



ALIVE

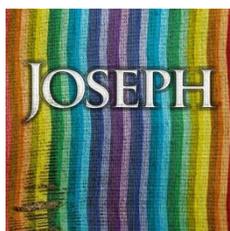
YOUTH MINISTRIES
SARDIS BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

December 2018

(Above) Our students visiting our senior adult members in their homes last month!

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING THIS MONTH



In **Sunday School**, our **High School class** is going over the *Gospel Project* series. *Gospel Project* is a Bible study that invites students to dive deeply into God's story of redemption through Jesus Christ.

Our Winter 2018 study, ***Out of Egypt***, wraps up the book of Genesis by exploring how God worked behind the scenes in the life of Joseph; we'll see how God redeemed Joseph's betrayal, redeemed his adversity, and the ways in which God overrides evil with good.

Our Sunday morning **Middle School class** teaches *LIVE*, a teaching curriculum specifically designed for junior high students; each week they'll study about God, people from the Bible, and what scripture says about the issues they face today.

December's series is called ***First Christmas***. Each week we'll explore the life of one of the characters of Christmas. We'll start with Mary, the young girl willing to follow God's call and carry the Son of God. The second week we look into the life of Joseph, who thought his life was headed one way and instead found it going a totally different direction. We'll examine Jesus on the third week and look at his humble beginnings.



Sunday nights this month will have a wide range of activities; we'll be having our Adult Choir present their Christmas program on Dec. 2, our youth group Christmas party on Sunday, Dec. 16, and go to the movies in Anderson, SC on Sunday, Dec. 30 to go see *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-verse*!



On **Wednesday nights** we'll be continuing a series called ***After You***, a 4-week series on serving others. In a culture obsessed with selfies, celebrities, money, and success, it's not difficult to understand why so many of us struggle with being a little self-centered at times. But while "me first" may be the norm for the rest of the world, Jesus showed us what it looks like to live a generous, compassionate, selfless, "after you" kind of life. In this 4-week series, we'll challenge students to move away from the world's "me first" attitude and embrace the "after you" message of Jesus by noticing needs, opening their hands, using their gifts, and sharing their joy. At the end of the series, we'll be helping students discover how they can serve within our youth ministry and the church.

WHAT WE'RE DOING THIS MONTH

Our youth group **Christmas Party** will be on Sunday, December 16 from 6-8PM at Lee and Kim Adams' house (1043 Elrod Ferry Rd.)! We'll have loads of breakfast food like pancakes, bacon, eggs, and hash browns! Come and wear your best Christmas outfits; we'll have contests for Best "Ugly Christmas Sweater" and Best "Christmas Pajamas"! ***We're asking each student to bring a wrapped gift (costing no more than \$10) for a "white elephant" gift exchange.***



Our youth group will be attending the **Xtreme Winter Conference** in Gatlinburg, TN from December 27-29. This annual event is 3-day conference for Christian teenagers that includes live bands and dynamic speakers. Your student will hear the best in Christian music LIVE and grow in their walk with God through powerful teaching from the nation's top speakers. ***If you're coming on the trip with us, we'll be leaving from Sardis at 10:00am on Thursday, and returning on Saturday between 5-6PM! A full schedule will be given out to participants soon.***

Sardis Baptist Church would like to invite you and your family to our **Christmas Eve worship service** on Monday, December 24 at 5:30PM. Please join us for this brief yet meaningful night of reflection as we worship the Lord together.



Who doesn't love a good movie around the holidays? Join our youth group on Sunday, December 30, as we go to Anderson, SC to see the new movie, **Spider-Man: Into the Spider-verse!** Please bring at least \$20 for your movie ticket and dinner, and any additional money for snacks and drinks you may want at the theater. We'll be leaving from Sardis at 5:00PM. **Spider-Man: Into the Spider-verse** tells the story of young Miles Morales, who becomes the Spider-Man of his world and crosses paths with his counterparts from other dimensions to stop a threat to all reality! (Rated PG)



TIPS FOR PARENTS OF TEENAGERS

Making the Most of Your Family's Christmas

Jim Burns – Author of *Intentional Parenting*

It's Christmastime and it's time to celebrate! But, for many parents, just the thought of the season makes them want to scream "Bah hum-bug!" Why? It's because the holidays can be hectic and just plain hard to deal with. Christmas shopping, school and church pageants, and the various Christmas festivities can cause us a lot of stress! But here's the good news -- there is a remedy for getting beyond the "Bah hum-bug!" By reducing your family's stress levels, you can make the most of your family's Christmas this year! Here's how:

1. **Refresh.** Revisit some old family traditions that you haven't enjoyed in a while and take the initiative to create some new ones. Some of the previous generations did a better job than we do with building family traditions. Traditions are important for families because they provide opportunities to keep your family legacy going. From the simple to the silly to the sentimental, traditions can create meaningful memories. As a parent, one of your jobs is to look for ways to promote special moments and traditions for your family -- ones that will create special family memories that your kids will keep forever.
2. **Restore.** Christmastime is a great time to reestablish connections with friends and family members with whom you've lost touch. Make a goal of restoring connection with at least one person or family member this year.
3. **Relax.** There are only so many hours in the day, so much money at your discretion, and only so much of "you" to go around. Well, it is my profound privilege to give you permission to *not* attend every Christmas pageant featuring a distant relative of yours, and when you've maxed out your gift-purchasing budget, please know that it's perfectly okay to say, "Enough. Our shopping is done."
4. **Rejoice.** And again I say, "Rejoice!" We're celebrating the birth of our Savior -- our whole reason for living! What kind of message do we send to an unbelieving world if we're cranky, hassled, and sad during Christmastime? Of all people, we should be the ones leading the celebrations! So enjoy the season and watch how many people wonder why you're so happy!

DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am Program at 6PM			FISH @ HCMS 7:30AM YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM		FCA @ HCHS 7:15AM FCA @ HCMS 2:30PM	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10:00am Youth Council Mtg. @ 12:00pm Youth Group Bible Study @ 6:00pm			YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY 6-8PM			HAPPY BIRTHDAY HUNTER MILFORD! YOUTH GROUP 6:00-7:30PM			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am NO EVENING WORSHIP	HAPPY BIRTHDAY RILEY KESLER! CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 5:30PM					
30	31					
MS/HS Sunday AM Classes @ 10am MOVIE NIGHT IN ANDERSON, SC			NO YOUTH GROUP			