



I hope your New Year is full of wonderful memories of this past Christmas. As I reflected in last month's newsletter, it appears in America Christmas is no longer about Christ but has morphed into a "holiday" shopping spree. Most who celebrate Christmas today have no concept of the true value of the Gift God gave us in the birth of His only Son. For those of us who do understand the great value of God's Gift to us seem to cherish the season of Christmas more and more each year.

As we break through the threshold of another year, I want us to focus on one important precept. We find this important precept in Galatians 6:7-10 where it states, "*Don't be misled; you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant.*" ⁸ *Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.* ⁹ *So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.* ¹⁰ *Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone, especially to those in the family of faith.*"

First, it is important to heed the warnings given to us by the Apostle Paul in this passage. In verse 7, Paul warns us to always be conscious of the *justice of God*. According to II Chronicles 16:9 *The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him*. This passage reminds us of the sovereign eyes of the Lord that continuously watch over us. Since our Father is the "*Lord of the Harvest*" we must carefully choose the type of seeds we will plant in His ground. According to Romans 14:10,12 *we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.* ¹² *Yes, each of us will give a personal account to God*. Remember, we all have a free will, **God does not force us to plant one seed over another, but He does guarantee the harvest of whatever we plant**. According to Galatians 6:8, *Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit*.

In verses 9 and 10, we find encouragement *not to get weary doing what is good*. This is a lofty precept yet an attainable goal! We should challenge ourselves to live peaceably with all men and be *careful* how we live. Verse 9 may be better understood in our culture if it read... "always do what is good no matter the circumstance, even when we are tired." Paul instructed those Christians living in Galatia and in Ephesus to *make the most of every opportunity to do good unto all men, especially to those who are our brothers and sisters in Christ*.

May God help us as we strive to live out these important precepts from God's Word. May we, like Paul, *press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us*. Amen!

I love each and every one of you, and I pray God will bless your efforts to please Him in this New Year.

Your friend,

Pastor Tim

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

We thank the Lord for all those who gave towards the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Sacrificial gifts like these send sweet smells to the throne of God. Ephesians 2:5, "*Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.*" We should never forget Matthew 25:40, *And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!'* To God be the glory, great things He has done.

Missionary Life of Lottie Moon

Dec. 12, 1840 - Dec. 24, 1912



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.

Continued - Missionary Life of Lottie Moon

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.

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.

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.

Pray for Our Men and Women in Uniform

Devon Henesley - Grandson of Jean Johnson
Branch - Navy **Rank** - 2nd Class
Assignment - Virginia Beach

Megan Hines - Pastor Tim's Daughter
USNA Class of 2019
MIDN Megan Hines
E - Company / Platoon -10
Annapolis, Maryland 21402

Brandon Woolworth - Nephew of Chery Hanna
Branch - Air force
Assignment - Tucson, Arizona

Joshua Woolworth - Nephew of Chery Hanna
Branch - Navy
Assignment - Great Lakes, Illinois



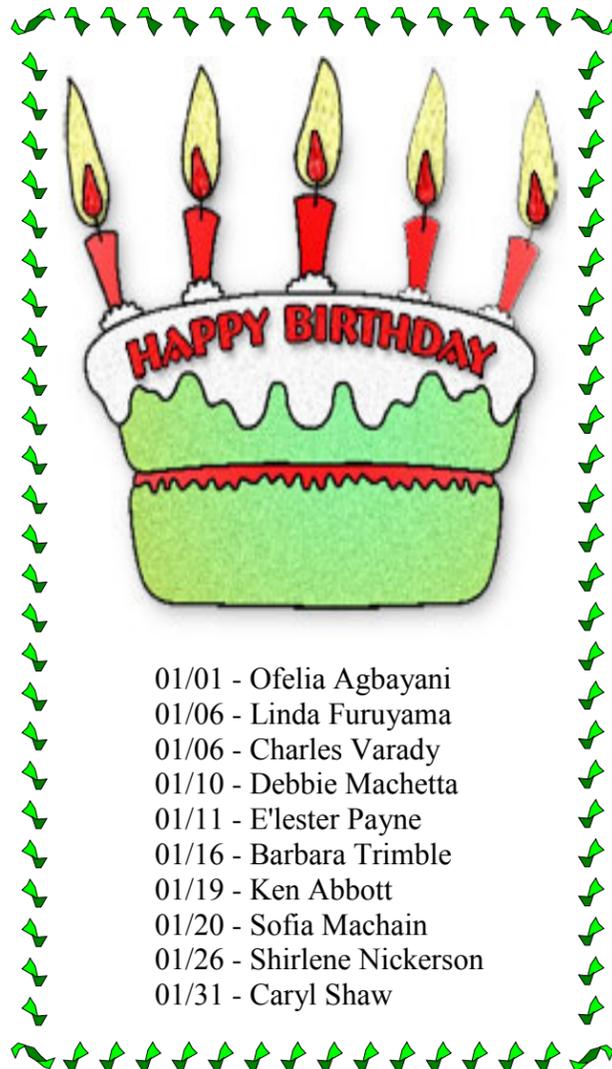
First Southern Baptist Church
 15503 Usher Street
 San Lorenzo, CA 94580
 church@fsbcsl.org
 (510) 276-3688

Sunday Services

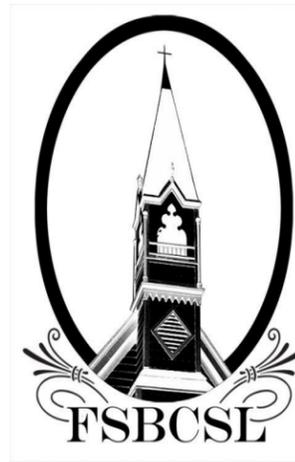
Sunday School 9:30 am
 Morning Worship 10:45 am
 Evening Worship 6:00 pm



- 6th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 9th - Woman on Mission - 10:00 am
- 13th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 12th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am
- 20th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm
- 23th - Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am
- 26th - Rest Home Ministry - 11:00 am
- 27th - Wednesday Dinner - 5:00 pm
 - Bible Study - 5:45 pm
 - Choir Practice - 6:45 pm



- 01/01 - Ofelia Agbayani
- 01/06 - Linda Furuyama
- 01/06 - Charles Varady
- 01/10 - Debbie Machetta
- 01/11 - E'lester Payne
- 01/16 - Barbara Trimble
- 01/19 - Ken Abbott
- 01/20 - Sofia Machain
- 01/26 - Shirlene Nickerson
- 01/31 - Caryl Shaw



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Glorifying God ~ Loving One Another ~ Reaching the World

Pastor: Tim Hines

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It's hard to believe another year has passed; it went by so quickly we barely could grasp all the people we met and the places we went, time is a commodity often misspent.

Life's become too busy; it's passing us by while we're pursuing the "good life"; the things of true value get pushed aside. You only live once many may say, so live for yourself it's really okay; get what you can while you have breath; live it up now before your death.

There is a proverb we know tis true; God blesses the faithful committed few. All of us will stand in judgement one day, to highlight the faithful and condemn those who strayed. Will you be ready when the Master calls, this is your chance to give Him your all.

Don't let this New Year pass you by, set some new goals and begin to strive, strive for the mark it's worth the effort for in the end you will find comfort. Comfort and strength to lighten our load as we go singing down the long road. Jesus is with us He's promised to stay close there beside us all the way.

All can attain the glories of heaven with God's grace and love our sins are forgiven. Trust Christ today and never turn back to the ways of the world and Satan's attacks. The path of the righteous is straight and narrow, walk in Christ's footsteps into that bright tomorrow.

Written by, Dr. Tim Hines - 12/17/2015