

THE CHALLENGE

Volume 62, Number 12, December 2025

LYNN GARDEN BAPTIST CHURCH

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Kingsport, TN

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Pastor: Rev. Rick Meade
Cell: 480-5560

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Carl Strickler

Student Minister: Andy Walters

Worship Leader: Kevin Odom

Ministry Assistant: Debbie Gilbert

Ministry Assistant: Renae Fletcher

Caretakers: Melinda Henard
& Freddie Puckett

Staff Email Addresses

Rick Meade -revmeade@yahoo.com

Andy Walters -awalters@k12k.com

Kevin Odom -kdodom@my.milligan.edu

Debbie Gilbert, Renae Fletcher,

and Kaitlyn Jones

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December Ministry & Fellowship Opportunities

3 Men's Bible Study 8 am, JAM 5:30 pm,
Bible Study 6 pm, Business meeting (Vote
to send Budget to Church), Choir 7 pm
4 JOY Concert 11:30 am, Brian Burchfield
6 Fellowship Hall Reserved
7 Church Vote on Budget
7 Church Christmas party 6pm
10 Men's Bible Study 8 am, JAM 5:30 pm,
Bible Study 6 pm, Choir 7 pm
13 Fellowship Hall Reserved
14 Angel Tree Gifts Due
14 Pack Homebound Bags 5 pm
17 Men's Bible Study 8 am, Bible Study 6
pm, Choir 7 pm
21 Caroling at The Blake 5pm No Other
Activities
24 Fellowship Hall Reserved
25 Christmas Office Closed
25 Christmas, Candlelight and Lord's Supper
Service 8 pm



Here is our
Vision in a Nutshell!

“Growing God’s Garden Together”

- **Glorify** Jesus Christ through worship
- **Grow** in a relationship with Jesus and other people
- **Give** of one’s time and resources by serving Jesus and His Church
- **Go** and reach out to others who need to experience the love of Jesus

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:



Genealogies and family histories have always been important to the Jewish people. So as a Jew writing to a Jewish audience, Matthew naturally opened his book with a genealogy. To show that Jesus was the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah, Matthew had to prove that Jesus was a direct descendant of David with a rightful claim to the throne. He traced Jesus’ ancestry through Joseph, his legal father, and ended at Abraham, verifying that Jesus was one of God’s chosen people.

The list of forty-six people in Matthew’s list includes a motley crew. Even more striking, Matthew included the names of several women, something that Jewish genealogies normally did not do since ancestry was traced through men. When we really look close at Jesus’ genealogy, we find people like Tamar, the woman who tricked her father-in-law to impregnate her by dressing like a prostitute; we find David, who slept with his friend’s wife and had him killed to cover it up; we find Ruth, a Moabite, not even Jewish; There’s also Rahab, not only a foreigner, but a prostitute; then we see in the list Manasseh, one of the most wicked and godless kings in Israel’s history. Jesus’ line is filled with outsiders of every kind. So, if you think you have a dysfunctional family, take a look at Jesus’ family tree. Some of the most unsavory characters in human history made it into the most exclusive genealogy. However, the real message in the genealogy of Jesus is that God can change your story. No matter how many skeletons are in our closet, no one is outside God’s grace unless he or she chooses to be there. Even if you’ve made a mess out of your life, He can redeem it. Jesus’s story is not about God helping perfect people; it’s about God saving lost people. Jesus came to heal broken lives and restore shattered hopes. He came to save us from our sin.

Carolyn and I want to wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas. May God bless you and I hope to see you and your family in church this coming Lord’s Day!

Pastor Rick



VAN MINISTRY

If you would like a ride on Sunday morning, please call a bus driver by 5 pm on Saturday evening.

7	Roy Chapman 423-782-0246 Jennifer Taylor, 2nd Adult
14	Louis Trivette 423-429-7537 Sherry Stallard, 2 nd Adult
21	Joe Collier 423-276-2154 Jennifer Taylor, 2nd Adult
28	Louis Trivette 423-429-7537 Sherry Stallard, 2nd Adult

Children's Bible Study!



Hey Guys...

Join us on Wednesday Nights as we continue our study of the Old Testament!

We are in the book of Genesis and we would love our Elementary students to join us 5:30 every Wednesday!

-Mrs. Debbie and Mrs. Melinda

NURSERY

Workers Needed

What an exciting time in the life of our church, our church nursery is full of little ones again...

AND YOU ARE NEEDED!

To minister to these young families, we need our church family to step up! We cannot do this without you.

Please fill out the tear off portion of today's bulletin and help show God's love to these little ones and their family.

TODDLER AND BABY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!

A MESSAGE FROM ANDY:



And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.
• Matthew 1:21

I love how Mark Roberts and Stephen Keene both brought out this truth in their revival sermons. Our belief in The Bible and everything written it can be based on a children's song:

"Jesus loves me, this I know; For the Bible tells me so..."
This explanation should be sufficient, but we go a little bit

deeper into this fact in seminary:

God's Word is:

- Inerrant: "without error"
- Infallible: "incapable of leading someone astray"
- Inspired: "God breathed"

So, this Christmas, let's not forget what the inerrant, infallible, inspired Word of God tells us about Jesus:

- He is the One Who was born to Mary and laid in that manger.
- He is the One Who lived a perfect, sinless life.
- He is the One Who died a terrible death on the cross for our sins.
- He is the One Who rose from the grave three days later.
- He is the One Who ascended to Heaven.
- He is the One Who is seated at the right hand of Almighty God.
- He is the One Who promised The Holy Spirit to live within us as Christians here on this earth.
- AND HE IS COMING BACK AGAIN!

Andy



BRANCHEZ
YOUNG ADULT
MINISTRY

Student Ministry @ Lynn Garden Baptist

Sunday Mornings @ 9:45 am

- Elementary Sunday School
 - Leaders: Debbie Strickler, Dolores Osborne, Vicki Wallen and Nancy Byrd
 - Location: 2nd Floor of Sanctuary Building
- Middle School, High School and Young Adults Sunday School
 - Andy Walters and Roy Chapman
 - Location: Youth Bible Study Room - 3rd Floor of Education Building.

Sunday Evenings @ 5:15 pm

- Everyone Meets Together @ 5:15 pm in Fellowship Hall for Dinner!
- Elementary, Middle and High School and Young Adult Bible Study
 - Guys' Bible Study: Andy Walters
 - Location: 3rd Floor of Education Building. Youth Bible Study Room
 - Girls' Bible Study: Debbie Gilbert & Kristy Walters
 - Location: Parlor - Main Floor of the Sanctuary Building

Wednesday Evenings @ 5:30 pm

- Everyone Meets Together @ 5:30 in J.A.M. in Fellowship Hall for Dinner
- Elementary School Bible Study
 - Leaders: Debbie Gilbert and Melinda Henard
 - Location: Children's Church Room – 1st Floor of Education Building
- Middle School Bible Study
 - Leaders: Caroline Gilbert and Kevin Odom
 - Location: Youth Worship Room – 3rd Floor of the Education Building
- High School Bible Study
 - Leaders: Andy Walters and Roy Chapman
 - Location: Youth Bible Study Room – 3rd Floor of the Education Building
- Young Adults Bible Study
 - Leaders: Kristy Walters
- J.A.M. Room – 2nd Floor of the Education Building

OUTREACH MINISTRIES:



Our Community Outreach continues as we collect food for the neighborhood food bank. The current needs are toiletries, food items or monetary donations. They can purchase the food at a cheaper cost. Please place them in the collection area behind the choir loft or drop donations in the offering boxes.

December Sunday
Morning Ministries



Deacon of the Week:

7 Freddie Puckett
14 David Hammonds
21 Wayne McCaerty
28 Michael Strickler

Outside Morning Security:

7 Paul Bowman
14 Freddie Puckett
21 Tony Tittsworth
28 Glen Rogers

Greeters:

7 Carolyn Meade, Louis Ann Southard
14 Ann Rogers, Janie Childress
21 Kenny & Deborah Lawson
28 Freddie Puckett

Audio:

7 Michael Bush
14 Michael Strickler
21 Michael Bush
28 Michael Strickler

Power Point:

7 TBA
14 Michael Bush
21 TBA
28 Michael Bush

Video:

7 Conner Collins
14 David Hammonds
21 Doug Clark
28 Conner

Nursery Workers:

7 Annisa Barrett, Caroline Gilbert,
Laken Skeen
14 Aliceson Collins, Melissa Bush
Nancy Byrd,
21 Kim Trivette, Christine Chapman,
Melissa Bush
28 Annisa Barrett, Caroline Gilbert,
Marissa Crouch

Transportation:

7 Roy Chapman 423-782-0246
Jennifer Taylor, 2nd Adult
14 Louis Trivette 423-429-7537
Sherry Stallard, 2nd Adult
21 Joe Collier 423-276-2154
Jennifer Taylor, 2nd Adult
28 Louis Trivette 423-429-7537
Sherry Stallard, 2nd Adult

Children's Worship:

7 D Gilbert and L Walters
14 C Chapman and C Gilbert
21 D Gilbert and L Walters
28 D Clark and D Osborne

Tellers:

7 Rhoton, Trent, Marshall
14 Rhoton, Lawson
21 Rhoton, Tittsworth, Vicars
28 Rhoton, Trent, Marshall9

Ushers:

7 Andy Walters
14 Gale Osborne
21 Kenny Lawson
28 Gale Osborne



THURSDAY DECEMBER 4, 2025 MEAL AT 11:30WE WILL BE
HAVING A VARIETY FOOD CHOICES.
CONCERT WITH BRIAN BURCHFIELD WILL START AT 12:15



*Come join our students of all ages celebrate Christmas with a
worship Service full of songs, scriptures and a message.*

Everyone is invited downstairs for our...



*Sunday, December 7
Come to the fellowship hall
immediately following our
Student Christmas
Celebration. Everyone is
asked to bring appetizers or sweets for sharing (we might
have guest so bring a little extra). There might even be a
surprised visit from Santa!*



*Lynn Garden
Baptist Choir
December 21 at 11 am*



Brotherhood Happenings

Men's Bible Study- Wednesday mornings
at 8 am, In the fellowship hall





This year we are sponsoring John F. Kennedy Elementary children for Angel Tree gifts. A tree has been placed in the sanctuary with children's sizes and toy request.

If you would like to sponsor a Project JFK Angel, just choose an angel and write your name on the list beside the tree, on the line that's number matches your angel's number.

Gifts are due December 14, 2025 and please place them under the Sanctuary Christmas Tree.



Join us

Saturday, November 30th
at 10 am as we get the church ready to celebrate Christmas! Some of our regular helpers are out with injuries so we really need volunteers to help make this happen, please!!



Goal \$2,500



HOMEBOUND BASKETS

We are asking for items for our homebound baskets. Please take a moment and initial the poster located on the bulletin board outside the office to let us know what you will be bringing for the homebound baskets.

December 14
Pack Homebound Bags 5 pm



During the Christmas Season we love giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering! This year's goal is \$5,000. It has been our church's tradition to achieve each year's goal through personal, sacrificial giving along with other creative ways, including the Lottie Moon Post Office! Lynn Garden Baptist Church stamps are only .30 cents each, compared to the USPO stamps which are now over .80 cents each. What a deal!! Please use a special offering envelope with "Lottie Moon Post Office" for any donations.

HOW IT WORKS:

Please bring any Christmas Cards that you would like for other church members to receive, and drop them off in the Lottie Moon Post Office boxes that will be located throughout the church. If you use the church post office, we ask that you give your postage to Lottie Moon instead of buying stamps. All donations given to the church post office will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Each week you will be able to come and check the Lottie Moon Mailbox to see if there is any Christmas mail for you! Please remember:

- Be sure to only bring cards for people who are currently attending and coming to services in person and our homebound members (We will deliver only homebound Christmas cards when we deliver their baskets). You can choose those people from a list of everyone with a mailbox, which will be available outside the church office in the middle of November.
- You can pick up a list of members outside the church offices on the table and it will be available on the church website - www.lynnngardenbc.org.
- The mailboxes are located outside the fellowship hall. You will be able to access the Lottie Moon Post Office anytime, as well as on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. The Lottie Moon Post Office will be set up to give and receive Christmas Cards starting on December 30th through December 28th.





WHICH MINISTRY IS GOD LEADING YOU TO?

As we prepare the new year, we will be creating our 2026 Sunday Ministry List and confirming workers for other ministries. But to do this we need volunteers to fill the following positions. Please take a moment and review the ministries and then contact the church office and let us know where you are willing to serve.

Email us at lynngardenbaptist@gmail.com or call 423-246-2562

GOD'S HOLY WORD TELLS US...

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. -1 Peter 4:10

Nursery and Children's Church Ministry:

Nursery/Preschool Ministry Team: This ministry focuses on nurturing and teaching our young children about the love of Jesus Christ. These volunteers rotate on a regular basis as they serve in our nursery and preschool ministry each Sunday morning during worship.

Children's Church: A team of 2 volunteers will present a Bible story video and then discuss the story. Easy right!

Rootz Student Ministry:

Youth Ministry Team: This ministry focuses on helping our teenagers grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ as well as with other Christians. There are various opportunities to serve in an on-going role in this ministry.

Wednesday Night JAM Ministry:

On Wednesday nights all students meet together for a meal, worship and Bible study. We currently need individuals in all areas, especially in the preparation and caring out of the Wednesday night meal.

Joy Garden's (Just Older Youth)

Our senior adults make up this ministry. Currently they are meeting once a month for food and Christian fellowship.

Transportation Ministry Team:

This ministry provides transportation for those who need assistance to attend our worship services.

Greeter/Usher Ministry Team:

Greeters: The Welcome Team strives to set a Christian example of the Body of Christ as members of God's family by giving guests a warm and comfortable welcome. They provide guests with information about the church and place them in appropriate Small Group Bible studies.

Ushers: These men help with taking up the offering and passing out bulletins with a smile to make everyone feel welcome.

Security/Patrolling Ushers: This ministry provides security during Sunday worship services for our building and our parking lot.

Sunday School and Small Group Bible Studies:

Our small group Bible studies are the foundational strategies for helping people to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and with other believers. There are various groups for all ages. Sunday School meets at 9:45 am and Men's Bible Study on Wednesday morning. We are in urgent need of toddler and baby Sunday school teachers

Sound/Audio Visual Ministry Team:

This ministry helps with worship services/events/meetings by providing quality sound and audio-visual enhancement. Training will be provided so experience is not necessary.

Choir and Musicians:

The Choir leads worship in the Sunday morning worship services. If you sing or play an instrument this could be the place for you!

Women on Mission:

This essentially encompasses the "women on mission" of the church. Project JFK (Our ministry to John F. Kennedy Elementary) and the Operation Christmas Child (Shoebox Ministry) are just a couple of the mission opportunities our women take on each year.

Brotherhood:

The purpose of this ministry is to plan mission/ministry projects and fellowships that bring men together and reach out to our community.

Outreach

COA Team (Community Outreach Activities): This team helps our church to plan and implement various creative outreach events such as Trunk and Treat, Spring Fling, and more.

Card Ministry: This group writes cards to guests and members as a way to provide encouragement and follow up from our church.

Food Ministry Team: This ministry provides food for members during times of grief.

Grief Ministry Team: This ministry provides assistance/ministerial care to our members during times of grief. They help during times of grief by organizing meals, prayer support, counsel, and visits of support and encouragement.