



Cornerstone Baptist Church
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Bentonville, AR 72712
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info@cbc bentonville.com

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

www.cbc bentonville.com

Times to Connect

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 9th—Christmas Party, Pastor's Home
- 18th—Christmas Fellowship
- 25th—Christmas Day, 10:30 Service

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 1st—New Year's Day
- 8th—Monthly Lunch Fellowship, noon
- 11th—Consortium Begins (each Wednesday for 8 weeks)
- 17th, 18th— Mission Symposium, Conway

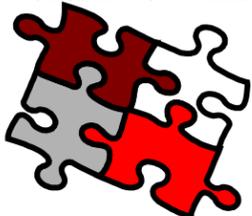
February

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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- 5th—Monthly Lunch Fellowship, noon
- 14th—Valentine's Day

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Schedule of Services

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
First Service	10:30 a.m.
Second Service	1:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night	7:00 p.m.



Cornerstone Connect

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ONE FRIEND AT A TIME

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

2011-12 Winter Edition

From the Pastor's Pen... by Pastor Dana Williams

Beloved, "Jesus died for the church and He promised that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church and we would do well to channel all of our activities, all of our giving, all of our soul winning, all of our missionary work and all of our activities through the church." Tommy Ashcraft

Many of us seemingly want the things of our current lives to last. The only way to do that is to invest in the Kingdom of Christ. If we as Christ's followers are expecting to make an impact upon this world, then we must be willing to invest in those things that have eternal value. I pray that we will continue to give as the Lord leads. That maybe we will have the vision to entrust the Church with the re-

sources to further the Kingdom of God here so that in Heaven there will be rewards beyond measure. To me it is obvious that the church here has a heart for ministry and the will to see the work of the Kingdom furthered by whatever means necessary. I am so thankful for a loving and giving church. This I believe reflects the Spirit of Christ in us.

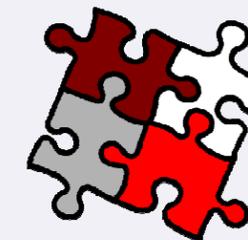
You may be asking the question about what you can do in a practical way to reach people for the Kingdom of God. Here are a few suggestions: We are currently seeking volunteers for our Hospitality Ministry and our Bus Ministry. These ministries are such a wonderful way to make a difference in the lives of others.

A few years ago I met a lady who was sharing her testimony. Here is what she said, "I thank God for the bus ministry. I was saved as a young child because some church member cared enough about me to come every Sunday and pick me up from my alcoholic parent." I wonder how many children in Bentonville could be affected by a Bus Ministry or a Teaching Ministry? **It's all about Evangelism and Discipleship!** When we understand the emphasis that God's Word places on evangelism and discipleship we should humble ourselves, thank God for the gifts He's given us and then use them for His glory. Friends, Do something for God, desire to do nothing and God will give you the desires of your heart.

Cornerstone Connect is a quarterly publication of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Bentonville, Arkansas. For more information about the church visit our website:

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Why Cornerstone Baptist Church?

by Judy Lea

With there being a church on every corner, you may be asking the question "Why Cornerstone?" Why should you choose Cornerstone as your place of worship?

Cornerstone was started as a direct vision from God. In early 1996, a group of people came together with a common vision to plant a church in Bentonville that would be like no other. Our location, our building, and the approach to our biblical message were led by Bro. Larry Markum under the direct guidance of God. It has always been and still is our goal to see this vision come to fruition.

Our Pastor, Bro. Dana Williams, is a man who preaches and teaches the Truth of the Bible. He loves God, the church, and his flock. He and his family are 100% committed to Cor-

nerstone Church and our work here. We believe the Bible is the true, infallible Word of God written by men but inspired wholly by God. Nothing is added to or taken away from the express Word of God. The Bible is preached and taught in its written form without hesitation or apology.

Our leadership team consists of men who love God and are devoted to His church and her members. They lead by example, and spend countless hours in prayer before any policies, procedures, or decisions affecting the church are made. Our membership loves the Lord and serves Him because of that love. We are a friendly, caring family of believers with extra sweet fellowship.

We are a small church, and this definitely has its advantages. Because of this, we are a close-knit group. This

allows us to get to know each other on a more intimate level than a larger church would allow. Small churches have more room for growth, and in return, new members grow with the church. There is more opportunity for service in a small church because there are fewer workers in general.

Although there are many other reasons I could mention, I believe these are the most important reasons you should give us a try. So, instead of asking "Why Cornerstone?" maybe the question should be "Why not Cornerstone?" If you are new in town, why not visit with us to see what we have to offer. If you are looking for a church home, why not give us a try? If you are a member of Cornerstone who has drifted away, why not return to fellowship with God and us? So, I am asking you, "Why not Cornerstone?"

“How many observe Christ’s Birthday! How few, His precepts!”

Benjamin Franklin



“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6



The Christ in Christmas

It’s the most wonderful time of the year! It is the time Christian people have set aside to celebrate God’s greatest gift to mankind – His Son. It is a season of joy, peace, and love. It is a season of music, laughter, and festivity. It is a season to think of others, to give gifts, to send cards, and visit loved ones.

To truly celebrate Christmas is to bring out the Christ in Christmas by lifting up His name and pointing others to Him. Practically what does this look like? How do we bring out Christ in Christmas when all of society has their eyes elsewhere? And should we, as Christians, play into the idea of Christmas being about Santa, reindeers, and elves? What should we be instilling into the hearts of our children and grandchildren during this season? Our family has become intentional in our Christmas traditions.

We have tried to have meaning and purpose behind everything done during this season. Our greatest desire is to be focused upon Christ, The Incarnate God, dwelling among men.

Tree – To our family the Christmas tree symbolizes the tree that Christ was crucified upon. It is a reminder to us that the babe in a manger grew up, lived a perfect life, and died upon a tree for the sins of the world. “Who his own

self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed,” 1Peter 2:24.

Angels – The angels are a reminder of the messengers of glad tidings. (Luke 2:13-14)

Ornaments – The Christmas balls remind us of the world and how, “God so loved the world.” The doves remind us of the Spirit of God. **Bells** – These remind us to ring out the Good News.

Candy Canes – In the shape of a shepherd’s staff, they remind us of the Great Shepherd. When turned upside down the “J” reminds us of Jesus. The white in the candy tells us Christ’s purity. The red stripes represent our Saviour’s stripes. (Isaiah 53:5) **Star** – Placed upon the top of the tree, it is a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem. (Matthew 2:2)

Nativity Scene – This is placed on top of our piano each year. As we gather around and sing

songs this season it will be a constant visual of who we worship and sing praises to.

Candles – When we placed the candles on our table as a center piece we were able to remind the children that Jesus said, “I am the light of the world,” John 8:12. **Lights** – Christmas lights are a beautiful reminder that as children of God we are to let our light shine for all to see. “Let your light so shine before men,” Matthew 5:16. **Story Time** – Instead of reading a story book about Santa or Frosty the Snowman take this opportunity to read to your children or grandchildren the story of Christ’s birth from Luke 2. **Advent** – Learn the meaning of Advent. **Adventus. Ecce advenit Dominator Dominus.** Behold, the Lord, the Ruler is come. The tradition of advent is a threefold celebration of the birth of Jesus, His eventual second coming to earth, and His continued presence in our lives here and now - God in our past, God in our future, and God in our present.

Make a point to make Christ the center of your Christmas celebration this year. May our Lord richly bless you this season but more importantly may you be a blessing to Him!

By: Kimberly Williams



December Announcements

- The first New Member’s Class is being taught on Sunday mornings by Pastor Williams at 9:30 a.m. The member’s class will be a requirement for new joining members. Every current member is encouraged to take a part of this class.

- The Executive Leadership

Team has finished Cornerstone’s Constitution and By-Laws. They have been passed out to our members and will be voted on during December’s Business Meeting, Wednesday, December 14th.

- Sunday, December 18th is our Christmas fellowship meal after the morning ser-

vice. There will be an area set up for family Christmas pictures and we will be taking pictures for our church directory that afternoon.

- Join us on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m. for a special time of worship and celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Welcoming Visitors



A new year will bring in new visitors and new visitors come for many different reasons. Ron Edmondson, pastor and writer, offers a helpful description of the different types of guests you’ll find at church.

Testers – These visitors are just looking around...perhaps for a new church...perhaps because they are dissatisfied where they currently attend church. They may feel they are not growing at their current church, or they aren’t completely satisfied with the leadership, the programs, or the opportunities for service available. If testers find what they are looking for, they’ll be back, but most likely, there is a specific fit they are seeking.

Pleasers - These visitors are usually coming to appease someone who asked them. They have less interest in attending church than they have in satisfying the request of a spouse or friend. This is not a bad way to get them at first, and I’m always happy to have them, but it is harder to get them to stick unless God moves in their heart for attending church to become their personal desire.

For these visitors, the person inviting them is just as important as the visitor in keeping them, but help the pleaser feel welcome, don’t make them feel uncomfortable, and you’ve got a good chance of seeing them return.

Seekers – These are people who know they are missing something in life but aren’t sure what it is. Church may simply be another option, or it may be the only option, but these are the true unchurched. These visitors are a mission field. If we introduce them to Christ, they become forever loyal to the church where they found Him.

Jumpers - These visitors seldom stay long at one church. They get upset at something the church does, the church enters a building program that scares them away, or they simply grow bored. Likely they’ll only stick for a while at the new church, too, so don’t be take it personally if they disappear, as it may not be anything you did or didn’t do. Enjoy them while they are with you.

Investors - Most likely, these people moved to your community or some major issue caused them to leave their current church. These visitors are active church attendees looking for a new long-term home. They are ready to quickly commit and serve. It’s important to plug these people in as soon as possible.

While there are many different types of visitors, the majority of people say that they visited a church for the first time because of a personal invitation.

Therefore, relationships are the key. So what can we do, as the church, to build relationships one friend at a time?

Be friendly. When someone walks in the doors for the first time make a point to introduce yourself. It is a wonderful opportunity to shine with the love of Christ. Share that love and be intentional in seeking to build relationships. All of Scripture is built around relationships – our relationship with God and our relationship with others.

Be helpful. Show our visitors around. Make sure they received a welcome pack. Enthusiastically, share with them about our classes and worship opportunities. Make yourself available.

Be hospitable. Treat visitors as if they were coming to your home for dinner.

Let it be known that at Cornerstone we are more than a church; we’re family.

Be the church. The Lord doesn’t want us coming to church each week. He wants us to be the church. Remember, the church is a people not a place. Become the people God intended and then let Him add to the church.

“...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved,” Acts 2:47.

New Year = New Opportunities

We are told in Matthew 5:16 to let our light shine before men so that they may see our good works and glorify God. There is no better way to let our light shine than by daily living out our faith. A good way to do this is by serving others. There are many opportunities to serve within our church and outside our church. If God has

moved upon your heart to serve this year contact the Pastor or ELT and get plugged in.

“For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another,” Galatians 5:13.

