

CELEBRATING LIFE IN CHRIST

HARRISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. ROB ARMSTRONG
SENIOR PASTOR

REV. JIM BAKER
INTERIM
EXECUTIVE PASTOR

REV. DAVID SMITH
MINISTER OF RECREATION
AND SENIOR ADULTS

REV. AARON TOMES
MINISTER OF MUSIC

REV. TIM ALEXANDER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
AND SINGLE ADULTS

REV. JOHN GORDON
MINISTER OF MISSIONS

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CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

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WORSHIP FULLY



SPEND LESS



GIVE MORE



LOVE ALL

Christmas can still change the world and you can be part of it. By celebrating Christmas differently, you'll join brothers and sisters around the world in finding our way back to the real reason for the season. Join us during the month of December as we turn Christmas upside down.

Our Pastor Writes

by Rev. Rob Armstrong, Senior Pastor



Greetings!

I love Christmas! Even as I write this I am excited about the next four weeks in my home and in our church. The reality of Christmas creates a wellspring of joy that simply cannot be contained with the giving of gifts and the eating of food. In fact, according to 2 Timothy 2:9 "... the Word of God is not bound!" There is nothing, including our celebrations and traditions that can contain the truth of the Gospel. In fact, the Gospel tells us that not even the grave and death could hold the Savior who was born in Bethlehem!

This Christmas we have many opportunities to celebrate Christmas at Harrisburg. We have our North Mississippi Christmas Festival December 1-3, Night of Bethlehem for children and families on December 13, Family Night at Christmas on December 17, and our special Christmas Eve services at 3pm & 5pm on December 24.

In addition to these special events, we are celebrating Christmas each Sunday in our worship services and through our Advent Conspiracy sermon series. But with all of our events, services, and opportunities, each one of us must make an intentional effort to live for Christ during this spectacular season of celebrations. One of the ways you can be intentional this year is through giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Our goal is \$100,000 this year. This offering makes it possible for missionaries to share the Gospel all over the world.

The way that we celebrate Christmas should be an overflow of the way that we live our lives. Because we are Christians our Christmas celebration should be an extension of our faith in Christ. The Christmas season serves to display in unique ways the Gospel of Christ that we have given our lives too. So, guard against suppressing the truth of Christ in your Christmas celebrations. The world celebrates the giving and receiving of gifts, the eating of meals with families, and rest offered by the holidays. As you celebrate Christmas this year celebrate the giving of the gift of salvation, the fellowship we have with God in Christ, and the peace that comes from knowing Christ as your Savior. Worship Christ in your home, with your family, at work, and as a church.

Merry Christmas!
Pastor Rob

P.S. For a couple of ideas on how to celebrate Christ in your home this Christmas, visit our church blog or pick up an advent devotional in the hallways and gathering areas.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Starting in 1888, the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®** was established to empower the international missions efforts for Southern Baptists. After more than a century, the annual offering continues its steady growth. Your giving enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God.

Offering envelopes will be available through-out the month of November in the pew racks. Please pray and give generously to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

December

AT A GLANCE

WEEKLY

December 1
North Mississippi Christmas Festival 7:00 p.m.

December 2
North Mississippi Christmas Festival 7:00 p.m.

December 3
Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
North Mississippi Christmas Festival 7:00 p.m.

December 10
Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
 Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

December 17
Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Zamar Student Choir 3:30 p.m.
Family Night at Christmas 5:00 p.m.
Deacons' Meeting 6:00 p.m.

December 23
Church Office Closed

December 24
Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Christmas Eve Lord's Supper Service, 3:00 & 5:00 p.m.

December 25
Church Office closed

December 26
Church Office closed

December 31
Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
No Evening Service

January 01, 2017
Church Office Closed

MONDAYS

Mother's Day Out 8:30 a.m. - See notes on Page 4
Merrymakers 6:00 p.m. (11th)
Trail Life 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Morning Stretch 9:00 a.m.
WMU 11:15 a.m. (5th & 19th)

WEDNESDAYS (6th and 13th)

Evening Meal 4:45 p.m.
Library Open 5:00 p.m.
Music and Missions 5:45 p.m.
Mid-Week Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Mid-Week for Students 6:00 p.m.
Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAYS

Mother's Day Out 8:30 a.m. - See notes on Page 4
Morning Stretch 9:00 a.m.

FRIDAYS

Parents' Night Out 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. (8th)

Wednesday Evenings begin at 4:45 p.m. with a Family Fellowship Supper in the Fellowship Hall. A delicious meal is served (with separate children's meal) for only \$4.00 for adults and \$2.50 for kids, with a \$12.00 family maximum. Come enjoy the food and the fellowship prior to the various activities that begin at 6:00 p.m. **December 6th:** Pork Chops, Lima Beans, Parmesan Baked Potatoes, Rolls, Slaw and Dessert. Kids: Hamburgers and Chips. **December 13th:** Beef Tips and Rice, Green Beans, Rolls, Broccoli Salad and Dessert. Kids: Hot Dogs and French Fries. **December 20th:** No Family Night Supper Scheduled. **December 27th:** No Family Night Supper Scheduled.

Sunday School

Attendance

October 29		970
November 05		1027
November 12		920
November 19		881
November 26		918

Extended Teaching Care: December 3rd, 8:10 a.m.: Denise Green, Lauren Harrison, Ben & Stephanie Meriweather, Steve & Lisa Hensley, Michael and Amy Green. **10:40 a.m.:** Jeffrie Bruton, Tangie Blankenship, Keith & Traci Hazel, Mike & Margaret Robinson. **December 10th, 8:10 a.m.:** Ben & Hannah Summerford, Clayton & Kim Sullivan, Jeff & Lauren Fox, Rob & Shonda Morgan. **10:40 a.m.:** George & Tiffany Stone, Mary Johnson, Becky Sartor, Jon & Miranda Maynard. **December 17th, 8:10 a.m.:** Kathy Zanier, Vickie Marshall, Chad & Dallas Blankenship, Kathy Ferris, Chase Farmer, Wade & Brandi Henley. **10:40 a.m.:** Melissa Worley, Felicity Pierson, Neal & Holly McCoy, Keith & Alanna Teeple. **December 24th, 8:10 a.m.:** Brandon & Summer Blinson, Nick & Gretchen Roper, Barbara Rice, Susan Eskridge, Corey & Carrie Russell. **10:40 a.m.:** Nathan & Leah Sheffield, Mark & Ellen Bresee. **December 31st, 8:10 a.m.:** Nelda Hartley, Angela Mitchell, Ashley Seals, Barbara Rice, Susan Eskridge, Amy Littleton, Beth Cantrell. **10:40 a.m.:** Kyle & Mandy Ragon, Charles & Chelsea Martin, Audrey Anna & Alex Rowland.

Welcome Centers: December 3rd Front: John & Sue Simmons, Back: John and Delores Smith | **December 10th Front:** Billy & Martha Haygood, Back: Tim & Sharon Miles | **December 17th Front:** Jamie & Linda Owens, Back: Phil & Debbie Swords | **December 24th Front:** Rusty & Caroline Pugh, Back: Gerald Conaway. **December 31st Front:** John & Sue Simmons, Back: John and Delores Smith.

Weekly Budget Requirement \$ 68,492.55

Budget Received

October 29	\$	43,180.28
November 05	\$	90,976.85
November 12	\$	76,894.10
November 19	\$	58,458.44
November 26	\$	52,685.30

Required to Date \$ 3,082,164.75
Received to Date \$ 3,026,421.15

Building and Maintenance Fund Received 2017 \$ 145,873.36

Monthly Giving

PRESCHOOL NEWS

God's Promise Came True!

We will celebrate how "God's Promise Came True" as we have a Happy Birthday, Jesus party for PNO on Friday, December 8, 2017 from 6:00-9:30 p.m. While you are out this month, your child(ren) will hear the Christmas story in a special way, make a Christmas craft, and watch a movie. We will enjoy eating birthday cake as we celebrate Jesus' birth. Come dressed in warm pajamas and bring your pillow and/or stuffed animal. The cost is \$15 per family for members and non-members. The deadline to reserve your spot to ensure proper childcare will be Sunday, December 3, 2017. Please call Tonya Cox at 348-2505 or 372-6592 with any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!



Mother's Day Out will be taking a break for the holidays. We will be closed December 18th - January 3rd. We will be open January 4th at 8:30 a.m. We pray you have a safe and blessed holiday season. Merry Christmas!

Childcare will be provided for our **Christmas Festival** on December 1st through the 3rd, beginning at 6:30 each night. We are happy to keep babies through 3 year olds during the Festival each evening. Please pick your children up after the Festival and enjoy Café Harrisburg together as a family.

We have a few family worship services in December that are for your whole family, including your little ones. We will not have childcare for the Family Night at Christmas on the 17th or for either of our Christmas Eve Candlelight Services. These are services which you can enjoy together, and our childcare workers will be able to enjoy them, also.

A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM!

Boys and girls and their families will not want to miss our very special Christmas event, A Night in Bethlehem, Wednesday, December 13th, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Come experience sights, sounds and activities reminiscent of Bethlehem during the time of Jesus' birth, from the City Gate to the stable, with several stops in between! This will be an event to remember.

New Arrival:

Grayton Harrison Boothe
Son of Brett and Stacie Boothe
 November 10th, 6 lb., 19 inches long
 Maternal Grandparents:
 John and Lisa Hines.

Preschool M&M's Holiday Schedule

Dec. 6 – Regular M&M's | Dec. 13 – Night in Bethlehem | Dec. 20 & 27 – No M&M's
 M&M's will resume on Weds., Jan 3rd.

DAY SCHOOL NEWS

The **HARRISBURG DAY SCHOOL** children and teachers invite the church family to their Christmas Program on Thursday, December 14th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The children will be singing their Christmas songs and the Kindergarten class will portray the Nativity. We would love to see you there.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES FOR THE HARRISBURG DAY SCHOOL:

The Day School will be closed for Christmas holidays Monday, December 25th - Monday, January 1st. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 2nd. We hope all of our families and our church family will have a Blessed Christmas!



CHILDREN'S NEWS

A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM!

Boys and girls and their families will not want to miss our very special Christmas event, A Night in Bethlehem, Wednesday, December 13th, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Come experience sights, sounds and activities reminiscent of Bethlehem during the time of Jesus' birth, from the City Gate to the stable, with several stops in between! This will be an event to remember.

December M&M's Schedule:

December 6th

Regular M&M's

December 13th

"A Night in Bethlehem"

December 20th

No M&M's

December 27th

No M&M's

**M&M's will resume
on Weds., Jan 3rd.**

CENTRI-KID REGISTRATION will begin in January! This year we will attend Centri-Kid Camp at Timber Creek Camp, June 28th - July 2nd.

Before you sign your child up for any other summer camp, please come to our Summer Camp Interest Meeting on January 10th at 6:00 p.m. in Room 503. We'll discuss an easy payment plans and reasons why sending your child to camp with his or her church group can be a HUGE step in his or her spiritual development.



A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM
JESUS CAME TO SAVE US

Experience Bethlehem during the census, visit shopkeepers, and learn about their trades.

For preschoolers, 1st - 6th graders, and their families. Invite your friends! This event takes the place of regular M&M's.

Wednesday, Dec. 13 | 6:00 pm

STUDENT NEWS

Disciple Now 2018 | January 12-14, 2018

Cost: \$75.

Disciple Now is a premier event focusing students on discipleship practices that build over a lifetime. DNOW is known for great worship, excellent preaching, and relationship building moments. Harrisburg participates with the Tupelo family of faith as we meet together with dozens of churches for our worship times. The Lee County Disciple Now brings together students from all over Tupelo and the surrounding area to celebrate Christ and grow deeper in our understanding of God's Word and love. Even though Disciple Now is a yearly happening, the hburg student staff plan on adding zigs, zags, extras, and some oh-mys.



Sunday, December 17th
8:30a and 11:00a Worship | 9:45a Sunday School | 5:00p Family Night at Christmas

Wednesday, December 20th
No Evening Services

Sunday, December 24th
8:30a and 11:00a Worship | 9:45a Sunday School
Christmas Eve Candlelight Lord's Supper Service | 3:00p and 5:00p

Wednesday, December 27th
No Evening Services

December 31st
8:30a and 11:00a Worship | 9:45a Sunday School No Evening Services

HARRISBURG CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



FAMILY NIGHT AT CHRISTMAS



an evening of Christmas
music and inspiration in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 17th | 5:00 p.m.



Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Sunday | December 24th | 3:00 & 5:00 p.m.

RECREATION / SENIOR ADULT NEWS

BASKETBALL UPDATE

Our church has Boys 1/2gr., 3/4gr., 5/6gr., 7/8gr., 9/12gr., and Girls 3/5gr., and 9/12gr. Teams in the Lee County Church League. League games begin November 27 with games on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Schedule of the games can be found on Church Web, or at the Rec Desk.

WINTER WONDERLAND!

The bridge is now in place behind the Lodge leading us to ten acres of opportunities for you and your family. Join us in this new adventure. This winter take a stroll and share with us ideas that you might have for this unique resource.

DISC GOLF COURSE

The leaves have fallen; it's a perfect time to play disc golf. You will be able to find your disc if it goes into the woods! Free loaner disc and course layouts available now at Rec Desk.

REC FITNESS FACILITIES:

Mon thru Fri, 7:00am– 9:30pm, Sat 9:00am – 1:30pm. Parents Night Out, Friday December 8 (gym closed). Call Rec Desk for up to date schedule 823-7114, 662-231-4944. Facilities are closed 15 minutes before and after all church services.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Contact David Smith 823-7115, Come by Rec Desk and pick up an updated brochure to see how you can reserve a party.

FITNESS ROOM AUTHORIZATION

Contact Rec Ministry at 662-231-4944, or 662-823-7135 for details how you can become authorized to use fitness facilities. Children 7th and 8th grade can come with their parents, 9th grade and older may request their own ID.

To receive our informational text on your phone, please subscribe to our Text Signal. Just text the word "HBCREC" to 43506 or "HBCBB" to 43506.

MORNING STRETCH

Come in from the cold and join our warm Fellowship. We meet each Tuesday and Thursday mornings 9:00-9:45 in the gym. We gather to stretch our body and spirit with simple exercises and laughter!

GRACE MINISTRY

Holidays offer excellent opportunities to share acts of grace to the home bound. Come by Senior Adult Board for a list of names of our homebound. Contact/text 231-4944, dsmith@harrisburgonline.org.

SHEPHERD'S CENTER Seniors Serving Seniors

All Saints Episcopal Church will host Shepherd's Center December 21, 9:00-11:00. Come join us for refreshments and inspirational ideas from senior adults in our community.

MERRYMAKERS CHRISTMAS BANQUET

The Merry-makers will meet Monday evening, December 11, 6:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Come hear the men's Quartet from First Baptist Pontotoc. Sandra Lyons will be catering the meal. Cost is \$10. Deadline for sign up is Sunday, December 3. Sign up at Senior Adult/Recreation table or by calling 231-4944.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT GUEST HAPPIES/GOODIES

Help us provide happies for our guest. Anniversaries and birthdays are also recognized. Four happyies are needed each week. Sign up for a Wednesday at Senior Adult Office, or call/text 662-231-4944.

VAN DRIVERS NEEDED

We pick up on Sunday mornings for the 8:30 worship and take home after Sunday School. Join the team of drivers. No commercial licenses needed. Call David Smith 231-4944 to arrange pickup.



Operation Christmas Child
A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

987 Shoeboxes
are being shipped from Harrisburg!

SECURITY WALKERS

December 3 rd	December 10 th	December 17 th	December 24 th	December 31 st
8:15 am - 9:30 am Terry Black	8:15 am - 9:30 am Dan Purnell	8:15 am - 9:30 am Bryan Tanner	8:15 am - 9:30 am Phil Swords	8:15 am - 9:30 am Michael Green
9:45 am - 10:45 am Steven Flynn	9:45 am - 10:45 am Kirk Kennedy	9:45 am - 10:45 am Jamie Owens	9:45 am - 10:45 am Larry Durham	9:45 am - 10:45 am Katrina Patty
11:00 am - Noon Scott Williams	11:00 am - Noon Skipper Holliman	11:00 am - Noon Chris Hester	11:00 am - Noon George Hand	11:00 am - Noon Ross Loftin

What's Happening at Harrisburg

Thank You Notes

A thank you note has been received from Barb & Rodney Rice.

Piper Carroll
Will Green
Kensley McFarling
Morgan Lamb
Landry Tullos
Zackery Manscoe
Nikki Manscoe
Julia Hutch Harrison
Harrison Freer
C.J. Gann

NEW MEMBERS

Deacon Election

The following men were voted by confirmation vote on Sunday, November 5, 2017 to serve as Deacons beginning January 1, 2018.

John Bryson, Bill Collins, Bill Hamblin, Newt Harrison, Skipper Holliman, Ross Loftin, Blue Logan, James Moore, Greg Roy, Bobby Smith, Doug Whitenton, and Dereck Young.

Daily Devotion

Would you like to receive a devotion in your e-mail inbox each weekday to encourage you as you live the Christian life? David Langerfeld sends out a devotional thought each weekday that is free to anyone who requests it. To receive the **Daily Encourager**, send a request to dlangerfeld@harrisburgonline.org.

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