

THE CHALLENGE

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December 2021

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Here is our Vision in a Nutshell! Our **PASSION.**

“Growing God’s Garden Together”

- **Glorify** Jesus Christ through worship
- **Grow** in a relationship with Jesus and other people
- **Give** of one’s time and resources by serving Jesus and His Church
- **Go** and reach out to others who need to experience the love of Jesus

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR:



So what are you getting for Jesus this Christmas? Is He on your Christmas list? We make our lists of who we’re buying gifts for, hoping and praying we don’t forget or overlook anyone, but let’s not forget that it’s Jesus’ birthday we’re celebrating. What could we give Him?

Do we overlook Jesus on the very day we celebrate His coming? We get so busy this time of year at church, or in the kitchen at home, or buying gifts to go under the tree, and we fail to think about our Lord and Savior. We don’t mean to, or choose to, or

want to, but we get so busy with the celebration itself that we sometimes forget who it is we’re celebrating. This year, what can we give Jesus? What would He want?

Matthew’s account of the birth of Jesus helps us understand exactly what Jesus wants for Christmas. What is it that the wise men gave Him? Many would say frankincense, myrrh, and gold. That’s true, but that’s not all. Look carefully. Matthew 2:11 tells us, “And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.” Why did they come? The Magi traveled all those miles to see, not a child, but a King. Their gifts indicated that they understood the one they would find was royalty. And their response was to worship Him. That’s right. Before they gave him the three gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, they first gave him their worship.

That’s what our Lord first and foremost wants from us this Christmas, our worship — that’s all. And it is a gift He richly deserves! Just like the wise men knelt before Him so long ago, we need to come today and bow before Him.

May God bless you and your family during this Christmas season. Have a great week and let your light shine for Jesus this week.

Pastor Rick



December

Ministry & Fellowship Opportunities

- 1 JAM 5:30 pm, Bible Study 6 pm, Choir 7 pm
- 3 Joy Gardener’s Club Lunch, Brian Burthfield Concert
- 8 JAM 5:30 pm, Bible Study 6 pm, Choir 7 pm
- 12 Church Vote on 2022 Budget
- 12 Pack Homebound Baskets 5 pm
- 15 JAM 5:30 pm, Bible Study 6 pm, Choir 7 pm
- 19 Christmas in the Garden – Music Celebration 6 pm
- 22 JAM 5:30 pm, Bible Study 6 pm, Business mtg
- 24 Church Office Closed
- 25 Christmas Candle Light Lord’s Supper Service 8 pm
- 29 JAM 5:30 pm, Bible Study 6 pm, Choir 7 pm



*We love
because he first loved us!
1 John 4:19*



A MESSAGE FROM ANDY:

Wednesday



JAM 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Meal, Worship and Bible Study

Sunday



Sunday School	9:45 am
Morning Worship	11:00 am
Children's Worship	11:15 am
Rootz	5:30 pm
Sproutz	5:30 pm



Can you believe it's December???

I went through a time in my life when I hated holidays - all of them. Growing up, I loved everything about them and all of our family's traditions. But as time went on, family members passed, and traditions changed, I found myself in a place where I didn't want to celebrate anymore.

And then Luke came along.... There is no compare to seeing his pure joy on Christmas morning waking up and seeing what Santa Claus has delivered. But way more than that, the greatest joy is seeing Luke joyfully share JESUS with everyone he meets.

This Christmas, don't let yourself get caught up in what you need to buy, where you need to go, what you need to do. We celebrate the birth of JESUS CHRIST at Christmastime...the Light of the World, our Savior and Lord!

If you need a reminder of this, remember these two words: Be Linus. In the middle of all the ruckus of the Christmas play, only Linus could answer Charlie Brown's question: "Does anyone know what Christmas is all about?"

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."
Luke 2:8-14

That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown. Be Linus. Carry a blue blanket if necessary. Much love to everyone as we celebrate JESUS this Christmas and head into 2022!

Andy W.

JAMES' CORNER:

I wonder why we celebrate Christmas the way we do. We feast, party, give gifts, etc. These are fun things and in no way wrong, but it seems like we go overboard. Many act like it is a party for themselves..... forgetting it is the day we should be celebrating Jesus. It is His special day. Our gift exchanges should be reminders of God's great gift, Jesus. Our gift to others can be expensive or very small but it should always be given with love. My favorite Christmas song is "Little Drummer Boy." He couldn't afford a gift but he could play the drum! We should give our talents to our Lord as a gift. Remember, as you have fun exchanging gifts, let it remind you of God's gift to us - Jesus. All wrapped in love, with a cross as a bow. Thank God for such a great gift. MERRY CHRISTMAS from me and Margaret. God bless each of you.
Bro. James Meade



JOY Gardeners December Gathering

December 3, 2021

Brian Burchfield in Concert

11:30 for lunch

Noon for Concert

Please let us know if you are coming for lunch or just the concert so we will have enough food, by signing up on bulletin board.

The meal will consist of Bojangles 2-piece meal including: chicken, mashed potatoes, slaw and biscuit.



Church family at Lynn Garden Baptist Church,

Thank you all so very much for your many acts of kindness during these past 4 years, from the time mom had her first stroke and was at Crown Cypress Assisted Living about 6 months, and then at NHC for 3 1/2 years followed by her last days at Holston Manor, whi were a little over 3 months.

You exhibited your love to us in many ways, by your thoughts, prayer, cards, phone calls, indoor visits and window visits.

Mom and I both greatly appreciated the Christian live you showed our way in those difficult times.

Love sincerely,

Janice Chapman

December Sunday Morning Ministries

Deacon of the Week:

5 David Vicars
12 Steve Byrd
19 Steve Fletcher
26 Tom Gilbert

Greeters:

5 Carroll & Sharon Hurd
12 Allen Rhoton & Frances Bates
19 Wilma Carico & Carolyn Meade
26 Kenny & Deborah Lawson

Audio:

5 Michael Strickler
12 Michael Bush
19 Michael Strickler
26 Michael Bush

Power Point:

5 Michael Bush
12 Avery Bush
19 Michael Bush
26 Avery Bush

Video:

5 Caleb Hall
12 Doug Clark
19 Conner Collins
26 Caleb Hall

DVD Distribution:

No delivery at this time.

Nursery Workers:

5 S Clark, J Nowah
12 Cat Gilbert & J Livesay
19 A Collins, N Byrd
26 Car Gilbert, C Chapman

Transportation:

5 Joe Collier 276-2164
12 David Vicars 378-5860
19 Louis Trivette 429-7545
26 Joe Collier 276-2184

Children's Worship:

5 & 12 Car Gilbert, A Rogers
19 & 26 D Gilbert, L Walters

Tellers:

5 Rhoton, Lawson, Vicars
12 Rhoton, Tittsworth, Bishop
19 Rhoton, Bowman, Vicars
26 Rhoton, Lawson, Tittsworth

Ushers:

5 Andy Walters
12 Jasen Wells
19 Gale Osborne
26 Bill Thurman

Outside Morning Security:

5 Allen Rhoton
12 Joe Collier
19 Louis Trivette
26 Kenny Lawson



OUTREACH MINISTRIES:

Our Community Outreach continues as we collect food for the neighborhood food bank. The current needs are toiletries, food items or monetary donations. They can purchase the food at a cheaper cost. Please place them in the collection area behind the choir loft or drop donations in the offering boxes.

WATCH MORNING WORSHIP AT HOME

Sermons on YouTube Will Continue Sunday Mornings:

Use the link below to view the Sunday Morning Worship services.

https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCmGFp0v5QWg_yFVTbam_EFA

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Lottie Moon Post Office



The Lottie Moon Post Office is now open and collection boxes for Christmas cards are located throughout the church. Save a stamp and donate that money to the 2021 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Each year we share Christmas Cards with our church family by bringing them to the church and the youth separates and sorts the cards. Each family has a designated mailbox and will need to pick up their cards throughout the Christmas season. Please let the church office know if you do not have a mailbox or if you need for someone to deliver your cards. The mailboxes are located in the basement of the Sanctuary building near the entrance to the Fellowship Hall. List of members on table by offices.



The Angel Tree is located in the sanctuary and is used to adopt a child from JF Kennedy for Christmas gifts. There are 50 angel ornaments on the tree this year that have girl or boy written on them. In addition, it will give you sizes for the student. All children love to receive a toy at Christmas so that would also be a great gift to include. Please choose an ornament and record your name with the corresponding number on the notepad next to the tree. The gifts should be brought to the church by December 12th and placed under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary.



Baskets for Our Homebound!

We currently need individually wrapped snacks, fruits, candy and goodies for our homebound members. Each year we fill a bag with special surprises for our homebound members. This year we will pack those bags on Wednesday, December 12 at 5 pm in the basement of the sanctuary building.

We will need volunteers to deliver the goody bags!



Join us December 19th at 6 pm as we celebrate Christmas with a musical celebration featuring the members of Lynn Garden Baptist Church! After celebrating Christmas upstairs, we will move downstairs for our 2021 Christmas Party. Bring your favorite appetizer for sharing. There is talk we might have a special guest – you won't want to miss this time of fellowship.



Christmas Night Worship

December 25, 8 pm

Candlelight and Lord Supper Service