for.

Reordering your priorities – A man determines that he doesn't need that new car this year. The extra that he is going to spend to increase his payments in order to purchase it is the amount of his faith promise. You evaluate your lifestyle and realize that there are some ways in which you could spend differently to generate the amount that God has placed on your heart.


Creative ways - You have a yard sale to eliminate “clutter” and use the profit from that to give towards your agreement. You trust God for extra work and give what you make to faith promise. That change that you have been collecting for several years might come out to the exact amount that God wants you to give.

Keith Brown, from OC International, states, “That faith promise requires a commitment. It is a commitment where I commit myself to an amount of money and by faith, based on God's promises, expecting Him to enable me to do it. As I commit myself to this step of faith, it helps me to reprogram my whole life priority system so that I begin looking for God's provision. It gives me new eyes to see my stewardship in a totally different way. Instead of sitting back waiting, I begin to actively look for ways in which God will provide for me to fulfill my faith promise.”

As you take time throughout the month of December to seek the will of God concerning this invitation to support world missions, ask God to make His will known to you. As God gives you wisdom, take the time to fill out the Faith Promise Card and put the small section of the card in the offering plate. Keep the larger part as a reminder to you of the agreement that you and God have reached. The total will be announced at the end of the service on Sunday morning January 7th. Whatever the amount is will be our new goal for Lottie Moon offering for 2024. Remember “faith promise” is my faith reaching to God in order that His salvation might reach the world. Remember the Mission of the Manger!!

Bro. Terry

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i> <i>Ladies Wreath Fellowship</i> <i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 5:15 p.m. Joy on the Ark 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 6:45 p.m. Youth Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 4:00 p.m. Church Council 5:15 p.m. Joy on the Ark Store 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	<i>11</i> <i>Packing Food Boxes at Food Center</i> <i>6 p.m.</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 6:45 p.m. Youth Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service 5:15 p.m. Joy on the Ark Christmas Party/Kid's Christmas Market 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> <i>5:45 p.m. Christmas Caroling</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i> <i>Christmas Eve</i> 11:00 a.m. Worship Service <i>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</i> <i>5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>25</i> 	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>31</i> 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Service NO PM SERVICES						

Nursery for December

December Birthdays

- 1 Brenda Collins
- 5 Cam Moore
- 8 Logan Mills
- 9 Michael Bryant
- 10 Tim Hayes
Tiffany Smith Moore
- 14 Sonja Gregory
David Matherly
Dale McFaddin
- 17 Lillian Paciello
Kent Bishop
- 19 James Lumpkins, Jr.
Sydney Scarce
Avery Kendrick
- 21 Tara St. John Harper
Samantha L. Hedrick
Michelle Paciello
- 23 Dawn Aaron
Chasity Kendrick
- 24 Cathy Moore
Hailey Moore
- 25 Traci Nuckols
- 28 Will Nuckols
June Conner
- 30 Adam Burgess
Makayla Lewis
Pam Kendrick

Sun December 3, 2023

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Pam Anderson, Emmalee Ayers, Pam Kendrick, & Hannah Shaw

Sun December 10, 2023

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Mary Moss, Renee Moore, Nora Payne, & Samantha Pressley

Sun December 17, 2023

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Dana Wells, Holly St. John, James & Sylvia Lumpkins

Sun December 24, 2023

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Shelly Lewis, Cassie Gatewood, Donnie & Peggy Moore

Sun December 31, 2023

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Adam Kendrick, Misty Bishop, Drake & Brenda Easley

Greeters

December 3 Susie Holmes & Jetty Burgess
 December 10 Mary Moon Moore & James Allen
 December 17 Joan Nuckols & Melody Collins
 December 24 Emma Walden & John Moore
 December 31 Patsy Conner & Brenda Collins

Deacon of the Week(*)/Usher

December 3 Adam Burgess*, James Lumpkins, Larry Weiss, Roger Walden
 December 10 Sid Lankford*, Adam Lumpkins, Bryan Lewis, Terry Moore
 December 17 Chris Falls*, Donnie Moore, Gary Matherly, Dale McFaddin
 December 24 Tommy Jefferson*, Bobby Mullins, Drake Easley, Randy Gatewood
 December 31 James Allen*, Daniel Moore, William Tosh, Chuck Easley

Children's Church

December 3 Wendy Byrd, Sherry Reynolds & Liz Ferris
 December 10 Will & Becky Roberts, Susie Holmes, Wendy Byrd
 December 17 Adam & Chasity Kendrick, Issac & Katie Hammock
 December 24 Wendy Byrd & Blair Lumpkins
 December 31 Hannah Shaw & Wendy Byrd



December Missions



The Lottie Moon Christmas offering goes to support World Missions in getting the Gospel to all the ends of the earth. The money is collected thru out the year but our pledge amount is taken every December to determine our what our goal is for the next year.

You will find a creme pledge card in your bulletin in the month of December. If you would like to make a commitment towards our 2024 goal, simply fill out the card and return the small part of the card in the offering plate.

As a church, you have set a pledge goal of **\$16,145.00**, for the 2023 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. As of November 30, 2023 we have collected **\$16,989.26**.



2023 Lottie
Moon Goal
\$16,145



Samaritan's Purse distributes Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children across the world as a way to get the Gospel to children in more than 170 countries who might otherwise never hear the name of Jesus.



Thanks to the generosity of our congregation we filled boxes for 430 children!

**Thank you so much for your support of
this ministry!**

Stay tuned in 2024 for updates on where our boxes went!



We had a beautiful Hanging of the Greens service! For more photos and even a video of the most spectacular living Christmas tree, please check our Facebook page. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make this special service possible!



As we are enjoying the Christmas season, it is often easy for us to forget that there are members of our community who are struggling. This year more than ever, many members of our community are struggling with food insecurity and financial hardship.

Join us as we help pack boxes of food at our local food bank to help brighten the Christmases of families who would otherwise face hunger. We will be packing boxes at the Pittsylvania County Food Distribution Center at 402 Chaney Lane, in Gretna at 6:00 p.m. on December 11.



Joy on the Ark Special Dates!

December 10 — Store

**December 17— Christmas Party and
Kids Christmas Market**

**December 24 & 31— Joy on the Ark
will not be meeting.**



On December 20 we will be meeting at the church at 5:45 p.m. to go Christmas caroling. We will be visiting shut ins and other members of our community to share the joy of the Christmas season through song. Everyone is welcome to join us, talent is appreciated, but not required, all you need is a joyful heart!

We'll be singing familiar Christmas classics (so there is no need to fear that you won't know the words). Don your favorite festive apparel and come make a joyful noise!



Join us and this could be YOU!



Offering envelopes will be available soon. If you would like envelopes and did not receive them last year, please let Julie know. If you no longer wish to receive envelopes or wish to continue using the envelopes you currently have, please let Julie know.



On December 24 at 5:00 p.m. we will be holding a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. This service will feature a celebration of Jesus' birth, song, and Scripture. Join us for this special time of the remembrance of the greatest gift that the world



The Men's Prayer Advance will be held in Roanoke, January 25-27. This is a special time of fellowship and prayer open to all men of the church. If you haven't already

registered, sign up before January 2 for \$119.

The church will have rooms at a local hotel available. If you have questions about attending the prayer advance, please contact the church office. Come see what blessings God has in store for you if you give Him your time and attention during this prayer advance!

Ladies Wreath Making Fellowship 2023!



Our Ladies Wreath Making Fellowship was a beautiful time of fellowship, friendship, and fun! Becky Roberts shared her testimony and demonstrated how to use greenery to make a beautiful holiday wreath. Stephanie Reynolds helped us make our wreaths and a wonderful time was had by all! We hope you can join us next year!



SCRIPTURE WRITING PLAN

Day 1: Genesis 1:1-4

Day 2: Exodus 13:21-22

Day 3: Psalm 18:28-29

Day 4: Psalm 27:1

Day 5: Psalm 36:7-9

Day 6: Psalm 89:14-16

Day 7: Psalm 97:10-12

Day 8: Psalm 119:105

Day 9: Psalm 119:129-130

Day 10: Proverbs 4:18-19

Day 11: Isaiah 5:20

Day 12: Matthew 5:14-16

Day 13: Luke 2:8-12

Day 14: Luke 2:29-32

Day 15: Luke 11:34-35

Day 16: John 1:3-5

Day 17: John 1:6-9

Day 18: John 3:19-21

Day 19: John 8:12

Day 20: John 9:4-5

Day 21: John 12:35-36

Day 22: John 12:45-46

Day 23: Acts 9:1-4

Day 24: Acts 13:46-47

Day 25: Romans 13:11-12

Day 26: Ephesians 5:8-11

Day 27: Philippians 2:14-15

Day 28: 1 Thess. 5:1-5

Day 29: 1 Peter 2:9

Day 30: 1 John 1:6-7

Day 31: Revelation 21:22-25

This writing plan can be used any month, hence the 31 days. Write each day's Scriptures in a notebook or our Faith Journal. Feel free to underline important words, read them aloud, or use these Scriptures as a springboard for your prayers.



In Remembrance and Honor

The Poinsettias used to decorate our sanctuary this Christmas were donated in memory or in honor of the following people:

In Loving Memory Of

Generously Donated By

Louise Yeatts

Billie Pierce

Pam Anderson

Mr. & Mrs. Randolph Collins
Robert Collins

Brenda & Melody Collins

Mr. & Mrs. W.S. Easley, Jr.

Chuck Easley

Wayne & Dorothy Osborn
Doris & Olive Garner

Sherri Garner

Betty Jane Hammock
Archie & Mary Motley

Mary Hammock

James Holmes
Mary Showalter

Susie Holmes

Kenneth & Peggy Reynolds

Julie Kelly

Rena Taylor

Chasity Kendrick

Lillian & Charles Moore
Stan Rush

Renee Moore

Bobby Glenn Mullins, Sr.
Cloyd "Poppy" Sparks

Bobby & Terry Mullins

In Loving Memory Of

Robert & Pauline Reynolds

*Clide & Charlotte St. John
Rev. Robert & Betty Jennings*

*Dennis, Juanita, & Betty Edwards
Joan E. Nuckols
Allen, Lee, Paul & Sally Shelton*

Generously Donated By

Steve & Brenda Reynolds

Pastor Terry & Holly St. John

Ginger E. Shelton

In Honor Of

Children & Grandchildren

Bryant Hammock

Generously Donated By

Chuck Easley

Mary Hammock

Attention Parents!!



The children will be presenting a Christmas play during the morning service on December 17. We have been practicing each week during children's church, and there will be a final dress rehearsal on Saturday, December 16, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 434-724-4095.

If you want your child to be in the play, please have them here by 10:45 a.m. on December 17, in order to get them into costume.

Thank you so much for the privilege of working with your children this year.

**In His Service,
Wendy Byrd**

Please Note: The children will be using the gym on December 10 during the service to practice, and also on December 17 after the play for a small party.

HOLLYWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

6405 Callands Road
Chatham, VA 24531



Upcoming Events

January 7	Chili and Cornbread Fellowship Dinner
January 14	Church Council
January 20	Baby Shower: Zoey Mills
January 25=27	Men's Prayer Advance