

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Budget Gifts	11/3/19	4,953.00
	11/10/19	2,360.00
	11/17/19	1,365.50
	11/24/19	5,155.31
Lottie Moon		1,245.00
Annie Armstrong		45.00
Local		500.00
Crown Construction		45.00
Peggy Morrison Memorial		100.00
Ann Powell Memorial		100.00
Youth Trip		255.00
Pregnancy Support		1,100.00
Potluck Lunch		25.00
Football Meal		15.00
Shoebox Postage		9.00
Total		17,272.81
Running Total		181,857.64

ATTENDANCE

	<u>S.Sch.</u>	<u>Worship</u>
Nov. 3	48	48
Nov. 10	56	77
Nov. 17	59	96 Homecoming
Nov. 24	69	78

Ladies' Christmas Tea

Please join us on

Saturday, Dec.14th at 11am

Food—Fun—Fellowship!



Amelia Baptist Church
9101 Amelia St.
P.O. Box 452
Amelia, VA. 23002

**December 2019
Newsletter**



Amelia
BAPTIST CHURCH
GOD-GLORIFYING ♦ GOSPEL-DRIVEN

9101 Amelia St. PO Box 452
Amelia, VA 23002
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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Amelia Baptist,

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:1-5)

The Christmas season has finally arrived! Now if you're like me, you know that this season brings with it timeless traditions that gladden the heart in ways that other seasons cannot compare. For some, those traditions focus on baking treats full of sugary goodness, while for others it is the task of pulling out the festive decorations and placing them in their respective spots. Traditions such as these and many others can be quite fun and memorable. For my family we have several traditions that we enjoy each December; from the ones mentioned above to Christmas books that are unwrapped and read each night before the kids go to bed. But one tradition stands the test of time for our family and it is one that I personally look forward to each year. What is it? The "Tacky Light Tour" in and around Richmond. From the time that I was a child, I can remember being driven by homes decorated with Christmas lights that beamed brightly in the dark of night. There is something quite mesmerizing about colorful lights outlining homes, trees, light poles, yards, and whatever else someone can string a set of lights upon. And just as my childlike wonder rekindles each Christmas season, it is a joy to see that same wonder on the faces of my children as they experience the beauty and brightness of the Christmas lights.

Beloved, when we open our Bibles, one of the stunning facts about our God is that He is a God of light who illuminates the darkness. From the opening verses we find that God is the One who speaks creation into existence and He does so by first saying, "Let

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From the Pastor's Pen (continued from front page)

there be light". But He isn't just a God who creates and illumines the physical space around us, as important as that may be. He is also a God who recreates, refashions, and restores what is broken by way of light. At the outset of the Gospel of John, we are met with One who is the Word. The Word is eternal, the Word was with God, the Word is God, and through the Word all things were created. Beloved, we know that the Word is none other than Jesus who is the Word made flesh. But it is verses 4 & 5 that remind us that Jesus is the light who has broken into this dark world to give true everlasting life to men. He is the bright Christmas light that illumines the night to show us our need for a Savior so that we might stand in amazement at the wonder of His beauty and love. You see, it is Jesus who recreates us into His image by the gift of faith in Him. It is Jesus who refashions us into a display of His glory. And it is Jesus who restores our lives because His light opens our hearts to treasure Him above all things and to love others with grace & truth.

As a child I never really connected the beauty of the tradition of Christmas lights to that of the One who is The Light. But after having come to Christ by faith years ago, it all makes sense now. So this Christmas may we enjoy our traditions, whatever they may be. But let us always remember to let our minds fill with wonder as we gaze upon the true reason for Christmas, the light which is Jesus who shines brightly in this darkness.

Merry Christmas!
Pastor Derrick, Amanda, Eliana, Naomi, & Isaac

**Week of Prayer for International
Missions & the Lottie Moon
Christmas Offering
December 1-8
Our Goal: \$5,000**

Offering envelopes and prayer pamphlets will be available on Sunday, December 1st.

*Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday, December 24
5:30 p.m.*



The Flower Committee is asking those who would like to remember or honor a loved one with a poinsettia to give a donation of \$10.00 for each person. Forms will be available on December 1st for you to fill in and turn in to the church office with your donation by December 15th. The poinsettias will be placed in the church on December 22nd and 29th, and names will be printed in the bulletin.

LOVE-IN-ACTION , WMU GROUP...IN ACTION!

The Love-in-Action Circle will go to Piedmont Geriatric Hospital for their December meeting on Tuesday, December 10, to wrap packages for the patients. We will meet at the church at 9:00am, carpool and be at Piedmont by 9:30am. Members are asked to bring their lunch. We are sponsoring a patient for their Operation Santa Claus program. Members are buying and contributing gifts for the patient. Judy Morris will deliver the gifts on Friday, December 6.

We are once again having the Lottie Moon mailboxes available for members to "mail" Christmas cards. They will be available for use December 1 until the 22nd. Money for "mailing" the cards should be put in the designated boxes and will be included in our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

The Circle is promoting our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, and our goal again will be \$5,000.

Upward Bound

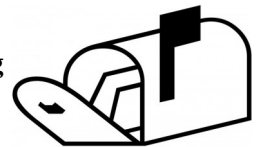
Christmas is quickly approaching and it's time to put up that tree, hang your stockings, and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. We invite you to attend our Christmas celebration on December 16. As usual, we will begin at 10am with coffee and chat followed by Christmas carols and music, opening of presents, and a lunch.

Bring a gift for exchange, either purchased (under \$10) or homemade, join in singing Christmas carols, hopefully led by Barry Layman, and listen to seasonal music on the piano played by Jeanet Hamner. Lunch will consist of turkey, mashed potatoes, and sweet potato casserole. You should bring a seasonal side dish or dessert.


Help With the Christmas Parade!

On December 7th we will have an opportunity to serve our community, and we need your help. During the parade we will serve hot chocolate and hand out gospel tracts. After the parade, we will host a free community dinner (hamburgers & hotdogs) in the Ministry Center at 5pm, enjoy Christmas music, and have a reading of the true Christmas story. The parade begins at 4:00, so please be here ahead of time to help during the parade and the free dinner afterwards.

**The Lottie Moon
Mailbox is Opening
Soon!**



The Mailbox will be open Sunday, December 1st through December 22nd for "mailing" your Christmas cards to members of the church. Please place the money you would have spent for postage in the designated box. This will be included with our Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Do not put money in the regular offering.

 **Bi-Monthly Business Meeting
Wednesday, December 11th
6:30 pm
(please note time change)**

December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 11am Communion (Michelle/Ian in charge) 6:00pm Deacons Christmas Dinner (at Jerry's/Judy's)	2 10am Pregnancy Support Training 12:30pm Women's Bible Stdy.	3	4 6:30pm Prayer/Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group 7:30pm Choir Practice	5 <i>B-Brandtley Crowder</i>	6	7 4:00pm Christmas Parade Followed by Community Dinner <i>B-Evelyn Lanier</i>
8 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 11:30am Mission Friends/Kids in Action <i>B-Pat Meadows</i>	9 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 10am Preg. Sup. Training 12:30pm Women's Bible Stdy.	10 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 9am Love-in-Action meet at church to go to Piedmont Geri- atric Hospital	11 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 6:30pm Business Meeting 7:30pm Choir Practice <i>B-Haley Anders</i> <i>A-Barry/Nola Johnson</i>	12 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> 6:30pm Ruritans in Ministry Center	13 <i>Samaritan's Purse Trip</i> <i>B-Fred Wright</i>	14 11am Ladies Tea
15 11am Choir Cantata 11am Birthday Party for Jesus <i>B-Dana Eary</i> <i>B-Paul Berry</i>	16 10am Upward Bound (No Women's Bible Study)	17 9am Art Class <i>B-Judy Morris</i>	18 8:30am Men's Prayer Grp 6:30pm Prayer/Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Christmas Pty. 7:30pm Choir Practice <i>B-Howard Easter</i> <i>A-Roger/Myra Morgan</i>	19	20 <i>B-Carol Layman</i> <i>B-Robyn Fountain</i>	21
22 11:30am Junior Church	23 <i>B-Ashley Muse</i>	24 5:30pm Christmas Eve Service <i>B-Leo Patrick</i>	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> (Church Office Closed) <i>B-Frances Anderson</i>	26 <i>A-Will & Lola "Cissy" Wright</i>	27	28 <i>B-Cathy Buckley</i>
29 (NO "Feast on the Fifth")	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> <i>B-Hanna Easter</i>		<u>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u> 9:00am Praise Time 9:30am Prayer Circle 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship Service		