

Baptist Tabernacle Church

December 2020 Newsletter

BTC Update

We are now open for Worship Service.
Congregation members will be expected to show their love for others by:

- ♦ Wearing a Mask
- ♦ Staying 6 feet apart
- ♦ Using Hand Sanitizer

Entrances & Exits will be limited to 2 areas in order to reduce cleaning & sanitizing.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Building Re-Opening Guidelines can be found on our Website:
baptisttabernaclechurch.net

Our Memory Verse for December is:

Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you. 2 Corinthians 13:11 KJV

December Bible Reading Schedule

Day 1 Daniel 4-6	Day 16 Micah 1-3
Day 2 Daniel 7-9	Day 17 Micah 4-7
Day 3 Daniel 10-12	Day 18 Nahum 1-3
Day 4 Hosea 1-3	Day 19 Habakkuk 1-3
Day 5 Hosea 4-6	Day 20 Zephaniah, Haggai
Day 6 Hosea 7-9	Day 21 Zechariah 1-3
Day 7 Hosea 10-12	Day 22 Zechariah 4-6
Day 8 Hosea 13-14	Day 23 Zechariah 7-9
Day 9 Joel 1-3	Day 24 Zechariah 10-14
Day 10 Amos 1-3	Day 25 Malachi 1-4
Day 11 Amos 4-6	Day 26 Revelation 1-3
Day 12 Amos 7-9	Day 27 Revelation 4-6
Day 13 Obadiah	Day 28 Revelation 7-10
Day 14 2 & 3 John, Jude	Day 29 Revelation 11-15
Day 15 Jonah 1-4	Day 30 Revelation 16-18
	Day 31 Revelation 19-22

SAVE THE DATE

Every Sunday Morning: Pastor Glen's Facebook Live @ 10:00 am

Daily: Pastor Glen's Devotions on BTC Facebook page

December 14th: Leadership Team Meeting @ 6:30pm in FMC

December 19th: Live Nativity @ 6:30 Outside Under Shelter

December 21st: Administration Team Meeting @ 7:00pm in FMC



December Birthdays



December Anniversaries

1st Elizabeth Hocutt
Emma Maidon
Juan Trippe
4th Anna Koger
Layla Mack
5th Bruce Whitley
6th Cassie Hinnant
Holly Hughes
Joette Oliver
Kemp Moore
7th Patsy Coates
Kelly Currie
Lauren Driver
Craig Strickland
8th Sean Bannon
Glen Horton
Ken Spencer
9th William Hocutt
Stacy Bunn
10th Wallace Bunn
Matthew Lee
11th Blair Driver
12th Dena Brannan
13th Jimmy Lewis
Billy Hales
14th Frances Carroll
15th Madison Adams
Adam Driver
John Nowell
Autumn Hargreaves

16th Judy Davis
17th Nita Edwards
Billie Fay Wilson
18th Benjamin Hocutt
Bobby Sellers
19th Jon Carroll
Austin Himmel
20th Linda Hammett
Charles Johnson
Clay Lewis
21st Erma Adkins
Carolyn Stevens
22nd Rebecca Boykin
Fred Flowers
23rd Sean Melvin
24th Margaret Andrews
25th Merry Hocutt
Vickie Hocutt
26th Everly Boyette
Benjamin Green
Chris White
27th Jerry Richardson
Brooke Scott
Jennifer Thompson
28th Wendy D. Jeffreys
Brandon Carroll
29th Nicole Batten
Joan Privette
30th Rose Godwin

5th Harold & Margaret Andrews
8th Joseph & Samantha Lambert
9th Ryan & Brooke Hargreaves
12th Charles & Mary Padgett
14th Tracey & Cynthia Hudson
David & Holly Hughes
DJ & Kayla Scott
16th Kim & Jamie Jeffreys
20th Jimmy & Brenda Lewis
21st Tommy & Rowena Perry
22nd Matthew & Brooke Sanders
29th Tracy & Angela Gilmore

Instructions for using Baptist Tabernacle Church facilities during the COVID-19 crisis

When using our church facilities, please remember everyone in your party should:

- wear appropriate face coverings,
- practice social distancing (minimum of 6 ft where practical and safe to do so),
- wash hands often or use hand sanitizer,
- follow the Governor's Executive Order #169 (capacity: 25 indoors, 50 outdoors)
- follow the CDC recommendations and guidelines.

Remember, this virus is spread most effectively by air particles passed from one person to another. Consider this when planning any *SINGING* at your event. It is important that everyone stays safe and healthy so that the church can continue to operate and move forward. Ignoring these precautionary measures may result in closing down the church buildings for an extended period of time.

SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONS:

- Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
- Have you been tested for COVID-19 and have not received the results?
- Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
- Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
- Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
- Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?

If you answered "**YES**" to any of the screening questions, then you must leave the church **immediately** and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing, per CDC guidelines.

TEMPERATURE CHECKS:

You and your party are encouraged to take your/their own temperature prior to arriving at the church. If your/their temperature measures over 100 degrees, please do not come to the church.

LIMIT GROUP GATHERINGS:

During your event, please limit small group gatherings. Keep people moving as much as possible.

BEFORE LEAVING:

After your guests have left the building and the cleaning has been completed according to the reservation paperwork, please heavily spray OXIVIR on tables, chairs, light switches, and any surfaces touched by anyone in your group...but NOT FOR FOOD PREP AREAS. Allow the spray to dry for 5 minutes. OXIVIR spray bottles are located in the FMC piano room above the bookcase beside the light switch.

Thank you!

Baptist Tabernacle Church, Leadership Team

What are our Ministry Teams up to?

Pastoral Team (Susan Andrews-Team Leader/Wayne Batten-Co-Leader)

The Deacons have cancelled their annual Christmas party due to COVID-19. We ask that you not allow COVID-fatigue to permit you to make unwise decisions regarding your safety over the coming weeks. All of you are very important to our church! "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9 NIV

Administrative Team (Kelly Currie-Team Leader/Ricky Watson-Co-Leader):

The Administrative Team would like to begin our newsletter article with a Merry Christmas to all Church Members. We wish also that you have a Happy New Year as we all hope to have a better 2021!

Our November meeting was again face-to-face in the FMC and followed the recommended guidelines utilizing the 3-W's: Wear a mask, Wash our hands, and Wait 6 feet apart. We sufficiently spread out on individual tables so we could maintain our

"social distance". Items discussed were the Monthly Financial Reports, Edward Jones investments, 2021 Church Budget, and potential recommendation on the maintenance of the investment accounts

Thanks again for continuing to support the Church through your tithes and offerings. Remember, since we have begun having Church Services and receiving offerings during the service, we decided to discontinue the PO Box in Wendell. If you want, you can still mail your offering to the church address at 1599 NC Highway 231, Wendell, NC 27591 or you can personally drop your offering at the Church office during regular office hours. Just please continue to support the Church with your tithes and offerings.

We decided to move all our accounts at Edward Jones to investment accounts, since Money Market accounts are paying only about .1% interest. The investment accounts will fluctuate with the market but have been paying in the 3 to 4% range during 2020, so we thought that was a better investment for our money. We have drafted a recommendation for the use of the remaining money on the Edward Jones account, which will be presented to the Leadership Team at the December meeting. If approved, we will present it to the Church at the next Church Conference.

Most of our time was developing the 2021 Church Budget. This will also be presented to the Church at the next Church Conference.

As we begin to have some regular meetings, let's not become too complacent. We need to continue to utilize the three W's and ensure that we remain safe.

Again, hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Again, if you have any questions for the Administrative Team, please contact one of us.

Property Management Team (Steve White-Team Leader):

We hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. It was a time to thank God for all your blessings and good health. It is so nice to be back in church. I am so sorry it took so long to reopen church. Things still are not normal but we are working to get there. With God's grace and goodness it will happen. Let us all remember we are all in this together. We all can make mistakes but we still need to love one another and forgive someone if they do make a mistake.

If the church ever needed God's grace it is now. The devil is sitting back and having a good time with all that is going on. Remember to love one another and help each other to make it through this time when no one would had ever thought something could be so wrong. May you and your family have a Merry Christmas and by the grace of God a much better 2021!!

Mission Team (Jeany O’Neal-Team Leader/Annette Ragan-Co-Leader):

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Mission Marketplace a success. The flea market will still be open for shopping. Please Contact Sandy or Sonny Trippe for a shopping time or watch our Church Facebook page for post on times they will be at Church for shopping. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Senior Adult Team (Olivia Cooke-Team Leader):

OWLS-Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors (Leaders Olivia Cooke and Patsy Narron):



Greetings to all, hope everyone remains well, we will be meeting on Tuesday, December 29th at 9:30am in the FMC. We will be practicing the 3 W’s. We want to keep everyone safe. All seniors are invited to join us with good food, fellowship and fun.
God Bless, Olivia and Patsy

Worship Team (Pam Batten-Leader/Dana Hocutt-Co-Leader)

We have lots of wonderful things planned for the month of December. Our Church will be decorated by the first Sunday in December. If you purchased a poinsettia in Honor or in Memory of someone, the tree will be set up until December 20th. You may take home your poinsettia on that date. Our choir will not be doing a Cantata this year. Sandy has planned special music from some choir members for each Sunday in December. We hope you enjoy the special music. We will be having a Live Nativity Christmas Play. It is scheduled for Saturday, December 19th at 6:30 pm. The play will be held outdoors under the shelter. Santa will make an appearance and you and your kids can visit him in his own little house. Refreshments will be served afterwards, and we will be practicing the 3-W’s at this event. Thanks to Amy Boykin and her cast for making this Christmas Play possible again this year. It takes a lot of hard work and with the restrictions we have this year, the work has doubled. Please plan to bring your family to attend this wonderful event. We hope everyone has a Very Merry Christmas. Remember the Reason For The Season.



Children's Team (Wayne Batten-Team Leader):

Due to all Church programs being cancelled for now, Pam and I have been making packets for Children's Church participants and mailing to them each week. We hope your children like them. Please do these activities as a family and consider posting photos to our Church Facebook Page.

Youth Team (Christin Brown-Team Leader):

It is wonderful to be back in our church building! The youth will hopefully be able to meet back together soon in our church building as well. We are prayerfully considering our options for activities and summer camp for next year. Please be in prayer with us as we make these decisions.

God Bless, Carrie Sellers & Youth Team

Discipleship Team (Bobby Sellers-Team Leader/Cynthia Hudson-Co-Leader):

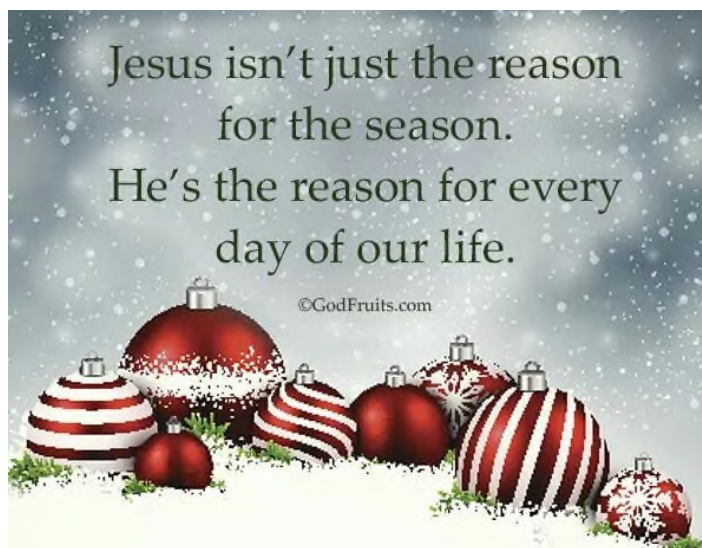
Hello everyone,

Sunday School materials are continuing to be mailed to the students. The adult Sunday School materials have been delivered. We hope to be together soon.

"Any Sunday School Teacher that would like to offer their Sunday School lesson via Zoom, please contact Susan Andrews."



Our Monthly Missions Offering for November and December will be for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Lottie Moon Christmas Offering funds inter-





On Hold....

Until we can resume normal Church activities, the following Committees are on hold. We will resume these processes as soon as we can. Please be in prayer for these areas of ministry for our Church:

- *Bus/Van Committee
- *Children's Director Search Committee
- *Furniture Committee

Recurring Prayer Needs

Dennis, Ann, Vondell, & Dennis, Jr. Badger	David Driver	Abbi Kennedy	Dolores Renfrow
Addie Batten	Randy Driver	Shirley Lane	Libby Seagroves
Freddie Batten	Tony Driver	Katie Lewis	Natalie Shirley
Steven Batten	Ronnie Faulkner	Woodrow Lewis	Marie Shuman
Melanie Brock	Teresa Faulkner	Emma Maidon	Ray Smith
Christin Brown	Ben Green	Sharon May	Kessler Sorrell
Dennis Brown	Mike Himmel	Pam Maynor	Bobby Stevens
Lillian Brown	Elizabeth Hocutt	Beth McNeil	Linda Stevens
Ann & Russell Capps	Robert Hocutt	Scarlette Missineo	George Strickland
Sue Cline	Sue Hocutt	Danny Ray Parrish	O.K. Strickland
Faye Creech	Carl Holt	Jimmy Peck	Mr & Mrs. Jerry Watkins
George Creech	David Hughes	Vickie Peters	Nancy Watson
Wayne Currie	Jackie Hunter	Othell Price	
Judy Davis	Joan Hunter	Larry Price	
Charles Driver	Wilber Johnson	Shaun & Joy Price	
	Kenneth Jones	Spencer Ragan	

New Prayer Needs

Carmen, Chris & Baby Carson Andrews	Betty Watts
Cub Barrow	Billy Fay Wilson
Paul Brown	Joann Young
Russell Capps	Unspoken Requests
Steve Currie	
Greg Driver	
Bob Himmel	
Ann Kennedy	
Joan Privette	
Jeff Quinn	
Joey Renfrow	
Joy Tant	



From the Pastor's Desk:

This Christmas is like no other that we have experienced. COVID19 and the ongoing pandemic issues have caused every one of us to alter our "Traditional" Christmas celebrations. The "Expectations" of Christmas are still with us and that cannot be altered by pandemic, virus or anything else. Families will still celebrate Christmas, even if it is in a creative manner. My desire is that everyone will take time to recognize the "REASON FOR THE SEASON," and determine to embrace our "Gift" from God, for our very survival, right here, right now, and for our eternal security! During this Christmas season, please remember what my Daddy used to say, "Well Son, we have to be as "Flexible" as we are "Faithful!" In light of our current circumstances, please consider the message that follows...

Christmas is loaded with expectations! There is Christmas shopping, decorating, parties, and entertaining. We typically knock ourselves out trying to make it the "perfect" Christmas. And year after year we end up with the same empty feeling, like Christmas wasn't as personally fulfilling and satisfying as we'd hoped. Why is that? Could it be that our expectations are unrealistic, and have been formed by the "Hallmark" or "Currier and Ives" mentality? Let's consider a few of our expectations.

Picture yourself seated at a beautifully decorated Christmas dining table. Cheerful Christmas music plays softly and a twinkling Christmas tree stands proudly in the background. This is the time of "peace on earth, good will toward men." Now picture your family and relatives all sitting together around this beautiful table. Do you picture them? ...are they arguing? Sometimes, in spite of our efforts, people knock heads, even at Christmas. Maybe you're hoping that this year your children (even adult children) will be cheerful, patient, reasonably respectful, and thoughtful of others. Well, if that's how they are from January to November, you might have a shot at it in December. Or you might find them pulling ornaments off that beautiful Christmas tree and opening presents saying, "Where are my toys?" Somehow we think the perfect Christmas is happening in someone else's house, not our own.

Christmas is packed with expectations. Life isn't perfect and our expectations can really do us in. Rather than be driven by a list of expectations, there is a better way to approach Christmas. There's a way to find it much more personally satisfying. First, let's look at why we have Christmas. Christmas is celebrated because of the birth of Jesus. Secondly, Jesus came to offer us a genuine relationship with himself. There is no greater joy at Christmas than coming into a personal relationship with Jesus. Too many times we have worn ourselves out, driven by our expectations to have the "perfect" Christmas. It's a set-up for "let downs" and disappointment.

All of the shopping, decorating, entertaining never fully meets our deepest longings. For Christmas to be special, we simply need to receive Jesus' gift to us...a relationship with him. Knowing Him brings great meaning and enjoyment at Christmas, no matter what the circumstances happen to be. Annette and I pray that this will be a Christmas filled with God's great joy and presence, as you embrace His Son, Jesus – THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Glen & Annette

