

From Our Pastor

One of the greatest sounds that God has blessed us with here at Hollywood is the cry of new born babies. A few weeks ago we had at least 17 in both of our nurseries. We have prayed much for God to give us babies that we might be able to impact their lives with the gospel of Christ. The Lord has answered that prayer in a mighty way.

Along with having those babies comes the responsibility of loving them, providing for them and guiding them through life. Thank God for Moms and Dads that are willing to step up and take on that responsibility of raising those little ones in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. What an awesome job that is.

In light of that, have you ever stopped to think about what Mary went through? Can you imagine being the mother of Jesus? Do you ever wonder what Mary faced in knowing that she was being used of God to deliver into this world the Son of God?

First of all, look at the enormity of her sacrifice. What did Mary sacrifice in order for God to use her body as a birthing channel for baby Jesus? She was willing to sacrifice her reputation. The Bible uses the word espoused, in Matthew 1, to describe her relationship to Joseph. To be espoused to another person is making reference to somewhat of an engagement period. Here they are in this stage of their relationship and Mary ends up pregnant. Seriously? What was the talk of the town?

She was not only willing to sacrifice her reputation but she was willing to sacrifice her relationship. What about Joseph's commitment to her? He knew that this could not be his baby. Was he willing to stand by her through this period of humiliation? Was he willing to face all the talk, gossip, and public humiliation? Was he going to stay with her and support her through this ordeal? Would he be faithful to her and take care of her as if this baby was his own?

Secondly, there is the ecstasy of her submission. After Jesus was born, the scripture says that Mary pondered different stages of Jesus life in her heart. There were most definitely times in Mary's life, as she watched Jesus grow up, that she was humbled and overwhelmed with joy to think that God would grant her the privilege of being the mother to the Son of God, the Messiah, the Savior for all mankind.

Thirdly, there is the extremity of her sorrow. From the heights of joy to the depths of despair is what Mary faced as the mother of Jesus. Her connection to Jesus put her in positions of total humiliation at times. What could she do? How could she defend her son? The religious crowd knew that she was His mother, yet they continued to tear Him to shreds publically. Total mutilation is what He faced at the hands of sinful men. They would not be satisfied until He was dead, and they accomplished what they set out to do. Now her son was dead and her heart was ripped to pieces.

Have you ever stopped to think of what Mary's response to the situation was? What did she really feel in her heart? Was she tempted to be bitter at God for everything Jesus faced? Would she say in her heart, "This is more than what I bargained for?" We have no written record of those feelings, but I am thankful for the end of the story that we know according to the Word of God. Even though she went through such an horrendous time following every step of her sons life, in the end there was jubilation because of the great victory that God wrought in proving that there is victory over death. Three days in a borrowed tomb and "up from the grave He arose as a mighty victor o'er His foes." I cannot imagine the emotional roller coaster this dear woman experienced as the mother of Christ, but thank God for the joy that came to her heart when she heard those words, "He is alive."

Thank God for Mary's willingness to persevere and stay true to the promise that God had given to her. May we embrace that same challenge to persevere and stay true to God's calling and the mission that He has put before us during this Christmas season. Remember it is ALL because of Him. HE IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Bro. Terry

December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 am Prayer Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 4:00 pm Youth Council Meeting 5:45 pm Joy on the Ark/Escalate 6:00 pm Bible Study 7:15 pm Church Council	3 6 pm <i>Ladies' Cookie Exchange @ Mary Moon Moore's Home</i>	4	5 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting/ Youth Prayer & Missions/ JAM 7:45 pm Choir Practice	6	7	8 OCC Packing Center Trip
9 9:00 am Prayer Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:45 pm Joy on the Ark/Escalate 6:00 pm Bible Study	10	11 6 pm <i>Wish</i>	12 6:30 pm Christmas Caroling/JAM 7:45 pm Choir Practice	13	14	15 Youth Progressive Dinner 5 pm
16 9:00 am Prayer Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service 5:00 pm Christmas Fellowship Meal	17 6 pm <i>Food Packing</i>	18	19 5:30 pm Pizza Supper 6:45 pm End of Year Business Meeting/ Youth Prayer & Missions/ JAM 7:45 pm Choir Practice	20	21	22
23 9:00 am Prayer Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service NO PM Service	24 6 pm <i>Candlelight Communion</i>	25	26 6:45 pm Prayer Meeting/ Youth Prayer & Missions/ JAM 7:45 pm Choir Practice	27	28	29
30 9:00 am Prayer Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service NO PM Service	31					



Children's Church Workers

December 2	Carie Lloyd and Madilyn Moss
December 9	Karen Carlsen and Megan Blair
December 16	Lori and Caroline Doss
December 23	Randy and Cassie Gatewood
December 30	Darren and Paige Conner

December Birthdays

1	Brenda Collins
5	Cam Moore
6	Sierra McDaniel
8	Logan Mills
9	Cindy Brock
9	Michael Bryant
10	Tim Hayes
10	Tiffany Smith Moore
11	Pat Hensley
14	Sonja Gregory
14	David Matherly
14	Dale McFaddin
17	Lillian Paciello
19	Sydney Scarce
19	James Lumpkins, Jr.
21	Samantha L. Hedrick
21	Michelle Paciello
21	Tara St. John Harper
23	Dawn Aaron
24	Cathy Moore
24	Hailey Moore
25	Traci Nuckols
28	Will Nuckols
30	Adam Burgess
30	Makayla Lewis

Nursery for November

Sun Dec 2, 2018

10:45 am – 12:15 pm (Infant) Paige Conner, Jessica Waller, Devin Motley
(Toddler) Mary and Madilyn Moss, Lynita Falls
5:45 pm – 7:00 pm James and Sylvia Lumpkins

Wed Dec 5, 2018

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm Roger and Emma Walden

Sun Dec 9, 2018

10:45 am – 12:15 pm (Infant) Becky Roberts, Mandi Dolan, Faye Shropshire
(Toddler) Wendy and Karle Byrd, Sabrina Moore
5:45 pm – 7:00 pm Donnie and Peggy Moore

Wed Dec 12, 2018

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm Linette Nuckols

Sun Dec 16, 2018

10:45 am – 12:15 pm (Infant) Stephanie and Sara Weiss, Cheryl Waller
(Toddler) Lori and Caroline Doss, Elizabeth Reynolds

Wed Dec 19, 2018

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm Donnie and Peggy Moore

Sun Dec 23, 2018

10:45 am – 12:15 pm (Infant) Drake Easley, Cheryelle Easley, Heather Bray
(Toddler) Donnie and Peggy Moore, Chuck Easley

Wed Dec 26, 2018

6:30 pm – 7:45 pm James and Sylvia Lumpkins

Sun Dec 30, 2018

10:45 am – 12:15 pm (Infant) Randy and Cassie Gatewood, Linette Nuckols
(Toddler) Sylvia and James Lumpkins, Shelly Lewis

Greeters

December 2, 2018 Bonnie Ragsdale, Chuck Easley, Helen Moschler, Faye Shropshire
December 9, 2018 Melody Collins, Julie Ragsdale, Lynita Falls, Jetty Burgess
December 16, 2018 Shirley Fisher, Faye Shropshire, Melody Collins, Paige Conner
December 23, 2018 Judy Reynolds, Joan Nuckols, Christina Falls, Dorothy Fowlkes
December 30, 2018 Julie Ragsdale, Jetty Burgess, Deborah Reynolds, Mary Moss

Deacon of the Week(*)/Usher

December 2, 2018 Karle Byrd, Adam Lumpkins, William Tosh, Drake Easley
December 9, 2018 Chris Falls*, Larry Weiss, Chuck Easley, James Lumpkins
December 16, 2018 Donnie Moore*, Chris Falls, Randy Gatewood, David Burgess
December 23, 2018 Adam Burgess*, Terry Moore, Dale McFaddin, Hale Crider
December 30, 2018 Bobby Mullins*, Jared St. John, Bryan Lewis, Gary Matherly

2018 Lottie Moon Offering

BECAUSE YOU GAVE

- 1.75 million people heard a gospel witness
- 275,000 became new believers
- 14,000 new churches and 4,000 new groups were formed
- 21,000 leaders were trained to start new churches
- 444,263 nationals met in on-going Bible studies

Statistics taken from the 2014 Annual Statistical Report available at imb.org.

The Mission of the Manger



As a church, you have set a pledge goal of \$19,691.00, for the 2018 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. As of October 28, 2018, the church has collected **\$13,492.00.**



2018 Lottie Moon Goal
\$19,691.00



In times like these it's easy to become ambivalent to world missions. The evening news tells us that the same people who want asylum in our country are burning our flag, and that missionaries to foreign lands are being killed. Closer to home we have friends and neighbors who have suffered from unspeakable losses with hurricanes, floods, and wild fires. Christmas is coming, and it's been a lean year for many. All these things can make it hard to cheerfully give to help those a world away, whom we'll probably never meet.

This is not a new problem. More than a century ago, when Lottie Moon began her work in China the people were unwelcoming. She was feared, mistrusted, isolated, and rejected. Locals warned their children not to eat the cookies she baked, and didn't want to hear anything that she had to say. It would have been so much easier for her to have returned home to a life of ease and comfort here in Virginia.

Instead she persevered. Though she did not live to see it the seeds that she planted and the missions offering she inspired have helped lead countless souls to Christ. The church in China is now one of the fastest growing in the world. The Lord rewarded the faithfulness of those missionaries who worked in an unwelcoming land. Those who stayed the course when it would have been so much easier for them to say, 'they don't want us here, why bother'.

We ask that you join us in a week of prayer for the missionaries on the field who are supported by the Lottie Moon Christmas offering from December 2-9. You will find a prayer guide in your bulletin on December 2. In the coming weeks we also ask that you consider what you can do to help support world missions and complete the Lottie Moon 2019 pledge card found in your bulletin.





It's been a big year for shoeboxes here at Hollywood. We held our second packing party and packed more than 140 shoeboxes! We also had our first Shoebox Challenge for our children and youth. As a church we packed 221 that have been sent to Angola, Benin, Peru, Dominican Republic, Burundi, Rwanda, and Togo. We still have some boxes that have yet to be processed, so we will update you next month with an updated total number of boxes and any additional countries that our boxes have been shipped to.

On Saturday, December 8, we will be taking a trip to the Operation Christmas Child processing center in Boone, NC. There are still spots available for this trip, so if you are interested please sign up on the information board or see Julie. The deadline to sign up is December 5.



Our two youngest volunteers who helped transport boxes to Open Bible Baptist church so that they could be delivered to the processing center!

We collected 221 shoeboxes!

Many thanks our children and youth who participated in our Shoebox Challenge!

Mary Bella Easley	Christina Falls	Matthew Falls	Katelyn Gatewood	Mason Lankford
Cole Lewis	Makalya Lewis	Lilly Lloyd	Sammy Lloyd	Little Lambs
Holden Mills	Aiden Mullins	Damon Mullins	Lathan Mullins	Faith Tosh

We'll be back with more shoebox updates in 2019. Thank you for helping spread the Gospel to these precious children!



Daughters of Hope will be sponsoring our annual Cookie Exchange at the home of Mary Moon Moore, located at 245 N. Flint Hill Road, Chatham, on Monday, December 3 at 6 pm. Come and join us this year for a great time of fun and fellowship. Bring your favorite Christmas cookie to share. Please bring a container to take cookies home in. This year we will also be sharing some of the goodies with our local first responders. We look forward to seeing you there!



On December 12 we will be meeting at the church at 6:30 pm to go Christmas caroling. We will be visiting shut ins and other members of our community to share the joy of the Christmas season through song. Everyone is welcome to join us, talent is appreciated, but not required, all you need is a joyful heart!

We'll be singing familiar Christmas classics (so there is no need to fear that you won't know the words). After the singing is done, there will be special treats waiting. So, don your favorite festive apparel and come make a joyful noise!



Join us and this could be YOU!



As we are enjoying the Christmas season, it is often easy for us to forget that there are members of our community who are struggling. While this year has been prosperous for many, a good number of our neighbors are still struggling.



Join us as we help pack boxes of food at our local food bank to help brighten the Christmases of families who would otherwise face hunger. We will be packing boxes at the Pittsylvania County Food Distribution Center at 402 Chaney Lane, in Gretna at 6:00 pm on December 17. For those who do not wish to drive the church bus will be leaving for the food center at 5:30 pm.



Join us for a Christmas Fellowship Dinner on December 16, at 5 pm. The church will be supplying drinks and paper products. Bring your favorite dish to share, and enjoy a time of food and fellowship with your church family!



We will be having our Year End Business Meeting on December 19, at 6:45 pm. We need at least 30 members present to vote on our budget for 2019. A pizza supper will be served before the meeting starting at 5:45 pm. Come join us for a time of food and fellowship, then stay as we discuss this important business!



On December 24 at 6 pm we will be holding a Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service. This service will feature both a celebration of Jesus' birth, and a remembrance of the great sacrifice He made on our behalf. Join us for this special time of the remembrance of the greatest gift that the world has ever received. Our Benevolent Fund offering will be collected after our morning worship service on December 30.



Daughters of Hope Ladies Ministry

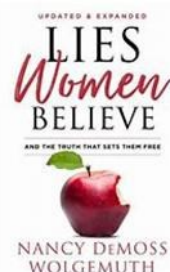
We invite ALL ladies ages 18 and over to join us at the following events:



MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018 at 6:00 pm

Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange at the home of Mary Moon Moore

Bring 3 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies to swap & share. We will also be sharing with local first responders.



JANUARY 2019 : Ladies Bible Study is returning!

We will be meeting on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm. More details and starting date will be announced soon.



THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019 at 6:00 pm

Paint Night in the Multipurpose Room of new building

Join us for a fun night beginning with a dinner of Chili beans & Corn Bread followed by a guided painting session. Each participant will have a finished canvas to take home & enjoy. There will be a small charge to offset cost of supplies. Please let us know if you need child-care to be provided.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS & **MAKE PLANS NOW** TO JOIN US IN THESE TWO OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH!

Ladies Prayer Advance— March 21-23, 2019 in Roanoke, VA

Living Proof Live with Beth Moore—April 12-13, 2019 in Roanoke, VA

Registration & tickets available online



The Home Builders Class invites YOU to join us!

When: December 9, 2018 at 10:00 am

Where: Last classroom on right past the Nursery

What: Two New Studies...One for the Men & One for the Ladies

OVERFLOW



We are hardwired by God for purpose—to offer ourselves to the people in our lives. What are you offering?



A woman fully alive, bearing witness to the grace & mercy of God in her life is a power this world seldom sees. Bring your gift—It's what you were made to do.

Eddie Wadsworth

HOW TO BE A MAN

Pursuing Christ-Centered Masculinity



The man God has called you to be:

- *Knows his identity & purpose
- *Says what he means & means what he says
- *Sacrifices for the good of others
- *Wholeheartedly invests himself in life
- *Uses his influence to make the world a better place

How do you become a man? By living like JESUS.

Join us as we get to know Jesus more in 2019.

“...I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven & on earth... that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit...your roots will grow down into God’s love...then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life & power that comes from God.” Ephesians 3: 14-19

From Our Associate Pastor of Youth and Music

Dog and Pony Show. 90 Mile-an-Hour Fluff-and-Stuff. Dressing Up the Pig. Making a Silk Purse out of a Sow's Ear. Whatever you call it, the process and the result are the same. We invest loads of time in making something look like it never looks to impress someone who either doesn't care or is smart enough to know that if they weren't there it wouldn't look like that.

Being a military man, I am very familiar with this process. I have many times spent hours preparing areas in anticipation of the arrival of some high-ranking individual, areas that our distinguished visitor didn't even get around to seeing. Did the improvements need to happen? Sure. Would they have happened if said Muckity-Muck had not been inbound? Perhaps, but certainly not with the sense of urgency that accompanied them. Did they stay that way? Oh, most decidedly not. And the process gets repeated each and every time someone whose favor we desire to curry makes plans to grace us with their presence.

During one such event, while I was blustering away about the futility of it all, God gave me a thought. We do this all the time. In every area of our lives. We invest hours and dollars and nerve endings and sanity in impressing, or more often deceiving, those with whom we should be most comfortable being honestly ourselves. Let me demonstrate.

What does the process look like when someone is coming over to our house? Much like what I have seen in preparation for the Brass. Everything must be cleaner than it has ever been. All our possessions must be in their proper place. Those embarrassing items must find a place to hide. And heaven forbid it's the in-laws who are inbound. That level of preparation makes an impending visit from the Health Inspector look light-weight.

What would it look like if we just let them see us as we live? How would it be if, upon visiting someone's home, I had to tiptoe through the Legos to get to the sofa, slide the pile of books off on to the floor to sit down, raise my backside to get the PS3 controller that is stabbing me in the spine out from behind the cushion, and move the 3 almost empty cups back from the edge of the end table to set down the sippy-cup-with-no-lid drink that my host or hostess just offered me? I would like to think that I would feel like I was at home, that I would feel validation in knowing that we are not the only ones!

So instead, let's just meet out somewhere so we don't have to deal with all the pressure. That should be much less stressful, right? Sure, except now I have to pop, pluck, cover, trim, paint, plaster, spray, and smooth every part of me to be presentable. I have to remove hair from places it shouldn't be, manipulate hair to cover up places where it should be, pick out just the wardrobe...you get the idea. So what if I got up in the morning, covered what was necessary to cover with whatever was available, and rolled out of the house? I would imagine the hordes of animals and small children that would flee from my presence is an indication of how ridiculous that idea is.

A strong argument can be made for the necessity of tidying up the house for visitors or spending a little time on the old bod when you are meeting someone out. It shows a sense of respect and courtesy that is necessary in civilized society. But there is one area in particular where our deceptive machinations do much more harm than good.

When was the last time we came in to the presence of our brothers and sisters in Christ displaying our true spiritual house or countenance? Because, you see, we exhibit the same false decor amongst the Brethren as we do everywhere else. We dress up our appearance with a smile even though inside the coat closet of our mind we have crammed all the pain and disappointment that masked us throughout the week. We hide the physical tiredness from carrying the burdens of life under the slip-covers of a freshly pressed outfit. We sing the songs and pray the prayers and say to everyone "Oh, I am wonderful; how are you?" And all the while we feel like a rotten tomato inside the pristine rind of a fresh watermelon.

And so again I wonder, what would happen if we allowed our brothers and sisters to see the wreck of a house and flawed physique of our spirit? What if we set aside the fake smile and shared our burdens with someone who really cares? What if we laid aside the veil and allowed our fellow believers to see the turmoil and loads that we carried throughout the week? What if, when someone asked how we were, we said, "Hurting; that temptation to (fill in the blank) really got the best of me this week."

Galatians 6:2(ESV) says to "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV) tell us "encourage one another and build one another up." And then there's Proverbs 12:25(ESV), which says "Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good work makes him glad."

But there's a catch...we must share our burdens. We must show our broken foundation so that others can help with the building. We must confess our anxiety. Will everyone be willing to step in and help? Not likely. But we can't expect the real helpers to really help unless we really show what really needs help.

In Christ Alone,

Hal



Youth Update

**YOUTH
COUNCIL**

Youth Council will meet on December 2 at 4:00 pm.



On December 15, at 5:00 pm we will be having a progressive dinner. If you have any questions, please see Hal.

**Winterfest
LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**

On December 30-31 we will be heading to Winterfest, the East Coast's biggest New Year's Eve Music Festival for Christian Artists. There are still tickets available for this trip. If you are interested in joining us, please see Hal for more details.

HOLLYWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

6405 Callands Road

Chatham, VA 24531



Events in January

January 20

Baby Shower for Transitions (Formerly Little Life)

January 24-26

Men's Prayer Advance

January 31

Ladies' Paint Night