

# The Lamplighter – December 2022

311 Cypress Street – Mt. Carmel, Tennessee 37645 - 423-357-7241 – [www.ogbchurch.org](http://www.ogbchurch.org)



## Galatians 6

*7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. 9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.*

Every person goes through “seasons” of life. Some seasons are so busy we wonder how we will ever get through all the “stuff” happening. Other seasons are slower, and we enjoy the slower pace or maybe even begin to wonder where all of the excitement seems to have gone. A church can be the same way.

As a church family, we go through periods of waiting and stillness when we wonder where the excitement has gone. Fortunately, December is not one of those times. Beginning in September, we start to pick up speed and excitement at every turn. The kids are preparing for a Christmas special; the adults are preparing for a big Christmas special, and the silent Lord’s Supper. Everyone is preparing to celebrate the birth of Christ. Things are hopping.

Amid the exciting season, please take the time to remember to be kind to others. It’s easy to be nice when things are slow and there is more time, but this time of year is when it is vital to SHOW the Love of Christ, not just wear it on our shirts. When you are at the restaurant, show patience and gratitude to the wait staff. Christians ought to be the best customers they have. When we are shopping to find the gift that says we care, let us ensure the people who work at the store know we care about them too. We need to show, illustrate, and demonstrate the Love of Jesus everywhere and in all things. Especially when we are tired and frustrated and just plain worn out, it takes intentionality to show others kindness. A kind word may have eternal consequences for the person who experiences the Love of Christ through us.

Finally, please invite someone to attend service with you during this exciting season. I have read that 80% of people who begin attending a church come because someone they know invites them. As Christians, we have an incredible opportunity to ask others to attend church during this time of year. Many people would love to come to church but don’t want to attend by themselves. Be the friend that takes the chance to say, “Come sit with me this Sunday.” It is a simple sentence, but it could change someone’s life.

With love,  
Pastor Todd



**We would like to extend a special welcome to our newest member!  
We're so glad to have you!**

Steve Lambert



Thank you so much for the Gideon Bibles in my Mom's memory. She was a strong Christian and nothing would have made her happier. Most of all thank you for your prayers for our family. We love you all.

Randy & Debbi Pressnell

Thank you so much for all the thoughts and prayers during Kasyn's time in the NICU. We greatly appreciate those along with the encouraging messages also sent during that time. We are glad to have our baby boy home and are so blessed by God's gift!

Love, Doug & LeAnn Lane Overbay



We have now concluded our study through a couple of the minor prophets (Jonah, Hosea, and Micah) and what a great study that was! I hope that you were able to join a class during that time. If not, then we are getting ready to start a study in the first half of the Gospel of John in December. This three-month study will absolutely grow you and I hope that you will join us!

Please don't miss this quarter in Sunday school. Make sure that you are there each Sunday and bring a friend with you. For those of you that haven't been coming to Sunday school for whatever reason, we have lots of classes that are filled with loving people who would love to study and serve right beside of you. You will be blessed by attending and the rest of us will be blessed for getting to study with you!

Blessings, Eric



It seems like just a couple of days ago summer was ending and now we're moving toward Christmas. The weather is changing quickly to set the mood for the holiday season. Our choirs are working hard toward their Christmas musicals. Preschool Choir and Children's Choir will present their musicals on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The Adult Sanctuary Choir will present their Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

I would like to say a big "Thank You" to all those involved in the wonderful Thanksgiving service. The Children's Choir did a super job opening up the service. I am also grateful for every adult choir member that participated and for everyone that gave a testimony. The service was a wonderful reminder that we have much to be thankful for.

In Christian Love, Doug



The youth will have their Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 6:30 on the mezzanine. We will do a meal for the youth and their families. The menu will be ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls and dessert. If you plan to attend, please let me know.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and enjoys time spent with your family.

Ramona



Please note: Baptist Women will not meet for the month of December. This month we encourage ladies to help with the Angel Party on December 10.

**Monday, December 5**

**6:00 p.m. – Senior Adult Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)**

This fellowship is open to all adults 55+. Pizza and salad will be served. There will be fun, fellowship, and games. Please sign up in your Sunday School room or the Welcome Center.

**Saturday, December 10**

**2:00-4:00 p.m. – Angel Party**

This year we are expecting approximately 30 families for the Angel Party. Each child will receive gifts, a hot meal, and will hear the story of the birth of Jesus. All angel gifts are due back to the church by Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Sunday, December 11**

**6:00 p.m. – Sunbeam Singers & Children’s Choir Musicals**

What a blessing our children’s programs are each year. Please come show your support to these youngsters and their leaders.

**Wednesday, December 14**

**6:30 p.m. – RA/GA Caroling, Youth Christmas Party**

RA’s and GA’s will leave promptly at 6:30 for this special event. The Youth will have their party in the gym.

**Sunday, December 18**

**6:00 p.m. – Adult Choir Cantata/After-Church Fellowship**

Make plans to be here for a night of worship through song as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Immediately following the cantata, there will be an after-church fellowship in the gym. You are asked to bring your favorite finger foods to share.

**Wednesday, December 21**

**6:30 p.m. – Silent Lord’s Supper**

This service is a special one as we gather to observe the Lord’s Supper. Not a word will be spoken. The only sounds will be that of the instruments as they softly play in the background. We invite you to meditate on the miraculous birth of Jesus, His death, and resurrection. Please note that all other activities will not meet on this evening.

**Sunday, December 25**

**11:00 a.m. – Christmas Morning Worship**

On Christmas Day we will have an 11:00 worship service. Sunday School classes will not meet this day.



**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

**Week of Prayer – December 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>**

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an annual offering collected by believers around the world to support international missions. The offering is named for Lottie Moon who was a missionary to China.

Your generosity makes a global impact. If you would like to contribute, please mark your envelope “LMCO”.



In Observance of the Christmas Holiday, the church office will be closed the week of December 25<sup>th</sup>. We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas!

**Year End Giving**

If you would like to make a tax-deductible year end donation you may turn in your gift at our office by Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, at church on December 25<sup>th</sup> or if mailing, your donation will need to be postmarked by December 31, 2022.

**At Home in our Hearts**

“All hearts come home for Christmas,” according to popular sentiment. But what if your heart (and/or home) is hurting or troubled? Does this season have room for people who are struggling? Does the holiday still have meaning?

Yes, God’s word tells us. In fact, that’s why God sent Jesus, the Word, from his heavenly home to make “his dwelling among us” (John 1:14, NIV). As fully human, Jesus experienced loneliness and betrayal, loss and physical pain. He was rejected by loved ones, angered by corruption, and abandoned to die. But as fully God, Jesus provides answers, healing and hope. Through his resurrection (which first required an earthly birth), Jesus offers salvation to all who believe in him.



# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Every Sunday</b> 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship, Jericho Junction, Children's Church, Nursery	<b>Every Wednesday</b> 5:45 Sunbeam Singers, Children's Choir 6:30 Youth Bible Study, RA's, GA's, Mission Friends 7:15 Adult Choir			<b>1</b> 6:00-8:00 Upward Practice	<b>2</b> 5:00 – 6:30 Gym L. Hicks	<b>3</b> 3:30-6:30 FH Slaght & Dockery SS Party  4:00 Gym Counts SS Party
<b>4</b> 8:00 Deacons' Meeting 2:00-5:00 FH M. Hood 5:00 Church Council	<b>5</b> 6:00-9:00 Upward Practice 6:00- 8:00 FH Senior Adult Fellowship	<b>6</b> 6:30 HVBA Executive Committee Christmas Banquet @ OGBC	<b>7</b> 5:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Prayer Meeting	<b>8</b> 6:00-8:00 Upward Practice	<b>9</b> 6:00 Gym Set-up for Angel Party	<b>10</b> 11:00-4:00 FH Shoemaker SS Party 2:00-4:00 Gym Angel Party 6:00-8:00 Gym N. Franklin
<b>Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering – December 4<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup></b>						
<b>11</b> 4:00-6:00 FH J. Ingram 6:00 Sunbeam Singers & Children's Choir Musicals	<b>12</b> 6:00-9:00 Upward Practice	<b>13</b> 6:00-9:00 Upward Practice	<b>14</b> 6:30 Business Meeting RA/GA Caroling, Youth Christmas Party	<b>15</b> 6:00-8:00 Upward Practice  6:00 Caring Card Ministry	<b>16</b> 6:00-9:00 Upward Practice (12/6 Makeup)	<b>17</b> 5:00-9:00 FH D. Wells
<b>18</b> <i>Miracle Mission            Walk</i> 6:00 Adult Choir Cantata, After- church fellowship to follow		<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:30 Silent Lord's Supper (no other activities or service)		<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>Christmas Eve</i>
<b>25</b> <i>Merry Christmas!</i> 11:00 Service ONLY  	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> No Wednesday evening service	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i>
<b>Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday</b>						