

The theme of the first Sunday of Advent is hope. A single, meager candle lights the Advent wreath. The flickering light seems vulnerable to the next gust. But a candle lit by God's light will never go out, no matter how fierce the storms or thick the darkness.

The challenge of the first week of Advent is to examine our doubts and hold them up to God's bright promises. Like our spiritual ancestors we hear the words of the prophets and we say "Some day. Some day." We resolve to keep believing whatever comes. We frankly acknowledge the challenges surrounding us and this troubled world, but we resolve never to give in or give up. We hope. We always hope.

A Christmas carol illustrates my point. In "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" Henry Longfellow wrote in the first two verses of the beautiful sound of Christmas bells and their main message: "Peace on earth. Good will to men." He hears it, and it cheers him.

But the tone changes in verse 3, and fits perfectly the first week of Advent theme. "And in despair I bowed my head, there is no peace on earth I said. For hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men." He wrote that in 1864, after the devastation of the Civil War. Specifi-

cally, he thought about the empty places at the holiday table where sons, and husbands and fathers had sat for meals. Now they were dead. He had witnessed the strength of hate, and it drove him to a dark despair.

But not always! He kept listening, and what he heard he wrote down in verse 4. "Then pealed the bells more loud and deep. God is not dead nor doth He sleep. The wrong shall fail. The right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men."

That is where you want to stand in life, not denying the darkness but not giving into it either. Goodness will prevail because God is with you. Now and always. The Light has come, and the darkness cannot overcome it. No matter how long the chain of this present darkness persists, you are not alone. Keep believing.

Grace,

Terry Ellis

ADULTS



Church Christmas Dinner
Sunday, December 14
6:00 p.m.
\$5 per person
Menu:
Bacon Wrapped Chicken Breast, Twice Baked Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Red Velvet Cake
 Please make reservations for dinner in Sunday School or the church office.

Poinsettias

If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call the church office. Large poinsettias are available for \$40 each, and small poinsettias are \$10 each.

Christmas Mission Project

Our Christmas mission project this year will be to provide gifts and host a small Christmas party for the residents of Oak Park Plaza, a VOA low-income senior community. The apartment complex houses 100 men and women, most of whom do not have family, and very limited means. We are asking the adult Sunday School classes to get involved in one of three ways:

1. **Purchase small gifts for a portion of the residents (We have a list of names, gender, and gift ideas in the church office.)**
2. **Wrap the gifts collected by the classes**
3. **Plan and host the party on December 20th from 1-3 p.m.**

A class representative can call the church office to a) get a list of residents to purchase gifts for or b) to volunteer to host the party. What a great way to spread some Christmas cheer and experience the true meaning of the season!

Committee on Committees Meeting
Wednesday, December 10
7:00 p.m.

Broadmoor Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 6
2:00 p.m.

The Cast of "Uncle Phil's Diner" will be representing BBC in this first annual subdivision parade. The parade begins at Broadmoor High School. The entire parade route can be found on:
www.broadmoor-br.org

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

December 10
 Cheesy Chicken Spaghetti,
 Peas, Asian Slaw, Rolls,
 Peach Cobbler

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

In Loving Memory

Dr. Malcolm Tolbert *united with this church on June 8, 2003 and departed this life on November 27, 2014.*

Thank You

Words of sincere appreciation have been received from:
John and Florence Davis

Sympathy

We express our sincere sympathy to:
Bill, Monica, and Brock Corbett on the death of Bill's father.
Ella Fay Bordelon on the death of her sister.

ADVENT CALENDAR

December 5
December 7

Uncle Phil's Diner, 6:30 p.m.
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Peace)
 Hanging of the Green, 10:30 a.m.
 Uncle Phil's Diner, 11:30 a.m.

December 12
December 13
December 14

Youth Christmas Party, 7 p.m.
 Children's Christmas Party, 6-8 p.m.
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Joy)
 Children's Music during Worship
 Christmas Dinner, 6 p.m.

December 17
December 21

All Church Caroling, 6 p.m.
4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT (Love)
 Adult Choir Program, 10:30 a.m.
 The Longest Night Service, 6 p.m.

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6:00 p.m.

Remembering Our Commitments

Only four Sundays remain in the year for church members to complete their contribution commitments to the 2014 Church Budget. It is very important for the church to enter 2015 on a sound financial basis. To achieve this goal, we ask you to remember and honor the commitments made to our church's ministries. **All financial gifts made to the church must be postmarked by Wednesday, December 31 to be counted for 2014.** The church is counting on your stewardship faithfulness!

CALENDAR

Thursday, December 4

- 10:00 A BBQ
- 2:00 P St. Joseph Hospice Memorial Service

Friday, December 5

- 6:30 P Uncle Phil's Performance

Saturday, December 6

- 2:00 P Broadmoor Subdivision Christmas Parade

Sunday, December 7

- 9:00 A Library Opens
- 9:15 A Bible Study
- Book Study, Rm 218
When God Comes Down
- 10:30 A Worship, *Hanging of the Green*

Extended Teaching Care

Judy Averett, Catherine Guffey, Nita, Chris, Angie, & Andrew Hannie

- 11:30 A Uncle Phil's Performance
- 5:00 P Belles & Beaux
- 6:00 P Youth Bible Study

Tuesday, December 9

- 9:30 A Yoga
- 5:30 P First Place For Health

Wednesday, December 10

- 7:00 A Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 5:00 P Library Opens
- Chapel Bells
- 5:15 P Dinner
- 6:00 P Children's Choirs
- Adult Prayer Time
- 6:20 P Adult Bible Study
- 6:40 P Children's Mission Group
- 7:00 P Comm. On Committees Meeting
- Sanctuary Choir

Friday, December 12

- 6:30 P College Christmas Party at the Rayburn's
- 7:00 P Youth Christmas Party at the Futch's

Saturday, December 13

- 10:00 A Youth Ringing Bells at O'Neal Lane Wal-Mart
- 6:00 P Children's Christmas Party, CAH

CHILDREN

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13
6-8 p.m.

For preschool through 5th grade, in the church activities hall. We will watch the movie *The Polar Express*, make crafts, and eat pizza. Please call the church office to sign up.

YOUTH

Christmas Party

Friday, December 12
7:00-9:00 p.m.

At the home of Greg and Erika Futch, 8535 Wildwood, Denham Springs.

Youth Ringing Bells for Salvation Army

Saturday, December 13
O'Neal Lane Wal-Mart
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Call Dave to sign-up.

COLLEGE

Christmas Party

Friday, December 12
6:30 p.m.

Join us for fun and fellowship at Bobby & Kelli Rayburn's home.

Broadmoor Baptist Bulletin

find your place

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Broadmoor Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, LA

www.broadmoorbaptist.com

Entire Congregation

Ministers

Dr. Terry Ellis

Pastor

Paul Henderson

Minister of Music

Tracey Hodges

Business Administrator

Dave Oakley

Minister to Youth and Children

Bobby Rayburn

Minister of Spiritual Formation

Felicia Mullen

Administrative Assistant

Angie Miller

Administrative Assistant

Monica Corbett

Administrative Assistant

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H H V L S



Interactive

Christmas Dinner Theater

Friday, Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 7, 11:30 a.m.

Menu:

**Hamburgers, French Fries
and Ice Cream Sundaes**

Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased in advance in the church office.

Bring 2 cans of food per person to play a fun game, then cans will go to Southeast Ministries.