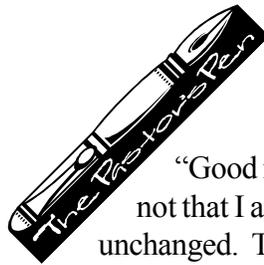




## INSIDE INFORMATION

- ✂ *Women's Ministry*
- ✂ *Holiday Office Closures*
- ✂ *8:30 am Music Minister*
- ✂ *Nominating Committee*
- ✂ *Personnel Committee*
- ✂ *December Calendar*
- ✂ *Men's Breakfast*
- ✂ *Nursing Home Ministry*
- ✂ *Family Minister*
- ✂ *College Student Ministry*
- ✂ *Youth Minister*
- ✂ *Mobile Food Pantry*
- ✂ *Church Council*
- ✂ *Advent Devotionals*
- ✂ *Operation Christmas Child*
- ✂ *Lottie Moon Christmas Post Office*
- ✂ *Livestream.com*



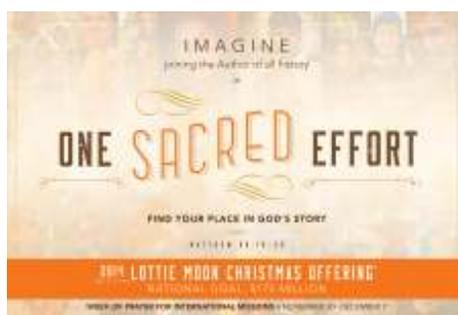
“Good news of great joy!” I like things to be consistent. Now it is not that I am opposed to change, but some things are better unchanged. The message of the angel to the shepherds on the night of Christ’s birth is one of those things that should not change with time. The coming of the Messiah as promised by God through His prophets was the promise of good news. The message of the angel on Christ’s birth night was good news. 2,000 years later, the reality that a “Savior has been born to us.” is still good news.

Christmas traditions may come and go. I don’t hear of too many people roasting chestnuts by an open fire. There is always the ongoing need of salvation. There is always the new for a new life here on earth and an eternity beyond this life. These needs don’t change. God’s answer to these needs does not change either. We will never need Salvation 2.0.

This Christmas season you may put up a real tree. It may be a “looks like real” tree. Or you choose to put up what was first popular when I was a child, one of those white or aluminum looking trees. You may eat the traditional ham for Christmas, or it may be pizza. Traditions come and go. God’s salvation in Christ is a constant. “Good news of great joy!” was, is, and will always be the consistent message of the season.

Merry Christmas.

*Pastor Charles & Jane*  
[pastorchas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorchas@sbcglobal.net)



## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

**Our Goal:** \$2,700

**Our Giving:** \$180



The women's tea date is being changed due to the fact that food pantry is on that date. It would be very difficult to do both on the same day. The new date will be announced soon.

Hope you all have a very blessed and Merry Christmas!!!!

Committee members are Phyllis Hamilton, Jessica Martin, April Keene, Vera Willis and Sherry Bratton, chair.

*Sherry Bratton*

Women's Ministry Committee Chair,

Fall Bible studies are completed and the holidays are upon us. Don't forget the Cookie Swap on December 9, 6 PM at Kathy Adkins home. Her home is very easy to find. This year we're having an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest which should be a lot of fun. Don't have an Ugly Christmas Sweater? Come anyway and bring someone with you.

There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer. For more information contact Kathy or Sherry.

We are working on the Bible studies for the winter sessions. The Wednesday night study will be *Missing Pieces* by Jennifer Rothschild. The Monday night study has not been decided at this time. Watch the church bulletin and the next newsletter for more information.

We are looking for a volunteer for a leader for the Monday night and Wednesday night Bible studies. If you feel God is leading you to fill this position please contact one of the committee members. Also if you would be willing to open your home to the Monday night study.



The Church Office will be closed on the following days:

-  Thursday, December 25
-  Friday, December 26
-  Thursday, January 1
-  Friday, January 2

***Women's 9th Annual  
Christmas Cookie Exchange  
and Ugly Christmas  
Sweater Contest***  
***Tuesday, December 9 6 p.m.***

Please bring 2 dozen cookies to swap.

Wear an Ugly Christmas Sweater



Our Hostess:  
Kathy Adkins

*ALL HSBC WOMEN AND THEIR GUESTS* are invited and encouraged to come!

Join us for a festive and fun evening!

You do not have to participate in the Cookie Exchange or Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest if you'd just like to attend.

Who's in your carpool?



***Vital Signs***

**Year to Date (11/25/2014):**

Budgeted Offering:	\$292,082.44
Received Offering:	\$275,418.66
Budget Expenses:	\$285,904.07

Bldg Fund Offering YTD: \$42,270.43

**YTD Average Attendance:**

8:30 a.m. Worship:	99
11:00 a.m. Worship:	127
Worship Total:	228
Sunday School:	141



Christmas is a time to rejoice in the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. "God Is With Us!" is the title of the choir's Christmas cantata. It tells us the story of His birth and reminds us that He is always with us and will never leave us.

The shepherds discovered the Savior just the way the angels had said they would—wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. With the song of that heavenly host still ringing in their ears, they came in from the cold night, and fell to their knees before the Baby whose arrival the angels had celebrated. How was it possible, they must have asked themselves, that this Child was the Christ, the One who would save and deliver?

Why was He here in this place where animals were kept instead of in a palace? Looking into the faces of Mary and Joseph, perhaps the shepherds saw that they had questions of their own. Yet this was not a night for getting answers, it was a night for faith. It was a night to gaze in reverent awe and simply imagine what God might have in store.

Please join us on December 14 at the 8:30 a.m. service as we rejoice and worship our Lord, Jesus Christ in song.

See you in worship!

**Jim Barnett**, 8:30 am Music Minister  
musicjim@sbcglobal.net



As the church year draws to a close, the Nominating Committee would like to thank all the faithful members who have given tirelessly to meet the needs of others. We are blessed here at HSBC to have many gracious servants who volunteer countless hours each year to extend the ministries of our church to members and non-members alike. Thank you for your giving hearts.

A thank you also goes out to our Nominating Committee members who are moving on to new ministries at the end of this year. They have served faithfully for several years, and a huge thanks is due them, as well as, to those who have agreed to serve on the committee in 2015. We thank those who have served in these last years and look forward to working with the new members.

As always if you have a ministry that you would like to get involved in, please feel free to contact any member of the committee.



November 25, 2014

Dear Church Member:

It is once again the time of year when our church gives our staff a love offering from their church family. This is just a reminder that the personnel committee is asking for those who wish to give to bring their offering to one of the personnel committee members so that the staff can be presented with the gift on Sunday, December 14.

The staff members are as follows: Pastor Charles; Administrative Secretary Kay Shelby; Music Ministers Ben Austic & Jim Barnett; Youth Minister, Tony Keene; Family Minister, David Cook; Custodian Bud Dilly, and Fill-in Secretary, Judy Hayes.

Please give your love offering to one of the following personnel committee members as late as Sunday, December 14th or you may bring it to the church anytime marked "Attention Personnel." Thank you for your gift and may you have a blessed holiday season.

*In Christ,*  
Your Personnel Committee:  
Michael Hartman (Chair),  
Laura Brown, Mike Brummit,  
Jessica Martin, and Phil McIntosh

# DECEMBER CALENDAR

December 1 – 7		Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
December 2	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
December 3	6:00 p.m.	Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Co-ed Adult Bible Study / Youth
December 6	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast, Rosie's Northtown Café
	10:00 a.m.	Missions Committee, S. McDonald's
December 7		THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	8:30 & 11 a.m.	Lord's Supper Service
December 9	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
	6:00 p.m.	Women's Ministry Cookie Exchange & Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest, Kathy Adkins'
December 10	6:00 p.m.	Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Co-ed Adult Bible Study / Youth
December 13	6:00 p.m.	Choir Dress Rehearsal followed by Choir Reception
December 14		THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	8:30 a.m.	Choir Christmas Cantata
	6:00 p.m.	Children's and Youth's Christmas Program
December 16	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
December 17	6:00 p.m.	Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Co-ed Adult Bible Study / Youth
December 18		Newsletter Items Due
December 21		THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	6:00 p.m.	Senior Songsters
December 23	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
December 24		CHRISTMAS EVE
	5:00 p.m.	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (Contemporary)
	6:30 p.m.	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (Traditional)
December 25		CHRISTMAS DAY
		Office Closed
December 26		Christmas Holiday, Office Closed
December 27	11:00 a.m.	Mobile Food Pantry Distribution
December 28	8:30 a.m.	Guest Speaker, Minister of Youth, Tony Keene
	11:00 a.m.	Guest Speaker, Minister of Families, David Cook
		Evening Services Dismissed
December 30	9:30 a.m.	Twin Pines
December 31		New Year's Eve
		Lost & Found Fellowship, Terry & Lillie Mack's, 30244 Twin Oaks Lane



**Saturday, January 3  
8:00 a.m.**

**Rosie's Northtown Cafe**  
Contact Doug Athon



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

**Can you find the 18 elephants hidden in this newsletter?**



**Twin Pines**

Every Tuesday at 9:30 am

If you would like to donate aluminum cans to the Youth, place them in Doug Athon's pick up bed on Sunday mornings. Doug drives a green Ford Ranger pickup.



# **FAMILY MINISTRY**

*Making the faith intentional and relevant*



I was just sitting back and thinking about what does December remind me of? I started thinking about homemade cookies, paper chains, advent calendars, decorating the tree...and CSI! CSI!?! In 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we do a CSI unit where kids learn how to lift fingerprints and then identify who they belong to, as well as identifying handwriting, making inferences, etc. Then we have a crime scene where the kids have to collect and analyze the evidence and see if they can come up with “who dun it”, so to say, and their justifications of it. The detectives from KPD come out and talk to the kids about their job, which the kids find interesting. It is such a fun unit and the kids really get into it – and I have the fun of planning the crime scenes! There are 5 crime scenes that I get to plan – each in a different location and with different evidence and suspects, etc. This year there will be a Christmas music theme through out – but I can’t share any more; it’s still top secret!

Yet, as we look at this time of Advent, when we anticipate the coming of Christ, and then celebrate His coming, the “fingerprints” of God are all over the place - we just have to interpret the signs – if we look close enough. We can then use those moments to emphasize the reason for the season with those around us – whether it be children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc.

For example – what are the typical

colors of Christmas? Green and red! Why is that so? It came from the holly, as the leaf was always green and it had red berries. The green stands for eternal life, while the red stands for the blood that was shed in order to get eternal life. Almost all stores are full of the colors red and green – many which don’t understand that it points to the reason that Christ had to come! Isn’t it funny how as much as secularism has tried to get rid of Christ in Christmas, God’s fingerprints are all over? How easy it is to point that out to our children - if we recognize it for what it is! Most of us have Christmas trees in our houses, which are the focal point in the home. While we are opening up presents, are we aware that the green tree is standing for the greatest gift ever, which is eternal life which comes through Christ?

Christmas gets so busy, and we can get so caught up in the hustle and bustle – but be sure to not let that side track your family from the real reason we are celebrating. If we think that Christmas morning and the dinner that follows is something to look forward to, then how much more should we be looking forward to that day when Christ returns and we are at the feast before God Almighty! In fact, Advent is also in anticipation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ, as well as remembering His first coming. Next time you see a manger, see the fingerprints of God on it that is reminding us that He is coming back – and it may be sooner than we expect! We are making so many preparations in remembrance of His first coming as a child, but are we as diligent in preparing ourselves for His next coming?

As this year comes to a close, I am thankful for you allowing me to be your family minister. I am learning a lot from many of you, and am looking forward to great things to come next year. I am

thankful for my wife Sasha, who has encouraged me in this ministry. I want to thank the great people on my committee, who have been a great source of ideas. I bring to them an idea, and they develop it into something far greater than I could have come up with on my own! Thanks to Stacy Tucker-Potter, April Keene, Rob Payne and Ben Austic!

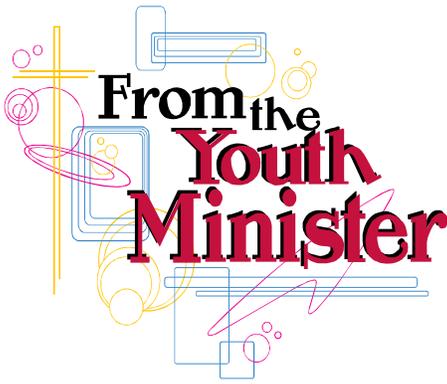
*David Cook*, Family Minister  
david.cook.fm@sbcglobal.net

**The purpose of the  
family is to bring  
glory to God.**



*College Student Bible Study Teacher*  
*Stacy Tucker-Potter,*  
*tucker\_potter@yahoo.com*  
*find her on Facebook, or stop by her*  
*office in McClain Hall 205 on the*  
*Truman campus.*

We offer Associate Membership to college students who wish to be a part of our body without giving up their membership in their churches back home. If you are interested, contact Pastor Charles [pastorchas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pastorchas@sbcglobal.net).



## A DIFFERENT TAKE ON THE CHRISTMAS STORY:

It seems a little weird to me to write a newsletter article for December that is not specifically focused on the traditional Christmas story from Scriptures. Sure...I am taking my focal passage from Luke chapter 2, but God has led me to the end of the chapter, not the beginning. We are all familiar with the first 20 verses of Luke 2...Mary and Joseph, the Roman census, the shepherds and the angels, Glory to God in the Highest, and so on. We may even remember some of the details in the next 20 verses...circumcision, Simeon the righteous, and Anna the Prophetess. For the purposes of this article, I would like to key in on verses 41-52.

### Luke 2:41-52

*41 Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. 42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. 43 After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus*

*stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44 Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. 46 after three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." 49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them. 51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.*

In these verses we see Mary and Joseph as "Parents" and we get a glimpse of Jesus as a "Youth". Verse 41 shows us the character of Mary and Joseph as "Parents". The verse says that EVERY year they went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. Why is that emphasis important?? It means that they placed a very high value on their festivals of worship; church you might say. This would suggest that Jesus grew up in a home where worship and learning the Scriptures and customs

were valued and expected. When we see Jesus in the Temple in verse 47, it says that everyone who heard him was amazed. Now granted, even at 12 years old, he was still Christ, but I think we can infer from Scripture that he grew up in a learning environment.

My challenge to us as parents and Youth this Christmas season is this... As parents, how well do we model the importance of our Christian faith to our children? How faithful are we in our prayer life, our Bible study, our worship attendance, and our Biblical instruction to our children?

As Youth, do we seek out opportunities to live out our Christian faith? How faithful are we in our prayer life, our Bible study, or our worship attendance? Would our friends or others be "amazed" if we started talking to them about Godly matters?

During this chaotic holiday season, take some time to reflect on your Christian life. Are you serving as you should be? Are you the Christian example you should be? Are you growing "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men"? If not, why not? If so, Praise God and continue to grow.

Merry CHRISTmas!

*Tony Keene,* Youth Minister  
tony.keene@sbcglobal.net

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

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

## and the Great Commission

*(18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and 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)*



## ADAIR COUNTY MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**Saturday,  
December 27  
11:00 am - ???**

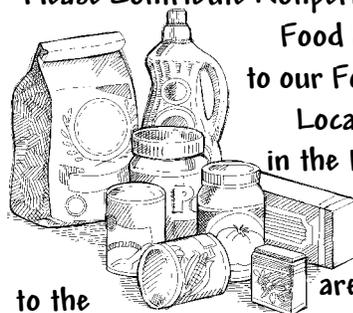
Hamilton Street Baptist Church  
802 W. Hamilton St.  
Kirksville, MO

There are no income guidelines. Recipients need to bring a photo ID, Social Security cards for each family member in the household, proof of residency & a container to take home the food.

Sign up in the foyer to help!

**Office Volunteers** are needed to prepare the Mobile Food Pantry handouts for each student in the Kirksville & Adair County public schools, and handouts for distribution day. Contact the church office.

Please Contribute Nonperishable  
Food Items  
to our Food Box  
Located  
in the Foyer.



These items  
are donated  
to the  
Christian Community Food Depot.



Would you like to save your  
pop can tabs for the  
RONALD McDONALD HOUSE?  
There's a collection bin in the foyer.

# Summary of Church Council Agenda Items



*Worship Study Team Update* – The committee has not met due to a scheduling conflict. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

*Nominating Committee* – The 2015 Nominating Committee has been filled and no action needs to be taken.

*Worship in the Park Evaluation* – This subject is ongoing.

*Christmas Plans / Advent Readings* – Devotions for the advent book have almost all been received. Pastor Charles will write the advent readings for the services.

*Attendance Graph* – Comparison attendance graphs for 2013 & 2014 for Sunday morning services and Sunday School were distributed. Looking at the trends, 2013 was a high year for attendance, and we are seeing a slight decline in some areas in 2014. It was noted, that this semester we are seeing fewer college students.

*2015 Vision / Mission Statement* – Ev<sup>3</sup> – Pastor Charles submitted an idea for an increased emphasis on evangelism. It would be a three prong strategy: Reach, Equip, and Send. The goal would be to have 25% of active youth through adults participating over a three year period. This would mean that the church body must become intentional about evangelism. It was agreed to present this to the church for approval.

*Calendar* – Leaders were encouraged to put all meetings on the church calendar.



**Children's Christmas Program**  
and  
**Youth Christmas Program**  
Sunday  
December 14  
6 pm



Advent devotions have been printed out and are in the foyer. The devotions are also available online on our website, [www.hamiltonstreet.org](http://www.hamiltonstreet.org). The focus is on the names of Jesus. What makes it really interesting is that they have been written by members of Hamilton Street Baptist Church. There are people from both services who have written devotions, and our youngest one is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and our oldest one is, well, way older than that! I am so thankful to everyone who helped make the devotions a possibility!

*David Cook*, Family Minister  
[david.cook.fm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:david.cook.fm@sbcglobal.net)

## The Mission of HSBC

**H**onor God's Truth  
**S**hare the Gospel  
**B**uild Believers  
**C**are for Others



"Check-in" every time you're here!





# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The shoebox has begun its journey. It first was filled with a stuffed animal, pens, markers, a notebook, a ball, a toothbrush and toothpaste, candy, soap and a washcloth, a toy truck, a pair of gloves, and another small toy. Then a young boy bowed his head and prayed over that shoebox, asking God to bless the boy far away who will receive it. Next the shoebox was brought to church, where it was again prayed over in both morning worship services. Two days later, the shoebox was delivered to Rehoboth, where it was placed in a large carton with other shoeboxes and taken to Denver. From Denver, that shoebox will make the long journey to its destination and will be placed in the arms of the boy that God wants to receive that specific shoebox. I continue to pray for that boy, as well as others, believing that God is working miracles even now to ensure that just the right boy receives that shoebox.

Every shoebox is special, because each shoebox represents a child who is

precious in His sight. Because of your gifts, 143 precious children will receive a shoebox gift! Thank you! To those who packed shoeboxes, to those who gave monetary gifts, to those who prayed, thank you! Thank you for your kindness and your generosity. 143 shoeboxes for 143 precious children who will learn that God loves them!

Please continue to pray for the children who will receive our shoeboxes as well as their families. Even if you have not yet participated in Operation Christmas Child this year, now is your chance to do so, because prayer is so vitally important to this ministry. Please pray that these 143 children will experience God's overwhelming love and that they will understand that Jesus Christ wants to be their Savior and Lord.

Thank you for your shoebox gifts and prayers!

*Tanya Tatro*

Operation Christmas Child Coordinator



Have you started writing all your Christmas cards? It can be a daunting task! Lottie Moon is here to help! Beginning December 7, the Lottie Moon Christmas Post Office will be set up in the foyer to receive your Christmas cards to your church family.

Here's how it works. You bring your Christmas cards for our church family and put them in the mailbox. Then everyone checks the box each Sunday and collects their mail. Whatever postage you would have spent to mail the cards via the United State Post Office, please donate that amount to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering for International Missions.

So, it's very easy and the money goes to a very good cause. Everyone loves to get mail, especially Christmas cards, so let's all get busy addressing those cards! Lottie Moon offering envelopes are in the pews and by the mailbox.

Merry Christmas from Lottie Moon!

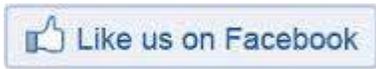


We are now live streaming our Sunday Services.

Can't make it to church on Sunday, or would like to watch a service again? We are now streaming our morning worship services through [livestream.com](http://livestream.com). For now you need to set up an account with them. Once that is done, then enter Hamilton Street Baptist in the search window. Click on the link and it will take you to our area. There you can watch live services or previous services. If you click on the "Follow" tab, you will get updates by email every time we schedule a live service. That email will give you a link that will take you directly to the service. These services can be seen anywhere you have an internet connection.

Let us know how this new service blesses you or others.

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



Charles Jackson - Pastor  
 Jim Barnett - 8:30 am Music Minister  
 Ben Austic - 11 am Music Minister  
 Tony Keene - Youth Minister  
 David Cook - Family Minister  
 Kay Shelby - Administrative Secretary

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 Kirksville, MO  
 PERMIT NO. 145  
**Return Service Requested**

# HOLIDAY

## *Schedule*

Sunday, December 7

8:30 & 11 a.m., LORD'S SUPPER SERVICES

Tuesday, December 9

6 p.m., WOMEN'S COOKIE SWAP,  
 Kathy Adkins' home

Sunday, December 14

8:30 a.m., CHOIR CANTATA  
 6 p.m., CHILDREN'S & YOUTH CHRISTMAS  
 PROGRAMS

Sunday, December 21

6 p.m., SENIOR SONGSTERS

Tuesday, December 24

5 p.m., CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE -  
 MORE CONTEMPORARY  
 6:30 p.m., CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE -  
 MORE TRADITIONAL



## 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.	Choir
	6:00 p.m.	Worship
Wednesday:	6:00 p.m.	Prayer
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study / Youth

## Looking Forward

January 1	New Year's Day, Office Closed
January 2	New Year's Holiday, Office Closed
January 3	Men's Breakfast, Rosie's Northtown Café
January 18	Business Meeting
January 24	Mobile Food Pantry Distribution
February 5-6	Evangelism Conference
February 14	Valentine's Day
February 28	Mobile Food Pantry Distribution