



### **From the Desk of the DOM**

Several years ago I served with a young man who enjoyed geocaching. Basically, that is where someone hides an item then marks and makes known its Global Positioning System coordinates.

Others then use their own GPS enabled devices to track down and find that item. My Youth

Minister friend and several youth from our church were pretty dedicated to this pursuit.

As I was thinking about what to write this month, I couldn't escape the phrase "Wise men seek Him still". It reminded me of how diligently those young folks sought the geocache items. They invested a great deal of time, energy, and perseverance in their quest. I wonder if I invest as much in my pursuit of Jesus? I fear I do not. Surely He is far more valuable than anything of this old earth, cached or not. He is worthy of the supreme effort and commitment as we seek Him. The wise men of Luke obviously knew that, otherwise they would not have taken the time and made the effort to come from a far away place, navigating by a star, to find the King of Kings. May we follow their lead this season of the celebration of Christ's birth and throughout life.

**Tim**

# What's Going on in Our Churches

## Birthdays

Dusty Rhodes	Dec. 01
Donald Ford	Dec. 08
J.T. Welch	Dec. 10
Charles Williams	Dec. 12
Darel Bunch	Dec. 21
Adine Stephens	Dec. 21
Amy Earley	Dec. 22
Wayland Shirey	Dec. 27
Sherri Whisenhunt	Dec. 28



## Wedding Anniversaries

Sherman & Shanna Hall	12/07/—
Ryan & Brea McMillan	12/10/11
Monty & Tammy Wood	12/22/92
Philip & Laura Stephens	12/28/85
Garry & Heather McNeill	12/28/02

## Ministry Anniversaries

Ken Bartholomew	12/01/03
Roddy Arnold	12/—/18

## From the BBA Prayer Team Leader

As I write this prayer article, it is a few days before Thanksgiving. I have just finished printing out our guide for our prayer meeting tomorrow night. Our subject is "We Give You Thanks." Let me share some thoughts with you from this outline: You finish the sentence. I bless You Lord because You have created.... I bless You for providing... I bless You Lord because You have redeemed me from... Jesus, I bless You that Your grace has... Thank You that the hope of glory is greater than any hope in... I praise You that You are able to... Because You are Almighty God, I will trust You for... Father, thank You that You showed me mercy, even when... Thank You Lord that I saw Your goodness this week when... Thank You Lord that You love us even when... We give You thanks for... Lord, we give You honor and glory because... Lord, let my life give You the honor and glory You deserve when... Think on these things and be thankful.

**In His Grip,  
Bro. Anthony**



**Please pray for our  
pastorless churches:**

Achille Community,  
Blue, Kenefic

## Senior Adult Luncheons

**Dec. 11—Yuba  
Jan. 08—Calvary**

**Streetman Rd** is in search of a Music Leader/Pianist. If you're interested in leading our services, please contact us! We would love to hear your God given talent.  
Jody Shires 580-931-3086

**Grace Baptist** is seeking a Bi-Vo Youth Pastor. Send resumes to [lifeplus@simplynet.net](mailto:lifeplus@simplynet.net)

## Pastor / Staff Conference Schedule

<b>Dec. 03</b>	Royce Couch
<b>Dec. 10</b>	Preston Condra
<b>Dec. 17</b>	Bruce McLaughlin
<b>Jan. 07</b>	Blake Gideon
<b>Jan. 14</b>	Jimmy Moore

The Great Commission tells us to go into all the world to teach the Gospel. We can do that by giving to the LMCO. The offering was named for Lottie Moon, a missionary to China. She wasn't always concerned about the lost. Lottie came from a financially well-off family. She attended prestigious schools and became the "most educated woman in the South," but remained unsaved. She even went to church to gather ammunition to torment her Christian friends. She wanted to "pick holes" in the sermon delivered by the preacher. However, the words the preacher spoke bothered her all night and by morning, she had decided to become a Christian. At a service on Dec. 21, 1858, Lottie marched to the altar and became a Christian. As she grew spiritually, she learned more about missionaries. She became convicted that she should surrender to missions. During Lottie's lifetime, it wasn't the vocation for women to choose. She learned much about giving, but she sacrificed her life. During a famine in China, Lottie denied herself food. She died on a ship returning home. Before her death, she sang, "Jesus loves me this I know. . . ." All during the night, she would wake up and sing, "We are weak, but He is strong." She died on Christmas Eve, 1912. In 1918, Annie Armstrong suggested the Offering for Foreign Missions be named for Lottie.



Another year of Operation Christmas Child has come and gone! This year, the Bryan Baptist Association collected 3,668 shoeboxes which filled 240 cartons! Thank you to all the churches, organizations, and individuals who took the time to make a shoe box gift to bless a child. Because of you, children across the world will receive a gift and hear the Word of God, many for the very first time in their life! It is such a blessing for our Association to be a part of this ministry and to have an impact in others' lives. We are looking forward to next year already.

Please be in prayer for how you and your church can be involved with this ministry, and again, thank you to all who donated shoeboxes, and a special thank you to all who volunteered to help with Collection Week!



### Greetings from LTBRM!

It's hard to believe that another year has almost passed! In just a few short days, we will say goodbye to 2019 with all of its highs and lows. We will welcome in a new year filled with lots of possibilities. In the meantime, we have the great privilege of celebrating Emmanuel God with us. We give and receive gifts at this time of year. We often spend too much money and too much time stressing over material gifts. The irony is the very Gift which we celebrate is free to whosoever will believe. This Gift was not free however. Jesus Christ, because of His great love for you and for the joy set before Him, endured one of the worst punishments ever devised by man. He was buried as evidence to His deity. It is He and He alone who can offer forgiveness and a new life.

I encourage you to take some time and think about your relationship to the Christ of Christmas. Thank you to everyone who made use of the facilities at the LTBRM in 2019. We enjoyed making some new friends and look forwards to making many more in 2020. Merry Christmas!

**In Christ, Monty & Tammy Wood and family**



APRIL 17-18, 2020  
FALLS CREEK CONFERENCE CENTER  
BGCOWOMEN.ORG

#### REGISTRATION

\$75 for Adults

\$50 for Students

Registration is now open for BGCO Women's Retreat! Some changes have been made to accommodate this event.

- There will be no onsite registration. Once the retreat is full it is full.
- Registration and waivers are only online. If group leaders are registering for someone they will not be counted until online registration is done. So don't wait to the last minute to register.
- If you register and then can not attend, tickets may only be sold to other people within or going with your group. (Ex. Church or staying in BBA cabin) This is due to bed counts in cabins. If your group is staying in BBA cabin then we can move them between our groups.
- There will be a parking charge of \$10 except for church vans and buses or a car that is packed to the max with ladies and luggage. This is to reduce the number of vehicles that need parking.
- VERY IMPORTANT! Two weeks before retreat you will get your wristband in the mail. This is your ticket in the gate, to meals, etc.
- Pre-ordering your t-shirt with registration is recommended but there will be a limited supply on site to purchase.

There are promotional materials at bgcowomen.org that can be downloaded and printed. If you have questions or want to stay in the BBA cabin please contact Robin Bowen @ 405-444-0274.





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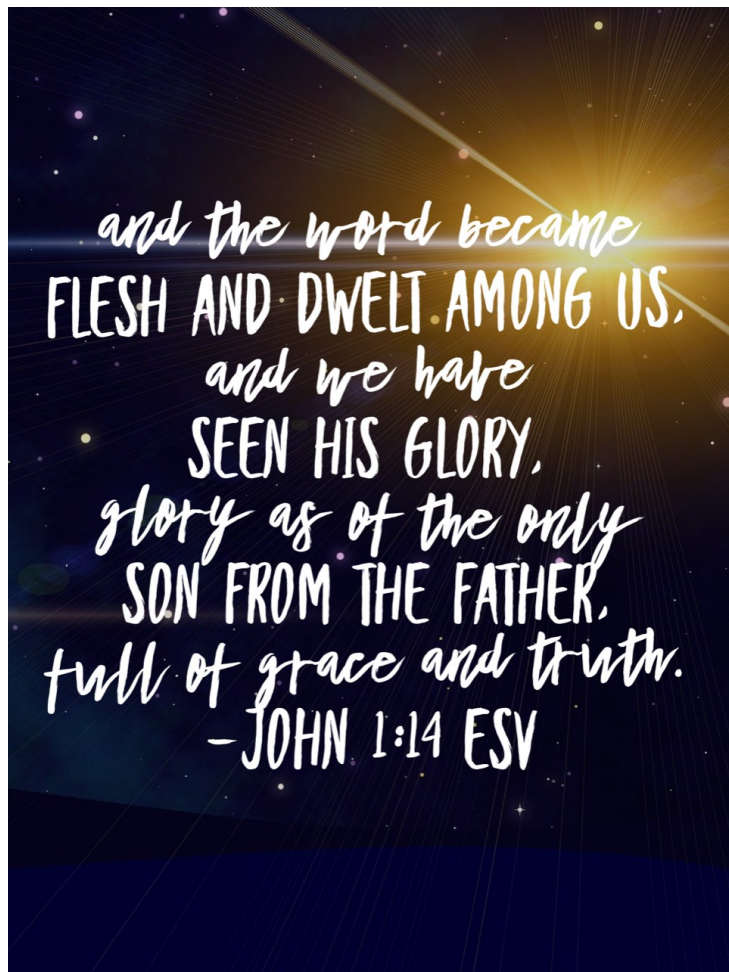
Vice-Moderator----- Michael Moody

Clerk----- Jessie Hopkins



Treasurer----- Cindy Bunch

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 - 4:30

We love to have your church's events in the Challenger. If you or your church have any announcements or news you would like to be included in next month's Challenger, please contact the BBA office before **December 16th**.



# December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		3 Pastor/Staff Conf. 10:30am at BBA No Clinic Today	4	5	6	7
	Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Week of Prayer: December 1-8					
8	9	10 Pastor/Staff Conf. 10:30am at BBA Office	11  Sr. Adult Luncheon @ Yuba	12	13	14
15	16	17 Pastor/Staff Conf. 10:30am at BBA Office	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	<b>The BBA Offices and Great Physician's Pharmacy &amp; Clinic will be closed December 24-January 1. Merry Christmas &amp; Happy New Year!</b>				