



MAGNIFY CHRIST,  
BUILD GREAT COMMISSIONARIES

Volume 39, Number 12

Newsletter of Beech Haven Baptist Church

December 2017

## From the Pastor's Pen

"As you go, announce this: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'" -Jesus, Matthew 10:7

Great Commissionary Friends:

Christianity is in the "people business." We love people. We teach people. We pray for people. We visit people. We talk to people. We know people. We share with people. We sit beside people. Some of us are people! Christianity is in the people business. To effectively follow Jesus, we must make much of people.

I have noticed through the last few years, however, that the circle of friends many Christians have has nearly collapsed, and among that shrinking group of friends are almost no lost people. Besides a shrinking group of friends, some Christians have a view of those outside the faith and church that hinders relationships with them. I am not exactly sure how this view came to be, but I suspect overconsumption of news media may have something to do with it. Some Christians fear those outside Christ and the church spend nearly all their free moments angrily denouncing the faith and Christians who hold it. They think lost people are "fire breathing, Christian eating aliens."

What we think about those outside Christ and the churches says a lot about what is on our heart. Our views of people reflect our hearts. This makes necessary intentional efforts to shape our hearts in a Christlike fashion. Because we often learn by doing, we need strategic efforts to mold our hearts into the hearts that resemble the heart of Jesus. Therefore, we engage in December in "Merry Christmas, Athens!" It is also why we aspire to engage our Sunday School classes into quarterly mission projects in 2018.

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**Sunday, December 3 @ 4:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Music Program** led by our Music and Worship Ministry. Our Retired/Senior Adult Ministry has reached out to un-churched senior adults in Athens, especially some of the assisted living facilities.

**Sunday, December 10**

- Lunch & training immediately after worship.
- Sunday School classes depart for **Mission Projects** by 1:00 p.m.
- Christmas Music Program led by Music and Worship Ministry and Children's Choirs @ 6:00 p.m. - Georgia Square Mall

**Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Children's Christmas music program

### Holiday Schedule

Sunday, December 24

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School ♦ 10:30 a.m. - Worship  
4:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service

Monday-Tuesday, December 25-26/ Monday, January 1  
Office Closed

Sunday, December 31

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School ♦ 10:30 a.m. - Worship  
No Evening Activities

## From the Pastor's Pen

Continued from front page

We need a heart for people. We need opportunities to meet people. Jesus loves them all. Consequently, we go into our community in December and in 2018, and as we go, we announce the good news.

To aid these efforts, I intend to deliver messages on Sunday morning in 2018 around similar themes. I'll start the year addressing a heart of faith from Hebrews 11, and this will take the first few months of 2018. Following this, I will address a heart filled with the Spirit. In the summer, I will speak on a heart of trust in the power of God's word. Once school gets back in session for the fall semester, I will lead us to consider a heart amazed by God's love.

Your prayers are always appreciated. Your world is always in need of your witness. Your Savior is always present to guide and instruct. The next thirteen months may be the most exciting you have ever had.

I Stand Amazed,

David Mills

## Worship Ministry Notes

*"God sent His one and only Son into the world,  
So that we might live through Him."*

1 John 4:9

A few miles south of Jerusalem, there lies a low hill known as "Shepherd's Field." Somewhere in this area, which is near Bethlehem, is where angels forever changed the lives of a group of lowly shepherds. Yet, as profound as the encounter was, there is nothing spectacular about the location today. The air does not still resound with the angel's song, and the glory of heaven is no longer visible.

Even the site of Jesus' birth, now enclosed under the Church of the Nativity, is remarkably ordinary. Visiting it is a memorable experience, but no one enters the presence of God merely by stepping into the location.

Since Jesus, the presence of the Living God does not reside in a physical location. Instead, He makes Himself known through the holy lives of His children and through His word. The author of Hebrews writes, "Pursue peace with everyone, and holiness . . . without it no one will see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). Later, he writes, "For you have not come to what could be touched, to a blazing fire, to darkness, gloom or storm . . ." (referring to Ex. 19) "Instead, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God . . . to the assembly of the firstborn . . . and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant" (Heb. 12:18-24).

In other words, ordinary people will likely never encounter God in a life-changing way simply by looking to Creation or by merely entering a church building. He is indeed sovereign, but it seems that burning bushes and Damascus-road-type encounters are rare. Instead, they "see" God when they encounter His holy children, who both live out His love and proclaim His truth.

Therefore, as God's children, we have both a remarkable privilege and a profound responsibility. We are blessed with the righteousness of Christ and indwelling of His Spirit - all so that we might exemplify Christ. The responsibility, then, is that we must always strive to actually exemplify Christ - to be holy, to be pure, to be loving to everyone in every occasion, and to constantly look to share the hope of the gospel.

My prayer is that our hearts might be blameless and holy, that both our songs and our lives might overflow with the love, and that our entire community might encounter the living God through our witness.

- Tim

## Retired/Senior Adult Ministry

### Christmas Lunch

Thursday, December 7

at the home of Ed & Carol Schimmel

Catered by *Marti's at Midday*

Cost: \$10

Registration deadline is 10:00 a.m. Monday, December 4

[publisher@beechhaven.net](mailto:publisher@beechhaven.net) or 706-548-2246.

### Spring Retreat

Wednesday - Friday, April 25 - 27, 2018

Georgia Baptist Conference Center, Toccoa

Featuring a talent show, door prizes, worship, workshops, game night, dessert socials, support of a local service project, and special entertainment each evening!

Jerrell Beatty - Retreat Pastor

Bob Smith - Music Evangelist & Co-Host

Jeff Cleghorn - Music Evangelist & Co-Host

Tim Lovelace - Comedian (Wednesday evening entertainment)

The Mylon Hayes Family - Concert (Thursday evening entertainment)

Cost: \$155 per person (based on 2 guests per room)

Price includes two nights lodging, six meals, all entertainment

Registration deadline is Wednesday, January 17

Non-refundable deposit of \$50 (per person) is due on January 17.

Balance is due on April 1.

Sign-up with Pam in the office.

## December Calendar

### Sunday, December 3

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:25 a.m. - Called Conference

10:30 a.m. - Worship

4:00 p.m. - Christmas Music

### Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

December 4, 5 & 7; 11, 12 & 14

Upward Practices

### Tuesdays, December 5, 12

9:00 a.m. - Precept Bible Study

### Wednesday, December 6

4:00 p.m. - WoW

5:00 p.m. - Supper (reservations required)

6:00 p.m. - WoW

### December 6 - 12

College Study @ The Beech

### Thursdays, December 7 & 14

9:30 a.m. - International Friends

### Saturday, December 9

6:00 p.m. - Student Christmas Party

### Sunday, December 10

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. - Worship

12:00 noon - Lunch/Training

1:30 p.m. - Community Mission Projects

6:00 p.m. - Christmas Music at Mall

### Wednesday, December 13

4:00 p.m. - No WoW

5:00 p.m. - Supper (reservations required)

6:00 p.m. - Children's Musical

### Thursday, December 14

10:00 a.m. - Women on Mission Meeting

Churchwide Caroling

### Saturday, December 16

5:00 p.m. - Family Christmas Party

### Sunday, December 17

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. - Worship

5:00 p.m. - Snack Supper

5:30 p.m. - Awana, Pulse

6:00 p.m. - Adult Prayer Meeting

### Tuesday, December 19

6:00 p.m. - Ladies Night Out

### Wednesdays, December 20 & 27

No Activities

### Sunday, December 24

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - Worship

4:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service

### Monday-Tuesday, December 25-26

Office Closed

### Sunday, December 31

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

10:30 a.m. - Worship

No Evening Activities

## Ladies Night Out

Tuesday, December 19

La Parrilla (Homewood Hills)

Followed by dessert and devotion  
at the home of Mary Elizabeth Sprague

### Welcome New Members

George Franklin

November 5, 2017

by Transfer of Letter

Susan Sims

November 12, 2017

by Statement

## HE CAME FOR US

How Christ's Birth Changes Everything.

A sermon series for Christmas.



## ACT22 Status Update

The ACT22 Project involved the renovation of '22' rooms to reach and train Adults and Children to become 'Great Commissioners'. God blessed through your giving. **You gave and pledged more** than we initially needed. The project expanded to update the HVAC system in Bldg. B. That generosity led to the discovery of a collapsing roof system which was replaced by our Cincinnati Insurance coverage. The giving kept coming and we expanded again to replace and **update a failing elevator**. You have now **given beyond that need** so that we have a surplus of \$32,000. Thank you for **giving and honoring your pledge**; thank you for **giving beyond your pledge**, and thank you for **giving without a pledge**.

**Giving to Date:** \$1,055,000

**Outstanding Pledges:** \$79,000

## Year-end Contributions

Your tithes and offerings make all the ministries at Beech Haven possible. Thank you for giving. To claim a charitable contribution for 2017 taxes, contributions must be: **delivered** to the church office on or before December 31 **or mailed** to the church office with a postmark of December 31 or earlier **or [Online contributions](#)** and **Text Giving** (to **706-550-9534**) given before midnight December 31.

Gifts of **Stocks or Securities** can be received by the church. Please call Janet Mason in the church office to arrange.

Please consider your **[Beech Haven Endowment Fund](#)** in your **Estate Plans** or when you receive a windfall. Talk with John Walker for more information.

## Interested in Seminary Level Bible Classes?

### Worldreach Bible Institute with Bible Training Center for Pastors

Sunday Evenings at Beech Haven beginning January 2018

If you are interested in participating, contact Chuck Ivey at [Charles.Ivey@athensclarkcounty.com](mailto:Charles.Ivey@athensclarkcounty.com)

Training uses a biblical, systematic, portable and comprehensive approach to providing the foundational equivalent of a seminary education. Training consists of 520 hours of interactive classroom lecture and discussion under the supervision of a qualified teacher. More information available [here](#) and [here](#).



2017 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®



## Through December

100% of your gifts support our Southern Baptist Missionaries serving internationally.  
Given to date.....\$2,548

## Wednesday Night Supper

(Reservations Required)

5:00 - 5:45 p.m. - Fellowship Hall

Cost: Adults - \$4.50

Children (under 10) - \$2.00

Family Maximum - \$16.00

## December 6

Vegetable Beef Soup

Potato Soup

Grilled Cheese

Jell-O

Red Velvet Goopy Bars

Chocolate Chip Goopy Bars

## December 13

Pork Roast

Sweet Potato Casserole

Black-eyed peas

Rolls

Fruit Salad

Pies

## December 20 & 27

No Supper

## Supper Reservations

- Complete the Sunday morning Worship Guide Insert, and place it in the offering plate, or
- Call the church office at 706.548.2246 by **noon on Tuesday**, or
- Email [cassieb@BeechHaven.net](mailto:cassieb@BeechHaven.net) by **noon on Tuesday**.
- Request **Permanent Reservation** status using any of the above methods.
- If you have made reservations and do not cancel, we still need you to pay for your meal. Thanks!

## God Blessed

### November

Monthly Requirement .....\$117,916

November Receipts .....\$130,158

November Christian Concern .....\$1,785

Online giving available

[www.BeechHaven.net/give](http://www.BeechHaven.net/give)

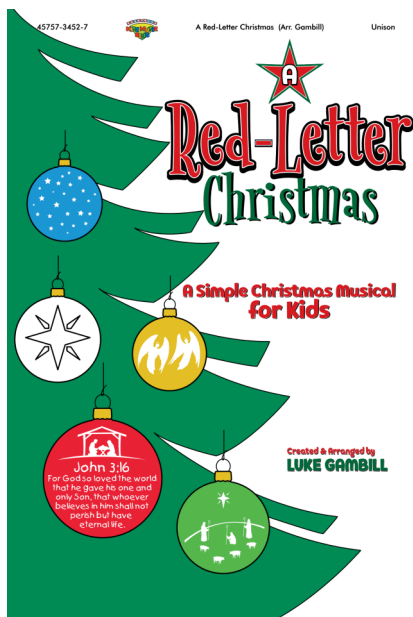
## 2018 Budget Vote

Sunday, December 3

10:25 a.m.



## Preschool & Children's Ministry



**Children's Christmas Music**  
Wednesday, December 13  
6:00 p.m. ♦ Worship Center  
K-1 and Grade 2-5 Choirs will sing

### Children & Preschool Family Christmas Party

Saturday, December 16

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Bring a guest family to enjoy good food, fellowship and games!

**Please bring a side dish to share.**

### Awana News!

December 3 - Camo Night

December 10 - No Club

December 17 - Store Night

December 24 - No Club

December 31 - No Club

January 7 - Family Photo Night -

Bring a photo of your family

January 14 - Noodle Night -

Bring Ramen noodles for Project Safe

January 21 - Double Buck Night

January 28 - Silly String Night -

bring a friend and get to silly

string the commander



### Practices:

December 4, 5 and 7

December 11, 12 and 14

**Games Begin Saturday, January 6**

### New Sunday School Class!

for three year old's

Taught by Shaun Webb and Kelly Greene

## Student Ministry

### Christmas Party

Saturday, December 9

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Harris' House

Each Sunday School Class is to dress up as their own nativity scene.

Bonfire and Happy Birthday Jesus Party

Bring a small toy for a child. (All toys will be donated to Toys for Tots).

You may also bring a pack of 9V batteries to help with Merry Christmas, Athens! on Sunday.

### Merry Christmas, Athens!

Sunday, December 10

Plan to stay after church for lunch and training and then head next door to

University Oaks from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

We will go door-to-door to give out batteries and pray and share with our neighbors. Meet back up at 6:00 p.m. at the Mall for the Christmas Music program.

### The Mix

(Athens Area DNow)

February 23-25

We will have our own host homes, still do a mission project on Saturday afternoon, but we will also worship with 2,000 other students from across the Athens area.

Guest Speaker: Dan Lian, Teaching Pastor at Newspring Church

Cost: \$50. Due by January 14

[Pay here.](#)

[Register here.](#)

## College Ministry

### Tacky Sweater Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 5

7:00 p.m.

at the Fountains

### Study at the Beech

December 6 - 12

See Tommy or and intern to sign-up for a time slot

### Ski Trip

MLK Weekend (January 12 - 15)

Cost: \$355

We still need a couple more sponsors.

If you are interested, contact Tommy.

### Sunday School

9:15 a.m. in Building D

### Groups at Ginger Lane

Weekly Bible Study

Thursdays @ 8:00 p.m.

### Summer Xtreme Beach Retreat

June 11-15

\$335 per person

includes 4 nights & 7 meals at

Edgewater Beach Resort

**\$50 non-refundable deposit due by December 6**

[Register here.](#) [Pay here.](#)

## December Servants

### Sunday, December 3

#### Extended Session

Coordinators: Eric & Heather Harris  
Sandi Franklin  
Dennis & Kathy McDaniel  
Mallory Fountain, Susan Sheffield  
Sharon McKeithan, Lisa Rhymer

#### Children's Worship

Ashley Ivey, Squeaky Drewry

#### Usher Team

Mike Mauldin

#### Shuttle Bus Driver

Donnie Pickering

#### Worship Hour Prayer Team

Heather Pittman

#### Counting Team for Monday

Sherry Reed, Marie Moran  
Lanie Lafayette

### Sunday, December 10

#### Extended Session

Coordinators: Kenneth & Stephanie Bowman  
Debbie Jones, Nikki Menjivar  
Dale & Nancy Wallace  
Mike and Thomas Campbell  
Jason & Lynn Booth

#### Children's Worship

Brent & Meredith Dykes

#### Usher Team

Len Griffin  
Tom McCormack, Franklin Scott  
George Windate

#### Shuttle Bus Driver

Alan Parrish

#### Worship Hour Prayer Team

Matt Rhymer

#### Counting Team for Monday

Linda Pickering, Allene Carteaux  
Joyce Hartley

*Whatever you do,  
work heartily,  
as for the Lord  
and not for men,  
knowing that from the  
Lord you will receive  
the inheritance as  
your reward. You are  
serving the Lord  
Christ.*

Colossians 3:23-24

### Sunday, December 17

#### Extended Session

Coordinators: Eric & Rosie Ingram  
Mike & Peggy Mauldin  
Stacie Leggett, Mary Deaton  
Jake Johnson, Cameron Sowers

#### Children's Worship

Tracy McKeithan, Amy Tolbert

#### Usher Team

Bill Crowe  
Robert Sinyard, Steve Starnes  
Jerry Whiteside

#### Shuttle Bus Driver

Eric Ingram

#### Worship Hour Prayer Team

Sherrie Schwarzenbach

#### Counting Team for Monday

Jane Poole, Emily McClure  
Mary Deaton

### Sunday, December 24

#### Extended Session

Coordinators: Ryan & Jennifer Adolphson  
MaLinda McLendon, Cassie Brown  
Mitchell Adolphson, Adam Monroe  
Bill & Mayre Favaloro

#### Children's Worship

Zach Williams, Katherine Allen

#### Usher Team

John Zelle  
Dickie Riggs

#### Shuttle Bus Driver

Jerry Davis

#### Worship Hour Prayer Team

John and Kate Walker

#### Counting Team for Monday

Doug & Faye Owens  
Nancy Bruce

### Sunday, December 31

#### Extended Session

Coordinator: Joyce & Bill Bowen  
Jerry & Sylvia Whiteside  
Sherri Michelle Mills  
Joann Davis, Robin Riggs, Nancy Hunt

#### Children's Worship

No Children's Worship

#### Usher Team

Bill Crowe, Don Pickering  
Robert Sinyard, Steve Starnes  
Jerry Whiteside

#### Shuttle Bus Driver

Robert Sinyard

#### Worship Hour Prayer Team

Joyce Bowen

#### Counting Team for Monday

Faye & Doug Owens  
Nancy Bruce

#### Ministry Staff

David Mills ..... Pastor ..... dmills@beechhaven.net  
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Tim Cotten ..... Minister of Music & Worship ..... tcotten@beechhaven.net  
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Jennifer Adolphson ..... Preschool Coordinator ..... preschool@beechhaven.net  
Stewart Simms ..... Pastor Emeritus ..... ssimms@beechhaven.net

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Bill Dickerson ..... Facilities Manager  
Karla Bartlett ..... Pianist