

*For unto us
a child is born
...a Savior
who is Christ
the King!*



Pastor's Note

I hope everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving, and of course, every day should be a day that we give thanks to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, for all His blessings. November was a good month as God blessed us in every service.

December is always busy, but what a time to reflect on the greatest gift known to mankind, our Lord Jesus Christ! Without Him, there would be no Christmas, no hope, no salvation. Through Him, we can overcome this world and have peace in our heart and the assurance of life everlasting.

Prayer is important. It doesn't matter where we pray if we honestly mean the words we say. For God is listening to hear the prayers that are made by a heart that is sincere.

I am looking forward to all the services at Hightower: the Christmas Cantata, the young people's Christmas program, and going to visit our members who are unable to attend church.

Dorris and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year. See you in church.

In Christ,

Brother Gerral

HIGHTOWER BAPTIST CHURCH

Gerral Richards, Pastor

December 2011

www.HightowerBaptistChurch.com

Merry Christmas!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

PRAYER LIST

Becky Bailey
Doug Carnes
Will Carnes
E.W. & Edith Cochran
Mary Lee Cochran
Effie Cowart
Kate Edwards
Cathy Fowler (daughter of Alma Turner)
Roger & Bobbie Gilleland
Betty Greene (sister-in-law of Arnold & Judy Cox)
Keith and Ruth Howard
Abigail & Jack Kelley
The family of Jack Ledford
Susan Martin (Penny Hardin's co-worker)
Frankie McBee (Mark Hardin's mom)
Kathleen Monroe
Joe & Hazel Moore
Gwenda Owens (Lisa Bobo's mother)
Gary Padgett (son of Rev. Bobby & Betty Padgett)
Don Parker
Marion Phillips (Jamie Wilkie's mom)
Kevin Price (Ronny & Rilla's nephew)
Mr. & Mrs. Price (Ronny's parents)
Jane Rogers (Mildred Holcombe's first cousin)
Luna Roper (Dorris' mother)
Charlotte Smith (friend of Norma Jean Pruitt)
Charles Thomas (Allen Thomas' brother)
Hazel Thomas (Allen Thomas' mother)
Jerry and Sue Weaver (Helen Gaddis' brother and sister-in-law)
Barbara Wheeler
J.T. Wilkie
Lamar Wilkie
Tim Wilkie & family



Adult Choir News

Tis the season of hope, joy, and love as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, throughout the month of December and all year long! Only two more practices until our cantata, Mary Did You Know, on Sunday, December 18th!

As you are making your lists and checking them twice, don't forget to allocate time for practice on Wednesday night! We are trying to get announcements started around 6:50 and it would be wonderful to have everyone in attendance at these last few practices. We still need to get our seating finalized and all our music perfected!

Please continue to listen to your CD as you make your way to work and back, and in between all those shopping stops! I look forward to seeing you at practice.

Merry Christmas to all and don't forget that Jesus is the Reason for the Season!!!

Keep on Singing,

Mitzi



Sunday School News

It's hard to believe that Christmas is right around the corner. I hope we all take time out of our busy schedules to reflect on what this season is really about: the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Remember on Sunday, December 18, we will have the Children's Program and a *special guest* afterwards! I know they have been working hard, so please come out and support our youth.



Thanks for your continued support and prayers for our Sunday School. If you are not currently attending, we invite you to join us every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. We have great teachers and it's a great time to learn what God has done and is going to do for us.

In closing, Tonya, Will, Owen and I hope each of you have a very Merry Christmas.

For Him,

Lance

Help Us Help You

Help us keep the newsletter timely and accurate by providing us with your information. We'd love to include:

- New baby announcements
- Shower announcements
- Anyone who needs to be added to (or removed from) the prayer list
- New addresses or phone numbers
- CHURCH ACTIVITIES! — Plan in advance so your information can get into the newsletter!
- Mission information
- New member information — Name(s), address, phone and email information — so everyone can call you or drop you a note!
- Any other news or events

Remember that the information should get to Jamie Wilkie or Kristi Ledford on or before the last Sunday of each month. December's deadline is Christmas day, so get your information in EARLY to Jamie!

Jamie's email is jamiwilkie@bellsouth.net

Kristi's is tkledford@windstream.net





Caroling we will go....

— All are invited!! —

Join us for our annual tradition of Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 11.

We will leave the church at 2:00 p.m. The church rents a bus so that everyone can ride together. We will probably arrive back between 5 and 6 p.m.

Please note that this is NOT a choir-only activity! Everyone is invited as we visit those who can not attend church due to health or other issues. We have a great time, and the more voices, the better. This will be the only choir that some of the shut-ins will get to hear in person this holiday season!

IMPORTANT NEWS!

Change of Address:

Zach, Alicia & Trip Cochran
240 Camp Dobbs Road
Jasper, GA 30143

5th Sundays

Each fifth Sunday's offering is given to WMU to support their outreach efforts. Upcoming dates: January 29 and April 29, 2012.

WMU NEWS

WMU will meet on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall to sort food items for the families we are helping this season.

Our annual Christmas Party will be once again hosted by Pam and Libby Gaddis at their home on Thursday, December 8 beginning at 6:30 p.m. We will have a brief meeting as part of the party. Don't forget to bring an ornament for your Secret Pal!



Life Jr. News

Remember to bring in the Christmas gifts you're purchasing for the local family we're helping. We will have a Wrapping Party on Wednesday, Dec. 7 after Christmas Program Practice.

Our Christmas Party will be held on December 14. We will be eating, practicing for our program, and making a craft!

Please bring a \$10 gift card for the gift card exchange. Come hungry and get ready for a great night!!

PS — Please NO gifts for the teachers ...we'd rather get hugs than gifts!



*Dec. 25:
Happy Birthday,
Jesus! Thank you
for being the Gift.*



News from the Deacons

Hightower Baptist Church has developed a "Code of Ethics and Guidelines" for all Hightower officers and Sunday School faculty. This information will be read in church on Sunday, December 11 and will be voted on by church members in Conference on December 17.

Please be sure to attend Conference at 11 a.m. on December 17.



Christmas Program News!!

Hightower Baptist Church's Annual Christmas program, Christmas in the Country, will be Sunday, December 18 at 7 p.m.

We will be practicing on Wednesday nights during the youth choir practices and also during the first 30 minutes of Life Jr.

Everyone should have received a CD and sheet music of the songs we will be singing, so be sure to practice at home as well. If you have not received a CD and would like one, please see Jennifer Martin.



We will have a dress rehearsal on Friday night, December 9 if needed. If you have any questions or need more information, contact Nichelle Stewart at stewarttns@bellsouth.net or 770-596-0711.

LIVE NATIVITY SCENES

Get in the Christmas spirit by visiting some of the live Nativity Scenes at local churches:

Dec. 9 & 10 — Bethel Baptist Church, 6—9 p.m.

Dec. 9 & 10 — Salem Baptist Church, 6:30—9 p.m.





DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sun., Dec. 4 — Last day to bring in canned goods for local families
- Wed., Dec. 7 — Last day to bring in gift items for local families; Life Jr. “Wrapping Party”
— 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
WMU meets in Fellowship Hall to sort food for local families, 6:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 8 — WMU Christmas Party at Gaddis Home, 6:30 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 11 — Code of Ethics and Guidelines to be read in church, 11 a.m.
Christmas Caroling, meet at church at 2 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 14 — Life Jr. Christmas Party! - 6:30—8 p.m. — Bring a gift card for the gift exchange!
- Sat., Dec. 17 — Conference, 11 a.m.
- Sun., Dec 18 — Christmas Cantata, 11 a.m.
Children’s Christmas Program with *Special Guest*, 7 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 25 CHRISTMAS DAY!!!

Regular Weekly Activities

- ◇ Sunday School is held each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.
- ◇ Church services follow at 11 a.m.
- ◇ Little Children’s Choir and Youth Choir practice Wednesday nights from 6:30—7 p.m.
- ◇ Adult Choir practice is held Wednesday nights, 7—8 p.m.

