

#### LMCO Focus: Ukraine

With the news of the Hamas attacks in Israel, we often forget those who still suffer the repercussions of war around the world. This week we reflect on the Russian invasion of Ukraine and join all those in Eastern Europe in praying for peace. We know that God is sovereign in all situations, and Scripture reminds us that He is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. We keep our focus on Him, asking for His protection of the innocent and trusting that His justice will prevail.

Poland brought in the most Ukrainian refugees out of any country this past year. In response, IMB missionaries created a home for refugees to rest. The center is a place many have heard about God, believed and now study the Bible.

During this Lottie Moon Christmas Offering season, let's not just give to the work of those who are sharing the gospel with shattered lives; but also pray, that Jesus Christ would be glorified through the crisis in Eastern Europe, and that Southern Baptists would remain vigilant in meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those who are suffering. Church of the Week Brookneal Baptist Church Brookneal, VA

**Shut-in of the Month** *Florence Hix* 6800 Hixburg Rd. Pamplin, VA 23958

#### Military Member Prayer

Austin Hodge 101 NNPTC Cir. Class2352-T Goose Creek SC 29445

Prayer Concerns from the Congregation

#### Government Leaders

- For wisdom for the members of the Federal Reserve as they evaluate the U.S. economy.
- That the Lord works out His purposes through officials in all three branches of U.S. government.
- Charlotte County leaders as they close out the year.

### Church Leadership

*Robbie Thomas,* Deacon and Building & Grounds Team

December 17, 2023



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Robbie Thomas, Deacon and Building & Grounds Team

Pastor Jeremy Lakes

## Advent: A Season of Expectation

Sermon Notes

"The Person of Joy"

# Advent: A Season of Expectation

Sermon Notes

As we live our lives in expectation this Advent, let us embrace the joy that Jesus offers — a joy that transcends our circumstances, a joy that strengthens us in times of trial, and a joy that echoes the glory of heaven. It's in the person of Jesus, we find the true meaning of Christmas, not in the fleeting pleasures of the world but in the enduring promise of His presence. Let this joy be our strength and our song as we anticipate the coming of our Lord. As we live our lives in expectation this Advent, let us embrace the joy that Jesus offers — a joy that transcends our circumstances, a joy that strengthens us in times of trial, and a joy that echoes the glory of heaven. It's in the person of Jesus, we find the true meaning of Christmas, not in the fleeting pleasures of the world but in the enduring promise of His presence. Let this joy be our strength and our song as we anticipate the coming of our Lord.



