

December 2011

Volume 5, Issue 12



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**Looking back and looking ahead** by Pastor Casey Ingold

Looking back over 2011 is pretty exciting. I'm an optimist at heart and I tend to see the good easily anyway, but I don't think it takes an optimist to see what God is doing at Covenant. One of the most desperate needs in churches across America right now is to have a clear biblical vision that God has etched into the heart and soul of the members. Somewhere over the last two years, I believe this has happened. God has given us a clear vision to go make disciples. Not only that, He has helped us clearly define what a disciple is – a person who is in a growing relationship with Jesus. But God hasn't stopped there. He has shown us the clear need for one-on-one discipling relationships where the spiritual parents in our church family begin to take responsibility for helping brand new or spiritually young disciples grow. I think we are on the way to developing a culture of discipleship at Covenant. That is tremendously exciting.

On top of that, we stand ready to affirm a leadership structure that includes an Elder Board to provide spiritual direction to the pastor, staff and congregation. The four men from our church family that stand ready to serve in that capacity are tremendous followers of Jesus who have the deep respect of our church family. They are each capable teachers and leaders and have proven to be men worthy of our trust and respect. I am humbled to know that God has bestowed on this congregation that level of leadership. Surely that tells us something about his great plans to grow the Kingdom through Covenant's ministry.

**Looking Ahead** (Continued on page 5)

Pastor Casey Ingold may be reached at

[pastor@cbctopeka.com](mailto:pastor@cbctopeka.com)

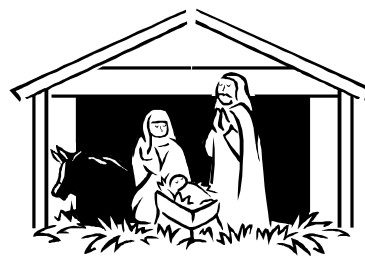


Pastor Casey's sermons may be heard online at [www.cbctopeka.com](http://www.cbctopeka.com).

**Music Notes** by Renita Conny

**Christmas on Sunday**

Since Christmas is on Sunday this year, I have asked myself, if I wasn't on staff, would I come to church? And if I did come, what would my expectations be? And I have asked others, and I am asking you, what would you like to experience as you are drawn to this building on the best day of the year?



Here's what you may expect on Christmas morning:

- A joyful, family-friendly service with our children as no childcare will be provided
- The Christmas Story read from scripture
- Traditional Christmas carols sung unplugged, which will feature instruments that do not require electricity
- A Christmas message from Pastor Casey

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Plans will be to have the candlelight service holy and reverent. We plan to use a lot more instrumentals and sing some non-traditional and traditional versions of Christmas songs. We will end

the service by lighting our candles and singing "Silent Night."

Some people might want gifts if they come to church on Christmas. So, does anyone have any ideas how we could get about 150 packages that have JESUS in them?

Looking forward to the Christmas season with you.

Renita Conny may be reached at

[worship@cbctopeka.com](mailto:worship@cbctopeka.com)



# Financial Report



by Nancy Smart

## October

Income	\$28,849.91
Expenses	\$21,760.56
Net Income	\$ 7,089.35

## Viola Webb Missions Offering

Goal	\$750.00
Income	\$1006.31

# CBC Mission Trips by Nate Wood



We are looking forward to a new missions focus for 2012. In the past the church has gone on a weeklong mission trip partnering with Lone Rock Baptist Church from Lone Rock, Ark. Next year we are planning a series of missions trips. We want CBC members to be able to have several opportunities to get involved in missions. Please begin to think and pray about where God would have you serve. We are still planning the trips that we

will be involved with; however, we will have an opportunity during Spring Break March 19 through 23. We still plan to partner with Lone Rock for June 9 through 16, (location yet to be determined.) We are also working on putting together a trip for anyone interested in going to



Zambia, Africa, to New Day Orphanage. While the dates are not set in stone, the trip will most likely be in early- to mid-July. During the summer and fall, we will have one or two other opportunities. We plan to go to Joplin for a couple long weekends. We plan to have opportunities that are closer to home, but still give you the chance to get out and serve. Many of these trips could and will be done through life groups. If you have any ideas or would like to help with planning our mission trips, please see Nate Wood.





**It's NOT too late to volunteer for Sitting for 'Santa'! Talk to Tammy Sanders or call the church office TODAY.**

# Life Groups by Nate Wood

Do I need a Life Group? What are Life Groups all about? How do I join a Life Group?

If you have ever found yourself asking these questions, then you need to plan to attend Group Link on Saturday, Jan. 28 at 7 p.m. What is Group Link? Group Link is an event where you will connect with others to form a small group. Group Link is a periodic event designed to help you take what can be a scary step into a Life Group and make it more natural and relaxed. Life Groups are where we put our faith into action through Christian community. A group is the opportunity we all need to connect with others and continue to grow as a Christ follower. At Group Link, new and existing Life Groups are available for conversation.

You have the opportunity to choose from a few different groups. You can speak to these group leaders and members. After meeting the groups you decide which one you would like to be a part of.

We ask that you commit to this group for six weeks. After the initial six weeks, if the group is a good fit, stay connected and grow in your faith together in community. If it is not the best fit, it is okay to step out and try the next Group Link, or let our Life Group Pastor help connect you.

Save the date: Saturday, Jan. 28, 7-8:30 p.m. Childcare and refreshments will be provided.

Nate Wood may be reached at [nate.wood@cbctopeka.com](mailto:nate.wood@cbctopeka.com)



## Youth Events

**Dec. 14:** Youth Christmas party, 5-8 p.m., Coyote Canyon. Bring a white elephant gift.

**Dec. 29 & 30:** InDepth

**ImpAct:** The youth are looking for ways to serve the community for Christ. If you have a neighbor who may need help with yard work, contact Jeremiah Hurr.

Jeremiah Hurr may be reached at [jeremiah.hurr@cbctopeka.com](mailto:jeremiah.hurr@cbctopeka.com)



# December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9-11 a.m. ImpACT Youth event 6-9 p.m. CMA Christmas Party
4 Special Business Meeting after each service	5	6 9 a.m. MOPS	7	8	9	10 8:30 a.m. Children's Team Meeting 2-5 p.m. <b>Sitting for 'Santa'</b>
11 Communion Sunday	12	13 9 a.m. MOPS Steering Meeting 7 p.m. Youth Music Team Practice	14	15	16	17
18	19 6 p.m. Music Team Practice	20 9 a.m. MOPS 6:30 p.m. <b>Deacon's Meeting</b> No Music Practice	21 <b>No Wednesday Night Activities</b>	22	23 Church Office closed	24 6-7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
25 10:45-11:45 a.m. Christmas Day Service	26 Church Office closed	27	28 <b>No Wednesday Night Activities</b>	29 InDepth Dec. 29, 5 p.m. to Dec. 30, 10:30 p.m.	30	31 New Year's Eve

**Weekly Events at Covenant Baptist Church:**

**Sunday:** 8:45-9:45 a.m. Worship Service

10-11 a.m. Bible Study for all ages

11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Worship Service

**Tuesday:** 5:30-6:50 p.m. Youth Music Team Practice

7-8:30 p.m. Music Team practice

**Wednesday:** 6-8 p.m. Awana for children 3 years to grade 6

6-7:30 p.m. Youth Group meets for students grades 7-12

6:15-7:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study

- Please note the Wednesdays we will not have activities.

**Thursday:** 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare

8:45 Hour	11:15 Hour	8:45 Hour	11:15 Hour	8:45 Hour	11:15 Hour	8:45 Hour	11:15 Hour	11:15 Hour	10:45 Hour
December 4, 2011	December 4, 2011	December 11, 2011	December 11, 2011	December 18, 2011	December 18, 2011	December 18, 2011	December 18, 2011	December 18, 2011	December 25, 2011
Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon
Stan Thompson	Roger Flenniken	Stan Thompson	Bill Watts	Stan Thompson	Bill Watts	Duane Dale	Bill Watts	Bill Watts	Duane Dale
Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial	Financial
Gene Cassell	Gene Cassell Karen Huntley Shauna Hadden	A.J. Schmutzler	A.J. Schmutzler Carolyn Toburen Nancy Smart	A.J. Schmutzler	A.J. Schmutzler Carolyn Toburen Nancy Smart	Todd Fischer	Todd Fischer Zanita Flenniken	Bev Hadden Todd Fischer Zanita Flenniken	Bev Hadden Gene Cassell Nancy Smart
Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags	Greeters & Name Tags
<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Greeter</b>
Lana Minner	Lana Minner	Randy Lilley	Randy Lilley	Randy Lilley	Randy Lilley	Dick Jepson	Dick Jepson	Dick Jepson	Betsy Litscher
Lyle Minner	Lyle Minner	Regina Lilley	Regina Lilley	Regina Lilley	Regina Lilley	Jane Jepson	Jane Jepson	Jane Jepson	Simone Conny
<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>	<b>Name Tags</b>
Mary Stark	Ben Steigerwald	Carolyn Toburen	Carolyn Toburen	Carolyn Toburen	Carolyn Toburen	Charity Hays	Charity Hays	Bobby Burgess	Kelsey Donaldson
Addie Hanna	Crystal Steigerwald	Sonja Dunstan	Sonja Dunstan	Sonja Dunstan	Ruth Borthwick	Mike Hays	Mike Hays	Stacey Burgess	Sydney Donaldson
Library	Library	Library	Library	Library	Library	Library	Library	Library	Library
Bev Hadden	Bev Hadden	Lynn Gillmore	Lynn Gillmore	Lynn Gillmore	Lynn Gillmore	Shauna Hadden	Shauna Hadden	Shauna Hadden	Lynn Gillmore
Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool	Preschool
<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>	<b>Team Leader</b>
Carol Roberts	Betsy Litscher	Lynne Mills	Kathy Dale	Lynne Mills	Kathy Dale	Michelle Morgan	Sue Hicks	Sue Hicks	Ruth Borthwick
<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>	<b>Infant/Toddlers</b>
Lori Conn	Kevin Litscher	Katrina Jantzen	Jane Jepson	Katrina Jantzen	Jane Jepson	Shana Wood	Ruth Borthwick	Ruth Borthwick	Tanner Ingold
Tracy Schmutzler	Sydney Donaldson	Charity Hays	Tara Hetrick	Charity Hays	Tara Hetrick	Sarah Morgan	Tanner Ingold	Tanner Ingold	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>
<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>	<b>2-5 Year olds</b>
Karen Huntley	Christy Hurr	Rhonda Hays	Dick Jepson	Rhonda Hays	Dick Jepson	Carly Donaldson	Brian Broughton	Brian Broughton	Kelsey Donaldson
Emily Fischer	Justin Hurr	Zack Walker	Paige Hetrick	Zack Walker	Paige Hetrick	Alex Searce	Kelsey Donaldson	Kelsey Donaldson	
Security	Security	Security	Security	Security	Security	Security	Security	Security	Security
	Ed Richardson		Scott Halverson		Scott Halverson		Kyle Hadden	Kyle Hadden	Wally Roberts
Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher	Usher
Daniel Baum	Gene Cassell	Ken Bryant	Bill Watts	Ken Bryant	Bill Watts	Duane Dale	Bill Watts	Bill Watts	Craig Dunstan
Joshua Smart	Johnny Morgan	Lyle Minner	Brian Broughton	Lyle Minner	Brian Broughton	John Hurr	Gregg Childress	Gregg Childress	Duane Dale
Lyle Minner	Roger Flenniken	Roger Flenniken	Scott Halverson	Roger Flenniken	Scott Halverson	Randy Gregg	Kyle Hadden	Kyle Hadden	Larry Frederick
Stan Thompson	Tom Morgan	Stan Thompson	Simone Conny	Stan Thompson	Simone Conny	Robert Hicks	Randy Gregg	Randy Gregg	Ray Burns

# 2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

# Looking Ahead

Every year Covenant participates in the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The money raised goes to the International Mission Board, to support missionaries overseas.

**Theme: His heart, His hands, His voice – through giving**

Paul says, “All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it” (1 Corinthians 12:27.) Southern Baptist missionaries can’t carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth without our support. How much will you give to reach the remaining lost? Think about what you are spending on Christmas gifts. Then consider giving your biggest gift to God – through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The 2011 goal is \$175 million. Covenant’s goal is \$1,000.



**Who is Lottie Moon?**

Born into privilege on a Virginia plantation in 1840, Charlotte Digges Moon became a smart, forceful woman who could have achieved most any goal. But God’s call focused Lottie’s life on sharing Christ’s love with China’s lost masses. For 39 years, she endured hardship and danger in a land oppressed by famine, disease and war. Ultimately her strength failed and on Christmas Eve 1912, after a life of radical obedience that touched many, Lottie Moon went home to be with her Lord.

Why is Southern Baptists’ international

missions offering named for this early missionary? Throughout her career, Lottie wrote numerous letters home urging Southern Baptists to greater missions involvement and support. One of those letters triggered Southern Baptists’ first offering for international missions in 1888 – enough to send three more missionaries to China.

*“How many there are ... who imagine that because Jesus paid it all, they need pay nothing, forgetting that the prime object of their salvation was that they should follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ in bringing back a lost world to God.”* – Lottie Moon, Tengchow, China, Sept. 15, 1887



**Week of Prayer**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8, HCSB.)

Since most unreached people groups likely are represented in the world’s urban centers, we have unique challenges and opportunities to reach the world through the cities, as illustrated in this year’s week of prayer features.

During Dec. 4-11, our church will join thousands of Southern Baptist churches to pray for the unique opportunities missionaries have to be His hands, His heart and His voice in the world’s cities. Look for your Week of Prayer guide in your bulletin or go to [imb.org/weekofprayer](http://imb.org/weekofprayer).

\*Information taken from [www.imb.org](http://www.imb.org)

*(Continued from page 1)*

I am so excited about 2012. We have new mission opportunities that are being explored. We are going to be discussing opportunities to partner with some great organizations in truly significant ways to help the poorest of the poor in our world. We will also begin making plans to plant churches, whether that is in partnership with another church or on our own.

Awana is another obvious blessing that God gave us in 2011. We have seen more professions of faith through that single ministry over the last few months than I dreamed we would. That’s a true testament to the power of teaching kids how to memorize and understand the Word of God. It’s been so awesome to see many of our adults jump in and get involved in that life changing ministry!

I share all of that and yet the most exciting thing is that I know God’s plans are bigger and more amazing than anything we have seen, or anything we are thinking right now. Jeremiah 29:11 assures us that they are.

I spend a lot of time talking with other pastors. I hear a lot of stories and time and time again God reminds me how blessed my family and I are to serve this incredible church family. I know I say that all the time, but it’s because that’s how I really feel. You are an amazing church. I know, I know...that’s because we have an amazing Jesus! I knew you would say that. That just shows how amazing you are. ;)

Love ya,  
Pastor Casey





5440 SW 37th Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66614

Phone: 785-273-2811  
E-mail: [church@cbctopeka.com](mailto:church@cbctopeka.com)  
[www.cbctopeka.com](http://www.cbctopeka.com)



Take a moment right now to log in to Planning Center Online and :

- Change your password to something you can remember
- Check your volunteer schedule
- Accept an assigned position
- Block off days you are not available
- Find someone to trade with if you are not able to work

## DIVORCE Care®

DivorceCare is an ongoing ministry of Covenant. It is designed for people to join us at anytime within the 13-week sessions.

**When:** Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**Where:** Covenant Baptist Church, 5440 SW 37th St., Topeka

**Contact:** Covenant office at 785-273-2811

**Cost:** \$18 for DivorceCare, which includes the workbook (or \$2 per week, if necessary.)

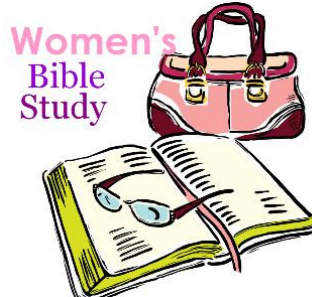
No childcare is planned but, if you let us know you need childcare, we can arrange it.

**Maturity Course:** Love and Respect by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs.



SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/OCC

Great job! Thanks to you we shipped 157 shoe box gifts to children around the world. That is 52 more than last year! If you didn't meet the deadline and still want to participate in OCC for a limited time you may fill a box online at [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org) and click on the logo on the left of the screen.



Women's Bible Study

The women's ministry is having Bible study on Wednesdays from 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. in room 100. Bring your Bibles, a friend and come prepared to dig deeper into God's Word. Please note we will not meet on Dec. 21, 28 and Jan. 4. For more information, contact Jeanne Hurr 785-273-2811.