



## FAMILY OF CHURCHES COMMITTED TO A MISSION

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### Lottie Moon (December 3-10, Week of Prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering)

#### What was her pre-missionary life like?

Born Charlotte Digges Moon, December 12, 1840, in Albemarle County, Virginia. Lottie rebelled against Christianity until she was in college. In December 1858, she dedicated her life to Christ and was baptized at First Baptist Church, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Lottie attended Albemarle Female Institute, female counterpart to the University of Virginia. In 1861, she was one of the first women in the South to receive a master's degree. She stayed close to home during the Civil War but eventually taught school in Kentucky, Georgia and Virginia.

#### What was her missionary work?

Edmonia Moon, Lottie's sister, was appointed to Tengchow, China, in 1872. The following year, Lottie was appointed and joined her sister there. Lottie served 39 years as a missionary, mostly in China's Shantung province. She taught in a girls' school and often made trips into China's interior to share the good news with women and girls.

Lottie Moon was passionate about people knowing Christ. She didn't hesitate to speak her mind.

Today's China is a world of rapid change. It's home to 1.4 billion individuals – one-fifth of the world's population. Village dwellers flock to trendy megacities with exploding populations. And China holds its own in the world's economy. It's very different from the vast farmland Lottie Moon entered in the 1800s. But one thing hasn't changed: China's need for a Savior.

#### What was her mission?

When she set sail for China, Lottie was 32 years old. She had turned down a marriage proposal and left her job, home and family to follow God's lead. Her path wasn't typical for an educated woman from a wealthy Southern family. God had gripped her with the Chinese peoples' need for a Savior.

For 39 years Lottie labored, chiefly in Tengchow and P'ingtu. People feared and rejected her, but she refused to leave. The aroma of fresh-baked cookies drew people to her house. She adopted traditional Chinese dress, and she learned China's language and customs. Lottie didn't just serve the people of China; she identified with them. Many eventually accepted her. And some accepted her Savior.

#### What was her vision?

Lottie wrote letters home detailing China's hunger for truth and the struggle of so few missionaries taking the gospel to the 472 million Chinese in her day. She also shared the urgent need for more workers and for Southern Baptists to support them through prayer and giving.

She once wrote home to the Foreign Mission Board, "Please say to the [new] missionaries they are coming to a life of hardship, responsibility and constant self-denial."

Disease, turmoil and lack of co-workers threatened to undo Lottie's work. But she gave herself completely to God, helping lay the foundation of what would become the modern Chinese church, one of the fastest-growing Christian movements in the world. Lottie Moon died at 72 — ill and in declining health after decades ministering to her beloved Chinese. But her legacy lives on. And today, when gifts aren't growing as quickly as the number of workers God is calling to the field, her call for sacrificial giving rings with more urgency than ever.

#### What are her letters home?

Lottie frequently sent letters back home detailing Chinese culture, missionary life and the physical and spiritual needs of the Chinese people. Additionally, she challenged Southern Baptists to go to China or give so that others could go. By 1888, Southern Baptist women had organized and helped collect \$3,315 to send workers needed in China.

#### What is the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering?

In 1918, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) named the annual Christmas offering for international missions after the woman who had urged them to start it.

Published by the International Mission Board, SBC

### CHURCH MISSION GIFTS

CHURCH	%	OCTOBER
Antioch	1	251.70
Bowers	9	1,157.24
Calvary	5	210.90
Cambria	5	15.28
CP Wilburton	4	667.63
Enterprise	1	30.00
Featherston	5	76.00
Gowen	3	106.88
Grace Country	1	-0-
High Bridge	1	43.44
Keota 1 <sup>st</sup>	3	-0-
Kinta 1 <sup>st</sup>	3.5	141.20
Lequire	6	481.00
Lutie	6	-0-
Main Street	2.5	232.90
McCurtain	5	130.10
Mountain Home	5	50.40
N Rock Creek	5	216.30
Panola	5	184.00
Porum 1 <sup>st</sup>		-0-
Quinton 1 <sup>st</sup>	8	915.89
Red Oak 1 <sup>st</sup>	4	674.11
Rocky Ridge	5	-0-
Southside	4	-0-
Stigler 1 <sup>st</sup>	3	707.03
Sulphur Springs	3	127.65
Thessalonian		206.45
Trinity Stigler	5	220.00
Unity, Keota	5	300.00
West Liberty	10	1,032.00
Whitefield	6	657.56
Wilburton 1 <sup>st</sup>	4.5	1,033.61
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$9,869.27</b>

### CHURCH DECISIONS\*

OCTOBER	P	B	L	R	O
Bowers	1		2		
Lequire	1				
Wilburton			3		

\*Legend: P=Professions, B=Baptisms, L=Letter, R=Rededication, O=Other

# DECEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Association Youth Rally</b> <b>January 17, 2018</b> <b>Stigler FBC</b> <b>6:00-8:00 pm</b>		<b>Michael Conaway</b> <b>Wilburton FBC</b> <b>(2004)</b>			<b>1 Association Pastor-Staff - Retired Pastor-Executive Board Members</b> <b>Christmas 6:30-8</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Ryan Brown (Kinta)	<b>5 Sunday School Team Meeting</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Association Center</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Jackie Bates (McCurtain FBC)	<b>9 Bowers Baptist Women's Conference 10am-1pm - Voice of One</b> <b>Lunch provided</b>
-----Week of prayer for International Missions & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering-----						
<b>10</b> <b>Week of prayer for International Missions &amp; Lottie Moon Christmas Offering</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>NO</b> <b>Executive Board Meeting</b> <b>Next meeting</b> <b>January 9</b>	<b>13</b> Gene Murry (retired)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Clinnon & Bobbie Cole (Thessalonian)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Fred Wegert (retired)	<b>22</b> Melba Wegert (retired)	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Bud Vinson (Center Point)	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Joye White (N Rock Creek)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Joyce Dover (Stigler FBC)
<b>31</b>	-----Office closed- Christmas Break-----					