FIRST EDITION

DECEMBER 2021



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Lottie Moon Christmas Offerin

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is an annual offering collected by Southern Baptists to support international missions. The offering was officially named in 1918 by Woman's Missionary Union in honor of the missionary to China who urged churches to start it and give sacrificially. The global need for the gospel is more urgent than ever.

On March 31, 2021, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering surpassed \$5 billion in giving towards international missions. Your generous giving towards the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering helps to send, support, and sustain our missionary force.

The desire is great to see the world transformed by the Gospel and to have the name of Jesus Christ proclaimed in every corner of the earth. We are united for the sake of this cause. Together as Great Commission Baptists, we can bring help and hope to a hurting world. Together we will advance the kingdom of God.

Let's advance God's Kingdom together where 100% of your gifts through our church's offering goes to ministry overseas. To give, visit https://give.imb.org/. You may also give through First Baptist Church. Indicate "Lottie Moon" on your check's memo line or on your giving envelope. When making online donations, select the Lottie Moon Fund. Together we can transform lives.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Musical @ FBC Pleasanton

December 5, 2021, 6:00 pm

Bus will leave FBC Floresville 4:30 pm

Christmas Village in Poteet

December 12, 2021, bus leaving at 5:00 pm

Christmas Caroling

December 19, 4:30 pm

Fellowship after @ Gaertners (please bring a finger food or dessert to 2184 CR 401)

Office Closed: December 24, 2021

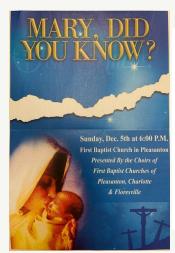
Candlelight Service: December 24, 2021, 5:30 pm

Sunday, December 26, 10:30 worship only (no 8 am)

9:15 am Sunday School

Office Closed: December 27, 2021

Office Closed: December 31, 2021, for New Year's Day





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Surprising, unexpected, challenging; these are thoughts you might have as you read about different ways the Holy Spirit leads people in the book of Acts. One of my fa-

vorite stories about that unexpected leading is when God tells Ananias to pray for Saul (a.k.a. Paul) to regain his sight (Acts 9). This is the same Saul who had been fiercely persecuting Christians.

We are also experiencing an unexpected direction from God. We came to Belize believing we would serve here for many years, but now we understand God's plan for

our time here was shorter. After serving here for six months, we now understand God's direction is for us to begin to relocate our ministry back to the Philippines. We believe God has decisively shown us that although there was a shortterm ministry he wanted us to do in Belize, his long-term plan has been and remains for us to serve in the Philippines. We are grateful for that clarity.

Our conclusion that God's plan is for us to relocate our ministry in the Philippines is an important decision, so we needed to clearly hear from God! We have been seeking God's guidance and striving to move forward slowly, carefully, and

prayerfully in ways that would glorify God and that are good for both our ministry and the ministry here in Belize. We have been working through this decision while following the advice of our pastors from America and our mission agency (CTEN). We are so grateful for the support FBC Floresville has given us!

As we are finishing our ministry at Belize Bible College, God is opening new doors for our ministry. We have been invited to serve at Baptist Bible College of Asia, located in the Philippines. God has used our time in Belize to accomplish several things, but one of the most significant is the assurance that God has called us to continue teaching at a Bible college and that the Bible college ministry is a great way for Sherry and I to disciple young men and women who will be serving God in their communities. We will miss our friends in Belize, but are thrilled that God is opening doors of ministry in the Philippines at Baptist Bible College of Asia.

We will keep you updated as God reveals more details of this transition! More information is available at sudolcan.org/our-vision.

Your Missionaries, Paul and Sherry Sudolcan

the year!

Thank you, Lord, for the beautiful season to give thanks. We give you Women's Ministry thanks for everything. Well, sometimes we are forgetful and slow to give you thanks and all the glory. Help us remember to be thankful in all, especially for getting us to the end of

When we give thanks, it shows our gratitude to God for His faithfulness. Thanksgiving refreshes our soul as we concentrate on HIS goodness and grace. There are so many all over the world with so little, and yet † they are thankful for what they have. We could spend day after day thanking the Lord and really never getting close to the end of the Thankful list. Just look at Psalm 91:14 "because he loves me," says the Lord, . I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name." God has set his love upon Me. God Himself is the speaker and He describes the blessing He gives to those who know and love Him.

Now we come upon a very special time of the year where we should continue to give thanks, not for what we have, but for Jesus Christ coming down to earth in human form and humbling himself. When I meditate on that thought, I cannot even begin to grasp what the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit did for ME! Open my eyes, Lord! Open my ears and open my heart!

Wishing everyone a joyous Christmas Season! Share with someone and pass it on!

Please remember to pray for all those on our prayer list. This is a very busy time of the year. If the LORD I taps on your shoulder to help, purchase, deliver or be HIS hands and feet, please answer HIS call. If you have any Women's Ministry ideas, please share with Sally Gaertner @ 361.290.1068 or Donna Arispe @ 210.560.9642. In HIS Service!

December 2021



SUN		MON	TUE	WI	ED	THU	FRI	SAT
De	ice (mber		1		2 Sr. Adults to Gruene 10 am	3 Parents' Night Out 5:30-8:00	4 8am MEN'S BREAKFAST
5 Musical 6 pm P'ton *Ronald Tipton		6	7	8		Deacons/StaffChristmasDinner 7 pm	10	11
12 ^{Village} _{5 pm Poteet} *Danny Fenner		13	14	15	Business Meeting 6:30 pm	16	17	18
19 Caroling 4:30 pm	10:30 am	20	21	22		23	24 5:30 pm CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE	25
26 *John Long	LIVE 10:30 am	27	28	29		30	31 Office Closed	New Year's Day

Chuck Garza

Craig Wilder

21 21



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24	Birthdays 🧱	11	Clay Respondek	22	Cathy Kotzur
2		12	Susan Eubanks	22	Shine Trabucco
-	Secretary 19	13	Dahlia Sellers	23	Sheila Brieden
		14	Norma Idrach	23	Evie Carter
3	Aaron Garcia	14	Ryan Parker	23	Michael Villarreal
4	Rob Coleman	15	Marty Choate	24	Carlos Garza
4	Claryce Holcombe	15	Cole Harris	24	Judy Murray
4	Stacey O'Leary	15	Chad Rex Reed	25	Buddy Smith
4	Preston Taggs	17	Jean Evelyn Hughes	28	Ron Fischer
5	Jerry Kotzur	17	Karen Sada	28	Ron Tipton
5	Randy Richards	18	Melba Dunn	29	Robert Calmes
5	Doug Watson	19	Gearis Herndon	29	Becky Ledoux
6	Jeanine Livingston	19	Deana Smith	30	Bob Bagley
6	Elliana Woods	19	Peggy Tipton	30	Judy Whitley
7	Drew Clements	20	Lyla Smith	30	Cody Bland
8	Ross Koenig	21	Timothy Davis	31	Pamela Dempsey

Braelyn Burns

Sara Ham

There is a Christmas tree in the foyer that is decorated with angelshaped ornaments listing the names of children who live at the South Texas Children's Home. Pick up a gift tag and purchase one of the suggested gifts. The wrapped gifts should be returned by Sunday, December 12, 2021, so they can be delivered the next morning. Remember to

return the tag along with the gift so we know which child will receive the gift.

Schedule of Events

<u>Sunday</u>

- 8:00—In-person Worship
- 9:15—Bible Study for all
- 10:30—In-person Worship and online worship through Facebook LIVE

<u>Tuesday</u>

- 5:30 Choir practice
- 6:30—Bible Study Fellowship

<u>Wednesday</u>

- 3:30—Team Kids/Choir
- 6:30—Prayer Meeting / Youth Bible Study/

Weekly Activities

- Creative Hands—Quilting Mondays at 10:00 am
- •• Line Exercise Classes Mon, Tues. & Thurs. from 9:30-10:30 am
- * Deacon of the Week

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1115 B Street

Floresville, TX 78114 Phone: 830-216-4946 Fax: 830-393-3613 E-mail: office@fbcf.org

Mike Clements, D.Min, Pastor 830-391-2016

Terry Smith, Worship Pastor 830-391-3362

Matt Keller, Family Pastor 409-656-3089

Penny Smith, Office Manager Denise Kelley, Office Assistant Christie Davis, Family Ministry Assistant Rosa Beltran, Custodian



BECAUSE HE FIRST LOVED



BUILDING **HIStory**

Original Loan Amount: \$ 525,000.00

November Loan Payment: 5,000.00

Current Loan Balance: \$ 64,561.71

"Take from among you an offering to the Lord. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offer-ing to the Lord."

Exodus 35:5a (NKJV)

Condolences go to Celeste Savage who recently lost her mom, Pearl Gorzell, when she passed away October 30, 2021.





For all 7th-12th grade students

Please bring a white elephant gift to share valued at \$5 or less



Wednesday, December 15, 2021 6:30 pm

Business will be presented from the Finance Committee.

Parents, do you crave some time with your spouse and without the kids? Drop them off in God's Playhouse on

Friday, December 3, beginning at 5:30-8:00 pm. This

includes children who are

infants through age 12. If you

are past the time in your life

where your kids are home, con-

sider volunteering a few hours

to allow other parents a break.



Floresville Food Pantry

Suggested Donations for December

Canned foods and vegetables



in and wait for food distribution. A devotional time will be at 9am. Clients are asked to bring their own bags. The Pantry is located on the corner of 4th and A Street and the phone number is 830-321-

The Floresville Food Pantry is partnering with Daily Bread ministry of San Antonio to provide food to the needy of Floresville. The Pantry is now open on Thursdays only. Clients need to arrive at 8am to sign

1151. Volunteers and donations are always appreciated.

BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE	Actual Giving Receipts	Required to Meet Budget
October 2021	\$ 55,454.54	\$ 59,329.67
YTD thru October 2021	\$ 520,504.46	\$ 593,296.70

Contact Pastor Matt if you can help at 409-656-3089.

Online giving is an easy, convenient, and secure alternative to writing a check. Go to the church's web page, www.fbcf.org, or scan the QR code with your smart phone.