

this week

Sunday, December 16

8:30 a.m. Worship, Baptism
9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group
9:00-9:40 a.m. Library Open
9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study
10:50 a.m. Worship
12:00-12:30 p.m. Library Open
4:00 p.m. Ladies Ensemble
6:00 p.m. A Festival of Lessons and Carols,
Student Christmas Lights Tour
7:00 p.m. Advisory Council

Monday, December 17

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

Tuesday, December 18

12:00 p.m. Ruth's Open Door Weaving

Wednesday, December 19

4:45 p.m. NO Fellowship Dinner
5:45 p.m. NO Bible Study & Prayer

Thursday, December 20

8:00 p.m. Men's Basketball

Friday, December 21

Saturday, December 22

NO WEDNESDAY DINNER
December 19, 2018

January Bible Study

Join us at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday nights in January with excellent teaching from Deron Spoo, Phil Dark, Glenn Plum, and Bobby Kelly as they lead us in our study, *The Letters to the Seven Churches - Revelation 1-3*. The apostle John received letters directly from Christ to share with seven real churches that existed in his day. Each of these churches faced their own challenges and were in danger of losing their effectiveness. The messages from Christ to these churches have much to say to churches of today.

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

SUNDAY MORNINGS OF DECEMBER - All five Sundays will follow our regular schedule: 8:30 Worship, 9:40 Bible Study and 10:50 Worship.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS CARD MAILBOX - Help Girls in Action collect money for LMCO by exchanging cards with the church family and putting the "postage" in the mailbox. The box is available in the Commons through January 6. Check each week to see if cards have been left for you.

TULAKOGEE FUNDRAISER - Come out and eat at Smitty's Garage at 71st and Sheridan on Sunday, December 16 from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. 10% of all purchases made during this time frame will be donated to Tulakogee in support of their ongoing camp updates.

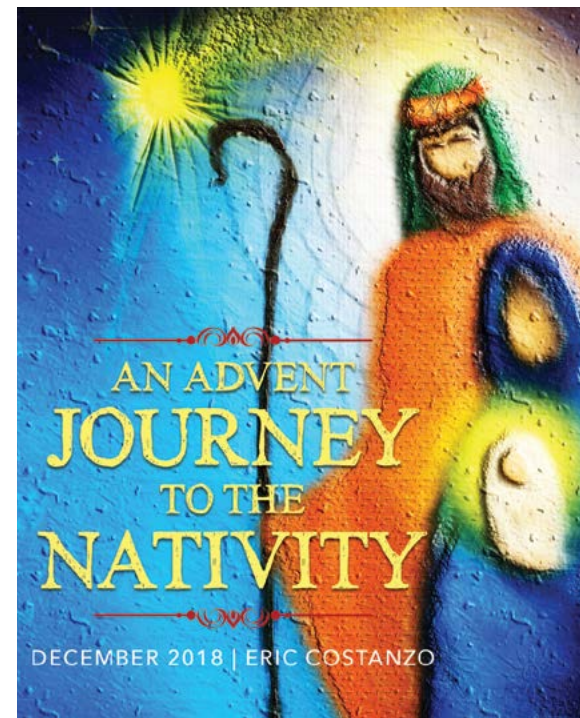
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE WITH THE LORD'S SUPPER - Bring your whole family and celebrate Jesus' birth with us on December 24 at 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS BREAK - Children's Choirs, Student Choir, and Children's Mission groups will not meet on December 19, 26 or January 2. Choirs and Missions will resume on January 9, 2019.

PERSPECTIVES ON THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT - This 15-week discipleship course will meet on Tuesdays beginning January 15, 2019 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Chapel. The first 30 people from South Tulsa who sign up will get a \$50 scholarship! Sign up online at perspectives-tulsa.org. Contact Adam Greer at adambgreer@gmail.com. Scholarships and childcare available.

WATCH CHRISTMAS DINNER THEATER ONLINE - You may view the video of *A Place to Call Home* on our website at southtulsa.org/music-events.

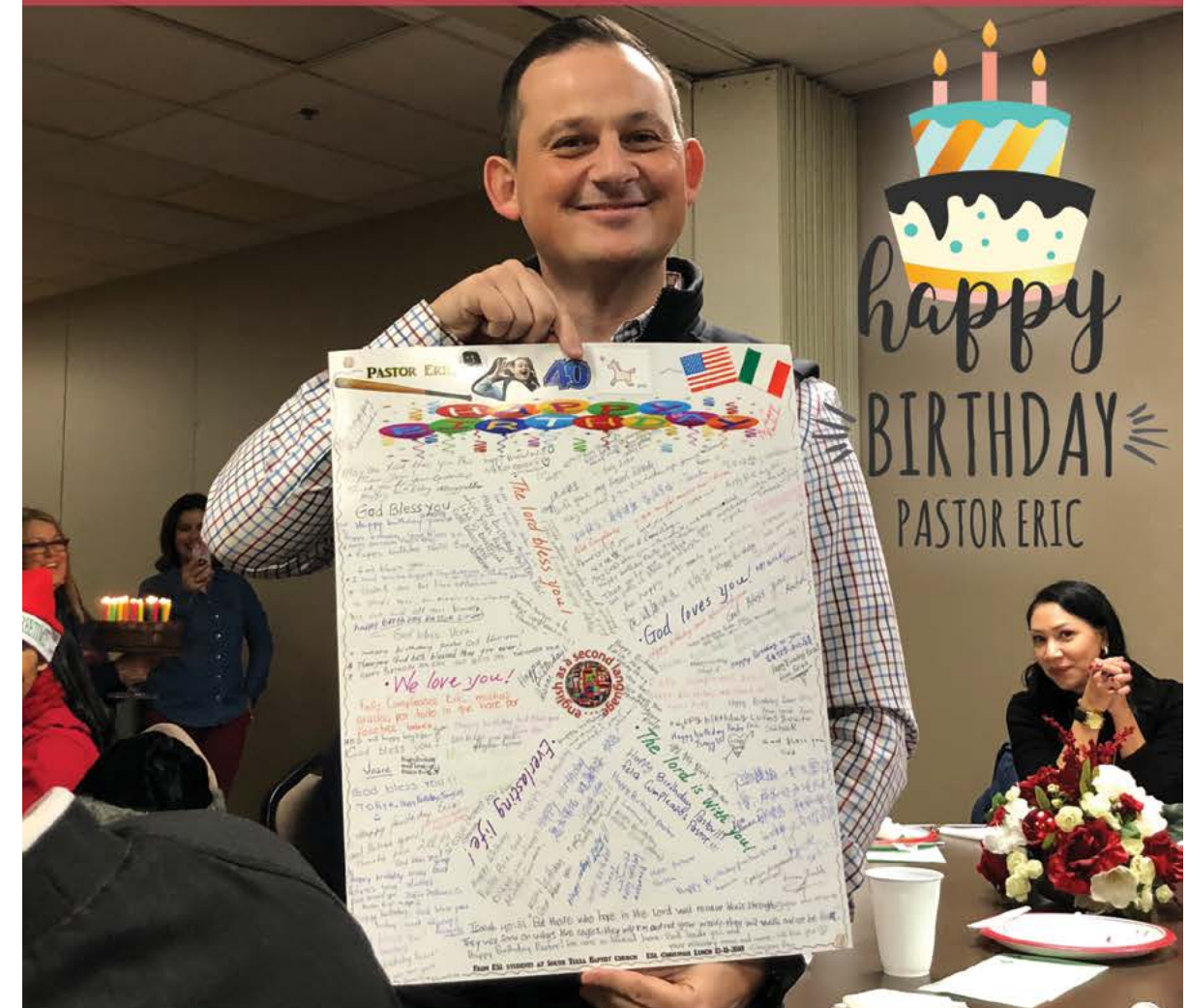
(For more information about upcoming events please go to southtulsa.org)



the channel

12.16.18

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8:30AM Worship

Call to Worship Psalm 98:1-6
Kaelyn Southall
Light of The Stable
Sing to The King
Baptism Sidney Fuller
O Come all Ye Faithful / Joy to the World
Lighting of the Advent Candle Texter Family
Prayer and Welcome Rebecca Lee
Greeting One Another
Scripture Reading Liying Xu,
Claire Zimmerman
Message Jeremiah 23:3-6, Luke 2:1-7
Response O Praise the Name
Good Morning South Tulsa
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Call to Worship Galatians 4:4-7 Laura Dart
Ladies Ensemble Go Tell It
Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come
Lighting of the Advent Candle Sherdis Family
Prayer and Welcome Zack Hudson
Greeting One Another
How Great Our Joy
Good Christian Men, Rejoice
Choral Worship When Love Crossed Over
O Come Let Us Adore Him
Offertory Rise Up, Shepherd
Ladies Handbell Choir
Scripture Reading Liying Xu,
Claire Zimmerman
Message Jeremiah 23:3-6, Luke 2:1-7
Response Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing



Joy

Debbie Steen

On this third week of Advent we focus on JOY. I desire to be filled with a celebration of spirit, gladness and delight. To do this I must make a conscience decision to choose JOY. JOY is not based on how I feel, or my circumstances, but on who God is and all He does. Scripture tell us in Mark 9:24, *“With God all things are possible.”*

Ponder for a moment the conversation between the angel Gabriel and a young virgin girl, Mary.

“Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.”

“How will this be?” Mary asked.

Gabriel patiently explained and Mary chose OBEDIENCE over FEAR.

“I am the Lord’s servant, may it be to me as you have said.”

With Mary’s choice came calm confidence and joy. God was in control of the details and circumstances to bring about His glory.

I came across a quote from Billy Graham. “Joy cannot be pursued. It comes from within. It is a state of being. It does not depend on circumstances, it triumphs over circumstances. It produces a gentleness of spirit and a magnetic personality.”

Don’t you see this gentle personality in Mary? She continues to obey and trust. Her circumstances are certainly not what a young, engaged girl would have dreamed of. Mary finds herself ready to give birth far from home and in a stable full of animals. A choice needs to be made. Can JOY be found in even these strange circumstances? Absolutely! God is in every situation. Joy filled that stable as Mary swaddled Jesus and held him close to her heart.

“GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY!,” the angels proclaimed.

Let us choose to open this gift and allow JOY to flood our life. Let us each share the Good News of Jesus with family, friends and strangers.

Year-End Giving

The Christmas season prompts us to reflect on the Lord’s blessings and to consider opportunities for us to bless others in return. It is our privilege to help our church members maximize the impact of tax-advantaged gifts made to ministries in our community and around the world.

For example, did you know stocks and bonds can be transformed into charitable gifts for ministries? Through our church’s brokerage account, our staff can help you liquidate shares of stocks and bonds and distribute the proceeds to the church. Our church will cover the entire cost associated with these gifts, eliminating commonly associated fees and boosting the overall impact of each gift.

Giving funds is a convenient way to share your generosity. We have six different ways to share your gifts. Please go to the **southtulsa.org/give-now** to discover the many ways to share your gifts with our church’s ministries.

Finally, for our church family 70 ½ or older, our church facilitates tax-free gifts from IRAs (individual retirement accounts). This type of gift is known as an IRA Charitable Rollover. Even if you don’t qualify for an IRA gift, we encourage you to share this information with family that may benefit.

Please contact the church office or cathy@southtulsa.org if you have questions about year-end giving. Let us know if you need wiring instructions for a stock or bond gift, or sample language to provide to your IRA administrator. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

We believe every church—and every church member—has a critical role to play in bringing the gospel to the world. Your participation in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is a key part of that. Because you give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, IMB missionaries can take the gospel to unreached peoples around the world. Every dollar you give makes a difference, because 100% of the money collected goes to the work of reaching every nation. Our goal: \$110,000.

Getting to Know You



New Members of South Tulsa
Welcome to Jim and Linda Sellers who joined the church in October!

Jim grew up in Mississippi and

Linda is from Illinois. They were married in 1970 and moved to Tulsa in 1983. They both retired in 2009. Jim was a Chemical Engineer for Sinclair Oil and Linda was an Executive Assistant at American Airlines.

The Sellers have two children. David has special needs and lives at a group home in Broken Arrow. He comes home every other weekend and joins them at church on those Sundays. Their son, Chris, is a high school science teacher in Belton, Texas. He and his wife, Astrid, have two sons who are the joy of their lives.

Jim and Linda enjoy traveling and spending time in faraway places. They actually lived in South Africa for about a year when they first married. So, they are always looking forward to the next trip!

They are also looking forward to getting to know the people at South Tulsa and finding their place in this wonderful church family.

Sunday Bible Study Leaders/Directors

Adult Sunday Bible Study Leaders/Director, please join Zack Hudson on Thursday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. for a wonderful meal and time to get better acquainted! He has a small book to give you with great reminders of simple things that will help you as you lead your classes. Please let Carolyn (carolyn@southtulsa.org) know if you can make it or not.

Today’s Flowers

Dick and Juanita Doubrava have given today’s beautiful flowers in memory of their son, Ryan who passed 25 years ago on this date, at the age of 18.

Children’s Choir Leadership

Planning Meeting

Sunday, January 6, 12:00-2:00 p.m. Leaders, please bring your families and eat lunch in Fellowship Hall after the 10:50 a.m. worship service. Leaders will move to D268 -269 after lunch for a brief time to receive spring literature. Then all teachers will meet in individual choir rooms to plan for the first day of choir, January 9. Come and find out about the exciting plans for 2019!

“Wild Game” Night Monday, January 7

Men of South Tulsa, come enjoy a great evening as we watch the College Football National Championship, and eat meat (and other good food). Invite your friends and meet in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. Please let us know if you are attending. RSVP online at southtulsa.org/men.

Women’s Bible Study

Psalms 119 by Matt Chandler is a ten week study that will meet on Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. January 9 thru March 13, 2019. Do you feel as if you are facing dark nights of the soul? See how you compare to King David, who experienced similar seasons of his life, wondering, “Where is the Lord in this?” In *Psalms 119*, pastor Matt Chandler aims to introduce viewers to the words of serving and the power of God’s Word in the lives of believers and its ability to provide a warm blanket for the soul. If you are interested in joining us, please email Debby Arnold at darnold@capmgtco.com or call 918-639-5777 so that class material can be provided.

Thank You

A very special thank you to the 92 families and 10 Student classes who went Christmas shopping for 135 children whose moms are currently in the Women In Recovery program. Thank you so much for your generosity. There will be some very happy children on Christmas morning. Shoppers, you were certainly Christmas Angels to these children.

last week

GIVING

Ministry Financial Plan \$1,641,517
Actual MFP Receipts 1,694,317
General Fund 70,183
Capital Reserve (New Day) 355
Lottie Moon to Date 18,062

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Adults 532
Students 82
Children 102
Preschool 77
Unclassified 10
Total 803

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES 242

THE MINISTRY CENTER

Volunteers 25
People Helped 155
Medical Clinic 8
Salvations 2

JENKS CAREPOINT

Volunteers 16
People Helped 171

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE

LIVE Views 5,653
(U.S. 3,711; 13 Retirement Centers with 147; International 1,795)

ON DEMAND Views 5,336
(U.S. 3,557; International 1,779)

NEW MEMBERS

Nina Edwards *by letter*

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric Costanzo, *Pastor*
eric@southtulsa.org

Debbie Steen, *Minister to Families with Preschoolers*
debbie@southtulsa.org

Philip Stephens, *Minister of Music*
philip@southtulsa.org

Mary Ann Stephens, *Music Ministry Associate*
maryann@southtulsa.org

Dave Bender, *Minister of Administration & Media*
dave@southtulsa.org

Karen Pirtle, *Student Ministry Associate*
karen@southtulsa.org

Zack Hudson, *Associate Pastor & Minister to Families*
zack@southtulsa.org

Alice Bones, *Director of The Ministry Center*
alice@ministry-center.org

Matt Wolff, *Minister to Families with Students*
matt@southtulsa.org

Kara Lee, *Director of Jenks CarePoint*
kara@jenksarepoint.org

Rebecca Lee, *Minister to Families with Children*
rebecca@southtulsa.org

Kimberly Hayes, *Creative*
kim@southtulsa.org

ON THE COVER

Pastor Eric’s birthday card from ESL classes