



## Calendar

### December

1 Widows Offering Deadline  
5 Minister & Spouse Banquet  
6 JCBC Angel Tree Gifts Due  
9 55+ On-Mission Celebration  
21 First Day of Winter  
24 Christmas Eve  
25 Christmas

### January

1 New Year's Day - Office Closed  
9 Ministry Cohort  
21 Sanctity of Life Sunday  
25 Executive Board Meeting  
29 Monday Manna

### Happy Birthday, Pastors!

11 Jaime Velasco  
14 Michael Pope  
22 Keith Malone  
23 David Green  
23 Tommy Pierce  
30 Pete Tackett



John Piper said, "Missions exists because worship doesn't." All that we do, from the local church to the ends of the earth, should be for the purpose of seeing people become worshipers of Jesus. That's why Southern Baptists emphasize missions, especially at Christmas. Although our denomination has collected a special Christmas offering for foreign missions since 1888, the offering was named the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in 1918 (six year's after her death on December 24, 1912) to honor her sacrificial service as a missionary to China (1873-1912) and avid promoter of the cause of international missions.

### Here are the shocking statistics:

- 8 Billion People in the World
- 195 Countries
- Over 7,000 Languages
- 4.6 Billion Unreached People
- 3,072 Unreached, Unengaged People Groups
- 173,451 Die Daily without Christ

### What can you do? Pray/Give/Go

You may have noticed that these responses require increasing levels of sacrifice. Praying costs you nothing but time and effort. Giving requires a financial sacrifice. Going requires you to lay aside most everything. Many who now serve as missionaries around the world could testify to how intentional praying and giving led to God's call to go to the nations. Many will never be called to go, but everyone can pray and give!

### LMCO 2023 Goal: \$200 Million

If you're like me, you'd have to live more than a few lifetimes to have \$200,000,000! Thankfully, Southern Baptists can do far more together than we could ever do as individuals or individual churches. Cooperation takes the Gospel to the nations! Whether large or small, your gifts are pooled with numerous other gifts to fund the largest Christian mission sending organization in the world – and we get to be part of it!

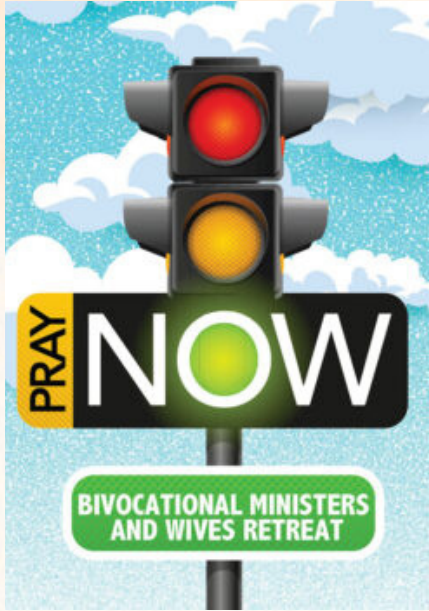
### Week of Prayer for International Missions – December 3-10

Whether you pray for specific missionaries on the field, unreached people groups, or what God would have you give to this year's offering, join me in the Week of Prayer next week as we hear what God is doing around the world and how we can pray more specifically for the work of the Gospel!

Remember, this is the purpose of Christmas – wayward sinners becoming worshipers of King Jesus!

Merry Christmas,  
Troy





**January 25-27, 2024**

**Annual event for  
Bivocational Ministers &  
Wives for inspiration,  
fellowship, and  
encouragement.**

**Cost: \$275**

**Registration deadline  
Dec. 8, 2023.**

**Complimentary  
HBA Bivocational  
Pastor Lunch  
Friday - 12:30 PM**

*Rejoice in hope, be  
patient in tribulation,  
be constant in prayer.*

**– Romans 12:12**

## GREETINGS FROM THE JOHNSON CITY BAPTIST CENTER

Hope all had a blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends. It is always a good time to be together, to reflect, and give thanks for what the Lord has done in our lives.

For the Johnson City Baptist Center, it is a highlight to share our Thanksgiving meal with our neighbors. This year, our turkey with all the trimmings fed over 120 people. Thank you to Cody Green and Mount Zion Baptist Church for providing, cooking, then serving the meal, which is such a blessing. Also many others, from various churches in our association, brought plenty of desserts to complete the meal on a sweet note. Thank you all for sharing in the ministry in this way.

As part of the Christmas season, we had about 60 names on our Angel Tree for the children in our community. We want to thank our churches for selecting all of the angels to provide Christmas gifts. You will be making Christmas morning special for these children who might not receive anything if not for you.

The Angel Tree not only provides presents, but also brings hope to many hurting families, and helps to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please pray for the children and families to come to know the Lord Jesus as Saviour.

Thank you to all the individuals and churches who have helped to share the love of Jesus this year through the ministry of the Johnson City Baptist Center.

Luke 2:10-11 (KJV) "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Love in Jesus' name,  
Anna Huggins  
Director of Ministries Johnson City Baptist Center

*Let's have*

A CHRIST-CENTERED  
**CHRISTMAS**





## STAFF OPENINGS

### PART-TIME STUDENT MINISTER

Clark Street, JC

Clark Street Baptist Church is seeking a part time student minister who will oversee the children and youth ministry of the Church.

Resumes may be sent to  
[clarkstreetbc@gmail.com](mailto:clarkstreetbc@gmail.com)

### FULL TIME PASTOR

Woodlawn

Southern Baptist Background  
SBC Seminary Degree  
4-5 years' experience  
Licensed and ordained

Please send resume to:  
Pastor Search Committee  
Woodlawn Baptist Church,  
1400 Southside Avenue,  
Bristol, TN 37620

Email:  
[woodlawnpastorsearch@gmail.com](mailto:woodlawnpastorsearch@gmail.com)

### PART-TIME CHILDREN'S DIRECTOR

Heritage, Johnson City

Can also apply at  
[TNBaptist.org](http://TNBaptist.org).

<https://www.hbcjc.org/jobs>

(24 hrs. / wk.)

## The Spirit of Christmas 2023

"One Quiet Night"

Blountville First Baptist

### PERFORMANCES:

December 1 - 7 PM  
December 2 - 2:30 PM & 7 PM  
December 3 - 5 PM

### PRICES:

Dinner & Drama Adults \$18  
Children 12 & Under \$10  
Dessert & Drama \$3  
Drama Only Free

To purchase tickets by phone:  
Call 423-323-8033 (option 1).

Monday Manna  
Monthly Pastor Fellowship

Last Monday of the Month  
Begins January 29, 2024  
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

207 University Parkway, Johnson City

More Details Coming Soon

fellowship, edification, rejuvenation

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CHURCHES WITHOUT PASTORS

Friendship Chapel \* Muddy Creek \* New Life  
Ninth Street \* Oak Hill \* Timberlake \* Woodlawn

### PART-TIME MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Colonial Heights, Kingsport

Approximately 16 hours per week, typically Monday thru Thursday 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. with some ability to adjust based on church and employee needs. Duties include typical office tasks such as managing phones, door access and messages and would also include computer-related tasks such as website maintenance, managing social media postings, and generating custom graphics for mailings and bulletin boards. Please submit resumes to the church office at 108 Colonial Heights Rd, Kingsport, TN 37663 to the attention of the Personnel Committee.



### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / BOOKKEEPER

Must have competent computer skills, good people skills & excel in verbal & written communication, experience in payroll. 18 hrs. wk.

Send resume via email:  
[office@tusculumbaptist.org](mailto:office@tusculumbaptist.org)

or mail to:  
Tusculum Baptist Church  
775 Erwin Hwy.  
Greeneville, Tn 37745



## HBA WIDOWS CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Thank you, HBA churches,  
for contributing to the  
2023 Widows Christmas  
Offering! The ladies who  
served faithfully alongside  
their minister husbands will  
be blessed this Christmas  
through your generosity!



**THE LORD**  
WATCHES OVER THE FOREIGNER  
AND SUSTAINS THE FATHERLESS  
AND THE WIDOW.

PSALM 146:9, NIV



## CHURCH VAN OR BUS NEEDED

If your church has a van or  
bus to sell, please contact  
Bryan Smith at 423-297-5148  
or bryansmith.bmi@gmail.com

holstonba.org

## Holston Baptist Association's



**\* Emma Worthy \***

Birthday: March 28

Since this season of the year our hearts are tuned toward thankfulness and giving, I would like to share an opportunity with you. Tennessee WMU has paired our association with a Missionary Kid, an "MK" college student, who is away from home as they further their education. Most all of these MKs have family serving on the mission field in other parts of the world, and usually spend the holidays without being able to celebrate together.

As the Week of Prayer for International Missions is approaching the first week of December, please consider supporting and encouraging our MK. You may do this by sending a card, a care package, a check, or a gift card, just to let them know they have folks here at home who care about them. These students have served alongside their parents in places God has called them as a family to share the Gospel. Coming back to the states is sometimes a culture shock, add to that being in college, and a loving thought, prayer and gift can go a long way in providing what might be needed to keep up their spirits this Christmas.

Emma's address is not included here for privacy/security reasons. You may contact me, or the HBA office (423-929-1196) to get that information.

Thank you for sharing in this ministry.

Anna Huggins  
WMU Director HBA

## MINISTRY COHORT

*Small Group Discipleship*

Second Tuesday of the Month

January 9 - May 14, 2024 ✦ 8:30 - 10:00 AM

BCM Building - 1012 Seminole Drive, Johnson City

*-Free & Open to Everyone-*

Includes Biscuit Breakfast

Register Here:



207 University Parkway, Johnson City, TN 37604  
423.929.1196

hba@holstonba.org



## TO YOUR HEALTH Reading Signs Along the Way

As we get older our conversations seem to gravitate more to health concerns. In fact, the medical numbers that we get from visiting the doctor tend to pop up more and more often in our discussions with friends and family. Some people are consumed with these statistics while others feign ignorance. What do they mean and what do we do with them? Here are a few of the more common ones.

Blood pressure reveals the effectiveness of the heart and circulatory system in maintaining healthy pressure in your arteries and veins. The top number is systolic pressure, or the blood pressure as the heart pumps. It varies according to the needs of the body for blood. The lower number is diastolic pressure, or the blood pressure when the heart is at rest between pumps. The latter tends to be considered more critical. The upper number should be around 120 but can rise a bit with age. The lower number typically falls between 75 and 85. If it rises significantly a course of action must be taken. When blood pressure gets out of control we are at much greater risk of heart attack or stroke (brain attack).

The heart rate is the amount of times the heart beats per minute. A healthy heart will beat approximately 72 times per minute when resting. Exercise can raise this rate well beyond 100 beats per minute. The healthier the heart, the lower the b/m can go. A regular runner can easily have a resting heart rate of less than 60 b/m. If your resting heart rate rises above 80 you should consult your physician as this means your heart is having to pump harder to circulate enough blood to fuel your body. Heart attacks usually result when the heart is in continual distress.

Blood glucose is determined by "sticking" ones finger and giving a drop to a meter that determines the amount of sugar/carbohydrates that remain in the blood unprocessed by the endocrine system of insulin. For a person with diabetes this information is critical to maintaining healthy levels and holding off many of the unfortunate effects of this debilitating disease. The purpose in taking these samples is to determine ones healthy eating habits. If this number is much over 120 then adjustments must be made in meals and snacks. Sadly, when a person is not choosing wisely they often avoid taking this simple test as it points out their deficiencies. But this practice is essential to finding a healthy way forward.

Most of us have bathroom scales for checking our weight. There are many reasons for subtle variations in our body weight. For this reason weighing each day is not a good choice. Checking ones weight a couple of times per week can alert us to unwanted trends. Healthy eating choices and staying hydrated with water can stabilize our weight. These check-ups can prove quite helpful in accomplishing good health goals.

Know the signs that are most impactful for your good health. Do you avoid them or manipulate them? Make them your "friends" to help you on a good journey of caring for your body, the earthly temple the Lord has given us.

Greg Burton  
Colonial Heights Baptist Church



## FOSTER CARE PANEL

There will be a Foster Care Panel at Heritage Baptist Church, 1512 John Exum Pkwy, Johnson City on Wednesday, December 6th from 5:30-7:00 pm.

Join Tennessee Kids Belong and amazing panelists to learn about fostering in our state. Attend our free panel to meet experts in the field, hear stories from current foster parents, from former foster youth and get answers to tough questions like:

- Can I Foster If I'm Single?
- What if My Spouse Isn't Quite Ready?
- How Will This Impact My Biological Kids?
- Will I Get Too Attached and Have to Say Goodbye?

According to the ADF Church Alliance "Nearly 400,000 children are in the U.S. foster care system, enough to fill more than five football stadiums!

Over 100,000 children are waiting for adoption.

Let that sink in. As church leaders, there's a biblical mandate to care and provide for orphans (James 1:27)."

### REGISTER HERE:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/foster-care-qa-panel-in-person-tickets-730539522377?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>



## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

DECEMBER 3–10, 2023

Southern Baptists observe a Week of Prayer for International Missions each year before the annual Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® emphasis.

Will you join your heart with others to pray for missionaries around the world who are faithfully sharing the gospel?