



Elm Grove Baptist Church
8180 Barksdale Boulevard
Bossier City, LA 71112

Address Service Requested

White Steeple Banner

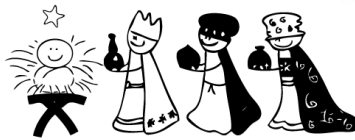
Elm Grove Baptist Church

December 2013, Volume 14, #12

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Dr. Brian D. Prucey, Pastor
Charles Anderson, Music/Ed Minister
Michael Vargas, Youth Pastor

December



For many years, Carole and I served as foster parents. Our first foster child was a little boy named Noah. Noah was two years old and was removed from a very abusive and neglectful family.

We wanted to do everything we could to give that little boy a loving and comforting home. We realized that we would have him through Christmas and decided that we would give him the most wonderful Christmas we could.

We shopped for many gifts and tried to figure out which gifts he would love the most.

We were so excited to watch his eyes on Christmas morning surveying all the gifts under the tree. He tore the wrapping paper off the boxes with the kind of enthusiasm only a two year old could generate.

We watched him joyously lift each new toy in the air as if it was his most prized treasure. We thought we had hit a home run.

After we finished opening the presents, it was time to start preparations for the Christmas dinner. Once I got the turkey in the oven, I went back into the living room and saw Noah enthusiastically playing—but not with the toys. He was playing with the boxes. The toys lay undisturbed under the tree.

A little boy's choice of boxes over toys is a parable for how we often relate to God's gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

If you're one of God's children, you have been given the most awesome gift that could ever be given. It's gorgeous from every perspective. It's a gift of such grandeur that it's hard to wrap human vocabulary around it and explain it. Like a diamond, it's beautiful from every angle.

It's the gift that every human being needs. It's a gift that in all of your work and all of your effort and all of your achievement you couldn't have ever earned; you could have

never deserved; you could have never achieved.

It is absolutely without question the gift of gifts. It's the gift of the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ; but I am deeply persuaded in the face of this gift, there are many Christians who are content to play with the box.

Don't ignore God's marvelous gift of His love and grace through Jesus Christ. Receive Him, worship Him, adore Him, serve Him and share Him with others.

One behalf of Carole and myself, have a wonderful and merry Christmas.

Bro. Brian



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lisa Frazier	2nd
Wanda Kent	2nd
Daniel Rideout	4th
Natalea Rice	5th
Kay Sutton	6th
Glen Barnes, Jr.	11th
Mert Carter	11th
Anthony Goforth	11th
Margaret Dillon	13th
Katie Wren	14th
Nancy Dorbandt	15th
Ricky Bumgardner	18th
Nancy Locky	23rd
Jeanette Green	28th

ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis & Tina Spearman	1st
Ricky & Lisa Clement	1st
Kevin & Diana Lott	15th
Steve & Kay Sutton	22nd



Charlie's Chats

Thanks to all of you who have been so deligent in working on the Christmas program. We only have 3 more rehearsals until we present *On Christmas Day* so please make every effort to attend choir rehearsal on Wednesday night!

I'm looking forward to our annual Candlelight, Carols & Communion on Christmas Eve. It is always such a special, worshipful service for the entire family.



A time of reverence and celebration with your family



TOTALLY HIS
HEART, HANDS, VOICE
2013 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING*
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS DECEMBER 1-8
CHURCH GOAL: **\$1,500**

Children's Christmas Party
Saturday, December 7th
from 1 to 4 p.m.
In the Fellowship Hall
for K - 5th Grade



FOR
Children's Church
Toddler Nursery
Food Bank Helpers

The Children's Ministry Presents
WE THREE SPIES
A Classified Christmas Adventure

Sunday, December 15
During Morning Worship

Sr. Adult Christmas Party
Saturday,
December 14th
From 2 to 4 p.m.
In the Fellowship Hall



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST
AT 6 P.M.
FOR GRADES 6 - 12
AT THE CHURCH

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday	
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:45 a.m.
Wednesday	
Fellowship Supper	5:30 p.m.
Children's Worship	6:30 p.m.
Youth Worship	6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Praise Choir	6:30 p.m.

On Christmas Day

A Choral Celebration of Jesus, the Wonderful One



Presented by
The Praise Choir
Sunday, December 22nd
At 10:45 a.m.



Friendship Class Christmas Party
Saturday, December 21
at Pam Marange's House

