

# *The Shepherd*

*Coffee Creek Association, December 2021*

## **ABWM**

The **ABWM** Scholarship Application and Application Process has been completely revised! It is much simpler now. We have also opened the scholarship to students attending technical/vocational colleges, not just 4 year colleges. You can find the application at <http://www.abc-indiana.org/region-ministries/american-baptist-women>. The deadline is still February 15, 2022. Also note that this year there is a dedicated email to use to return application. Please contact Patty Short at 812-595-1082 or [ppshort@frontier.com](mailto:ppshort@frontier.com) with any questions/concerns.

The Fall live webinars have concluded but are available to be viewed as a video on the <http://www.abwomensministries.org> website. More webinars are planned for 2022 so stay tuned!

Patty Short, CCA ABWM President

## **Austin**

Greeting from Austin First Baptist Church!

The Gospel of Luke is written in the form of a letter to a man named Theophilus. Luke documents Christ's life from before his birth through His ministry, death and resurrection. In Luke Chapter 2 we can read the account of Jesus birth.

v.1- in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.2. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3. and all went to be registered, each to his own town his own. 4. And Joseph also went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David. 5. To be registered with Mary his betrothed who was with child. 6. And while they were there the time came for her to give birth. 7. and she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloth's and laid him in a Manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

In the Gospel of Matthew 1:23 it says this to us – Behold a virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel which being interpreted is God with Us.

The greatest gift that we could ever receive is the gift of Hope and life through our savior Jesus Christ.

May the Love of Christ surround each of us this Christmas Season!!

Merry Christmas & A Blessed New Year

Rev. Joshua Jackson & First Baptist Church of Austin.

### **Bethal**

Shalom to our Coffee Creek Colleagues,

On behalf of Bethel folks, I offer prayers and best wishes for a peaceful and meaningful Christmas season. We have journeyed through Advent, lighting candles along the way for the gifts of Love, Hope, Joy and Peace. Each Sunday for the past few weeks we have shared scripture together, lifted prayer, poems and songs to the Lord of Creation, and acknowledged these gifts. This is an important part of our Advent season together. Even more important though is that we practice these gifts, that we use these gifts. They should not be put on a pedestal and admired like some sort of trophy or personal accomplishment. They should not be put away for posterity or safe keeping. We should practice and use these gifts from above as if there is no tomorrow. There are no guarantees.... right? May each of us go about our day as if we ourselves are carrying the Christ child. May Christ be born in us. Immanuel, God with us can be a very real and present condition. May we all be about the joyous labor of carrying and then birthing the Christ within. Love, Hope, Joy and Peace are our task. Let us not grow weary in well doing (easier said than done), but march right out into our communities getting our hands dirty, our bodies sweaty in the name of Love, Joy, Hope and Peace. Or in the words of some hippy from the Sixties, Peace Out!---Love out!---Hope out!---Joy out! The only way to keep these gifts is by giving them away. Shalom from Bethel Baptist & p.b.

### **Bethany**

Christmas Greetings!

Thankful to announce that we had two baptisms on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Luke Bledsoe and Darrell Lock accepted Christ as their personal savior and were baptized. Special thanks to Austin First for the use of their baptistry and shout out to Kimberlin Creek Youth for coming to cheer Luke on!

December 31<sup>st</sup> we will have our traditional New Year's Eve celebration starting at 8 PM in the fellowship hall. We invite you to bring your favorite snack to share and come join us for some games & fellowship.

## **Coffee Creek**

Dear Church Family

Christmas provides a unique opportunity each year for us all to re-focus. Not only are we reminded of the awe-inspiring, world-changing, life-altering gift that is Jesus; but we are also reminded of our need for this Jesus to heal us in our brokenness. That is indeed why he came, wasn't it?

I know it's been a difficult two years; unlike anything we've ever experienced. We've been challenged, faced losses, and made sacrifices and changes to our lives we never expected. It's not over yet, but together with God, we can make it through anything. Now more than ever we need to support each other, so we are calling on our church family to stay strong, for yourself, for others, for the entire church.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will take place at 6pm on Christmas Eve. Pastor Keith will have a great sermon and offer Communion and Prayer. There will be some special music also. So please plan on attending and sharing in the fellowship of the birth of our Savior in your own comfortable way.

*May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child, God bless you now and forever.*

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all,

Pastor Keith

## **Kimberlin Creek**

Greetings and Merry Christmas Sister Churches,

December has been a very busy month so far. With our youth Bell Ringing at Wal-Mart, Carols & Choirs at our church, and our Christmas Dinner with Santa things have been happening. We still have our Christmas cantata to happen as well as our Christmas Eve Service at 11 PM that night (all of you are welcome to come) and our Kingdom Kids/4:12 Youth "Happy Birthday Jesus" party this week. So, the year is not over yet. As always, our 4:12 Youth will start the new year off right by being here for their lock-in New Year's Eve.

In closing, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed Happy New Year!

Judy Peacock, Church Secretary

## **Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp**

Semi-Formal Banquet & Silent Auction Fundraising Event raised over \$22,000. Thank you to all who gave!

### **We Pray for YOU!!**

Thank you for supporting and praying for the ministry of Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp. We deeply appreciate you and welcome the opportunity to pray for you. Our staff meets weekly for prayer. Please use the link on our website, [www.sbycamp.com](http://www.sbycamp.com), and let us know any specific requests you may have. We will join with you in bringing your concerns before God.

### **Pray for US!**

SBYC hosts, sponsors, leads, and coordinates numerous events throughout the year. Please:

1. Pray for the events, the participants, deans, and leaders.
2. Spread the word and invite members of your church to attend. Each event is well planned, organized, and built on the word of God. Please encourage others, and consider registering yourself for an event. More information can be found at [www.sbycamp.com/events](http://www.sbycamp.com/events).

**The schedule for 2022 is out and can be found on our website.** First in line is IGNITE Youth Retreat (Grades 6-12), February 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Turn your car, truck, recreational vehicle, boat, or even property into a tax deduction that supports SBYC!** Donating a car, truck, or boat, is a great way to support SBYC. Running or not, donated vehicles will be picked up free of charge (all 50 states, including Alaska and Hawaii). Donations can even be picked up at the repair shop or on the side of the road! Your vehicle will be sold at auction (older vehicles will be sold for parts), and the proceeds go to the Camp. You receive a receipt entitling you to a tax deduction. See our website, [www.sbycamp.com](http://www.sbycamp.com), to learn more about our partnership with Donate for Charity and gain additional information about the program.

**Join our Ministry Staff!** We have an opening for an Assistant Director of Facilities and Grounds (Full Time). The Assistant Director of Facilities and Grounds will help to provide an environment where guests may come to hear the Word of God and enjoy His blessings. Specific tasks include executing the planned development, maintenance, and repairs of SBYC's buildings, grounds, equipment, and other accommodations in a manner that is consistent with the Mission of SBYC.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

01/09/2022 CCA Executive Board Meeting, 2 PM Kimberlin Creek

02/15/2022 ABWM Scholarship Application Deadline

03/13/2022 CCA Annual Meeting, New Harmony 4 PM

If you want to submit articles for The Shepherd, the deadlines are as follows.

December deadline noon 12/18/21 due to Christmas

2022 Shepherd Deadlines noon on:

01/22/2022

02/19/2022

03/19/2022

04/23/2022

05/21/2022

06/18/2022

07/23/2022

08/20/2022

09/17/2022

10/22/2022

11/19/2022

12/17/2022

Please mark your calendars.

If you could send the article either just in the body of your email (for easy copying) or in WORD, this works best for me. I do not have access to Publisher. My mailing address is:

Melissa Payne  
1310 W Old State Rd 256  
Austin, IN 47102

Thank You,

Missy Payne

Email: [2009mmpayne@gmail.com](mailto:2009mmpayne@gmail.com)