



**Hilltop Baptist Church**  
220 S. Pennsylvania Ave  
Casper, Wyoming 82609

### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to:

1. See people saved.
2. See people grow in their relationship with God.
3. See people grow in their love for one another.

### **Church Physical Address:**

2555 E. 2nd St.  
Casper, WY 82604

### **Mailing Address:**

220 S. Pennsylvania Ave  
Casper, WY 82609

### **Phone Number:**

307-265-6540

### **Office Hours:**

Pastor: Dr. Rob Peterson

Mon.-Thurs.

Associate Pastor of Student Ministries:

Zach Schaff

Mon.-Thurs.

Secretary: Amanda Platt

Tues.-Fri.

Children's Ministry Director: Lindsey Parker

Tue.-Thurs. (3pm-5pm)

### **Website:**

[www.hbcc.church](http://www.hbcc.church)

### **Email Address:**

Pastor Rob Peterson: [pastorrob@hbcc.church](mailto:pastorrob@hbcc.church)

Pastor Zach Schaff: [pastorzach@hbcc.church](mailto:pastorzach@hbcc.church)

Amanda Platt: [secretary@hbcc.church](mailto:secretary@hbcc.church)

Lindsey Parker: [childrensministry@hbcc.church](mailto:childrensministry@hbcc.church)

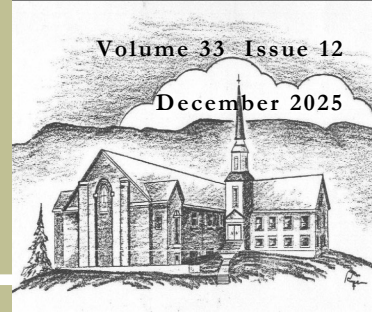
### **Sunday Schedule:**

Sunday School	9:30 AM
Morning Service	11:00 AM
Evening Service	6:00 PM

### **Wednesday Schedule:**

Youth Group & Children's Ministry (GLOW):  
(5:30 P.M. Meal) 6:00 P.M., every Wednesday

# THE MESSENGER



## From the Pastor's Pen

*"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons."*

— Galatians 4:4-5 ESV

I know we don't technically know the day or month that Jesus was born, but to me the long, cold, dark nights of December seem absolutely fitting. It's no secret that many people struggle through the dark months. We miss the light, the warmer weather, the green grass on our feet, or the sand between our toes at the beach. During the winter months our lives inevitably turn inward, we become less mobile and more reflective. Seasonal depression spikes and people look to get away somewhere warm for a vacation. Many ancient cultures, heavily affected by superstition, feared the sun would never come back with the same intensity. They relied on observances, ceremonies, or sacrifices to bring back the longer days.

As Christians, we have chosen this time to celebrate the incarnation of God (His coming to earth in the form of a man - Jesus). It just makes sense that during the darkest, coldest nights of the year, when things seem most hopeless and dark, we celebrate the coming of Christ. It's a beautiful reminder that at the time of our greatest need - God supplies.

As a side benefit, the closing days of December can be absolutely breath-taking in their own right. A blanket of snow may completely cover the ground. Snow can transform a dreary, brown countryside into a scene fit to be painted. It can drift along the roadside, cover several feet on the mountain, and accumulate on evergreens, giving a striking contrast of green with white. It's a great time of year to be reminded of the invitation given from God in Isaiah 1:18, *"Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."*

Who wouldn't want that kind of transformation? Everyone of us, at our core, feels the shame and guilt associated with sin. God invites us to trust in Him and trade that shame and guilt for salvation and forgiveness. We can be reminded of that invitation every time we see a snowfall. In the same way, every year at this time when the days are shortest and the nights are longest, we can be reminded of God's incredible ability to meet our needs. We can be reminded that at just the right time, in the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son to redeem us. When we feel our needs most acutely, when the light seems to be all but gone, look to Him in faith and know that all our needs will be met.

God Bless,  
Pastor Rob



## Emotional Intelligence for the Holidays ❄️

*Please join Tim & Leslie Adams for a 3-week Wednesday night Bible study on how to handle pressure, hurt, and chaos during the holiday season. We will meet in the sanctuary at 6:00 pm on December, 3, 10, & 17.*

Week 1: Grace Under Pressure - Handling Holiday Conflict with Wisdom

Week 2: When the Holidays Hurt - Finding Peace in Grief and Loneliness

Week 3: Calm in the Chaos - Managing Expectations & Emotions



What a fun ladies game night!  
We appreciate the Coto's for opening up their home and hosting a wonderful gathering. We hope you will consider joining us for future events!



The Thankful Harvest Festival team did a fabulous job making this year's festival one that will be remembered. They worked hard to make sure all ages were able to take part in the event. We appreciate their time and thoughtfulness!



## HILLTOP BAPTIST THANKFUL HARVEST FESTIVAL



What a wonderful sight it is to see a full church ready to praise and worship the Lord together. Praise God for faithful servants of Christ and a love for worshiping as one church body.

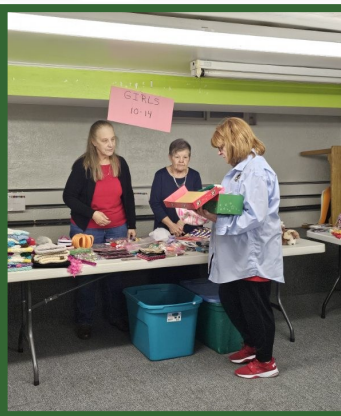
Congratulations to the contest winners!  
Chili/Soup Contest Winner... Kay Shaver  
Appetizer Contest Winner... Arleni Pollat  
Dessert Contest Winner... Kay Shaver  
We had a total of 21 delicious and creative entries!







~ Operation Christmas Child ~  
 Praise God! Because of you, we were able to fill **130 shoeboxes** to be used to spread the love and gospel of Jesus Christ to children all around the world. **Thank you** for being a blessing and pouring your hearts into these shoeboxes!





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Seeking Volunteers to Help Cook a Meal for Youth/GLOW**—We are looking for volunteers to sign-up to cook a Wednesday night meal for Youth Group/GLOW ministry. A sign-up sheet with an allergy-friendly meal plan has been placed on the back table of the sanctuary. You are welcome to cook at the church or in your home. We appreciate your willingness to help!

**G.L.O.W. & Youth Christmas Parties**—Wednesday, December 17th, at 5:30 PM. The GLOW children will meet at **PIZZA RANCH**. Meals for the children will be covered, but adults will need to pay for their own. We hope to see your kiddos there! The Youth Group will have their Christmas party at the same time at the church. Please encourage them to attend and also invite a friend!

**Rescue Mission Toy Collection**—You will soon see a box in the back of the church for a toy collection for children of families of our local Rescue Mission this Christmas. Toys for children of all ages are needed. Thanks for helping!

**Christmas Eve Bags**—We are in need of two large boxes of mini candy canes, 2 large Sam's Club size bags of unshelled peanuts, and 80-100 clementines/oranges. Please let the office know if you would like to help supply some of these items. Thank you for helping!

Seeking snacks for the Youth New Year's Eve Lock-In. Please drop food off at the office. Thanks for helping!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Kayla Jones	3
Jessica Nesterenko	4
Jon Nuckles	9
Adri Hays	12
Jean Homann	13
Nathaniel Barella	16
Jerry Coulter	16
Caroline Ruyter	16
Annabelle March	18
Molly Warren	19
Elena Ruyter	21
Isabell Barella	23
Jay Elder	26
Norma Straughan	27

(If your birthday is not listed, please contact the church office.)



### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

This is the time of year we dedicate a special offering to our Southern Baptist International Missionaries. If you feel led to do so, please donate by Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> and designate your gift as "Lottie Moon".

Thank you for supporting our missionaries!

Thank you, church, for being a blessing this Thanksgiving and helping us put together five Thanksgiving baskets! Thank you for your willingness to serve Christ by loving others.

### Rescue Mission

The Wednesday night bible study group that meets in the Phillips' home will serve on Wednesday, December 17, at 4:45 PM. The regular Tuesday night RM group will serve on December 23, at 5:45 PM. Please let Darla know if you would like to help.

### Youth Group/Children's Ministry

The Youth Group and Children's Ministry (GLOW) meets every Wednesday at 6:00 PM.

(A meal is served at 5:30 PM)

**Games, study, food, and fun!**

**We hope to see your youth/child there!**

### Ladies' Luncheon

Monday, December 8th, at 12:30 PM, at Perkin's restaurant. All ladies are welcome!



### Potluck Luncheon

In lieu of our regularly scheduled potluck, we will host a potluck-style Christmas party on Sunday, December 14th, at 5:00 p.m. We hope you can join us for this exciting event!

Don't forget your white elephant gift (one per person), and be sure to invite a friend!

### Men's Breakfast

All men are invited to join us for food, fellowship, and study on Saturday, December 13, at 8:00 AM.

### Nursery

December 7<sup>th</sup> – Caroline, Harley, Meg, Mirabelle

December 14<sup>th</sup> – Mike, Shelly, Daisy

December 21<sup>st</sup> – Kathy, Josie, Meredith, Hannah

December 28<sup>th</sup> – Ashley, Betsy, Annabelle, Elena

Text

**GIVE**

to 307-219-5224

### Are We Missing You?

If you aren't receiving emails from the church, such as reminders, the newsletter, etc. please send an email request to be added:

[Secretary@hbcc.church](mailto:Secretary@hbcc.church)

# December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Celebrate the true gift of the season!</p> <p><b>CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN</b></p>	1	2	<p>3</p> <p>YOUTH &amp; Children's GLOW Ministry 6-7 PM (5:30 Meal)</p> <p>Class with Tim &amp; Leslie Adams 6:00 PM</p>	4	5	6
		Pastor Rob Away (NC TRIP/Military Duty)		Amanda Works		
<p>7 Sunday School @ 9:30 A.M. Worship @11 A.M. Lord's Supper</p> <p>Evening Service 6:00 P.M.</p>	<p>8</p> <p><b>Ladies LUNCHEON</b> 12:30 PM</p>	9	<p>10</p> <p>YOUTH &amp; Children's GLOW Ministry 6-7 PM (5:30 Meal)</p> <p>Class with Tim &amp; Leslie Adams 6:00 PM</p>	11	12	13
		Amanda Works		OCC Mission Trip to Colorado		Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
<p>14 Sunday School @ 9:30 A.M. Worship @11 A.M.</p> <p><b>Christmas Party</b></p> <p>CHURCH CHRISTMAS PARTY (Adults) 5:00 P.M.</p>	15	16	<p>17</p> <p>Children's Ministry &amp; Youth <b>CHRISTMAS PARTIES!</b> 5:30 PM</p> <p>Class with Tim &amp; Leslie Adams 6:00 PM</p> <p>Rescue Mission 4:45 PM</p>	18	19	20
		Amanda Works				
<p>21 Sunday School @ 9:30 A.M. Worship @11 A.M.</p> <p><b>Christmas Caroling</b> Meet at the church at 5:15 PM</p>	22	23	<p>24</p> <p><b>Christmas Eve SERVICE</b> 6:00 PM</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	25	26	27
		Rescue Mission 5:45 PM (Please let Darla know if you would like to help!)	NO SCHOOL			
		Amanda Gone				
<p>28 Sunday School @ 9:30 A.M. Worship @11 A.M.</p> <p>Evening Service 6:00 P.M. **Removal of the Greens**</p>	29	30	<p>31</p> <p><b>New Year's Eve YOUTH LOCK-IN!</b></p>	1	2	3
		Church office closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1 for the Christmas holiday!				
		Amanda Gone				
		NO SCHOOL				