

THE WITNESS

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December 19, 2013

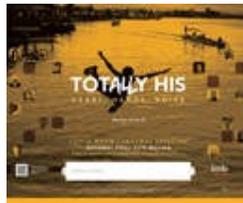
MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH

International Missions Emphasis

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is being received through
January 12, 2014

Our goal: \$12,750.00
Amount Received: \$3,710.00

Our goal is the equivalent of approximately three months support
for a missionary.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

7:00 p.m. Service — will feature the Children who will be presenting a skit

11:00 p.m. Service — will feature our choir and praise team

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Special points of interest:

- Please continue to eat at Ruby Tuesdays on Sundays, show your church bulletin and help support Operation Christmas Child.
- Three garden flags are available to support Operation Christmas Child. Call the church office.
- January 23 "Young At Heart" trip: Swift Creek Mill to see "Miracle Worker". Russell Bumpass has details (883-6448).



God has blessed our many efforts this season to tell the Christmas story!

Thanksgiving for Christmas

Thanks to everyone who had a part in the **Living Nativity**. Even the rain could not dampen the spirit of Christmas as we altered our plans to have the drama in the sanctuary! I cannot estimate the number of person hours that were invested!

I am equally appreciative of the **Youth's shadow** play! Looking forward to seeing the **children** on Christmas Eve at 7:00! Thanks, everyone, for all your efforts!

I am also very thankful for the nice Christmas bonus that you gave me this year.

Judy & I are so humbled by your Christmas cards and notes and other remembrances that you have showered upon us. Thank you!

We pray that you & your family have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

— Dale & Judy

New Small Group Starting on January 7

“He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree.”

Roy Smith



Read It Through in 2014

Have you ever read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation chronologically?

In 2014, we are challenging people to read the Bible in the order that the events happened

in history.

We will read assigned selections during the week and then meet on Tuesday evenings for discussion.

Please call Brittany Henley (804) 752-2101 by December 28th if you would like to participate.

Brittany suggests that you can still participate via a

Facebook group that will be started, even if you are unable to attend the discussion groups. You will be able to get your reading assignments there and read notes from the discussions. Feel free to join and follow along on your own, so we can all fulfill a New Year's resolution to read the whole Bible in 2014!



Children's Notes

The presents have been unwrapped, the new PJ's have been washed and perhaps a new toy has lost a part. This could only mean it is January! The month when we begin to pack away the previous year while deciding new hopes for the upcom-

ing year. What will your family focus on this year? In Children's Church we will begin the New Year with a focus on prayer. Children will take the month of January to discover that prayer is in essence a conversation with God. It re-

quires little other than an open heart. Please join us in this discovery and talk with your children, no matter what age they are, about how great that conversation can be. If you would like a little help to make this a year long journey for the family,

check out JesusCalling: 365 Devotions For Kids by Sarah Young. A few minutes each day, and you will watch your family and child's prayer life bloom!

Happy New Year,
Felicia G. Taylor

Prayer Concerns

Jessie Bayne	Mike Parrish	Barbara Cosby
Russell Bumpass	Evelyn Seay	Ilene Henderson
Lois Chenault	Rick Slater	Richey Jewell
Betty Dye	Ruby Stilwell	Martha Loving
Gwen Eck	Susan Turner	Neesie Stearns
Brandon Germon	Gayle Wingfield	
Brittany Melton		
Rosie Miglucci	<u>Assisted Living/ Convalescent/ Homebound</u>	<u>In the Military</u>
Gabriel Morrison		Michael Thurston
Beverly Parrish	Bob Campbell	

Sympathy is extended to...

...Leonard Lettner in the loss of his brother-in-law, Harry Reeves.

...Barbara Willis in the loss of her grandmother.

Congratulations to Beth Henley & Michael Moore on the birth of their daughter, Cora Page, born December 3. Stacey Gray is the proud grandmother, and Bootsie & Laura Stanley are the proud great-grandparents.

Notes of Appreciation

Dear Dear Friends at Mount Olivet,

Thank you so very much for your thoughts, cards and especially your prayers the last few weeks during my sister's last weeks and her ultimate "homegoing". I rest in the reality that I will see her again but still feel the sadness of the loss now. Your support in so many ways has been truly felt and greatly appreciated.

Love & God Bless!
Wanda Laing

Dear Church Family, I would like to thank you for the cards, phone calls, well wishes, and prayers for my knee surgery and recovery. I am so thankful for my church family

all the time, but in times of sickness or need it is so comforting to know how much your church family cares. Bless all of you and may the blessing of Christmas be with you through the Christmas season and the coming year.

Love, Gwen

To the Church Family:

Thank you for my Christmas gift. God has blessed Mt. Olivet with an extra measure of really good instrumentalists, ringers and singers, talented people who do what they do well and who throw in a generous helping of fun along the way. It is my joy to be with them each week as we work (and play) together to prepare for

worship. Thank you for the privilege.

In His love,
Claudia

Dear Mt. Olivet Friends,

Thank you so much for your wonderful Christmas gift. Please know it is greatly appreciated. You are such a dear group of people, and it is a pleasure to be able to do ministry with you. I wish each of you a happy, healthy year in 2014.

With much love,
Shirley

A total of 440 shoe boxes were collected for Operation Christmas Child! Thank you for your awesome support!



"Every Member A Minister"

MT. OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH

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Claudia M. Phillips, Music Minister
Cindy C. Weston, Youth Minister
Shirley S. Mills, Secretary



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Happy New Year!

Welcome New Sunday School Member

Parker Collier—Children (Grade 5)

Youth News!

Thank you to all youth and parents for your support of Youth Ministry in 2013! We are currently planning for 2014! Here is the latest "youth news":

Starting in January, during our Wednesday night youth study, we will be reading and studying first and second Thessalonians. Please encourage your youth to read these scriptures at home! We will have a virtual bulletin board online for parents, relatives and friends to answer questions that we post on this site. I will give more information on this later this month.

Beginning in January, we will be collecting "gently used" shoes and "new" shoes for a

return trip this summer to RAM (Remote Area Medical). Please help us by collecting shoes from home and from other friends and relatives. Walking or Athletic style shoes are best. Collection boxes will be placed upstairs next to the youth room, The ATTIC, and also in the fellowship hall. Some of the shoes collected will also go to the "Soles 4 Souls" program which one of our Sunday School classes, "The Odd Fellows", will deliver to this organization. So just bring all the shoes you can and place in the collections bins!

We will be planning several fellowship events in the months to come. Parents and youth, please remember,

"signing up" and letting youth leaders know that you can attend is critical to our having these events. Announcements about sign-ups will always go out to youth in flyers as well as the church bulletin and newsletters. Thanks!



Church Family,

I want to thank you all for your continued support of my calling to minister to youth and for your support of the youth themselves. May God be praised for what He is doing in and through us all. I want to also thank the church for your wonderful Christmas bonus. Your love and support speaks greatly of your love of our Lord. With much love for you all, I say a huge thank you!