

this week

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve
 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
 10:15 a.m. Mixed Ensemble
 10:50 a.m. Worship
 12:00-12:30 p.m. Library Open
 4:20 p.m. Ladies Ensemble
 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with the Lord's Supper

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day - Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 27

8:30 a.m. Ladies Exercise Class

Thursday, December 28

7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, December 29

8:30 a.m. Ladies Exercise Class

Saturday, December 30



NO WEDNESDAY DINNER

December 27

CHRISTMAS DINNER THEATER - A recorded video of our 2017 Christmas Dinner Theater, *A Perfect Christmas*, is available for a short period of time on our website: www.southtulsa.org/music-events. Also, Doug Brush is creating a DVD of photos and music from the Christmas Dinner Theater productions. Watch the Channel for more details.



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

NEXT SUNDAY - NEW YEAR'S EVE - We will follow our regular morning schedule: 8:30 Worship, 9:40 Bible Study and 10:50 Worship, but there will be NO evening service.

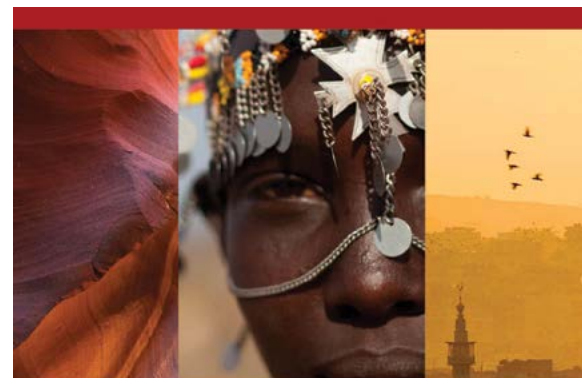
2017 GIVING - For your contributions to South Tulsa to be deductible in 2017, they must be received in the church office on December 31 no later than 1:00 p.m. There are no evening services scheduled that day. Mailed gifts, as well as online payments at southtulsa.org/give-now, must be dated no later than 12/31/17.

GIVE STOCK INSTEAD OF CASH - Rather than writing checks this year, instead consider giving appreciated stock you've owned for more than a year. You minimize your tax consequences, you enjoy a charitable deduction for the value of the gifted stock, and the charity can sell it without owing capital gains tax. You can then use the cash you were previously going to give to charity to purchase new stock with a new cost basis. Stock must be received by noon, 12/29/17 for 2017 contribution credit.

BIBLE ART JOURNALING WORKSHOP - This is a great time to start Bible Journaling. Join us on Thursday, January 11, 6:30-8:00 p.m., in room B123. Please contact Denise Curtiss for information at denise77@cox.net.

RECYCLING BAGS - The Ruth's Open Door class is using plastic grocery sacks to make mats and pillows for the homeless in Tulsa and to take to Guatemala. Around 600 bags are needed to make each mat. Your empty sacks can be delivered to their classroom off the gym, D172/173.

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



This is what we were created for.

DAVID PLATT, IMB PRESIDENT



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING*

imb.org/lmco

OUR GOAL: \$100,000



CELEBRATE THE
 ARRIVAL OF CHRIST

Christmas
 Eve

FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
 WITH THE LORD'S SUPPER
 5:00 PM

the channel

12.24.17

volume XXVII, no. 51
southtulsa.org



8:30AM Worship

Light of The Stable / Joy to the World
Hark the Herald / Go Tell it on the Mountain
Lighting of Advent Candle Rosene Family
Prayer and Welcome Eric Costanzo
Mary, Did You Know?
Greeting One Another
Scripture Reading Erin Zimmerman
Message Matthew 2:13-18
Response *In Christ Alone*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Recognition of Kaye Cole's Retirement
Child of the Promise Mixed Ensemble
Angels We Have Heard on High
Lighting of Advent Candle Smith Family
Prayer and Welcome Eric Costanzo
Greeting One Another
Good Christian Men, Rejoice
Choral Worship *Angels from the Realms of Glory*
Go, Tell It on the Mountain
Giving *In the Bleak Midwinter*
Scripture Reading Erin Zimmerman
Message Matthew 2:13-18
Response *The First Noel*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing



Do I Forget Too?

Eric Costanzo

During this time of the year, we hear it said often: "People have forgotten 'The Reason for the Season.'"

Might we also be guilty of the same kind of amnesia? I believe so.

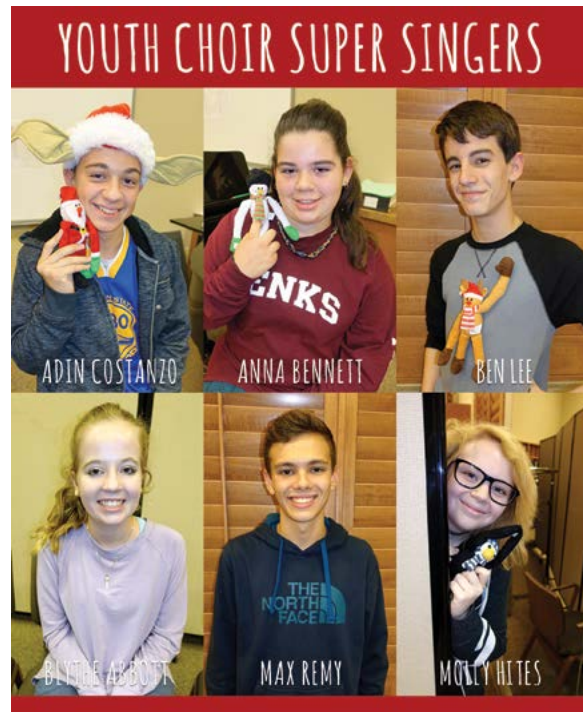
Christmas is our time to reflect on the deep love of God for His creation, which is demonstrated in the greatest gift ever given - Jesus, the Savior of the World.

For many, however, Christmas is self-centered; focused on stuff rather than the Savior. These "Three N's" describe well what I mean:

1. *Not enough.* When we are more aware of what we don't have, or didn't get, despite the fact that we accumulate more every year.
2. *Never as good.* When we have a seemingly uncontrollable impulse to compare everything we receive to things others have.
3. *Next thing.* When things move so fast that it is almost surreal, leaving us almost incapable of savoring the sweet moments of the season. We are left thinking instead, "What's next?"

Surely we have all been plagued by the thoughts above. Thankfully, God has given us the cure in the form of The First Advent. By following His example and sharing His love with others, we too can break the spell of selfishness that dominates our culture. It is not too late to spend the rest of this year putting others first, and serving in the name of Jesus. If we do this, the Three N's can be redefined:

1. *Not enough.* When we could spend ourselves for countless hours and still not get enough.
2. *Never as good.* When, no matter what else we get, it is never as good as the satisfaction of putting others first.
3. *Next thing.* When serving others makes us long to do it all over again. So we ask, "What's next?"

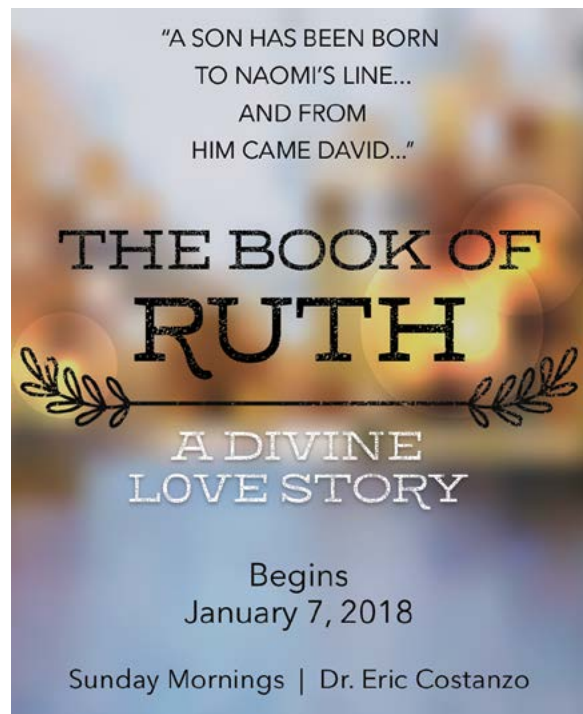


Children's Choir

Leadership Planning Meeting

Sunday, January 7, 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Leaders, please bring your families and eat lunch in Fellowship Hall following the 10:50 a.m. worship service. After lunch, all leadership will move to D-268/269 for a brief meeting to receive your spring literature. Teachers will then go to individual choir rooms to plan for the first night of choir, January 10. Preschool child care will be available by reservation only. Come and find out about the exciting plans for 2018!



Honoring Kaye Cole

Kaye Cole, our staff pianist for over 33 years, has announced her retirement effective December 24. Kaye has blessed South Tulsa with her remarkable talent and ability. Her husband, Jim, has volunteered in the sound booth for these many years as well. They both have been a strategic part of our worship services.

The church would like to honor Kaye for her years of service by blessing her with a love offering on Sunday morning, December 24. If you would like to contribute, please designate your offering to "Kaye Cole."

Precept Bible Studies

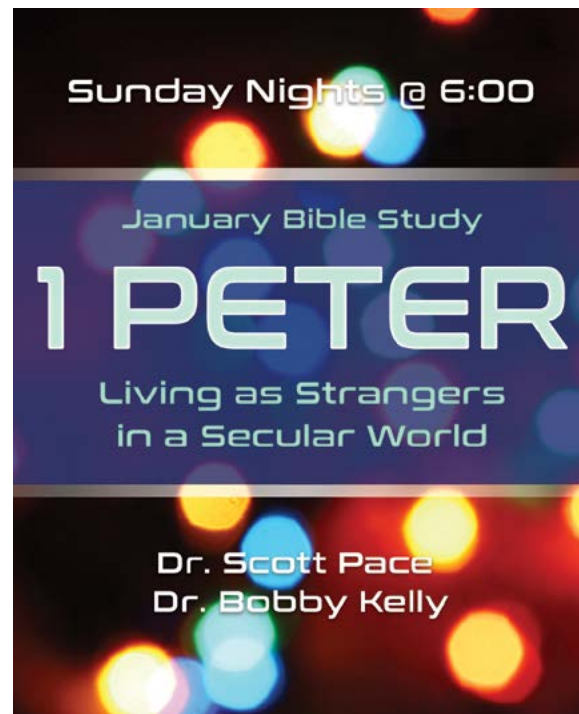
Beginning in January

2 Timothy - A Study in Discipleship will be on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. beginning January 8 (13 lessons), workbook \$29.

2 Peter - How to be Kept From Falling will be on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. beginning January 4 (8 lessons), workbook \$18. Both books are available in the church office.

Contact Patrick Lovelace at patricklovelace@cox.net, 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.

Senior Adult Bible Study and Lunch: Tuesday, January 2 at 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Wana Archer will be speaking.



{Getting to Know You}

New Members of South Tulsa



Meet Jerry and Susan Jacobs who joined the church on November 12.

Jerry and Susan have been married for 39 years

and have lived in Tulsa for 14 years.

They have two children; Austin who is in the Navy and lives in Louisiana, and Lauren who lives in Ohio. They have six grandchildren (all age 6 and under).

Jerry grew up in northeast Texas and attended the University of Texas. He then went to seminary at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth. He was Minister of Education at three churches in Texas before moving here to become Minister of Education & Discipleship at First Baptist Tulsa. He recently retired after 14 years there. Jerry is currently working on getting his doctorate from Midwestern Seminary.

Susan was raised in Shreveport, Louisiana and attended Northeast Louisiana University. She met Jerry when they were both in seminary in Ft. Worth. She is a 4th grade teacher at Country Lane Elementary School in Broken Arrow and has taught school for almost 30 years.

Jerry and Susan are members of the Empty Nesters 1 class and Jerry sings in the Sanctuary Choir. They enjoy traveling, but spend most of their spare time going to see the grandkids!

The Lottie Moon Christmas Card box is available in the Commons through January 7. Help the GA's collect money for LMCO by exchanging cards with the church family and putting the "postage" in the mailbox.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all your prayers during my recent illness. They are so appreciated. I am healing nicely and couldn't have hoped for a better prognosis. May God bless you and your families. ~ Helen Choate

last week

GIVING

Ministry Financial Plan	1,791,490
Actual MFP Receipts	1,583,954
General Fund	75,480
A New Day at South Tulsa	4,586
Lottie Moon to date	53,942

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults	548
Students	83
Children	94
Preschool	82
Unclassified	10
Total	817

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES

THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers	25
People Helped	268

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

LIVE Views	3,513
(U.S. 2,271; 12 Retirement Centers with 106; International 1,136)	

ON DEMAND Views	1,051
(U.S. 701; International 350)	

NEW MEMBERS

Chris Bundy by letter

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric Costanzo, <i>Pastor</i> eric@southtulsa.org	Debbie Steen, <i>Minister to Families with Preschoolers</i> debbie@southtulsa.org
Philip Stephens, <i>Minister of Music</i> philip@southtulsa.org	Mary Ann Stephens, <i>Music Ministry Associate</i> maryann@southtulsa.org
Dave Bender, <i>Minister of Administration & Media</i> dave@southtulsa.org	Karen Pirtle, <i>Student Ministry Associate</i> karen@southtulsa.org
Dru Finley, <i>Minister of Discipleship & Development</i> dru@southtulsa.org	Alice Bones, <i>Director of The Ministry Center</i> alice@ministry-center.org
Matt Wolff, <i>Minister to Families with Students</i> matt@southtulsa.org	ON THE COVER Lance, Michelle and Dawson McCarver
Connie Faurot, <i>Minister to Families with Children</i> connie@southtulsa.org	