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December 2015

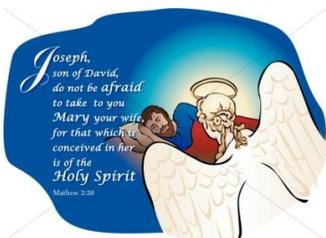
Joseph's Dilemma

He was ordinary; nothing about him caused him to stand out in a crowd of people. His education was limited to what a lower-class family could afford, which was not much, but he could measure wood and cut it to length, shape it to fit nearly any project, fashion a wooden plow to be pulled behind a team of oxen connected by a yoke he had made out of oak. The future before him looked promising. He had betrothed himself to a young woman whose beauty in appearance and character was well-known in the community; within a year they would be married. In their quiet talks about their hopes and dreams, they had agreed that children would bring them joy and satisfaction.

Then it all fell apart; the news that Mary was pregnant angered him and ended any trust he had held for her. Had the angel not appeared that night and explained the special circumstances of her pregnancy, he would have ended the betrothal on grounds of unfaithfulness. Instead, he was faced with a personal choice; should he accept the angel's words as true and proceed with the plans to wed Mary? Could he believe such a wild and implausible promise, that Mary's child was to be the Son of God and would somehow save people from their sins? It all seemed impossible and farfetched. Yet, Joseph chose to believe it and did exactly as he was instructed to do.

I admire him for that reason; he was faced with a preposterous dilemma, yet he believed God's Word and followed His instructions. When we find ourselves staring at incredible obstacles, being given improbable solutions from the Lord, we can follow the example of Joseph. His reward? He was given the amazing responsibility of mentoring young Jesus!

Dr. Lynn Hardaway



The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

All donations are used for Southern Baptists to send missionaries from their churches, through IMB, to go into the world making disciples in the name of Jesus. In that partnership, Southern Baptists provide the funding to send and support these missionaries and their ministries.

Who was Lottie Moon? Lottie Moon - the namesake of the [international missions offering](#) - has become something of a legend to us. But in her time Lottie was anything but an untouchable hero. In fact, she was like today's



missionaries. She was a hard-working, deep-loving Southern Baptist who labored tirelessly so her people group could know Jesus.

Why was the offering named for this early missionary? Throughout her career, Lottie Moon wrote numerous letters home, urging Southern Baptists to greater mission involvement and support. One of those letters triggered Southern Baptists' first Christmas offering for international missions - enough to send three new missionaries to China.

Blackwater Baptist Church Lottie Moon support opportunities include:

- Our traditional Christmas Card Mail Delivery Service
- Breakfast with Santa
- Honorary/Memorial Poinsettias to honor loved ones
- Monetary Gifts - using designated offering envelopes.

Christmas Play December 20 at 7 PM



Christmas Play practice Sundays from 6-7 p.m.
Contact Debbie Keller for more info & to find out how you can help.

Luta Tebault Circle

The Luta Tebault Circle had their monthly meeting where we enjoyed a nice Thanksgiving meal prepared by Sarah and finalized the plans for their Breakfast with Santa event. The Luta Tebault Circle Christmas Party is at Ashley Boyett's house on December 19 at 7 p.m.

Breakfast with Santa

Where: Blackwater Baptist Church Social Hall

When: Saturday, December 12

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Breakfast served 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Cost: \$7.00 per person

Come have breakfast, make crafts, and enjoy story time and pictures with Santa. Santa arrives at 9 a.m.

All proceeds benefit the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Breakfast with Santa



Our traditional Christmas Card Mail Delivery Service

for BBC family and friends starts December 6. There will be a mailbox located on the hallway table for cards and postage (49¢ each), payable to: Blackwater Baptist Church, memo: Lottie Moon Postage. The cards will be separated and placed in the fellowship hall each Sunday for pick up.

Ruth Walden Circle

The Ruth Walden Circle is meeting on December 7 at the Lucky Oyster. Please see Phyllis Arth for information if you would like to become a part of Ruth Walden Circle.

Crochet Club



Members have finished the blocks for their 3rd "Covered With Love" crochet blanket project! The blanket will be given to another one of our loved and missed church members who can no longer attend church.

The club members are always working on hat donations for cancer patients and the homeless. They would appreciate donations if you have time to make them.

Come out and join them on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8 pm in the ladies Sunday School class room.

Linda will be hosting a Christmas pot luck party on Tuesday, December 15, 6:30 p.m. at her house.

GAs, RAs & Acteens

November was a fun and busy month for our Youth. We started out the month with our regular meeting where the kids wrote letters to missionary kids around the world. They will finish up these letters in December by making friendship bracelets to send with the letters.



We also had an exciting trip to play Laser Tag. We had a total of 26 kids and adults participate. We also enjoyed dinner at Buffalo Wild Wings. Thank you to the adults that came along and helped drive, play, and chaperon. This was truly a fun night!



We ended out the month with our Lock In/Parents Night Out. We had a total of 16 kids with 11 staying the night. The kids had fun playing Capture the Flag, making Christmas ornaments, watching movies, and playing games. A HUGE thank you to the adults that took the time out to come up to church and help out. We couldn't have done it without you.

December is panning out to be another exciting month for us. We have a regular meetings scheduled where we plan to make ornaments to sell for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. We also have a Youth Christmas Party and Caroling scheduled for Friday, December 18. All youth, all ages are invited!

Blankets for the Homeless

Collection Dates:

December 6-20 – Hats, Gloves & Coats
 December 27-January 10 – Shoes, Jeans and all previously collected items

Donation boxes are located in the back hall.



If you or a family member are interested in recovery from the mental, physical and spiritual effects of alcoholism and addiction, please contact us at this email: BBCVB@cox.net for more information.

****REMINDERS****

- ❖ All BBC members are requested to help in supplying food for **funeral receptions**. This responsibility cannot fall solely on the Funeral Committee members. This shares the burden and helps everyone to be able to focus on the affected families during their time of loss. Please contact Nancy Daniels 421-2467 (you may leave a message), so you can be added to the contact list to be notified when the need arises.
- ❖ Save your Labels for Education box tops! A small collection box is on the hall table for donations of Campbell's barcodes and box tops. Farm Fresh receipts also count so bring them too!

Join Us Sundays:

Sunday School 9 a.m.
Service 10 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

Always subject to change, please refer to the weekly bulletin for any updates.

- 12/12 – Breakfast with Santa
- 12/13 – Deadline for Poinsettia Orders
- 12/18 – Youth Christmas Party and Caroling
- 12/20 – Christmas Play
- 12/20 – Deadline for HATS, GLOVES, COATS
- 12/24 – Christmas Eve Service
- 1/10 – Blankets for the Homeless Presentation by Mariah Smith
- 1/10 – Final Date for Blankets for the Homeless Donations



Lottie Moon Poinsettia Orders Order forms are in the vestibule and in the back hall.

In Honor / In Memory of

In Honor / In Memory of

Order Deadline: Dec. 13 – NO LATE ORDERS

Donated by: _____

_____ X \$15 = _____

Give orders to: Pat Washington