

***“THE FORECAST”***  
***Hilton Baptist Church***  
***101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601***  
***HiltonBaptistChurch.org / (757)595-3300***



In every storm of life you encounter, you can know for certain that,  
because of Christmas, God is with you through your pain.  
He comforts you in the waiting. When you're anxious about your future,  
He gives you courage. As you climb the mountain,  
He keeps you safe in His arms.

In every moment, we have the good news of Christmas  
in knowing that we are never alone, because,  
***“God Is With Us!”***

*Plan to attend the most beautiful service of the year...  
Our 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion!  
THEN... Celebrate with us on Christmas Day  
at our usual time of 10:00 AM!*



## ***Goodbye 2022... Hope Keeps Us Alive!***

When a challenging year like 2022 lies behind us, the promise of Christ fills us with hope to carry on. Hope is the breath that keeps us alive. Hope is the fuel of faith. And dreams. And possibilities. Hope is that whisper of *maybe, just maybe*. It's the spark in the cold darkness that catches flame. It's the flicker of first light on a new morning.

In the worst sufferings and atrocities and catastrophes of human history, there has always remained a flicker of hope. Throughout enslavement, imprisonment, torture, and tragedy, there have been those who have clung to the smallest sparks of hope and fanned them within to an eventual survival or freedom or release.

Throughout the history of the Jewish people, there was the hope of God's covenant. There was the promise of restoration and blessing through the Messiah. But time dragged on, and the nation was plundered. Its people were exiled and conquered. "How long, O God?" was the cry of the ancient Israelite people as year after year, century after century passed.

But there were those who kept hope alive, living expectantly and faithfully, trusting openly and wholeheartedly that God would come through. Simeon and Anna were two of those people who encountered the baby Jesus. They had lived long, difficult lives. They had known loss and disappointment. But they did not abandon hope. And when they saw the baby Jesus, just about six weeks old, in the temple, they knew without a doubt that this was the Messiah, the promised one, the Son of God. They were ready and waiting for this moment. And they embraced the moment of this hope fulfilled with rejoicing and worshiping and spreading the news. The flames of their hope spread beyond and multiplied.

HBC Family and friends, how is the flame of your hope today? It's been a tough year, the kind of year that threatens to extinguish the flames of our hope. Let me encourage you, no matter what you are facing or where you're at, to rediscover hope this Christmas in the coming of the Christ child.

With the arrival of Immanuel, "God With Us," God has come to restore hope—the hope of salvation, the hope of restoration and healing, the hope of His continued work that He will one day complete in our bodies and souls and world. As we come humbly to worship Jesus, we can find the renewal of His hope within us, the strength to take the next hopeful step, and the strength to carry us forward.

With this verse as our prayer, let's rediscover the hope that Christ has come and He is working in our lives today: "*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit*" (Romans 15:13, NIV).

On the grace journey of Christmas 2022 together with you, Lynwood

# Hilton Baptist Church

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

December 20, 2022



Budget \$1130.00

Lottie Moon \$560.00

Lottie Moon in Memory of Kathy Moore \$100.00

Chaplains Fund \$75.00

Food Closet \$200.00

Total Deposit \$2065.00

## **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

Collected to Date:  
\$2555.00

The offering envelopes for 2023 are on the table in the Connection Center. Some of them will be mailed. If you do not get envelopes and want them, please contact the church office.



## **Candlelight Christmas Eve Communion Service December 24th 5pm**

This will be a special service to include music, media, candlelight and communion. Ask your family to come and be a part.

**Christmas Day Worship Service**- We will be having Worship Service,

Sunday, December 25th Christmas Day 10am



**Calendar**

**Tuesday, December 20th**

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

**Thursday, December 22nd**

No Food Distributions

**Sunday, December 25th**

**Merry Christmas**

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

10am Sonshine Kids

**Monday, December 26th**

Church Office Closed

**Tuesday, December 27th**

No Food Distribution

**Wednesday, December 28th**

7pm Facebook Bible Study

**Thursday, December 29th**

No Food Distribution

**Sunday, January 2023**

**Happy New Year**

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

10am Sonshine Kids

**Lock up/ Hall Monitor**

12/25 Robbie Ayscue

1/1 Don Krause

**Counter**

Tuesday 12/27 Margaret Upole

Tuesday, 1/3 Kathy Caskie

**Kids Church Helper**

12/25 Nadine Stephenson

1/1 Kathy Caskie

**Happy Birthday in December**

12/25 Karen Simpson

12/30 Brenda Egnot

**Happy Birthday in January**

1/8 Lynn Prillaman

1/9 Matt Jordan

1/10 Mia Kuhlne

1/10 Heather Michie Collins

1/13 Cathy Childs

1/13 Dreama Johnson

1/23 Barbara Michie

1/30 Carolyn Schaubach



**Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226**

**PORT Sign Up- YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

We have spots open to help with our outreach to the homeless of our area. PORT is January 11th-25th. Please visit the back of the sanctuary to sign up where you want to serve.

**Food Pantry at HBC**

HBC gives food away on Tuesdays and Thursday. See Sue Monfalcone to volunteer and for more information on how you can help. Bring your non-perishable food to restock the pantry the last Sunday of every month.

We have given out a lot of food recently so any donations would be appreciated. Next collection is December 25th

**Aluminum Cans**

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and place them in the gym or the church office. All money collected goes to missions!

**Serve The City**

Serve the City Peninsula has many exciting ways in which you can serve. Visit their website and check it out, <https://www.stcpeninsula.com> or contact Pam and she will be able to put you in the right direction.

**Pray for our Missionaries**

BG (Asian Pacific Rim People) JL, KS (Central Asian People) TL, Christopher Williams (European People) DG (Global Strategic Advance) MC, BS (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) Tiffany Ford, Kristi Stewart (Sub-Saharan African People) Juan Carlos Nava (AZ) Shane Cristser (CA) Luis Sanchez (CO) Edward Choy (MD) Gerald Frey (PA)

**WMU December Project**

The December Missions is Grace Inside Chaplains Fund

**Donations for PORT**

Collecting New and gently used underclothes for men and women, Boxer Briefs for Men, Bras, panties, undershirts, jeans, hoodies, book bags, Hygiene kit items: washcloths, toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, travel size soap, Travel size shampoo and conditioner, travel size lotion, deodorant— travel size if possible, but not necessary) Qtips— a box of 500 will fill 50 hygiene kits. Gallon size and snack size bags. Please place your items in the mission outreach corner.

**We have a place for you in Missions Outreach!**



## *“The Christ Candle Of Advent!”*

Advent is about expectation and remembrance. We enter into the story of a world in need of a new start. It's as much about the journey as it is the destination. And as we travel on this Christmas journey we remember. We remember Christmases of joy and hardship. We remember people we love who aren't around our table anymore. Some memories are sweet. Others are difficult.

The Italian poet Cesare Pavese wrote, "We do not remember days; we remember moments." Another man at the end of his life said, "I've had my moments, but if I had my life to do over again, I would have more of them."

Can you imagine all the moments Mary had that first Christmas Eve? Luke tells us that she kept all these memories and treasured them in her heart. She saw and experienced things no one had before or will again. She wasn't selected because of her wealth, education, royal lineage or great deeds. In fact, the Bible is silent about the requirements for being the mother of the Messiah. We only know that God favored her highly among women. God's glory consumed her life from the moment Gabriel visited her.

It was a holy night. God's glory came to earth and wrote a love letter to the world in the form of a newborn baby. It was a moment of the supernatural. Mary could've had bitter memories about the travel arrangements, the lack of planning, the constant need to improvise. But in a barn full of visiting animals, horses, mules, stray dogs, camels, splinters, hay and horse manure, Mary kept all these things treasured in her heart.

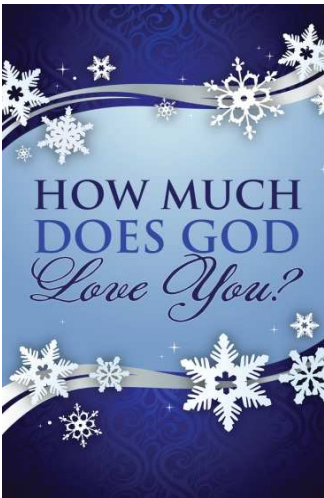
That night she had to contend with Joseph's snoring and the shepherds, loudly recounting the amazing appearance of angels. They probably woke the baby several times that night. But just before dawn, when everyone except Mary and a mule was still asleep, she gathered a tapestry of memories:

- the beautiful colors of Gabriel's clothes
- the look on Elizabeth's face when she turned and saw Mary
- the busyness of packing for the dreaded tax appointment
- the "No Vacancy" sign
- the nervous, frustrated father
- the tiny hands of the newborn king

I would imagine she wept and smiled. She experienced an orchestra of emotions in concert with the breeze that swept through the Bethlehem hills like a newly released Spirit.

We each have opportunities to capture memories of Christ when we follow Him. Knowing that He became our Savior gives us a reason for joy. It's Good News worth celebrating and joy worth finding.

## ***Christmas: God Is Love***



*“For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)*

God loves you so much that he sent Jesus on a mission of love with a message of love. Christmas is a yearly reminder that God loves you. The Bible says God is love. It doesn't say God *has* love; it says God *is* love. Love is his nature; *God is love*.

God created the entire universe. He created this planet; he created the human race; then, he created you because he *loves* you.

It could be said the reason you're alive is because God created you as an object of his love. God made you so he could love you and so that you could love him. God's love for you is the reason your heart is beating right now; it's the reason you're breathing.

God's good news is that he loves you on your good days as much as he loves you on your bad days. He loves you when you can feel his love, and he loves you when you can't seem to feel his love. He loves you regardless of whether or not you think you deserve his love.

There is nothing you can do that will make God stop loving you. You could try, but you simply can't do it – because his love for you is based upon his character and not on anything you do or say or feel.

God loves you so much that he sent his only Son, Jesus, into this world. Hear those words again, *“so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16 NLT)*.

When the baby Jesus grows into a man, he will stretch his arms out as wide as the cross, saying, “I love you this much! I love you so much it hurts. I love you so much I'll die for you so that I won't have to live without you.”

God's love surpasses all human knowledge, and it is difficult for any of us to grasp the width and length and height and depth of God's love for each one of us (Ephesians 3:17-19).

How would your life change if you deeply believed God loved you?

Ask God to help you in your unbelief. Then believe and be ready to receive His answer. It will make this Christmas Day the best one you could ever experience!





## ***A Christmas Word from Pastor Lynwood's heart to yours...***

*As we come to the conclusion of 2022, I want to take this opportunity to say a special word of "Thanks!" to God and to each of you in the HBC Family for the privilege of serving as your pastor. It has been a wonderful 21 years for me!*

*With each new birth, wedding graduation and other wonderful life celebrations we have shared my heart and life have been enriched. With each departure and funeral, a part of me has been buried and taken along as well. That's the beautiful circle of life God has given us here on our earthly journey, and especially more so, in the household of faith we call our HBC church family.*

*The upcoming year of 2023, we continue the journey a community of believers known as Hilton Baptist Church. Through these many years together we have so much for which to be grateful. Yet, I believe our greatest challenges still lie ahead of us. We must move forward together and in faith! Otherwise, our future will slip through our fingers like sand and be lost to the wind.*

*My prayer for you and yours, and our church as we close 2022, is that we will continue to grow and work together in the grace, love and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ – so that when our journey is done, we will hear... "Well done, good and faithful servants!"*

*Much Love to you, this Christmas and always, Lynwood*

*Christmas Eve*  
CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE  
DECEMBER 24TH  
5:00 P.M.  
*"The Most Beautiful & Inspiring  
55 Minute Service Of The Entire Year!"*



## ***Will You Let Him In?***

The signs of Christmas are all around us. However, amidst all the sights and sounds of Christmas, there continues to be an increase in this world's attempts to remove Christ from Christmas. Each year we witness growing attempts to eliminate Christ out of Christmas, out of everyday life, out of government, out of schools, and out of the marketplace.



But, in spite of it all, He just won't go away!

Despite our efforts to keep Him out, God intrudes. The life of Jesus is bracketed by two impossibilities – a virgin's womb and an empty tomb. Jesus entered our world through a door marked "No Entrance" and left through a door marked "No Exit."

That first Christmas, there was no room for Him in the inn. The world never wants to make room for Christ at Christmas and in everyday life. Man killed Him and sealed the tomb with a huge stone to shut Him out of our lives once and for all. But God removed the stone to prove Jesus will not be shut up or shut out of His plans.

One day Jesus will intrude on history again. The way to be ready is to invite Him into your life today. This Christmas, will you shut Him out or let Him in?

## ***Are You a Scrooge?***



- If you turn on the lawn sprinklers on Christmas Eve to keep carolers away – you might be a Scrooge.
- If you buy all your Christmas gifts at a store that also sells gas – you just might be a Scrooge.
- If you get your Christmas tree at a rest stop at night – you just might be a Scrooge.
- If you give bathroom fixtures as Christmas gifts – you just might be a Scrooge.
- If your favorite Christmas movie is Jurassic Park – you just might be a

Scrooge.

- If your best Christmas tradition involves a fire and reindeer meat – you just might be a Scrooge.
- If you use your Christmas Club money to buy wrestling tickets – you just might be a Scrooge.
- If your favorite pastime is putting defective bulbs in your neighbors' string of Christmas lights or defacing Christmas lawn caricatures with eggnog – you just might be a Scrooge.
- If your only holiday decoration is a rotting pumpkin – you just might be a Scrooge.

## *The Whole Christmas Story*

At this time of year we think about the birth of the Savior. The events of His birth are of vital importance, yet we would also do well to reflect also on the rest of His earthly ministry -- His sacrificial death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return. Our redemption would be incomplete if any element were missing.



It is fitting, therefore, to share with you a poem by L. W. Beckley titled, "The Rest of the Story."

*We are wont to sing of shepherds  
And the heavenly glory bright,  
Of angels and their message  
On that peaceful, holy night.*

*But so oft we end the story  
When 'tis only just begun,  
For we fail to give the message  
That this Child is God the Son.*

*Here to give Himself a ransom,  
Crucified on Calvary's tree,  
Through His blood providing pardon,  
Perfect cleansing, full and free.*

*And the tomb, thank God, is empty;  
Jesus sits at God's right hand  
Now a loving, mighty Savior;  
Spread the news to every land!*

The One born in Bethlehem was none other than God in human flesh. Having lived a perfect life, He died an awful death to pay the price for the sins of mankind. Now He's in heaven, and any day He could return. How wonderful to know the complete story!

May God richly bless you and yours, this Christmas and always!



### ***Christmas Tree Blessing***

Holy Creator of Trees,  
bless with your abundant grace  
this our Christmas tree as a symbol of joy.

May its evergreen branches be a sign  
of your never-fading promises.

May its colorful lights and ornaments call us  
to decorate with love our home and our world.

May the gifts that surround this tree  
be symbols of the gifts we have received  
Holy from the Tree of Christ's Cross.

Christmas tree within our home, may Joy and Peace come and nest  
in your branches and in our hearts. Amen.

### ***Best Gifts this Season***

To a Friend Loyalty  
To an Enemy Forgiveness  
To your Boss Service  
To your Child A good example  
To your Father Honor  
To your Mother Gratitude and Devotion  
To your Spouse Love and Faithfulness  
To Yourself Respect  
To All Men Charity  
To God Your Life!!



### ***The Last Impression***

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents. At  
bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers  
when the youngest one began praying at the top of his lungs.

"I pray for a new bicycle... I pray for a new X-Box...  
I pray for a new DVD..."

His older brother leaned over and nudged the younger brother and said, "Why are  
you shouting your prayers? God isn't deaf."

To which the little brother replied, "No, but Grandma is!"





## ***Is Hilton Baptist Church on Your Christmas Gift List?***

As we come to the end of 2022, we have been blessed with both special provision and special needs. To meet our budget projections, we are believing for a generous outpouring of offerings before December 31<sup>st</sup>.

As with any older building structure, we had special needs in our heating and air conditioning systems this past year. Our repairs and needed replacement of several units will cost around \$34,000. Through careful budgeting and increased giving we are hoping to make and pay for these extraordinary, but necessary repairs.

Yet, even facing such daunting financial challenges, the light of this truth still shines brightly. Christmas is a time when we remember how God poured His very best into the poverty of our humanity. And because He gave the very best gift He could give, we celebrate our salvation with joy today.

What would God have you do to honor Him as 2022 comes to an end? The faith we as a church are willing to demonstrate in December will help set the goals we can aim for in 2023. The harvest of our future is made possible by the seeds of our faith and financial gifts we sow now – Let's celebrate all God has done for us this Christmas by doing all we can for Him!

***Help us to  
finish stronger than  
ever financially in  
2022***

***Please consider  
making a  
special  
year-end  
gift before  
December 25<sup>th</sup>!***

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(See Luke 2:1-16)

12-26-2011

HERE'S A GIFT RECEIPT FOR THE MYRRH  
IN CASE YOU HAD WANTED OTHER PERFUME