November/December 2015 Link

We experienced a great annual meeting once again. Thanks to all those who made it possible. Let me mention just a few: Suzanne Cunningham for all the work in getting the Book of Reports together, Bro. Bruce McCartney for the timely message he brought, Bro. Malcolm Norton for a fine job of moderating the annual meeting. A wonderful thanks and appreciation goes to the fine people of FBC Atwood. They were such gracious hosts and welcomed us with open arms. Thank you Bro. Jim Kelley and the fine people of FBC Atwood for all you did in preparation for our annual meeting.

As we look to the days ahead, Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Christmas will follow shortly thereafter. This year has gone by in a whirlwind. I am praising God for the work of the churches and the pastors who lead them. Several of our pastors have had some major surgeries this year and I pray all are on the road to recovery. October was Pastor Appreciation Month and I pray that each church did something special for their pastor and if not it is not too late. Thank God for your pastor and pray for him and his family daily and see how God will bless your church.

I want to remind all the pastors and staff of the Annual Pastor/Staff/Wives Christmas Party. We will be sending a card in early November to remind you of the party, but let me encourage you to make your plans to be at FBC Trezevant on Thursday, December 3 at 6:30 pm. The Scott Shepherd Family from Paris will be our special guests that night. You will not want to miss it. Information on the Shepherd family can found in another part of the newsletter.

The Lottie Moon Christmas offering will be promoted in early December. Sadly, but according to IMB 600-800 missionaries are coming home because of lack of funds. I pray this will cause us to give more than ever before. I want to challenge each and every church to give something to this worthy offering. Remember that all that is given through Lottie Moon helps to support our missionaries wherever they may be serving. Begin to pray now about what you will give to this offering. Also pray for many who will be ending career long ministries with IMB and have to think of finding another place to serve in the states. For many the wives were missionaries along with their husbands whether they had employment or not. This poses another problem for many of the returning missionaries.

As we approach Christmas remember that Jesus is the reason or the season. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, died a vicarious death and arose to give us victory over sin and death. Proclaim these truths during this special season and you will learn to give thanks not on just one day a year but every day. Thank you Lord for the day you have given me and for the life eternal that is mine because of a personal relationship with you. May you give all of us who name your name as Savior and Lord an opportunity to be a blessing and a witness during these two months of celebration? None knows the day or the hour so we must be prepared. (1 John 5:13)

Doing Together What We Cannot Do Alone