

this week

Sunday, December 4

8:30 a.m. Worship
 9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open
 9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group
 9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study, Discover Class
 10:50 a.m. Worship
 12:00 p.m. Youth Handbells
 12:15 p.m. Missions Committee
 4:15 p.m. Mixed Ensemble
 5:00 p.m. Ladies Ensemble
 6:00 p.m. NO Evening Worship

Monday, December 5

1:30 p.m. GriefShare
 6:30 p.m. GriefSare

Tuesday, December 6

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
 11:15 p.m. Senior Adult Luncheon
 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 7

9:00 a.m. ELP Meeting/Brunch
 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open
 4:15 p.m. Children's Handbells
 4:30 p.m. Children's Chimes
 4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir, Youth Choir,
 GA Leaders Meeting
 5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
 5:45-6:30 p.m. Library Open
 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study, GA, RA,
 Mission Friends
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir & Orchestra

Thursday, December 8

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program,
 Precept: *Isaiah Part 1*
 10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day
 6:00 p.m. Kingdom Explorers Fellowship
 6:30 p.m. Adult Handbells to Baptist Village
 7:00 p.m. Precept: *Isaiah Part 1*,
 Men's Basketball

Friday, December 9

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
 11:00 a.m. Women in Recovery Lunch
 6:30 p.m. Preschool Teachers Christmas Party

Saturday, December 10

9:00 p.m. Orchestra Rehearsal
 10:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
 5:00 p.m. Threads Christmas Fellowship

WEDNESDAY DINNER

December 7, 2016

Hamburgers, French fries, salad, dessert and beverage.

Adults \$5, children \$3.50, family max \$18.
 Please call the church office, 918-299-0904 to make your reservations by Tuesday at noon.

southtulsa
 BAPTIST CHURCH

10310 South Sheridan Road | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133
 918.299.0904 | southtulsa.org

Sharing the
 Good News about
 Jesus in our
 community and
 around the world

more

MORE FOOD AND VOLUNTEERS FOR THE MINISTRY CENTER - There is great need in our community at this time of year. The Ministry Center pantry is very low. Donations of non-perishable food would be greatly appreciated. Tubs have been placed near the entrances for your donations. The Ministry Center is also in need of amazing volunteers that understand the joy of Christian service. A full list of needs can be found online at ministry-center.org. *His Heart . . . our hands. Sharing the Good News about Jesus through meeting needs in our community - The Ministry Center.*

CDT CENTERPIECES - Christmas Dinner Theater Centerpieces, a musical snow globe with a nativity scene or church scene inside, may be purchased for \$15 and/or picked up today in the Commons.

DISCOVER CLASS - New members and those interested in becoming members of South Tulsa Baptist Church are encouraged to attend a two-week class TODAY and December 11 from 9:40-10:40 a.m. in the Family Room.

TURKEYS FOR NEEDY FAMILIES IN TULSA! - Each year we partner with the Tulsa Christian Ministers Alliance to provide turkeys for families in North Tulsa. Our goal is to raise \$4,000. To help, please mark your check or online gift with "turkeys" in the memo line. The turkeys will be distributed on Tuesday, December 20 at Booker T. Washington High School. Thank you for blessing others with your giving - these families need all of us!

MISSION BELIZE CHRISTMAS LUNCH - Join us next Sunday, December 11 at noon for a delicious smoked ham dinner prepared by our students. All proceeds go toward the Belize Mission Trip.

(For more information about upcoming events please go to southtulsa.org)


the gospel resounds
 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING™

OUR CHURCH GOAL:
\$150,000

100% of your gift helps send and sustain IMB missionaries.



Hope • Love • Joy • Peace • Christ



The GOOD NEWS of
Advent

Join us as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the hope, love, joy and peace of Christ's birth at Christmas and remember His promise to come back again.

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 & 10:50 a.m.
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with the Lord's Supper at 6:00 p.m.
 Christmas Day at 10:50 a.m.

the channel

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8:30AM Worship

Glory to God
Angels We Have Heard On High
Welcome
Greeting One Another
Overcome
10,000 Reasons
Advent Candle Southall Family
Message Luke 1:26-38
Response *Jesus Paid it All*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Baptism Sarah Bridenstine
Not That Far from Bethlehem
Angels, from the Realms of Glory
Advent Candle Owens Family
Prayer and Welcome
What Child Is This
O Little Town of Bethlehem
Christ Is Born
Greeting One Another
I Have Seen the Light
Message Luke 1:26-38
Response *Tell Me the Story of Jesus*
Giving *Christmas Angels Medley*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

Advent - LOVE

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

William Wilberforce, who helped bring an end to the slave trade in England in 1807, once said, "Prosperity hardens the heart." We live in the most prosperous culture in the history of the world, and it affects every area of our lives. We are bombarded by such pervasive sensationalism, that we experience not only hardness of heart but also a general numbness.

This seems to be especially true with regard to the Christmas season. I remember as a child the feeling of delight that would begin building on the inside from Thanksgiving forward. It wasn't just about presents or days out of school. It was everything—from the weather, to the music, to the family time with relatives we did not see during the rest of the year. As I began to grow in my own personal faith, the anticipation became even more tied to Jesus Himself. The Christmas music we sang at church was not materialistic. It had deep meaning, and I can remember having a deep sense of thankfulness for the birth of the Savior.

Perhaps it is because I am growing older, but it feels like it takes more work to find that deep meaning in Christmas these days. That's why I love the season of Advent. Advent is intentional. Advent is a rhythm we join that lasts for several weeks before Christmas Day. Advent is a calendar that runs at a right angle to our regular calendar. This intentional observance forces us to change directions, to pause and reflect, and to be thankful.

Hope. Love. Joy. Peace. Christ. These are the 5 words of faith we proclaim during Advent. For the remaining Sundays before Christmas, I will be sharing more intentional ways that all of us can push through numbness, hardness of heart, and self-centeredness; so that we might experience a truly deep sense of thankfulness for the birth of the Savior.

As the angel declared to Joseph: "(Mary) will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins" (**Matthew 1:21**). This is the Good News!

Christmas Dinner Theater

The presentations of "Heirlooms" were very well attended and included many visitors from the area. Gracious hospitality and the love of Christ was portrayed in both word and deed. That love was especially evident on Community Night when over 415 people from across our city were our guests for the evening. The cast has been rehearsing since the last of September while behind the scenes much other preparation was taking place. From costumes to scenery, lighting to centerpieces, linens to food, waiters, hosts and servers to sound and lights, the entire production brought together 47 cast members plus another 335 volunteers. With a presentation like Christmas Dinner Theater, it is not always possible to thank each person who was involved in helping. So many contributed in so many ways, and every job, whether great or small, was appreciated. An attempt was made to list the names in the program of all who helped. However, perhaps some received no recognition at all, and to those we say "thank you" as well. The final number of decisions is not yet available, but it is our prayer that hearts and lives were touched by Christ through the message of the presentation. So, to all who helped, thank you very much, ~ Philip and Mary Ann Stephens



Thinking Christian

by Dru Finley

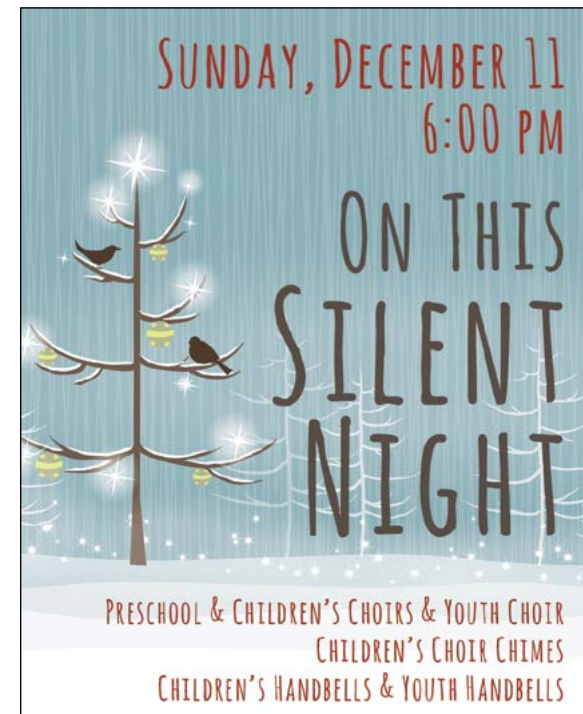
Don't Stop Believing

There is a moment in every Christian's life when something clicks, the lights come on and everything is illuminated by truth. The scales fall from our spiritual eyes and we see Jesus for who He really is, both Lord and Christ! It is in that moment the Spirit allows us to hear and truly understand the person and work of Christ, and we're enabled through Him to have a Faith that transforms us and gives us life.

But, too often people stop there and see Faith as merely something we have in order to receive salvation, and nothing more. Paul makes clear that just "as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him" (Col. 2:6). We need the Gospel everyday! Faith is not just something that gives us eternal life, rather faith is how we are to live our everyday lives! Just as we came to believe in the person and work of Christ, we are to live each day in that belief. Belief is what began the journey, and belief is the thing that guides us throughout that journey!

Don't stop thinking about the day of salvation and the Savior who gave you life! Continual belief is meant to be the catalyst for a transformed life! Therefore, don't stop believing!

(Read Dru's full article at southtulsa.org or watch the video under the resources tab.)



DaySpring Villa

December is our designated month to focus on the ministry at DaySpring Villa, a faith based certified shelter for women suffering under domestic violence or human sex trafficking. For more information about DaySpring go to: dayspringvilla.com. The following items are greatly needed at this time: cake mixes, sugar, canned vegetables (especially green beans), lunch size chips for sack lunches, individual size snack cakes for lunches, and paper towels. A green container is located in the Atrium for your donations.

Spiritual Gifts

Precept: Spiritual Gifts - Mondays beginning January 9 at 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Workbooks can be purchased soon for \$27 in the church office. Please complete lesson one prior to first class. Contact Patrick Lovelace at patricklovelace@cox.net, 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.

Christmas Cards

The GA Lottie Moon Christmas Card Mailbox is available now through January 8 in the Commons for distribution of cards to the church family. Just put the "postage" in the mailbox on top. All of the money collected will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions.

SHOPPERS for Women in Recovery

Thank you for shopping for 127 children of Moms who are currently in Women In Recovery. If you missed out - it's not too late.

We will be hosting a party on December 17 for the children of Moms who have graduated from Women In Recovery. At this party each child will be receiving a GAME and a BOOK. If you are interested in shopping for these items - signup sheets are at the Welcome Desk in the Commons. A list of suggestions will be given to you either by email or delivered to your Sunday School Class.

last week

GIVING	
Ministry Financial Plan	1,577,803
Actual MFP Receipts	1,443,974
General Fund	47,526
Building Fund	1,090
Turkeys	505

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY	
Adults	486
Youth	70
Children	81
Preschool	69
Unclassified	10
Total	716

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES	
Adult, Youth, Women's, Men's, Precept	89

THE MINISTRY CENTER	
Volunteers	24
People Helped	315

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE	
LIVE Views	2,639
<i>(U.S. 2,204; International 435)</i>	
Retirement Center Ministry	130
<i>(12 locations)</i>	
ON DEMAND Views	871
<i>(U.S. 725; International 146)</i>	

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric Costanzo, <i>Pastor</i> eric@southtulsa.org	Debbie Steen, <i>Minister to Families with Preschoolers</i> debbie@stbc.net
Philip Stephens, <i>Minister of Music</i> philip@stbc.net	Mary Ann Stephens, <i>Music Ministry Associate</i> maryann@stbc.net
Dave Bender, <i>Minister of Administration & Media</i> dave@stbc.net	Karen Pirtle, <i>Youth Ministry Associate</i> karen@stbc.net
Dru Finley, <i>Minister of Discipleship & Development</i> dru@stbc.net	<i>Please email all Channel submissions to Kim Hayes at kim@stbc.net by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays</i>
Matt Wolff, <i>Minister to Families with Students</i> matt@southtulsa.org	ON THE COVER Christmas Dinner Theater
Connie Faurot, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i> connie@stbc.net	