

Gresham Gazette



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Benevolence Baskets

As we look around, it is hard to miss the signs of Christmas, trees are decorated, lights can be seen hanging all around town and Christmas carols can be heard all around. As we approach this busy time of the year, let's not forget to look beyond our own wants and desires to reach out to those around us that are less fortunate.

This year, our church accepted the responsibility of helping provide for 19 families. Within these 19 families, are 51 children and teens as well as 30 adults. This is a huge undertaking for our church, but as we look around our community, we can see that with the tough economy many of our neighbors and co-workers have fallen on hard times.

As of today, we still have 30 children/teens and 23 adults that have not been claimed from the families we are helping this

year. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help these families.

If you are able to adopt one of these angels to help this Christmas, you can choose one on Sunday or Wednesday. When you select an angel, you will be provided with a slip of paper with the person's first name, age, sizes and what they want for Christmas. This will help make your shopping trip easier.

If you are not able to shop for an angel yourself, but would like to help, you can always give money and mark the envelope "Benevolence Baskets." We have ladies within the church who would love the opportunity to shop for you.

If you have any further questions regarding the families, please see Pat Bickley or DeeAnna May.

Also, many of the children on the list would like a bicycle for Christmas. If you would like to buy a bicycle for a child or help pay for one, please see Hubert Sherrell.

Many of you have already been providing food for the benevolence baskets. Thank you for all you have done, thus far. If you need an updated list of what we still need, you can get one from the church office at any time.

We plan on assembling these baskets on Sunday night, December 18 at 5 pm. Mark this date on your calendar now. We will have a light meal and then we will wrap the gifts, box the groceries and prepare the baskets for pick up on the 19-20.

Again, thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus as we reach out to minister to those who are hurting in our community. We need to pray for these families that God would allow us to not only help them physically this Christmas, but that He will open doors for us to be able to help them spiritually as well.

The Record Speaks

Date	S.S. Attendance	Offering
Nov. 6	131	\$9,357.00
Nov. 13	113	\$7,293.36
Nov. 20	140	\$4,523.26
Nov. 27	96	\$4,454.91
2010 Average- 119		2011 Average- 120

Ladies' Silent Auction

Ladies, don't forget the Silent Auction to be held on Tuesday night, December 6 in the Fellowship Hall. It will begin at 6:30 pm. Each lady needs to bring a covered dish and an item to auction off at the event.

After the auction has concluded, we will all decide what the proceeds will go for this year. If you have any questions about the Silent Auction, see Violet Stephens or Barbara Thoene.

Come enjoy a good time of fun, food and fellowship. Feel free to bring a friend with you, as well! This is a great way to knock out some shopping without having to deal with the crowded stores.

Celebration Choir Cantata

The Celebration Choir has been working diligently the past few months to prepare a special musical program to present to the congregation. On Sunday morning, December 18 at 10 am, Bro. Norris Cash will lead the choir as they present, "Mary, Did You Know?" You will not want to miss this special service as the choir presents the message of Christmas in musical form.

Ushers for December

Dec. 4 Nathan Parker Brandon Sulser Gary Swinford Randy Johnson	Dec. 18 Jim Hatcher Bonnie Elwood Ronnie Bickley Bill Robins
Dec. 11 Carl Hancock Archie May Johnny Stephens Cecil Tate	Dec. 25 Chuck Horton Otis Beddingfield Jeff Tunnell David Flanagan

Dates to Remember

Dec. 17
Brunch with Santa

Dec. 18
Choir Cantata

Feb. 18-25, 2012
Guatemala Mission Trip

2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE



Just a reminder that our Lottie Moon Christmas offering is officially in full swing. This year, the theme set by the Southern Baptist Convention is "His Heart, His Hands, His Voice: I Am Southern Baptist Missions." The theme verse is Acts 1:8.

The National goal for the Lottie Moon

offering has been set at \$175 million. Our church goal is \$1,500.

Please begin praying now about how God would have you help in the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Don't forget to participate in the week of prayer for our missionaries on December 4-11. If you do not have a prayer guide, you may pick up one in the church foyer or welcome center. You will also find the envelopes to give as God leads you in both the foyer and welcome center.

Greeters for December

Dec. 4
Bobby Renson
& Tammy Rooney

Dec. 11
Jim Harvey
& Sarah Barber

Dec. 18
Claude & Mildred West

Dec. 25
Otis & Marilee
Beddingfield

Annual Widows and Widowers Banquet Set

We will once again be hosting a Christmas banquet for widows and widowers. The banquet will be held on Tuesday, December 13 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

All widows and widowers of our church are invited to attend this special event. The deacons of our church look forward to this time where they can serve the widows and widowers.

Please sign up on the list in the foyer or welcome center for the banquet so that we know how much food to prepare. Also, if you need a ride to the banquet, please call the church office at 903-561-0174.

"Ketchup" the Budget

Thank you to everyone who has responded to our "Ketchup" the budget plan. As many of you know, we have placed ketchup all around the church to remind all of us to help "ketchup" on our church budget.

For the month of November, the tithes and offerings averaged \$6,407.13. This is up considerably from the months of September and October. God is blessing our church, and we are now able to "ketchup" on many of the bills that had fallen

behind in the previous months.

Just because we have caught up now doesn't mean we can stop giving. The bills will continue and so must our giving.

Let us not forget, as we head into this Christmas season, to be faithful with our time and money. Thank you again to everyone that has given thus far. God is still working here at Gresham and He is using cheerful givers to make His work possible. Let us never forget the "ketchup."

Wednesday Night Menu

Dec. 7 -	No Supper	Dec. 21 -	Open House
Dec. 14 -	Spaghetti	Dec. 28 -	No Supper

Memorials & Honorariums

In memory of
Marie Moorman
by
Hubert & Nancy Sherrell
Archie & Charlene Warren
Joy SS Class

In memory of
Jerri Ashcraft
by
Marilyn Simmons

In memory of
Garland Davis
by
A friend

In honor of
Lewis Haynes
by
Friendship SS Class

In honor of
Chuck Horton
by
Clara Vandagriff

Children's Ministry Update

The Children's Department would like to thank each and every one of you that helped with Operation



Christmas Child this year. Because of your generosity, we were able to pack and ship 28 boxes that will be sent to children all around the world! This exceeded our original goal of 20 boxes. Thank you for helping us teach our children about missions! It is always a blessing to see the people of God come together to do His work.

Visit our website at
www.fbcgresham.org

December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 pm Sonshine	2 Adult 7 Class Party Fellowship Hall 5:30 pm	3
4 11 am Friendship Party Fellowship Hall 11 am Youth Outing 4 pm Choir Practice and Children's Worker Mtg. 4:30 pm Deacon's Mtg. 5 pm Baptism/Lord's Supper	5 Pray, Praise, Move 6 pm	6 Ladies' Silent Auction 6:30 pm	7 6 pm Celebration Choir Practice 6:30 pm Special Prayer Service	8 6 pm Sonshine	9 Fellowship Hall Reserved Adult 1B Party 6:30 pm (Villa Montez)	10 Adult 2 Class Party Adult 4 (Joy) Class Party Fellowship Hall 6 pm
11 4 pm Choir Practice 5 pm Business Mtg. & Pot Luck Supper	12 Pray, Praise, Move 6 pm	13 Widows & Widowers Banquet Fellowship Hall 6 pm	14 5:15 pm - Supper 6 pm - Kids, Youth & Choir 6:15 pm - Prayer Mtg. 7:15 pm - PPM	15 6 pm Sonshine	16 Choir Party Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm	17 Brunch with Santa Fellowship Hall 10 am - 12 pm CIA Class Party Fellowship Hall 6 pm
18 10 am Choir Cantata 10 am Children's Happy Birthday Jesus Party 5 pm Basket Assembly	19 Pray, Praise, Move 6 pm — Basket Pick-Ups —	20	21 Open House 5 pm - 7 pm	22 6 pm Sonshine Christmas Party	23	24
25 Christmas Day 10 am Service ONLY	26	27	28 No Services	29	30	31

Birthdays

Homer Campbell	12-1	Bobbie Brown	12-17
Chuck Horton	12-1	Norris Cash	12-17
Laverne Jones	12-2	Judith Ramos	12-17
Sylvia Holt	12-3	Janice Rowe	12-17
Florene Norman	12-3	Violet Stephens	12-18
Sarai Phillips	12-6	Kelsea Manning	12-20
Phyllis Frederick	12-7	Betty Benedict	12-22
Linda Hatcher	12-9	Charles Jones	12-22
Jacobo Ramos	12-9	Robin McKee	12-25
Norma Patterson	12-10	Tammy Rooney	12-26
Loyd Stinecipher	12-10	Hannah Willis	12-26
BJ Kirby	12-11	Erik Gentry	12-30
Margie Sulser	12-12	James Smith	12-30
Claude West	12-12	Tommy Mercadal	12-31
Shirley McAbee	12-13		
Jared Moody	12-13		
Joyce Smith	12-13		
Brandon Sulser	12-14		
Hugo Palacios	12-15		
Robert Roper	12-15		
James Marble	12-16		
Noah Marble	12-16		
Windy Walker	12-16		



Anniversaries

Archie & Diane May	12-8	Roger & Judy Boggs	12-28
Tommy & Dru Mercadal	12-10	Jerry & Lyana Loggins	12-30
Jim & Andrea Hayden	12-16		

"With this ring,
I thee wed..."



Brunch with SANTA

Saturday, December 17 10 am - 12 pm

All children can come enjoy brunch and get their picture made with Santa free of charge!

Baldknobbers from Branson Coming to Tyler

The Baldknobbers from Branson, Missouri will be coming to Tyler's Caldwell Auditorium on January 26 at 7:30 pm. The Baldknobbers are a comedy and musical group that will keep you entertained throughout the length of the show. You will not want to miss an opportunity to see them while they are here in Tyler.

The show is sponsored by Southern Oaks Baptist Church here in Tyler. Tickets cost \$29.50 per person unless we have a group of 20 or more that plan on attending. If we have 20 or more people, we can get a group rate of \$24.50 per person. Please contact the church office for more information about this exciting event.

Cruise News Ladies

This is the week for us to pay the remaining money for our cruise. If Tammy from Travel Masters does not call you this week, you need to give her a call to take care of this.

On Wednesday night, January 13, immediately after Prayer Meeting, we will have a cruise meeting, so that I can share a few things with you. At this meeting, I will also try to answer any questions that you might have concerning our trip. Please be sure that at least one person from each cabin attends this meeting. Thanks!

Barbara Thoene



Continue to
pray for rain!

Business Meeting & Pot Luck Supper

December 11
5:00 pm

Bring a covered dish and meet in the fellowship hall for a business meeting and fellowship.



FBC Gresham Open House

Our annual church Open House is scheduled for December 21 from 5 pm through 7 pm in the fellowship Hall.

Invite your friends to come join us as we fellowship over a spread of German and American foods. This is always a great time where we can come together as a church and community to celebrate the Christmas season and enjoy some delicious treats.

Deacon's Meeting

Sunday
December 4
4:30 pm

Welcome
to our fellowship!

New Members:

Demi LeBlanc
Profession of Faith

Pictures for the Website

As your Sunday School class celebrates their Christmas party, please remember to take pictures. If you e-mail the pictures to fbcgresham@att.net or bring a copy of them by the office, we would love to publish the pictures on our church website. It is a great way to let the people who visit the website see all that FBC Gresham has to offer.

