

December 2017

Continuing to be an Acts 1:8 Association

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Looking Ahead...

- **Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**—Dec. 3-10
- **Holiday Office Hours**—The CBA Office will be closed Dec. 21st through January 1st.
- **Minister/Mate After Christmas Fellowship**—Jan. 16

From Your Associational Missionary...

I received a Christmas tract in the mail this week entitled Because of Christmas based upon a book by the same name written by Max Lucado. He always shares some fresh, new insights about Christmas so I thought I would share some of these with you.

The Miracle of Bethlehem

Out of Chaos, Christ came. In spite of, and out of, the pandemonium, Christ came.

“On a cold night in Bethlehem, Joseph built a fire and heated water. Mary cleared a spot on the straw and set about the task of bringing God into the world. With cows as her witnesses and Joseph as her midwife, she did just that. It wasn’t long before the hand of the star hanger clutched Mary’s finger. The feet of the sky walker lay in Joseph’s palm.

In that moment Mary knew it was all worth it. The ache in her back, the ache in her heart—they faded away. The questions of how, and the wonderings of when—they didn’t

linger. The surprise pregnancy, the sudden census, the long road from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Unpleasant and difficult, yet they resulted in the world’s greatest miracle. Was the first Christmas different from what Mary had planned? Yes, but it turned out greater than she could have dreamed. God used the struggles to accomplish his will.

Don’t you need that reminder? Despite the chaos of the first Christmas, everything happened according to God’s plan. In your world of short nights, hard work, and high stress, remember that God holds everything together for his glory and for the good of those who love him.

Love is Born, Hope is Here

When Christ was born, so was our hope.

Because Christ came, God is always near us. He is always for us and always in us. Jesus entered our world not like a human but as a human, and he endured everything that we do and more—God became human

down to his very toes.

Jesus understands what you feel and has faced what you face. He’s been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin.

Because of Bethlehem’s miracle, you can answer these fundamental questions: Does God care if I’m sad? Look at the tear-streaked face of Jesus as he stands near Lazarus’s tomb (John 11:28-44). Does God know if I’m ignored or rejected? Find the answer in the compassionate eyes of Christ as he stands to defend the adulterous woman (John 8:1-11).

Jesus knows the burden of a broken heart. He could have come to us as a shining light or a voice in the clouds, but he came as a person. If you ever wonder whether God truly understands you, remember that he sent his only Son Jesus, to bear your burdens and save you from your sins.”

Hope you & your family have a very Merry Christmas!



**MERRY CHRISTMAS! &
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
FROM YOUR ASSOCIATIONAL STAFF

Baptist Collegiate Ministries

My name is Andrew Kirkland. I am currently in my third year at the University of West Georgia studying Mass Communications with a concentration in Public Relations. After Graduation, I plan to attend seminary, where I will pursue God's call into full-time Christian ministry. This year I am serving as president of the Baptist Collegiate Ministries here at UWG and am beyond excited for all God is doing. This year we have seen several people come to know Jesus as their savior and I am expectant of how God will continue to change hearts for the glory of His name. I hope and pray you all have a very Merry Christmas celebrating the true gift in the birth of our king, Jesus Christ.

2017-2018 CBA Gifts

Thank you to all the CBA churches who have supported our Association financially since September 1st, 2017

Antioch, Bethesda, Beulah, Bowdon, Carrollton First, Centralhatchee, Concord, Consolation, Flat Rock, Fullersville, Glenloch, Harmony, Indian Creek, Kansas, Midway Macedonia, Midway West, Mountain View, Mt. Pleasant, Oak Grove, Pleasant Grove, Pleasant Ridge, Pleasant View, Rocky Mount, Roopville Road, Salem, Shady Grove, Tabernacle, Temple First, Trinity, Veal and FBC, Villa Rica.

Church News...

Glenloch: Will present "One Night In Bethlehem" December 15, 16, & 17. From 6:00pm to 8:30 pm each night.

Kansas: Fed the Carrollton Police Department on November 10th

Midway: On their Vision Sunday voted to ordain Kyle Edenfield and Whit Maxey into the gospel ministry; voted to add 350 new seats in their worship center, and also honored Mike Eidson & Andy Howard for over 30 years of faithful leadership.

Roopville Road: Hosted the Ladies Extravaganza on November 17th.

December Meeting Schedule:

- 12/04 **Mission Development Team Meeting**—
8:15 a.m. at Chick-fil-A
- 12/07 **Community Ministry Team Meeting**—
8:15 am. At Chick-fil-A
Mission Development Team Meeting—
Noon at the CBA. Bring your own lunch.
- 12/13 **Administrative Team Meeting**—at
American Pie Pizzeria following the
Ministers' Luncheon

NOTE: Please have all announcements for the January Newsletter into the CBA office by November 8th. Note date is earlier than usual due to the Holidays.

Mission Opportunities:

- December 1-8 **Midway Macedonia**
Casablanca
- Dec. 1-2 **Association**
Rogersville, TN
- Dec. 8-9 **Association**
Rogersville, TN

Note to Pastors—

Ministers' Luncheon Schedule

We will meet December 6th & 13th at 11:30 am for our weekly Ministers' Meetings at American Pie Pizzeria. There will be no meeting on the 20th or the 27th..

Samaritan's Purse

Operation Christmas Child
Shoebbox Update

We are in the middle of our Shoebbox collection week. It is wonderful to see all the boxes coming in to the CBA collection center.

So far we have received:

1510



Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 3-10

"Invest in Eternal Impact"





COMING
SOON!

Mark your
calendars with
these upcoming
events...

VBS Early Bird Clinic

“Game On!” - Gearing Up For

Life’s Big Game

January 29th at 7pm

Bowdon Baptist Church

This Conference is for all pastors & directors.



Baby Bottle Boomerang
Begins January 21st.



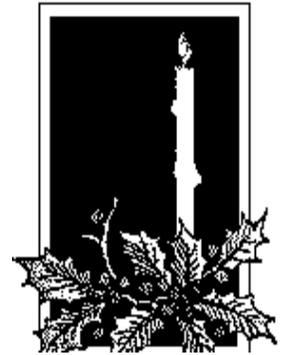
Bottles are due back February 11th
All money collected goes to the
Pregnancy Resource Center

Minister /Mate After Christmas Fellowship

January 16, 2018 at FBC, Carrollton

Due to a generous donation, there will be no cost.

Menu: Baked Italian Chicken, Loaded Potato Casserole,
Green Beans, Broccoli Salad, and Dessert



From the WMU

I’ve shared some mission ideas in the past from the book We Can Do That! - 100 Ways Families Can Be On Mission. Here are a few ideas for Christmas that might help you and your family and your church family share with others during the season.

Trim a Tree for Missions: This might be a good project for the children in your church. Set up an artificial tree in a visible area of the church. Label a large mitten cutout Mittens for Missions. Attach it to the top of the tree. Ask for donations of new mittens or gloves, that will be donated to a local shelter. Clip clothespins all over the tree so people can clip the mittens they bring directly to the tree.

Give Away a Poinsettia: Ask members of the church to purchase a poinsettia to give away to a shut-in, a nursing home resident, a single parent, a new family in town, or

even a stranger. Challenge each family in the congregation to give a poinsettia to someone they want to show love to during the season.

Give the Gift That Keeps on Giving:

Consider giving a gift in honor of someone this Christmas. Check out Heifer International, Worldvisiongifts.org, or Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Catalog for ways to help families around the world.

Teach Children the True Meaning of Giving:

Talk with them about how it feels to be compassionate and generous toward others. Ask them to think of a time when someone was generous to them. Have them explain how it felt when they were generous to someone else. Talk to your children about charities in your community and how they help others. Determine how much mon-

ey you would like to donate to a charity during the Christmas season.

Write Christmas Cards for the Elderly:

Ask Senior adults or shut-ins if they would like help addressing and writing Christmas cards. Older children and teenagers might help with this project. You may even want to provide Christmas cards and stamps to be used. Spend time talking with the senior adult before writing in the cards.

Don’t forget the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**. Please give and support our missionaries around the world. Your gift is very important!!

Thanks for all you do,
Keri Perkins

DECEMBER, 2017

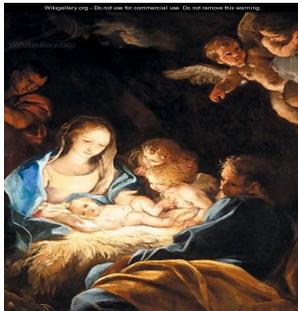
Carrollton Baptist Association
PO Box 571
Carrollton, GA 30112

Phone: 770-834-3451
Fax: 770-834-3474
E-mail: cba1883@bellsouth.net
www.carrolltonbaptistassociation.com

Rev. Tony McManus, Moderator
Rev. Mike Harris, Vice Moderator
Rev. Dan Dockery:
Associational Missionary
Mrs. Teresa Britt: Ministry Assistant

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December



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|----------------|---|--------------|---|
| Nov. 27-Dec. 3 | Pray for FBC, Carrollton, Dr. Steve Davis, Pastor | 8-9 | Associational Mission Trip to Rogersville, TN |
| 1-2 | Associational Mission Trip to Rogersville, TN | 11-17 | Pray for Christ The King, Rev. Kirk Richeson, Pastor |
| 3-10 | Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering | 13 | Ministers' Luncheon—11:30 a.m. at American Pie Pizzeria |
| 4-10 | Pray for Centralhatchee First, Rev. Mark Williams, Pastor | | Administrative Team Meeting—At American Pie Pizzeria following the Ministers' Luncheon |
| 4 | Mission Development Team Meeting—8:15 a.m. at Chick-fil-A | 18-24 | Pray for Consolation, Rev. Mike Powers, Pastor |
| 6 | Ministers' Luncheon—11:30 a.m. at American Pie Pizzeria | 21-January 1 | CBA Office closed for the Christmas Holidays |
| 7 | Community Ministries Team Meeting—8:15 a.m. at Chick-fil-A | 24 | Christmas Eve |
| | Leadership Development Team Meeting—Noon at the CBA. Bring your own lunch. | 25 | Merry Christmas! |
| | | 25-31 | Pray for Concord, Rev. Joey Dedman, Pastor |