



The Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church

ANNOUNCER

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Issue 656

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Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gilbert W. McDowell

Interim Pianist

Mrs. Sharon Brooks

Nursery Staff

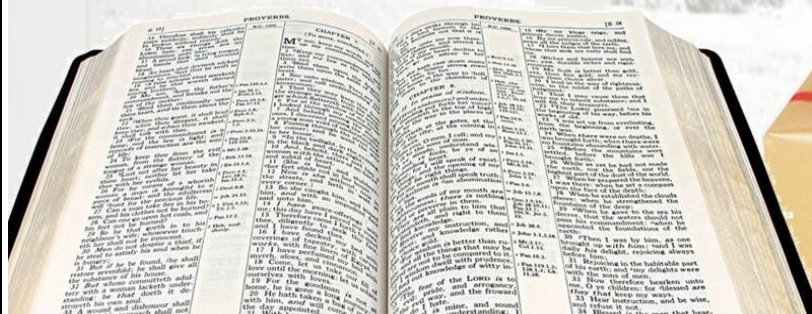
Ms. Claire Cummings
Ms. Abigail Sturm
Mrs. Katie Warren

The Story Of Christmas

WORSHIP THE KING!

Presented By
Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church
Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6:30pm, and
Sunday, Dec 8 at 3pm

316 West Main Street
(919) 776-1541



From the Desk of the Senior Pastor

HEB 13:1 Let love of the brethren continue.

HEB 13:2 **Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,**
for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Most of you know Sandy and I just made our first trip to Disney World recently. It was a good, interesting, and sometimes overwhelming experience. As we walked around for five days, watching people, I had the strangest thought; *there are ways that the church could be more like Disney!* Now, please don't think I've lost my mind – I think I can convince you.

First, let me set the stage. 152,000 people visit Disney World every day. Some of them ride rentable carts that dangerously zoom in and out of pedestrians. And there are A LOT of strollers, double-wide, that jostle and push everyone else around. Everyone is on a mission to get somewhere and there is a sense of urgency...until you get into line, some of which are three hours long. Finally, on most days it hovered between 90-95 degrees with 77% humidity. All of that together seems to be the formula for misery and disaster!

But here is the thing that caught my attention. There was never one employee (they call them 'cast members') of the thousand we saw that ever lost their cool. They never argued with each other or complained about anything. In fact, they bent over backwards to be kind and helpful and in every way went the extra mile to make the experience a positive one. Yet, I imagine that most of these 'cast members' came to work with their own issues, it was just as hot and crowded for them as it was for Sandy and I, but they **chose** to set that aside in order to make our visit a good one. Hospitality!

Disney has a culture of hospitality, which they do for something temporary. How much more should we welcome people with love and kindness and patience as we have an eternal purpose! Interestingly, as each cast member was so kind, I found myself responding with kindness. I wanted to hold the door for those that were serving me and say an encouraging word. It was like an upward spiral of kindness and hospitality! Disney says it is the '*Happiest Place on Earth*' – I'm not sure I would go that far. But I admire their culture of hospitality and I hope our church is such an authentically welcoming place for a far greater and eternal purpose.

By the time you read this we will be well into the holiday season – which can feel a little like Disney with all the rushing, urgency, long lines and weary people. Christmas is a time when we can expect many guests and so what a tremendous time to **choose** hospitality. Jesus said in the Gospel of John, ^{13:35} "*By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.*" If we have sincere love for one another, and for our guests, it will strike a chord in their hearts and meet a need they might not even fully understand. And the wondrous thing is, as we offer hospitality, it fulfills the Gospel and meets a need we have!

May this truly be a wondrous and Merry Christmas for you and yours, and for all who come as we **chose** hospitality, in the name of Jesus!

In His Love,
Pastor Cal

ACCORDING TO RW

"Rich, when am I going to get your newsletter article?" is a question that I know eventually comes from Marva Lee, yet I dread hearing it. It means that this article hasn't been written and the question normally comes when my creativity isn't at it's best, mostly because I've been busy and my attention has been elsewhere. I'm sure that's not exactly what you want to hear when you open up a page to *The Announcer* to see what one of your Associate Pastor's has to say, especially this issue when we should all be talking about Advent and Christmas.

Yet here we are at the end of the year, and I've heard a lot of you talk about how busy things are and want to let you know that I'm in the boat with you. However, it's Advent, and Advent is a time of preparation for celebrating the birth of Christ, along with being a time of preparation knowing that Christ will come again. I'm sure we will be busy preparing our homes and making sure everything is together for December 25th, and we will talk about how busy we are as if we were wearing it as a badge of honor, but seriously, is it? Is being so busy good for us?

Perhaps Advent should be a time where we focus more on preparing our hearts and minds for the celebration of the birth of Christ and the only way we are going to do that is to slow down. Slow down and think about the blessings and lessons learned this year. Slow down and think about the hopes and dreams for the year ahead. Reflect on the hope, peace, joy and love each of us should experience during this season and find ways to share that with others around you.

That's what I plan to do this Advent, in the hope that it will be a season of recharging my creativity to produce a thoughtful, well-written article for you to enjoy each month without Marva Lee asking when it's going to be turned in.

Beth, Megan and I wish all of you a blessed Advent season and Merry Christmas. May you all experience the presence of Christ in a special way.

Blessings,
Rich

Children's Worship Schedule

- December 1 - Children's Worship
- December 8 - Children's Worship (ES2)
- December 15 - Children's Worship
- December 22 & 29 - Worship with Family

All children, ages four years old through the fifth grade, are invited to join us for Children's Worship.



Wednesday, December 18
6:00-7:30 PM
Youth Center

Bring a \$5.00 gift for the gift exchange.

Worship Notes from Scott

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year"

December really is a wonderful time of year. After all, no other time of year has been declared "the hap-happiest season of all." What with kids jingle-belling (not sure exactly what that is), and folks telling you be of good cheer, what's not to like? You've got holiday greetings, and gay happy meetings, and friends coming to call. Not to mention parties for hosting, marshmallows for toasting... now, I've got to stop and say those who intentionally light their marshmallows on fire when roasting them over a fire are just WRONG, not to mention all the carcinogens that they've just created. True perfection is a perfectly golden-brown marshmallow, slow roasted over the fire so the insides are completely melted, but not so much that the marshmallow falls off your stick/roaster into the fire (that's a waste of a good marshmallow). Did I ever tell you, I was on the U.S. Olympic Marshmallow-Roasting Team?

Back to the song. I love parties, even hosting them, hanging out with friends, eating great snacks, having fun. Caroling out in the snow. Caroling is fun, particularly when there is snow. Of course, that's not something we're likely to experience here in Sanford. Cause, everyone knows that if there's snow coming down, or even just on the ground, the event would most likely be cancelled.

'There'll be scary ghost stories'. Seriously, where did that come from? For all the Christmases I can remember, I cannot remember my mom or dad deciding what we really needed to help celebrate the Christmas season was a scary ghost story. Other than watching the three ghosts of *A Christmas Carol*, I can't remember a one.

Now, tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago, that I remember! Okay, I remember a cardboard fake fireplace with a little light with a spinny thing that spun around and made it look like there really was a fire. I remember going for walks in the snow with my brothers and sisters. We would make tracks in the snow that made it look like one of our legs went on one side of a sign post while the other leg went on the other side. I remember us pushing a car up a snowy hill that they couldn't get up without our help. I remember wearing snow clothes that had been passed down to me from my brother AND my sisters!

Most years, our family would drive from Iowa to Missouri to visit our grand-parents on Christmas day. When the song says, "and hearts will be glowing when loved ones are near", that really is true for me. I am so blessed to have had wonderful, Christian grand-parents who loved me and prayed for me.

But one of the most powerful memories I have of when I was growing up is of going to church on Christmas Eve, hearing the story of the birth of Jesus, singing all those familiar carols, and getting a brown paper lunch bag with an orange in it, some chocolate covered candy or nuts, and some of that colorful ribbon candy that we ate back in those days.

I'm not sure what your memories of Christmas and Christmastime are, but I hope they make you smile like mine do. I hope you will look for ways to celebrate Christmas that are significant, and will make lasting memories for you and those you celebrate with.

I want to encourage you to make plans to attend our Christmas Eve service, on Tuesday, December 24 at 5 PM. There will be lots of those Christmas carols we all enjoy, the Christmas story, candlelight, and we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. We will remember not only the baby in the manger, but the reason He came, to set us all free. Please join us.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT CARTWRIGHT

To the Benevolence Fund
> By Tony and Agnes Kelly

IN MEMORY OF JOYCE L. FORD

To the Library Fund
> By James and Melba Kelly

IN MEMORY OF **EMALINE & WESLEY GORDON**

To the General Fund
> By Carolyn Schultz-Hannah

IN MEMORY OF FLORENCE ROBINSON

To the Benevolence Fund
> By Dalphine Tolliver

IN MEMORY OF GALO VITERI (brother of Gladys Kephart & Ana Deacon)

To the General Fund
> By Doug and Virginia Johnson

IN MEMORY OF JAMES TOLLIVER

To the Tolliver Scholarship Fund
> An Anonymous Donation

IN HONOR OF **CAROLYN SCHULTZ-HANNAH** *To the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering* > An Anonymous Donation

IN HONOR OF JHBC YOUTH *To the Youth Missions Fund* > An Anonymous Donation

IN HONOR OF **PASTOR CAL & SANDY SAYLES** *To the Vision 2017 Fund* > An Anonymous Donation

IN HONOR OF **AARON & SHPRESA SMITH** *To the Operation Mobilization Fund* > An Anonymous Donation



December 1
Roy Lowe & Richard Sistrunk, Sr.

December 2
Carolyn Elsey

December 4
Richard Blakley & Beth Wood

December 5
Lorena Batchelor

December 7—Lincoln Durham
Erline Kelly, Sharon Howell
Rebekah Walters

December 9 - Kaye Cummings

December 10 - Roger Vance

December 14 - Pat Brown

December 16 - Ann Laton

December 18
Claire Cummings & Shirley Holt

December 20
Sylvia Howard & Lee Patterson

December 21 - Johnna Lawrence

December 22 - Carolyn Marsh

December 23
Miles Bowen & Cleona Moore

December 25 - Jennifer Sturm

December 26 - Gene Rouse

December 27 - Brady Whitney

DEACON'S CORNER

Submitted by Tommie Angel

Chairman John Hall called the Fellowship of Deacons into our monthly meeting on Monday November 4th, at 6:30 pm. Deacon Family Ministry contacts and concerns were shared for their families.

Phil Lawrence led our devotion on Building Bridges focusing on the scriptures in John 17:14-19. Verse 18 says, "as thou has sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." How do we witness? We need to be a friend to others and get to know them before we can witness effectively. God gives us the abilities through gifts of the spirit to help build bridges of communication with others. Phil also reminded us that God often plants us among unbelievers for a purpose. So we can invite them to know Christ. Phil urged us to study those friends to see how to best witness to them. Friend first-guide second. How do you reach people unless you get to know them first?

Following the devotion, Phil led the group in prayer for our church family and those on our prayer list.

Business Discussed:

- Update regarding property survey and the future of the annex property. No final decisions have been made and final survey report is still pending.
- Financial update and budget outlook.
- Contacts with new Sanford residents.

Ministry reports from the pastoral staff was shared including upcoming activities and events for the church family and community.

Congregational feedback was shared with the Fellowship of Deacons.

As we approach this season of Thanksgiving may we all be mindful of the many blessings God has bestowed upon us all. Everything we have and everything we are is because of Jesus Christ. Are we being good stewards of what God has given us? Are we truly thankful and does it show in our actions?

May we give thanks to God our Father, from who all things come!

MESSAGE FROM OUR PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

As you know we are in the process of searching for a church pianist. If you are aware of someone who may be a potential candidate for this position please contact a member of the Personnel Committee (Ron Rouse, Tommie Angel, Stephen Graham, Vickie Wilkins, and Ben Wood) or Pastor Scott.



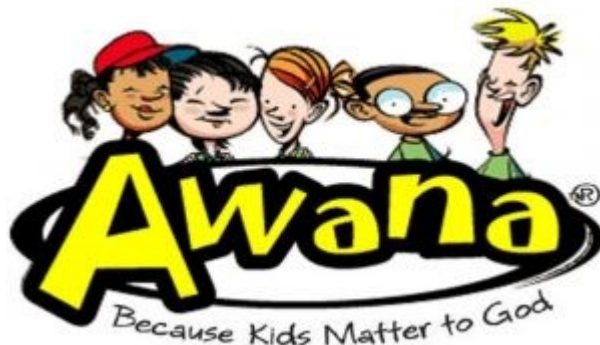
Mission & Outreach News

Halloween decorated cups were filled with your donated wrapped candy for J Glenn Edwards Elementary teachers and staff. A special "thanks" is extended to Amelia Yarborough, Agnes Kelly, Carolyn Marsh, Vicky Matthews and myself. We had enough cups to share with Bayberry Retirement Inn. Each group was thrilled and thankful to receive their treat for the day.

Your continual gifts of school supplies, reading books, art supplies and other items plus most recently Christmas wrapping paper is most appreciative by Principal Dr. Natalie Putnam-Kelly.

Sandy Brown
Mission & Outreach

AWANA MINISTRY!



EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

5:30 PM for PIZZA!

6:00 to 7:25 PM AWANA!

FOR BOYS & GIRLS (Age 3 to 5th Grade)

We learn about the Bible. We have games.

We have small groups and We have fun!

SPECIAL DECEMBER DATES

December 4

Lottie Moon Mission Night

December 18

Jesus' Birthday Celebration

December 25

NO AWANA



The JHBC Lottie Moon Post Office is Open

Our Lottie Moon Post Office is open for business beginning December 1 and ready to help you save time in addressing your Christmas cards. Just put first and last names on the envelopes and place them in the mailbox located in the Bullock-Matthews hallway in front of the office area.

Put your money or check (memo—Lottie Moon) in the box for each card mailed. Postage is 55 cents per card.

Help us meet our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering goal by using the mailbox.

OUR GOAL IS \$10,000.00



An Update and Plea from Your Finance Committee

\$11,626.27. At the end of the last fiscal year, 2018-2019, when you take our yearly income and subtract our current yearly expenses, this is the number you get. It sounds good right? Unfortunately it isn't. Let me explain.

Each year we, as a church, strive to give 10% of our actual giving to missions. We estimate how much 10% will be based on the proposed budget but never know exactly how much will be given. Distribution of missions funds are made on a quarterly basis which are based on actual giving. Our hope is that our budget estimate and our quarterly distributions will be very close.

In order to accomplish this, our weekly budget requirement is \$11,444.80 (total budget divided by 52). Our current 2019-2020 fiscal year weekly budget requirement is \$11,373.58. Each quarter, after paying expenses such as payroll/utilities/etc., Richard (our church administrator) pays a portion of the projected total to each mission. If we receive more tithes/offerings one month, he is able to put more towards missions. If the budget is tight, he pays less out of necessity. At the end of the fiscal year, he is able to determine how much still needs to be paid out to our missions in order to meet our 10% goal.

Last fiscal year, 2018-2019, we had quite a few tight months. There were several months when Richard had to choose between paying missions or making payroll and paying utilities. Because of this, at the end of the fiscal year, the amount needed to make up the 10% to missions was quite substantial.

Let's look at the numbers

-Proposed budget - voted on by the church - for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.....	\$595,129.42
-10% of the proposed budget is to be paid to missions.....	\$59,512.94
-Actual contributions at the closing of the fiscal year (notice it is lower than expected).....	\$542,573.27
-10% of our actual budget at the close of fiscal year.....	\$54,257.33
-Amount paid towards missions throughout the year.....	\$27,805.15

As you can see, Richard was only able to pay just under \$28,000 throughout the year towards the goal of just over \$54,000. **We would still need \$26,452.18 in order to reach the missions goal of 10%.** And if we look back to where we started, our bank balance is only \$11,626.27. We cannot meet our missions goal of 10%. The money is just not there.

This shortfall is so much more than line numbers and balance sheets. This shortfall means that we weren't able to send money to Aaron Smith in Kosovo, who anticipated receiving a certain level of support to live and further the Kingdom of God. The shortfall affects shoes for children in Romania, Bibles for people around the world, the homeless shelter in Sanford, and care for young mothers at the Reach Out Pregnancy Center. These are real people, often hurting, who we have promised to support and be the hands of Jesus.

As a committee, we have tried to be very open about our financial situation and quite simply it's not good. So, together, what can we do? How can you help?

Pray. Tithe. Pray.

Sometimes Christians think their giving is unimportant or there is more than enough. It just isn't so. Your giving is essential for the various ministries of the church. For those of you who faithfully give, THANK YOU! You are doing what God has called you to do and you are making a difference in the life of our church and the lives of those people we are able to reach. As God has been immeasurably generous to us, may we at least return our tithe in response to His wondrous love!

*Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house,
and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts,
if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing,
that there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

Malachi 3:10

Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church
Balance Sheet
October 2019

Accounts

Assets

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
General Fund	\$6,053.13
Building Fund	\$100.00
Designated/Restricted Funds	\$77,562.76
Facilities Funds	\$45,650.38
Total Checking/Savings	\$129,366.27
Sales Taxes to be Reimbursed	\$10,345.41
Investments/Endowments	\$679,756.86
Total Current Assets	\$819,468.54

Fixed Assets

Contra Asset Account	\$3,098,522.97
	(\$2,701.61)
Total Assets	\$3,915,289.90

Current credit card receipts not paid/reconciled

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	(\$14,239.75)
Facilities	\$2,655.00
Mortgage Payable	
2500000 - Credit Line	\$178,325.26
Total Mortgage Payable	\$178,325.26
Total Current Liabilities	\$178,325.26
Total Liabilities	\$166,740.33

Total facilities security deposits

Equity

Unrestricted	
3000000 - Unrestricted Net Assets (Fund Principal Closing Account);	\$3,743,154.50
Unrestricted this year (Revenues minus Expenses);	\$5,056.06
Total Unrestricted	\$3,748,210.56
Temporarily Restricted (sum of all Designated/Special accounts)	\$8,938.33
Total Equity	\$3,757,148.89
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$3,923,889.22

Used by ACS as Fund Principal closing account
Total revenue minus expenses for the year

Income October 2019
Expenses October 2019

	\$34,693.58
	\$37,992.00
Net	(\$3,298.42)

General Fund

2019-2020 Total GF Income	\$87,991.41
2019-2020 Total Expenses	\$83,900.55
2019-2020 Net 2019-2020	\$4,090.86

PRAY FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Callie Batchelor - Temple University
Birthday - April 11

Owen Bond - East Carolina University
Birthday - March 8

Lauren Brown - UNC-Charlotte
Birthday - September 23

Claire Cummings - Methodist University
Birthday - December 18

Carey Coleman - Appalachian State
Birthday - December 27

Connor Davidson - UNC-Charlotte
Birthday - June 2

Claire Gilchrist - UNC—Greensboro
Birthday - January 16

Mackenzie Holly
Central Carolina Community College
Birthday - October 18

MeKaila Holly Cox
Appalachian State University
Birthday - June 26

Abigail Ellis - Appalachian State
Birthday - January 15

Abriana "Abri" Gross - UNC—Chapel Hill
Birthday - September 10

Hayley Johnson - Appalachian State

Bailey Lawrence - Western Carolina
Birthday - January 6

Katelyn Lawrence - Barton College
Birthday - November 25

Joey Morrill
Central Carolina Community College
Birthday - July 18

Abigail Sturm - UNC—Chapel Hill
Birthday - January 19

Hannah Sturm - UNC—Wilmington
Birthday - March 22

Brady Whitney
Central Carolina Community College
Birthday - December 27

Kaitlynn Wiltshire - UNC—Wilmington
Birthday - March 16

OPERATION BANDANAS MISSION



Operation Bandanas Mission provides camouflage bandanas printed with Psalm 91 to our Armed Forces for spiritual encouragement, comfort and support. This mission seeks to bless and cover all of our military including active duty, National Guard and Reserves with God's Psalm of protection to remind our troops of God's presence with them and to let them know they are remembered and appreciated. In addition, this mission equips them with a piece of God's armor (Ephesians 6:10-17). Not only are these bandanas an inspired tool for spreading God's Word, they are also a useful too to cover the troops' faces from sand and dust, tie around their head to keep the sweat off their face and can be used as an emergency wrap.

Tramway Baptist Church supports Operation Bandanas and would appreciate your involvement in this ministry to our military.

Each bandana costs \$5.00. Please pray about being a part of this outreach ministry and the importance of ministering to our troops.

You can send donations to:

Operation Bandanas
PO Box 87356
Fayetteville, NC 28304

Or online at www.operationbandana.org

For more information, please contact

Sherri Naylor
sbnaylor@charter.net

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS!
Sherri Naylor

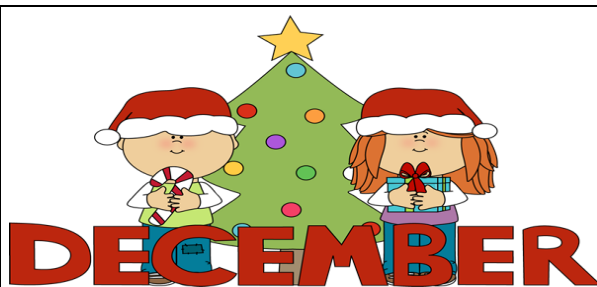
JHBC - DECEMBER 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Hanging of the Green	2 6:30 PM Deacons Meeting (Main Conference Room)	3 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Mtg 10:00 AM Benevolence Interviews	4 10:30 AM Staff Mtg 11 AM Higher Heights Christmas Luncheon 5:30 PM Pizza Awana 6 PM Awana 6 PM Community Outreach Meal (McDowell hall and Kitchen) 7:25 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 2:00 PM Pearl Johnson	6	7 6:30 PM Christmas Musical
8 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship Service 3 PM Christmas Musical 6 PM Discipleship	9 12:00 PM Marjorie Spence/ Brown Bag 6:30 PM Building & Grounds (Main Conference Room)	10 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Mtg 1:00 PM Virginia Oliver (Sanctuary) 6:00 PM Band Practice 7:00 PM WISH (Library)	11 10:30 AM Staff Mtg 5:30 PM Pizza for AWANA 6 PM Youth Wednesday Night Worship 7:25 PM Worship Choir	12	13	14
15 9:00 AM Announcer Articles due to Marva Lee 15th of the month 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship Service 6 PM Christmas Caroling	16	17 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Mtg 10:00 AM Benevolence Interviews	18 10:30 AM Staff Mtg 5:30 PM Pizza for AWANA 6 PM Awana 6 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Youth Wednesday Night Worship 7:25 PM Worship Choir	19	20	21
22 9:30 AM Starting Point (New Guests Class) 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship Service & Lottie Moon Walk 6 PM Discipleship	23 11:00 AM Staff Meeting	24 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Mtg 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Lord's Supper	25 No Service or Activities	26	27	28
29 9:45 AM Sunday School 11 AM Worship Service 6 PM Discipleship	30	31 7:30 AM Men's Prayer Meeting	1 Church Office Closed	2	3	4

The Announcer
Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church
316 W. Main Street
Sanford, NC 27332

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Permit #144

RETURN SERVICE REQUEST



GREETERS

Parking Lot - James Kelly
Door 2 - Donna Rouse
Welcome Desk - Jean Kelly

LOCKING & SECURITY

December 1 - Bill Davis
December 8 - Eddie Bowling
December 15 - Carolyn Marsh
December 22—Belinda Bond
December 29 - Patrick Snipes



Sunday, October 20, 2019

Sunday School = 101 + 3 11 AM Worship = 155
Awana October 23 = 25 + 17

Sunday, October 27, 2019

Sunday School = 116 + 6 11 AM Worship = 162
Awana October 26 = 35 + 18

Sunday, November 3, 2019

Sunday School = 127 + 8 11 AM Worship = 169
Awana November 6 = 32 + 19
Youth Rally, November 9 = 50

Sunday, November 10, 2019

Sunday School = 131 + 7 11 AM Worship = 194
Awana November 13 = 33 + 17

Sunday, November 17, 2019

Sunday School = 131 + 8 11 AM Worship = 179
Awana November 20 = 25 + 20