



**Week of Prayer for International Missions
December 3-10, 2017**

When we pray, God works.

When it comes to praying for missionaries, International Mission Board President, David Platt, said there's one thing to keep in mind. It isn't just a rushed or mechanical exercise, he said—"God has ordained our prayer as a means to accomplish His purpose in the world. We've got to be aware that our praying for boldness for missionaries is actually going to affect whether or not they have boldness. When we pray, God works." He offered some real and powerful ways to pray for missionaries:

1. PRAY they would be confident to preach God's Word—not just to do relief work or learn culture well, but to speak truth with boldness, no matter the circumstances.
2. PRAY the gospel would be clear through missionaries' lives and words and that God would open hearts.
3. PRAY missionaries will be at peace with other believers, that Satan would not have success in attacking families, friends and ministry partners.
4. PRAY for them to have joy when they suffer, kindness when they are slandered and patience when things are hard. Pray for God to help them persevere—fighting the battle for souls is hard, but it's worth it.

PRAY God would give Missionaries success in sharing the Gospel with others, that they would see disciples made and churches planted.

GIVE to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering so that Missionaries CAN share.

Portland Avenue Lottie Moon Offering Goal: \$12,500



*The Lottie Moon Post Office
is open for Business in the South Foyer*

You are invited to address Christmas Cards to church members and place them in the appropriate alphabetized boxes.

A donation of 25 cents per card is suggested. Donations may be placed in the red box, placed in the offering plate or turned in to the church office.

Don't forget to check the mailbox for mail addressed to you!

In Christian Sympathy

The Portland family extends Christian love and sympathy to:

- Donella Gray in the loss of Ed.
- Bernie Martens in the loss of his mother.
- Family of Virginia Moyer.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner
Menu for December
Served from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m.

Adults—\$3.50 Children—\$2
Family Plan —\$12

Dec 6— Taco Salad, Chips/Salsa & Dessert
Dec 13— Chuckwagon Stew, Cornbread & Dessert

Wednesday Night Dinners for the 20th and 27th
have been cancelled.



**Fresh Food
Mobile Market**
Tuesday, December 5th
9am at Connection Center

Volunteers are always
WELCOME!



NO DENTAL CLINIC IN DECEMBER
The next dental clinic is January 20th.
Appointments required.
Call 946-9497 beginning at 9 a.m.
Thursday, January 18th.



1301 N. Portland Ave Okla. City, OK 73107 (405) 942-5539 www.portlandavenue.org



A Savior is Born!

I'm preparing to preach the funeral of long-time member, Ed Gray, this afternoon. Donella let me borrow Ed's Bible and as I thumbed through it last night page-after-page was marked and highlighted with notes written in the margins. Ed didn't just own a Bible, the Bible owned him. Christmas is about the coming of a Savior for all mankind. Ed met that Savior a number of years ago when his life was a mess, but Jesus cleaned him up from the inside-out. It was a radical transformation of Ed's life that changed the way he thought, acted, and spoke. Jesus became not only his Savior but his Lord. Ed was controlled by the Master.

Ed's life is a beautiful picture of what Christmas is really all about. It's about God coming down among us in His son who lived, died, and rose again that we might have forgiveness of sin and the promise of eternal life. Now, that's a gift worth giving to every man, woman, boy, and girl. Christmas is about giving so let each of us share the gift of eternal life with all who cross our path not only at Christmas but at all times. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" Luke 2:11. Let there be more of Jesus in your Christmas than anything else. I Love You!

Bro. Walter

Periodicals Postage Paid
Baptist Messenger
Special Edition

November 30, 2017

Dr. Walter L. Mullican, Senior Pastor
Tony Mullican, Student/Community Minister
Cody Boyer, Music & Senior Adults
Gina McKean, Preschool & Children

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CHRISTMAS 2017 at PORTLAND AVENUE

- Dec. 7 - 3 pm - Whiz Kids Christmas Celebration
- Dec. 10 - 6 pm - Church Wide Christmas Fellowship
- Dec. 15 - 6:30 pm - Kid's Christmas Night Out
- Dec. 16 - Deacon's Christmas Dinner
- Dec. 17 - 10:45 am - Christmas Musical
- Dec. 17 - 5:00 pm - Christmas Caroling
- Dec. 18 - 10:30 am - Senior Adult Christmas Brunch
- Dec. 20 - NO Wednesday Night Activities
- Dec. 24 - 10:45 am - Morning Worship Only
- Dec. 24 - 6:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 27 - NO Wednesday Night Activities
- Dec. 31 - Regular Schedule for Sunday School & Worship

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11



Help us serve families at Christmas with food items or monetary donations.

Items needed: Dressing, Green Beans, Corn, Cake Mixes, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Sugar, Flour, Soups, Coffee, Cereal, Rice, Pinto Beans and Potatoes.
A collection box is located at the Library.

Do you know a family within our church that could use a Food Basket for Christmas?
Call the church office at 942-5539 with the family information.

Greetings!

First, let me say thank you to all who have prayed for Mandy and for our little Raeleigh's safe arrival. Our beautiful little girl was born on November 2nd at exactly 8 am. She was the same weight and length as her brother was when he was born, 7 lbs 14 oz and 20 inches long. She and momma are doing great!

Our music ministry has been working hard for the past couple of months on our 2017 Christmas musical entitled, *It's Jesus!* This musical is a little different due to the fact that it tells not just of the birth of Christ, but also His life, ministry, death, resurrection, His gift of salvation and His second coming to take His children home. Invite your family and friends to come and hear the story of Christ as never told before!

After you've heard the great music that morning, then come join us that evening at 5:30 pm for Caroling, Caroling! We'll take our church buses to several Sr, living centers and present familiar Christmas carols to all who will hear. You will be blessed by the smiles on those who we sing to!

Blessings,

Cody

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Emma Hill | 10 Virginia Miles |
| Freida Sheldon | Cindy Shelton |
| 3 Harvey Sparks | 11 John Carnahan |
| 4 Lupe Hernandez | Julia Crews |
| | Bill Ricker |

Senior Adult Birthday missing from the list?
Call the church office at 942-5539 and let us know.

PABC MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS

It's JESUS!

It's Jesus! is a musical celebration of our Savior's birth, life, death, resurrection and glorious second coming. Invite your friends and family to come hear this unique Christmas celebration!

Sunday, December 17th – 10:45 am

Sr. Adult
Christmas Brunch 

Monday, December 18th – 10:30 am

 "CAROLING, CAROLING"

Sunday,
December 17th
5:30 pm

A popular Christmas movie from a few years ago made the statement that *"the best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!"*

Come join us as we travel to several Senior Living centers and spread some Christmas cheer to the residents!

PARENT CONNECTION

Teach me Your way LORD and I will live by Your truth. Psalm 86:11



I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 4

It was with great JOY that on November 19th, we had the pleasure of observing the baptism of EIGHT CHILDREN who NOT ONLY successfully completed a semester of our "New Christian Class for Kids," but made a public decision to allow JESUS to be the LORD and SAVIOR of their life! Even better, is that they have a lifetime to SERVE HIM!

A special thanks to Shelly Brandon for serving as director of the "New Christian's Class" and recruiting leaders, Gerald and Jeanie Barton, John Brandon and Angie Martens. This leadership team dedicated 11 weeks to walking through what it means to be a Christian . . . From the original sin in Genesis to the resurrection of Jesus and the acceptance of Him as our Lord and Savior.

Praising the LORD today for all of volunteers who lovingly serve in our Ministry to Children!



Kid's Night Out
Christmas Celebration!

Friday, December 15th
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

We'll have pizza, decorate cookies, play games, make a craft AND read the Christmas Story!
Grade School kids will also go on a Neighborhood Christmas Light Tour & Prayer Drive.
Sign up at the Children's Office by Dec. 10th.



Give the "Gift of Prayer"

This Christmas Season let's give the Gift of Prayer to the Teachers at Buchanan Elementary School.

"Pick an Apple" from the Christmas Tree in the NORTH or SOUTH Foyer and commit to pray for that Staff Member through the month of December—consider praying through the New Year as well.

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Sponsored with LOVE by the Portland Children's Ministry



Make it a Very MEANINGFUL Merry Christmas—Family Style!



As Christmas approaches, it is important to keep the focus on Jesus' miraculous birth. There is anticipation in the air and it can make a child wide eyed with wonder. Talk with your children about why we celebrate Christmas.

It is equally important to focus your Christmas activities around the birth of Jesus.

Set up a Christmas manger and READ the Christmas Story— This will help your children remember to be grateful for the true blessing of the holiday.

Give - God's gift to us was His son. He was the ultimate sacrifice. Teach your children about giving and sacrificing for others. You can make a family dinner, bake for neighbors or even just have your children make their own Christmas cards to cheer up friends and family. Sending cards to the troops or to people in the hospital during the Christmas season is a great way to have your children bless others.

Sing out loud - Go Christmas caroling. A fun way to unite people during the holidays.

Make a gift - Show your children that the best gifts are from the heart. Have them create homemade gifts for their teachers and friends.

Write a thank you letter - Encourage your child to write a thank you letter to Jesus. Tell them to include why they are grateful for His birth. Saving these letters in a scrapbook is a wonderful way for you to look back years from now.

Christmas is a time to enjoy your family and friends and most importantly celebrate Christ.

There is no present that can compare to that gift!