

## Angels: Good News for All Humanity

### Luke 2:8-14 (NIV)

*<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."*

Sweden enjoys an unusual Christmas tradition. For more than 50 years, at 3:00 PM. on December 24, the nation has watched what was originally a 1958 Disney Christmas special. Called *Kalle Anka* in Swedish, the program consists of Jiminy Cricket introducing a series of vintage cartoons. Families often plan their entire day around watching the show.

When it comes to tradition, what is familiar to some might be foreign to others. The nativity scene, so familiar and meaningful to us as Christians, is only an empty decoration to many others. And yet the proclamation of the angels remains: The birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is good news for all humanity. Because they delivered this news with joy, the angels in today's reading are Christmas heroes.

We would have booked Carnegie Hall and performed the "Hallelujah Chorus," but God thinks differently. He sent the angels and their good news to a group of hillside shepherds. The first angel said, "Do not be afraid," just as Gabriel had done. Why? Because the "glory of the Lord" was

overwhelming (vv. 9-10). He then announced that the Savior had been born, the Son of God Himself. As a result, true peace—meaning peace in every sense, beginning with peace with God—had come to earth (see Rom. 5:1).

For millennia, angels had been waiting and watching human history unfold, longing for a momentous turning point. So it's no wonder what happened next. As if they could wait no longer, a host of angels suddenly appeared and thundered out, "Glory to God in the highest" (vv. 13-14). In Latin, that's "Gloria in excelsis Deo," so we follow their example whenever we sing the Christmas carol "Angels We Have Heard on High."

Their spirit of joyful praise is worth imitating at Christmas and throughout the year!

I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.



## PATHWAYS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### Upcoming Events---

- January 8** Winter Game Night - vintage games, board games, Minute to win it
- February 5** Video Game Night - game stations, relays and themed games
- March 8** Beach Party - Beach Volleyball, toss games, relays, etc.
- April 1** Super Hero Night - hero themed games stations and crafts
- May 6** Talent Show and OMC (Organized Mass Chaos - a Centrikid game)

Visit and like our **BGBC Pathways** page.

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Fellowship Dinner on the calendar....save the date.

**February 17th** Birthday Potluck Dinner



Our past December ended with a Lottie Moon offering for International Missions meeting our goal of \$1500. A very loving and special church family has helped us with so many projects throughout the year. Thanks for all your support. We also had a Christmas Angel Tree in the family ministry center, with name tags for choosing a gift item to help seven families who were unable to have Christmas gifts this year. Thanks to Susie Hicks and Jean Satterwhite for their help this year.

This year we continue with our emphasis of learning more about PTSD as well as other topics of interest. This month we will be talking about prayer. Our bulletin board will emphasize many of the topics we should pray about daily.

We are so excited to hear that some of our members will be teaming up with another church group to go on a mission trip to the Ivory Coast, West Africa in the spring. Hopefully, they will share with us their plans and needs as we support and pray for them. Let's make this a church supported trip!!!

### **BGBC Pictorial Directory**

January 14, 15, & 16, 2016

Our church is working with Lifetouch to create a new pictorial directory. Everyone who attends this church is invited to be a part of this event. You do not have to be a member, but you do have to attend services here. Those participating will receive one free 8"x10" photo + a free church directory. Additional packages will be available for you to order if you wish.

If you plan to be away on the dates that pictures will be taken, you can still get your picture in the church directory. Please call the church office for details.

Those on the team working with Lifetouch are Sandy Taylor, Carolyn Lane, and Neal Tidman.

# January 2016



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <b>New Year's Day</b>	2 Upper Zion SS class social at the Shulers
3 <b>Communion</b> 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:00 Traditional Worship	4 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 6:30 Refit, Family Ministry Center	5 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement 7:00 Preschool Board of Directors, Philathea Rm	6 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	7	8 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 6:00 Kids Night, Family Ministry Ctr	9
10 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:00 Traditional Worship 6:00 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Bible Study, home of Ryan/Charlene Gray	11 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 6:30 Refit, Family Ministry Center 7:00 Finance Committee, Philathea Rm	12 12:00 Dollie Farmer WMU, Philathea Rm 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement 6:30 Care & Visitation, Philathea Rm	13 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 4:30-Closing—Spirit Night at Pino's Pizza to benefit Preschool 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	14	15 <b>Lee-Jackson Day</b> 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool	16
				Taking pictures for Pictorial Directory		
17 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:00 Traditional Worship	18 <b>Martin Luther King Day</b> 6:30 Refit, Family Ministry Center 7:00 Church Council, Philathea Rm	19 12:00-6:00 Bloodmobile @ BGBC, Fam Ministry Ctr 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement 7:00 Building & Grounds, Philathea Rm	20 Newsletter Deadline 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	21 7:00 Deacon's meeting, Philathea Rm	22 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool	23
24 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Business meeting, Family Ministry Center 11:00 Traditional Worship	25 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 6:30 Refit, Family Ministry Center	26 10:00 Christian Book Club, Philathea Rm 11:00 Library Committee, Library 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement	27 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	28 6:00 County Relay for Life Committee, Family Min Center	29 9:00-12:00 Beginnings Preschool	30
31 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:00 Traditional Worship						



# january birthdays

- 1 Avery Delisi
- 1 Ian Diritto
- 1 Vincent Diritto
- 1 Chris Farmer
- 1 Kelly Farmer
- 1 Heather Gilbert
- 2 Paulette Britt
- 4 Kristin Bissoon
- 4 Levi Farris
- 4 Faye Krause
- 5 Allison Carpenter
- 10 Allen Stroud
- 12 Jadrien Roberts
- 13 Christopher Flora
- 14 Winston Pickett
- 16 Doug Farris
- 17 Strother "Ted" Lewis
- 17 Timothy Perry
- 22 Ann Bowie
- 22 Daniele Cushing
- 23 Delaney Thomas
- 24 Ryan Mack
- 25 Joseph Lanford
- 25 Tracey Mallory
- 29 Manny Salazar



# january reminders

**Deacon of the Week:**

- Jan 3 – Sandy Taylor
- Jan 10 – Terry Bullock
- Jan 17 – Bob Rice
- Jan 24 – Carolyn Lane
- Jan 31 – Neal Tidman

**Counters:** – Lee Dunnington & Vicky Farmer

**Building Security:** – Deacon of the week

**Flowers:**

- Jan 3 – Terry Bullock
- Jan 10 – Jean Reynolds
- Jan 17 – Sandy Taylor
- Jan 24 – Margaret B. Lewis & Lillian B. Jones
- Jan 31 – Laura & Doug Ferguson

**Nursery Workers: \***

- Jan 3 – Haley Kennedy & Debbie Thomas
- Jan 10 – Paige Carter & Nathan Carter
- Jan 17 – Olivia Perry & Jordan Apperson
- Jan 24 – Sallie Tidman & Sabrina Farris
- Jan 31 – Tracey Mallory & Kristen Bissoon

\* Both individuals are responsible for the 9:00 service; the underlined individual is also responsible for the 11:00 service.