



# Senior Heartbeat



TEMPLE  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
COME GATHER AROUND THE WORD

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## Blakes to present Christmas music

**By Dale Oden**

The Thanksgiving holidays are a special time to give thanks for the blessings we have received from God.

I am so thankful for the privilege of serving Him through Temple Baptist Church.

You senior adults have been and continue to be such an inspiration to me. I am grateful for your faithful service to our Lord and to our church.

If you missed the November luncheon, you missed a great time of fellowship, food and entertainment.

The beautiful table decorations and the bountiful tables of delicious food were something to behold!

Jeff Toms, the ventriloquist, did an outstanding job with the entertainment. He and his "Uncle" kept everyone laughing. It was quite a program!

We will have to

have him back again for one of our luncheons.

As Jeff shared at the end of his routine, Christians have so much to be joyful about day by day.

Christmas is coming, ready or not. You can see evidence of the season all around the church.

We have many special events scheduled over the next few weeks that will give you the opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of

Christmas.

Remember to pray about your family's gift to Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Temple's goal for this year is \$145,000.

Isn't that something that the goal for this offering keeps rising each year, and we continue to meet and exceed our goal?

There are special Christmas music programs that I hope you will be a part of over the next few weeks!

Our December Senior Adult Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

I have asked Mack, Shayla and

Anna Blake to come share some Christmas music with us.

They are a talented family that has been a part of Temple Baptist Church for many years.

I hope that you will come join on Tuesday the 19th for some "songs of the season."

We had a number of guests with us in November. Feel free to invite someone to join you for the December luncheon!

Sadel and I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas! May you all be filled with JOY and PEACE during this wonderful season of the year!

## Children explain Bible topics

*The following comments from children might help to clarify some Biblical concepts:*

•The first book of the Bible is Guinessis, in which Adam & Eve were created from an apple tree.

•Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.

•Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day and a ball of fire by night.

•Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.

•Unleavened bread is bread made without ingredients.

•Moses went to the top of Mt. Cyanide to get the 10 commandments. The 7th commandment is "Thou shalt not admit adultery."

•Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.

•David fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.

•Solomon had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.

•Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption.

•The people who followed Jesus were called the 13 decibels.

•The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

•One of the opossums was St. Matthew.

•Paul preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.

•A Godly person should have only one wife. This is called monotony.

—From Fred Benefield



## A child's 'retarded' grandparents

When a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holiday away from school, one child wrote the following:

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa, but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Arizona.

Now they live in a tin box and have rocks painted green to look like grass. They ride around on their bicycles and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore.

They go to a building called a wreck center, but they must have got it fixed because it is all okay now, they do exercises there, but they don't do them very well.

There is a swimming pool too, but they all jump up and down in it with hats on.

At their gate, there is a doll

house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape.

Sometimes they sneak out, and go cruising in their golf carts.

Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And, they eat the same thing every night — early birds.

Some of the people can't get out past the man in the doll house. The ones who do get out bring food back to the wrecked center for pot luck.

My Grandma says that Grandpa worked all his life to earn his retardment and says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too.

When I earn my retardment, I want to be the man in the doll house.

Then I will let people out, so they can visit their grandchildren.



from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
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## Thoughts on keeping Christmas

By Henry Van Dyke

Are you willing to:

- forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you?

- to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world?

- to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground?

- to see that your fellow men are just as real as you are and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy?

- to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life but what you are going to give to life?

- to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness?

Are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world — stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death — and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love? Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you keep it for a day, why not always?

But you cannot keep it alone.

—From *The Sword Scrapbook*



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# Merry Christmas!

## *My Christmas Message*

*By Ann Clark*

*I'was the night before His coming  
When all through the land  
Sin had become rampant,  
Dominating man.*

*Songs had been sung,  
Prayers had been said,  
But Men's hearts were heavy,  
As heavy as lead.*

*Souls were in bondage,  
Consciences numb,  
But man had God's promise,  
The Messiah would come.*

*God's children were scattered,  
Bereft and bound,  
While visions of His Kingdom  
Could scarcely be found.*

*In the hearts of these people  
There widened a gap,  
Many had settled into  
A lethargic nap.*

*When out in the land,  
As a big star shone brighter,  
Surprised shepherds reacted,  
And pondered the matter.*

*And who to the wondering  
World should appear,  
But Jesus! God's Son!  
A babe, so dear.*

*With an abundance of love,  
So tender, so true,  
God said, "Here's a gift,  
From Me to you."*

*Herod shouted, "It's false!"  
Wise men claimed, "It's true!"  
Thus hope and joy  
Just grew and grew.*

*Now Christmas is coming,  
And this poem I send,  
To remind you once more,  
Of His love, there's no end.*

*With a heart open wide,  
His love flowing through,  
I wish you well.  
Merry Christmas to you!*

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil and Jeff Keane



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# Temple Baptist Church

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## Congratulations!!!

### December Birthdays

1 Robroy Wilday	3 Dianne Williams	9 Donnie Barmore	20 Carol Shadoin
1 Shady Willis	3 Warren Post	9 Jerry Smith	21 Susan Moss
1 Suzy Blackwelder	4 Vickie Benefield	10 Patsy Alexander	23 Lynn Williams
2 Tom Thompson	4 Patricia Edington	11 Ayres Bradford	24 Greg McCarter
2 John Corley	6 Beverly Adams	13 Don Beasley	24 Doris Woodard
2 Virginia Ham	6 Bruce Carter	13 Gloria Frasier	24 Terri Johnson
3 Shirley Hedrick	6 Bill Colvin	13 Judy Mitcham	25 Emma Lou Beard
3 Pat Hines	6 Liz Hood	15 Peggy Fallin	25 Kathryn Foster
3 Rodney Fuqua	7 Patrick Cone	16 Mike Stone	26 Bill Attebery
3 Marianna Cooper	7 Suzanne McCarter	17 Woodie Cooper	26 Wayne Causey
3 Jerry Owen	8 Connie Turner	18 Charles Alexander	28 Bill Albritton

### December Anniversaries

6 Dottie and Bob Ferrington (1952)	22 Mary Belle and Tom Kilpatrick (1951)
15 Pat and Joe Dickson (1956)	22 Paula and Tony Osbon (1973)
18 JonAnne and Charles Winstead (1965)	22 Jo and Bodie Woods (1967)
20 Pam and Jerry Moore (1969)	26 Marilyn and Ben Gullatt (1959)
20 Martha and B.K. Miller (1961)	26 Sue and Tommy Ledford (1964)
21 Rachel and Don Gay (1962)	27 Betty and Roy Wall (1954)
22 Edith and Lynn Hawkins (1962)	27 Mary and Bruce Ayres
22 Kay and Harold Naff (1962)	29 Nelda and Wayne Harris (1967)

*If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary added to the lists published each month in Senior Heartbeat, please call the Church Office (255-3745).*