



**Good Monday morning to the best bunch of people I know. As we conclude the Thanksgiving season (even though we should never conclude a season of Thanksgiving), I want you to know that I am extremely grateful for each and every one of you and how God is using you in my life, in our church, and in this community. Our Heavenly Father has a tremendous purpose and plan, and each of us has a part to play. Thank you for being so willing to do what God has called us to do.**

**Now, as we look forward to the Christmas season, let's keep in mind that we must work hard to not allow all of the busy-ness of the world to keep us from honoring the only One that is worthy of our worship and our praise. It is so easy to get caught up in the decorations, music, and parties that we**

**totally forget that it is Jesus' birth that we are celebrating. And what better way to celebrate than to make this season all about serving Him by serving our community. Too often, because everyone is in the spirit of giving, we always ask for special offerings this time of the year, and that is important. I hope that you will help us reach our goal of 1,000 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child by donating \$25 per box for this wonderful ministry. And I hope that you will help us reach our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal of \$15,000 because every penny of that gift will make a difference in the lives of our missionaries around the world. But more than giving your money, this year we are asking you to give of yourself by helping us with our Christmas FoodFest on Dec. 15 & 16. This is a great opportunity to minister to needy families by providing them a Christmas meal. For this ministry, we don't need you to give money. We need you to give of your time and abilities as we seek to bless our neighbors with a meal, and to share with them the reason we celebrate the**

**season. Sign up in the church office.**

**I need to remind you of some schedule changes for this month. On Dec. 5, we will NOT be having our small groups because of the Christmas parade and activities. We will have small groups on December 12, but not on Dec. 19 – January 9. We will pick back up on January 16. January 9 will be a special Deacon Ordination service for 3 of the men you elected to serve as deacons. That will be a special time in the life of our church as well as the lives of these men, so make sure you put this on your calendar.**

**We have two special called business meetings that you also need to remember. This Wednesday at 6 p.m., the Personnel and Tucker Music Committees will be bringing recommendations to our church. One is to move Austin Glass to a full-time position dealing with our Media Ministry. The other is to vote on the purchase and installation of equipment that will improve our LiveStream and other technology capabilities. The second**

**special called business meeting will take place at the end of the services on Dec. 5 and 12. We will be electing a Minister of Youth Search Committee. You need to be prepared to nominate 7 people, age 18 and above, to serve on this committee.**

**Finally, on Dec. 19, our choir, along with the children, will be sharing a special music presentation for Christmas, and on Dec. 24, we will join together for Candlelight, Carols, and Communion. Make sure you bring the entire family to these special services.**

**Looking forward to seeing you Wednesday.  
Bro. Ben**