

# The Southwest Spirit

The Newsletter of Southwest Baptist Church  
December 1, 2011 – Volume 33, Number 25

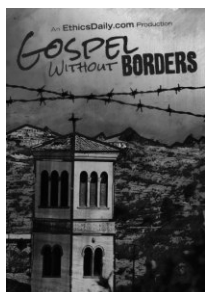


## Christmas Eve Worship



Saturday, December 24  
7:00 PM

Make plans now to celebrate Christmas Eve at Southwest Baptist by worshipping at our Christmas Eve Service. This candlelight service will include favorite Christmas hymns as well as observance of the Lord's Supper. Childcare will not be provided. The service will begin at 7:00PM in the sanctuary. For more information or to arrange transportation to this service, please contact the church office.



## "The Gospel Without Borders"

Special Screening

THIS Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM

Memorial Hall

THIS Sunday evening, December 4, Southwest Baptist will host a screening of the new documentary by the Baptist Center for Ethics called "The Gospel Without Borders." This film seeks to bring more light and less heat to the issue of immigration. It separates myth from fact, examines what the Bible says about treatment of the "stranger," shows the experiences of documented and undocumented immigrants, and provides handles for Christians to advance the common good. Join us in Memorial Hall at 5PM on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Las Posadas

Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m.



Las Posada is a Latin American Christmas tradition in which children go in search of a place for the Christ child to be born. There will be a simple, family friendly meal and activities. The evening ends with the reading of the journey to Bethlehem by Mary and Joseph. Please join us in Fellowship Hall on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 for this very special celebration! See Diana VanDuyne for more information.



## Certificate in Christian Ministry starting January 2012

As part of their Foundations Program starting this January 2012 in less than a year you can earn a Certificate in Christian Ministry from Central Baptist Theological Seminary. To receive the certificate you will need to take 10 courses from January – October 2012. However, you can take only one course for \$50 or go on to complete the program and take all ten courses for \$500 (plus the costs for textbooks).

Courses are offered one weekend per month:

Friday from 6-9 p.m. and  
Saturday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

All classes will be held at Third Baptist Church on North Grand.

Courses offered include:

- Old & New Testament Introductions
- Pastoral Arts
- The Missional Church (taught by Pastor James)
- Ministry Contextualization
- Proclamation (Preaching)
- Christian Heritage
- Church Administration
- Ministry Ethics/Pastoral Counseling
- Baptist Polity

The Foundations Program is designed to offer a broad & rapid introduction to the basics of ministry for:

- Persons who desire to enhance their skills for vocational ministry
- Interested lay persons wishing to improve preparations for service in volunteer dimensions of congregational ministries.

If you are interested in this unique opportunity or have any questions please see Pastor James today!



## 2011 Harvest Offering

### "Thankful & Faithful"

As we enter into December, our annual Harvest Offering continues. This year, our Harvest Offering theme is "Thankful & Faithful." Our 2011 Harvest Offering will help our church offset our budget deficit for the year; all of the gifts given toward this special offering will help us to "catch up" and continue supporting the ongoing ministries of Southwest Baptist Church. How can your family be a part? What gift might you be able to make, over and above your normal tithe and offering? Please use your Harvest Offering envelope or clearly mark your check or regular envelope for "Harvest Offering." The last day to contribute to this special offering is Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.

## 'Tis the Season

Do you know when your Sunday School class is meeting for your Christmas party? Contact your Sunday School teacher or the church office for more information.

## Southwest Baptist Church

6401 Scanlan Avenue, St. Louis MO 63139

- Rev. James Hill, Jr., Pastor
- Dr. Larry Smith, Minister of Music
- Mrs. Ruth Ann Yorg, Director of Child Development Center
- Mrs. Meredith Rataj, Worship Ensemble Coordinator
- Mr. Jim Dinkins, Property Manager
- Mrs. Judy Fussell, Secretary

### Contact Information:

phone - 314-647-4567

fax - 314-647-4569

website - [www.southwestbaptistchurch.org](http://www.southwestbaptistchurch.org)

email - [swbc@southwestbaptistchurch.org](mailto:swbc@southwestbaptistchurch.org)

## Upcoming SWBC Calendar

Sunday, December 4  
Business Meeting, 12PM

"Gospel Without Borders"  
Baptist Center for Ethics Documentary on  
Ministry to Undocumented Immigrants

Tuesday, December 6  
Lindenwood Senior Ministry  
Christmas Lights Trip

Saturday, December 10  
Bosnian Food Pantry, 9AM

Sunday, December 11  
Las Posadas Family Event,

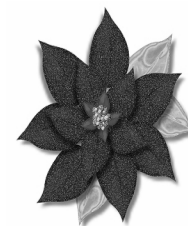
Tuesday, December 13  
Keenagers, 12PM

Sunday, December 18  
Poinsettia Processional

Saturday, December 24  
Christmas Eve Worship, 7PM

Sunday, December 25  
Christmas Morning Worship, 10AM  
(no Sunday School)

Monday, Dec. 26 – Thursday, Dec. 29  
Church Office Closed



## Poinsettia Processional December 18

Order Your Poinsettia(s) Today!

During the holiday season poinsettia plants radiantly decorate our altar area. The brilliant red plants adorn our sanctuary because of the thoughtfulness of members and guests who purchase a plant in honor or memory of someone special. Our poinsettia plants cost \$8.50 this year and may be ordered by contacting our church office or through a Sunday bulletin insert. All orders must be made and paid for by Sunday, December 11.

Our Poinsettia Processional with children carrying red poinsettia plants into our sanctuary is **Sunday, December 18**. Children who carried the plants years ago now watch as their own children bring the plants to the altar area. This has always been a special Advent tradition here at Southwest Baptist. Join us in making it so once again.

## Mamie Orth

### 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration



You are invited to help celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of Mamie Ruth Orth, THIS Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2 – 4 p.m. in Memorial Hall. All in our church family are

welcome. Please bring no gifts; your presence is gift enough. For more information please see Ang Channell.