January, 2024

To God Be the Glory



The Pastor's Corner:

Once again, this season has been so very busy; not only around the



church, but at my home and your home as well. There is simply so much that has to be done to prepare for Christmas and all of the different festivities that surround it. On Sunday, December 10th, our children and youth performed their Christmas program. It was a great program with an even better message that not only touched the



hearts of all that watched, but challenged us as well. To all those that took part in the planning, practice, preparation and performance, I want to say thank you for your part in making this program a great success.

The following weekend our Singing Christmas Tree once again exceeded all of my expectations and was absolutely beautiful to hear and watch as well. This does not just occur by "happens chance", but rather by the hard work and dedication of many people. The weather did not cooperate and managed to hold the attendance down some, but those that were able to come had nothing but words of praise and gratitude to describe their experience. It truly has become a tradition for many families to be included in their Christmas plans every year.

At the time of this writing, I have not yet preached the "Christmas Message". For some reason this year has been a little bit of a struggle, trying to gather all of my thoughts and feelings together in some type of organized manner. The thought that keeps resonating in my mind this year (and I'm sure will come out in the Christmas message) is the phrase that we have all become familiar with ... "Jesus is the reason for the season". All though this is a very true statement, I have not been able to shake from my mind that the truth of the matter is that the "reason for the season" is actually mankind which includes you and I. It was our sin that created the need for the first Christmas. We are the reason Jesus had to leave His place in Glory, be wrapped in a robe of flesh, born of a virgin in a sin filled world, and ultimately die on the rugged cross of Calvary at the hands of His creation. The event that took place on that first Christmas morning (which led to the cross) was the greatest show of LOVE that the world has ever seen. We all enjoy the beauty that surrounds us during the Christmas season. However, it was the ugliness of sin, and the greatness of God's love that brought about that first Christmas day. God sent His only begotten Son into this world knowing the sacrifice He would have to pay for the redemption of mankind. He came as a baby, died as a Savior, so that each and every one of us, from Herod and Caesar, to the innkeeper and religious leaders, to you and me, could be forgiven of our sins, saved, and spend eternity in the presence of our Great God. Thank you Jesus for loving us when we were unlovable.

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Let's Celebrate!

Happy Birthday to...

Elaine Boyles - 3rd Linda Brown - 4th Judy Cox - 5th Megan Greene - 6th Sam Gregory - 6th Valerie Bowen - 12th Jeremy Dalton - 14th Katie Kennerly - 18th Tena Stimson - 20th Scott Hardwick - 22nd A.J. Jones - 23rd Faith Smith - 24 Bill Moore - 29th Brenda Aldridge - 30th



Happy Anniversary to...

Jesse and Hannah Walton-Jan. 20th Billy and Willaree Beaver - Jan. 31st

Mark your Calendars:

January 1: Happy New Year!

January 5 : Parents' Night Out -6 PM

January 9:

Daughters of the King - 6:00 PM

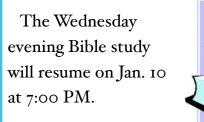
January 21: Quarterly Business Session (Evening)

January 28:



Baptist Men - 8:00 AM

Please note:





To God Be the Glory

January, 2024 <u>News around the church...</u>

Parents' Night Out:

We are looking forward to kicking off 2024 with Parents' Night Out on Friday, January 5th. Our lesson will center on the disciples as Fishers of Men as found in John 21: 1-25. We would like to thank Daughters of the King for partnering with us to purchase hardback children's Bibles for each child as a Christmas gift. In addition, the Parents' Night Out Program purchased and delivered 23 Amazon gift



cards to the children at the Baptist Children's Home in Thomasville the week before Christmas. We would like to say a special "Thank You" to all those who give to our program, which allows us to provide this outreach ministry in the community. Also, gifts were purchased for children who are recipients of the Backpack Program at Millbridge Elementary.



<u>Above:</u> Children using their Bibles to study the lesson in Luke 2. <u>Right:</u> Working on a Christmas tree puzzle game.







Properties Committee:

Over the next few months, there will be work in the sanctuary to finish the heating and air project. This will take several weeks to cover all of the exposed piping so we ask for your patience as the final stage progresses.

Daughters of the King:

Daughters of the King will continue our study, "Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts," Tuesday, January 9th, 2023. Daughters of the King is for ALL ladies 18 and older. Please plan to attend as we learn God's definition of spiritual gifts and how He leads us to identify and discover those precious gifts. Additional study guides have also arrived. Please see Valerie during church or reach out with your address, and we will mail you a copy.

<u>Schedule</u>

6:00 PM - Fellowship 6:30 PM - Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts Study 7:00 PM - Prayer Time and Business Meeting

Our lesson is available via ZOOM. While we would love to have you join in person, sometimes life just prevents us from attending in person. Please provide your email address to Valerie Bowen at <u>valeriebowen80@gmail.com</u>. I will forward your ZOOM invite and a copy of the lesson to all individuals providing an email address. -Valerie Bowen



Outreach in our Church:

On behalf of the Outreach Committee, a "thank you" to all those who gave gifts for the Jesus Gift Ministry which was open to the community the first weekend in December. We provided gifts to over 80



children and shared information about our church with the parents and grandparents who attended. Any unused gifts will be stored and used as a starting inventory for future projects. Thank you to the workers who gave of their time to support this outreach effort. In addition, several Outreach Committee members used the church bus and distributed gifts to several families the week before Christmas. In 2023, we had several initiatives that were successful such as the Jesus Gift, the Back to School Bash, and the Fall Festival, which was coordinated with the Activities Committee. We will be meeting in the first quarter of 2024 to plan for the upcoming year and ask that you support our committee in prayer.



Happy New Year!

We look forward to 2024 as we continue to spread the message of God's love.

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This Month's Big Shout-Out:



December was a very busy month for our church. From programs to music to meals, there was always a special event to center around Christmas. Every event was planned, practiced, coordinated, and/or organized by a special hardworking group of people. Therefore, this month, the big shout out goes to.....*drumroll, please....*

Every individual or group that made the Christmas season a special time for our church. Thank you to all!

Hard at work in Children's Church:	Can you unscramble the following words that are associated with the Disciples?
	eeltvw
	eefhimn <u>rs</u>
	acehgint
	flloow
	cdeiilpss
	acehpr
	definrs
	enst
	aejms
	aeegill
For more children and youth news, see page 6.	disciples, preach, friends, nets or sent, James, Galilee
	Answers: twelve, fishermen, teaching, follow,

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Children and Youth News:

This month, we have learned about the birth of Christ and the gift that God has given to all of us. I want to say "Thank You" to all that have helped out this year. I am looking forward to next year. -Pastor



Children's Church Child of the Month *Mikey Tabor*

How old were you when you were saved? 9

How long have you been attending West Corinth? A year and a half

What is your favorite hymn? "Mary, Did You Know?" or "You Will Be Found"

What is your favorite church activity? Reading the Bible

What is your hobby or interest? learning

Youth of the Month Will Hinson

How old were you when you were saved? 11

How long have you been attending West Corinth? Since birth - almost 14 years

What is your favorite hymn? When Dean sings "I Go to the Rock"

What is your favorite church activity? Youth LockIns

What is your hobby or interest? video games

Children's Church Volunteers

Jan. 7: Scott and Vernelle

Jan. 14: Gary and Tina

Jan. 21: Sam and Jeanna

Jan. 28: Billy and Julie

