

# The Rocky Hock Anchor



The Mission of Rocky Hock Baptist Church is  
to magnify Christ and make disciples of all people.



*from our Interim Pastor . . .*

## The Sounds of Christmas

In the American version of Christmas, the sounds might include Bing Crosby crooning “White Christmas” or Bobby Helms belting out “Jingle Bell Rock.” You could hear tinkling bells on the shoes of a store clerk, crinkling paper being wrapped around a present, or the gentle rustle of needles falling from a tree that died way too soon. The voice of a Salvation Army soldier cries “Merry Christmas” and the politically correct respond “Happy Holidays.”

What do you reckon the Bethlehem version sounded like?

The hustle and bustle might seem familiar to us on the surface. Bethlehem was crowded like a mall and many were staying overnight to get a jump on the next day’s agenda. Only the agenda was quite different. It was not the purchase of presents but the payment of taxes that brought the crowd together. These people felt like you do on April 15. So much for the joy of the season.

Lost in the sounds of a jostling crowd, a woman moans. It is a sound known all over the world since Eve gave birth to Cain, a sound that frightens fathers, a sound the depth of which is known by only half of humanity. Men can feel Joseph jump at the sound. Women understand. This moan is heavy with fulfillment. It is the echo of an ancient curse and the herald of an ancient promise. (Genesis 3:15-16)

The stables that I have experienced had a variety of sounds. There were sometimes neighs, brays, moos, baas, and the tiny click of claws from the rat running for cover. Some, all, or none of those may have been present. The Scripture only says she “laid him in a feeding trough.” The traditional manger scene had only an ox and donkey because of Isaiah 1:3. “An ox knows its owner, and a donkey its master’s manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.” Humanity had closed the door on God. If we listen with our spiritual ears perhaps we can hear the creak of that door as God begins to open it.

There are voices in the stable. Joseph’s voice is anxious. Mary’s voice reveals pain. Eventually both voices resolve into relief and joy. Other voices arrive. The raspy voices of shepherds who have been breathing cool night air are talking more than they are wont. These are excited voices, humbled voices, happy voices.

There is one more voice in the stable. In spite of the song writer’s opinion that “the little Lord Jesus no crying he makes,” it is the sound of a crying baby. The voice that formed the heavens and calls the stars by name, the voice that eludes our description and hides in phrases like “the sound of many waters,” the voice that made Sinai tremble, that voice has wrapped himself in humility and come to call us home!

He is here. The door is open. He has spoken. Who will answer?

See you in worship!

Merry Christmas!

**Interim Pastor Bob**

Thank you RHBC for all your help in packing 368 shoeboxes this year. Thank you to each Sunday School class for collecting money to help with this mission project. A huge thank you to the ISM Youth for helping set up and prepare items for OCC. Thank you each for being the hands and feet of Jesus to children around the world!

**Michelle Tynch & Meredith Tynch**



# Baptist Women



Credit: [reviveourhearts.com](http://reviveourhearts.com)

## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering - Sunday, December 18, 2022

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions is a cherished Southern Baptist tradition for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. As we review her legacy, please be in prayer for our foreign missionaries and how you will support this much needed offering for helping spread the Gospel and love of our Jesus.

Every little girl closes her eyes and wistfully dreams of what her life will be like someday. She might have visions of a beautiful wedding, a groom to meet her at the altar, a family to take care of, and a house to call her own. All of these dreams are completely normal. Yet, God's ways are higher than our ways, and sometimes God's plans are anything but typical. Such was the life of Lottie Moon, revered by many for a lifetime of service to Christ and for pioneering a missions movement that still goes on to this day.

Charlotte Digges "Lottie" Moon was born December 12, 1840 in Virginia. Lottie was the daughter of a well-to-do, strong Christian family. In 1854, Lottie attended Albemarle Female Institute in Virginia; afterwards, she went on to Hollins University, graduating in 1861. While in college, Lottie held the highest grades of anyone in her class and was one of the first southern women to receive a Master's Degree. In 1858, Lottie gave her life to Christ after hearing the Gospel at a series of Revival Meetings. Jesus was now her Savior, but she had no idea how much her life would change because of Him.

In 1872, Lottie's sister Edmonia "Eddie" Moon, went to China as a Southern Baptist missionary. Eddie wrote letters back home expressing the dire, spiritual need in China and how desperate they were for more missionaries. Lottie was deeply touched by her sister's letters. While listening to a sermon on John 4:23, she felt an undeniable conviction from God. From that point on, China was Lottie's "white field" to harvest for Christ. In 1873, at age 32, Lottie sailed for China leaving behind her family and beloved school, as well as a broken engagement. She ended the relationship due to differing beliefs she and her fiancé held as to the authority of the Bible and felt the call to serve Christ wholeheartedly on the mission field.

After arriving in China, Lottie returned to teaching school for thirteen years. She learned what the apostle Paul meant in 1 Corinthians 9:20 when he "became a Jew" in order to win those who were under the Law. Lottie realized the false spiritual beliefs and oppression of the Chinese people, so she learned their language and studied the country's history. She even began to dress like them! Even though she encountered suspicions and prejudices among the Chinese people, this didn't discourage her. She was simply more determined to love them. Lottie became a friend and helper to many in the villages, meeting their physical and emotional needs. She was known for her ministry to the Chinese women. As she gained the trust of the Chinese, her popularity grew, and it wasn't uncommon for people to walk many miles to hear the teacher who "knew the Words of Life."

In 1885, at age 45, Lottie gave up teaching and became a full-time missionary in the cities of P'ingtu and Tengchow, China. She established a new church; then an ordained minister began preaching, and the Gospel started spreading. More than a thousand souls came to Christ, and P'ingtu became known for the evangelism of the Gospel in China. It was while serving in P'ingtu that Lottie noticed how shy the Chinese children were. Desiring to build a relationship with them, she started baking cookies. Of course the children loved these treats! As her connection with the children grew, this helped Lottie meet their mothers, and she was delighted to share Christ with them.

Lottie persevered through much human suffering to advance the cause of Christ. She endured serving for decades through the plague, smallpox, and the threat of persecution. While born into a life of financial blessing, Lottie learned in China to graciously make do on very little. While serving in China, Lottie became an advocate who wrote many letters back to the United States to her fellow Southern Baptists. Lottie's letters were firm in their tone that Southern Baptists of her day were not doing enough for the sake of the Gospel mission. Her charge was always more sacrifice, more prayer, and the need of more missionaries. "Let us not be silent when souls are dying and going to hell. Lord, give us boldness to proclaim truth and give us courage to inspire others to do Your work."

Because of Lottie's eloquent pleas, a special offering was taken in 1881 by her childhood church, Cartersville Baptist Church. By 1888, Southern Baptist Women had collected \$3,315 to send more missionaries to China. In 1918, the WMU (Woman's Missionary Union) named the annual offering after Lottie Moon. Today, Lottie's Gospel focus continues, and this offering represents 50% of the International Mission Board budget.

Lottie Moon served selflessly and considered the needs of the Chinese people as greater than her own. She was known to make great sacrifices for the sake of those who were suffering. She would readily give her own food away and once sent her entire savings to her Chinese friends in P'ingtu who were suffering from famine. In 1912, a very frail Lottie, suffering with an acute health problem, was ordered by her doctor to head back to the United States for rest and medical care. Four days into the journey, she died on the ship before reaching San Francisco. The missionary who had bridged a cultural gap to the lost people of China using her life and homemade cookies was gone. Lottie Moon truly gave all to Christ and the people of China. Years prior to her death she said, "I would that I had a thousand lives that I might give them to the women of China."

Lottie's story is a vivid reminder that God can use anything, even something as small as a cookie, to show love and build relationships for the sake of the Gospel. Today, we still give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in honor of her work and sacrifice to keep our missionaries on the field. And, 100% of the offering goes to the missionaries!



### Deacon Team of the Week

#### 11/27/22 - 12/3/22

Donald Bass, Carroll Evans, Chris Turner

#### 12/4/22 - 12/10/22

Wayne Bunch, Keith Rollins, Allen Nixon

#### 12/11/22 - 12/17/22

Keith Nixon, Scott Noble, Phil Smith

#### 12/18/22 - 12/24/22

Russell Byrum, Mike Evans, Chris Sykes

#### 12/25/22 - 12/31/22

Ted Peele, Bill Smith, Sam Tynch

### November Deacon Greeters

Senior Adult SS Center: Oscar White

Sanctuary Main: Scott Noble

Connecting Corridor: Ruston Howell

Multi-Purpose Main Entrance: Adam Bunch



<u>Attendance:</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>Worship</u>
10/30/22:	164	187
11/6/22:	188	229
11/13/22:	187	239
11/20/22:	191	234



### December Ushers:

Lee Jordan, Jerry Peele, Ellis Tynch,  
Paul Ward, Aundra Harrell, Jay Parrish

### December Offering Team:

Phil Smith (Chair), Adam Bunch,  
Allen Peele, Keith Rollins,  
Chris Sykes, Oscar White

### December Counting Committee:

Aundra Harrell, Mary Louise Phelps,  
Phil & Rene' Smith, Ellis Tynch



The Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry is  
requesting from RHBC this month:

### Soup





# Christmas Programs

**Children's Choirs**  
**Sunday, December 4th**  
**at 6:00 PM**

**Hand Bell Choir**  
**Sunday, December 11th**  
**at 6:00 PM**

**Sanctuary Choir**  
**Sunday, December 18th**  
**at 6:00 PM**



## **Lottie Moon** **Post Office**

**December 4th - 18th**

50 cents per card

Mailbox is in the  
Connecting Corridor

(sponsored by the GA's)

## **Senior Adult Shopping Trip** **Tuesday, December 6th**

The church bus will depart from RHBC at 7:30 AM. We will grab a fast food breakfast on the way before arriving at Hamrick's in Raleigh. From there, we will most likely go to Crabtree Valley Mall (may go to a different Shopping Center) where lunch will be on your own. After leaving Raleigh, we will stop at Cracker Barrel in Rocky Mount for supper. Sign-up sheets are in the Senior Adult Building and the Connecting Corridor. Although this shopping trip is sponsored by the Senior Adult Committee, anyone can go! There is no deadline to sign up.



**Sunday, December 11th**  
**from 4 - 6 PM**  
**in the Youth Suite**



The Baptist Men's Breakfast this month will be on December 18th at 7:30 AM.

Gentlemen, please join us in the Special Function Room for breakfast, devotion, and fellowship.



## Live Nativity

Wednesday, December 21st from  
7:00 - 8:30 PM on the Church Lawn



## Christmas Eve

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



Saturday, December 24 @ 5 PM

# Children's Page

For children  
of all ages!

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## **Sign up now for Church Basketball!**

Coaches are needed! Sign-up sheets are in the Foyer of the Multi-Purpose Building. Age groups are as follows:

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Co-ed

3rd - 5th Grade Co-ed

6th - 8th Grade Boys

6th - 12th Grade Girls

9th - 12th Grade Boys

A schedule of practices and games will be available soon. See Trey Bass for more info.

## **GA's & RA's Christmas Caroling**

Wednesday, December 14th  
Bus will leave the Church promptly at 6:15 PM

## Christmas Word Scramble

OYJ OT ETH LDORW

NLSEIT GTHNI

HO LHOY HNTIG

EHT STIRF OELN

KAHR EHT LDRHEA ALNEGS NSIG

HO CMEO LAL EY FUTHAIFL

DKEC ETH LSHAL

YWAA NI A GRMNAE

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY 2022**

### **BERTIE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & CAKE**

Wednesday, December 7th from 5:30 - 8 PM - We'll ride the Church Bus over to Bertie County to see the Christmas Lights and have cake, too!



### **MILK & COOKIES**

Sunday, December 11th from 2:30 - 5:30 PM - We will be decorating Christmas cookies! What goes with cookies better than milk?

### **POLAR PLUNGE**

Sunday, January 1st from 2 - 5 PM - Join us for a Happy New Year Polar Plunge at the Brabandt home. And, warm up afterwards with s'mores and hot chocolate!



## **ATTENTION PARENTS!**

If you have children who participate in RHBC's Children's Ministry, please sign up for the new REMIND account. There are two ways to sign up . . .

Online:

<https://www.remind.com/join/rockyhoc>

or

Text:

@rockyhoc  
to 81010

**Rocky Hock Baptist Church**  
113 Rocky Hock Church Road  
Edenton, North Carolina 27932  
**Address Service Requested**

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US POSTAGE PAID  
EDENTON, NC  
PERMIT NO. 127



*Check us out on the web at [www.rhbce.org](http://www.rhbce.org)*

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### **Weekly Schedule:**

**Sundays:** 9:45 AM - Sunday School for all ages  
11:00 AM - Morning Worship for all ages (Nursery & Children's Church available for up to 5th Grade)  
Worship Online at [www.rhbce.org](http://www.rhbce.org), our Facebook page, vimeo, and YouTube  
6:00 PM - Evening Worship ("Sundays @ SIX") - Adults in Sanctuary, Youth in Youth Suite, Children in Gym

**Wednesdays:** 7:00 PM - Prayer Meeting / Adult Bible Study - Sanctuary; Middle & High School Youth - Youth Suite;  
RA's - RA's Room, upstairs; GA's - GA's Room, beside foyer; Mission Friends - Kindergarten Classroom

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Mr. Keith Rollins, Chairman of Deacons  
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**Rocky Hock**  
BAPTIST CHURCH-EDENTON