





A Message from Dr. Ronnie Floyd, Senior Pastor

## Announcements/Events

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# Our Strategy for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services

In order to bring complete clarity for our people, I want to share our strategy for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day have a special place and a different role in our Christian faith. Christmas Eve provides anticipation of our Lord's birth. I liken it to being in the waiting room of a hospital looking forward to the birth of an anticipated child. Christmas Day is the day our Lord was born; therefore, it provides for us the day we celebrate the Lord's birth. As you can see, both are significant and unique experiences. Therefore, what is our strategy for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services?

### Unique and Not Identical Services

Our Christmas Eve services are **unique and not identical experiences** to the services we will offer on Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve, we will have our **Candlelight Christmas Eve services**. This will be a wonderful time of singing Christmas carols, highlighting a time for our children, hearing beautiful music, sharing a creative message unlike anything we have done before, and lighting candles. On Christmas Day, we will have our **Christmas Celebration and Communion services**. Yes, we will celebrate Christmas! Our celebration will be filled with wonderful singing of Christmas carols accompanied by beautiful music, a biblical word, offering a time for communion that families can experience together if they desire, and much more. Christmas Eve services will last an estimated forty-five minutes and Christmas Day services will last an estimated 55 minutes and absolutely no longer than an hour. In all services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we will receive an offering for supporting the ministry of our church and our work globally, as we do weekly.

**Offered for You to Experience the Complete Spiritual Joy of Christmas Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services are unique and not identical services offered for you to experience the complete spiritual joy of Christmas.**

This is our strategy. We believe each day has its place in the Christian faith, and each day should have a special place in the life of each Christian. Therefore, we want to encourage you to come to both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. When you do, we believe you will experience the complete joy of Christmas.

**How do we not attend a Worship Service on Christmas Day, the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus?**

I pray you will join us on Christmas Day for one of our worship services. I have heard that some churches have decided to cancel services on Christmas Day. Cross Church believes that if indeed Christmas Day is about us celebrating that God has come to this earth to live among us through the birth of Jesus Christ, then we need to celebrate His birthday. Please join us. Come dressed in your normal Christmas Day apparel and bring your families and friends.

**Does anyone want to be Baptized on Christmas Day?**

What a terrific Christmas memory and faith memory for you to be baptized on Christmas Day! If you have come to Christ and for some reason delayed your experience of baptism, consider being baptized on Christmas Day. This would be fabulous! Please contact your respective campus and let them know your request. I pray we will have people on each campus and in each Christmas service who will be baptized. ■

### Cross Students

#### The Landing

*Begins January 12 from 6–8 p.m. in the Student Building*

The Landing is a recovery program for teenagers with a hurt, habit, or hang-up. For more information, e-mail Beth Ray at [bethr@crosschurch.com](mailto:bethr@crosschurch.com).

#### Student Ministry Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in being a volunteer in the Cross Student Ministry on Sundays or Wednesday nights, please call Beth Ray at 271-7799 or go to [crosschurch.com/volunteer](http://crosschurch.com/volunteer).

#### Save the Date!

6th-12th grade Girls Retreat - February 17–18

### Single Moms

#### Single Mom Christmas Party

*Friday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m. on the Mezzanine*

Dinner, festive music, and lots of fun on this special evening to celebrate single moms! Reservation for childcare is required online at [crosschurch.com/christmasparty](http://crosschurch.com/christmasparty). All single moms are welcome!

### College & Young Singles

#### Exit 83 Christmas Party

*Tuesday, December 13 at 7 p.m. in the Student Building*

Come enjoy a night of worship, food, and fellowship in celebration of our Savior's birth. This will be our last time together for 2011. We will start back January 10!

### Compassion Center

#### Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

*Friday, December 16 from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Compassion Center*

If you have volunteered in helping with the Compassion Center in any way, please come to the Cross Church Compassion Center Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

### Cross Church Missions

#### Ethiopia Missionary Journey Meeting

*Today at 4 p.m. in Atrium 4 - Springdale Campus*  
This informative meeting is for anyone going to Ethiopia on February 3–11.

#### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

By giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, 4,887 missionaries can preach the gospel to 763 people groups in more than 180 countries. The International Missions Board 2011 goal for the Lottie Moon Offering is \$175 million for all churches in the SBC. **The goal of Cross Church this year is at least \$250,000.** You can be part of this exciting ministry by marking your gifts as "Lottie Moon" on your offering envelope or you can give online at [crosschurch.com/give](http://crosschurch.com/give).

### Volunteers

#### Christmas Decorations Take Down

*Wednesday and Thursday, December 28 & 29 from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. in the Gatheria*

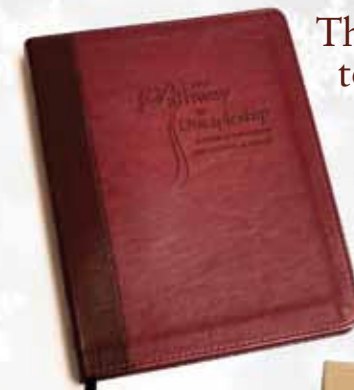
If you can help, please contact Sheila at 271-7799 or go to [crosschurch.com/volunteer](http://crosschurch.com/volunteer).

**Year-End GIVING**  
Giving is necessary for our ministries to function, and what better time is there to give than Christmas? You can give online at [crosschurch.com/give](http://crosschurch.com/give) or at the Business Office at our Springdale Campus Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

See our full list of events and Small Group opportunities at [crosschurch.com](http://crosschurch.com).

## New Devotional Books featuring Pastor & Jeana Floyd

Available at the church bookstore for \$14.99 each!



### The Pathway to Discipleship

*A Yearly Devotional and Prayer Journal*

Learn to become more of a disciple for Christ. "Pathway" is written by 51 Southern Baptist pastors including Pastor Floyd.

### One-Year Women's Devotional

The women chosen to contribute, including Jeana Floyd, are all women who protect their time with the Lord. Their words will encourage you to "seek first the kingdom of God."



## NWA Men's Conference 2012

SAVE THE DATE

February 24 & 25