

Heartland Baptist Church



Alex Melton, Senior Pastor

"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'" Revelation 7:9-10

Can you imagine seeing what John saw? It would just blow my mind to see people from all across the world worshiping the Lord together in their own languages. It is not just a vision though. What John saw is a promise of what is to come when Christ returns and all who have trusted in Him will gather around the throne to worship the Lamb.

So, what stands between us now and that vision realized? As Paul Chitwood, the President of the IMB, says, "The world's greatest problem...LOSTNESS!" There are many problems facing our world because of sin, but the greatest is lostness. The world's population is estimated to have passed 8 billion people and 40% of them live in areas with little to no access to the Gospel. Our response is a commitment to the Great Commission to make the Gospel known among our neighbors and the nations until the Great Multitude gathers around the throne.

One way you can be a part of that is to be radically generous above and beyond your tithes and offerings by giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for the International Mission Board (IMB). 100% of gifts given to this special offering go to support missionaries on the field like our partners in South Asia. Your gifts allow them to stay on the field, and not have to worry about if support will come in or need to come home to raise support.

Our goal as a church is \$3300, a 10% increase of our goal last year. Through December and January, we will be called to pray for our missionaries and the nations in a variety of ways. One way will be flags of different nations on the stage. Each Sunday, children will bring in a flag representing \$110 given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering until we hit the goal of \$3300. After they bring the flags in, we will spend time as a church praying for one of the regions that the IMB is working. This Christmas, as you celebrate the coming of Christ as Savior, remember to pray for the billions who have not heard that joyous news and consider how you can give sacrificially so that more can go to the nations with the Good News of Christ.

Logan Staley, Pastor of Worship & Students

"Your literal neighbor, literally needs Jesus". This is what I heard in one of the breakout sessions at the annual IBSA convention. This phrase has stuck with me and caused me to think about my literal neighbors – yes, those that live right beside me. Do I know their names? Do I know their likes, dislikes, and needs? Do I know what they believe about Jesus? Do I know them? You may be familiar with the story of the good Samaritan where there is a man who was essentially left for dead by robbers and the religious people passed by while a Samaritan stopped to help him. This is what Jesus has called us to do for our literal neighbors. If we try to redefine neighbors broadly to include everyone on the face of the earth, we will miss the neighbors that God has placed right in front of us. God has placed us in specific places to reach people in the areas where we work, play, and live. We work somewhere (unless we are retired), we have hobbies where we play, and we live somewhere. Think about the people in your life that God has placed near you. I encourage you to make a 9x9 grid with your name in the center and fill in the blank boxes around you with people from where you work, play, and live. Pray for God to give you opportunities to reach these people.

Volunteer Schedule

Greeters

December 1: David Hickerson, Robin Shawback

December 8: Pat Farley, Bev Vatole

December 15: Brandon Rendleman, Jo Joyce

December 22: Glennita Seal, Margaret Cox

December 29: Miranda Rendleman, Karen Harris

Nursery & Kid's Church

December 1:

Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Megan Hart

Nursery 10:30am: Marsha Anderson, Karen Burleson, Karol Hazelwonder, Lisa Pedersen Avery Pedersen

Kid's Church: Jackie Parish

December 8:

Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Kelli Melton

Nursery 10:30am: Kim Collins, Hannah Cline, Anna Drury, Karen Hickerson, Evie Pederson

Kid's Church: Pam Barry

December 15:

Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Candace Stutz

Nursery 10:30am: Carole Fredrick, Kayla Staley, LeAnn Parish, Sam Ollenbittle, Davis Bertels

Kid's Church: Candace Stutz

December 22:

Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Karen Harris

Nursery 10:30am: Nate Hart, Ronda Jolly, David Ollenbittle, Miranda Rendleman, Alliy Huggins

Kid's Church: Sandy Stolze

December 29:

Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Susie Kreitner

Nursery 10:30am: Chad Stutz, Juan Lingow, Ted Burleson, Matt Jolly, Rylee Hart,

Kid's Church: Jackie Parish

For more information or if you would like to volunteer please contact:

Nursery & Greeters: Pastor Logan

Kid's Church: Jackie Parish at 618-789-2974

Deacon Ministry

If you have a need or know of someone who needs assistance, has become ill, hospitalized, or is in need of a ride to church please either contact the church office at 618-462-1276 or Ted Burleson at 618-462-3032.



This Month at Heartland

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE: Join us for our Coffee/Donut Fellowship at 8:45am followed by Small Groups at 9:15am and our Worship Gathering at 10:30am. Sermons are available online at <https://vimeo.com/hbcalton>. Our Worship Gathering is livestreamed on our Facebook page.

IMPACT GROUPS: Impact Groups meet on Sunday nights from 5:30-7. We have groups for all ages. Our Men meet in Room 39 and our Women meet in Room 48. Heartland Students (6th-12th grade) meet in Room 31, and Kids (PreK-5th grade) meet in the Children's Wing. Childcare is available in our Children's Wing for babies (age 0-2). Please enter the church through Door "A" (the office door) on Sunday nights. **Impact Groups will not meet on December 1. The last night for Impact Groups is December 8.**

LUNCH & PRAYER WITH THE PASTORS: Wednesdays at 11:30am. Bring a lunch and spend some time with our pastors as we eat, pray, and share from the Word. **Lunch & Prayer with the Pastors will not meet on December 25 and January 1.**

CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONAL: This year as a church family we will be going through a Christmas devotional by Paul David Tripp called "Everyday Gospel". We encourage you to take one per family from the welcome table and walk through it during this Advent season. Tripp hopes to recapture the true Christian purpose in celebrating Christmas that we have twisted with our culture. Make the best of Advent by leading your family through devotional times this season! Suggested donation is \$5.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING: In 1872, Southern Baptists commissioned Lottie Moon to go to Northern China as a missionary. She spent the next 40 years of her life sharing the Good News of Christ there. Now in 2024, in her honor, we join with 45,000 other churches in giving to send IMB missionaries to the nations. As a church, we have a goal to give \$3,300. To mark our progress, a flag from a different nation will be placed on the platform each Sunday for every \$110 given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. To give to this special offering, either use the LMCO envelope, write "Lottie Moon" on a HBC offering envelope, or select "Lottie Moon" when giving online.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE: Sending out Christmas Cards this year to members and regular attenders at Heartland? Rather than buying a stamp from the US Post Office, send the card with the Lottie Moon Post Office and help send missionaries to the nations at the same time. From December 1-15, Heartland kids will receive Christmas cards in the post office set up in the lobby and distribute them to members and regular attenders each Sunday. Make sure to write names on the card/envelope. A suggested donation of 25 cents per card is encouraged. All donations through the Lottie Moon Post Office will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

GREAT COMMISSION TEAM MEETING: Thursday, December 5 at 6:30pm.

CHURCH WORK DAY: Saturday, December 7 at 8:30am. We will be cleaning up leaves, downed limbs, trimming bushes, etc. Please bring gloves and any hand tools and blowers you may have. Power washers are needed to clean the outside of the building. In case of inclement weather, workday will be moved to December 14. Thank you in advance for helping us keep God's house beautiful. Lunch will be provided. Please sign up at the Next Steps table.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY: Sunday, December 8 at 5:30pm during our Impact time. We will be having a pajama party and a white elephant gift exchange! Bring any gift that you want that is under \$10 and wear your pajamas! We will play games, eat, and have a lot of Christmas fun.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY POTLUCK: Ladies, join us on Sunday, December 8 from 5:30-7pm as we enjoy a time of fellowship together in the room across from the Sanctuary. Please sign up at the Next Steps table to bring a soup, salad, side, or dessert for our potluck. We will have a devotion and play a game of Christmas bingo.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE MEETING: Monday, December 9 at 3pm.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The January newsletter deadline is Monday, December 9. Please email your announcements to office@hbcalton.com.

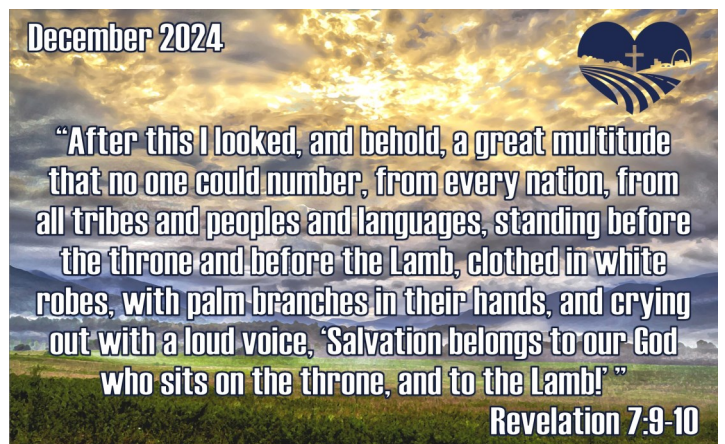
WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION (WMU): WMU meets on Wednesday, December 11 at 6:30pm. All ladies are welcome.

WORSHIP & PRAYER NIGHT FOR THE NATIONS: Christmas is the declaration that God has sent His Son to save people from their sins. This is good news of great joy for all the world, but there are billions of people who have not heard of Jesus and what He came to do. Join us on Sunday, December 15 at 5:30pm in Room 48 for a night of worship as we sing songs about the birth of Jesus and take time to pray for the nations that more people will hear the Gospel and believe. Randy and Kim Windham, IMB missionaries to Zambia sent out from Heartland, will join us to share about the ministry they did in Zambia, how we can pray for the nations, and tell us how our giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering supports our IMB missionaries. Childcare will be available in the Children's Wing for Babies through PreK.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE: Tuesday, December 24 at 4pm.

END OF YEAR GIVING: All contributions you would like to be included in your 2024 Giving Statement must be received by Sunday, December 29, 2024.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday: 8:30am—3:30pm. The church office will be closed on December 24, 25, 26 & 30 for Christmas break and January 1 for New Year's Day.



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| 2 | Lucy Jacoby | 15 | Ashley Huggins |
| 2 | Ed Kreitner | 16 | Karen Harris |
| 2 | Kayla Staley | 16 | Sam Hetrick |
| 2 | Chance Wuthrich | 16 | Shepherd Stutz |
| 4 | Finnley Vatole | 17 | David Hickerson |
| 6 | Margaret Cox | 18 | Mary Kellum |
| 6 | Jeremy Gillis | 19 | Johie Hetrick |
| 7 | Greg Sims | 19 | Opal Simpson |
| 8 | Karol Hazelwonder | 20 | Scott Manns |
| 9 | LeAnn Parish | 27 | Bekah Melton |
| 9 | Tony Stolze | 27 | Dinah Pimentel |
| 12 | Grace Hetge | 27 | Lonnie Vatole |
| 12 | Mary Remmers | 30 | Lee Dick |
| 14 | Candace Stutz | 30 | Damon Parish |

Church Staff

Alex Melton, Senior Pastor
alex@hbcalton.com

Logan Staley, Pastor of Worship & Students
logan@hbcalton.com

Sarah Neuhaus, Office Coordinator
office@hbcalton.com
financial@hbcalton.com