



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 23 No. 12

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

December 2024

Pray for International Missions

From the Pastor's Desk

In the beginning of December, we are focusing on the week of prayer for international missions. This is also the month in which we are accepting donations for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Missionary Eric Lockhart and his family recently went back to Uganda after being here in NH for medical reasons. He served as an Interim Pastor in one of our NH churches while his wife got life-saving treatment not available in Uganda. Here is his message to us.

✠ Pastor Tom Cairns

Greetings from Uganda!

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for how Southern Baptist churches collaborate to support missions worldwide. You know we could not be here without your support, especially the support you give through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

In the late 1700s, just at the start of the modern missionary movement, two friends, William Carey and Andrew Fuller, talked about how some are called to go and minister cross-culturally while others are called to support missions through prayer and giving. Carey famously told Fuller, "I will go down into the pit, if you will hold the ropes."

Today, around 3,500 missionaries serve through the International Missions Board (IMB), and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is one of the many ways Southern Baptists collectively "hold the ropes."

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Dec. 1, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Dec. 1 – Final Collection for Hurricane Relief

Dec. 8 – 40th Anniversary Celebration

Dec. 15 – Business Meeting (lunch provided)

Dec. 25 – Christmas Day

Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Discussion

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Praise and Worship Service

Thurs., 7 p.m. – Weekly Bible Study

At the Cairns home

Thank you for how you contribute, how you support us. Below you will find some links that may help you and your church, as you prepare for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

- A video that helps illustrate the reality of lostness: <https://vimeo.com/838674277>.
- A prayer guide to use for the Week of Prayer December 1-8, 2024, at lottimoon.com.
- Posters, banners, and other promotional materials at lottimoon.com.

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On the web at <https://www.hillside-sbc.org/>

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

One more thing. I'd love to hear from you. Will you take a minute to reply by e-mail (ewlockhart@gmail.com) and let me know how I can pray for you? Also, let me know if we can help you by doing a video or calling in to one of your services – we'd love to.

✝ Eric Lockhart

Missionary to Uganda

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Lottie Moon was sent as a Southern Baptist missionary to China from 1873 to 1912. She saw firsthand the world's greatest problem — LOSTNESS.

Meeting so many people who had never heard the gospel compelled her to write letters to American churches describing the need for a greater missionary presence.

She pleaded for increased prayer and financial support to send and sustain more missionaries. This challenge became known as the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®.

Fellowship Events

On Sunday December 8, Hillside will host a luncheon to celebrate its **40th Anniversary**. Invite a friend or former member.

We will be looking back on where we have come from and looking forward to where God is leading us. ("Unburdened by what has been"???)

During the Worship Service, you will witness three short sermons from Pastor Tom Cairns, Dr. Jim Robertson, and Pastor Al Page.

Pastor Search Updates



In August 2024, Dr. Jim Robertson took on a new teaching position at Northeastern Baptist College. Since then, the Pastor Search Committee has met frequently to work through the search process.

The committee recently completed a detailed profile document. The first part includes the qualities required of a Visionary Missionary Pastor and opens with this bold statement:

“Hillside Baptist Church is seeking a bi-vocational pastor who is a **VISIONARY MISSIONARY**.

We are looking for a pastor who can envision what could be here with the right leadership and engages the Church in developing a shared and conscious vision. We are not simply looking for someone to fill slots and take charge of the various ministries and services of the Church. We are looking for a pastor who has a heart for missionary outreach in a post-Christian culture.

New Hampshire is one of the “least churchd” states in the country. We need a pastor who is energized by the prospect of reaching the lost and reclaiming inactive believers in a mission field every bit as real as most places in Africa, South America, or Asia.”

The second part consists of a profile of the church, its history, current leadership, finances, ministries, and other details. Candidates are invited to review this profile and contact the search committee.

[2024-Hillside-Baptist-Church-Profile.pdf](#)

Property and Space Patrol

Fixed three flats tires and replaced the battery on the plow truck. Put 500 pounds of road salt in shed.

There is a lot of brush that needs to be cut.

✝ Pastor Al

Walmart Employees Get Religious Accommodations

The following news appeared the November *ACLJ Victory Report* newsletter

The American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) received numerous contacts who were concerned that Walmart had implemented a new scheduling

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Accommodations, from p. 2

policy that appeared to no longer allow religious accommodations for employees to attend church.

The ACLJ sent a letter to Walmart's corporate counsel, asking that our clients' religious beliefs about not working on Sundays be accommodated.

Thankfully, Walmart's corporate counsel quickly reached out to us and worked with us to ensure that its policy would, in fact, provide religious accommodations for its employees under the law. We are grateful that Walmart – the largest employer in the U.S. – quickly worked to resolve this matter and for its commitment to protect the religious liberty of its employees.

Recently, however, numerous employees contacted us because they were told by local management and HR that if they continued to insist on not working on Sundays, Walmart couldn't guarantee them a 40-hour week. That's why we reached out to Walmart directly on behalf of our clients. We asked that Walmart work with us to ensure that the religious liberty of employees be protected, consistent with Title VII, in allowing our clients not to work on Sundays while also allowing them to remain full-time employees.

Within one week, Walmart took quick and affirmative steps in responding to our letter's concerns. Not only were our clients told that they would be able to continue having Sundays off and keep their 40-hour work week, but we also received word from Walmart's corporate leadership that it would accommodate our clients' religious beliefs about not working on Sundays.

We applaud Walmart's prompt actions in respecting and accommodating the religious beliefs of its employees. Walmart's founder, Sam Walton, had a deep respect for religious faith and for this country's protections of personal freedom. He would be proud of how the company he started long ago strives to reflect those values to this day.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy birthday to these people who celebrate another orbit around the Sun:

12/6 Pastor Tom Cairns

12/16 Connor Robertson

12/21 Juliette Robertson



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on any people who celebrate a wedding anniversary this month.

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It is our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Tune in to Gospel Radio

In the Concord area, get more of God's Word by tuning into New Hampshire Gospel Radio at 99.1 FM or 104.3 FM.

For example, on Saturday mornings at 6:30 a.m., enjoy "The Brinkman Adventures," a lively well-done radio drama. In the wee hours of Saturday and Sunday mornings, if you can't sleep, tune in to Praise & Worship music.

During the week, tune into well known speakers such as Alistair Begg, Chuck Swindoll, Dr. David Jeremiah, and Dr. Jim Daly. In the evenings catch the latest episode of "Adventures in Odyssey."

Learn more at <http://www.nhgr.org/>.

Hillside on the Web

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillside-sbc.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Sermons are also recorded weekly and published on the web site as podcasts in mp3 format.

Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is Dec. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the Baptist Convention of New Hampshire, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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