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Building Relationships with Christ, One Another, and the World

December 8 1 Peter 1-2, Psalm 33
December 9 1 Peter 3-5, Psalm 34
December 10 2 Peter 1-3, Psalm 35
December 11 1 John 1-2, Psalm 36
December 12 1 John 3-5, Psalm 37
December 13 2 & 3 John 1, 1, Psalm 38
December 14 Jude 1, Psalm 39



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS December 8
Carol Hailey, Lyn Hailey
Jamie Smith, Sharon Johnson



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX UPDATE
 Our church family filled 171 shoeboxes!
 Thank you so much for your generosity!



Building Relationships with Christ, One Another, and the World

Volume 65

December 8, 2024

Number 47

Coming Up!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

Deacon's Meeting 8:00 AM
 Sunday School (Growth Groups) 10:00 AM
 HOPE IS BORN— a Multigenerational Worship Experience at 10:00 AM
 Quarterly Business Session 5:00 PM

PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 Present proposed budget to deacons at the monthly deacon's meeting.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 Present proposed budget to church at QUARTERLY BUSINESS SESSION at 5:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Vote on proposed budget at the end of service without discussion.

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY Adult Exercise at 8:30 AM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

- Brunch and Bible Study at 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

- Men's Bible Study at Dr. Britt McCarty's office at 5:30 AM
 - Family Night Supper at 5:00 PM
 MENU: Fettuccine Alfredo with Chicken Strips, French Bread, Salad, Dessert CHILDREN'S MENU: Chicken Nuggets and Hot Dogs
 - Kidz WOW Large Group in the Choir Suite at 5:30 PM
 - Kidz Bible Study at 6:00 PM
 - Youth Prayer Meeting
 - Wednesday Night Bible Study and Small Groups at 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 Youth Christmas Party at 4:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18 Churchwide Fellowship at 5:00 PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 PM

FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR...

Have you ever been in a cave and experienced what darkness feels like? In all cave tours, the guide generally takes the group to a spot where the lights can be turned off, and the guides turns his or her flashlight off. It is pitch black. You can't even see your hand in front of your face. One professional cave mapper and rescuer recounts a story of what happened to a young boy he was involved in helping find. He said the boy went into a cave alone with only one light, and it quit working. The boy wandered around in the darkness, hitting his head on rocks until he was so frightened that he wet himself. He sat down on a rock and was there for twenty-four hours before he was found. They found him within a hundred yards of the entrance.

Caves are dangerous because of the darkness. But what happens when light invades that dark cavernous space? Light brings hope.

When I think of this type of darkness and the hope that light can bring, I think about Isaiah's prophecy about the coming Messiah and the hope he will bring. In Isaiah 9:2, 6 the prophet writes, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; a light has dawned on those living in the land of darkness...For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given..."

Since the Garden of Eden, humanity has experienced the frightening despair of darkness, but God sent us His Son, the light of the world, to not only bring the curse of sin to an end, but to bring us hope. If you feel you are in a spiritual cave, look for the light of Christ. He brings hope. He brings healing. He brings joy. To help you see the light of Christ more clearly, our choir is presenting *Hope is Born* this Sunday at 10:00 AM. I "hope" you will be here and that you will find it a blessing as we point one another to our everlasting hope who is Jesus Christ.

**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH MEMORIALS/HONOR
IN MEMORY OF JACK WILLIAMS BY:**

Ben, Kelly, Wade and James Wilkerson
Sylvia Gambill Sunday School Class

Designated to Deacon Benevolence by Margaret Remy
Designated to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by
Mr. & Mrs. Elliott Fleming

IN HONOR OF TOM CLAYTON:

Designated to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by the
Tom Clayton Sunday School Class

THANK YOU NOTES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM:

...Ike Ethridge.
...Jack and Sondra Medlin

COMING UP!

DECEMBER 5—Senior Adult Christmas Banquet at 6:00 PM

DECEMBER 8—Deacon's Meeting at 8:00 AM

HOPE IS BORN— a Multigenerational Worship Experience at 10:00 AM
Quarterly Business Session at 5:00 PM

DECEMBER 15—Vote on Proposed Budget in the Morning Worship Service
Youth Christmas Party

DECEMBER 18—Churchwide Fellowship at 5:00 PM

DECEMBER 25—Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 PM

Hope Is Born

**A Multigenerational Worship Experience
Sunday, December 8, 2024**

10:00 AM



OUR GOAL—\$50,000 GIVEN TO DATE—\$1,729.00



The 60 poinsettias in the Sanctuary **December 8-22** are in memory or honor of loved ones given by family and friends of Highland Baptist Church.

Please pick up a booklet in the foyer that includes the

complete list. Poinsettias should be picked up following the morning worship service on December 22. Any remaining poinsettias will be given out following the Christmas Eve Service.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT NOVEMBER 24/DECEMBER 1, 2024

Giving to budget to date	969,279.14	SUNDAY SCHOOL	276/232
Giving to budget (11/18-12/1)	33,034.78	WORSHIP	366/265