

OAKHILL BAPTIST CHURCH
4615 OAK HILL ROAD
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December 2017



OakhillBC.org
— a family for life —

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oakleaves

The Oakhill Baptist Church Newsletter

PASTOR'S POINTS



Alan D. Scott

Lead Pastor

ascott@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

This Christmas I must admit I am a little more excited than normal. Most of you know that Paula and I are expecting our first grandchild any day. Matt and Morgan are anxiously awaiting the arrival of little Gracelyn Elizabeth. But some of you may not know that we are also expecting our second grandchild as well!! That's right, Nick and Melissa are expecting their first child in June!! I do not know if I can handle this much excitement and anticipation!! It truly is amazing how much excitement and anticipation can build while waiting upon the arrival of a child. My mind has already imagined very vivid encounters that I am anticipating with my grandkids!! I cannot wait to hold them and start loving on them!! I will do my best not to be an obnoxiously proud grandparent, but I cannot make any promises.

But in the midst of my anticipation for my grandchildren, I am reminded especially at this time of year, that there was another baby whose coming was anticipated from long ago. And that baby was God in flesh who had come to save His people from their sin. And now we wait in anticipation for His return one day.

Sarah Jennings shared in her article, Advent: Waiting on Jesus these words: It's that time of year again -- Advent. It's always tempting to skip over Advent and jump right into the euphoria of Christmas Day -- after all, the rest of the United States began gorging itself on Christmas cookies in October. But, I believe something

is lost when we rush through the beautiful, reflective season of Advent.

One of my favorite elements of Advent is its dual purpose -- it's not just a liturgical season carved out for reminiscing over the days before Christ, but a time set aside to anticipate Christ's second, glorious coming. Like the ancient Israelites we wait in anticipation of an event we can only dimly imagine -- an event where all that is right, good, and truthful will come to fruition in His perfect timing.

Gaining Perspective

"And the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end.'" Luke 1: 30-32

Today, the Christmas story is easily taken for granted, even among Christians. Our ears have become numb as we've heard the story countless times and in varied settings -- the angel's appearance to Mary, Joseph's dream, the road to Bethlehem, the lack of room in the inn, the birth in a lowly stable, the appearance of nearby shepherds. The Nativity has acquired a certain quaintness in American culture -- something to smile at while we bustle about decorated shops trying to check every name off our lists. Yet when we take time to prepare for this moment in salvation history, to reflect on the events leading up to the birth of Jesus Christ, a sense of awe returns. How can we put Christ's first coming into perspective -- and thus better prepare for His second?

I love you and I love being your pastor,

THE STATS

	Nov 5	Nov 12	Nov 19	Nov 26
8:00 AM Worship	100	81	93	98
9:30 AM Worship	216	171	209	162
11:00 AM Worship	212	250	248	225
Total Worship	528	502	550	485
Oakhill Budget Offering	\$18,836.11	\$14,698.87	\$21,045.66	\$13,452.80
Greater Things	\$592.00	\$222.00	\$107.00	\$225.00
Mission Club	\$210.00	\$190.00	\$335.00	\$435.00

Christmas Season Worship Times

Sunday, December 24th at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

Sunday, December 24th at 7pm for Carols, Candles and Communion

Sunday, December 31st at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

*** No Adult Life Groups on 12/24 & 12/31 ***

KIDS PRAISE SATURDAYS

DECEMBER 9TH ~ 10:00-12:00

K-5TH GRADE KIDS WILL PREPARE TO LEAD WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 10TH

COME, LET US ADORE HIM

A CHRISTMAS WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17TH
8:00, 9:30, 11:00

WOMEN ON MISSION

Who is this Lottie Moon, anyways?

Charlotte Diggs Moon, 1840-1910, better known as Lottie Moon, became a legend in her own time. A daughter of old Virginia and one of the best educated women in the South, Miss Moon was petite 4 feet 3 inches. Her voice is described as deep, rich, gentle, musical, which she used skillfully as a teacher/missionary. But no photographer ever captured on film the animated, attractive, charming, delightful, energetic, fearless Lottie Moon, although a few photos do exist.

For 40 years she represented Southern Baptists in China. Again and again she wrote back to America, "Send on the missionaries." Once she wrote, "It is odd that the million Baptists of the South can furnish only three men for all China. I wonder how this looks in heaven. It certainly looks queer in China."

After the Japanese-Russian war, economic conditions in China produced much poverty, but there were some new missionaries. Miss Moon welcomed them, advised them, mothered them, and loved their children, who adored her in return. The Chinese women and children came and went in her home as if it were their own. If the Pingtu Christians were starving, Miss Moon would not eat. By December of her seventieth year she was so frail the doctors sent her back to the States. But enroute on Christmas Eve, while the ship rode at anchor in Kobe, Japan, Miss Moon died. The memory of such a life never ends.

In 1918, Annie Armstrong, the woman who refused marriage to a China missionary so she could fulfill her calling as the leader of mission support among Southern Baptist women in the homeland, wrote: "Miss Moon is the one who suggested the Christmas offering for foreign missions. She showed us the way in so many things. Wouldn't it be appropriate to name the offering in her memory?"* And so it was.

Our Lottie Moon Christmas offering goal is \$15,500. Offering envelopes will be made available to each family. Women on Mission will meet at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 11th at the home of Jean Hitchcock for a Week of Prayer program. We will carpool from the church leaving at 5:45 pm. We collected 680 boxes of cake mix for the Evansville Rescue Mission. Thank you to all who made this possible.

*Experts from *The New Lottie Moon Story*.

\$PARE CHANGE



Bryan R. Gotcher

Pastor of Missions & Administration

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Blog: bryangotcher.wordpress.com

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Every year around this time we start talking about the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. If you have not been in a Southern Baptist church long, or didn't grow up in one, you may not be familiar with what this is. The simple answer is that this is an annual offering that SBC churches collect in the month of December to support our International Missionaries. Last year SBC churches collected \$153 million to support our almost 4,000 missionaries. The funds collected from the Lottie Moon offering go directly to support these missionaries.

But who is Lottie Moon and why do we brand our big annual offering with her name? Lottie Moon was appointed to Tengchow and Pingtu, China in 1873. She served faithfully for 39 years. She taught in girls' schools and made many trips to rural farm communities to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. Although initially the people rejected her, she pressed on. She adopted traditional Chinese dress and learned the language and customs of China. She would win people over with her kindness and fresh-baked cookies. Eventually people did accept her and some accepted her Savior. Her work continues today, much of it in secret, since the Chinese government controls the religious activities in their county.

This woman's sacrifice and perseverance reminds us that we need to be on mission wherever God has sent us. We also need to be praying about giving to this amazing offering that supports missionaries like Lottie Moon. Will you pray about giving to this special offering? Our national goal is \$160 million, our church goal is \$15,500.

YES! Account

YES! stands for Youth Event Savings Account. We established these accounts a couple of years ago to help parents save for student and children's events including retreats and camps. You can give by placing a check or cash in an envelope in either the offering plate or the drop box by the Welcome Center. Make sure the envelope has your name and the name of your child. You can also contribute to your child's YES! Account through our online/mobile giving app Pushpay. When you make a deposit make sure to put your child's name in the "memo" line. With Pushpay you can set up a recurring payment, so you don't have worry about it.

One great thing about the YES! account is the money is always yours, it remains in your name until you withdraw it or pass it onto one of your other kids. It is not a payment to the church until you use it for an event. Kristi and I use the YES! account for our kids to save up for camp. It is such a blessing when summer rolls around to not have to worry about paying for camp, which is usually about \$300 per kid.

Over time the money really adds up. If you give just \$5 a week your child will build up \$260 in a year. With that amount you will almost have camp paid for, while \$10 a week will accrue to \$520 in a year; with that amount you will pay for camp and probably any other event that your child might want to participate in. Don't wait, start contributing this week!

The greatest thing about the YES! account is not the financial savings it will provide for your family but the fact that your child can participate in spiritually enriching programs and you don't have to feel stressed trying to make it work or even worse, having to say no to them. The next time your child comes to you about that church event just say YES!



December Birthdays

1st - Jaden Futrell, Jenna Reid,	15th - Brett Creamer, Alex Kilgore, Teresa Nixon, Brent Poag
2nd- Aaron Richards	16th - Suzanne Wiandt
3rd - David Harmes,	17th - Dane Aussenbaugh, Brenda Knuckles
4th - Doug Head	18th - Sawyer Helm, Ben Rich, Marti Suddarth
5th - Maggie Comer, Katy Moore	20th - Erin Hagan, Jayden Lowe
7th - Devon Lynch	21st - Crystal Lynch
8th - Addison McDonald	22nd - Aibry Pierson
10th - Alice Moseley	25th - Rick Rollow
11th - Megan Painter	26th - Sarah McNeely, Flint Nixon
13th - Robert Hall	27th - Reed Beck, Beverly Carmack, Kathie Kraft, Lisa Nalley, Michael Yurovchak
14th - Tammy Creamer, Carolyn Leamons, Cami Rose	28th - Sandy Jackson
Reagan, Jordyn Wilhite, Bob Williams	29th - Henry Gotcher, Mark Sauter
	31st - Chris Langston, Ashlyn Ruston

STUDENT MINISTRY



Brian Van Doren
Pastor of Students
bvandoren@oakhillbc.org

Dear Church Family,

This year, what are you going to get your kids or grandkids for Christmas? Have you thought about it much? Some of you are those people who have already bought presents for everyone on your Christmas list. I commend people like you, but I am not one of them. I have thought about some presents that I plan on getting, but I have yet to buy a single one. I have only had to buy presents the day before Christmas a couple of times, and it was not fun. Never has being a Christian in public been more difficult than when you are surrounded by people at the mall and Walmart who seem to know exactly how to pull the sin right out of you while “Holly Jolly Christmas” is playing through the overhead speakers. But this year, I will be sure to get my shopping done in a timely and Christlike fashion. I know when I plan to shop, what I’m planning on buying, and for whom I am buying. I have a plan, a purpose, and a goal this year when it comes to present shopping. But more importantly, I need to have a plan, a purpose, and a goal to worship Christ this Christmas season.

You probably saw that last line coming, but seriously; have we put as much time into planning how we are going to focus on Christ and bring him glory in our families and households as we have about what we’re going to buy and eat for Christmas this year? One year I spent some time in December in Southeast Asia in a Communist Country. They

celebrated Christmas like you’ve never seen! They had decorations everywhere. People wished you Merry Christmas in every shop and had Christmas trees and even little nativity scenes next to their statues of Buddha. They exchanged Christmas presents and had Christmas parties galore. One might even argue that they celebrated Christmas better than we do in America. But when you asked someone what Christmas was about or what the nativity scene meant, no one could give you the right answer. They had no idea what Christmas was about and what significance it had for their lives. While many students and churchgoing people may be more capable of answering that question, I think its significance is largely missing in the heart and lives of many Christians this time of year and all throughout the year at that. Why do I think that? Because most people are more concerned with opening presents and eating food than with purposefully, intentionally talking about Christ with their families at Christmas-time. If so few people have intentional plans for talking about Christ at Christmas time, what do we think we will find in the normal ebb and flow of life outside of Christmas time?

Now, by no means is opening presents and eating food together a bad thing. It is glorious! But my point is that it is way too easy to do all the “Christmas” things without focusing on Christ. My encouragement and challenge to you is to think of ways to intentionally and purposefully talk about Jesus and the gospel as you do Christmassy things with your family. Your kids and grandkids need to hear and see you worshipping Jesus while you shop, and cook, and open presents. How can you do that? There are so many ways. But one thing my wife and I do is an Advent Wreath with candles that we light to represent different aspects of Christ’s coming. We light one candle a Sunday until Christmas day and we read scripture for each candle. Why do we do this? Because my parents did it with me and my siblings. It was one way that my parents kept me intentionally focused on Christ at Christmas time. If it is our goal to glorify Christ at Christmas and to do that all year round, then what is your plan to purposefully point your family to Christ this year? Make it fun, make it creative, but make it about Christ. He is the reason for the season, as we all say. So lets show the younger generation how to keep Christ in Christmas in a Christlike and loving way.

In Christ,
Brian Van Doren

WORSHIP



Jared Mitchell
Pastor of Worship
jmitchell@oakhillbc.org

Church Family,

I hope this season of life finds you well, and you are soaking up all the family time you can! It’s been a great fall, and I’m excited to see God move through this Christmas season. I love this time of year, specifically in worship ministry, because we get to worship in ways we don’t get to throughout the rest of the year, whether it be through special Christmas services, or just by singing some of our favorite Christmas songs. Most importantly, we focus our thoughts on the birth of Christ, which led to Jesus becoming our Savior on a cross, paying for our sins. This is what makes the Christmas season so special! Not just all the family time, food, and presents, but the ultimate gift of grace, given to us through Jesus.

I want to take this time to point your attention to a few special ways we get to worship together as a church family this month. I encourage you to mark your calendars to allow you and your family to be at these worship times, because it will be well worth your time!

#1 - Kids Praise Saturday, December 9th - Have your children come on this Saturday, as they will be learning worship songs to lead our church in on Sunday, December 10th. They will also be learning a special Christmas song to sing during the offertory. This is a great

way to invest into our children, and it’s a great opportunity for them to lead worship for our church!

#2 - Christmas Worship Program, Sunday, December 17th - Do not miss this Sunday! Our worship band, praise team, and worship choir will be coming together to lead our church in worship during all 3 morning services. This will be a great time of worship and reflection on the birth of our Jesus. Make plans, bring your family, and bring your friends!

#3 - Carols, Candlelight, and Communion - Sunday night, December 24th - We are having a special candlelight service on Christmas Eve, at 7pm. This will be a special time of worship as we sing some of our favorite Christmas carols, we take communion together, and we light our candles to reflect on the light of Christ being brought into the world. This is a powerful way to bring in Christmas as a church family, and we don’t want you to miss!

This is my favorite time of year. There are so many opportunities to be together, and to focus our thoughts towards the true meaning of Christmas. I pray you are encouraged by those around you, and that you would truly experience Jesus this Christmas Season. Join us, as we experience Jesus together. I love being a part of my church family!

In Christ,
Jared

Spiritual Development



Nick Scott
Pastor of Spiritual
Development
nscott@oakhillbc.org

I have a confession to make. I have been listening to Christmas music for a few weeks now. There, I said it. Judge me if you want, but I just couldn't help myself this year. I'm usually much more resolute about waiting until after Thanksgiving, but this year I caved. It feels good to get that off my chest. But seriously, some of my favorite Christmas songs are not the ones that you typically hear on the radio. One in particular that has stood out to me this year is "It came Upon a Midnight Clear." Here's a verse from that hymn:

"O ye beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow;
Look now, for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing;
Oh rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing."

It's no surprise to anyone that the holiday season can enhance stress and busyness in our lives rather than gratitude and peace. A season which is meant to remind us of the birth of Christ our King can instead leave us feeling out of breath and restless from all the hustle and bustle associated with American Christmas. Don't get me wrong. I love the Christmas season. But there is a huge temptation, even for Christians, to run right past the "reason for the season" by being distracted with many other good things.

This season stands as a reminder that we can live in "glad and golden hours" because of Christ's coming. Our faith in Christ provides us the ability to rest alongside the weary road of life and hear the angels sing their song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (Luke 2:14) So while you may be feeling the pressures of the holiday season, don't neglect to rest in the hope of the song of the angels. Rest in the peace of Christ this Christmas.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Recommended Resource — *Come Let Us Adore Him* by Paul David Tripp

Every time the Christmas season comes around, we look forward to putting up a tree, giving and receiving gifts, and participating in other traditions that make this wonderful time of year so special. But sometimes the most significant aspect of the season — remembering and focusing on the coming of Jesus — grows old and familiar. This 31 day devotional seeks to recapture our attention and reawaken our awe during Christmastime.



Kids Happenings



Proverbs 22:6
"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."

April Sharp - asharp@oakhillbc.org
Children's Ministry Director



Hello church family,

Let me tell you, I love social media... when it's used in good ways and not in ways to discourage others or tear people down. It can be used to dote on our kiddos, share our adventures, and encourage our friends with birthday wishes. If you don't use social media it's okay, it's not for everyone and can be very addicting and time consuming, and for some, depressing.

Sadly, social media has its downfalls when it comes to relationships. Sure we can say we have 836 Facebook friends, but are they really friends? Are they even acquaintances? When I look at the number of friends and followers that I have on social media I realize that the majority of them I haven't spoken to in years. But I feel like I know them and I'm sure they feel the same way about me. That's just not right! They don't know me, they only know the things I want to share publicly. Not the truths that I keep to myself or only share with those that are truly "friends".

The issue with present culture is we post pictures of the food we're about to eat or the event or gathering we just attended. TV commercials make us feel like a loser if we haven't backpacked Thailand or run with the bulls (which by the way is CRAZY). We consume experiences like our small-plate appetizers and post our results on Facebook. We choose to proudly advertise our worldly lives and deny our "friends" of knowing more about our Savior. The bible tells us in Matthew 10:27 that we "shall proclaim from the rooftops". What is it that you are proclaiming? Is it your 35th small-plate appetizer or coffee house latte? Social Media can be a VERY tall rooftop to proclaim a 2,000 year-old message about a God who gave for us so we can give for others.

Imagine what our relationships would be like with our 836 "friends" when they hear Gods word through your social media and possibly learn more about your heart and Savior. Who knows.. that "friend" may become more than a mere acquaintance and become a sister or brother in Christ. This coming holiday season, when you're posting pics of your beautiful decorations and holiday feast, remember **you have a rooftop to proclaim much more!**

Thank you for allowing me to love on your kiddos.

God Bless,

April Sharp

The weekly kids giving will go towards purchasing items for a child represented on our Angel Tree.



December 2017 Ministry Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Schedule 8:00 am Traditional Worship 9:30 am Contemporary Worship 11:00 am Contemporary Worship 5:00 pm Student Life Groups			Wednesday Schedule 12:00 pm Prayer and Bible Study Luncheon 6:00 pm Student Gathering & AWANA 7:30 pm Worship Team Practice		1	2
3 Regular Sunday Schedule	4 Daycare Christmas Program 7:00 - 9:00 pm	5 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	6 Regular Wednesday Schedule Deacon's Meeting 6:00 pm	7 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm AIS Christmas Party 5:00 - 7:00 pm	8 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	9 Food Pantry 9:00 am State Hospital Engage Event 9:45 am Kids Praise Saturday 10:00 - 12:00 pm
10 Regular Sunday Schedule	11 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	12 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	13 Regular Wednesday Schedule Student Christmas Party 6:00 - 7:30 pm	14 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm LLL Trip to Derby Dinner Playhouse 8:15 am	15	16 Food Pantry 9:00 am
17 Regular Sunday Schedule - Christmas Worship Program	18 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	19 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	20	21 Upward Practice 5:00 - 8:00 pm	22	23
24 Christmas Eve Worship Service 9:00 am & 10:30 am Carols, Candles, and Communion 7:00 pm	25 Christmas Day	26 Church Office & Daycare Closed	27 Church Office & Daycare Closed	28 Church Office & Daycare Closed	29 Church Office & Daycare Closed	30
31 New Year's Eve Worship Service 9:00 am & 10:30 am						

Serving Others at Oakhill

December 3	December 10	December 17	December 24	December 31
Deacon of the Week Brad Ditter (812) 480-9663 Matt Schloss (812) 483-1778	Deacon of the Week Lucus Pettigrew (812) 319-9971 Kevin Knuckles (618) 383-2543	Deacon of the Week Richard West (812) 853-7930 Steve Comer (812) 437-2922	Deacon of the Week Jeff Thornton (812) 746-8739 Ty Nixon (812) 518-8759	Deacon of the Week Alan Simpson (812) 477-7204 Chris Fischer (812) 630-9443
Chair Set-Up Team Gotcher Team	Chair Set-Up Team Deckman Team	Chair Set-Up Team Simpson Team	Chair Set-Up Team Townsend Team	Chair Set-Up Team Gotcher Team
8:00 AM Service				
Nursery Ashley Hughes & Mary Gamblin	Nursery Jane Jeff & Alice Mosley	Nursery Shannon Wild & Daniel Bannister	Nursery No Service	Nursery No Service
Greeters Bill & Sondra Bottoms	Greeters Bob & Angela Pressley	Greeters Jerry & Shirley Guinn	Greeters No Service	Greeters No Service
Welcome Center Dawn Ommart	Welcome Center Amanda Washburn	Welcome Center Shirlene Kilgore	Welcome Center No Service	Welcome Center No Service
9:30 AM Service		9:00 AM Service		9:00 AM Service
Nursery Ty & Teresa Nixon	Nursery Brandon & Bethanne Long	Nursery Josh & Melissa Owen	Nursery Isaac & Jessica Principe	Nursery Dave & Kristie Swenson
Greeters Jeff & Janice Hostetler	Greeters Ty & Teresa Nixon	Greeters Tom & Fong Stofleth	Greeters April Helm & Ron Wiandt	Greeters Ty & Teresa Nixon
Welcome Center Amy Olsen	Welcome Center Sondra Schloss	Welcome Center April Helm	Welcome Center Deann Moss	Welcome Center Jacob Townsend
11:00 AM Service		10:30 AM Service		10:30 AM Service
Nursery Jon & Heidi Hart	Nursery Mourine Schmitt & Emily Grace Luttrell	Nursery Amy Olsen	Nursery Kathy Masterson & Ella Thornton	Nursery Toni Gillispie & Emily McGeorge
Toddlers Ryan & Wynter Deckman	Toddlers Rodney & Lori Pavlichek	Toddlers Adam & Jamie Ice	Toddlers Need Help	Toddlers Michele & Lia Fuller
Greeters Sara Calverley & Brett Creamer	Greeters Ralph Rode, Sandy Jackson	Greeters Keith & Teresa Thomas	Greeters Jim & Barb Burns	Greeters Nancy Andrews, Jon & Heidi Hart
Welcome Center Kathleen Qualkenbush	Welcome Center Becky Cosby	Welcome Center Darrell Ommart	Welcome Center Gina Townsend	Welcome Center John & Pam Schultz
Van Driver Robert Jackson	Van Driver Bryan Gotcher	Van Driver Brad Lamar	Van Driver Lucus Pettigrew	Van Driver Steve Comer