



Baptist Tabernacle Church

December 2019 Newsletter

Our Memory Verse for December is:

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27



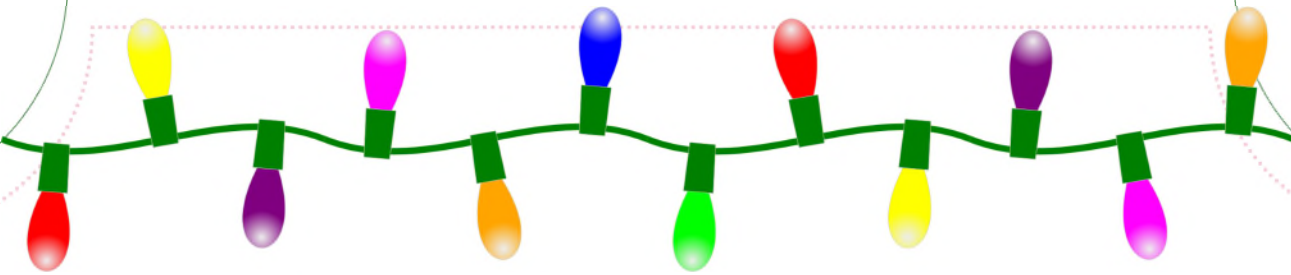
Our December Mission Offering is the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

Who is Lottie Moon:

Lottie Moon—the namesake of Southern Baptists’ international missions offering—has become a legend. But in her time, Lottie was anything but an untouchable hero. In fact, she was like today's missionaries. She labored tirelessly so her people group could know Jesus.

December 2019 Bible Reading Schedule

Day 1	Daniel 4-6	Day 17	Micah 4-7
Day 2	Daniel 7-9	Day 18	Nahum 1-3
Day 3	Daniel 10-12	Day 19	Habakkuk 1-3
Day 4	Hosea 1-3	Day 20	Zephaniah, Haggai
Day 5	Hosea 4-6	Day 21	Zechariah 1-3
Day 6	Hosea 7-9	Day 22	Zechariah 4-6
Day 7	Hosea 10-12	Day 23	Zechariah 7-9
Day 8	Hosea 13-14	Day 24	Zechariah 10-14
Day 9	Joel 1-3	Day 25	Malachi 1-4
Day 10	Amos 1-3	Day 26	Revelation 1-3
Day 11	Amos 4-6	Day 27	Revelation 4-6
Day 12	Amos 7-9	Day 28	Revelation 7-10
Day 13	Obadiah	Day 29	Revelation 11-15
Day 14	2 & 3 John, Jude	Day 30	Revelation 16-18
Day 15	Jonah 1-4	Day 31	Revelation 19-22
Day 16	Micah 1-3		

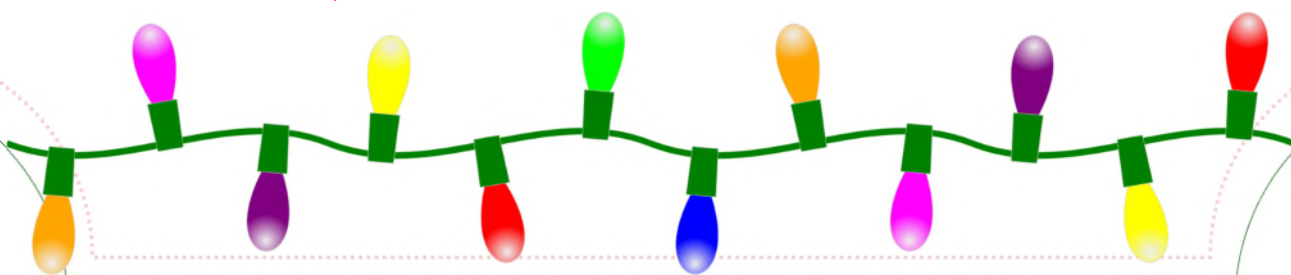


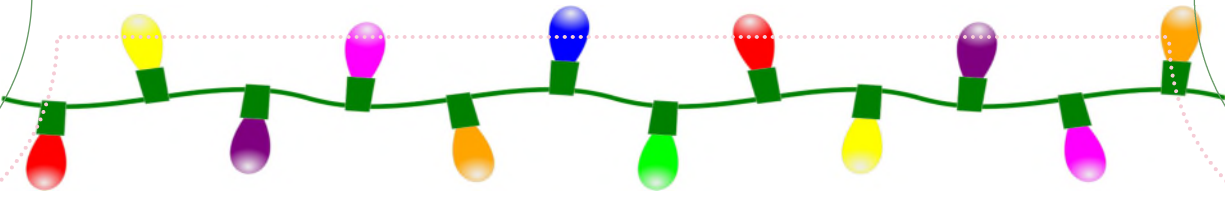
Baptist Tabernacle, Meetings & Reservations, Holidays in United States

Dec 2019 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service	2 6:30 Baptist Men 9:30am - BTC Crafters	3 10am - J. Strickland Prayer Grp	4 6:15pm - Youth 6:30pm - Bible Study 6:30pm - RA's, GA's, & MF's 7pm - Choir Practice	5	6 7pm - FMC Youth Movie Night	7 5-9 FMC Youth Christmas Party
8 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service 7pm - Robinwood Service	9 6:30 Leadership Meeting 9:30am - BTC Crafters 9:30am - O.W.L.S. Group	10 2-3 Levada Driver Circle 10am - J. Strickland Prayer Grp	11 6:15pm - Youth 6:30pm - Bible Study 6:30pm - RA's, GA's, & MF's 7pm - Choir Practice	12	13 6pm FMC Deacon Christmas	14
15 10am - Sunday School 11am - Christmas Cantata 11am - Worship Service	16 1-2 Vera Hocutt Circle 7-8 Administrative Team 9:30am - BTC Crafters	17 10am - J. Strickland Prayer Grp	18 6:15pm - Youth 6:30pm - *Church Conference 6:30pm - RA's, GA's, & MF's 7pm - Choir Practice	19	20	21 6pm - Christmas Program
22 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service	23	24 Christmas Eve 4pm - Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day No Services	26	27	28
29 10am - Sunday School 11am - Worship Service	30	31 New Year's Eve 10am - J. Strickland Prayer Grp	1 New Year's Day No Services	2	3	4

* Special Called Church Conference 12/18





Upcoming events:

Friday, December 6th: Youth Christmas Movie Night @ 7pm

Showing "The Heart of Christmas"

Sunday, December 15th: Christmas Cantata @ 11 am

Saturday, December 21st: Christmas Program and Live Nativity @ 6pm

Refreshments and Special Visitor to follow in FMC

Sunday, February 2nd: Souper Bowl Sunday Fundraiser for Youth @ 12pm

Soup and Sandwiches available after Worship Service in FMC



December Birthdays

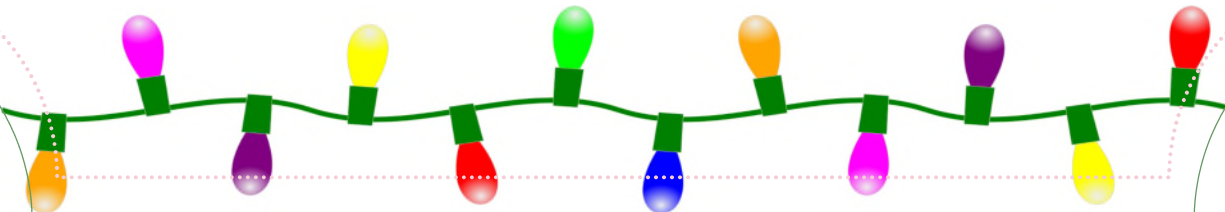


December Anniversaries

- 1st Elizabeth Hocutt
- Emma Maidon
- 4th Anna Koger
- Layla Mack
- 5th Bruce Whitley
- 6th Cassie Hinnant
- Holly Hughes
- Joette Oliver
- Kemp Moore
- 7th Patsy Coates
- Kelly Currie
- Lauren D. Wilson
- Craig Strickland
- 8th Sean Bannon
- Glen Horton
- Ken Spencer
- 9th William Hocutt
- Stacy Bunn
- 10th Wallace Bunn
- Matthew Lee
- 11th Blair Driver
- 12th Dena Brannan
- 13th Jimmy Lewis
- Billy Hales
- 14th Frances Carroll
- 15th Madison Adams
- Adam Driver
- John Nowell
- Autumn Hargreaves

- 16th Judy Davis
- 17th Nita Edwards
- Billie Fay Wilson
- 18th Benjamin Hocutt
- Bobby Sellers
- 19th Jon Carroll
- Austin Himmel
- 20th Linda Hammett
- Charle' Johnson
- Clay Lewis
- 21st Erma Adkins
- Carolyn Stevens
- 22nd Rebecca Boykin
- Fred Flowers
- 23rd Sean Melvin
- 24th Margaret Andrews
- 25th Merry Hocutt
- Vickie Hocutt
- 26th Everly Boyette
- Benjamin Green
- Chris White
- 27th Jerry Richardson
- Brooke Scott
- Jennifer Thompson
- 28th Wendy D. Jeffreys
- Brandon Carroll
- 29th Nicole Batten
- Joan Privette
- 30th Rose Godwin

- 5th Harold & Margaret Andrews
- 8th Joseph & Samantha Lambert
- 9th Ryan & Brooke Hargreaves
- 14th Tracey & Cynthia Hudson
- David & Holly Hughes
- DJ & Kayla Scott
- 16th Kim & Jamie Jeffreys
- 20th Jimmy & Brenda Lewis
- 21st Tommy & Rowena Perry
- 22nd Matthew & Brooke Sanders
- 29th Tracy & Angela Gilmore



What are our Ministry Teams up to?

Pastoral Team (Susan Andrews-Team Leader/Tom Vaughan-Co-Leader):

Deacon's Christmas Party is coming up! Active and Inactive Deacons, their spouses, Deacon's widows and widowers are invited to attend. The date is December 13, 2019 from 6:00pm-9:00pm in the FMC. Please see Aaron Johnson to RSVP and pay for your meal (\$10 per person attending). Meals for Deacon's widows and widowers are provided free of charge. Deadline to RSVP is Dec. 1, 2019.

Administrative Team (Ricky Watson-Team Leader/Allette Hale-Co-Leader):

One of the responsibilities of the Administrative Team is the preparation of the annual Church Budget.



Budget in this case is a noun, defined as:

1. an estimate, often itemized, of expected income and expense for a given period in the future.
2. a plan of operations based on such an estimate.
3. an itemized allotment of funds, time, etc., for a given period.
4. the total sum of money set aside or needed for a purpose, i.e., budgeted items.

This is one of the most important activities of the Administrative Team and the Church. Without an effective budget, it is difficult to administer the finances of the Church. Preparing the Church budget is similar to a business preparing its budget and similar to families preparing their family budget. We receive input from the various Ministry Teams on their expected expenditures and fundraisers during the upcoming year. We then look at the current year expenses of the Church and estimate what they will be at the end of the year. With that input, we then begin the arduous task of estimating our budget. Although the Ministry Teams have requests for their expenses for the year, the Administrative Team has the responsibility to ensure the Church remains fiscally responsible for the monies that the Church has to spend. As we all know, you can't spend more than you receive, so this is a very important task. Not only does the Administrative Team develop the budget, they also monitor it throughout the year to assure that the spending is within allowable limits so as not to overspend.

A special called Church Conference is scheduled for December 18, 2019 at 6:30 pm for the purpose of:

- Approving a recommendation from the Leadership Team on the disbursement of the former CBF budgeted monies
- Approving the 2020 Baptist Tabernacle Church Ministry Budget
- Approving changes to the Financial Policies and Procedures.

Please plan to attend this important meeting.

Let's keep these items in mind as the Administrative Team prepares the annual budget and as we meet and vote on the annual Church Budget in December. Please be in prayer for the Administrative Team as they prepare the budget and for the Church as we vote on the annual budget.

As usual, if you have any questions for the Administrative Team, please feel free to contact any of the members.

The Administrative Team would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We hope that everyone has an enjoyable Christmas Holiday with your families and friends!

Thanks,
The Administrative Team

Leaders: Ricky Watson and Allette Hale
Members: Wayne Creech, Kelly Currie, David Hughes, Billie Faye Wilson,
Tonya Bailey, Juan Trippe, Joyce Creech (ex-officio)

Evangelism Team (Patty Perry-Team Leader/Jane Strautnieks-Co-Leader):

The Evangelism Team has been sending out cards to visitors as a welcome to our church or to others as a reminder that they are missed. We rely on visitor cards to supply the name and addresses of our visitors. As a congregation member, please invite any visitors sitting near you to complete one of the visitor cards provided in the pew pockets and place it in the offering plate on Sundays. Don't forget about any visitors we may have on Wednesday nights as well. Wednesday night cards are collected on the Communion Table under the Pulpit.

Thank you for assisting the Evangelism Team with gathering information about our visitors!

Children Team (Wayne Batten-Team Leader):

This fall has been a busy one for the children of our Church. We have GA's, RA's, and Mission Friends each Wednesday night. Please bring your children to study God's Word with us at that time.

We have a large group of volunteers serving in Children's Church each Sunday.

Please bring your children and let them participate in these programs.

We had our fall Block Party and what a day. We had over 80 young folks attend. Some of our BTC Youth participated in the Evangelism Tent and did a GREAT JOB. Lots of people from the community enjoyed hot dogs, chips, drinks, cotton candy, popcorn and sno cones. They also enjoyed the bounce houses, balloons and face painting. Thanks to our local Fire Department and Rescue Squad for bringing trucks for the children and adults to enjoy.

Our annual Trunk or Treat event was moved inside on Halloween night due to the weather. What a blessing. We had over 130 young people come and enjoy the treats, face painting and balloons. Cupcake walks were a hit. Thanks to all those who set up a table inside for their trunk. After talking with lots of families, they all enjoyed the safety of the event being held inside rather than outside, so future events will be held inside. We have collected names, addresses, and email addresses for young people in the community at both of these events so we can publicize future events for the youth of our community. We all are looking for an exciting New Year for our Children's programs. Plan to join us every time you get a chance.

Jesus Loves the Little Children....

Wayne Batten

Youth Team (Christin Brown-Team Leader):

The paperwork for our summer camp trip to Camp Caswell has been sent off and we are waiting for a response from Caswell. We have 19 students and chaperones tentatively attending in July.

We will be hosting a Youth Christmas Movie Night fundraiser scheduled for Friday, Dec. 6th @ 7:00pm. We will be showing "The Heart of Christmas". Monies raised will go towards our trip to Camp Caswell.

We will be preparing Christmas blessing bags for the residents at Robinwood on Dec. 11th and we will deliver them on Wednesday, Dec. 18th.

Our Youth Christmas Party is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 7th at 5:00pm.



Senior Adult Team (Olivia Cooke-Team Leader):

OWLS-Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors:



All Seniors are invited to join us, we meet on the last Thursday of the Month except for the months of November and December, due to the Holidays. We start off each meeting with Prayer Request and a short devotion, we also have a time of Fellowship, going out to lunch and playing games. Our next meeting will be on December 9th at 9:30 in the FMC.

Our group also has a Bi-Weekly project of cooking and delivering meals to our shut-ins on Wednesdays. At this time we have 3 teams to cook and we always need more volunteers.

Our last big trip was riding the train to the Lexington BBQ Festival. With an attendance of 10,000 at the Festival, our group of 32 were in the mix eating BBQ Sundaes and shopping or just watching the crowd.

Everyone seemed to have a good time. (A lot of laughter was coming from the BTC Train car.)

Upcoming Events: December 12th-Southern Supreme Fruit Cake Facility Trip & December 17th-Rudy Theatre Trip

Discipleship Team (Cynthia Hudson-Team Leader/Bobby Sellers-Co-Leader):

Come join us for Sunday School each Sunday morning from 10:00-10:50am. We have classes for ALL ages! Find one for you and your family below.

Children's Classes:

Nursery 1: Ages birth - 2 years

Nursery 2: 2 - 3 years

Bible Learners: (Grades Preschool-2nd Grade)

Bible Discoverers: (Grades 3rd-5th)

Youth: Grades 6th - 12th

Adult Classes:

J.O.Y.-Women

Stripes- Women

Growing in Jesus

Mildred Driver Class

The Beginning (New Members)

Andrew Batten/Gary Hocutt Class- Men

Mission Team (Jeany O'Neal-Team Leader/Sonny Trippe-Co-Leader):

Thank You

The Mission Team would like to Thank our entire Church Family for their help in making this 2019 Fall Fest such a success. A special Thank You to Sonny and Sandy Trippe for managing the huge task of the Yard Sale and all their family members that pitch in and help each year as well. A Big Thank You to Billy and Rose Godwin for always being willing to help wherever they are needed. Thank You goes to Pam and Wayne Batten for organizing/staging the events upstairs in the FMC. To Olivia Cooke and Ashelyn Briggerman for all their excellent administrative assistance. To Lauren O'Neal/ Dana Hocutt and their crew on the outstanding Breakfast. To Judy Davis and team for the best Hot Dog lunch and serving the delicious Brunswick stew and BBQ made and donated by Dennis and Cathy Locklear (Thank you!).

A gracious Thank You to everyone who donated items for the Auction, the raffle, the Country Store, the Craft tables, and any food items that were donated to offset the cost of Breakfast/Lunch. Thanks for keeping tabs running and the money counted Joyce Creech and Carolyn Brown. It takes all of these people and so many more we have not named to come together and make this event a success every year.

We appreciate our Pastor Glen Brock for showing up and supporting every event the Mission Team sponsors. We are reaching our Community in more ways than we can even imagine. Other churches see us doing these types of events and bringing people in our doors and reaching them in the community and they ask how we are coming together and doing all this...The only answer we can give them is because we have the love of God in our hearts and HIS word supports and guides us on our Mission to do HIS good works.

With Love and Blessings,
Your Mission Team

There are cookbooks still available for purchase...They make great Christmas gifts. \$15 each. Contact Wayne or Pam Batten for purchases, (919)-801-7327.

Property Management Team (Steve White-Team Leader):

Ross Carroll has stepped down from Team Leader of the Property Management Team. Please say a prayer for Ross and Lou, they have been through a lot. God Bless them both.

Steve White, (Co-Leader) is now Team Leader with Ricky Andrews as the Co-Leader to be voted on in January Church Conference. We are trying to get some things done around the Church. Painting has been completed in the FMC Foyer, Men & Women's bathrooms, and all doors. The doors were in big need of being painted. Painting in the Sanctuary, Kitchen, Office areas and basement doors will begin soon.

Door stops have been installed on all doors that have closures which should help to prevent damage after painting. Cleaning of the Kitchen ceiling tiles has been completed. Thanks to all who have helped with this, and sorry for any mess this may have caused. The Janitorial cleaning supplies have been moved out of the table & chair storage room, to their own Janitor Closet in the FMC. The table and chair storage room has been cleaned out, please only put tables and chairs in there. A new chair dolly has been purchased to make handling the FMC chairs safer.

The Men's bathroom in FMC looks great after the new floor and new paint job. Take care of it Men!

We will be getting the tile floor in the kitchen and FMC foyer cleaned soon. It should make a big difference in appearance.

The glass entry doors in the FMC and the breezeway between the Education Building and Sanctuary have been fixed to open and close properly. There will be several more repair projects coming up, we will talk about those in the next news-letter. We need to remember this is not our house but our Father in Heaven's house, take care of it. If you see something that needs fixing or repairing, please tell someone on the Property Management Team or if you can repair it, have at it.

We are all in this together. God Bless Us All!



Worship Team (Pam Batten-Team Leader/Dana Hocutt-Co-Leader):

We have an exciting month planned for December, with several special services! Please put these dates on your calendar! The Poinsettias will be delivered and displayed on our new Poinsettia Tree after Thanksgiving. We will also be decorating our Church for Christmas at that time.

Sandy, Paul and our choir have planned a Christmas Cantata for Sunday, December 15th, during the worship service hour. They have been working on this for months, so you don't want to miss this special performance!

Amy Boykin is directing a live Nativity performance again this year. This is such a special performance that everyone enjoys. You don't want to miss this! It will be held Saturday, December 21st at 6:00 pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the FMC and there is word that a Special Visitor will be there!

Pastor Glen will be doing a special Christmas Eve service at 4:00 pm. If you don't have family commitments at that time, please plan to attend. What a Great way to celebrate Jesus' Birthday.

As we end the year 2019 and start a new one on January 1st, 2020, it is my prayer that all of you have a Blessed and Happy New Year!

In His Love, Pam Batten

Update from our Bus/Van Committee

(Bobby Sellers-Chair, Olivia Cooke, Wayne Batten, and Jeany O'Neal)

Currently we are gathering information on past trips that each team has taken in the past year. This list includes activities where a van was rented as well as trips that required multiple drivers, where a bus would have been a usable resource for BTC. Furthermore we are researching costs associated with rental fees compared to purchase price/lease options, fuel, repairs/maintenance, and insurance premiums. As of now, we are focusing on the 15 passenger size (1 driver, 14 rider) mini bus style for our research. This style of bus stands above a 15 passenger van due to features such as storage space, along with better accessibility due to stepped entrance, handrails, and center aisle walkway compared to side entry seating in 15 passenger vans.



Update from the FMC Furniture Committee

(Pam Batten-Chair, Susan Andrews and Allette Hale-Co-Chairs)

It was brought up at a recent Leadership meeting, that we need to look into replacement or covering the sofa in the FMC foyer and replacing furniture in other foyer areas. Our furniture is worn and dated and has not been replaced in 20 years. We contacted Whitley Galleries to send an interior designer to meet with us and look at our needs and give us recommendations. Our interior designer took pictures and measurements of our foyer areas and is working on a proposal. When she finishes the proposal, we will visit the store to look at her recommendations.

We will be meeting with her, after Thanksgiving and we plan to give the church an update as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Pam Batten

Update from the Children's Director Search Committee

(Wayne Batten-Chair, Juan Trippe, Susan Andrews, Pam Batten, Glenn Bunn, Kennette Stewart, and Traci Boyette)

The search committee has been collecting job descriptions from various churches to begin the process of writing the job description that will fit for our church. Our process will be to develop a job description and salary package for this new position to be approved by the church. Once approved, the position can be posted and resumes can be collected. Please be in prayer for this area of ministry.

Scholarship Opportunity

All High School Seniors, if you have been an active member of our church for the past four years, you are eligible to apply for the Rayford and Lillian Driver Scholarship. Pick up applications from Ashelyn, our Secretary.

Applications are due by January 31, 2020.





From the Pastor's Desk:

It was Christmas 1963, and this seven year old was excited about the prospects of a real "haul" come Christmas Day. My list complete and the letter sent to Santa, I was ready to collect. My parents told me that this might be a small Christmas, because of the medical bills that they were dealing with. Regardless of all of that "grown-up stuff," I grew more excited, by the day. One of the highlights of every Christmas was the present that I always received from my Uncle Marvin. He was like a second Daddy to me and he always gave the best gifts.

The day came and Uncle Marvin was due any minute, and my excitement was overflowing. I was apparently extremely annoying to my mother, because she told me to get still and sit down somewhere. No sooner had I dropped into a chair, I heard his truck. Could it be? Is he really here? This eleven months and 3 weeks wait would be worth it. Sure enough, Uncle Marvin bounds through the door bearing gifts for all. Mama got a beautiful scarf and some leather gloves and Daddy got a tie and socks. Wait a minute! Where is my present? His bag was empty. I knew that Mama would have a spell if I asked, "Where is my present?" So what! I was willing to risk it! "Uncle Marvin, where is my present?" "You know that I have not forgotten you! Come outside with me!" We went out to his truck and he pointed to the back, where there was a large red wooden box with a lid. What could he have gotten for me that required a strong wooden box to carry it in? He and Daddy took the box from the truck, and took it inside of the house. I was beside myself, wanting, speculating and anticipating the amazing gift that must be inside of this sturdy frame. We got inside, and I am jumping around like a bug on a hot rock, and Uncle Marvin said, "What do you think?" I said, "Can I open it?" "Sure!" So, the long awaited time had come; I slowly removed the wooden lid from this treasure box, only to find a box full of empty. Where was the present? Uncle Marvin said, "How do you like it?" Like what? I thought to myself. There is nothing inside. Then the reality became clear! This red wooden box with the heavy wooden lid was THE PRESENT!

Having been brought up to be grateful, or at least show it, I said "Thank you Uncle Marvin." Inside, I was saying, "Where are my toys that you always give?" Christmas passed, and the wooden disappointment sat in the corner of my room, next to my closet. On New Year's Day 1964, I was really bored, and I took the lid off and crawled inside of this empty box, only to discover that this might be fun. All of a sudden, I was sitting in the cockpit of a jet plane, then, without any stress, I was driving a tank across the riverbed. I discovered an amazing gift that day. Initially, what seemed to be an empty box; became a race car, a jet plane, a tractor trailer truck. My imagination was in overdrive. All of a sudden, I understood the gift from my Uncle Marvin. It wasn't a box full of empty, but a vehicle to put reality to my imagination. What I once thought was a nothing gift, became the best present that I had ever received, up to that date. Many Christmases have passed, Mama and Daddy and Uncle Marvin are now with Jesus, but each Christmas, I stop and think of that wooden box and it reminds me that we should never overlook the simple blessings, while seeking the "Big Deal!"

Uncle Marvin made that box with his own hands and every board and nail, were fashioned together with love. God loved us enough to send His Son, Jesus, to be born into an "empty" stable. From a human perspective, not much of a gift, however, He was the BEST GIFT EVER! This Christmas, please remember the reason for the season and rejoice for the gift of Grace!

Enjoy Family and make some special memories that will last forever!

Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Blessed 2020...

Pastor Glen

