

Happy
Holidays



**CHRISTMAS
2018**

Baptist Connection

Newsletter of Berryville Baptist Church



CHRISTMAS AT BERRYVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Children's and Youth Christmas Program
Sunday, December 16th

6 PM

Followed by our
Church-wide Christmas Party
In Our Fellowship Hall

Please bring a plate of cookies to share.

A Service of Christmas Music
Presented by our Adult Choir and Voices In Brass
Sunday, December 23rd

11 AM

****Please note: There will be no 9 AM service this day****

Christmas Eve
Monday, December 24th
Candlelight Communion Service

7 PM



Nurses's Corner

Ah, yes. T'is the season to hear about the Grinch, Frosty and the Nutcracker. Until the night of the 24th the Baby Jesus gets kicked to the curb. We pay even less attention to Mary.

Tradition holds that she was a teenager, maybe only 15 or 16 years old at the time of the Annunciation, but girls grew up much faster then. Somehow she had the presence of mind to ask the angel a very logical question: How does a virgin become pregnant? After receiving the answer she pronounced herself submissive to the will of God, having not a clue what she was signing up for.

It's over 80 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem, a tough and dangerous trek. Indeed and truly, there was no worse time to register for a census. She had to travel up and down hills, in all kinds of weather, carrying her own food, on the back of a donkey, her feet like balloons, her belly big as a mountain.

So they arrived at Bethlehem, where every inn and private home was full. There was no soft hospital bed, no nurse call button, no board-certified OB/GYN to welcome her. The only roof over their heads was that of a stable. About this time her water would have broken.

I can almost hear her screaming in the darkness as the contractions came in wave after excruciating wave. There was no Pandora music, no designer water to drink, no fetal heart monitor. Unless a sympathetic midwife showed up, it fell to Joseph to cut the cord, and clean up the mess.

Where to place the Baby? The only safe option was a feeding trough, lined with dirty straw and streaked with the dried saliva of animals. After wrapping Him in strips of cheap linen she laid Him- gingerly- into the receptacle. And that is where the shepherds found Him later, their faces shining with surprised joy. They had been tipped off earlier by another dazzling heavenly messenger.

Thank you, Mary, for your obedience and humility. We could learn a lot from you. And thank you, for all eternity, for giving to the world Emmanuel, the Root of David, the Word made flesh.

Merry Christmas, my beloved,
Judy Melton R.N., F.C.N





Mark the date of December 23 on your calendar. The 11:00 Worship Service will be a service of music and praising the Lord. Our adult choir will present the Christmas Story through the glorious sounds of music. The handbell choir known as Voices in Brass will also participate in this service. Please join us on this special Sunday.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Our traditional Christmas Eve Service is scheduled for Monday, December 24, beginning at 7:00 p.m. As part of our service we will celebrate in the observance of Holy Communion. We will join together to welcome the Christ Child through music and word. Our service will conclude with a lighting of our individual candles and the singing of "Silent Night." We encourage families and friends to join us for this celebration.



Feed The Hungry

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

Also, we have adopted 4 families to receive Christmas dinner baskets : a family of 6, a family of 4, a family of 3 , and a single senior. Complete meals will be provided.



The Deacons are sponsoring a "Mittens Tree" to help the Salvation Army in Winchester. In December, the congregation may donate mittens or gloves, hats, scarves, or socks to provide warmth for the winter. The deacons will then take them to the Salvation Army to be distributed in early January to men and women, boys and girls, who are in need. All sizes are needed, adult and children. Mittens will be hung on a small Christmas tree in the Fellowship Hall. Hats, scarves, and socks may be placed under the tree. These gifts should not be wrapped. Let's share the spirit of Christmas!



The Baptist Rascals returned to the Woman's Shelter in Winchester and Walter Reed in Bethesda for our annual Christmas programs.

They will be active in the Sunday school Christmas program.



Children's Christmas Program

Please join us for a beautiful evening of music with the Sunday School children and youth on Sunday, December 16 at 6 PM. A festive reception will follow the program. Everyone is welcome.



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

On Dec. 2, Pastor Dan led us in a week of prayer for our missionaries who are serving all over the world. Many face dangers, hardships, and struggles every day, but they continue to bring the Word of God and the story of Jesus to all people. The message of Light is being shared with those who are being tortured, starving, and living in a world of darkness. Our church budget sends funds to help pay salaries and offer help for their missions. Let us pray and thank them for their many sacrifices here and abroad.



































































Our congregation turned in their bread banks just before Thanksgiving. These banks served as a reminder of all the starving people who need our help. This was a wonderful way for all family members to get involved in missions. All proceeds will be sent to the Baptist General Association of Virginia to be designated for World Hunger. Remember, Jesus can take a little and make a lot.



BLUE RIDGE FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION 2018

On Friday, Dec. 14, our church will sponsor the Blue Ridge Food Bank give-away . Churches in our community take turns each month throughout the year and December is our month to sponsor. Volunteers will pack boxes and carry food to vehicles. This program allowed us to serve about 85 needy people in Clarke County last year with recipients being screened by Social Services. We will meet at Duncan Memorial Church at 7:45 a.m. and finish about 11:30 a.m.



More than  thousand years ago, Heavenly Father sent the  Gabriel  , a young woman in the  of Nazareth. Gabriel told  that she  give birth  a  who was the Son of God. The 's name  Jesus.  married , a carpenter. He, , had been told by an  that 's   the Savior. Later, the emperor of Rome commanded everyone  pay a tax.    journeyed  , the city of their ancestor, ,  pay the tax. It was time    have her , but all the  s were full.    had  live in a . There  gave birth  Jesus  laid Him in a  used  feeding . That night an  appeared  nearby . The  told the  that the Savior, Jesus Christ, was born in  that they  find Him in a . Many heavenly beings joined the , praising God  declaring peace on . The  went   the , then told others about Him. Later, the  were led by a   the place where Jesus was. They worshiped Him  gave Him precious . A time long  told by  s had finally come.