

BETHANY HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 2011

Ben's Pen

December is a delightful month. Just check out the many special parties or programs. If your family is like mine there will be a lot of other gatherings and meals of all sorts. December is a busy month, but I need to remember to focus on the reason December is special. It is not about parties, programs, parades, reunions, bowl games, gifts, or food. It is about a scared teenage mother in an unfamiliar town huddled in a shed trying to comprehend who was this infant she was holding. She had heard God's proclamation, but I'm sure she still had a lot of questions. Even after His actions, teachings, and His sacrifice I often short the magnitude of God's gift. December is a special month. It has nothing to do with the calendar.

Susan, Elizabeth, William, Caroline, Jonathan, and I invite you to our house on December 17 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. I will have directions for you on December 11. Come share some time with us that Saturday. We would love to have you. Grace,

The Baptist Men have a couple of events this month. On Saturday, December 3 they will gather at McDonalds at 8:30 a.m. After a time of food and fellowship they will assemble the church's nativity scene on the church lawn. Then on Monday, December 5 the men will gather at the Lone Star Steakhouse at 6:00 p.m. for supper together.

Our annual Dolls, Bears, and Stockings campaign was a huge success. Thank you for your donations.

The Woman's Missionary Union is hosting their annual Christmas party at Four Seasons restaurant on December 13 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Mary Lee Bullock, Joanne Lee, or Linda Lee if you have questions.

The Adult 2 Sunday School class is having their annual Christmas party on December 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone should bring a vegetable and/or a dessert. Individuals also need to bring a favorite Christmas ornament for the annual exchange. Talk to Janet Irving if you have questions.

Our Children's Choir musical "Bows of Holly" will be presented on Sunday, December at 5:00 p.m. The musical encourages us to give our gifts to the world just as God gave His Son to us. There will be a special canned food collection site for your donation. Everyone is invited to a reception afterwards.

Our Adult Choir's cantata will be a part of our worship service on December 25. "Let the World Rejoice" is a cantata including many familiar carols. The entire service will include a number of Christmas favorites and you are encouraged to sing along. Join us for worship at 10:30 a.m.

Our Christmas Eve service is at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to join us for a time of reflection, music, and celebration. On Sunday, December 25 our worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. There will be no Sunday School that Sunday.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

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