



December

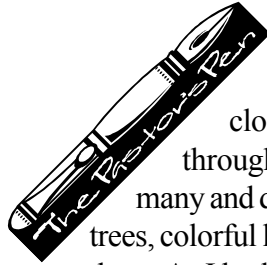
Hamilton Street Baptist Church Newsletter

2010

Essential Church for all the seasons of life.

INSIDE INFORMATION

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As you look in the stores it sure seems that we are getting closer to Christmas, or is it the "holidays"? I was walking through one large store the other day and was captivated by the many and diverse Christmas decorations. There were brightly lit trees, colorful lighting sets and an abundance of Santas, reindeer and elves. As I looked through the store, I began to wonder, where is the Christ of Christmas? I asked one of the workers if they had any nativity sets. She said that they had a few and pointed me to a back corner. Sure enough there I found a few nativity sets off by themselves. Now I am not saying that this was a planned approach by the store, but it made me think. How central is Christ in your Christmas?

Christmas has many fun traditions, but if Christ is not central to our celebrations, Christmas is just a hollow holiday. Santa, his elves or reindeer or even living snowmen did not bring salvation to the earth. We can say we "believe" all we want, but I am thinking that is more a statement of faith in Santa more than in Jesus. Christmas is such a wonderful holiday, but let's make sure that we don't leave Jesus on a back shelf somewhere. Celebrate and worship Him for He is the true reason for the season.

Merry CHRISTmas and God bless.

Pastor Charles
pastorchas@sbcglobal.net



40 DAYS OF EXPERIENCING GOD

Adult Wednesday Night Study
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
December 1 through January 12

The pastor will be leading the adults through a six-week study of *Experiencing God* by Henry Blackaby. If you have ever wondered how you can better understand God's will for your life, this study will help you with that understanding. If you have never gone through this study or have gone through it in the past, this will be a great time to "experience God" or to be refreshed on these timeless insights from Scripture.

REMEMBER
THE CHILD



As we celebrate the Christ Child's birth this month, many of our Women's Ministry

activities have been scheduled early in the month so you can enjoy the season. Plan to join us at least once this month.

Discipleship

Our fall Bible studies have now been completed or are coming to their conclusion. Thank you to Brenda Jones, Lorri Landon, Tanya Tatro, and Sharon Schesvold for leading the almost 60 women who were enrolled in those studies. Thank you to Kathy Adkins for hosting the Monday Night study, and the BSU for hosting the Thursday morning group. Thank you, also, to the ones who provided child care for our Thursday morning group to meet.

Just because these studies have come to an end, don't stop studying God's Word together! If you're not in a Sunday morning Bible Study, Elsie Rudd would be delighted to help you get involved in a weekly study that fits you.

Look for our spring 2011 Women's Bible Studies to begin the week after January Bible Study.

Fellowship

Joy Taylor is inviting us to her home on Thursday, December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. for our annual Cookie Swap. Let's meet at the church to carpool ready to leave at 6:15 p.m. Look for more information about the event elsewhere in this

newsletter. Please sign up in the foyer if you plan to attend.

From our Adult Ministry Questionnaire, we learned several of our women would like to get together for lunch. Brenda Jones and Sarah Mack are planning the first of these luncheons on Tuesday, December 7th. Again, look for more info about this elsewhere in the newsletter.

Ladies' Craft Night took a November break and returns Tuesday, December 7th at 6:30 p.m. with a Christmas craft theme. You may bring the project you're working on, or come and learn a new craft, share tools and supplies, gather ideas, and enjoy some good fellowship. Bring a snack to share and a friend to join us!

Service

Thank you for making our Public Servants of the Month project viable. You have abundantly and willingly supplied treats as we've asked. Thank you for participating in this project! Moreover, thank you for praying for these workers. Our Public Servants of the Month project is taking a December break. We will resume blessing an office in January.

We continue to work on making the Love, Lily project more visible in the community. If you would like to contribute a handmade baby item to this project, we'll be collecting the items at church, tagging them with a note to the expectant mother, and then deliver them to the LifeLine Pregnancy Center. Remember, you are also welcome to donate yarn, fabric, or other materials. Please contact Stacy Tucker-Potter for more information.

Conferences and Conventions

Please be planning for the Women of Joy conference in Louisville in March.

Hint Ladies, ask for this event for Christmas! *Hint* *Hint* Fellas, this would make a great Christmas gift for your wife! Last year's cost was about \$125, but contact Cheryl Flaim if you'd like to be more precise.

Prayer

Please be sure to contact our prayer team if you have a personal need you would like our women's ministry to join you in seeking God's answer. Contact Jane Jackson, and she'll discreetly pass your request on only to those on the Women's Ministry Prayer Team.

As we celebrate the Lord's birth, may we remember with Isaiah why He came:

'The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor.

May we become more and more like Him as we minister together.

Merry Christmas!

Kay Shelby, Women's Ministry Director
kayshelby@sbcglobal.net



We will be making table top Christmas trees.

To make one tree you'll need 6 wire coat hangers, 65 feet of garland, a string of 100 lights, and masking tape.

Invite a friend to join us! See you here!

Tuesday, December 7
6:30 pm

Vital Signs

Year to Date (11/24/2010):

Budgeted Offering:	\$235,333.25
Received Offering:	\$233,669.57
Budget Expenses:	\$225,241.28

YTD Average Attendance:

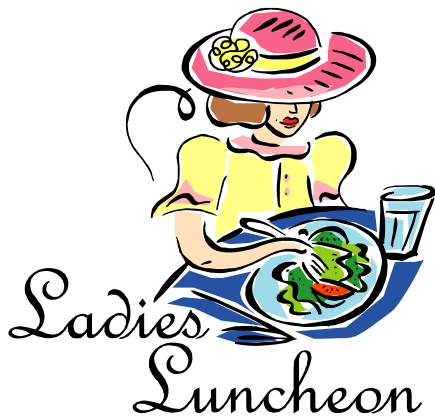
8:30 a.m. Worship:	96
11:00 a.m. Worship:	122
Worship Total:	223
Sunday School:	136

LADIES, JOIN US!

We will have our first H.S.B.C. Ladies Luncheon. Come on your lunch hour. It will be carry in, so bring a dish. This event is for ladies of all ages. This is a good time to meet those ladies in the other service you may not be familiar with.

If this is well attended, we plan on having this every other month, the 1st Tue. of the month. There is no program planned, just good fellowship on your lunch hour!

Possible Suggestions: Meat casserole, plate of sandwiches, salads, vegetables or dessert. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer.



**TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 7TH,
12:00-1:00**

Please sign up what you are bringing so we can have a nice variety.

If you are in need of a ride, please contact Brenda Jones, and she will connect you with a

ride. The bus will not be available.

This is a new event being offered by the Women's Ministry Team.

For more information or questions call Hamilton Street Baptist Church, 665-4633, or contact Brenda Jones or Sarah Mack.

STORIES OF LIFE CHANGE

Have you been changed as a result of attending our church? Has the HSBC church family impacted your life? Is there an HSBC ministry or program that has improved your serve? Have you grown in your faith walk?

We would like you to share your story. In a short paragraph, please email us your story: hsbc@sbcglobal.net or drop a written note by the church office.

We plan to use your stories in a variety of ways in the future.

Women's 5th Annual

Thursday



December 2nd

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Joy Taylor's home

are invited and encouraged
to participate!

Please bring 3 dozen cookies to swap,
some to share that evening
and the recipe.

Come join us for an festive evening!

ALL HSBC WOMEN AND THEIR GUESTS



*Cookie Bake at the church
Saturday, December 4, 2:30 p.m.
for more information contact
Greg Xander, 665-3462
gregxander@yahoo.com*

DIVORCE *Care*: "SURVIVING THE HOLIDAY"

Leader: Myrna Welch
Omaha Baptist Church
December 4th, Sat. Morning
10:00 a.m. through 12:00 p.m.

Lunch served
Divorce Care for Kids ages 5 to 12
Nursery provided.

This is what is included in the seminar:

- A 40-minute video, filled with practical tips on how to survive the holidays
- Hear from others in your group who are dealing with a marital breakup this holiday season
- Have the opportunity to share how the separation or divorce is affecting you (if you'd like)
- Receive a personal Holiday Survival Guide

FROM THE HOSTESS COMMITTEE



The Hostess Committee would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We have had a very blessed year this year. Lots of activity. We will miss Martha, as she has retired, but we have gained a few others as well. We look forward to what the New Year brings and the exciting things God has planned for us.

Your Committee:

Brenda Jones, Betty Martin, Carol Black,
Joyce Sayre, Martha Barnhill, Wanda
Rogers, Joyce Ragan, Dee Matheney,
Nellie Smith

From the Desk of the Music Minister



I was recently thinking about the first Christmas and the great celebration that took place in the skies outside Bethlehem. As I read this passage from Luke, I was blown away by the scope of worship displayed. The angels appear shining in the sky, singing glory to God, in celebration of the Lord's birth, in the most magnificent show the shepherds had ever seen. A number of things related to worship stood out to me, but I want to point you to two of them.

First, the angels, though they may not have understood the motivations of the Lord for sending His Son to the earth, nevertheless still rallied in worshipping Him, proclaiming His name, and lifting their voices in the fullest praise. Their lack of understanding of the Gospel story did not in any way inhibit their worship. This caused me to pause and reflect on my own worship. So often I do not understand the need for worship, and it causes me to cease worship or get distracted or even to shun God. What I don't realize is that I will never totally comprehend the need for worship. But just as the angels did not comprehend the need for a Savior yet continued to worship with utmost fervor, so should I.

Secondly, the angels' worship moved the shepherds to action. What challenged

me about this is that the shepherds were in awe of the worship they had just witnessed, and when it was finished they decided to go worship the Lord themselves. In the same way, our worship should be so genuine and so fantastic that people are moved to worship God themselves. Sure, you may say, of course the shepherds went to Bethlehem after seeing that—it was amazing! But shouldn't our worship be amazing as well? Shouldn't our worship push those witnessing to worship Jesus Christ as well? Yes.

As we celebrate our Lord's birth this month, I urge each of you to worship. We must worship, no matter our mood, no matter our scope of comprehension. Worshipping our Lord will bring us closer to Him, and perhaps the Lord will use you to shine a light in the sky, just as He used the angels, to show someone the true meaning of Christmas. God bless you this Christmas season.

Joshua T. Smith,
Hebrews 13:20-21

Gene Austin

ONE10 Missional Community

Students are finishing up the semester with most of the athletes just finishing their season. Unfortunately, neither football or volleyball ended the way they had hoped. Our attendance has stayed steady at 15. We had a meeting after church and discussed how to move forward so our community of faith makes a real impact on our lives. It was a great conversation, and we will be adjusting some of our activities in view of our conversation. Please pray that we would have the right amount of structure to give direction while still fostering growth. One of our students, Dimonique, has shared a little about why she attends. I pray this will be an encouragement to you.

I go to the ONE10 Missional Community because I feel at home. Every week, I look forward to going because I know I will be challenged and uplifted at the same time. I go because I know I am growing as a person and in my relationship with Christ. What else could I ask for? On top of that, the fellowship is great and I know I have someone to talk to if needed.

Dimonique McGruder, track athlete

The Mission of HSBC

Honor God's Truth

Share the Gospel

Build Believers

Care for Others

The purpose of the Church is to glorify God by fulfilling the Great Commandment

(³⁶"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22:36-40)

and the Great Commission

(¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20).

DECEMBER CALENDAR

November 28 – December 5	Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions	
December 1	5:45 p.m.	Dinner
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Programming
December 2	6:30 p.m.	Women's Cookie Swap
December 3	9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study, BSU
December 4	TBA	Adult Shopping Trip to Columbia
	2:30 p.m.	College Student Cookie Bake
December 6	9:30 a.m.	Highland Crest
December 7	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
	12:00 p.m.	Ladies' Carry-In Luncheon
	6:30 p.m.	Ladies' Craft Night
December 8	5:45 p.m.	Dinner
	6:30 p.m.	Wednesday Night Programming
December 9	9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study, BSU
December 10	1:30 p.m.	Women on Mission (WMU)
December 11	9:00 a.m.	Youth Shopping Trip
	12:00 p.m.	Dependables Christmas Dinner
December 12	6:00 p.m.	Our Christmas
December 14	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
	6:00 p.m.	Church Outreach & Visitation
December 15	6:00 p.m.	Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study / Youth
December 16		Newsletter Items Due
December 19	6:00 p.m.	Cantata and Christmas Program
December 21	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
December 22	6:00 p.m.	Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study / Youth
December 24		Christmas Eve, Office Closed
	6:00 p.m.	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
December 26	3:00 p.m.	Kirksville Manor Care
December 27		Christmas Holiday, Office Closed
December 28	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
	6:30 p.m.	Deacons Meeting
December 29		Evening Activities Dismissed
December 31		New Year's Eve, Office Closed



Christmas Cards for the Throwers

“Not that she (Lottie Moon) wanted to return to America. She just missed it, along with her brothers and sisters and friends there. The ladies of her special missionary society in Cartersville had not written her in months. If only they knew how much letter meant to missionaries!”
– excerpt from ‘The Lottie Moon Story’ by Cathy Butler, 2004.

Don't you love getting Christmas cards? While we remember family and friends, we sometimes forget a very special group of people, and that is our missionaries. This is a time of the year that they miss family and friends, and at times can feel homesick for their families. Hearing from people is a real encouragement. Let's not forget Josh and Kimbre as they are overseas:

Tips for cards:

- ~ Write something personal from your life
- ~ Send a family photo
- ~ Cut out a comic from the paper
- ~ Send a special devotional from a magazine

Cards can be like little presents of joy – missionaries really appreciate them!

BABY BOY CLOTHES FOR THE THROWERS

Bring in baby boy clothes for the Throwers, and the missions committee will compile them together and pay for the shipping to France. Please have items at the church by Sunday, December 19.

Christmast Post Office



Women on Mission/WMU has opened its Christmas Post Office. Bring your church family cards and the amount you will save on postage, and it will be contributed to missions.



Due to IRS regulations we will not be showing any financial gifts given to the staff on personal church giving statements.

Otherwise, we are required to take taxes out of the gifts.

Summary of Church Council Agenda Items



Church Council recently discussed the following items:

Nominating Committee – Six individuals are being contacted for five open positions on this committee.

Finance Policy – The Finance Policy is ready to be presented at the next business meeting, with the expectation of voting on it at the following business meeting.

2011 Church Directory – We are meeting with two companies for comparison of the best deals. Photographs would be projected to be taken in September for a directory delivery date of December 1, in time for our 50th anniversary celebration.

Personal Discipleship/Church Health Assessment – Pastor Charles found free assessment tools, Vital Signs of a Healthy Church, and Spiritual Growth Assessment Process (for individuals). He suggested that the church leadership begin the spiritual growth process, followed by asking the church to join us. Leadership will begin working on the individual growth plan on or before January 2011.

Review Wednesday Night Programming – Attendance this fall has averaged 86 in Bible studies each week. Children's classes were exceptionally well attended. It was noted volunteerism is an issue to developing more classes.



The week of Prayer for International Missions is November 28 – December 5. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will be taken during December with a goal of \$2,000. Let's see what we can do to exceed this for worldwide missions.

Our Christmas Post Office has already been open one Sunday! Bring your church family cards and the postage you would have paid to mail them. The proceeds will be given to missions. Thank you for your part in making this a fruitful venture.

We thank the Lord for the faithful core of WMU ladies who shopped, peeled, picked, packed, and wrapped fruit bowls for Twin Pines and Manor Care on November 19. They then delivered them along with 15 lap robes they had made to the two nursing homes. Thank you ladies for sharing and loving these precious people because of His love for us.

December 10 will be our Women on Mission Christmas Party, 1:30 p.m. at the church. There will be a gift exchange - \$5 limit! We will have a time of fellowship and sharing Christmas thoughts, poems, stories. Bring your

favorites along with 6-12 cookies or goodies. All ladies are invited. Come see what Women on Mission is all about! Note: This is one week earlier than our regular meeting date.

Let's be busy this Christmas sharing the grace of God and why Christ came to earth for us rather than just being busy doing all the right things.

Blessed Christmas!

Sharon Schesvold,

Women On Mission Director



Thank you to everyone who participated in Operation Christmas Child! As a church, we donated 56 shoeboxes as well as over \$450 for shipping costs. Thank you so much for your generosity! Please continue to pray for the boys and girls who will receive our shoeboxes.

Tanya Tatro

Operation Christmas Child Coordinator



Whenever you see an elephant, please remember to pray for Josh, Kimbre & the girls. You will find one (or more) pictures of an elephant in each newsletter.

Hamilton Street Baptist Church
802 W. Hamilton
Kirksville, MO 63501
665-4633 hsbc@sbcglobal.net
<http://www.hamiltonstreet.org/>

Charles Jackson - Pastor
 Josh Smith - Minister of Music
 Cheryl Flaim - Minister of Youth & Family
 Kay Shelby - Administrative Secretary

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Kirksville, MO
 PERMIT NO. 145

Return Service Requested

H O L I D A Y

Schedule



Thursday, December 2

6:30 - 8:30 p.m., WOMEN'S COOKIE SWAP

Saturday, December 4

2:30 p.m., COLLEGE STUDENT COOKIE BAKE, HSBC Kitchen

Tuesday, December 7

12:00 - 1:00 p.m., LADIES' CARRY-IN LUNCH, HSBC

6:30 p.m., LADIES' CRAFT NIGHT, HSBC

Sunday, December 12

6 p.m., OUR CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 19

6 p.m., CHOIR CANTATA, CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, AND CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Thursday, December 24

6 p.m., CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



SERVICE TIMES

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
 9:45 a.m. Bible Study
 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship
 5:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal
 6:00 p.m. Worship
 Wednesday, December 1 & 8:
 5:45 p.m. Dinner
 6:30 p.m. Full Wednesday Night
 Programming
 Wednesday, December 15 & 22:
 6:00 p.m. Prayer
 6:30 p.m. Bible Study / Youth
 Wednesday, December 29:
 Services Dismissed

Looking Forward

January 16 - 19 January Bible Study
 January 23 Kv Manor Care
 January 24 Women's Monday Night Bible Study Begins
 January 26 Wednesday Night Programming Begins
 February 14 Valentine's Day