



December 2019/January 2020

Florence Baptist Church News

Giving ... so others may know!

**I SAW A GREAT MULTITUDE
FROM EVERY NATION AND ALL
TRIBES... REVELATION 7:9**

Your prayers for the multitudes transform lives.

Your Gifts Transform Lives

Because you and your church give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, International Mission Board 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.

The Story of Lottie Moon

In the 1800s, a missionary named Lottie Moon wrote letters from China urging American churches to fund more overseas workers. After Lottie's death on the mission field, an offering was started in her name. The offering was established to empower international missions efforts for Southern Baptists.

2019 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Jesus says in Matthew 22:37-39, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself" (HCSB). As followers of Christ, we must give our all so people can know the love of Jesus. That's what being totally His requires: pouring ourselves out completely to be His heart, hands and voice — individually, as a church, as Southern Baptists working cooperatively to reach all the nations. We are part of the task to fulfill the Great Commission. And although Southern Baptists have been praying, giving and going for more than 165 years, the task is far from finished.

The national goal is \$165 million.

Our church goal: \$1500

Dates to Remember

December

Dec. 3 - Ladies Outreach Christmas at Amanda's. - 10 a.m.

Dec 7 - Women on Mission will go caroling and deliver cards at Lexington EXT Care - 2:30 pm

Dec. 8 - Hanging of the Greens 4:30 - 6 pm
Men's Ministry - 6 pm

Dec. 11 - Church Council after Bible Study

Dec. 15 - Christmas cards due.
Children's Christmas Program 6 pm followed by finger food fellowship

Dec. 18 - Family Night Supper 6:30 pm followed by Bible Study and Business Meeting

Dec.20-Youth Christmas Party 6 pm

Dec. 22 - Adult Christmas Program 6 pm followed by finger food fellowship

Dec. 23 - Churchwide Christmas Caroling - 6 pm

Dec. 25 - **Merry Christmas!**
No Wednesday night service

January

Jan. 1 - **Happy New Year!**
No Wednesday night service

Jan. 5 - Men's Ministry 6 pm

Jan. 8 - Church council 8 pm

Jan. 15 - Ladies Outreach - 10 am
Family Night Supper 6:30 followed by Bible Study & Business meeting

Jan. 19 - Women on Mission 6 pm

Jan. 26 Dessert & Chili Cook-Off 6pm



Our Christmas Programs as we honor the Christ Child!

The children's Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 15th beginning at 6 pm. Children in grades through 5th will be telling us about ornaments and symbols of Christmas and their meaning. Plan to join us for their program and bring your favorite finger food for the fellowship afterwards.

The adult Christmas program titled "While Angels Watched" will be presented on December 22 at 6 pm. *Heavenly angels are in awe as they watch the nativity unfold. At appropriate times in the story, a narrator reads scripture and well-known hymns are sung.* Plan to

join us for this meaningful and joyous celebration of the Christmas story. The program will be followed by a finger food fellowship in the Family Life Center.



Women on Mission to go to Lexington Extended Care

The Women on Mission group will visit Lexington Extended Care on Saturday, December 7. We will meet at the church at 1:45 and arrive at the facility by 2:30 to share Christmas cards, songs, and other blessings. See Lynette Sharpe with any questions.

Deacon's Ministry

"Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business." Acts 6:3

Deacon Ministry Assignments: The Deacons have divided their Deacon assignments according to Sunday School classes. The Deacons plan to work as a team to minister to all church members as needs arise.

The assignments are

Senior Adults

Elton Dunbar 803 532-7938

Chris Lybarker 803 513-7348

Walking in the Word

Silas Pennington 803 608-7902

Barry Fogle 803 292-6207

Women of Faith

Chris Smith 803 542-2092

Life Connections

Shawn Wade 803 550-7266

College & Career

Chris Lybarker 803 513-7348

Youth & Children

Justin Shumpert 803 730-5934

News from

Ladies Outreach*By Phyllis Edgell*

The Ladies Outreach met on November 21st and would like to thank all of those who filled a box for Samaritan's Purse. We filled 56 boxes, so 56 children will have a gift this Christmas because you cared!

We will be going to Amanda Bannister's house on Tuesday, December 3rd for our Christmas luncheon. We will leave the church at 10 a.m.

We will be working on our Mother's Day Banquet after the first of the year, so let me know if you have any suggestions.

**Notes from Music Department**

by Russ Stansell

A good many years ago, a group of us visited the former JB Guest Home, once open as an assisted living facility near Pelion. We went to sing Christmas carols for the folks who lived there. As we sang, the residents and staff listened politely. However, one elderly lady, whom I was told later seldom spoke, was mouthing the words to "Silent Night" in perfect time with us. I will always remember how it appeared that the song must have transported her back to another time in her life. It demonstrated the unique power of certain songs to help us remember the great feelings and emotions from the past. As always, when you seek to minister to others, you will receive the greater blessing!

This year we will visit our home-bound members and others on Monday, Dec. 23rd, leaving the church around 6:30 pm. We try to visit each person for about 10-15 minutes and sing for them. Anyone who wishes is more than welcome to join us as we go caroling. You don't have to be in the choir. Please come with us and hopefully share the love of Jesus as we celebrate His birth. You will be blessed!!

**Poinsettias for Christmas**

We will be decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias again this year. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer if you want to place a poinsettia in honor, celebration, or memory of a loved one. Poinsettias are \$6 each and **the deadline to sign up is this Sunday, December 1st.** See Carri Lybarker with any questions.

Christmas Card Exchange

An activity that helps us meet our Lottie Moon offering goal is a **Christmas card exchange**. Most church families enjoy exchanging cards, and the amount that would have been spent on postage is put into the Lottie Moon offering. A list is available in the foyer for those who want to participate. The list contains special guidelines that will help facilitate the project. **Cards are due no later than Sunday, December 15.** They will be sorted and ready to distribute on Sunday, December 22.

Community Safety Concern:

We have a feral cat problem in the neighborhood. Please call Pawmetto Lifeline at 803 465-9150 if you have stray cats in your yard that have not been ear tipped. (One ear is tipped when a cat has been spayed/neutered.) If a cat owner does not have their pets spayed/neutered, it WILL become a neighborhood problem. Feral cats have an average of 1.4 litters per year, with an average 3.5 live births in each litter. A pair of breeding cats and their offspring can produce 420,000 kittens over a seven-year period.

FLORENCE BAPTIST CHURCH

1720 Windy Wood Rd.
Pelion, SC 29123

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
P-A-I-D
PERMIT No. 5
LEXINGTON, SC

Church Office: 803-894-3773

Call or text Peggy Williamson at 803 260-5624 to be added to our mailing list.

We're on the web: www.Fbcpelion.com

Dessert & Chili Cook-off - January 26th

We will have a time of fun and fellowship on Sunday, January 26th at 6 p.m. when we will have this year's Dessert & Chili Cook-off. The ladies will cook the chili and the men will make the desserts. We will all enjoy tasting the entries as the judges select the winners. Time to hunt for that favorite recipe so we will give the judges a difficult task!

Here are some of the past winners:

