



Sharing Love
Because of Christ

SLBC

SOUTH LEXINGTON
BAPTIST CHURCH

VOLUME 23

DECEMBER

ISSUE 12



SLBC Purpose

...to glorify God by making disciples who: **intentionally devote** themselves to their own spiritual growth, **joyfully celebrate** knowing Christ through corporate worship, **faithfully connect** with others for fellowship and accountability, **actively participate** in the ministry of the church and **purposely invest** their own time and resources in order to reach and disciple others in obedience to the great Commission.

Sunday School

(For All Ages) 9 AM

Sunday Worship

10 AM

Family Ministry

6-7:30 PM

Everyone Welcome!



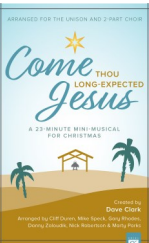
BRUNCH

...for **ALL** Ladies Saturday, Dec.2nd beginning at 10 AM and hosted by our WOM. Come join us for a great time of fellowship and sharing and be blessed by our motivational guest speaker, Sherrie Nettles. *"As friendships among women strengthen, so will the chord of fellowship within the Body of Christ."*



CHRISTMAS
~ Shadow ~
Drama

Children Sing and Youth "Shadow Drama" program is on Sunday Dec.10th. Children ages 3-thru 5th grade and Youth are all invited to take part. Practice is during Family Ministry on Sundays 6-7:30 PM. Also, volunteers needed to help! Come and show your support to our Youth and Children for their hard work and practice.



The Adult Choir will present a Christmas mini-musical, "Come Thou Long-expected Jesus" Sunday, Dec.17th. Look forward to enjoying some favorite carol classics long with some new and familiar songs. Much thanks for all our choir members who have been practicing so diligently and to Ms. Susan and Steven Craps for all their musical leadership. Come, be supportive-be Blessed!

Lexington Christmas Parade-Sunday, Dec.3rd @ 3 PM-SLBC will participate with a float in the Parade. Come and cheer them on!



Join us for our Candlelight service on Wednesday, Dec.20th at 6 PM. Invite friends and neighbors to come to this meaningful, worshipful service. No other service or activities.

O, Come Let Us Adore Him! For He Alone Is Worthy!

Lottie Moon Missions-December 1st-31st SLBC Goal-\$1,200-Please give prayerfully as God leads for Int'l. Missionaries. Reaching the Nations Together. Please use Envelopes provided in chair pockets.



5th Sunday Lord's Supper & Bldg. Loan Special Offering Dec.31st



A big Thanks to everyone who ordered poinsettias decorating our worship areas in Memory/Honor of Loved Ones. Please take yours home by Dec.24th. Also, A Big Shout out to all who helped decorate our Church so welcoming for the Holiday. All of you "behind the scenes" folks are so much appreciated!!



Regular Sunday Worship Dec.3rd;10th,17th, 31st. NO Family Ministry 'till January. Children Youth & Adult Choir Christmas programs Dec.10th & 17th;Candlelight Service, Wed, Dec 20th at 6 PM; Dec.24th-10 AM Worship Service only-No Sunday School. No New Year's Eve Supper.



...AND NEW YEAR BLESSINGS!

Blessings to you and your Family as we remember the "Reason for the Season".



A Word From Pastor Butch... Greetings in the name of Jesus! I have enjoyed Christmas for a long time. It has always been special. When I was a little kid, and thought like a child, I probably enjoyed Christmas for the wrong reasons. As the years have passed, my joy in Christmas has never left, but my reasons for the joy have changed. Way back then, I was excited about what I was going to get. Now, I am excited because of what God has given to me. With growth and maturity, the time came when I began to see who I really was. An honest person can never deny the sin and weakness that is so very much a part of them. When facing that reality, and understanding that there is a Righteous and Holy God in Heaven, it can be alarming. When you understand Biblical truths like, "...it is appointed unto man to die once, and after that comes judgment" (Hebrews 9:27), you know you have a great need in your life. I know sin separates man from God, and that no one can make their way back to God by themselves. The psalmist wrote in Psalm 111, "*He (God) sent redemption to His people...*" That is truly what we celebrate at Christmas, God sending His Son into the world to redeem lost sinners. When Jesus came, the mercy and grace of God that we desperately need, came with Him. It is made available to all who will believe in Him. That is why Christmas is such a special celebration. What gifts I have received and keep receiving from God, mercy, grace, forgiveness, life abundant, life eternal, and yes, the confidence that I can face the judgment of God, and be more than a winner. We Love you! Merry Christmas, *Butch and Susan*



Pick up a box of Offering envelopes from the church office, use sign-up sheet or send me an e-mail at finance@slbchurch.com. You don't have to be a member of the church to use envelopes but using them greatly helps me and improves accuracy in posting. Remember, please don't file your 2023 tax return until you have received your Contribution statement from the Church (around mid-January). For Contributions to be eligible in 2023, we must receive them or be post marked by Dec.31st. Your support is greatly appreciated! *Mr. Jerry-Finance*



WOW! A big ***Thanks!*** to everyone participating in the Shoe Box Ministry. We collected **82** shoeboxes and received **\$550** shipping. Thanks for letting a child experience Jesus' love through a simple shoebox! Marion Steele, Missions Leader.



Appreciation for all your generous food donations this year! December collection will be instant oatmeal and grits and canned goods always welcome! Thank You!



Thank you for the 45 Christmas Packets for Prisoners, SLBC! WOM Ladies



for all the great sides, desserts and help for our Family Thanksgiving meal! It's always so good to get together and fellowship with each other! *Ms Pat Crapps, Fellowship Ministry Leader & Team.*



Your cards, calls, food and prayers meant so very much to me during my recovery. Thank you so very much Church Family for being there for me. God bless you all! *Jerry Ferguson*

A Bldg. Memorial was received in loving memory of Betty Ann Davis by *Bill Davis.*



Thanks for the meals, calls, and cards, your thoughtfulness and kindness meant so much to me and Charles. Love, *Diane Conyers*



Christian sympathy to Family & Friends of Yvonne Spires. God Bless each of you who have lost dear ones this year. Prayers to comfort hurting hearts especially during the holidays.

The REAL meaning of Christmas:



For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:16-17



JESUS IS THE
LIGHT
OF THE
WORLD

ISAIAH 9:2



Christmas Cards

Lottie Moon Post Office

"Mail" Christmas cards to members using the

Church's alphabetical mailbox. Place your cards in the appropriate A-Z for name slot and make a donation to Lottie Moon that you would pay in postage (stamps \$.66). Pick up cards "mailed" to you and help "deliver" others, too! Proceeds go to Lottie Moon's Int'l. Missions SLBC goal of \$1,200. Thank You!

MERRY CHRISTMAS




We have prepared our homes and Church for Christmas, Lord. Now, please help us prepare our hearts. As we celebrate Christmas joy, let us look past the glitter and material gifts to the priceless gift of God's love for us in the Person of Jesus Christ, His Son! Amen.

People will forget what you did or said, but they'll never forget how you made them feel.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Lottie Moon Int'l. Missions Dec. 1-31 "Reaching the Nations Together"-SLBC Goal: \$1,200					1	2 Clyde Simpson Susan Willis WOM Ladies Brunch 10 AM
3 Jeanne Golda Lex Christmas Parade 3 PM	4	5 Savannah Salyer	6 Richard Kneece	7 Arthur Bouye	8 Tim Giles	9
					W. Virginia Trip for Children's Christmas	
10 Children Sing Youth Drama No WOM Meet Deacons Meet 5 PM	11	12 Travis Blume Dennis Pennington	13	14	15	16
17 Choir Mini- Musical AM Fam Ministry Christmas Party 6-7:30PM	18 Beryl Bledsoe	19	20 No other Activities Candlelight Service 6 PM	21 	22	23 Charles Conyers Beverly McCain
24 10 AM Only Jean Felts Frank Stratakos	25 Happy Birthday Jesus! 	26	27 Marilyn Hatfield	28	29 Youth Bowling	30 No New Years Eve Breakfast This Year 
31 5th Sunday Lord's Supper Debt Offering						



*Blessings to you and your Family as we remember the "Reason for the Season".
Pastor Butch & Ms. Susan and Mr. Jerry & Ms. Betty-Church Office*



Our lives are so often chaotic but we hear You best in silence, Lord. Help us to be still and listen to You with quietness of mind; Teach us to be patient and kind to each other Help us to "be still and know you are Lord"; Cleanse and prepare our hearts to celebrate Your birthday and let us not forget that JESUS is the REAL and ONLY Reason For The Season.

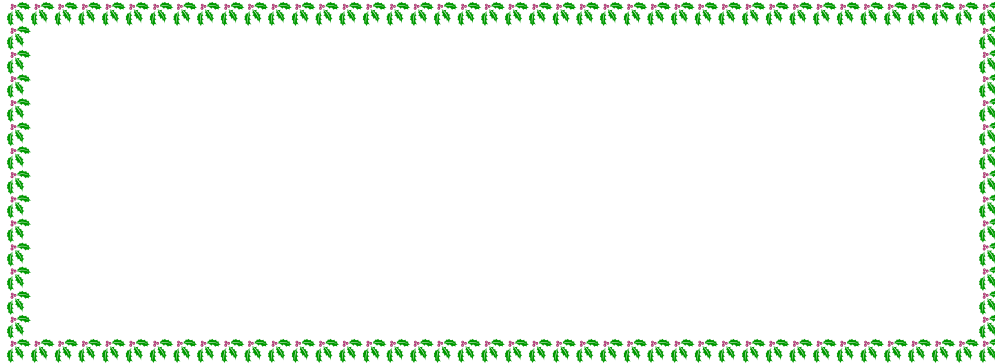
Christmas is a time to be happy!...A time for celebrating and sharing. For God stoops down to be one of us, born as a poor baby so that we can be rich. He does not leave us to get along as best we can. He joins us where we are. God is committed to us. Christmas is proof that God cares. That is why we celebrate and show our care in turn to those who need it. John 3:16...For God so loved the world that **HE GAVE** us His **ONLY** begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but have everlasting life...

God doesn't call the "qualified" He qualifies the called.

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SOUTH LEXINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH

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E-mail Addresses: office@slbchurch.com
Finance: finance@slbchurch.com
 pastor@slbchurch.com;
Website: www.slbchurch.com

Pastor: Robert "Butch" Powell

Deacons: *Primary Deacons for Month of *December

*Jerry Conyers 518-3738 Marty Griner 605-9972

Ron Matthews 312-3036 Don Miller 770-862-9739

*Marion Steele 609-6115

As of Nov. 19th...

YTD-Receipts (47 Wks.)	\$308,904
YTD-Expenditures	\$292,445
YTD-Budget Requirement	\$330,334
YTD-Designated	\$ 81,035



**Budget
Recap**



We have prepared our homes and Church for Christmas, Lord. Now, please help us prepare our hearts. As we celebrate Christmas joy, let's look beyond the glitter and material gifts to the priceless gift of God's love for us in the Person of Jesus Christ, His Son! Amen.

*Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life. ~Corrie Ten Boom "The greatest and most momentous fact which the history of the world records is the fact of Christ's birth." ~Charles H. Spurgeon "You can never truly enjoy Christmas until you can look up into the Father's face and tell Him you have received His Christmas gift." ~John R. Rice "Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful" ~Norman Vincent Peale "Christmas is based on an exchange of gifts, the gift of God to man – His unspeakable gift of His Son, and the gift of man to God – when we present our bodies a living sacrifice." ~Vance Havner "He was created of a mother whom He created. He was carried by hands that He formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy. He, the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute." ~Augustine "Christmas can be celebrated in the school room with pine trees, tinsel, & reindeers, but there must be no mention of the man whose birthday is being celebrated. One wonders how a teacher would answer if a student asked why it was called Christmas." ~Ronald Reagan I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. ~Charles Dickens **Bless us Lord, this Christmas, with quietness of mind; Teach us to be patient and kind.***

Christmas is a time for children no matter what their age; Spirit is the only ticket and heart the only gauge.