

The Shepherd

Coffee Creek Association, December 2022

Wishing You A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year! *Missy Payne*

From Patty Short

State ABWM

The December state ABWM newsletter has been forwarded to all the churches either via email or regular mail. If for some reason, you don't have yours, please contact me.

Coffee Creek Association ABWM

We will **resume our sewing group on January 10, 2023, at Lick Branch Baptist Church from 6-8 pm.** If the weather is uncooperative, those who have been participating will be contacted about cancellation. If you want to be added to this notification system, please contact Patty Short. (The officers did not get to meet due to me being sick with COVID but will plan to meet in January.)

We have entered the season of Christmas which is a time of great joy and fellowship for us. However, be sure to pray for those who have fewer reasons to celebrate this year. For example, at Bethel, we have 2 families that buried loved ones this week. I know a young couple who buried their 3 month son this week who died from SIDS. Many people died earlier in the year and their families will acutely miss them during this season.

Flu and COVID and other illnesses abound right now and are causing stress for families. (My husband and I are both recovering from COVID.) Many people affected by the tornadoes and floods in Kentucky are still in temporary housing and will be for several more months. Many others in our country have recently had weather related disasters: hurricanes, tornadoes, large amounts of snow fall, etc. All of these people need our prayer support!

I encourage you to hug your family.....hug them often, and not just during this season!

Didn't we have a great Carols and Choirs this year?! I thought it was awesome and hope you did too.

Disaster Relief

Dates for our 2023 Mission trip to Bremen, KY, will be March 26-29 and Mission trip to Hazard will be June 21-24. Registration forms will be available in January for the Bremen trip, hopefully you will join us!

You can make donations to either Hazard or Bremen 2023 trips by giving/ mailing them to Grace Flynn at 139 N. Sharon Drive, Scottsburg, IN, 47170. Checks should be made payable to "CCA ABWM." Be sure to designate which location you want your funds given to on the memo line of your check. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you to everyone who has spoken words of encouragement to me while these events are being planned! I really appreciate it! Patty Short, CCA ABWM President. Cell: 812-595-1082. Email: ppshort@frontier.com

Austin

Not long ago I had an encounter with a lady who asked what does Christ have to do with Christmas? And my encounter with this individual caused me to reflect on why Christmas is important. Christmas is not about beautifully decorated trees with a mountain of shining gifts scattered under their branches. The focus of Christmas should not be on Santa or his reindeer. Or a well-prepared meal that took perhaps several weeks to plan and all day to prepare. In over 2,000 years the meaning and message of the Christmas season have not changed. Christmas is about love, kindness, and compassion.

Luke 2:10- But the angel said to them, Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:11- Today in the Town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

Christ came to give us the greatest gift of all - A relationship with God. Jesus came into the world to break the grip that Satan and Sin have on our lives.

I know we live in a fast-paced world full of day-to-day activity. Don't let this Christmas season overwhelm you. Focus instead on Jesus and the wonderful story of His Birth, and make this Christmas one of "Exceeding Great Joy".

May the Love of Christ Surround Each of Us this Christmas Season.

Pastor Josh

Bethany

For Christmas at Bethany of Deputy the Choir will be performing Jesus makes Christmas a Holy Day on December 18th at 10:30 am. On Christmas day, we will be having a birthday party for Jesus including cake and ice cream at 10:30, everyone welcome.

This Christmas the choir went to The Waters of Scottsburg to sing Christmas Carols and hand out 22 lap blankets that the ladies of the church had made. They also performed at carols and choirs. We were able to bring Christmas songs to several shut-ins of the church on the evening

of December 11 in lieu of evening service. A little Christmas cheer is our goal for this season of pure Joy.

We will be having a New Year's Eve Celebration from 8 PM-Midnight on Saturday, December 31st. Everyone welcome to bring a snack to share and join in some games and fellowship.

Coffee Creek Baptist

We will have Christmas Carols at 7pm on Wednesday December 21, 2022

We will have Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6pm on Christmas Eve.

My thanks to all of you who have been faithful parishioners, for all you do even through the tough times. It is with humble joy that we give thanks for the honor of serving as your Pastor. Thank you for all your support and prayers. "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Lk2:10-14)

May God bless you this Christmas, may all the darkness in your lives be removed by the light of Jesus Christ. May your hearts be filled with the Joy of Christ's birth and may you be missionaries of that joy, Amen.

Pastor Keith

New Harmony

Resolution is defined as a firm decision to do or not to do something, the quality of being determined or resolute (Oxford Languages)

As we are getting ready to end 2022 and start a new year we tend to make "new year resolutions". The top ten New Year Resolutions are —exercise more, lose weight, get organized, learn a new skill or hobby, live life to the fullest, save more money/spend less money, quit smoking, spend more time with family and friends, travel more, and read more. While these are great resolutions to make and challenging to meet I feel like the most important one did not make the list. Every year (every day) we need to resolve to put God first in everything in our lives. Like the definition states it has to be a firm decision. We have to purposely choose every day to put Him first. What does this mean? Well.....answer these questions! How many times do you pray each week? Daily? How many times do you pick up your bible and read each week? How many times do you thank Him for all your many blessings you receive daily? If your answer is not where you think it should be then make it your resolution to improve. If you do these things then awesome.....however do you read to just read or do you

study; do you just pray and not listen in return. In every relationship there is always room for improvement, whether that is with our Heavenly Father or spouses, family and friends. I just want to challenge everyone here to make a determined effort to put Him first by spending more time with Him. If we can't make an effort now, will He want to spend eternity with us? Put your relationship with God as top priority now and in the future!!! This life on earth is very short compared to eternity...I want my eternal address to be Heaven! Revelation 3:20- Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. John 6:40- For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

RUTH

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM NEW HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH!!

Underwood

Christmas Greetings from Underwood!

Underwood finally got on the map when the Volunteer Fire Department sirens went off and Santa arrived on a firetruck in Underwood to visit our congregation. His sleigh had been parked in our Fellowship Hall for a few days and we were certain Santa would show up to get it before Christmas! Children who visited Santa got their picture made with him, received 1 stuffed toy gift, and a Bible appropriate to their age. Crafts were available to pass some time together while everyone enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies with Santa.

We celebrated "A Night of Christmas" in place of Bible Study one Wednesday. Members shared favorite memories connected to a piece of Christmas nostalgia such as a favorite ornament. Everyone pitched in to pack Christmas gift bags for shut-ins and others who need encouragement during this season.

ABWM had a Christmas party. They did an ornament exchange by reading Luke 2 as a Left-Right story. Everyone got "Mugged" with a Christmas mug to take home. The challenge was to pay it forward this season, fill it with gifts of cheer and give it away again. Secret Sisters were revealed to close the event. It was a wonderful time of building a closer bond and getting to know each other better.

We will have a 6 PM Worship on Christmas Eve and 10 AM worship Christmas morning. You are welcome to join us if your church has opted to cancel services.

Love and Peace to All!

UBC

Southeastern Baptist Youth Camp

Our search committees have found and hired Dustin Crawford from Ohio as the Facilities & Grounds Director here at SBYCamp! He and his wife, Allison, will be moving into the camp house mid-January, 2023. Dustin comes to us from Ohio with years of camping and maintenance experience.

We have also hired an Executive Director, Chris Kallal, along with his wife, Carrie as our Guest Services Director. They are coming to us from a camp in Illinois after serving there for almost 10 years. But each of them have more than 20 years of camping experience. We hope to have them here in February, 2023. They are looking to buy or rent a 3-4 bedroom home in the area. Please be in prayer for them as they search.

We are very excited to welcome these new members to our SBYCamp team!

Teaching the Word. Growing in Christ. Serving His People.

Hannah Joy Eberts, Administrative Assistant & Marketing

UPCOMING EVENTS

01/08/2023 CCA Executive Meeting, Kimberlin Creek, 2 PM

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

2023 Shepherd Deadlines noon on:

01/21/2023
02/18/2023
03/18/2023
04/22/2023
05/20/2023
06/17/2023
07/22/2023
08/19/2023
09/17/2023
10/21/2023
11/18/2023
12/16/2023

Please mark your calendars.

Thank You,

Missy Payne

(C) 812-794-3274

Email: 2009mmpayne@gmail.com