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Reflections

VOLUME XXXIX

December 15, 2011

No. 43

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Our Goal: \$30,000

Received: \$6,228.00

Your giving matters!

Think your gift to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering won't make a difference? Every penny given to Lottie Moon is used to help support about 5,000 Southern Baptist missionaries serving overseas. Last year, those missionaries reported 360,876 baptisms and 29,237 new churches!

Angel Tree Gifts Touch The Lives of 340 Children

This past Monday, our Reaching Center volunteers shared your Angel Tree Christmas gifts with some 137 families, representing 340 children. Christmas will be so much brighter for these children and their parents because of your generous support.

Sunday, December 25

Morning Worship Service

10:30 a.m.

No Sunday School or Evening Activities

Sanctuary Decoration Memorial Gifts

Each year we give you the opportunity to give a \$12 donation "in honor" or "in memory" of a loved one. Through these donations we are able to refurbish many of our decorations. These gifts will be listed in a special edition of "Reflections." Deadline to make your donations is **Sunday, December 18.**

Sunday Morning at Berea First Baptist Church

10:30 a.m.

Christmas Under the Tree

Christmas Under the Tree is a time when we gather our children beneath the Living Christmas Tree to sing songs of the season, hear the Christmas story, and celebrate the joys of giving. You will be blessed as we are led by a child into the spirit of Christmas.

Message by Rev. Rick Fisher

"Christmas: Past, Present, Future"

Like Ebenezer Scrooge, sometimes our "spirit of Christmas" can get out of focus. God's Word gives us the perspective we need to remember what's really important about the celebration of Christmas.

An Evening with Charlie Miller

This Sunday, December 18, 6:00 p.m.

In the Sanctuary

Charlie Miller presents his beautiful arrangements of sacred and seasonal music at the grand piano beneath the lights of the Living Christmas Tree. Joining Charlie will be soloists and instrumentalists who will lead you in a memorable time of worship and joy.

Welcome Jesus Into the World and Into Your Heart

Saturday, December 24

6:00 p.m.

Silent Communion Service

In a spirit of deep reverence and thanksgiving, we share the bread and cup without speaking, light our candles from the Christ candle, then go out from the church building to sing in celebration of Christ's birth.

11:15 p.m.

Candlelight Communion Service

We gather to welcome Christmas Day with music, a meditation, and through the bread and the cup, thanksgiving for God's gift of His Son. We light our candles from the Christ candle and go out from the church to sing in joy because Christ has come.

Bring Your Cards to the Lottie Moon Post Office

The Post Office will be opened again this Sunday morning! Bring the cards you want to send to friends who are active in our church family to the Lottie Moon Post Office in the breezeway. Put your cards in the mail slots and give the money you would have spent on postage to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Our children will deliver your cards during Sunday School. Support our children in this project and use your stamp money to support international missions.



Friendship Group Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesday, December 20, 11:00 a.m.
Senior Adult Building

Program: Christmas Music on the Harp
by Anna Garrett

Menu:

Cost: \$3.00

Reservations Requested, 246-1921

Christmas Eve Family Ministry

If you signed up to help deliver Christmas gifts to one of our families in need, please meet on Sunday, Dec. 18th at 5:00 p.m. in the Senior Adult Building. At that time, I will give you a family to work with and all information. This will give you or your group a little more time to work on each family. (You are more than welcome to wait until Christmas Eve with your group if you would like). We will meet again on Christmas Eve in the Senior Adult Building at 9:30 a.m. to pick up your groceries and to go over any last minute details.

Tram Drivers

We are currently setting up our winter schedule for our Sunday tram drivers. If you would be interested in helping with this ministry on Sunday mornings about every 6 weeks, please call Mike Parker in the office at 246-1921 or email mparker@bereafbc.org.

In Memoriam

Doris Blakeney

September 29, 1928—December 11, 2011

LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE

December 11, 2011

Weekly Required Budget Giving... \$20,861.98
Budget Gifts Received.....\$25,618.75
Budget Overage.....\$4,756.77

Pass It On Giving.....\$696.00
Designated/Reimbursements.....\$6,782.82
TOTAL DEPOSIT.....\$33,097.57

Year-End Gifts to the Church need to be postmarked or received in the church office by Saturday, December 31, to be credited to your 2011 contributions statement.

Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

The family of **Doris Blakeney**

Keith Arrowood and **Glenn Arrowood** in the death of their nephew, Jonathan Arrowood.

Sally Arrowood in the death of her brother.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts have been given in memory of:

Ralph Hawkins by:
Mrs. William D. Bailey
James Gibbs

Tom Oxendine by:
Mary Beth Oxendine

Gifts have been given in honor of:

Fire Dept. Sunday School Helpers by:
Berea Fire Department

Georgia Sizemore by:
Taft and Addy Matney

Elizabeth Roberts by:
Mary Garza

Cheryl Taylor, Martha Hodge, Sybil Farrow by:

Mary Sunday School Class

Maasai People of East Africa by:
Harriet Baker

In Need of Prayer?

You may access our Intercessory Prayer Ministry in any of the following ways:

1. Complete the Pew Prayer Request forms and place in the offering plate on Sunday.
2. Call 246-9182, ext. 27 and leave a message.
3. Email your request to prayerrequest@bereafbc.org.

Men's

Intramural Basketball

Our winter men's intramural basketball league is about to begin. If you have not signed up and would like to play we need you to do so by December 16th. Forms are available online or you can pick one up in the church office. Please call Mike Parker if you have any questions.

DECEMBER MISSION ACTION PROJECT

- * Food for the Reaching Center
- * Monetary Donations for Needy Families

Charlie Miller's New Christmas CD

"A Baby Changes Everything"

Is Now Available in the Church Office for \$10

Joining Charlie on the CD are Diane Mitchell, John Bringham, Delvin Choice, Don Kauffman, and the Celebration Singers.

Wednesday Prayer Service

December 21, 6:45 p.m.

Message by Rev. Rick Fisher

December 28

No Prayer Service

Thank You!

A very special "thank you" to all of the volunteers who helped with our Down's Syndrome Family Alliance Christmas Party this past Saturday. With your help we were able to celebrate Christmas with 180 special friends and family members.

The Reaching Center

Items needed: blankets, sheets, coats for children and adults, clothes for babies and children.

Food needed: canned fruit, jelly, english peas, tomatoes, turnip greens, macaroni and cheese.