



**Volume 7, Issue 12  
December Newsletter of Petal First Baptist**

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Dear &lt;&lt;First Name>>>,

I'm sure you remember the old Christmas song, *"It's the most wonderful time of the year"* ... it is the most wonderful time of the year, but not because of what the song says. We know it's because of the giving of the greatest and most significant gift that the world has ever known! And because of that gift, no matter where we may find ourselves this Christmas season, our hearts are reminded that the Incarnation happened. Jesus came to this earth born of a virgin and was both fully God and fully man. His coming changed everything and we still celebrate and remember that today.

It's during this time of year that we are reminded of Christ's gift and we think about what we can give in response to what He has given to us. I've listed below some of the ways we can give that will have an eternal impact.

**We can give to international missions through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.** Though we talk about it all year long, we really focus in on what the Lord is doing around the world and how we can be a part! It's all about our praying, our giving, and our going. As we do every year, I want to challenge you to join me in prayer about your gift, too, that funds the work of the International Mission Board. We do this every year, but I'm praying that all of us will indeed give a sacrificial gift this year to help us reach and go well over our goal of \$26,000 + to help reach the nations. I encourage you to give more than just \$20, but to really stop and consider what that gift should be, one that is sacrificial. Get your family involved in the giving too!

**Also, December is a time of giving to our Church Ministry Plan.** In our budget planning, we always count on taking in a significant offering to help us finish up the year's work. This year is no different. Let me also encourage to you pray about your end of the year giving for 2019 and even looking into 2020 as we present our 2020 Church Ministry Plan. There are so many things we feel called to do and just don't have the resources to do them. Many of you give faithfully and sacrificially and I thank you, for others, let me challenge you to take that next step up the generosity ladder in your giving! Please consider giving an end of the year gift to help us catch up to our budget so we can move into 2020 with a strong foundation.

**We are also entering the 2nd Year of Phase 2 of Outlive Your Life,** which is our emphasis that will help us raise the needed funds to complete most of our building, along with several incredibly important and much needed projects to give us room to grow. You can see below the list of completed projects and the ones that are on the horizon. Remember, we will only spend what we have on hand, so be sure that you continue in that commitment you made this past March to give for this three year emphasis.

One other important reminder is our 1st of the year emphasis, which is entitled **Worth It.** I'm so excited about all that the Lord is going to do **beginning January 12th when we launch Financial Peace University** that will involve our entire church. I can hardly wait to see what the Lord will do and the freedom that will be found as many begin to find their way out of the bondage of debt!! Let me encourage you to sign up at church or online @ [www.petalcbc.com/worthit](http://www.petalcbc.com/worthit) TODAY!! It's just \$90 per family and it will be one of the greatest investments of your life!

Lastly, Let me encourage you to invite a family member, friend, neighbor, co-worker, or classmate who does not go to church to **our Annual Candlelight Christmas Family Worship Service which is on December 22 this year.** Be sure to invite them to join you at 10:30 a.m. as we come together to celebrate the birth of Christ.

In Christ Alone,

Brad

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**You don't want to miss this brand new Christmas Message Series!** Join us on a journey this December as we look at the Christmas story in a new & fresh way. We'll take a look at the rest of the stories of Christmas by looking at some different characters & how their lives were impacted by the birth of Jesus.

**December 1** - The Inn Keeper: "Gifts From an Unknown Person"

**December 8** - Zacharias & Elizabeth: "The Silence Broken Before Christmas"

**December 15** - King Herod: "The Dark Side of Christmas"

**December 22** - "A Strange Way to Save the World"

**December 29** - Simeon & Anna: "Anticipation Finally Realized"

Christmas is a perfect time to ask someone to join you, so go on and invite them to be your guest @ Petal FBC. Invite them to experience the joy, wonder, & hope that Christmas brings to our hearts.

An aerial photograph of a large, diverse crowd of people, many wearing winter hats and coats, gathered together. The image is used as a background for a fundraising banner with white text boxes and a blue decorative border on the right side.

**A GREAT MULTITUDE**

FROM EVERY NATION AND ALL TRIBES... **REV 7:9**

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING® **OUR GOAL: \$26,000+**

Our annual emphasis on the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** for International Missions is underway. **Ingathering Sunday is December 15.** Our Goal this year is **\$26,000+** and we hope that you have already begun praying about what your sacrificial gift will be so that the nations who have yet to hear the

Gospel can hear! You can learn more at [www.imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering/](http://www.imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering/). Our Week of Prayer is Sunday, December 8 - Sunday, December 15.

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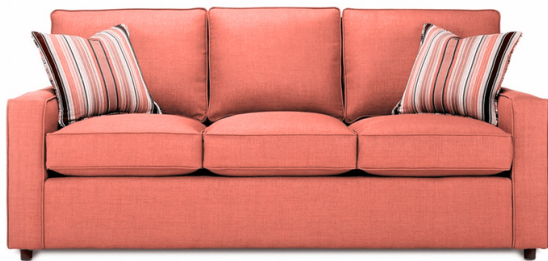
**Mark your calendars!** Our annual candlelight service is **Sunday, December 22, @ 10:30 a.m.** No LifeGroups will meet that day, but child care will be available for preschoolers. We hope you plan to join us as we celebrate the miracle of God sending His only Son to be Emmanuel - God With Us!

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**A BRAND NEW CHURCH WIDE SERIES COMING JANUARY OF 2020** that you simply cannot afford to miss! We are going to take our entire Church through Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University including our students and children in LifeGroups, and Pastor Brad will be preaching a series entitled Worth It. (There will also be groups during the week as well.) This promises to be a life-changing and altering series and opportunity for many to take their life back! More details are coming. The cost is \$90 per family and will cover everything. You can sign up and pay that beginning Sunday or you can pay in 3 easy installments of \$30. We guarantee you that it will be worth it! **Sign up TODAY at church or online at [www.petalfbc.com/worthit](http://www.petalfbc.com/worthit).**

## *Church Family Meeting*



*December  
11th & 15th*

There will be a **Church Family Meeting on Wednesday, December 11th @ 6:15 p.m.** for the presentation of the 2020 Church Ministry Plan and time for questions and answers. There will then be a Church Family Meeting at the conclusion of our Worship Service on Sunday, December 15th, to vote on that 2020 Ministry Plan with no discussion.

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## *Holiday Schedule*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



## 2019 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

<b>December 15</b>	Lottie Moon InGathering Sunday
<b>December 22</b>	Family Christmas Candlelight Service (No LifeGroups)
<i>December 24-25</i>	<i>Church Offices Closed</i>
<b>December 25</b>	No Wednesday Night Activities
<b>December 29</b>	Worship Only / NO LifeGroup
<i>Dec.31-Jan.1</i>	<i>Church Offices Closed</i>
<b>January 1</b>	No Wednesday Night Activities
<b>January 5</b>	Worship Only / NO LlifeGroups (5 p.m - PPS Prayer Walk)

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Adults and older teens (40-50 total) are needed to mentor students, K-6th grades, through the **Panther Partners Mentor Program**. Applications are available in both lobbies or on the table in the Worship Center. **An orientation is set for January 10 @ 9 a.m. for those who sign up.** Contact Brad or Rebecca for more details.

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### Outlive Your Life Phase 2 Update

We completed 2 major projects in 2019: The parking lot patching/painting and 2nd Floor Student Ministry Space & unfinished side that holds the uniforms. **These projects are underway or will be in early 2020:**

- Parking lot lights upgraded and additional lights to LED
- Replacement parts for AC in mechanical building
- New Flooring in main hallways
- Renovation of preschool & children's area: new paint, decor, and flooring
- Worship Center lighting replacement/upgrade
- New Sign and & New Exterior & Interior Signage



**FAMILY FRIENDLY WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES** start with supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by opportunities for the entire family at 6:15 p.m.: Zip for preschoolers, TeamKid for children, Intersect for 6th graders, Refuge for students, and Refuel for adults. Impact for college students meets at 7:45 p.m. We hope you'll join us!

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### **December WNS Menu**

#### **December 4:**

BBQ Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans & Banana Pudding

#### **December 11:**

Tacos, Rice, Refried Beans & Cupcake Variety

#### **December 18:**

Spaghetti Variety, Salad, Garlic Bread & Cheesecake Variety

#### **December 25:**

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES

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JUSTIN GRAVES



THE MUSEUM

# PETAL

SAVE THE DATE

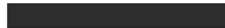
# DNOW

FEBRUARY 14-16

# 2020



THOUGH THE EARTH TREMBLES



FUGE CAMPS

# DWELL

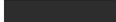
June 13-17 \$380

\$100 Deposit - Jan 19th

2020



THE GOD OF JACOB IS OUR STRONGHOLD



CentriKid camps

SIGN UP FOR SUMMER CAMP AS WE DISCOVER HOW TO

**WALK AS JESUS WALKED!**

**THE DISCOVERY**

**\$199 | June 18-20**  
\$60 Deposit - Jan 19th

**1 JOHN 2:6**

**TEXT**  
**UPDATES**  
SIGN UP FOR TEXT UPDATES

Don't forget to text **PFBC to 970-00** to sign up for our **NEW** texting platform! Be on the lookout for more information about how you can receive updates for more specific categories. We need everyone who would like updates via text messaging to sign up, even if you were signed up for our previous platform.

**rightnow** MEDIA

We are excited to share that our church now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a HUGE library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

Some LifeGroups are using RightNow Media as their curriculum. If you are in a LifeGroup, you should have received an official invitation email to give you FREE access to RightNow Media. **If you have not received an email but you would like a link, please let the church office know.**

Once you find the email, simply click the link, sign up for an account, and you're all set to explore more than 20,000 videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!



Matt Bounds by Letter  
Sam Bounds by Statement  
Jerrid & Jessica Sutton by Statement  
Richie Steele by Baptism  
Summer Steele by Statement  
Riley Webb by Baptism  
Miranda Lejarza by Letter

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**Dec**  
**OnCall**  
**Deacons**

Kevin Berkey - 601-381-4838  
Brian Riels - 601-297-2984



**ONLINE**  
*Giving*

**CLICK HERE**

click the link to access the monthly church calendar!



**Petal**  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Engaging people with the Hope of the Gospel to see lives transformed*

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