

## Carrollton Baptist Association Striving to be an Acts 1:8 Association

### From Your Associational Missionary...

Recently I read Max Lucado's book entitled Christmas Stories. I thought it would be appropriate to share a few stories with you as we celebrate the wonderful birth of our Savior.

“God did something extraordinary.

Stepping from the throne, he removed his robe of light and wrapped himself in skin: pigmented, human skin. The light of the universe entered a dark, wet womb. He whom angels worship nestled himself in the placenta of a peasant, was birthed into a cold night, and then slept on cow's hay.

Mary didn't know whether to give him milk or give him praise, but she gave him both since he was, as near as she could figure, hungry and holy.

Joseph didn't know

whether to call him Junior or Father. But in the end he called him Jesus, since that's what the angel had said and since he didn't have the faintest idea what to name a God he could cradle in his arms! ö

“Love goes the distance...and Christ traveled from limitless eternity to be confined by time in order to become one of us. He didn't have to. He could have given up. At any step along the way he could have called it quits.

When he saw the size of the womb, he could have stopped.

When he saw how tiny his hand would be, how soft his voice would be, how hungry his tummy would be, he could have stopped. At the first whiff of the stinky stable, at the first gust of cold air. The first time he scraped his knee or blew his nose or tasted burnt bagels,

he could have turned and walked out.

But he didn't

He didn't, because he is love.ö

“It was an ordinary night with ordinary sheep and ordinary shepherds!

Then the black sky exploded with brightness. Trees that had been shadows jumped into clarity. Sheep that had been silent became a chorus of curiosity. One minute the shepherd was dead asleep, the next he was rubbing his eyes and staring into the face of an alien.

The night was ordinary no more.

The angel came in the night because that is when lights are best seen and that is when they are most needed.ö



*May you be blessed with a  
Wonderful Christmas  
Season as we Worship the  
“Reason for the Season”*

*Your Associational Staff,  
Rev. Dan Dockery, Associational Missionary  
Teresa Britt, Ministry Assistant*

## December 2012

### COMING UP...

- **Week of Prayer for International Missions**—December 2-9 & the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- **Office closed for Christmas Holidays**—December 24-January 1
- **Minister/Mate After Christmas Fellowship**—January 15
- **VBS Early Bird Clinic**—January 28 at FBC, Carrollton

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**Baptist Collegiate Ministries**

Merry Christmas to everyone! I hope you all have a blessed Christmas season!

Our annual Dinner Theater for missions is going to be a little earlier this year. The dates for our performance will be Fri-

day, March 8, and Saturday, March 9. Please put those dates on your calendar. Please help us publicize this event in your churches. We will get some paper publicity out to you in late January. We have been one of the

top sending BCMø for missions in Georgia over the last three years and this is one of our main fundraisers for the year!

Once again, have a Merry and Blessed Christmas!

Bill



**Note to Pastors:**

**December Ministers' Luncheons:**

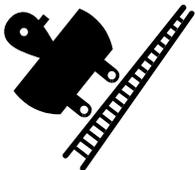
12/05 11:30 a.m. at American Pie Pizzeria.

**We will restart our weekly Ministers' Luncheons on January 2nd.**

**December Meetings:**

4 Church Strengthening Team Meetingø 7:00 p.m.

**Looking Ahead...**



**V.B.S.  
Early Bird Clinic**

FBC, Carrollton

**"Colossal Coaster World" -  
Facing Fear, Trusting God**

**January 28, 2012**

**7:00 p.m.**

For all VBS Directors and Pastors



*International  
Missions Emphasis  
"Obedient—His Heart/ His  
Hands/His Voice"  
Week Of Prayer for  
International Missions—  
December 2-9  
And the  
Lottie Moon Christmas  
Offering*

**Ministry Opportunity...** If your W.M.U., Womenø Ministry, Brotherhood, or Sunday School class would like to adopt a family for Christmas, please call the associational office. We have the names of several families who need help.

**Samaritanø Purseø Operation  
Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

A big Thank You! To everyone who worked at the CBA during the week of Shoebox Collection. Thanks also to everyone who filled a box, or participated in any way!

**Boxes to Date: 2242**

## Minister/Mate After Christmas Fellowship

January 15, 2013

7:00 p.m. FBC, Carrollton

Cost: \$10 per couple (\$5 each)

Please share this invitation with all ministers in your church

R.S.V.P. by January 10th.



Menu: Baked Chicken, Sweet Potato Soufflé, Squash Casserole, Green Beans, Rolls, & Home made desserts



### CHURCH NEWS



**Association:** recognized Rev. Kenneth Bryant, pastor of Bethesda, and Rev. Wayne Webb, pastor of Providence, for 30 years of ministry at these churches.

**Beulah:** celebrated their 130 Anniversary on November 25 with a special service & fellowship dinner.

**Mt. Zion Missionary:** recently hosted the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer

**Pleasant Ridge:** called Rev. Talmadge Chandler as interim pastor.

Sent a mission team to Lima, Peru to conduct VBS/Children Activities with missionary kids while missionaries are attending a conference.

**Roopville Road:** just returned from a mission trip to Haiti

**Tabernacle and FBC, Villa Rica:** just returned from a mission trip to Haiti.

Thanks so much to everyone who took time to fill a bucket for ðBuckets of Careö - our ministry to those affected by Hurricane Sandy. Even with a very short notice, our association filled 28 buckets! Total buckets taken up at the Georgia Baptist Convention was 1,331!

### From the WMU...

December can be a busy month. We have many events scheduled: Christmas parties, cantatas, school events, shopping, decorating our homes, visiting Christmas light shows, and much more. It's an exciting and beautiful time of the year as we focus on the birth of our Savior.

Sometimes the busyness of the season consumes us during the month. There's a song I heard last Christmas by Amy Grant (I Need a Silent Night) that I think we all might relate with as we rush through our activities. The chorus goes like this:

*ðI need a silent night, a holy night  
To hear an angel voice*

*Through the chaos and the noise  
I need a midnight clear  
A little peace right here*

*To end this crazy day  
With a silent night."*

It reminds me that I need to slow down a little bit. We enjoy all of our Christmas activities but we have to be careful not to let them take the joy out of the season. May we slow down and truly enjoy this season.

There are opportunities around us to serve and help others. Giving to others not only blesses them but also changes us. You may visit an elderly person from your church, visit the nursing home or invite someone to your home that doesn't have family nearby. A friend once mentioned she and her husband stopped buying gifts for each other and gave the money they might have spent to local charities. Another friend gave a gift of food to a child in another country in my

name. What a neat gift idea. There are many opportunities to help and serve.

I pray you will find some ðsilent nightsö this season and also find opportunities to serve in His name this Christmas season.

Thank you to Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church for hosting our Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer earlier in November. You were wonderful hosts. We enjoyed a special time of prayer and hearing from Sisters Who Care and Hannah Beam who shared about her mission trips.

Thanks for all you do,  
Keri Perkins  
www.carrolltonwmu.com

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## **Carrollton Baptist Association**

### **December 2012**

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**Rev. Justin Richards: Vice Moderator**  
**Rev. Dan Dockery: Associational  
Missionary**  
**Mrs. Teresa Britt: Ministry Assistant**

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## **December 2012**



Nov. 26-Dec. 2 **Pray for Consolation**  
2-9 **Week of Prayer and the Lottie  
Moon Christmas Offering for  
International Missions**  
3-9 **Pray for Discovery**  
4 **Church Strengthening Team  
Meeting—7:00 p.m. at the CBA**  
5 **Ministers' Luncheon—11:30 a.m. at  
American Pie Pizzeria**  
10-16 **Pray for Ephesus**  
17-23 **Pray for Eureka**  
24 **Christmas Eve**

24-30 **Pray for Fellowship**  
24-January 1 **Closed for Christmas  
Holidays**  
25 **Merry Christmas!**  
31 **New Year's Eve**  
31-January 6 **Pray for Flat Rock**

### **Looking Ahead...**

January 15 **Minister/Mate  
After Christmas  
Fellowship**

