



MIDWEEK UPDATE

DECEMBER 21, 2023

A Message From Jeff...

The Christmas Spirit

The Christmas spirit is really the Christian spirit and it can last all year long when we live and give as Jesus did. In Galatians 5:22,23, the apostle Paul clearly outlines the fruit of the Spirit and what that will look like in the life of a growing Christian:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control; against such things there is no law.”

How are you doing in resembling the Lord in your behavior?

It goes on to caution, “If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.”

Galatians 5:25, 26

Be ready to give a warm BCC Welcome to those who will be visiting our worship services in the coming weeks. Use your influence to invite friends and family to join you in worship at BCC during this special season!

Love,

Jeff

Upcoming Messages:

Christmas Message series: Path to Peace

Everybody wants to have peace within the family, within our nation, and within our personal lives. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, came to provide peace. The Christmas story is about "Peace on Earth...Goodwill to mankind." We'll drill down on how to find this desired commodity that is so valuable for us all year long.

Dec. 10 Peace in my Home

The Christmas season brings with it stress, extra activity/travel, deadlines, and often dysfunctional family gatherings! We'll learn some coping techniques from God's Word to balance this pressure and emerge with greater Peace in our families.



Dec. 17 Peace in our World

This is a time when racial tensions and political unrest seem to dominate the news and our minds. In many ways, this universal discord parallels the context of that first Christmas. Jesus provided the answer then to the world and He still does today in this season of uncertainty.

Dec. 24 Peace in my Life

Every one of us is searching for an equilibrium or healthy harmony in our day to day existence. Personal problems, health concerns, financial needs, and job worries can overwhelm us and steal peace from life. How does the Prince of Peace coming at Christmas make a difference for us with the challenges we face every day, all year long?

BATESVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH--CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 2023

3 identical worship services:

Come celebrate Christ's birth with us on Sunday, December 24!

9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (Nursery & Preschool programming)

4:00 p.m. (Nursery & Preschool programming)

Eden Mae Oda

Congratulations to Tyler & Grace Oda on the birth of Eden Mae Oda. She arrived on 12/18 and weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. They are grateful for this special gift at this special time of year. Starting in January, there will be a bassinet for diaper collections to support them with their newest addition.

Announcements:

The Giving Tree

At Christmas we enjoy giving gifts to those we love and receiving them , too. Did you ever think of giving a gift to your Heavenly Father as you warmly receive His gift to you?

In the lobby this year is a **Giving Tree** covered with gift tags that remind us of the many gifts God lovingly gives to us...Eternal Life, Amazing Grace, Enduring Mercy, Faithfulness, and being called a Child of God. Under the tree are our gifts to Him. Because of Jesus' gift of salvation, we desire to offer Him our Time, Talents, and Treasure, Gratitude for our Blessings, our Praise and Worship, our Love and Devotion, and our Obedience.

Hoping this Giving Tree will warm your hearts and increase your appreciation of God's Love through His Son whose birth we celebrate all year long.

Benevolence Fund

Every Christmas, we put out a basket to collect extra gifts for potential benevolent needs. If you are interested in giving toward this specific fund, there will be a basket at the Welcome Desk outside of the Worship Center with the

BCC Choir Interest



We are exploring the interest level for a choir to sing a song at our Easter Services reflective on the joyful season of Christ's resurrection! If you would like to participate or have a desire to join the choir, please contact **Justin Sutherland** at (573) 823-8057

Annual Congregational Meeting

The annual congregational meeting will take place following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, January 21, 2024 for the purpose of approving the budget and affirming church officers for the new year.

The Church office will be closed the week of December 25. Merry Christmas!

Prayers & Praises:

Hannah—liver transplant (Carolyn Oversby)
Family of Doris Montang (Clay Montang)
Rick—stroke Recovery (Robert Bridges)
Dennis—heart (Robert Bridges)
Nephew Alex Sloan—Type A Influenza (Janelle Seibert, Dana Dwanger)
Levi & Avery—Children with medical conditions (Kim Wuestefeld)
Family of Marilyn Sutherland [Grandmother] (Justin Sutherland)



Remember that as 2023 comes to a close it provides the occasion for year-end financial gifts and stock donations to Batesville Christian Church. The next few weeks offer the chance for making contributions that will be reflected in one's 2023 tax filing, the chance to share the bounty from a bonus, or the opportunity to get "caught up" if behind on intended giving for this calendar year.

Year-End Checks must be received at the church office or postmarked by December 31, 2023.



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LOVE GOD. LOVE PEOPLE. IMPACT THE WORLD.



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