

Sunday Schedule

Walker Sunday School 9:00 AM
Walker Worship 10:15 AM
Las Americas Sunday School 12:30 PM
Las Americas Worship 1:45 PM

Wednesday Schedule

Fellowship Dinner 5:15 PM
Children, Adult & Youth 6:15 PM
Choir Practice 7:20 PM
Las Americas Bible Study 7:30 PM

Staff:

Chuck McElhannon Pastor
Andy Wolverton Associate Pastor
Wally Whidby Youth Minister
Theresa Rogers Music Minister
Taylor Huff WEE Care Director
Nathan Velasquez Pastor, Las Americas

Contact Information:

Church Office 615-794-7000
Chuck chuck@walkerbc.org
Andy andy@walkerbc.org
WEE Care 615-794-1202
Taylor weecare@walkerbc.org
Wally wally@walkerbc.org
Las Americas 682-240-7533

Encourager

Walker Baptist Church



December 2019/ January 2020

www.walkerbc.org

*“Let us not give up meeting together. . . but let us encourage one another---
and all the more as you see the day approaching.” – Hebrews 10:25*

WALKER BAPTIST CHURCH
1350 W. MAIN STREET
FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37064
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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Hello Walker Family & Friends!

Remember those days when the big, fat Sears catalog arrived in the mail and you spent the next few weeks circling everything you wanted for Christmas? Your dream was to wake up on Christmas morning to find a stocking stuffed with goodies and a pile of presents under the tree. Those were simpler times, weren't they? Or were they?



This Christmas, as you think about "all I want for Christmas," remember that nothing in a box will satisfy what you're really longing for. The reason we keep telling the Christmas story, the story of the birth of Jesus, is because it's the only story that tells us we are loved beyond measure. It's the only story that speaks of joy, and peace, and hope. We're reminded that of all the things that we've ever wanted in this life, only Jesus can satisfy our deepest longings. I hope you'll make plans to join us this holiday season at Walker and make your Christmas wish list complete. The messages for this Advent season are:

- December 1: All I Want for Christmas Is... HOPE
- December 8: All I Want for Christmas Is... LOVE
- December 15: All I Want for Christmas Is... JOY
- December 22: All I Want for Christmas Is... PEACE

When we pull the old calendar off the wall and put up 2020, we'll start a 4-week series of messages that deals with the biggest issues of life. We all ask ourselves those deep questions. Wondering if we made the right decision, wondering if we're on the right track, wondering if there's something else we could do that would make us happier. Questions about happiness and success, about meaning and significance. Questions about what's real and what's true. Questions about right and wrong, and how we choose to live. Questions about the problems in the world, and what we think about them. Questions about God. Is God real, and if He is, is it possible to know Him? We think about death and what happens when we die. These are the human questions, questions everyone wonders about.

How we answer questions like these determines who we are at our core, what is truly important to us, and what kind of person we are. How we answer life's big questions shapes who we are, what we believe, and how we live our lives. Whether you're a Christian or not, spiritual or secular in your thinking, how you answer "the human questions" will determine the foundation of your life, and whether that foundation is solid and true. Let's wrestle with those big issues together as a church family.

- January 5: The HAPPINESS Question – "What's the Key to Happiness and Meaning in Life?"
- January 12: The GOD Question – "Is God Real and Is He Relevant?"
- January 19: The CHAOS Question – "Why Is There Evil and Suffering in this World?"
- January 26: The DEATH Question – "What Happens When We Die?"

Hopefully, we can end 2019 by focusing on the things that truly matter in our lives, things like love, joy, peace, and hope, and we can begin 2020 by building a solid foundation for doing life together as a church. God is building His kingdom, and it's a joy to be a part of His work!

Chuck



Thank you for helping with tomorrow's leaders. You are truly a blessing. Please contact Linda Garnette at (615) 310-9299 if there are any changes.

- December 1 Vonda Hazelwood & Shannon Epps
- December 8 Michelle Perkins & Kay LaFever
- December 15 Whitney Lee & Linda Garnette
- December 22 Chris & Kelley Wheeler
- December 29 Shirley Newell & Linda Garnette
- January 5 Kay LaFever & Emily Sanders
- January 12 Janice Vaughan & Louise Austin
- January 19 Ellouise Jefferson & Linda Garnette
- January 26 Vonda Hazelwood & Shannon Epps



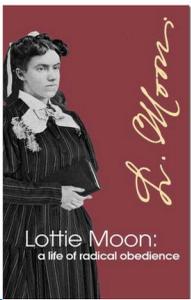
DECEMBER
Elaine Thompson

JANUARY
Linda & Monte Garnette

<u>December 1:</u> Randy Hazelwood Charlie Young Monte Garnette Marvin Cox	<u>December 8:</u> Reese Potts Keith Norwood Kevin Adair Wallace Joslin
<u>December 15:</u> Bobby Hargrove Charlie Irwin Elton Parker Raymond Vaughan	<u>December 22:</u> Wally Whidby Wayne Mangrum Wallace Joslin Jonathan Lee
<u>December 29:</u> Larry Newell Nick Lunn III Nick Lunn IV Bill Hannah	<u>January 5:</u> Gene Austin Keith Norwood Charlie Young Monte Garnette
<u>January 12:</u> Raymond Vaughan Wayne Mangrum Marvin Cox Kevin Adair	<u>January 19:</u> Elton Parker Charlie Irwin Elton Parker Chris Wheeler
<u>January 26:</u> Reese Potts Glenn Gatlin Bobby Hargrove Larry Newell	

*Here's to the blessing
of the year,
Here's to the friends
we hold so dear,
To peace on earth,
both far and near.*

HAPPY NEW YEAR !



2019 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING — for International Missions —

WHY THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING IS NAMED FOR LOTTIE MOON

While living in China, Lottie wrote letters to the Foreign Mission Board (now the International Mission Board) and to Baptist women. She asked for more missionaries and for money to grow her work among the Chinese. Because of Lottie’s determination, WMU collected a Christmas Offering to give to the Foreign Mission Board. In 1919, Annie Armstrong suggested that the offering should be named for Lottie Moon. Today, we still give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in honor of her work and sacrifice to keep our missionaries on the field.

One hundred percent of the offering goes to the missionaries, none to administration.

OUR GOAL IS \$ 3000

I saw a great multitude from every nation and all tribes and peoples and languages standing before the throne. Revelation 7:9



O CHRISTMAS TREE!

On December 15th the Adult and Children’s Choirs are joining together during the Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall to bring a program of music and narrative. You won’t want to miss it!



December 1	Doug Leonard	615-886-0101	January 5	Tom Massey	615-430-9766
December 8	Wally Whidby	615-456-6770	January 12	Bill Reitmeyer	615-943-3705
December 15	Chris Wheeler	615-512-5522	January 19	Bobby Hargrove	615-519-1537
December 22	Ed Madden	615-973-3105	January 26	Doug Leonard	615-886-0101
December 29	Charlie Irwin	615-566-1455			

2020 – The Future in Focus



“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

The ABC newsmagazine show “20/20” has been on the air since 1978, when I was ten years old. The show has often revolved around varied human interest stories and derived its name from the “20/20” measurement of visual acuity. Seeing the events of the world in clear focus seems to be a noble goal for a news show. Seeing the future clearly, though, is often an impossible goal.

For the people of God who were in exile in Babylon, Jeremiah penned an encouraging message, one which is still held onto tightly by the people of God in our day. While the words we have in the Scripture were written to a specific group of people at a specific time in history, we may carefully use the principles of sound Biblical interpretation to discern that the message in those words is one which is consistent with the whole of Scripture and applicable to Christians today. Consider these...

“The plans of the Lord stand firm forever; the purposes of His heart through all generations.” (Psalm 33:11)
“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28) *“What, then, can we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us?” (Romans 8:31)* *“The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” (2 Peter 3:9)* *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)*

We could go on with nearly countless examples in God’s Word which demonstrate the principles that (1) God has a plan and is in complete control, (2) His desire is for our greatest wellbeing, and (3) He does not wish to harm us but instead longs to see us full of hope about fulfilling our purpose while we are on earth. So why don’t we experience this calming and peaceful assurance at all times?

There is no mystery about the fact that sin entered the world with Adam and Eve, when people were first given a choice to love God or themselves. Not one person (except the Lord Jesus) has made all perfect and loving choices, all the time. We are living with the fruits of sin – both our own and that of others – both recent and from generations ago –which has built up and overlapped to affect all ages of all people in all parts of the world.

That is why we need to pray and listen carefully and often to God through His Word and through the ministry of His Holy Spirit in our hearts. Those times with Him will ground our hearts and give peace to our minds as we are given light to take one step at a time in this world. Meanwhile, the One whose vision and foresight are PERFECT will plan ahead to ensure that we arrive at our destination safely and at the right time, despite the delays and roadblocks life throws our way.

Walking with you,

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

<u>December 4—RITI</u> Meat Loaf Mashed Potatoes Mixed Vegetables Salad/Dessert	<u>December 11</u> Pizza Pizza Pizza Salad Dessert	<u>December 18—RITI</u> Turkey n' Spaghetti Casserole Baby Carrots Green Beans Salad/Dessert
<u>December 25</u> Merry Christmas!	<u>January 1</u> Happy New Year!	<u>January 8—RITI</u> Grilled Hamburger Steaks w/peppers & onions Potatoes Au Gratin Mixed Veggies Salad/Dessert
<u>January 15</u> Sandwich Bar Chips Dessert	<u>January 22—RITI</u> Pot Roast Roasted New Potatoes Green Beans Salad/Dessert	<u>January 29</u> Pizza Pizza Pizza Salad Dessert

If you haven't stopped by our She-Shed lately, come by and take a look. We've worked to create a space that we hope is comfortable and inviting to all of our ladies. There is more happening than just Bible Study on Wednesday nights, we are establishing a community and we'd love for you to be a part of it. Here's what we have planned on the horizon:



Dec 4th & 11th - We will continue walking through the parables of Jesus. A parable always ends with a call to action and we are discovering what Jesus challenges us to do.

Dec 18th - Christmas Ornament Exchange - bring an ornament to swap and enjoy some hot chocolate and apple cider along with Christmas treats!

Beginning January 8th, we will begin a new study entitled "Rhythms of Renewal: Trading Stress and Anxiety for a Life of Peace and Purpose". We will discover how to:

- Take charge of your emotional health and inspire your loved ones to do the same
- Overcome anxiety by establishing daily habits that keep you mentally and physically strong
- Find joy through restored relationships in your family and community
- Walk in confidence with the unique gifts you have to offer the world

We are looking forward to all God has to teach us in 2020 and hope you will join us up in the She-Shed!

Greetings and Salutations from the Youth up in the Fish Tank.



We have celebrated several birthdays over the last couple of months with two of them being milestone birthdays. Emma Rogers celebrated her Sweet 16th Birthday and most recently, Kody Leonard turned the big 1-8...that's right church family...our little Kody that we have watched grow up right before our eyes is now a voting-eligible adult at 18 years of age. Happy Birthday again to all our October and November babies. December...you're on the clock.

Before we get too far ahead and jump into December, we want to join in on the time of Thanksgiving. The Whidbys and the students would like to let our church family at Walker Baptist know just how thankful we truly are for all of your love and support for the youth. Thank you for loving on our students so well and always going above and beyond any time we ask for your support, financially and otherwise. We are truly blessed to be able to gain access to the best learning materials, camps and numerous fellowship opportunities because of your contributions to our ministry. We are also able to spread the love of Jesus to the least of these through our backpack ministry that you all make possible with your contributions of food, clothes and items to fill the backpacks. We are typing up a list of the items we feel make a nearly perfect backpack for those we can reach. If you would like a copy of the backpack list or feel called to help in any way, please reach out to Wally or one of the youth.

We look forward to being a part of the Christmas season celebrations at Walker. We will have a Youth Christmas Party up in the Fish Tank and would also like to help love on a family in need of gifts this Christmas. If you know of a family in need of help this Christmas season, please reach out to Wally with some details.

Thank you again for loving on our students and leaders so well. We can't wait to celebrate the greatest gift of all time with our church family. To God be the glory. Great things he has done...and continues to do!

Love from

Wally and Karen

Church-Wide Invitation to 50th Anniversary Party for Doug & Marti Leonard

Please join us for an anniversary party honoring Doug & Marti Leonard
Friday, January 17th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall
RSVP to Jennifer Leonard by emailing kodysmom74@aol.com

Regular Sunday Schedule

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship 10:15 AM

Regular Wednesday Schedule

Fellowship Dinner 5:15 PM
Children, Adult, Ladies, Youth & Prayer 6:15 PM
Choir Practice 7:20 PM

January 2020

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	JANUARY 1 OFFICE CLOSED NO EVENING ACTIVITIES		1 Bradley Richards   Shirley Newell Happy New Year!	2	3 Candie Westbrook 	4 Nick Lunn 
5	6 Sherry Sanders  Debra Mangrum 5 pm Bingo at Reddick	7	8	9 Josh Smith 	10	11
12 Bennie Woolam 	13 Kayla Hargrove 	14	15	16	17 Lorri Chunn  Leonard's 50th Anniversary Party 6:00	18 Deacons and Staff Luncheon 12:00
19	20 5 pm Bingo at Reddick	21	22 Room in the Inn	23 Glenn Gatlin 	24	25
26 My Friend's House Fundraiser Breakfast 8:30 AM	27	28	29 Ashley Gracia  International Mission Study 6:00 pm	30	31	

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December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Freda Joslin</i> 	3 <i>Everett Whidby</i> 	4 <i>Pam Maples</i> 	5	6	7
	<i>Party at Reddick 5:00 PM</i>		<i>Room in the Inn</i>			
8	9	10	11	12 <i>Natalee Perkins</i> 	13	14
WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS						
15 <i>10:15 AM O CHRISTMAS TREE MUSICAL AND LATTES' FOR LOTTIE</i> 	16 <i>5 pm Bingo at Reddick</i>	17	18 <i>Room in the Inn</i>	19	20	21 <i>Louise Austin</i> 
22	23 <i>Ann Norwood</i> 	24 <i>Christmas Eve Service 6:00 PM</i>	25 	26 <i>Jerry Wolverton</i> 	27	28
29	30 <i>Cindy Irwin</i>  <i>Pacey Darnell</i> 	31 <i>Last day for Winter Coat Drive</i>	DECEMBER 25 OFFICE CLOSED NO EVENING ACTIVITIES			