



Building Relationships with Christ, One Another, and the World

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December 12  
 December 13  
 December 14  
 December 15  
 December 16  
 December 17  
 December 18

Malachi 1:1-14  
 Malachi 2:1-17  
 Malachi 3:1-18  
 Malachi 4:1-6  
 Psalm 50  
 Psalm 76  
 Isaiah 7:1-25



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Volume 62

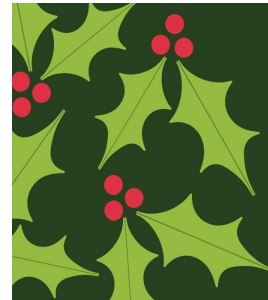
December 12, 2021

Number 48

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12**

<b><u>Deacon's Meeting</u></b>	8:00 AM
<b><u>Sunday School</u></b>	9:00 - 9:45 AM
<b><u>Worship Service</u></b>	10:00 - 11:00 AM
<b><u>KIDSPRAISE CHRISTMAS</u></b>	6:00 PM

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY** Adult Exercise at 8:30 am



**KIDZPRAISE  
 CHRISTMAS**

DINNER THEATER

December 12th @ 6 PM in the FLC

\*All proceeds will go to the Children's Ministry to offset the cost of Summer Camp



*"We wish you a Merry Christmas!"*

**Churchwide  
 Christmas Caroling**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15**  
 Meet in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm

**PJ's & Pancakes**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17**  
 \$5.00 per child  
 (3 yrs.-5th Grade)  
 6:00-9:00 PM

FROM OUR CHIEF OF STAFF...

**LORD KELVIN & MEASURING THINGS**

Prior to marrying Fran I had casually mentioned to her that I liked to measure things, and that one of my favorite quotes was from Lord Kelvin, a prominent British scientist and mathematician of the 19<sup>th</sup> century (“If you cannot measure it, you cannot improve it.”). She thought I was joking and had a rude awakening when she discovered (much to her chagrin) that I time my bath water, time my steaks when cooking on a grill, measure the internal temperature of any meat that I cook on the griddle, measure 12 small scoops of coffee beans each evening in preparation for brewing coffee in the morning, as well as many other things too numerous to mention. She no longer needs to take medication to make it possible to live with “the counter”, and she even measures the coffee beans to provide the perfect cup of coffee.

After having read the first paragraph, I am sure that Fran has been added to many more prayer lists, but this is not about Fran and me. This is about the health of Highland Baptist Church and will include data created from “measuring things”, but I do not pretend that the spiritual health of a church can be measured in the same precise way that one can find the inner temperature of a steak or time bath water (5 minutes, 0 seconds). I do believe that the “measuring” will give some sign as to whether we are headed in the right direction when viewed as an overall picture of trends.

At the beginning of 2019 the four-week average attendance was 225, and we completed the year with the weekly average at 228. 2020 (the year we would like to forget) began 243 average attendance and concluded the year at 197. The four-week average for 2021 began at 170 and after 49 weeks is currently at 280. The point for all of these statistics is that beginning in week 33 (August 15, 2021) we have experienced steady growth in attendance. Again, increased attendance alone does not necessarily indicate spiritual health, but I do believe that this a sign that the Holy Spirit is active in our church, and we are being blessed in many, many ways. Our baptisms have increased, and turnout for the Sleep In Heavenly Peace project was amazing. Our giving has remained strong even through the shutdown period.

As we approach 2022 my prayer is that we will continue to grow spiritually and keep the Gospel in the forefront of “how we do church”. I am excited about the possibilities and look forward to spreading the Gospel in Meridian, Lauderdale County, Mississippi, The United States and the world.



**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS  
DECEMBER 12**  
*Debbie McDaniel, Jill Gavin  
Chris and Nicole Gaines*



**HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH MEMORIALS/HONOR**

**IN MEMORY OF CLARK JENKINS:  
IN MEMORY OF MRS. ROSE LANG:  
IN MEMORY OF MRS. LENEAL MASSEY:**

**By Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mayer**

**IN MEMORY OF CLARK JENKINS:  
IN MEMORY OF MRS. ROSE LANG:  
IN MEMORY OF MRS. LENEAL MASSEY:**

**Designated to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by  
Mrs. Carolyn McCay**

**IN MEMORY OF MRS. LENEAL MASSEY:**

**Designated to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering by:  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Pettey**

**IN MEMORY OF CLARK JENKINS:**

**Designated to the Children’s Ministry by Mr. and Mrs. Sonny Hopkins**

**IN MEMORY OF MRS. ROSE LANG:**

**Designated to the Youth Ministry by Mr. and Mrs. Pete Roberts**

**IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. QUINN CARLISLE:**

**Designated to Wednesday Night Supper by Mrs. Lyn Hailey**

**MEMORIAL FLOWERS**

The poinsettias in the Sanctuary this month are in memory of  
Fred Rhodes (December 23, 1931—June 13, 2017)  
given by his children.

**LOTTIE MOON OFFERING**  
give generously this christmas season

**OUR GOAL—\$50,000**  
**GIVEN TO DATE—\$4,964.00**

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT DECEMBER 5, 2021**

Budget	39,281.58	CDC Req. to date	1,143,761.92
Child Development Center	.00	(49@ 23,342.08)	
Designated	30,098.30	CDC Receipts to date	1,140,418.85
Total	69,379.88		
Budget Req. to date (49@23,309.06)	1,142,143.94	SUNDAY SCHOOL	244
Budget Receipts to date	1,120,934.42	MORNING WORSHIP	332