

### *Thankful for Forgiveness*

*And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood. Revelation 1:5*

*As we begin to turn our thoughts toward Christmas, let's take a moment to express our gratitude for God's forgiveness. Jesus Christ makes forgiveness possible for us.*

*He loves us. How amazing that Jesus loves us! Not past tense (which is loved us), but He loves us, present tense, right now, with all of our sins, failures, and problems. Sometimes we forget how much He loves us.*

*Jesus washed us from our sins. He cleansed us. First John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." He released our sins; they have been taken away from us. The same imagery portrayed in the Day of Atonement, with the scapegoat taking away the sins of the people, is what we see in His forgiveness.*

*Jesus loves us. He has forgiven us. We are washed, cleansed, and released from our sins. What good news to be grateful for in the season.*

*Father, thank You for loving us and for forgiving us. Thank You for cleansing us from our sins.*

*Amen*



## Music News

On November 29, we will have a special **“Hanging of the Greens”** service. This is the time when we decorate our church for the Christmas season. We will have a Pot Luck Supper at 5:30 pm and then we will decorate our church following supper. We will decorate the sanctuary at 7:00 pm and explain the meaning of the colors and greens that are used. We will have special music by our different choirs and sing Christmas Carols to start the Christmas season. The children of our church will decorate our big Christmas tree with special ornaments that have sacred meanings and the lights will be turned on the tree for Christmas.

Music has always been a very important part of our Christmas celebration at BGBC. Every year we prepare a music production to be presented at the traditional morning worship service at 11:00 am. This year we will present our **Christmas musical on December 20 at 11:00 am.**

The choirs of the church are busy at work on the music. The adult choir, Good News Choir, Starlight Choir and Bell Choir will be participating in this musical. There will be narrations and an appearance by several of the members of the Nativity in costume. The name of the musical with some changes to fit our story is called **“ Rejoice in His Coming”** by Susan Naylor Calloway.

**The Advent Season begins on November 29.** There are four Sundays in Advent before Christmas Day. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Messiah. Advent means “Coming”. It is a time of preparation and reflection, but its mood is joyful. Every year we have an Advent wreath at the altar with the four candles of hope, peace, joy and love. The first three candles of peace, hope and joy are purple to represent the majesty of Christ who is from the Royal Line of King David. The fourth candle is pink and represents love. Then, on Christmas Eve, we light the white candle in the center which is the Christ candle to show that Jesus brought light into the world. We will have an Advent candle lighting each Sunday of Advent at our morning worship service at 11:00 am. and the Christ candle will be lit at our Christmas Eve service at 5:00 pm.

We hope you will plan to attend all the exciting times of Advent and Christmas celebrations during the next month. There will always be special music and different families participating in the Advent Candle Lighting ceremonies.

**Christmas Eve** will also be a special time when we have a Candle lighting Service, Christmas Carols, special music and the Advent Candle Lighting service. It always puts us in the right mood for Christmas and is a time to reflect upon what Christmas is really all about.

Our choirs are working so hard to bring Christmas blessings to our church. We hope all will plan to join us for these wonderful celebrations of Christ’s birth. In this troubled world, it is important to connect with the church and especially when we seek to find the peace, hope, joy and love that Christ’s light brought to this world.

Merry Christmas!

Sandra Stevens, Music Director



## PATHWAYS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Kids Nite Costume Carnival event was held **Friday, November 6. 6-10 pm**. It was a huge success with lots of fun costumes, and bible study activities resulting in tickets that were used for fun games.

### Upcoming Events---

**December 4** Make it -Share it- variety of craft stations to make ornaments and gifts to share with others

**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 Dinners are on the calendar....save the dates.

**November 29th** Hanging Of The Greens

**February 17th** Birthday Potluck Dinner



Last month we were so busy with hearts and hands helping others meet their needs by sharing our love through Christ. We delivered 89 shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and other fun things to Calvary Baptist Church. From there they will be taken to the next collection stop in Fredericksburg. Then on to Baltimore, Md. to the regional warehouse for shipping. One of our members will be going with family members to help with this last packing process. What an awesome opportunity! We are very proud of our youth who participated in this project and are learning more about missions near and far. Thanks to all in our church who participated in Operation Christmas Child, and a special thanks to Sue Hollandsworth who headed this up.

On Sunday, Nov. 1 we started collecting food for needy families for Thanksgiving. Donations and monetary contributions were accepted through Sunday Nov. 22. Thanks to your love and generous donations we were able to give 7 generous food baskets to families in need. Thanks to Susie Hicks and Jean Satterwhite who worked so hard to make this happen.

Lottie Moon Offering and week of prayer for International Missions began Sunday Nov. 29 with special emphasis thru Dec. 6. Our offering continues through December. This offering helps take the gospel to people groups throughout the world. 100% of your gifts support missionaries and their ministries. Our church goal for this year is \$1500. Your prayers make a difference to all missionaries around the world. Pray for them as they are sent to make disciples among unreached peoples and places for God's glory.

Sunday, Nov. 29 the Advent Season begins our Christian celebration with the four weeks leading up to Christmas. Christians since the sixth century have enjoyed this time of joy as we celebrate that Jesus has come and also that He is coming again.

Christmas blessings to all from our WMU.

## **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.

More details will be provided later in church bulletin and January newsletter. Those on the team working with Lifetouch are Sandy Taylor, Carolyn Lane, and Neal Tidman.



Cindy Myers, a friend of Daniele Cushing, was diagnosed with stage 3.5 ovarian cancer early this year. She does not have any health insurance. At this point, her medical bills total about \$500,000. This very godly woman, who, with her husband, is raising 3 grandchildren, faces the possibility of losing her home if she can't pay her bills.

A go-fund has been established for her. To make a donation online to help Cindy, go to [www.gofundme.com/cindycarusomyers](http://www.gofundme.com/cindycarusomyers) or you can write a check and give it to Daniele Cushing.

Thanks for all your help.

## Thank You Note to the Church



TO EVERYONE AT BGBC ,

*It's so good to know  
warm, considerate people  
who try to help others  
in all that they do,  
people whose lives  
show the meaning of God's love.  
It's so good to know  
a wonderful person like you.*

*Thank You*  
FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS,  
JAMES & MARGARET  
EARNWOOD





# December

## 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<b>1</b> 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement 7:00 Preschool Board of Directors	<b>2</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Lifetouch meeting, Philathea Room	<b>3</b> 6:30 Bowling Green Meadows HOA, Library 1:00-8:00 Family Ministry Ctr reserved for Kids Night prep	<b>4</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool 6:00 Kids Night, Family Ministry Ctr	<b>5</b>
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (Nov 29-Dec 6, 2015)						
<b>6</b> 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:00 Traditional Worship 12:00-6:00 Family Ministry Center reserved	<b>7</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool	<b>8</b> 11:15 Dollie Farmer WMU luncheon at Paradise Diner in Fred. 5:00-9:00 Fam Min Center reserved for BG Vol Rescue Squad 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement 6:30 Care & Visitation	<b>9</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool 4:30-Closing—Spirit Night at Pino's to benefit Preschool 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool 6:30 Deacon's dinner meeting, The Timbers	<b>12</b>
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering						
<b>13</b> 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	<b>14</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool	<b>15</b> 6:00 Young Lives meet in basement 7:00 Building & Grounds	<b>16</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 7:00 Children's Play, Sanctuary 8:00 Dessert reception, Family Ministry Center	<b>18</b> 9:00-12:00 Preschool	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:00 Contemporary Worship 10:00 Sunday School/ Bible Study 11:00 Traditional Worship 5:30 Live Your Faith women's ministry, Family Ministry Center	<b>21</b> 6:00-8:30 Family Min Ctr reserved by Girl Scouts	<b>22</b> <b>First Day of Winter</b> 10:00 Christian Book Club 11:00 Library Committee	<b>23</b> 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b> 5:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Sanctuary	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas</b>	<b>26</b>
School Winter Break – Dec 21-Jan 1						
<b>27</b> 10:00 Combined Worship Service, Family Ministry Center	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 11:00 Area Ministers meet, Philathea Room 6:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Praise Band Rehearsal	<b>31</b> <b>New Year's Eve</b>		
School Winter Break – Dec 21-Jan 1						



- 1 Wesley Carter
- 3 Samuel Gromovsky
- 5 Kevin Madison
- 6 T. Hardy Dunnington
- 7 Cassandra Broadus
- 7 Karen Covington
- 7 Jennifer Michael
- 7 Joel Tidman
- 10 Emily Chilton
- 10 Emma Fagan
- 11 Mrs. Forrest McGhee
- 12 Abbie Crawford
- 13 Danielle Divelbliss
- 13 Christianna Gray
- 13 Carrie Moser
- 17 George Fisher
- 19 Nathan Carter
- 19 Michelle Kube
- 21 Colton Bissoon
- 21 Chayce Gustard
- 22 Sue Hollandsworth
- 23 Edward (Ted) Reynolds
- 23 Michelle Salazar
- 27 Donald Carneal
- 28 George (Gef) Fisher
- 31 Anne Brooks
- 31 Clancy Jordan



**Deacon of the Week:**

Dec 6 – Terry Bullock

Dec 13 – Richard Covington

Dec 20 – Joe Stepp

Dec 27 – Bob Rice

**Counters:** – Hardy Dunnington & Mary Flora

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

**Flowers:**

Dec 6 – Linda & George Fisher

Dec 13 – Bettie French

Dec 20 – Christmas Poinsettias

Dec 27 – Church Greenery

**Nursery Workers: \***

Dec 6 – Karen Covington & Sheridan Farmer

Dec 13 – Ruth Judd & Sandy Taylor

Dec 20 – Stephanie Covington & Dianne Webb

Dec 27 – Naeda Gustard & Kamryn Gray

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