
WOLFFORK NEWS

DECEMBER 2023

What is the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering?

Lottie Moon was sent as a Southern Baptist missionary to China from 1873 to 1912. She saw firsthand the world's greatest problem — LOSTNESS. Meeting so many people who had never heard the gospel compelled her to write letters to American churches describing the need for a greater missionary presence.

Upcoming Events:

December 3—11:00 AM—
First Sunday of Advent
and the Hanging of the
Greens

December 10—11:00 AM—
Come to Bethlehem
Experience

December 17—11:00 AM—
Christmas Dinner after
Morning Service

December 24—11:00 AM—
Final Advent Service

December 24—5:30 PM—
Carols and Candlelight
Service



2023/2024 Offering Goal: \$6,500

**JESUS IS AN UNFAMILIAR GIFT FOR MANY
IN SPIRITUALLY LOST WORLD**

Lostness around the world is growing every day. In fact, 59% of the world's population remains unreached. This means there are less than 2% evangelical Christians within their people group or nearby. Unless something changes, they have little to no chance of hearing the gospel in their lifetime.

Your missionaries are a steadfast presence among the lost. You pray, give, go and send. Together we are committed to reaching the lost. In obedience, we will follow the Lord's command to go into all the world.

Many of the unreached people groups live in hard-to-reach places, like remote areas around the world. But did you know that Europeans are now

(Continued on page 3)



Weekly Activities at Wolffork Baptist Church

Sunday:

9:30 AM—Continental Breakfast

9:45 AM—Sunday School—Bible
study for all ages

11:00 AM—Morning Worship

6:00 PM—Prayer Meeting and
Bible Study (No PM in December)

Wednesday:

5:30 PM—Food Pantry Opens

6:00 PM—Wonderful Wednesday

Bill Barker, Pastor

Church number: 706-746-2728

Email: Pastor@Wolffork.org

Facebook Page:

www.Facebook.com/Wolffork

Webpage:

www.Wolffork.org

**For current updates
of the church calendar:
www.Wolffork.org/events**

Word for the Day

Listen daily to “Word for the Day,”
the Daily Devotions from Wolffork
Baptist Church at Wolffork.com/
Video-devotion or [Facebook.com/](http://Facebook.com/Wolffork)
Wolffork.

Listen to the Sunday Sermon at
Wolffork.org/sermon.

Wolffork News



365 Bible Reading Through the Bible in 3 Years

December Readings

- 1. I Samuel 1
- 2. I Samuel 2
- 3. I Samuel 3
- 4. I Samuel 4
- 5. I Samuel 5
- 6. I Samuel 6
- 7. I Samuel 7
- 8. I Samuel 8
- 9. I Samuel 9
- 10. I Samuel 10
- 11. I Samuel 11
- 12. I Samuel 12
- 13. I Samuel 13
- 14. I Samuel 14
- 15. I Samuel 15
- 16. I Samuel 16
- 17. I Samuel 17
- 18. I Samuel 18
- 19. I Samuel 19
- 20. I Samuel 20
- 21. I Samuel 21
- 22. I Samuel 22
- 23. I Samuel 23
- 24. I Samuel 24
- 25. I Samuel 25
- 26. I Samuel 26
- 27. I Samuel 27
- 28. I Samuel 28
- 29. I Samuel 29
- 30. I Samuel 30
- 31. I Samuel 31

DECEMBER Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- Gavin Page—1
- Donna Walker—4
- Rosa Miller—9
- Brady Darnell—13
- Harper Westbrook—18
- Angie Dickerson—20

Anniversaries

- Bill and Arlene Barker—7
- Ron and Mary Lucas—14
- Ron and Elaine Lawson—19
- Don and Linda Page—31

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please let Pastor Bill know.



NURSERY Volunteers

December 3—Judy McCracken and
Rosa Miller

December 10—Sandra Thurmond and
Amelia McCracken

December 17—Linda Page and Holden
McCracken

December 24—Kim McIntire and Alicia
McCracken

December 31—Ivy Westbrook and
Ashley Whitmire

CONGRATULATIONS

Jospeh Fitch Couey was born on
Wednesday, November 22. The
proud grandparents are Linda and
Stan Couey.

(Continued from page 1)

considered unreached? Europe has 800 million people, and only 1% are evangelical Christians. Though the continent has a historical presence of churches, many have turned away from faith of any kind. Europe’s top five unreached peoples — Russians, British, French, Italian and German — make up 55% of the European population.

Consider this picture of lostness from Belgium. A big blue bear sits on a park bench, arm extended to the side as if inviting people to come and talk. Writing on the bench does just that, invites passersby to sit and talk because “Warme William listens.”

While people sit and talk to the inanimate bear, International Mission Board missionaries Don and Pam Lynch park a bicycle cart, start a generator and turn on an espresso machine.

The missionaries are also ready to listen. Through offering a cup of coffee, the Lynches and team members have a chance to connect with people, start conversations and open doors to the gospel. When people share their struggles, the missionaries can actually hear, build relationships and, most importantly, introduce a loving Savior.

The bear can’t do anything.

A government initiative in one region of Belgium led to the creation of Warme William to address rising numbers of depression and suicide among teenagers

and young adults. Sadly, without belief in a personal Lord, people resort to talking to the bear.

“When 99.5% don’t know the Lord, then they have no hope for the future and there’s no consequences for anything,” Don said. “If you have no hope for the future, you don’t have anything to look forward to. Life is either a great adventure or a slow death.”

In addition to a regular coffee cart ministry, the Lynches hosted volunteer teams this summer during Belgium’s Ghent Festival, one of Europe’s most popular cultural events. Volunteers engaged with visitors of the festival and offered a listening ear and a prayer to a God who listens.

Pray for new initiatives around the world to seek the lost and offer a message of eternal hope.

Pray with Don and Pam that God will provide more opportunities to have deep gospel conversations with people and long-term friendships.

Pray that God would lead more workers to seek the lost around the world and respond with the gospel solution.

**LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS OFFERING GOAL
FOR INTERNATIONAL
MISSIONS
\$6,500**



Advent Meanings

During Advent, which begins this year on December 3, many churches and families use wreaths to symbolize watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches.

Colors for the candles vary, with some traditions using blue (for hope or creation) and others preferring purple (for royalty, humility or penitence).

The four candles that each represent a week in Advent also signify hope, peace, joy and love. (The third candle is often pink.) In the center is the white Christ candle, representing Jesus as the light of the world. That candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The round, green Advent wreath has special meaning of its own. It symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God, who sent his only Son to earth to die in our place.

Joy Amid Suffering

Only Matthew records the holy family's "flight into Egypt," linking Advent with Lent and Christmas with Good Friday. In an article titled "Joy to the World/Pain in the World," James I. Cook expresses gratitude that Matthew documents the slaughter of the innocents: "I turn to it again and again, when someone I know loses a loved one at the height of the Christmas season. It helps me — and I hope it helps them — to remember that theirs are not the first tears to fall on Christmas; to recall that there has never been a Christmas of pure peace and happiness; [to recognize] that 'joy to the world' has always been sung to the accompaniment of much 'pain in the world.'"

Your Light Has Come

In the introduction to his book *For All God's Worth*, theologian N.T. Wright says, "Christmas is God lighting a candle, and you don't light a candle in a room that's already full of sunlight. You light a candle in a room that's so murky that the candle, when lit, reveals just how bad things really are. The light shines in the darkness, says St. John, and the darkness has not overcome it."



For that reason, Wright explains, Christmas isn't a dream or a momentary escape but reality. And the same is true for Christianity. "Either Jesus is the Lord of the world and all reality makes sense in his life, or he is dangerously irrelevant to the problems and possibilities of today's world," he adds. "There is no middle ground. Either Jesus was, and is, the Word of God, or he, and the stories Christians tell about him, are lies."

"He was created of a mother whom he created. He was carried by hands that he formed. He cried in the manger in wordless infancy, he, the Word, without whom all human eloquence is mute."

—Augustine of Hippo

Merry Christmas

