

this week

Sunday, December 11

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, Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra Present "JOY"
 12:00 p.m. Belize Mission Christmas Lunch, Youth Handbells
 12:15 p.m. Missions Committee
 4:30 p.m. Youth Handbells Rehearse, WC
 4:45 p.m. Children's Handbells Rehearse, WC
 5:00 p.m. Children's Chimes Rehearse, WC
 5:15 p.m. Children's Speaking Parts, WC
 5:30 p.m. All Children's/Youth Choirs in rooms
 6:00 p.m. "On This Silent Night" Children's & Youth Choirs Christmas Program

Monday, December 12

11:00 a.m. Jerry Don Abernathy Funeral
 1:30 p.m. GriefShare
 5:30 p.m. Ruth's Open Door Fellowship
 6:30 p.m. GriefShare

Tuesday, December 13

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
 6:30 p.m. Empty Nesters 2 Christmas Fellowship

Wednesday, December 14

9:00 a.m. MOPS
 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open
 4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir Christmas Parties
 5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
 5:45-6:30 p.m. Library Open
 6:30 p.m. Student's Christmas Party, GA Christmas Parties, RA, Mission Friends
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Stewardship Mtg.
 7:30 p.m. Orchestra

Thursday, December 15

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program, Precept: Isaiah Part 1
 10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day
 7:00 p.m. Precept: Isaiah Part 1, Men's Basketball

Friday, December 16

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program

Saturday, December 17

WEDNESDAY DINNER

December 14, 2016

Fajitas, Mexican rice, guacamole, queso and chips, 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

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!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS - Brandon & Paula Brister, by letter.

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.

GA LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX - 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.

DISCOVER CLASS - Continues TODAY from 9:40-10:40 a.m. in the Family Room.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - There will be NO Children's or Youth Choir rehearsals or Children's Missions (RA, GA, Mission Friends) December 21, 28 or January 4. Children's Choirs and Children's Missions will resume on January 11, 2017.

(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

12.11.16

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8:30AM Worship

*This Is Amazing Grace
 Because He Lives*

Welcome

Baptism Susan Shaw, Jaylen Hooks

O Come all Ye Faithful

Doxology (Amen)

Advent Candle Webb Family

Greeting One Another

Mary, Did You Know Brian Easterwood

Message Luke 2:8-21

Response Lord, Be Glorified

New Commitments - New Members

Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Emmanuel

Worship Christ, the Newborn King

Prayer and Welcome

Isaiah 9:6

Oh Children Come

Matthew 1:20-23

Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven

Advent Candle Warren Family

Joy Has Dawned

All Is Well

Message Luke 2:8-21

Response His Name Is Wonderful

Giving This Little Child

New Commitments - New Members

Blessing

Almost There

Christ Is Born

Hallelujah Chorus

Advent - JOY

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

Is this really "the most wonderful time of the year" for you? As I mentioned in last week's article, for many of us the Christmas season is fraught with an excess of self-centeredness and busyness. These lead not to a deep sense of thankfulness for God's greatest gift - Jesus - but rather numbness and hardness of heart. The idea of celebrating Christmas as a "holy-day" gets lost in the "holiday" mentality of materialism and temporary fulfillment.

The season of Advent is one of the most effective ways I know to break through the mire. For the remaining weeks before Christmas Day, I invite you to join me in slowing down, reflecting on what this season is all about, and allowing the anticipation of the Savior's arrival to fill your heart and life with a growing joy.

This week, I want to share **3 N's**. **3 N's** that are warning signs the true meaning of Christmas is being eclipsed by selfishness in our lives.

1. **NEXT THING.** When things move so fast that life feels surreal most of the time, leaving us almost incapable of savoring the sweet moments of the season. We are left thinking instead, "What's Next?"
2. **NOT ENOUGH.** When we are increasingly aware of what we do not have or might never get, despite the fact we continue to accumulate more each year.
3. **NEVER AS GOOD.** When we have a seemingly uncontrollable impulse to compare everything we have or receive to the things others have or receive.

These **3 N's** are not healthy for us, or for our relationships with God and others. Which leads me again, to Advent. The words of Advent - Hope, Love, Joy, Peace, and Christ - are not self-centered. They are words that help us remember the two most important commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength...and love your neighbor as yourself" (**Mark 12:28-31**).

My prayer for all of this week is that we might slow down enough and look outside of ourselves enough to experience true joy.

Mission Belize Christmas Lunch

Join us today at noon for a wonderful Belize Mission Christmas Lunch: smoked ham, cheesy potatoes, glazed carrots, green salad, rolls and cherry dump cake will be served. Ham and beans with cornbread will also be available. All proceeds go toward the student Belize Mission Trip.

Food and Volunteers

Meet a need in our community. 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. Areas in need: Pick up food donations from two local grocery stores at 10:30 a.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; in the Pantry area on Mondays and Thursdays to fill grocery sacks and process donations; in the Clothing Closet to sort donations. Ministry Center hours are Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Come, take a tour, and pray about a place for you to serve. If you can help or want more information, contact Alice Bones by email to alice@ministry-center.org, or by phone to 918-720-5419.

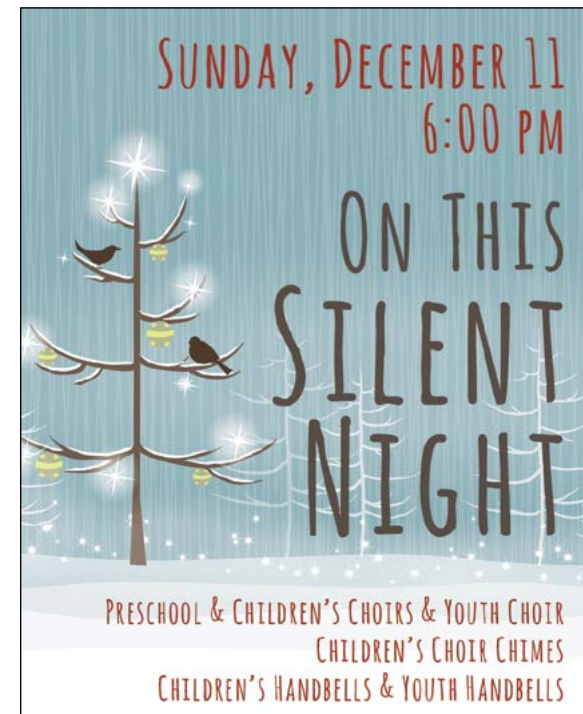


2016 Giving

Thank you for your sacrificial giving this year. To receive contribution credit for 2016, gifts must be postmarked or received via online or by text giving to the church on or before December 31. The church office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 30. Gifts of stocks and mutual funds must be received into the church's brokerage account by December 31. Please initiate the transfer with your broker no later than December 22 to ensure giving credit. Contact Cathy McCourt, cathy@stbc.net or Dave Bender, dave@stbc.net for account information.

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.



Thinking Christian

by Dru Finley

The King is Coming

Christmas is one of the most loved holidays ever. It is a time when friends and family gather to celebrate and enjoy one another with traditions, gifts, food and decorations. Along with that comes preparation. In fact, we spend a lot of time and energy in preparation. It is preparation for a purpose! It is preparation with an expectation!

We prepare our homes for Christmas because we want to see Christmas happen. But, we must remember that Christmas has a far greater meaning than decorations, gifts and food. The greater question we should ask is, are we spending time preparing our hearts? The external things are fun and often bring joy, but it is the internal preparation that will last for eternity.

Christmas is truly about one thing, the coming of The King. The manger was not the completion of the story, it was the beginning. Christmas is about hope because He came, but it is also about hope because we know He will return. So, as Christmas approaches prepare your home and family, but most importantly prepare your heart! Prepare so that your purpose is to worship the King! Prepare so that your expectation is His appearing! But above all prepare your heart knowing the King is coming!

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

Books and Games

South Tulsa Baptist is hosting a party on December 17 for about 100 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 helping with this project, contact Connie Faurot in the church office for the list of books and games or place money in an envelope designated Women In Recovery.

last week

GIVING

Ministry Financial Plan	1,662,988
Actual MFP Receipts	1,539,131
General Fund	95,157
Building Fund	1,665
Lottie Moon to date	13,337
Turkeys to date	1,300

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults	562
Youth	83
Children	101
Preschool	78
Unclassified	10
Total	847

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES 136

Adult, Youth, Women's, Men's, Precept

THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers	25
People Helped	148
Medical Clinic	12

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

LIVE Views	2,026
<i>(U.S. 1,463; International 563)</i>	
Retirement Center Ministry	106
<i>(11 locations)</i>	
ON DEMAND Views	752
<i>(U.S. 543 ; International 209)</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 Brian Easterwood, James Nance, Jack Rogers, Philip Stephens
Connie Faurot, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i> connie@stbc.net	