(Nobody Ever Tells Me Anything)

December 2021



Good things come to those who wait...and Jesus' birth is not only the good part of Christmas, but the BEST part! That's why most Christmas musicals make us wait until the end to get to the nativity, but not *Christmas in Reverse*! We will start with the nativity and then go back all the way to Adam and Eve to understand our need for a Savior. Join us Sunday, December 5, at 5:00 pm for our Kids' Christmas Musical!

Tabernacle Kids will collect money in December for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Every child will have their own coin bank so they can bring in their money every Sunday of December. Tabernacle Kids goal is to raise \$500. Can you help us achieve this goal?



The Gift is our community-wide Christmas Celebration at Tabernacle Baptist Church on Sunday, December 12, at 5:00 pm and Monday, December 13, at 7:00 pm. *The Gift* is an exciting, festive, powerful night of celebration and worship led by the Worship Choir, Orchestra, and Students of Tabernacle. We will be joined by Drum-line and Brass members of the Woodland Wildcat Band.

We are also partnering with Bartow Family Resources and encourage you to bring donations of diapers and baby wipes to support this wonderful community non-profit ministry. We will have collection sites as you enter for worship. See you at *The Gift*!

From our Pastor:

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year"

The Christmas season is upon us! I don't know about you, but December is my favorite month of the year. Meeting with family and enjoying parties with friends make the season special. On top of that, the lights and decorations are always enjoyable. The singer Andy Williams was right – "It's the most wonderful time of the year!"

As Christians, we have an extra special reason to enjoy Christmas. The birth of our Savior has given us forgiveness and hope! When angels announced Jesus' arrival, they proclaimed, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people he favors!" (Luke 2:14). Because Jesus lived and died for us, we have promise of forever peace with God. As you plan to celebrate Christ's birth, remember three opportunities we have before us this December.



An Opportunity for Resting. Bing Crosby famously sang of busy sidewalks in his Christmas hit "Silver Bells." Indeed, the holidays can be a time dominated by hustle and bustle. In the midst of meeting with family and friends, make sure you take time for your self. Slow down as much as you can. Refresh and rest!

An Opportunity for Reflecting. The 1865 carol "What Child Is This?" asked a rhetorical question that called worshippers to reflect on the real reason for the season. In the midst of presents and parties, be intentional to pause for praise. Spend time with the Lord and allow Him to fill your heart with grace and gratitude through the gospel message!

An Opportunity for Inviting. The African-American spiritual song "Go Tell It on the Mountain" encouraged hearers to proclaim the birth of Christ. The Christmas season presents a wonderful opportunity to invite people to church. Within this newsletter you will read of many upcoming events at Tabernacle. Remember that many people who don't regularly attend church are open to attending at Christmas time. Be intentional to invite people to our upcoming events in December. The Lord may use you as an instrument to get the gospel to someone else!

Christmas Eve JOIN US DECEMBER 24TH

We will have two opportunities for Christmas Eve Worship this year...4:00 pm and 5:30 pm. Both services will be family worship (no child-care) and last about 45 minutes. We hope you and your family and friends will join us as we take time to focus on the real meaning of Christmas...Jesus!

Calling all men, sons, and guests to join us on Saturday, December 11, 8:30 - 10:00 am for a time of fellowship, inspiration, and "Man Breakfast." Guest Speaker is Chaplain Major Eric Dean from the United States Army.



TBC STUDENT

Current Middle School and High School Students are invited for 4 days filled with worship, fellowship, small group discipleship, and the beach! We will stay at the Laguna Beach Christian Retreat Center December 27-30. Cost is \$175. For more information, visit *tbcstudents.org/events*.



Several years ago, an appointment with an eye doctor led to a surprising discovery - I needed glasses! After a few tests, I was instructed to pick out a set of frames. A couple days later, I returned to the office to try them on. I couldn't believe the difference they made! For years, I hadn't noticed that my vision had become weak. With the new specs on my face, colors seemed brighter and objects seemed sharper.

When it comes to the purpose of the church, some congregations have weak vision. The worst part of all is that they don't even realize it. Though the Lord has given His church a clear purpose and mission, many churches lose sight of it. God's people need regular reminders concerning why they exist. For this reason, we will host a second annual Vision Month in January 2022. Here are some things you can expect:

Sunday Morning Sermon Series. Throughout the month of January, I will use Sunday mornings to preach messages that encourage us to stay focused on our mission and vision. We like to say, "Tabernacle Baptist exists to connect people to their ultimate purpose in life in Jesus Christ." On January 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, I will preach from Matthew's gospel to encourage us to stay focused on that mission.

Vision Night and Quarterly Business Meeting. On Sunday evening, January 23, we will have a quarterly business meeting at 5pm. In this meeting, you will hear updates from our church committees and ministry teams. We will also have a vote on newly revised bylaws that will be presented at the first of the month. In addition, we will receive an exciting report concerning potential building renovations.

New Discipleship Opportunities. To fulfill our stated purpose, we try to follow four priorities – worship, fellowship, discipleship, and ministry. These priorities are outlined in Acts 2:42-47. The early church was diligent concerning each. On Sunday, January 30, at 5pm, we will host an evening gathering in the Fellowship Hall. The event will be a time of fellowship. Yes, food will be provided. More importantly, we will unveil several discipleship classes that will be offered throughout the Winter/Spring of 2022. Make plans to be a part of vision month!

College Christmas Party:

The College Ministry will be having a Christmas Party on December 11th at 6:00pm at 4 Sterling Ct, Cartersville, GA. There will be food, drinks, games, and tons of fellowship! Invite a few friends and get connected!



Classic Adult Luncheons:

Monday, Monday, December 13, 11:30 am, and Monday, January 17, 11:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a side dish or dessert.

Classic Adult Christmas Lights Trip:

Classic Adults will be travelling to Life University for the Christmas lights on Thursday, December 9, 4:30 - 9:00 pm. Meet in the Tabernacle parking lot. Bring money for dinner (Marietta Diner).

Sanctity of Life Sunday

Sanctity of Life Sunday is January 16, 2022. Sanctity of Life Sunday is observed each year on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of Roe v. Wade when abortion was legalized in all 50 states. On January 13, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a proclamation designating January 22 as the first National Sanctity of Human Life Day. On January 16, 2022, we will celebrate God's gift of life and take time to recognize the Biblical and crucial work of Bartow Family Resources in our community in our morning services.

How can I give?

• At Tabernacle: Drop in buckets as you enter or exit. Church office is open M-Th: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, F: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm, or use drop box at the drive-through entrance on Tennessee Street.

• By Mail: 112 E. Church Street, Cartersville, GA 30120.

• Online: tabernaclebaptist.org/give or text any \$ amount to 770-285-0511

| November Giving From God's Hands | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| | November 7 | November 14 | November 21 | November 28 | YTD 2021 |
| Tithes & Offerings | \$76,428.41 | \$43,367.80 | \$45,021.43 | \$39,856.83 | \$2,559,789.19 |
| Budget Requirements | \$53,106.54 | \$53,106.54 | \$53,106.54 | \$53,106.54 | \$2,488,420.61 |
| (Under)/Over Budget | \$23,321.87 | -\$9,738.74 | -\$8,085.11 | -\$13,249.71 | \$267,006.05 |



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