



2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
His Heart, His Hand, His Voice
“I can be His Heart, His Hands, His Voice”
Focus Scripture – Acts 1:8
Our Church Goal: \$3100

Sunday, November 27 – Sunday, January 8
100% of this offering goes to support missionaries and their ministries.

Who Was Lottie Moon and Why Is An Offering Named for Her?

Baptists do not have Saints. But we do have heroes. And heroines. And Lottie Moon is one of our heroines.

She was born and raised in the area around Charlottesville, Virginia in the mid-1800s. In spite of being raised in a Christian family, she did not come to be a true Christian until she was 18.

She was one of the most educated females in America. She became a school teacher in Kentucky and Georgia. Her sister and brother-in-law had gone as missionaries to China. Lottie surrendered to God’s call to her to go as a missionary while she was in a worship service in Cartersville, Georgia.

Single women were seldom allowed to serve as missionaries, but Lottie was appointed in 1873 to serve in China. She would minister there for almost 40 years.

She became well known and respected all over China. She was called “the Cookie Lady” because of the tea cakes she shared with the children and women (and not a few eavesdropping men) in her Bible classes.

She felt that missionaries needed to leave the compounds where they lived and go to the villages where so many of the people lived. This was something a woman would never do, but Lottie did. She went from village to village sharing the Good News. She was so respected by the Chinese that once, during a Chinese Civil War, both sides agreed to stop fighting so that she could travel to the next village through the lines.

Lottie was also known as “The Heavenly Book Teacher”. She loved the people of China deeply. She was bothered that there was not more financial support from the U.S. for the missionaries. She wrote to leaders in America and suggested that a special offering for missions be taken at Christmas time in all Baptist churches. The offering was begun in 1887. It was named for Lottie Moon in 1918 at the suggestion of Annie Armstrong, the leader of the Women’s Missionary Union. Baptists have continued to have this offering each year since.

There was a famine in China. Lottie was so concerned for the people that she gave up most of her food to the people. She refused to eat when the people were dying. She became so weak that she was ordered to come back to America. She died onboard a ship that was bringing her home in 1912. She had given her life for the Chinese people.

This year as you consider your gifts, I hope that you will give a gift to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. All of the money you give will to support missions all over the world. We continue to honor Lottie each year with our offerings. She would remind us that we are truly honoring Jesus by making a way for His name to be shared with those who do not know Him.

"How many there are ... who imagine that because Jesus paid it all, they need pay nothing, forgetting that the prime object of their salvation was that they should follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ in bringing back a lost world to God." **Lottie Moon Tungchow, China, Sept. 15, 1887**

"Why should we not ... instead of the paltry offerings we make, do something that will prove that we are really in earnest in claiming to be followers of him who, though he was rich, for our sake became poor?"
Lottie Moon Tungchow, China, Sept. 15, 1887

"Is not the festive season when families and friends exchange gifts in memory of The Gift laid on the altar of the world for the redemption of the human race, the most appropriate time to consecrate a portion from abounding riches and scant poverty to send forth the good tidings of great joy into all the earth?"
Lottie Moon Tungchow, China Sept. 15, 1887