

"The Longest Night Service"

Advent is wonderful! The Story inspires us, the lights cheer us, family delights us, the presents remind us of God's gift to us. In every way, Advent brings joy to our hearts!

Except when it doesn't.

For many people, the holidays serve as a magnifier of grief. The memory of every loss returns with renewed pain. Sometimes the losses are recent. If this is the first Advent you face without a loved one, then these days are extraordinarily hard. But sometimes the losses are from years past, old wounds that proved not to be scars that have healed, but scabs that can be torn off. I think all of us deal with the ache of what we wanted and what we have.

Losses can take many forms. The most obvious is the death of a loved one. But divorce is a loss. Ill health is a loss. The loss of a job is a loss. And all losses exact a toll. Sometimes they result in resentments, bitterness, fear, loneliness. These are caustic emotions, that, while real, must be expressed and dealt with in a healthy way or they eat away at the soul.

The Longest Night service gives you a way of acknowledging your loss, expressing your grief, and allowing God's grace to pool in your wounded heart. The service is simple. We have readings and prayers. We have a speaker, who this year is Dr. Roger Sullivan. We have candles for you to light in memory of your loss. It is a gentle reminder that the Light can overcome your shadows, no matter how dark they may be.

We hold this service on the night of the winter solstice, when the night is literally longest. The night becomes a metaphor for our sadness, but instead of drawing in we come to our sanctuary and listen for the music of the spheres and look for the Light that has come into the world.

I hope you will come this year, at 6 p.m. on December 20. Bring your sorrow. This service will not dispel it all, but I think it will help. It will be God's way of giving you what you need for that day.

Grace,
Terry Ellis

ADULTS

Fashion Me A People

Beginning in January, Wednesday nights will be a little different! We will begin a 5 month, church-wide study entitled *Fashion Me A People* in place of our regular Bible study. Five courses will focus on the five purposes of the church: **worship, service, fellowship, discipleship, and outreach.** Small groups will rotate through these courses, one per month. Our goal is to grow together in understanding our mission and to get know new folks in the church.



Poinsettias

Please call the church office if you would like to donate a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one. Small poinsettias are still available for \$10 each, and the deadline is **Thursday, December 18 at 4:00 p.m.**

Genealogy 101 Tuesday, January 20 1:30 p.m.

The Baton Rouge Public Library will sponsor a genealogy program at BBC in conjunction with the Writer's Workshop. The object is to acquaint people with new free services of the library, including search techniques and practical steps in tracking ancestral history. Bring a friend!

A Special Thank You

A very special thanks to Circe Bridges for sharing her time and talents in making the awesome props for the Uncle Phil's performances. We appreciate you!

Deacon Ordination Sunday, January 25

LLL to Angola Thursday, January 15

Sign up in the church office.

Offering Envelopes

Please come by the church office to pick up your 2015 offering envelopes. We will only be mailing envelopes to our homebound members.

Remembering Our Commitments

Only two Sundays remain in the year for church members to complete their contribution commitments to the 2014 Church Budget. 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 post-marked by Wednesday, December 31 to be counted for 2014.** The church is counting on your stewardship faithfulness!

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Home from the Hospital Linda Miller

OLOL Gladys Mays

Thank You

Words of sincere appreciation have been received from:
Bill Corbett

New Members Alan & Connie Jordan

14002 Sunrise Way
St. Francisville, LA 70775
Alan & Connie joined by statement of faith on November 16, 2014. Alan is the brother of Cindy Lee, and is employed by Prism Group. They have five children.

CHRISTMAS MISSION PROJECT

Oak Park Plaza

The gifts are purchased and wrapped, and we are ready to spread some Christmas cheer at Oak Park Plaza on Saturday, December 20 from 1-3 p.m. We are going to serve refreshments, play bingo, sing carols, and hand out Christmas presents to each resident. If you would like to join the festivities, we'd love to have you! Call the church office if you need directions.

ADVENT CALENDAR

December

- 17 All Church Caroling, 6 p.m.
- 21 **4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT** (*Love*)
Adult Choir Program, 10:30 a.m.
The Longest Night Service, 6 p.m.
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6:00 p.m.

**NO WEDNESDAY
NIGHT DINNER
December 24 and 31**

**To Reach an
On Call Minister
call
328-3474**

CALENDAR

Saturday, December 20

- 9:30 A Adult Choir Practice
with Orchestra
1:00 P VOA Oak Park Plaza
Christmas Party

Sunday, December 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 A Library Opens
9:15 A Bible Study
Book Study, Rm 218
When God Comes Down
10:30 A Glad Tidings, Adult Choir
and Orchestra

Extended Teaching Care

Allison Roark, Emily O'Quin, Paul,
Lauren & Ryan White, Jessica Best

- 6:00 P The Longest Night
Service

Wednesday, December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

- 6:00 P Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 25

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, December 26

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

At a glance... ..

January

- 4-Communion
7-Fashion Me a People
10-Family Ice Skating
11-Back to Broadmoor
All-church Breakfast
15-LLL Angola
18-Family Gathering
20-Writer's Workshop
23-Youth Lock-in
25-Deacon Ordination

February

- 7-Men's Prayer Breakfast
8 & 15-Bears for Braveheart
13-LLL Valentine Potluck
28-Youth Social

March

- 12-LLL Grapevine
21-Youth Service Project
22-Deacon Dinner

CHILDREN

Family Ice Skating

PreK-5th Grade

January 10

Details coming soon!

YOUTH

Youth Lock-In

January 23- 24

8 p.m.-8 a.m.

COLLEGE

Ski Trip

January 3-9

Departing 7 a.m. Please be in
prayer for our group as they
travel to and from Glenwood
Springs, Colorado.

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

Glad Tidings

Sunday, December 21
10:30 a.m.

Adult Choir
and
Orchestra

Longest Night Service

A service of peace, comfort,
and hope

Sunday,
December 21
6 p.m.