



PITTSBORO BAPTIST CHURCH

The Spiral - "Keeping the people informed"

Lottie Moon: What She Did Still Matters Today

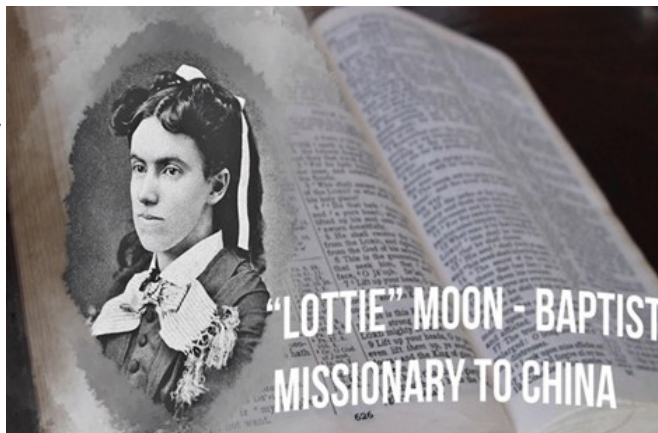
Dear Church Family,

I have a strong question for you to consider: ***In 137 years, what will be remembered or said of your life?*** This question isn't

meant to be morbid, but challenging. Let me ask another question: ***Are you living your life today so that in 137 years, your legacy and impact will not be forgotten?*** These types of

questions can be received in a lot of ways. It's possible that the focus could be completely on you, your status, and your achievements. Or the focus could be on what you were a part of – business, material wealth, and

political activism. Or - and I hope this would be the case with us as believers in Christ – the focus could be on the legacy and impact that you made for the kingdom of God. 137 years is a long time, but most of us live day-to-day without considering how those days turn into weeks, months, years, and decades, and before we know it, we have way more time behind us than we do before us on this earth. We're not guaranteed tomorrow, but someone's tomorrow will be influenced and impacted by how we live today. What will your life point people to?



Every year for 137 years, Southern Baptists remember the life and impact of international missionary Charlotte "Lottie" Moon (1840-1912). Born in Virginia, Lottie Moon grew up in a day when opportunities for women to excel in society were extremely limited. However, she did not allow the societal norms of the day prohibit her from pursuing education, leadership, and growth. Lottie Moon was one of the first ladies in the South to obtain a Master's degree. She mastered Latin, Greek, French, Italian and Chinese; immersed herself in learning the Scripture, and gained a deeper understanding of the mission and purposes of the local church. All of this preparation led her to have a heart for cross-cultural ministry and mission.

In 1873, Lottie Moon was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board to go on a mission trip to China. Her sister was serving there, and she joined her in teaching in a mission school. It was there that she discovered that her God-ordained calling was evangelism and outreach. Twelve years later, she completely moved into full time evangelism, sharing the Gospel with rural villages throughout China. She saw many people come to faith in Christ. She gave her life to the mission field in China, and served there on mission until her death in 1912.

(Continued on next page)

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE PASTOR- CONTINUED

Lottie Moon's ministry came at a high price. She was subject to disease, famine, war, and financial hardship. Regardless of the conditions, she remained faithful to serve the people of China, believing that it was for God's purposes to have her there. While in China, Lottie Moon wrote hundreds of letters to churches and missionary boards in the United States. She would describe the needs for her mission field and sought their support in prayer and financial giving. The example of her life was poured out in her letters as she encompassed the sacrificial love described in 1 John 3:17 that reads: *"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?"* A group of ladies mission boards were so moved by her letters that they raised collectively \$3,315.26 - enough to send three new missionaries full time to China! Those efforts led to the creation of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, which continues today - supporting missionaries around the world as they share the hope of Jesus Christ. Sadly, Lottie Moon passed away in 1912 at the age of 72 while aboard a ship in the harbor at Kobe, Japan. She was on her way home to the United States. Though she has been gone for over 100 years, the reach and legacy of her life still impact missions praying, giving, and going in extraordinary ways. Since its inception 1888, the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering has raised over \$5 billion to international mission support. In 2024, a record \$207.2 million was given. Today, more than 3,500 missionaries all over the world are supported through this offering.

When I read and hear about Lottie Moon's story, my heart is led to this passage of Scripture: *"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!'"* (Romans 10:14-15). The Apostle Paul had a desire to see Israel saved, just as Lottie Moon desired to see China saved. The only way that they can be saved is to call upon the name of the Lord, and the only way for them to have opportunity to do that is if someone is sent and proclaims the Gospel. Today, we celebrate the reality that God still sends His church to reach people with the Good News, and WE have the privilege of being a part of this Great Commission effort.

As we reflect on Lottie Moon's story and legacy, the question still remains: ***What will be remembered or said of your life 137 years from now?*** There are some things that we can be a part of that will extend well past our time on earth. Lottie Moon's impact still matters today. Her story and commitment to Gospel work influences Pittsboro Baptist today, as we celebrate missionaries who have been called to the uttermost parts of the earth like Josh and Cari Jurius (missionaries to Greece in 2026); mission teams that have been sent to Greece in recent years; Suzanne Wiley (a missionary who has recently begun work with the International Mission Board); and Karen Groce (missionary to Mexico). God is using us here at home and abroad for His glory. I am excited for what God will do this Christmas season through your faithful praying, giving, and going. Our gifts, prayers, and availability to missions make an incredible impact for the Kingdom of God.

You are loved!



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- * Sources of material for Lottie Moon's Biography – <https://www.imb.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/LMCO-25-LM-Bio-One-Pager-digital-2.pdf>
 - * <https://www.thecgcs.org/resources/post/lottie-moon-a-woman-of-radical-obedience/>
 - * <https://www.reviveourhearts.com/blog/lottie-moon-story-lifelong-sacrifice/?srsltid=AfmBOopVh0v6hvQwNTiliXkSx4Q-T9IOz7ldW9d3IU44HZAXecNES95m>
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Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

In 1873, Lottie Moon was appointed as a missionary to China. She spent nearly 40 years sharing the gospel with love, courage, and unwavering faith. Her letters home inspired churches to pray and give, leading to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Today, this offering supports missionaries and helps take the life-transforming message of Jesus to the nations. Let's honor her legacy by praying and giving so others can hear the hope of the gospel. Throughout the month of December, we have an opportunity to give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Together we can reach the nations. Our giving goal for 2025 is \$11,804, representing the 11,803 (plus you!) volunteers who serve with the International Mission Board every year through church involvement across the country to reach the world.

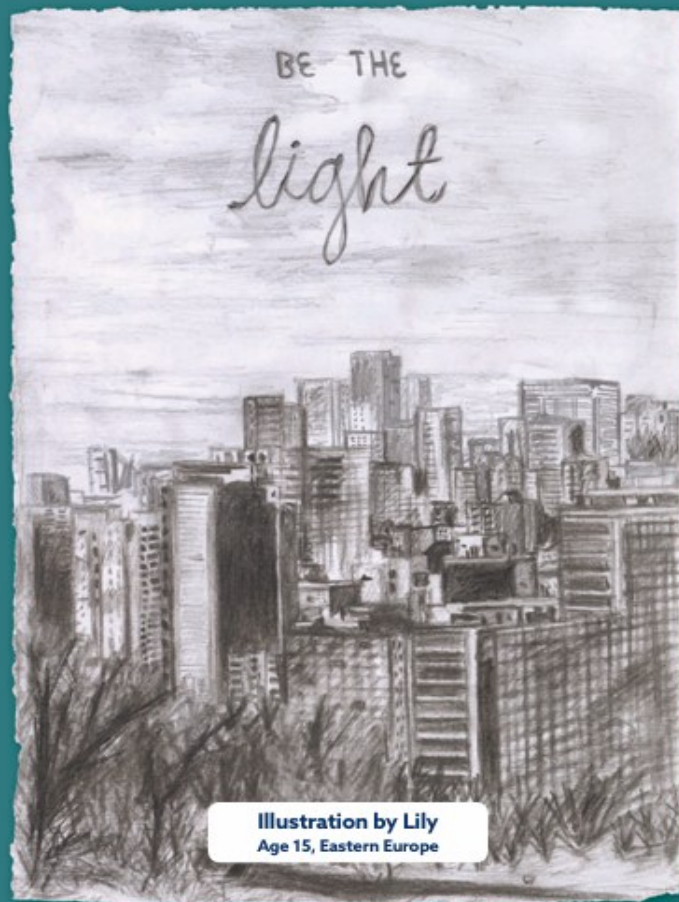


Illustration by Lily
Age 15, Eastern Europe

WHAT IS THE LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®?

At 18, Lottie Moon chose to follow Christ, and her life became a testimony of hope. Years later in China, she gave herself to serving others and sharing the light of God's love in the midst of great need.

In her letters home, she pleaded for prayer and support — so that more people could bring that same hope to a world in darkness. Her words sparked a legacy that continues today through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®.

Every dollar you give becomes more than a gift — it brings hope, it brings light. **100% of your offering supports missionaries who carry the gospel to the ends of the earth.**

This Christmas, carry the light of Christ to others. Together, we can shine in the darkest places. Thank you for giving today.

lottimoon.com

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of WMU.

CELEBRATE GOD'S WORK IN 2024

As reported by IMB missionaries and national partners

3,577

Missionaries on the Field

2,409

Churches Planted

68,628

Baptisms

144,969

Professed Faith in Jesus

84,430

New Leaders

1.6 MILLION

Heard the Gospel Presentation



"We remain grateful for churches in the U.S. who support God's mission on the other side of the world. This task isn't possible without our work together."

HUN SOL, IMB MISSIONARY



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

Operation Christmas Child 2025 Wrap-Up



Operation Christmas Child 2025 by the numbers:

Total shoeboxes received: 1,226

Total PBC boxes: 267

Packing party: 75

Volunteers: 16

Thank you, church! This year's Operation Christmas Child was a wonderful success. The Youth and Children's Ministries held a packing party on Wednesday night, November 19th. The fellowship hall was full of fun and laughter as we had dinner together and then packed 75 boxes! PBC supplied the toys, hygiene items, clothing, and school supplies to fill the boxes. The children and youth wrote special notes to their shoebox recipients and prayed for the children who would receive their boxes. It was a meaningful evening for everyone.

(Continued on next page)

Operation Christmas Child 2025 Wrap-Up continued....

Operation Christmas Child National Collection Week was November 17th-24th. Our church was once again a drop-off location, and 16 volunteers collected 1,226 shoeboxes and packed them into 83 cartons before transporting them to their next destination in the Samaritan's Purse logistics chain. Volunteers greeted and prayed with community members dropping shoeboxes, packed and taped cartons, and were the hands and feet of Jesus throughout the week. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Pittsboro Baptist Church members and preschool families packed 267 shoeboxes and brought them to the sanctuary on November 23rd for Blessing Sunday. We prayed for the children who will receive these boxes, and specifically that they, their families, and their communities will be changed by the good news of Jesus Christ!

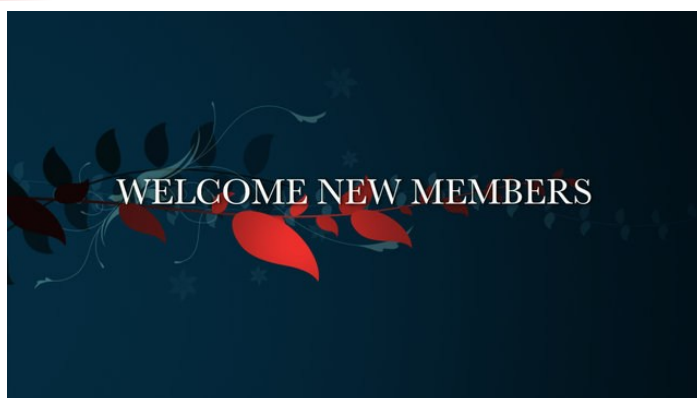
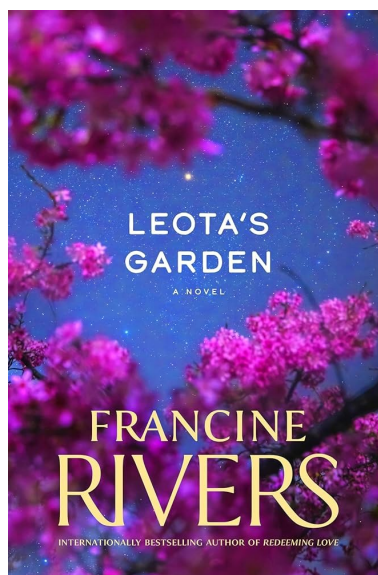
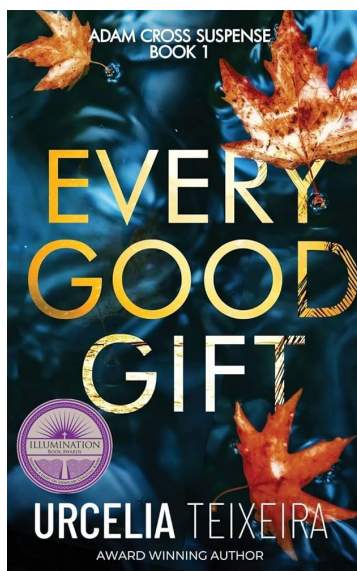
Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, prayers, packing skills, smiles, hand carts, and trailers. PBC, you glorified the Lord through Operation Christmas Child this year. Thank you for allowing the Lord to use your talents as the gospel goes to the ends of the Earth through simple shoebox gifts!



What I Want for Christmas (as recommended by the Rock of Pages Book Club)

PBC Ladies, has someone asked you what you want for Christmas? Tell them you want copies of ***Every Good Gift*** by Urcelia Teixeira and ***Leota's Garden*** by Francine Rivers. These are the next two book selections for the **Rock of Pages Book Club**. If you unwrap them at Christmas you will have plenty of time to read them. ***Every Good Gift*** will be discussed on January 26 and ***Leota's Garden*** will be the topic February 23.

All ladies are invited to join us. The meetings start at 7p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



Welcome:

Matthew & Kim Tompkins

Dennis & Patricia Barber

LET OUR LIVES BE FULL
OF BOTH
**Thanks
&
Giving**

Thanksgiving Outreach

Every year, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we canvas our community and knock on doors asking if we can bless a family with a Thanksgiving meal consisting of a frozen turkey, canned foods, and a Food Lion gift card. This year we blessed 39 families in 4 different neighborhoods in Pittsboro. Church members, of all ages packed boxes of food, prayed over the boxes, had bold conversations, and prayed with individuals in our community. One lady told us, through tears, that she prayed for the Lord to provide means for a meal this Thanksgiving for her family,

and it was delivered to her door. Thank you to everyone that donated food, their time, and prayers for this amazing outreach right here in our little corner of the world.

Are you looking for a new family tradition?

Join us!

December 19th at 6:30pm

Christmas Caroling

Join us as we visit local businesses and restaurants in our community as we share the wonderful story of our Savior's birth through timeless Christmas hymns. Dinner will be served in the fellowship hall at the start of the event, and hot chocolate too!





Are You Interested In a Trip of a Lifetime to the Holy Land?

Join Pastor Peter McDonald & Dr.
Stan Welch for a week in Israel in
October, 2026.

Join us on December 7th in the Fellow-
ship Hall after the morning worship
for an information meeting.

from The Woodpile Co.

IGNITE YOUR PURPOSE Workshop

Pittsboro Baptist Church - Leadership Conference
Saturday, January 24th
8:30 am - 9:00 am - Breakfast
9:00 am - 12:00 pm - Conference

IDENTIFY & EXECUTE YOUR PURPOSE

Ignite Your Purpose
WORKBOOK

Save the Date! Saturday, January 24th, 2026 (8:30am – 12pm)

Our Discipleship Council Invites You to the Ignite Your Purpose Workshop. Come join us for a morning filled with equipping you to identity and execute your God-given purpose. There is a God who Loves you and Created you for a PURPOSE. The very best thing that you can do with your life is to figure what that PURPOSE is ... and DO IT.

Make plans now to join us!



* For Senior Adults Aged 60+ Please invite someone to join you for this special morning of worship, encouragement and fellowship designed just for you



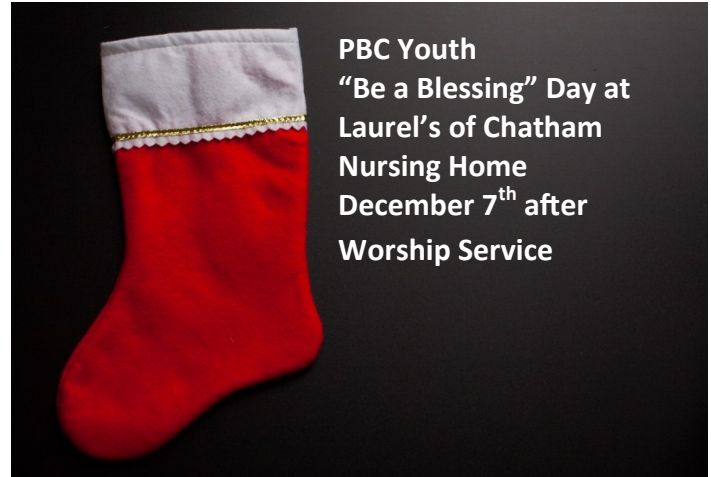
Announcing the 2026 Church Directory

Dear Church Family,

We are excited to create our church directory for 2026! Our directory is a valuable resource that helps members connect with one another, foster fellowship, and support our church community. Whether you are new to our church or a long-standing member, the directory will include contact information and family details to strengthen our bonds and make communication easier.

Please confirm or update your contact information with the church office. In the next few weeks there will be a directory form in the bulletin. Please fill out form and place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of the staff members. You can also email Pam at pbcontactus@gmail.com with your information as well. New 2026 Directories will be ready by the end of January.

~ PBC Youth Ministry At a Glance ~



Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year from the PBC Youth Family! That's quite a bit to reflect on as we approach the upcoming season. The holidays offer a meaningful opportunity to focus on our faith, family, and gratitude. And there will be plenty of occasions for our youth ministry to do just that!

In November, our Youth Ministry participated with the annual Operation Christmas Child Packing Party night. We enjoyed a wonderful meal, heard inspiring stories about OCC's global impact, packed thoughtful gifts to be sent out, and joined together in earnest prayer that God would use this ministry to touch lives for eternity through each shoebox received. A huge thanks to Ashley Batcheller and Marla Martin for their incredible leadership for all things OCC and to all of the volunteers who helped to make this year extremely successful.

In December, we will have multiple opportunities to celebrate the birth of Christ, be of service to our community, and have some fun along the way. On **December 7th** after morning worship, our youth are invited to enjoy lunch provided by Hoops Pizza & then we are traveling to the Laurels of Chatham Nursing Home in Pittsboro to bless the residents there with Christmas cards, games, songs, and sharing the Christmas account in Scripture. On **December 17th**, we will have our final Youth Encounter/Parent Connect for the 2025 year, and we are celebrating in Christmas style! We are having a Christmas Game Night filled with fun activities all centered around Christ. And on **December 19th**, we are joining with our Children's Ministry and their families to sing Christmas carols in the community.

We are super excited about what **2026** will bring for our youth ministry. Plans are underway for a **Community Youth Night of Worship called "No Other Name"** on **February 1st** at PBC for area youth groups and a PBC Youth Family Winter Retreat called **"Pause" Weekend on February 20-22nd** in Robbins, NC. More details are coming very soon!

And... it's never too late to begin preparing for Crossroads Summer Camp! PBC Youth is heading to Anderson SC for camp June 22-26, 2026! Signups for camp began in November. We have roughly **30 spots** left for camp to be reserved until February 1st with a \$75 deposit due to officially lock in your spot. Let us know if you're going! May God richly bless you during this holiday season!

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

Coming Soon for PBC Youth!

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday Night, February 1st

Area Youth Groups Are Invited to Come and Worship Together! Enjoy a Night of Praise and Worship, an Inspiring Message from God's Word, and a Great Time Together!

More details are coming!

"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow..."



Winter Retreat

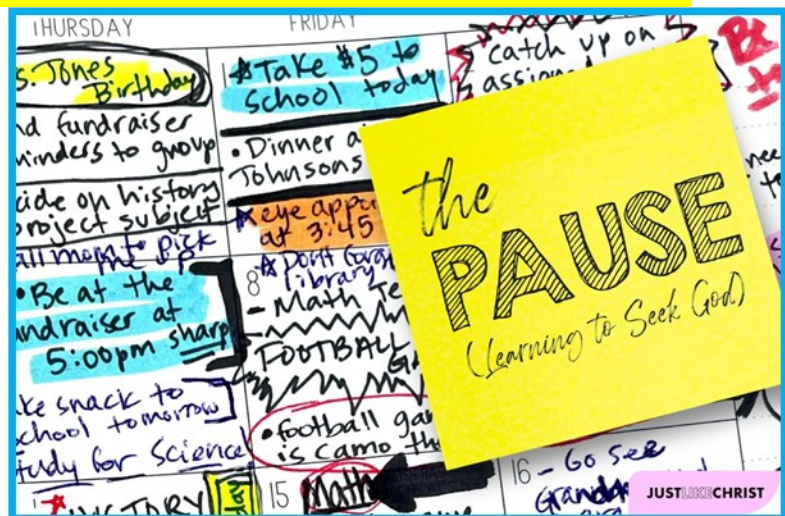
February 20-22, 2026

(Robbins, NC – Moore's Keep Christian Camp)

Join us for a few days to press pause & discover what it means to prioritize God in the midst of our chaos.

More info coming soon!

For PBC Youth and invited friends



Pittsboro Baptist Church Business Directory- **Time for an Update**

Last year, the first edition of the *Pittsboro Baptist Church Business Directory* was published. It is due for an update. The *Directory* has a two-fold purpose: to support businesses within the congregation and to highlight resources and services that may be helpful to individuals in the PBC fellowship.

The *Directory* includes businesses owned by church members/attenders as well as businesses where church members/attenders are employed. In addition, there are some service organizations where church members work, who in turn can help those who may utilize the respective services. Home-based businesses are included too.

The *Directory* does **not** list where every member of PBC works.

Kathy Shaffer will be contacting those who were in the first edition to see if there are any changes or updates. As our congregation has grown, it is hoped there will be more entries in the second edition.

If you would like your business or organization included in the *Pittsboro Baptist Church Business Directory* contact:

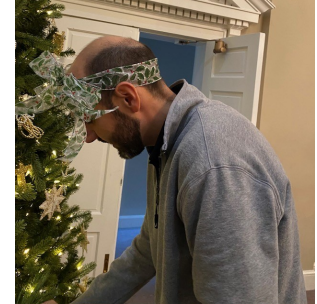
Kathy Shaffer at kshaffer@mindspring.com; call/ text: 919.244.1878 or
Ministry Assistant Pam Romel at pbcontactus@gmail.com;
call 919.542.2986.





PBC's Chrismons

Back in the late 1990's, a group of Pittsboro Baptist Church ladies traveled to Danville Virginia to visit the Ocilla United Methodist Church where Chrismon



ornaments were first created. Upon their return and over many weeks, the ladies met in the PBC



library to decorate with white beads, gold glitter, and tulle, over a hundred pieces of Styrofoam hand cut by

the late Dave and Sara Roberts, into various shapes symbolizing Christianity. Those beautiful crosses, lambs, doves, angels, and Greek monograms still grace the PBC Christmas tree. While most of those ladies are still part of our church family, some have gone onto their heavenly reward. We

appreciate and enjoy the legacy they all leave.



As Christmas draws near, our hearts are filled with warm wishes for you and everyone you hold dear. May this season bring you a truly blessed Christmas, overflowing with peace, love, and laughter. May the wondrous joy of Christ's birth fill your home, lighting your days with hope and happiness, not only today but throughout the entire year ahead.



From all the staff at PBC

Pastor Peter, Jennifer, Pam & Archie



- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 3 | Nixon Allen | 16 | Brittany Lasater |
| | Matthew Tompkins | | Munro & Beth Parker ♥ |
| | Richard & Martha Brigman ♥ | 20 | Luke Jurius |
| 5 | Al Goodwin | 21 | Rebecca Kelly |
| 9 | Sharli Allen | | Hannah Weatherington |
| 11 | Annastyn Trogon | 24 | Betty Jean Whitt |
| 14 | Diane Braswell | | |
| | Al & Sandra Goodwin ♥ | | |
| 15 | Kelly Kivette | | |
| | Peter & Tara McDonald ♥ | | |



Thank you to those Serving!

Ushers

Frank Jurius, Don Dodson,
Aaron Kivette & Percy Crutchfield

Greeters

Jimmy & Susie Griffin



Infant
Nursery
ministry

December 7	Jessica Vrvilo & Brooke Smith
December 14	Ashley Batcheller & Sunny Allen
December 21	Jon & Melissa Harshman
December 28	Tara & Jenna Smith

Toddler
Nursery
ministry

December 7	Tara, Micah & Mali McDonald
December 14	Kelly Smith & Meredith Tetterton
December 21	Amber Kilpatrick & Darby Powers
December 28	Hunter & Hannah Brown



December 7	Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
December 14	Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
December 21	Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
December 28	Jennifer & Caroline Cashion

checkitout

News from the Pearle Johnson Memorial Library

Sunday Library Schedule

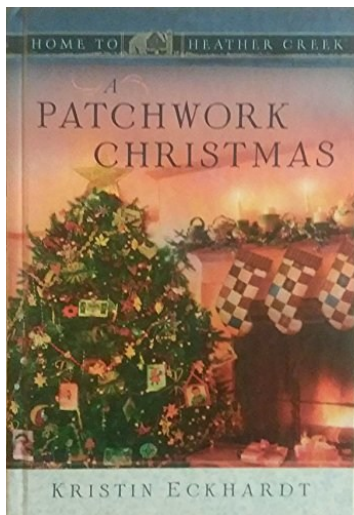
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

10:00 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.

After the decorations are up and the presents wrapped, read one of these Christmas-themed books from the PBC Library. Two of the selections are by authors of books read by the Rock of Pages Book Club.

Patchwork Christmas by Kristin Eckhardt

Heather Creek Farm looks like a winter wonderland as Charlotte prepares to make a memorable Christmas for her three grandchildren. It's the kids' first Christmas without their mother, but despite the difficult year they've all experienced, Charlotte hopes to find solace in this season of peace and joy, trusting in her faith to see her through. But when Sam makes plans to spend Christmas away from home, Charlotte and Bob must decide whether to let him visit his friend in California. If they let him go, will he come back? Meanwhile, Emily is drawn into battle with the pastor's daughter

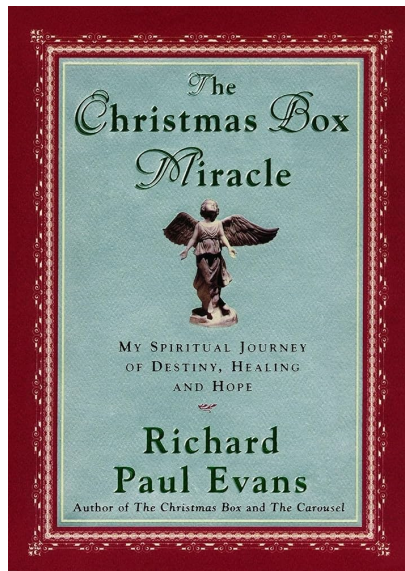


ter over the church Christmas pageant, and Christopher must face his worst fear. As they all struggle to make it through their first Christmas together, Charlotte comes to find strength in the promise of God's gift to the world.

The Christmas Box Miracle My Spiritual Journey of Destiny, Healing and Hope

by Richard Paul Evans

In 1994, Richard Paul Evans, then an unknown writer, self-published a short book entitled *The Christmas Box*. That book went on to become an international bestseller, selling more than seven million copies and touching the lives of many more



people along the way.

The Christmas Box Miracle is the story behind the book that has become a Christmas classic: how a man writes and publishes a book which helps grieving people to heal and lost souls to find their way home. It is Evans's story: his own spiritual journey and stories of people he encountered along the way -- miraculous stories of healing and divinity that often defy explanation.

In sharing the story behind *The Christmas Box*, Richard Paul Evans has given us a story of miracles, hope and healing for all seasons.

(continued on next page)

The Shoe Box**by Francine Rivers**

In this beloved holiday classic, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Redeeming Love*, Francine Rivers, shares a poignant story about the simple yet inspiring faith of a child.

This tender Christmas novella tells the story of Timmy O'Neil, a foster child with a very mysterious shoe box. At first glance, it's nothing special—just an ordinary box with a red lid and the words *Running Shoes* printed on the side.

But Timmy carries it with him wherever he goes, and when people ask him what's inside, he smiles and says, "Just things."

As Timmy settles into his new, loving home, he remains unwilling to share the secrets of his shoe box . . . until the beauty of the church Nativity pageant inspires him to open his heart and give the most precious gift of all.







Library Schedule



	<u>9-9:30a.m.</u>	<u>10-10:30a.m.</u>
December 7	Judy Beaver	Sue Devinney
December 14	Cindy Springle	Susie Griffin
December 21	Deborah Dismuke	Sue Devinney
December 28	Ann Mills	Kathy Shaffer

December 2025

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, Amen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:30am-Staff Meeting 10:00am-Monday school	2 7:00pm-Property Mgmt	3 8:00am - Men bible study at Bojangles 10:00am-Quilters 5:00pm—"The Table" 6:30pm - Dinner, JD's, Youth & Parent Connect	4	5	6
Second Sunday of Advent 7 9:00am-Quarterly Break-fast 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Church service 5:00pm-Drama Practice 	8 9:30am-Staff Meeting 10:00am-Monday school 7:00pm-Deacon's Mtg	9	10 8:00am - Men bible study at Bojangles 10:00am-Quilters 6:30pm - Dinner, JD's, Youth & Parent Connect	11	12	13 5:30pm-B.L.A.S.T. (@ S&T's)
Third Sunday of Advent 14 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Church service (Christmas Drama) 	15 9:30am-Staff Meeting 10:00am-Monday school @ Tyndall house for Christmas Party	16 10:30am - 3L's Covered Dish (Singing by PBP) 6:00pm - Preschool Christmas Program	17 8:00am - Men bible study at Bojangles 10:00am - Quilters 6:00pm - Preschool Christmas Program 6:30pm - Dinner, JD's, Youth & Parent Connect	18	19 6:30pm - Christmas Caroling	20
Fourth Sunday of Advent 21 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Church service (Baptism) 	22 9:30am-Staff Meeting 10:00am-Monday school	23	Christmas Eve 24 2:00pm & 4:00pm Christmas Eve Service (Lord's Supper) 	Christmas Day 25 Office Closed 	26 Office Closed	27
28 9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Church service	29 9:30am-Staff Meeting	30	31 8:00am - Men bible study at Bojangles 10:00am - Quilters			