



Lake of the Ozarks Baptist Association

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The Voice

In 1886 the first set of Christmas lights went on sale. Since that time Christmas lights have become increasingly popular. Some folks drive around admiring the lights – sometimes even to other towns. Laurie is known for having one of the biggest and best with their Enchanted Village of Lights. Silver Dollar City also celebrates the season with over 6 million lights!

People presumably put up the lights as a decoration to reflect the joy of Christmas. Sometimes, though, the lights become a matter of competition and commercialism. Sometimes the TRUE LIGHT gets lost in all the glitter . . .

John 1.9 There was the True Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man
Psalm 119.105 Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path . . . then John tells us in his gospel that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us
Psalm 27.1 The Lord is my light and my salvation
I John 1.5 – 7 God is light and in Him is no darkness at all

Truly our Lord is the source of all light. In Genesis there was only darkness . . . then He spoke and said, “Let there be light” and there was light! In Exodus 10 when darkness came over the whole land of Egypt for three days all the houses of Israel had light, for the Lord was their light.

Often we speak of darkness as synonymous with evil, & light as synonymous with good. In John 3.19 we read that men loved darkness rather than light for their deeds were evil. And in I John 2.8, The darkness is passing away and the True Light is already shining. As the light shines in darkness it exposes evil, and overcomes it.

David prayed in II Samuel 22.29:

For Thou art my lamp O Lord

And the Lord illumines my darkness

Scriptures prophesy of God coming to dwell among men using the metaphor of light coming into the world. Isaiah wrote that those living in darkness shall see a great light.

Jesus fulfills this for He is that great light! In John 8.12 Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world . . . he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

Let us also remember that we are to have a part in sharing that Great Light. Like a string of lights on the Christmas tree, we are each connected to one another, and though each of individually may not give off much light, together we shine the light of the gospel for all the world to see! Let your light shine – not just at Christmas, but all through the year!

Your Fellow Servant, Timothy

On November 17 the church came together to pack 40 Christmas Shoe Boxes and wrap 35 gifts for Miller County foster children. A Bible was included with the gifts. Church members gave love offerings of presents, time, Bibles, and money to provide gifts to those who may not have one on Christmas.

There is a total of 70 children ages from 1 to 18 in the Miller County Foster system. Mt. Herman graciously provided presents and Bibles for the other 35 children. When we find a project too large for just our body of believers, we find Mt. Herman is willing to come aside to help accomplish God given goals. I would like to say thank you to Mt. Herman.

Church God Bless, Bro. Bob Cavanaugh, Spring Garden Baptist Church



MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Our missions committee met recently and wants to alert everyone to two opportunities!

First, we are tentatively planning a return trip to Rochester, Minnesota for July 11 – 18, 2020. If you are even slightly interested in participating in this mission trip, plan now to keep those dates open!

Second, we are also looking at having another On Mission Celebration in 2020. Right now we are looking at either the first week of November or the first week of December. Pencil in both options and begin to consider whether your church will want to participate. Details will be forthcoming as we progress in the planning.



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 5: Pastors' & Wives' Christmas Fellowship, Golden Corral, Osage Beach, 6:30 PM
December 15: Deacon Ordination of Quincy Robinett, Honey Springs Baptist Church, 2:00 PM
December 20-21: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open
December 24: Association Office Closed Christmas Week
December 25: Christmas
December 29: Fifth Sunday Sing, Mt. Herman Baptist Church, Hwy FF, Olean, 6:00 PM
January 11: Pastors & Wives Breakfast at Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM
January 14: Executive Board Meeting, Rocky Mount Baptist Church, 474 Hwy Y, 7:00 PM
January 21-23: Leadership Conference, Illinois
January 24-25: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open
February 2: Youth Super Bowl Party, FBC Eldon, 4:00 PM
February 8: Pastors and Wives Breakfast, Blue Springs Baptist Church, 8:30 AM
February 14: Associational Valentine Banquet, FBC Iberia
February 28-29: Rocky Mount Food Pantry Open

**We welcome Harold Elson as
the New pastor at Honey
Springs Baptist Church.**

**Continue to pray for Honey
Springs and Bro. Elson as they
continue God's work.**

REMEMBER OUR CHURCHES

Without pastors

GREENRIDGE

NORTH SHORE

*You are Invited to the
Deacon Ordination of
Quincy Robinett,
Sunday, December 15, 2:00 PM
Honey Springs Baptist Church
46 Honey Springs Loop
Bramley*



Lois McDonald
18837 Hwy 52
Barnett , MO 65011

And in the fields shepherd were abiding keeping watch over their sheep.