

# The Booneville Baptist

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 46

*A place to belong... a place to become.*

DECEMBER 18, 2011

## OPPORTUNITIES

**December 18 - 24, 2011**  
**Deacon on Call: David Bolen**

**Sunday, December 18: 4th Sunday of Advent**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
(WBIP-AM 1400)

6:30 p.m. Evening Worship  
**Lord's Supper by Candle Light**  
(WBVV-FM 99.3)

7:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting

**Tuesday, December 20:**

8:00 a.m. Ladies Handbells

**Wednesday, December 21:**

6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Business Meeting

**Thursday, December 22:**

**Church office will be closed.**

**Friday, December 23:**

**Church office will be closed.**

8:00 p.m. Sunday Morning Worship  
Service Broadcast (Cable 21,  
[www.ubntv.org](http://www.ubntv.org))

## Lord's Supper by Candle Light



**Sunday, December 18**  
**6:30 p.m.**

*Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!*



*We count it a privilege and  
blessing to work alongside you in  
the Lord's work.*

### *Your Church Staff,*

*Lynn Jones*

*Nanette Garber*

*William Scott*

*LuAnne Ford*

*Laurie McBride*

*Joey Williford*

# The Curtain Is Rising on Christmas

By: Dr. Lynn Jones

Halford Luccock wrote:

“I love preliminary things—  
The tuning up of flutes and strings,  
The little scrolls musicians play,  
The varying keys to feel their way,  
The hum—the hush when it dies,  
But most of all, to see the curtain rise.”

I love the preliminary things of Christmas—the decorations, the music, the candlelighting, the parties, the food. But most of all, I like to see the curtain rise. I like to see the dawning of Christmas Day—the excitement of the morning, hearing the expressions of people I love as they open meaningful gifts, sitting in piles of wrapping paper, reading the Christmas story one more time. I like to go back across the centuries to zero in on a manger that held a baby.

Do you remember how the first letter of the first word in a chapter of an old book looks? It is large and ornate. It is a work of art.

The first Christmas is like that—a portrait that is ornate, beautiful, a masterpiece of God in its simplicity and styling. In the lower right corner of the portrait is the signature of God. Above the signature there is the baby in the manger as the focal point, Mary and Joseph standing there with expressions of awe and joy. Shepherds looking on with rapt attention.

C. S. Lewis wrote about the magical land of Narnia. In describing that land, he said, “It was always winter, never Christmas.”

Every year we experience a winter that is cold, dreary, and bleak. But I thank God that in the middle of every winter Christmas always comes. It comes like a warm spot in the midst of the cold.

God sent His Son to communicate the warmth of His love. Gaston Foote once wrote, “When will we ever learn that it is babies not battles that make the real difference in human history?” God made an eternal difference in our world by sending His Son to be born in a stable in Bethlehem.

If there is any lesson to be learned from the fact that God chose a stable for the place where His Son would be born, it is that you can never be sure where God will make an appearance. It is in the places and at the times when we least expect Him that He comes.

You may be living in such a place. It may be a place that is dark and heavy with your burdens and problems. It may be a place that has been deadened by routines and duties. It may seem that God is far, far away.

Don’t be so sure of that. God has always had a way of showing up in the places where we least expect Him. He makes appearances in ways we have not anticipated.

In some games that we play—games like chess, checkers, and even football—having the first move is very important. It enables you to go on the offensive and determine the tone of the entire game. In Christmas, God has made the first move. His sending His Son has set the tone of love and grace for life. The curtain is rising on Christmas!

--Sunday’s Sermons:

AM: “Stumbling to Bethlehem”  
Luke 2:1-7

PM: Lord’s Supper by Candlelight

## COUNTING COMMITTEE:

JoAnn Long, Travis Browder,  
David West

## USHERS:

### AM

Mitch McBride, Mike Anderson,  
Mike Moore, Jimmy Davis,  
Ray Scott, Jay Barnett

### PM

John Green, Wayne Vandiver

## EXTENDED SESSION:

### December Coordinator:

Katie Conn (871-5652)

### December 18:

Katie Conn  
Abby Williford  
Gilda Walden  
Evan Akers

### December 25:

Brenda Bolen  
Laurie McBride  
Victoria Scott  
Karrie Beth Stevens

## Christmas Day Worship Schedule

On Sunday, December 25th, there will be no Sunday School, but we will have worship service at 10:30 a.m.

There will be no evening worship service.


## New Year’s Day Worship Schedule

On Sunday, January 1st, we will have Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. and morning worship service at 11:00 a.m., but there will be no evening worship service.

**This will be the last newsletter for the year. There will be no newsletter for the next two weeks, due to Christmas holidays.**

<b>December 11, 2011</b>	
Sunday School	258
Budget	\$ 6,207.87
Designated Offering	<u>4,239.00</u>
Total	\$10,446.87

**Pray for Our Homebound:**



Mrs. Hazel Stephens  
Mr. Charles Stewart


Mark and Karen Hatfield request the honour of your presence at the marriage of their daughter

*Jennifer Ann*

to

*William Hugh Curry*

son of Dr. Robert Hugh Curry the sixteenth of December two thousand and eleven at six o'clock in the evening  
First Baptist Church  
401 West Church Street  
Booneville, Mississippi



**The last day to receive end of the year contribution gifts at FBC will be Thursday, December 29, 2011.**

**2012 Offering Envelopes**  
Offering envelopes for the upcoming year can be picked up this Sunday in the hallway behind the sanctuary.  
**We no longer go by envelope number. In order for you to receive proper credit for all contributions, it is imperative that you include your name and the amount given on your envelope.**

# MUSIC NOTES



**Lord's Supper by Candle Light**  
Sunday, December 18th  
6:30 p.m.


Don't miss this special service.

There will be no Adult Choir for the rest of the year.  
We will resume Wednesday, January 4th.  
\* \* \* \* \*

Youth Choir will resume Sunday, January 8th.

*Mark your calendars now...*

**"Meet the Tigers Night"**  
Sunday, January 22nd  
in the CLC



We will share a meal and worship with the NEMCC athletes and their coaches.

More details are coming!

# EDUCATIONAL EVENTS



A very special thank-you to the 18 children and 30 sponsors who participated in the Lottie Moon Walk-a-Thon. **\$967.18** was pledged! Sponsors should receive an informational postcard with your pledge. For questions, check with Laurie.

Congratulations, **Joshua Dukes**, for being our top walker and fund raiser with 54 laps (in 30 minutes) and \$256.50 raised!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

Thanks, too, for the empty soda cans! We collected \$21.45 for the food pantry ministry last Saturday and one church member added an extra \$10.00! Thanks, Mission Kids for cleaning, sorting, and taking the cans to the salvage place.

**Church Staff**

**Pastor**

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**Building and Grounds**

William Scott

**Pianist**

Carol Dickerson

**Organist**

Peggy McCord

**Church Phone**

(662)728-6272

**Web page**

[www.fbcbooneville.com](http://www.fbcbooneville.com)

**GIFTS RECEIVED**

*Gifts have been received by First Baptist Church*

***in memory of:***

*Mr. Sidney Green  
Mr. Wayne Griffin  
Mr. Ralph Stutts  
Mr. R. J. "Piggy" Bonds  
Dr. Webster Cleveland  
Mrs. Kathryn Houston  
W. L. and Magdalene Caver  
Mrs. Mary Gault Nabers  
Mr. Houston Nabers  
Curlee and Claire T. Ross  
Otha and Grace Maxwell  
Ms. Sadie Gault  
Mrs. Arlas LaMastus  
Mr. Palmer Smith  
Mr. Robert Tennison  
Mrs. Katherine Langley  
Mr. Gene Millsaps*

***in honor of:***

*Liz Cox  
Jakoven Scott  
Bela Hebert  
J. Ross Tittle  
Afton Reynolds  
Gage Harrelson  
Mr. Chester Grisham  
Mrs. Lori Horn  
Mrs. Andrea Owens  
Dr. Sean Reynolds  
Mrs. Donna Pitner  
Mrs. Connie Vandiver  
Mr. Joe Keeton  
Mrs. Elizabeth Curlee*

THE BOONEVILLE BAPTIST (SEC060820) published weekly by First Baptist Church, 401 West Church Street, Booneville, MS 38829. Periodicals paid at Booneville, MS 38829. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Booneville Baptist, 401 West Church Street, Booneville, MS 38829.



**HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE**

**2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

**OUR GOAL: \$23,000.00**

**GIVEN-TO-DATE: \$9,266.75**

**The Booneville Baptist**