

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service -----	Cradle Roll 1: Bertha Segebarrt Cradle Roll : Volunteer Needed!
6:30 p.m. Service -----	Cradle Roll 1: Charity Crawford Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
Wed. Evening Service -----	Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of December 31, 2017 -

Sunday School -----	27
Sunday Morning Service -----	33
Sunday Evening Service -----	26
Wed. Eve. Service, 01/03/18 -----	8

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of December 31, 2017 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 966.55
Total Received for Week of 12/31/17: -----	\$ 966.55

- Week of December 24, 2017 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 706.00
Total Received for Week of 12/24/17: -----	\$ 706.00

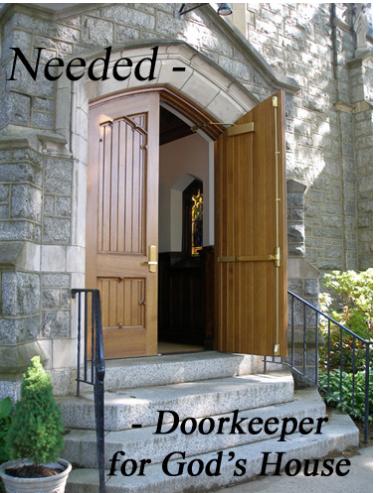
- Week of December 17, 2017 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 926.05
Total Received for Week of 12/17/17: -----	\$ 926.05

- Week of December 10, 2017 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----	\$ 1,351.00
Total Received for Week of 12/10/17: -----	\$ 1,351.00

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = **\$ 1,400.00**

**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED**

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*

Please Remember To Be Faithful To Give!



As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go **up**. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start **today - OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Mickie Shatwell -----	Pianist
Lois Mae Floyd -----	Pianist/ Organist
NEED VOLUNTEER!!!!	
Shayne Hooper, Brian Crawford, Charity Crawford, LeAnna White -- S.S. Teachers	Greeter
Larry & Mary Byars, -----	Outreach
Bertha Segebarrt -----	Custodian
Flowers -----	Shirley White, Charity Crawford

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY

REMINDER

Volume XXIII

January 7, 2018

Number 1

**THE CROSS AND THE MARIJUANA LEAF**

A new booklet, *The Cross and the Marijuana Leaf* by Linda Nathan, is a timely warning about the use of recreational marijuana. It is available from LighthouseTrails.com. Following is an excerpt:

"The current weed is immensely more powerful than it used to be—to the point of being hallucinogenic. In their book Going to Pot, William Bennett and Robert White explain:

'Let's acknowledge that today's marijuana is at least five times stronger than the marijuana of the past. The THC levels of today's marijuana average around 15 percent, but go as high as 20 percent and above in the dispensaries found throughout the states that have legalized it for 'medicinal' or recreational use. The marijuana of today is simply not the same drug it was in the 60s, 70s or 80s, much less the 1930s. It is much more potent, leading to a great many more health risks.' The Marijuana Potency Project at the University of Mississippi has found levels of THC as high as 37 percent. That is a growth of a psychoactive ingredient from 3 and 4 percent a few decades ago to close to 40 percent. Tetrahydrocannabinol or THC is the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana that gives the 'high.' Synthetic versions can be very harmful.

Consider the following:

'The difference between 3 to 5 percent THC and 13 to 30 percent THC is very significant. It is like comparing a twelve-ounce glass of beer with a twelve-ounce glass of 80 proof vodka; both contain alcohol, but they have vastly different effects on the body when consumed. Indeed, many argue that because of the difference in potency, it is not even the same drug we once knew. Some have taken to calling today's marijuana "industrial marijuana" or "turbo pot." Such high levels can be hallucinogenic and cause profound perceptual distortions of reality. ...And then there is the connection with psychosis. 'Nine studies following hundreds to thousands of people for decades searched for a connection between marijuana use and psychosis. All but one of these studies suggest a connection between marijuana use and schizophrenia.'

Other studies reveal the connection between high pot use and a clinically significant increased risk of developing schizophrenia and other mental illnesses during adolescence. OUR OWN EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT YOU CAN'T KNOW HOW IT WILL AFFECT YOU; IT MIGHT SEEM FINE FOR A WHILE AND THEN ACT WITHOUT WARNING AS A DEPTH CHARGE IN YOUR SOUL. Sir Robin Murray, a psychiatrist at King's College in London, says, 'Even I, 20 years ago, used to tell patients that cannabis is safe. It's only after you see all the patients that go psychotic that you realize—it's not so safe".'

- excerpt from *The Cross and the Marijuana Leaf* by Linda Nathan, lighthousetrails.com



LOOKING FOR A MAN OF PEACE AND A SUPREME PROBLEM SOLVER

In Jewish tradition, the building of the Third Temple is associated with the coming of the Messiah. According to Maimonides (Rambam), the highest rabbinical authority, any Jew that starts rebuilding the temple is a potential Messiah.

Shimon ben Kosiba was considered a Messiah in the second century when he led a revolt to recapture Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. He was named Bar Kokhba ("Son of the Star") based on the Messianic prophecy of Numbers 24:17, and a coin was struck depicting the temple with the ark of the covenant inside and the Messianic star on the roof.

By this tradition, it is simple to see how the Antichrist will be looked upon as the Messiah. In an interview in Jerusalem a few years ago, a Reformed Jewish rabbi told Evangelist David Cloud that the Messiah will come when things look really dark and will establish peace and build the temple. A representative of the Temple Institute said the same thing: "We are waiting for a Messiah. In Jewish tradition, we believe that in every generation there is someone who can be the Messiah. The question is who will he be. The answer is only someone who does specific things can be called the Messiah. The one who brings Israel back to Israel. The one who builds the temple again. The one who makes Israel go according to the commandments. After that he can be called the Messiah."

This is a description of the Messiah as a supreme problem solver, which is exactly how the Antichrist will present himself:

"And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand" (Daniel 8:25).

'DOCTRINAL DANGER IN THE INTERNET AGE' - The Internet is a two-edged sword. On one side, it has made it possible for sound Bible teaching to be disseminated to an extent previously unprecedented, **but on the other side it has made it possible for heretics to disseminate their teachings to anyone with a smart phone**. Many of God's people have been tripped up by lack of wisdom about Internet resources.

1. The First Requirement for Using Internet Resources Safely Is to Be Saved and to Know the Bible Well and Have Keen Spiritual Discernment. The average "Bible-believing" Christian is emphatically not prepared to face the spiritual

dangers that lurk everywhere on the Internet or in the average Christian bookstore. If you are not a serious Bible student with a good Bible education and a serious grasp of Bible doctrine; if you are "*unskilful in the word of righteousness*" and do not have your "*senses exercised to discern both good and evil*" (*Hebrews 5:12-14*); you are a babe in the woods. You can easily be "*tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness*" (*Ephesians 4:14*). To be able to use "Christian" writings effectively and safely, you must become skillful in God's Word.

This is what I (Evangelist David Cloud) set out to do as soon as I was saved 44 years ago. I knew that I had been deceived before I was saved, and I never wanted to be deceived again. I held onto promises such as John 7:17 and 8:31-32 and set out with much diligence to learn God's Word.

2. A Second Requirement for Using Internet Resources Safely Is to Be Informed and Wary of Authors. You must know who an author is and what he believes and what his biases might be. God's Word warns us to stay away from men that are unsound. "*Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them*" (*Ro. 16:17*). The same Internet that has dangerous materials provides protection for the wise, because it is now a simple matter to find some basic information about an author. To fail to do this is foolish.

I would also warn that when it is difficult to find information about a speaker or author, such as his testimony of salvation, church affiliation, and doctrinal beliefs, that should be a loud warning in itself. Before I will allow a man to speak to me on prophecy or any other Bible subject, I must know these things. Wise Bible believers know that they are pilgrims in a dark world and that they have an enemy who wants to deceive them, and they walk in great caution.

"The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going" (*Proverbs 14:15*).

'HAS THE "DESIGN ARGUMENT" BEEN REFUTED? The following is excerpted from Seeing the Non-existent: Evolution's Myths and Hoaxes, David Cloud, copyright 2011:

"Apologists for evolution claim that the 'design argument' has been refuted. They cite philosophers such as David Hume who supposedly debunked the 'watchmaker argument,' which was published in William Paley's book Natural Theology, or Evidences of the Existence and Attributes of the Deity Collected from the Appearances of Nature (1802). Paley's simple, common-sense argument says that if you find a watch lying on the ground you would recognize immediately that it was designed and produced by an intelligence; likewise, the creation everywhere demonstrates evidence of intelligent design."

Contrary to the claims of some, Paley's argument has never been refuted and indeed cannot be refuted. Dr. Michael Behe says: 'But exactly where, we may ask, was Paley refuted? Who

has answered his argument? How was the watch produced without an intelligent designer? It is surprising but true that the main argument of the [allegedly] discredited Paley has actually never been refuted. Neither Darwin nor Dawkins, neither science nor philosophy, has explained how an irreducibly complex system such as a watch might be produced without a designer. Instead Paley's argument has been sidetracked by attacks on its injudicious examples and off-the-point theological discussions. Paley, of course, is to blame for not framing his argument more tightly.'

But many of Paley's detractors are also to blame for refusing to engage his main point, playing dumb in order to reach a more palatable conclusion. ... Paley's argument over the years has been turned into a straw man to knock down. Instead of dealing with the real complexity of a system (such as a retina or a watch), some defenders of Darwinism are satisfied with offering a story to account for peripheral features' (Darwin's Black Box, chapter 10).

The design argument has grown even stronger since Paley's day through research into microbiology and the discovery of the amazing living machinery in the cell. The obvious design in creation has convinced multitudes of people, including scientists, that there is a God. In 1962, Nobel laureate molecular biologist E.C. Konfield said: '*While laboring among the intricacies and definitely minute particles in a laboratory, I frequently have been overwhelmed by a sense of the infinite wisdom of God ... the simplest man-made mechanism requires a planner and a maker; how a mechanism ten times more involved and intricate can be conceived as self-constructed and self-developed is completely beyond me*' ('The Evidence of God in an Expanding Universe,' Look, Jan. 16, 1962)."



MORE EVIDENCE UNEARTHED OF ISRAEL'S ANCIENT HISTORY

- The following is excerpted from "2,700-year-old seal impression," The Times of Israel, Jan. 1, 2018:

"Past and present collided last week when an extremely rare seal impression discovered in Jerusalem's Western Wall plaza and bearing the inscription 'To the governor of the city' was presented to Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat.

According to site excavator Dr. Shlomit Weksler-Bdolah, 'This is the first time that such an impression was found in an authorized excavation. It supports the biblical rendering of the existence of a governor of the city in Jerusalem 2,700 years ago.' At the presentation, Barkat said, 'This shows that already 2,700 years ago, Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, was a strong and central city.'

The minuscule clay seal impression, or docket, was found while researchers were examining the dust from a First Temple

structure 100 meters northwest of the Western Wall at a site the Israel Antiquity Authorities has been excavating since 2005.

The small (13 x 15 mm and 2-3 mm thick) fired lump of clay bears an image and inscription. On the upper portion of the impression, two figures wearing striped garments face each other.... Weksler-Bdolah explains that the governor most likely functioned much like today's mayor.

The role is referenced in the Hebrew Bible: in II Kings 23:8, Joshua is listed as the governor of the city in the days of Hezekiah, and in II Chronicles 34:8, Maaseiah is noted as governor of the city in the days of Josiah."

9 IMPORTANT FREEDOM OF RELIGION CASE BEFORE SUPREME COURT - A MATTER CALLING FOR PRAYER

The following is excerpted from "Supreme Court Hears Landmark Religious Liberty Case," ChristianHeadlines.com, Dec. 6, 2017:

"Yesterday, the Supreme Court heard what Eric Metaxas calls 'perhaps the most important free speech and religious freedom case in our lifetime.' Eric explains the case succinctly: Jack Phillips is an artist who designs cakes. His business, Masterpiece Cakeshop, is an expression of his faith. He has refused business in the past that conflicted with his faith--for instance, he won't design Halloween cakes or cakes that celebrate divorce. The Satanic Temple recently asked him to create a cake for Satan's birthday, but he refused. When a same-sex couple asked him to design a cake for their same-sex wedding, he declined. He offered them any cake or other product in his store.

But the couple was infuriated and brought him before the Colorado Civil Rights Commission. It fined Phillips and ordered him and his employees to go through a 're-education' program. He has since stopped making custom wedding cakes, a decision that has cost him 40 percent of his business.

The Supreme Court has previously ruled that government cannot force citizens to make, say, or do something that carries a message they reject. For example, the Court has ruled that the government cannot compel Jehovah's Witnesses to salute the flag. Now the Court is being asked to extend this religious freedom to the rest of us. Can businesses 'discriminate' against customers? Writing for The Hill, Emilie Kao states, 'At stake is whether the First Amendment to the Constitution protects all Americans at all times.'"

BEWARE
OF THOSE CHRISTIANS
WHOSE FAITH IS BASED
ON THEIR OWN IDEAS AND
FEELINGS, AND WHAT
THEY THINK IS RIGHT, AND
NOT ON GOD'S WORD