

Opportunities for Worship and Service

Sun. Dec. 17	8:30am 9:15am 9:30am 10:45am 11:45am 11:00am 4:00pm	Prayer Gathering Fellowship Time Bible Study Morning Worship Budget Vote after Morning Worship Korean Worship Sunrise Worship Service
Mon. Dec. 18	OPEN 7:00pm 8:00pm	Media Library Med Prof AA [Women] Med Prof AA [Men]
Tues. Dec. 19	OPEN 9:30am	Media Library Marksfield Al-Anon
Wed. Dec. 20	OPEN 4:00pm 5:30pm 7:15pm 7:30pm	Media Library Administrative team meeting Church Family Christmas Dinner Choir Rehearsal Korean Prayer & Praise
Thur. Dec. 21	OPEN 6:30pm	Media Library Faith and Film "It's a Wonderful Life"
Fri. Dec. 22		Church Office Closed
Sat. Dec. 23		



DECEMBER 17, 2017
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Music

Dr. Phil Landgrave
Composer-in-
Residence

Dr. Laurice Rogers
Associate Pastor:
Community Care

Rev. James Kang
Multi-cultural
Minister

Dr. Sylvia Kim
Multi-cultural
Minister/Music
Assoc.

Peg Holcomb
Church Secretary

Chris E. Palmer
Plant Manager

The Carillon

*Joy is the serious business
of heaven.*



Jim's Jottings

C. S. Lewis

Joy is such a simple little word – three letters, one syllable. Speaking it takes little effort, yet the first consonant explodes out of the front of our mouths with force and forming the vowel causes us to open our throats fully. Even when we try to whisper the word, it dashes out of our mouths with a quiet urgency.

Joy, such a simple little word, yet so elusive in our world, in our lives. It seems that feelings of delight, bliss, and happiness are exceptions in our lives. Anxiety, worry, fear, dread, boredom, apathy, these are the emotions that tend to fill our emotional bank. Joy, that sense of genuine well-being, is far too fragile in our experience.

C. S. Lewis wrote that joy is often experienced in the most unlikely of places. If we look carefully at the various texts of Advent and Christmas, we see that this is true. The angel who appears to Zechariah giving news of John the Baptist's birth, says this will be an experience of "joy and gladness." When Mary comes to visit Elizabeth, John leaps for joy in the womb. The angels appear to shepherds to announce the birth of Jesus, proclaiming "good news of great joy, despite the desperate circumstances surrounding Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.

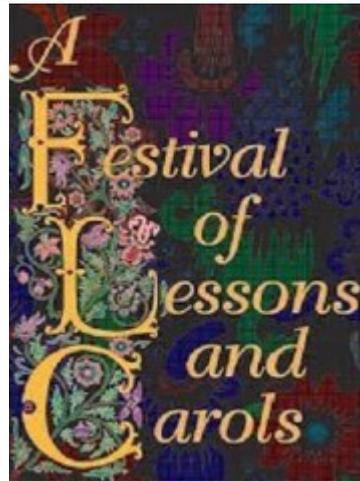
In many other places in Scripture, people testify to finding joy in the midst of trouble, even defeat. Paul, from the Philippian jail encourages the Ephesians to rejoice. In various places, in desperate circumstances, the psalmists will find reasons to be joyful.

How can people speak of joy when everything around them is falling apart? How can people testify to being filled with joy, when the outcomes of their lives are far from clear? Is not joy a by-product of success or peace or finding relief from trouble? A careful reading of Scripture would indicate that C. S. Lewis is on to something. Joy comes to us in unlikely places.

In the Scripture, joy is not a passing emotion based on the circumstances around us. Joy does not even originate in our celebration of good things. Over and over again, joy is identified with the presence of God. Wherever God is present, the joy of our life is present. When God withdraws, joy fades.

Joy is a gift of grace that comes to us from God. It cannot be found in the fragile moments when we experience a break in the brokenness of the world around us.

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Christmas Eve

7:00 p.m.

Join us as we bring Advent to a close and move into the celebration of Christ's bringing the light of God's grace into our world.

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True joy, you see, cannot be pursued, it can only be received. True joy will not be found in the circumstances of our life, but in the presence of God in the middle of those circumstances.

Joy is not first and foremost an emotion. It is an experience. An experience of the presence of God. One of the messages of Advent and Christmas is that God takes the initiative and comes to us, even when we are not looking, even when we are not ready. And when God comes, we find our joy, not in what God does or does not do, but in the simple fact that God is with us.

When we become aware of this gift in our lives, we will experience joy in many ways. Sometimes we will want to laugh and dance and sing. At other times we will experience a profound sense of peace and contentment, even if the world around us is falling apart. Most of the time we will experience joy with a sense, that come what may, we will be okay.

We cannot create the profound experience of joy. C. S. Lewis is on to something when he reminds us that "Joy is the serious business of heaven." For to bring the joy of God's presence with us, God's Word became flesh, 'was crucified, dead and buried, and on the third day was raised from the dead. He has ascended to the right hand of the Father' and continually makes intercessions on our behalf. To bring the joy of God's presence, the Holy Spirit has been poured out on us, and continues the work of schooling us in the life of God, in whom we live and move and have our being.

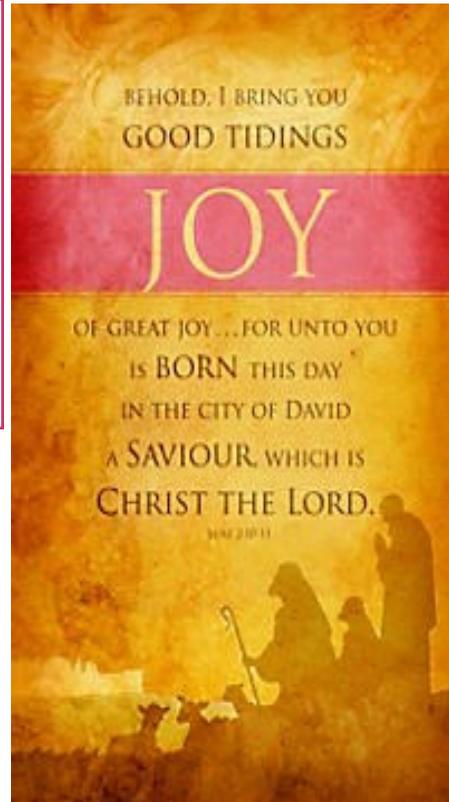
Our joy is not fleeting, because our joy is the Lord. Let heaven and nature sing, let us our tongues employ singing "Joy to the world, the Lord is come..."

*Friday,
December 22nd
Monday,
December 25th*



Tuesday, December 26th

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



**FAITH AND FILM
"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"**

**Thursday, December 21st
6:30p.m.~ Goldsby Hall**



WORLD MISSION PRAYER AND OFFERING



No matter how high or low on the chain of culture God loves us and gives His abundant grace and mercy to love Him. In the gift of Jesus, our Savior, we are humbled through his forgiveness of our sins for us to love ourselves. His gift of the Holy Spirit empowers us to meet others in their need of relationships to God.

The example of Lottie Moon in America and in China (1840-1912) has encouraged Baptists to contribute over one billion dollars to the offering named after her. Her refusal to let the Civil War in America chain her and the acceptance of letting the Chinese eat her food portion in famine speaks to us to let Christ define who we are.

Through 100% of our gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering we support over 3,000 missionaries who are sharing the gospel in the language of people who have never heard about Jesus. They do this through business relationships in mega cities, ministry relationships with refugees and natural disaster victims, transportation to hard-to-reach places. Providing resources for new churches and Bible study groups, and training of leaders who God desires to raise up from among the people they serve.

Pray for believers to possess joy when they suffer, kindness when they are slandered, and patience when things are hard.



**LYNDON BAPTIST CHURCH
WEEKLY CONTRIBUTION SUMMMARY**

	12-10-17	Y-T-D
General Offering	\$ 4,169.24	\$ 229,132.35
Budget	\$ 4,808.00	\$ 40,424.00
Variance	\$ (638.36)	\$ (11,291.65)
Missions	\$ 150.00	\$ 591.00

Deacon Ministry

WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2017 TO DECEMBER 23, 2017

GARY HICKS 454-0256



Sunday School Attendance

Lyndon Baptist Church

December 10, 2017

Preschool	4
Children	0
Youth	0
Good Shepherd	9
Adult	<u>34</u>
TOTAL	47



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017

Nursery Vera Ruwe & Judy Lee
Greeter Lola Vanderhoof
Scripture Reader Tim Vanderhoof
Prayer of Dedication Lindsey Harris



Thank you to the Fidelis Class for donating Eighteen winter coats to the EACM Christmas Store !



Wednesday, December 20, 2017, 5:30pm

Let's get together to Celebrate the Joy of the Season !

Dinner: Christmas Chicken, Brown Rice, Zucchini-n-Squash, Cauliflower Salad and Red Velvet Cake.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY !

Between now and December 24, 2017 please bring your Christmas Cards that you want to exchange with other church members to Room 214. We will make sure they are delivered for you.



COME THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

The peace of God accompany your waiting,

The light of Christ warm your hearts,

And the joy of the Spirit fill you with hope.

Jack and Laurice

