By the Numbers		Deacons on Call/Seating Hosts
Attendance Sunday School Attendance	12/14/25 e 659	December 18 - December 24 Daniel Grubbs 864-910-2555 dan.grubbs@wctel.net
Giving for the Week of Budget Receipts Budget Requirements	12/14/25 \$56,097.00 \$38,576.00	Jared Tavernier 864-934-3637 Jared.tavernier96@gmail.com
YTD Received YTD Budget Req. World Missions	\$2,017,231.00 \$1,928,777.00 \$834.00	December 25 - December 31 William Holladay 864-980-0196 wholladay1221@gmail.com
Designated	\$8,269.00	Rett Templeton 864-980-0952 rett.templeton@gmail.com

Family Group Night "The Real Story of Christmas" (Luke 2:1-7)

READ IT

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole empire should be registered. This first registration took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So everyone went to be registered, each to his own town. Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family line of David, to be registered along with Mary, who was engaged to him and was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. Then she gave birth to her firstborn Son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them." (Luke 2:1-7)

DISCOVER IT

When we picture the Christmas story, we usually imagine Mary and Joseph traveling alone with a donkey, being turned away by a heartless innkeeper, and giving birth in a lonely stable behind a roadside hotel. But Luke's account suggests something both humbler and more relational. The word translated "inn" is better understood as "guest room," like the spare room of a family home. Joseph, returning to Bethlehem, the city of his ancestors, almost certainly had extended family there. Travel for a census would have been done in caravans for safety, not in isolation. And the "stable" was likely the lower area of a home where animals were kept at night. Jesus was not born far from people, but right in the middle of ordinary family life – crowded, noisy, imperfect, and real. Christmas didn't happen in a palace or a sanctuary, but in the everyday world where God chose to meet us.

ASK IT

- 1 Why do you think God chose such ordinary and humble circumstances for Jesus' birth?
- 2 What does it say about God that He entered the world in a crowded, inconvenient time?
- 3 Where might Jesus want to enter your busy life today?

LIVE IT

- 1_ Realize that God does His greatest work in ordinary places with crowds of ordinary people. Activity and upheaval do not prevent God's presence or purposes.
- 2 Realize that God draws near, even when life feels full, messy, or inconvenient. So, make room for Christ this season by welcoming Him into your everyday life.

PRAY IT

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Jesus into the real world; not a perfect one. Thank You that You are not distant, but near; not put off by our mess, but present in it. Help us this Christmas to see the wonder of Christ in ordinary moments and crowded days. Teach us to make room for you Jesus in our hearts, our homes, our schedules. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SERMON NOTES

STAFF

Dr. Toby Frost, Senior Pastor toby.frost@southmain.church

Andy Roberson, Executive Pastor/Missions/Discipleship andy.roberson@southmain.church

bradford.russ@southmain.church

Matthew Gilstrap, Director of Contemporary Worship matthew.gilstrap@southmain.church

Ben Hjalmer, *Minister of Community Transformation* ben.hjalmer@southmain.church

> Dana Riley, Ministry Assistant dana.riley@southmain.church

Bradford Russ, Minister of Student Ministries | **Kevin Garrison**, Minister of Elementary Children kevin.garrison@southmain.church

> Keith Polatty, Music Minister keith.polatty@southmain.church

Denise Messer, Financial & HR Associate denise.messer@southmain.church

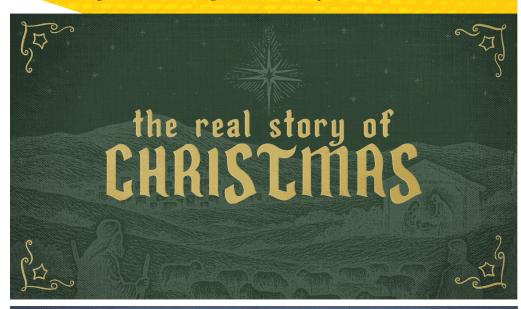
Nikolai Garrison, Director of Comms. & Production nikolai.garrison@southmain.church

PO Box 1093 Greenwood, SC 29648

864-223-4377

THE MESSENGER

To experience and express the love of Christ





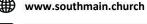


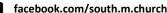
This Sunday, as we stand on the threshold of Christmas, we pause in wonder at the greatest miracle the world has ever known: God stepping into our broken, ordinary world in the person of Jesus Christ. The Creator of all things chose humility over splendor, a manger over a throne; coming in human form so that we might truly know Him. In Jesus, heaven touched earth, hope was born, and light entered the darkness to rescue and restore us. As we worship today, may our hearts be filled anew with awe, gratitude, and joy at the love of a Savior who came for us. From our church family to yours, we wish you a Merry Christmas! (John 1:14)



12

21





2 1000 Main St South Greenwood, SC 29646

This Week at South Main

SUNDAY 8:30AM- Worship Preschool Childcare

Children's Church .st/2ndGrades

9:45AM- Sunday School Small Groups

1:00AM- Worship Preschool Childcare

No Choir Rehearsal

23 TUESDAY MONDAY No Men's Recovery

WEDNESDAY 5:00PM – Christmas Eve

No Children's Activities No Prayer Meeting

Church Office Closed

THURSDAY

Church Office Closed

FRIDAY

27 SATURDAY

28

8:30AM- Worship 11:00AM- Worship

SUNDAY

No Sunday School Small

No Children's Church

No Choir Rehearsal

No Wednesday Night Gatherings **DECEMBER 17, 24, 31**

December 28

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL/GROUPS



8:30 Worship

Hark The Hearld Angels Sing/King of Heaven

Welcome

Christmas Medley

Advent Reading (Joy)

Joy to The World

Oh But God

Message

Joyful , Joyful We Adore Thee

Closing

Praise Band & Congregation

Keith Polatty

1st-5th Grade Children Choir, Chancel Choir & Orchestra

Praise Band & Congregation

Praise Band & Congregation

Dr. Toby Frost & Dr. Kevin Rust

Praise Band & Congregation

Bradford Russ

11:00 Worship

Christmas Medley

Welcome to Worship

Come Thou Long – Expected Jesus #77

O Little Town of Bethlehem #86

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Birthday of the King

Offertory Prayer

Bethlehem Morning

Morning Message

Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus #320

Benediction

1st-5th Grade Children Choir, Chancel Choir & Orchestra

Ben Hjalmer

Chancel Choir, Orchestra and Congregation Chancel Choir, Orchestra and Congregation

Chancel Choir, Steve Wilkie, Baritone

Susan Frost

Becky Sumerel, Soprano

Dr. Toby Frost

Congregation

Dr. Toby Frost

Postlude Keith Polatty



Online giving is available for your convenience. Visit our website at www.southmain.church



TEXT GIVE TO 864.392.9815

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING UPDATE

Thank you for the way you have prayed during our Week of Prayer for International Missions and thank you as well for your financial support toward the 2025 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. To date, we have collected \$38,164.00 toward the goal of funding one international missionary for one year (including travel and training) which is approximately \$61,000.00. The amount given is not a reason to cease contributing to this offering, however it is truly a celebration and reflection of your love for Christ and your obedience to take the Gospel to all people! We will continue to collect the 2025 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering until December 31. Here are a couple of ways you can still give:

- Give in-person today, or you may choose to give in-person on Sunday, December 28. You are welcome to mail your gift to the church but please note that it must be postmarked by December 31st to receive proper tax credit. South Main Baptist Church. PO Box 1093, Greenwood SC. 29648
- Give online @ www.southmain.church and click on the "GIVE" tab. Look for the "fund" and then click on Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

An Eternal Thanks!

Andy Roberson









Meet My Friend Moment:

Look for ways to reach out to hurting people with the love of Jesus and His message of salvation.