

Welcome to
Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church
Established 1869

Embodying the presence of Christ to Sanford and the world



"Mary and Elizabeth," by Carl Heinrich Bloch, 1860s.

The Lord's Day, December 23, 2012

We are grateful that you have chosen to worship God with us today. We invite you to join us on this incredible journey of following Jesus Christ as His disciples, striving to fulfill our mission of embodying the presence of Christ to Sanford and the world through our worship, our witness, and our way of life.

Join us each Sunday morning for these opportunities . . .

8:30 A.M. - Food and Fellowship (Chapel)

8:45 A.M. - Celebration Worship (Chapel)

9:45 A.M. - Sunday School (Small group Bible study):

Preschoolers (1st floor of the educational wing)

Children, Youth, and Adults

(1st, 2nd, 3rd floors of the educational wing)

11:00 A.M. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

**316 WEST MAIN STREET
SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA 27332**

TELEPHONE (919) 776-1541

www.jhbc.org

Church Staff:

Rev. Gilbert W. McDowell, *Pastor Emeritus*

Rev. Ronnie Byrd, *Associate Pastor for Music & Education*
(ronnie.byrd@jhbc.org)

Rev. Richard Wood, *Associate Pastor for Family Ministry*
(richard.wood@jhbc.org)

Mr. Richard Sistrunk, Sr., *Church Administrator*
(richard.sistrunk@jhbc.org)

Mrs. Marva Lee Roush, *Administrative Assistant* (info@jhbc.org)

Mrs. Jo Ann Brickhouse, *Organist*

Mrs. Kimberly Davidson, *Pianist*

The Worship of God
The Lord's Day, December 23, 2012
Fourth Sunday of Advent

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**11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE (Sanctuary)**  
**Broadcast live on WFJA 105.5 FM**

**Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices.**

*Today's scripture lessons focus on the anticipation and surprise of the Advent season. The reading from Micah reveals that the small town of Bethlehem will be the birthplace of a faithful and righteous ruler. Luke tells the story of Mary and Elizabeth, each of whom come to know the surprising ways of God. Elizabeth, long barren, conceives John the Baptist, as foretold by the angel Gabriel. Mary visits Elizabeth after her own encounter with Gabriel and the news of her own unexpected pregnancy, and the women rejoice and marvel at the mysterious work of God.*

**Gathering to Worship**

Ministry Opportunities Mary Upchurch

Greeting

Music for Meditation Kimberly Davidson

Words of Welcome Ronnie Byrd

Call to Worship

PASTOR: All through this season of Advent, we have encountered Hope, Peace and Joy.

PEOPLE: **Today Belief and Love are the theme.**

PASTOR: Today we will hear the story of surprising commitment.

PEOPLE: **We will learn of Mary and God's wonderful love.**

PASTOR: Today we will be challenged to believe in all that God can do.

PEOPLE: **Open our hearts, Lord, that we may be ready for your love. AMEN.**

Invocation Ken Smith

Hymn Response 465 "Baptized in Water" Congregation

The Sign of Faith: Baptism Marshall Garner  
Colby Johnson  
Christopher Martinez  
Evelyn Martinez

Congregational Songs (see Insert for words) Praise Team  
"Peace, Peace" / "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Medley  
"Angels We Have Heard on High" / "Away in a Manger" Medley  
"Mary's Boy Child"

*Hearing the Word*

Old Testament Lesson Micah 5:2-5a (page 922) Avron Upchurch

Epistle Lesson Hebrews 10:5-10 (page 1190) Mary Upchurch

Hymn 284 "The Birthday of a King" Congregation

Thanksgiving with Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Anthem "Meant for Holy Scars" Sanctuary Choir

Congregational Response Congregation

(sung to the tune of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" - Hymn 245)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Children's Sermon: Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love Richard Wood

Gospel Lesson & Sermon Luke 1:39-55 (page 1013) Richard Wood

*"Don't Stop Believing"*

**Responding to the Word**

Hymn 253 "Silent Night! Holy Night!" Congregation

The Church at Prayer

*Sending Forth*

Christmas Celebration Medley Congregation

*"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

*"Go Tell It on the Mountain"*

*"O Come All Ye Faithful"*

*"Joy to the World"*

Charge and Benediction Richard Wood



*Join us for this week's evening services and activities . . .*



- **No evening worship or activities tonight**
- **Monday, 5:00 P.M. (Sanctuary) - Family Christmas Eve Service**
- **No Wednesday evening services or activities**

**College Student of the Week is Victoria Wood** - Victoria is the daughter of Dan and Karen Wood and attends Campbell University. Please send her a card this week at PO Box 718, Buies Creek, NC 27506.

**OUR MISSION**

*By the grace of God and the power of His Holy Spirit, we will embody the presence of the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ to Sanford and the world through our worship, our witness, and our way of life as His disciples.*

**OUR VALUES**

- ✦ *God-focused intergenerational worship*
- ✦ *Bible-centered life-impacting Bible study and Discipleship*
- ✦ *Hands-on relationship-driven missions*
- ✦ *An accepting and encouraging sense of family where everyone's voice counts*

**Becoming a Follower of Christ**

Being a Christian involves a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Every one of us is a sinner and in need of God's forgiveness. Only Christ can save us and set us right with God through His own life, death on the cross, and resurrection from the dead. Those who put their faith in Him and commit their lives to Him as their Lord experience His forgiveness and are set right with God. Those who have not put their faith in Him are separated from God by their sin, a separation that continues in eternity in hell if they die without Christ.

Trusting Jesus involves recognizing your need of Him, asking Him to forgive you, and committing yourself to Him as your Lord. The Christian life is about following Jesus, getting to know Him, and becoming like Him. Once you trust Christ, being baptized expresses your commitment publicly. Becoming a part of a local congregation helps you to know and serve Christ as a part of His people, the family of God.

We would be delighted to talk with you about making a commitment to Jesus Christ. Please see one of our pastors after the service or contact the church office (919-776-1541).

**Becoming a Member of Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church**

Becoming a member of a local congregation of believers is an important step in the Christian life. Through membership in a local church, we experience fellowship with other Christians, study God's word and learn together in worship and in small groups, and participate in our risen Lord's mission in the world.

Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church gladly receives members who are followers of Christ and who believe that God is leading them to become a part of our church. New believers are received into the church through baptism. Members of other Baptist churches are received by transfer of membership. Persons coming from other Christian denominations are received by statement of their faith along with believer's baptism (if they have not already experienced believer's baptism.)

If you would like to become a member of Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church, you may come forward during the hymn of commitment following the sermon and present yourself as a candidate for membership. If you would like to discuss your decision prior to making it public or have further questions about membership in JHBC, please talk with one of our pastors after the service or contact the church office (919-776-1541).

**CHURCH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

|                            |                                                                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23</b> |                                                                               |
| 8:45 AM                    | Early Worship (Chapel)                                                        |
| 9:00 – 9:45 AM             | Church Library Open                                                           |
| 9:45 – 10:45 AM            | Sunday School                                                                 |
| 11:00 AM                   | Worship Service with Baptism (Sanctuary)<br>(Broadcast live on WFJA 105.5 FM) |
|                            | Extended Session 1 – Kelly Desjarlais                                         |
| 12:00 – 12:15 PM           | Church Library Open                                                           |
|                            | <b>No Evening Worship or Activities</b>                                       |

|                            |                                     |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY, DECEMBER 24</b> |                                     |
|                            | <b>Church Office Closed</b>         |
| <b>5:00 PM</b>             | <b>Family Christmas Eve Service</b> |

|                                             |                             |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY</b> |                             |
|                                             | <b>Church Office Closed</b> |

|                               |                                          |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26</b> |                                          |
|                               | <b>Church Office Closed</b>              |
|                               | <b>No Mid-Week Worship or Activities</b> |

|                              |                                                                  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27</b> |                                                                  |
| 6:30 PM                      | Equipping for the Future Task Force Meeting<br>(Conference Room) |
| 7:30 PM                      | Praise Band Practice (Chapel)                                    |

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**2012 Contributions** must be turned into the church office no later than midnight December 31 or postmarked by midnight December 31. Our preference would be that all 2012 contributions be turned in by 9:00 AM Monday morning, December 31.

**MISSION OPPORTUNITIES**

**CBF Global Missions Offering as of December 16 = \$215.** Our goal at JHBC for CBF Global Missions Offering is \$1,500.

**City on a Hill Mission December Total of All Donations = \$1,085.**

**JHBC Benevolence Fund** – Requests for help continue to grow. You can make a difference in someone's life, just mark your envelope "JHBC Benevolence Fund".

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering as of December 16 = \$1,486.35.** Our goal at Jonesboro Height Baptist Church for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is \$5,700. Be His Heart, His Hands, His Voice!

**Military Christmas Care Packages** – Our JHBC congregation graciously shared from their hearts for our military care packages. We shipped 100 pounds of Christmas cheer to a troop stationed in Afghanistan serving with Chaplain Tom Riley, a friend of Rich and Beth Cockman-Wood. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this project. You helped bring the holiday spirit to our military far from home.

**Mission Trip to India** is planned for **June 15 to June 26, 2013.** Team Member Information Sheets are available in the church office. **A deposit of \$500 is due to reserve your spot.** The trip is limited to 10 members.

**UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS**

**Sunday, January 6**  
11:00 AM - David and Heather Webb, City on a Hill Mission  
6:30 PM - Church Business Meeting

**Monday, January 7**  
7:00 PM - Deacons' Meeting

**Annual Chili and Cake Bake-Off** for men, women, youth and children will be held on **Sunday, January 27, 2013** in McDowell Hall. Cake entries must be registered for judging by 5:30 PM. Chili entries must be registered for judging by 6:00 PM. Dinner will be at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

**PassportKids Sign-Up is available now** – This camp is for children in grades 3-6 and will be at Wingate University on July 8-11. **Registration and a \$60 deposit are due by March 29.** Sign-up sheets are available on the Family Ministry Bulletin Board outside Bullock-Matthews Room. An informational meeting will take place in the Chapel on January 2 following Family Night Supper.

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**PassportChoices Sign-up is available now** – This camp is for youth in grades 6-8 (Middle School Students) and will be at Wingate University on July 7-12. **Registration and a \$75 deposit are due by March 28.** Sign-up sheets are available on the Family Ministry Bulletin Board outside Bullock-Matthews Room. An informational meeting will take place in the Chapel on January 2 following Family Night Supper.

**High School & College Mission Trip to Belize Sign-Up is available now** – This trip will be July 27-August 2 as we will be working with a church in Belize City conducting Vacation Bible School. Cost of the trip will be approximately \$1,100. **Registration and a \$100 deposit are due by January 30.** A sign-up sheet is on the Family Ministry Bulletin Board. An informational meeting will take place in the Chapel on January 2 following Family Night Supper.

**BUDGET AND ATTENDANCE: December 16, 2012 (Week 16 of 52)**

|                                     |                      |                          |                       |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>General Fund</b>                 |                      |                          |                       |
| Weekly Budgeted Needs               | \$ 10,985.26         | YTD Budget Goal          | \$ 175,764.16         |
| T/O Received                        | \$ 9,133.76          | YTD T/O Received         | \$ 141,803.22         |
| Less Budget This Week               | <b>\$( 1,851.50)</b> | YTD Difference           | <b>\$ (33,960.94)</b> |
| Budget: \$571,233.48                |                      |                          |                       |
| (\$571,233.48/52 weeks=\$10,985.26) |                      | <b>TOTAL GIVING</b>      | \$ 10,610.11          |
|                                     |                      | (Last Week)              |                       |
| <u>Benevolence</u>                  | \$ 160.00            | <b>ATTENDANCE</b>        |                       |
| <u>CBF Global Missions</u>          | \$ 50.00             | 8:45 AM Early Worship    | 21                    |
| <u>Children in the Son</u>          | \$ 20.00             | Sunday School            | 168 + 8               |
| <u>City on a Hill</u>               | \$ 200.00            | 11:00 AM Worship         | 209                   |
| <u>Equipping for the Future</u>     | \$ 325.00            | Sat PM-Christmas Musical | 291                   |
| <u>H/E Thomas Mission</u>           | \$ 25.00             | Sunday 3:30 PM Musical   | 307                   |
| <u>His Nets</u>                     | \$ 30.00             | Sunday PM Musical        | 312                   |
| <u>Lottie Moon</u>                  | \$ 616.35            |                          |                       |
| <u>Music &amp; Education</u>        | \$ 50.00             |                          |                       |