

Pastor's Page

Pastor Phil Robertson, Interim Pastor



This week I have reflected quite a bit on the LJA Christmas program that we were blessed to experience last Sabbath. As I have played it over again in my mind, one of the things that caught my attention was really at the very beginning. The first 3 comments were all about what each person was going to 'get' for Christmas. "I'm getting a new ps5", "I have a feeling I'm getting a new Apple iPhone 13 pro", "Well, I'm getting a new gaming laptop".

There's nothing wrong with any of these items being a Christmas gift, however, I think we would likely wonder about the gifts not seeming to hold any mystery. I grew up with the understanding that a Christmas gift was something that was very special as it represented a genuine desire in the heart of the 'giver' to share a gift that would hold meaning for the 'recipient'.

Kathie's dad was someone who would absolutely not give a gift that was specifically requested. However, he did make observations over the months preceding Christmas as to potential gifts that might be especially appreciated. Christmas gifts were so much more meaningful when they brought a sense of surprised gratitude to his children.

Yes, the idea of sharing gifts has undergone significant changes over the years. In many ways, Christmas has become just one more opportunity to 'get' whatever one wants.

In our sermon study this week we will take a look at the last half of the story of the 'Wise Men' who traveled a great distance to find, and worship, Jesus. One part of their story that always stands out as being rather interesting is the gifts that they presented when they met Mary and Jesus. Attempts To explain the significance of the 'gold, frankincense, and myrrh' are merely suggestions as to why they may have been chosen.

The reason that it was important to these travelers to give gifts upon their arrival may have a cultural reason but it really seems to be an expression of their worship. They didn't ask Mary what she wanted, or place several different items out for the toddler Jesus to select, but they did give what they were 'prepared' to give.

While their gifts are likely the inspiration for our practice of 'gifting', I believe that we would be blessed by remembering these words of the apostle Paul, **"Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift"** as He confirms that Jesus is the Best Gift that we have ever been given.
Merry Christmas,
Pastor Phil

Sabbath Together

December 18, 2021

Sabbath School 9:30 AM

Adult Classrooms:

Classroom 1 - Traditional Quarterly
Classroom 20 - Spanish Sabbath School
Conference Center - Bible Study - David Rendon
Youth Lounge - Young Adult 18-35 - Hans Burda & Daniel Davis

Birth-High School Classes:

Cradle Roll - Birth to 3: Classroom 3
Kindergarten - Age 4 through First Grade: Classroom 4
Primary - Grades 2-5: Classroom 2
Juniors - Grades 5-8: Classroom 7
High-School - Grades 9-12: Classroom 9

Classrooms are on the North, South & West Halls
For directions, see posted floor plan or ask the Greeters for assistance.

Sabbath Worship Service 11:00 AM

Welcome		Pastor Phil
Call To Worship	<i>We Have This Hope</i>	Hymn 214
Invocation		
Hymn of Praise	<i>There's a Song in the Air</i>	Hymn 120
Children's Story		Smiley Verastegui <i>(The Lamb's Offering will benefit the Lubbock Junior Academy)</i> All children ages 5-14 invited to Children's Church In the Conference Center - Parental permission requested
Praise in Giving	Church Budget	Ed Thorne ~~~ Regular tithes and offerings also received at this time ~~~
	Offertory	
Offering Response		Hymn 694 <i>Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow</i>
Song of Prayer	<i>I Need Thee Every Hour</i>	Hymn 483
Circle of Prayer		Pastor Phil
Song of Response	<i>Hear Our Prayer, O Lord</i>	Hymn 684
Message in Song:	Madelyn Caballero, Ianthe Burda & Nikki Marpa	
Message	The Gift of the Magi	Pastor Phil "On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2:11 (NIV)"
Closing Song	<i>Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee</i>	Hymn 12
Benediction		Pastor Phil

Pianist & Praise Leader: Robert Plant, II
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Speaker Next Week:
Offering Next Week: Texico Ministries
Attendance Last Week: 134 + 119 on Facebook Live

Today's Greeter: Garcia Family
Deacon in Charge: David Riley
Elder in Charge: Melwin "Bim" Paez

How To Reach Us

Phil Robertson, Interim Pastor 817.559.0390
Board of Elders:
Robert Plant, II, Chair 806.441.1090
Glenn Blake 806.790.9549
Philip Mainda 432.599.2645
Luis Moreno 956.999.3666
Melwin "Bim" Paez 240.460.7923
Ed Thorne 806.535.4300
Cindy Riley, Treasurer 806.928.9713
David Riley, Chair, Board of Deacons 806.577.2990
Michele Crawford, Chair, Board of Deaconess 970.901.0987
Kathy Flyger, Church Event/Building Coordinator 806.535.7770
Church Office 806.793.8614
Church FAX 806.799.5136
Church Email Address lubbockadventist@sbcglobal.net
Church Website <http://www.lubbockadventist.org>
Lubbock Junior Academy 806.795.4481
Adventist Book Center - Texas 800.333.1844
Texico Conference Office 505.244.1611
Conference Website: <http://www.texico.org/>

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### Adventist Community Services Mobilize for Tornado Relief

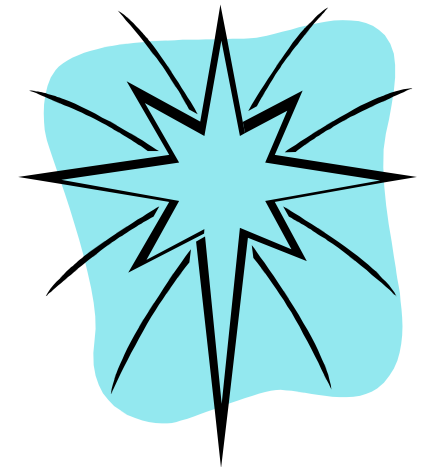
This has been a very challenging season of destructive storms across much of the mid-section of our country. Last Friday night and Sabbath multiple tornados descended on several states with the greatest devastation being dealt to western Kentucky. A super tornado touched down in the early morning hours and plowed a path of destruction for 225 miles leaving 74 people dead and 110 missing.

The relief efforts of Adventist Community Services (ACS) are being deployed in many communities that have been leveled to assist survivors in desperate need for basic services. Warehouse operations have been established as supplies are being brought in and then deployed to volunteers to distribute to those who are seeking assistance.

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference is leading a local relief mission and along with other groups, they are ministering to those in need as they ramp up the support systems. It is very likely that there will be an on-going need for assistance for quite some time as the breadth of need is massive.

Resources are strained and the NAD ACS Director encourages members to be generous with their gifts. Donations can be made by marking your offering envelop for **Adventist Community Services Emergency Relief**.

Let's keep these people in our prayers as they try to pick up the pieces and move on with life in the aftermath of these storms.



# LUBBOCK SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

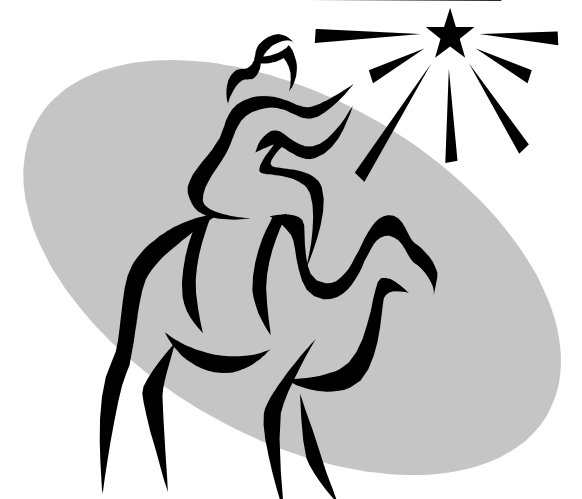
Mailing Address: P O Box 6277  
Lubbock, TX 79493-6277

5302 Elgin Avenue  
Lubbock, Texas 79413  
806.793.8614

Website: <http://www.lubbockadventist.org>

*"And the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was."*

*Matthew 2:9*



**Wise Men Still Seek Him!**

## Prayer Requests

### CHURCH FINANCES

(for God's continual Leading on funding of our church and LJA)

◆ **Our President, Leaders of our country, Leaders of our Church and Conferences, Pastor Phil, our Pastor search, Elders, School Teachers and Local Church Ministry Leaders**

◆ **All Disaster Victims - COVID, EARTHQUAKES, RIOTS, PROTESTS, FIRES & FLOODS**

- ◆ Robert Aldridge (restored health)
- ◆ Tammy Allen-Reed (Rejoicing)
- ◆ John Brown (Health & Healing)
- ◆ Glenn Blake (Healing fm Surgery)
- ◆ Myrtle Busby (comfort)
- ◆ Donna Cartwright (Healing)
- ◆ David Cartwright (Healing)

- ◆ James Crowley, Jr. (Divine Healing)
- ◆ Denise Downing (Broken Ankle)
- ◆ David Lara, Sr. (Healing)
- ◆ Andi Nunez (Continued Healing)
- ◆ Jennifer Petty (Divine Healing)
- ◆ Robert Plant's cousin (Erica Johnson - Healing)
- ◆ Dondie Ramos Mother (healing)
- ◆ David Riley's Sister "Phyllis"
- ◆ Manuel Ruiz (Please no dialysis)
- ◆ Harold Tygart's sister "Mary"
- ◆ Smiley Verastegui - (Restored sight)
- ◆ Jerry Walker (auto accident)
- ◆ Kathy Yates (Continued recovery)

◆ **Unspoken** prayer requests Healing, finances and families.

◆ **Pray for Christ's followers who are being persecuted and/or killed for their faith world wide.**

### Intercessory Prayer

*And I sought for a man among them that should make up the hedge and stand in the gap before me for . . .*

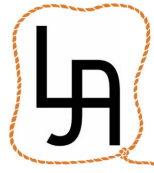
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Optional)

*Please stand in the gap for me - that God's divine will be done regarding the following . . .*

*Fill in your request, tear off, place in the Offering plate, or give directly to the Pastor or to one of the Elders  
May God Bless You!*

12/18/21

## Lubbock Junior Academy . . .



### Recruiting K-9 Students for 2021-2022 School year

Student Applications & Handbooks are available at the school or church office.

### Lubbock Junior Academy

School Mission Statement

**Building A Better World ~ One Child at a time**

Please feel free to contact:

**Harim E. Calderon, M,Ed., Principal/Teacher K-4 & 9**  
Phone or Text 956.523.1576

**Melwin "Mr. Bim" Paez, Teacher, Grades 5-8 & 9**  
Phone or Text 240.460.7923

**Robert Plant, II - School Board Chair, 806.441.1090**  
or the Church Office, 806.793.8614

~ ~ ~ "Like" us on Facebook ~ ~ ~

### CHURCH ROOF LOAN

|             | Payment  | Received | Over (Under) |
|-------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| <b>2020</b> |          |          |              |
| Jan-Dec     | \$42,528 | \$58,760 | \$16,232     |
| <b>2021</b> |          |          |              |
| Jan-March   | \$10,632 | \$11,006 | \$ 374       |
| April-June  | \$10,632 | \$11,674 | \$1,042      |
| July-Sept   | \$10,632 | \$10,180 | (\$452)      |
| October     | \$ 3,544 | \$4,562  | \$1,018      |
| November    | \$ 3,544 | \$3,886  | \$ 343       |
| December    | \$3,544  | \$2,564  | (\$980)      |

*We must stay a month ahead at all times, as the payment is drafted from our bank account on the 10th of each month.*

### CHURCH FINANCES AT A GLANCE

|               | TITHE               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|               | This Year (Jan-Nov) | Last Year (Jan-Nov) |
| November 2021 | YTD 2021            | YTD 2020            |
| \$19,522      | \$277,272           | \$253,720           |

|               | CHURCH BUDGET |          |           |
|---------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
|               | Required      | Received | Need      |
| December 2021 | \$12,950      | \$5,076  | (\$7,874) |

|                    | ROOF LOAN<br>(15-Year Note) |                    |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
|                    | Monthly Payment             | Balance 11/30/2021 |
| Original Roof Loan | \$420,000                   | \$236,913          |
|                    | \$3,544/month               |                    |

*Please place your contribution in an offering envelope and designate the ministry to which your offering is to be allocated, Undesignated offerings will go to the Church Budget.*

*For your convenience, there is also a link for on-line giving, <http://www.lubbockadventist.org>*

*~ ~ Thank You For Remembering our Church Budget ~ ~  
... and for the sacrificial way you continue to give.*

A total of \$12,950 is required monthly for every ministry to be fully funded.

## Events This Week

Sunday - December 19  
2:30pm - **Women's Prayer Group via Zoom**

**LJA Christmas Vacation** - December 20-31

Friday - December 24 - **Christmas Eve**

5:45pm - **The joy of the Sabbath begins**

## Upcoming Events

**All Church Sabbath School**, Sabbath, December 25, 8:30am, lite breakfast before All-Church Sabbath School, facilitated by Mae Flores for the enjoyment of Junior age & up.

**New Year's Day - January 1, 2022**

**Men's Breakfast**, Sunday, January 2 - 9:00am.  
All men are invited to meet at the Golden Corral for Breakfast & Fellowship.

**LJA Classes resume** - Monday, January 3

**Annual Religious Liberty Offering**  
Sabbath, January 8, 2022

**Children's Church** - January 8 & 22.  
All children ages 5-14 will be invited to Children's Church in the Conference Center, following the Children's Story  
*Parental permission is requested*

**Women's Prayer Breakfast** - Sunday, January 16, 10:00 am, at the home of Anita McChesney, 2510 33rd Street

**MLK, Jr Day** - Monday, January 17 - No School

**LJA Teacher In-Service, No school**,  
Monday, January 24

**Women's Prayer Breakfast** - Sunday, February 6, 10:00 am, at the home of Anita McChesney, 2510 33rd Street

**Mid-week Prayer & Bible Study**  
Will resume at 7:00pm, Wednesday, February 16, 2022

**Lubbock Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
**Sabbath Morning Messages**  
**are now available on**  
**YouTube: [Lubbocktexicoadventist](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC11302021)**  
**bit.ly/LubbockTexico**  
*Available to watch at your convenience*

# Welcome!

**to the Lubbock Seventh-day Adventist Church.**

*It is good to have you with us today.*

*We pray that our time together assists you in your growth in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**If you are visiting, please introduce yourself to our Pastor or one of our Elders, Deacons or Deaconesses - who are here to greet you.**

If you are looking for a church home, we pray you will find it with us! We would love to welcome you into our church by baptism, by your profession of faith in Jesus, or by transfer from another Seventh-day Adventist church. Our Pastor, Elders or Church Clerk will be happy to help you make membership arrangements. You may speak to the pastor, one of the elders at church or write your request on a Card and drop it in the offering plate.

*Cards are located in the Sanctuary pew racks.*

**We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today.**

## 2021 Offering Receipts

*All offering contributions that are postmarked, delivered to the church office or made on-line no later than December 31 will be included in your 2021 charitable donation receipt*

## Today's Events

**9:00am - Discipleship Class** - Classroom 14.  
Facilitated by Philip Mainda

**9:30am - Sabbath School**

**11:00am - Divine Worship Service** - Worship Center  
*(Worship Service will be streamed via Facebook-Live)*

**11:00am - Spanish Divine Worship Service** - Classroom 20

**2:30pm - Pathfinder PBE** - Conference Center

**3-4:00pm - Zoom Bible Study: The Gospel of John**  
This study is open to all who would like to study.  
Contact Anita McChesney (574)514.9495.

**4:30pm - Sundown Vespers - "A Study of Last Day Events"** Facilitated by Robert Plant, II - Classroom 1

**6:00pm - "YAM" Young Adult Ministry** - Youth Lounge. This 18-35 age group meets weekly (YAM Will be taking a vacation December 25 & January 1. Will resume January 8, 2022)

**The Joy and Blessing of the Sabbath**  
Concludes today at 5:42pm  
Begins next Friday at 5:45pm