

The Highlander

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 2015

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www.highlandbaptist.org

ROUTE 66
A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BIBLE

Titus 3:5

He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

LEVITICUS
EXODUS
GENESIS

Christmas
Sermon Series
Starting
November 29



Christmas around the World
Let every nation celebrate His birth

Church family,

You have always been a giving family. If you have been a Baptist for a while, you probably know what makes us unique is we "pool" money to give to missions. This is what is called cooperative giving, and we give that money through the cooperative program. This money goes to help our institutions, hospitals, and again, mission efforts. As a church family, we annually give locally, nationally, and internationally.

This Christmas season, we will do something a little differently. Though many of you have given to our missions offering at the traditional time, this year we will use the next six weeks to promote and give to all 3 mission offerings. I would like to explain briefly what each mission offering supports. This will also be discussed each week in December.

The Mary Hill Davis Offering goes to support missions and ministries in Texas. Mary Hill Davis came to Texas as a small child in 1870 when her family moved from Tennessee to Dallas. Mary was president of WMU from 1906 until 1931. Her heart for missions and people was evident in everything she did. She believed Texas was a vast mission field, and that immigrants needed to know Jesus just as much as citizens. Almost 100 years later, her example still inspires Texas Baptists to GIVE, to PRAY, and to GO.

The Annie Armstrong Offering goes to support missions and ministries throughout the United States. In 1895, the first missions offering to benefit the work of home missions (now known as North American missions) was promoted and taken up by Woman's Missionary Union (WMU). The Home Mission Board (now known as North American Mission Board) asked for \$5,000 toward its work. WMU efforts exceeded that goal. From that start to today, more than \$1 billion has been raised for North American mission efforts. Every dollar of the offering goes to missionaries and their work of sharing the life-transforming gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the United States, Canada, and their territories.

The Lottie Moon Offering goes to support missions and ministries internationally. Throughout her career, Lottie Moon wrote letters home urging Southern Baptists to greater missions involvement and support. One of those letters triggered Southern Baptists' first Christmas offering for international missions – enough to send three new missionaries to China. Last year this offering helped to support over 4700 missionaries.

- Dec. 2— Mission Trip to Tohatchi (they return Sunday, Dec. 6th)
- Dec. 4— Adult 6 Christmas Fellowship, 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 6— Adult 7 Christmas Luncheon, 12:00 p.m.
Deacons Meeting at 4:00 p.m.
Business Meeting with Budget Presentation at 5:00 p.m.
Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 9— Youth Christmas Party, 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 11— Adult 2 Young Families Christmas Fellowship at 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 12— Adult 5 Christmas Fellowship at 6:00 p.m.,
Adult Christmas Choir rehearsal and party, 12:00 p.m.
- Dec. 13— Church-Wide Retirement Luncheon for Kathy O'Guinn, 12:00 p.m.
Budget Listening Session, 5:00 p.m.
- Dec. 18— Adult 3 Christmas Fellowship, 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 20— Sunday School Mixer, 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Center
Vote on church budget during morning worship service
Candlelight Lord's Supper, 5:00 p.m.
- Dec. 23— No evening activities or events
- Dec. 24— Church office closed (will re-open Dec. 28th)
- Dec. 27— No evening worship service
- Dec. 30— No evening activities or events

Adam

December Mission Offering Emphasis

In **December** we will highlight all the special missions offerings we support as Southern Baptists. More information regarding each of these missions may be found on the front of the newsletter.

ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING

2015 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS • NOV. 29 • DEC. 6



Life Group Christmas Mixer

Join us **Sunday, December 20th** at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship in the Family Life Center. A devotional will be brought by Carolyn Ratcliffe.

Candlelight Lord's Supper

You and your family are invited to join us **Sunday, December 20th** for a candlelight service including the observance of the Lord's Supper. The service will begin at 5:00 p.m. in the worship center.

Year-End Giving

Thank you for your continual generosity and support of the ministries of Highland Baptist Church. Please submit your year-end gift by **Thursday, December 31st**.



"Go" Mission Emphasis Months

Over the next few months we will highlight some of the mission efforts our church is currently involved in. You will hear about these ministries in the worship service and will have an opportunity to get additional information at our 'Go' table in the foyer.

October: *Nicaragua Baptist Medical Dental Missions (BMDMI)*

Our 2016 trip dates for Nicaragua are set for **June 25th - July 2nd**. During the month of October we will have a Nicaragua information table setup in the foyer. If you would like to help support the effort by buying Bibles or other supplies please pick up an order envelope. We will take all the proceeds and buy the items in bulk for better pricing.

November: *Tohatchi, New Mexico*

Our next trip to Navaho Nation is set for **Dec 3-6, 2015**. During the month of November we will have an information table in the foyer and will be conducting a "Winter Drive". You may donate new hats, scarfs, gloves, and 5 gallon buckets (used to make water filters) that will be distributed on our December trip.

December: *Mission Offering Emphasis*

In **December** we will be highlighting all the special missions offerings we support as Southern Baptists. Come and see how these mission offerings are used to spread the Gospel around the world.

January: *ActNow Lubbock (Local Missions)*

During the month of January we will highlight all the local mission efforts our church is a part of and how your family or Life Group can volunteer locally through www.actnowlbk.com. ActNow Lubbock is a community wide network of churches and ministries serving the Lubbock area. To start volunteering simply log on to www.actnowlbk.com and search for a place to volunteer your time and share the gospel with our community.

John Gillespie

Christmas in Tohatchi

Since **December 2010**, Highland has been involved in the ministries of Tohatchi Baptist Church to the Navajo people of Northwest New Mexico. We have been blessed to give Christmas Parties at churches, chapter houses, and boarding school. We have repaired and built homes, purchased and delivered firewood and build woodsheds. We have visited senior adult centers and homes. We have given coats, shoes, winter wear, and other needed items.

This trip we will be doing even more as we give water, filtered water. This spring as a group from Highland helped put siding on a home, we found that they had no water supply, except for a spring nearby. At VBS the children heard how Texas Baptist Men built water filtration systems for other countries. In conversation with Russell and Rachel Schieck, the need on the reservation was mentioned. They approached the Texas Baptist Men and 30 filters were donated. We will only need to supply buckets and spouts. We will give them filtered water and the living water.

Please pray for our trip to the reservation **December 2nd through December 6th**. Pray for the Navajo and Tohatchi Baptist Church.

You still have time to help with donations in the following ways:

- ◆ Caps, scarves, gloves and socks (all sizes)
- ◆ Coats
- ◆ New blankets
- ◆ New unwrapped toys for children (birth through teens)—used for Christmas presents which parents will be able to pick out for their children.
- ◆ New items for children to pick out as gifts for their parents—small kitchen items (pots, pans, utensils), small tools, house shoes, warm socks, small blankets, toothbrushes and toothpaste, lotions, gloves, work gloves.
- ◆ You may also donate financially to our firewood fund (our goal is \$1500 worth)

Monday Morning Bible Study

The Bible Study on Monday mornings will conclude for the Christmas holidays **Monday, December 14th**. They will begin meeting again **Monday, January 11, 2016**. Be watching for more information to come in the January newsletter.

Christmas Parties

The following groups are having Christmas Parties:

- * **Adult 2 Young Families, Friday, December 11th** at the home of John and Rebekah Gillespie at 6:00 p.m.
- * **Adult 3, Friday, December 18th** in the Family Life Center at 6:30 p.m.
- * **Adult 5, Saturday, December 12th** at the home of Gary and Sherri Arthur at 6:00 p.m.
- * **Adult 6, Friday, December 4th** at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Center.
- * **Adult 7, Sunday, December 6th** following the morning worship service in the Fellowship Center.
- * **Youth Christmas Party, Wednesday, December 9th** at 6:00 p.m.
- * **Adult Choir** Christmas rehearsal and choir party, **Saturday, December 12th** from 12:00—4:00 p.m.

Baby Closet Angel Tree

Come select an angel from our Angel Tree located outside the church office. Items purchased will immediately benefit families. You may select items from the list below. Place unwrapped gifts in the crib located by the church office.

Crib	Girl's shoes 5—11
Stroller	Boy's clothing 2T—4T
Car Seats	Girl's clothing 2T—4T
Jackets	Toys (birth through 4 years)
Boy's Shoes 5—11	

Retirement Lunch for Kathy O'Guinn

Sunday, December 13th you are invited to a church-wide retirement luncheon in the Family Life Center in honor of Kathy O'Guinn. It will begin immediately following the morning worship service. Bring a love filled "card" as we say thank you to Kathy for all of her hard work while she served as our Minister of Children.