

Associate Pastor's Note



Merry Christmas! It's wonderful that the Lord's Day this year falls on the same day as Christmas day! Hallelujah! Bless His holy Name! If you are a visitor or a relative here today, thanks so much for joining us!

The message of Christmas is simply this: God assumed human flesh so He could live a sinless life and die on a cross as a substitute for our sins. It's a simple, sweet and saving message yet many miss it. This text will show us why many miss it, how to receive it, what happens when you do receive it, and why you need it!

It's a Christmas tradition to give gifts to those we love. If you are a father or a mother, you know what a delight it is to give gifts to your children at Christmas or on a birthday. Why do you enjoy that so much? Because you have the heart of a parent. God has a father's heart. Jesus referred to Him as "Father" 57 times in the gospel narratives. And the Father gave us His Son. He is a gift. Have you received Him?

Generally speaking, Western culture can be divided into two groups. Group one thinks there is no need to accept Jesus. Group two think Jesus would never accept them. Group one thinks living a good life gains them access to heaven. Group two thinks faith in Jesus is not enough to get to heaven. Group one thinks Jesus is only for the "down-and-out." Group two thinks Jesus is for everyone except the "down-and-out." Yet the Bible teaches us that God is no respecter of persons. Every person has been given the gift of Jesus. He was born in obscurity, lived in poverty, died in ignominy. He never traveled more than 120 miles from his birthplace. Yet no one who has walked the face of the earth has had more influence than Jesus. He rose from the dead and is coming back again. The first time, He came as a child. The second time, He comes as a conqueror. You can live with Him forever if you are willing to "call upon the name of the Lord." How can you do that?

1. Acknowledge that you are a sinner in need of a Savior.
2. Repent, or turn away, from the attitude and action of sin.
3. At the same time, believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead and that He paid the full penalty for your sins.
4. Confess Him as Lord, surrendering control of your entire life to Jesus.

There is no one so good that he doesn't need to be saved and no one so bad that he can't be saved. Jesus was born so that you could be saved. If you would like to be saved or if you have questions about Christianity, I would consider it a privilege to talk to you. You can email me at mike@westhavenbaptist.org. I would love to hear from you. Merry Christmas!

Bro. Mike

Connect

Reimbursements

Just a reminder: all church reimbursements for 2016 need to be turned in prior to **December 31st**, 2016 to go on the current budget. Thank you.

New Year's

Worship on **Sunday, Jan. 1** will be at **10:30 a.m.** There will be no Sunday School that day. Please plan on joining us and bringing friends!

Giving Statements

Giving statements will be available via email or paper copies this year. This will save time and money. You will notice on the "Connect Card" there is a line for "giving statement email". That is the email address that will receive your giving statement. If you do not provide an email address a paper copy will be available the second week of January at the Welcome Center. Please fill out one card per family. Please also take this time to update any outdated contact information. Thank you!

Be The Church-Help Needed

Appreciating businesses with many donuts has been so well received that I want to start a second team of donut-makers on Wednesday mornings. I will need two or three people each week on Wednesday mornings from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. If you'd like to join the fun please catch me after church.

— Pastor Ryon

Kathryn Waters Memorials

The family requests that memorials for Kathryn be made to the West Haven Baptist Church building fund. Thank you to the Waters family for your generous spirit.

The Storehouse

"The Storehouse" contains groceries that are no longer carried, are in damaged packages, or are past the "sell-by" date. These groceries are available to you or to your neighbors, courtesy of West Haven Baptist Church and Brothers' Market. They are located in the closet on the south end of the foyer. Feel free to take what you want. Feel free to take some for someone you know. Feel free to buy groceries and add them to "The Storehouse." We want to bless you and this community in the name of Jesus. You can use them to open an evangelistic door to a neighbor or friend. The only restriction we have is that the closet is only open on Sundays immediately after church and during activities on Wednesdays. Please help us keep the closet neat and clean. Thanks to Chris Small for the idea and for stocking the shelves!

Connect

A New Way To Give



We now offer giving by debit and credit cards at our welcome center. Our Square register is easy to use and someone will be available at the Welcome Center to help you get started with the process. We have worked through all the details to make sure your transaction is private and secure. We can accept all forms of debit and credit cards, so if you prefer giving by card stop by the Welcome Center today!

Student Ministries Update

UPCOMING STUDENT CONFERENCE:

Amidst a culture shifting like the tide, it is imperative that students are ready to defend "the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 1:3). Students, mark your calendars for READY, a student conference at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (Kansas City, MO) on **January 27-28, 2017**. Cost for the conference is \$20. Please see Nathan LaFave for additional information, and to sign up.

Budget Vote

The annual budget vote passed 58-0. Copies of the budget can be found in the basket on the north wall as you face the Welcome Center. This year's budget is a **.07% decrease** over last years' budget. If you have questions, please feel free to talk to one of the members of our Stewardship Team.

Budget Information

Weekly Budget Requirement: \$8,726.72
General Fund Receipts: \$14,763.00

Month to Date Budget Requirement: \$26,180.16
Month to Date Giving: \$37,263.00

This Week

Sunday, Dec. 25

No Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, Dec. 28

TES No School
No AWANA or Student Ministry
No Adult Bible Study

Sunday, Jan. 1

No Sunday School

Tuesday, Jan. 3

6 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 4

6:15 p.m. AWANA
6:30 p.m. Student Ministry
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, Jan. 5

9:30 a.m. W.O.W. Group Meets

Get our most current calendar at www.westhavenbaptist.org.

New to West Haven?

- Thanks for coming! I hope to meet you today! – Pastor Mike
- There is a cry room located in the southwest corner inside the worship center. It is equipped with recliners, a changing table, a few necessities, and a TV that broadcasts the service.
- The nursery is located at the north end of the lower level. You can leave your infants or preschoolers in a warm, caring and well-supervised environment. After drop-off you will be contacted via text message if needed.
- Children's Church for children K-2nd grade is located on the north side of the lower level in Room 103.

Membership

- Church membership is valued at West Haven. It is a formal commitment to a local church for divinely given purposes: receiving and giving instruction in God's Word (1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim 4:2), serving and edifying one another (Rom 12:3-8; 1 Co. 12:4-31; 1 Pet 4:10-11), participating in the ordinances, and proclaiming the gospel (Matt 28:18-20). It requires a system of leadership, direction, teaching, discipline, an agreed theology and a set of values directing how the church will carry out life together.
- The biblical basis of membership is seen in examples such as the early church (Acts 2:41, 47; 5:14; 16:5), the establishment of church government (1 & 2 Tim, Titus), the context of epistles, and the exhortation to church discipline (1 Cor 5, Titus 3:10-11). You can explore membership by signing up for our next New Members' class! The way to join is by being baptized by immersion upon your profession of faith, by transferring your membership from another Southern Baptist Church (Acts 18:27, Rom 16:1) or by a statement of faith having been baptized by immersion in a church like belief.

Our Staff

Mike Bronson, Senior Pastor mike@westhavenbaptist.org

Ryon Sander, Associate Pastor ryon@westhavenbaptist.org

Christina Lindholm, Admin. Assistant christina@westhavenbaptist.org

Kirk Baggett, Min. of Maintenance kirk@westhavenbaptist.org

Bill Weatherford, Student Ministry Director

Nathan LaFave, Student Ministry Associate Director

Gordon & Terri Brest and Bill & Donna Mages, AWANA Leaders

Office Phone (913) 369-9422

Upcoming Events

Sunday, Jan. 8

7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
9:15 a.m. New Member Class

Monday, Jan. 9

7 p.m. Deacon's Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 10

6 a.m. Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 11

6:15 p.m. AWANA
6:30 p.m. Student Ministry
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Thursday, Jan. 12

9:30 a.m. W.O.W. group meets

Sunday, Jan. 15

9:15 a.m. New Member Class
Business Meeting After Worship

Facebook



Like our pages on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pages/westhavenbaptistchurch

www.facebook.com/pages/westhavenstudentministries

www.facebook.com/westhavenawana

Connect

What If The Only Way To Hear The Christmas Message Is . . . ?

Luke 2:8-19

Dec. 25, 2016

Pastor Mike Bronson

1. THE _____ CAN BE _____

2. THE _____ CAN BE _____

3. THE _____ CAN BE _____