

HOPEWELL

happenings



Weekly Worship Schedule & Activities

VOL. 35

DECEMBER 2024

NO. 12

Be Careful This Christmas by Chuck Swindol

SUNDAY

Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:15 am

WEDNESDAY

Team Kids 6:30pm
Bible Study 6:30 pm

Find us on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/MyHopewellBaptist/)

[MyHopewellBaptist/](https://www.facebook.com/MyHopewellBaptist/)

The purpose of Hopewell Baptist Church is to worship God, to love ALL people, and to develop a relationship with Jesus Christ together.



HOPEWELL
= BAPTIST CHURCH =

Pastor: Rev. Braden Martin
Youth Director: Jamie Buchanan
Children's Director: Lisa Dale
Church Office: 828-437-4823
www.myhopewellbaptist.com
OFFICE HOURS: M-W 8am-4pm
Thurs. 8am—12 noon
HBCsecretary2016@gmail.com

With all this Christmas commotion, there's a "cosmic lure" that draws many like a magnet. Emotions, unpredictable and undisciplined, begin to run wild. Nostalgia mixed with eleven months of guilt can prompt purchases that are illogical and extravagant. Neighborhood pressure can cause houses to be strung with thousands of lights. Television advertising, Christmas bank accounts, and special "wish books" only increase the pull of the magnet that inevitable ends with the sound of the cash register or the hollow snap of the credit card. I remind you.. I'm not against the basic idea of Christmas or the beauty of the scenery. My plea is for common sense and balance; that's all. We Christians need to be alert to the dangers... then think through a strategy that allows us to combat each one. I'll mention only four.

"Keep seeking the things above, where Christ is... Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth" (Colossians 3:1-2). It's important that we rivet into our heads exactly what we're celebrating. It is our Savior's arrival, not Santa's. The significance of giving presents is to be directly related to God's presenting us the gift of His Son—and our kiddos need that reminder year in and year out.

1. **Doctrinal Danger... substituting the temporal for the eternal.** A couple of Scriptures give needed counsel here: "do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world... be transformed" (Romans 12:2 NIV)

2. **Personal Danger... impressing but not imparting.** We represent the King. We are His chosen ambassadors, doing His business "in season and out of season" (2 Timothy 4:2) Then let's represent Him this season! People are wide-open to the gospel these days. Forget about trying to impress others by what you buy. Spend more time imparting what you already possess.

3. **Economical Danger... spending more than you have.** Before every purchase, think. Ask yourself some direct, penetrating questions: "Is this within my

...continued from page 1

budget?" "Is it appropriate?" "Is it really saying what I want it to say?" Gifts you make are often much more appreciated and much less expensive than those you buy. Stretching the dollar usually involves planning ahead. A safe rule to follow is this: if you don't have the cash—don't buy it. For example, my wife and I decided years ago that Christmas cards had to go. No offense, now. That's just an illustration of something God spoke to us about. We found cutting out Christmas cards saved us many dollars and gobs of time.

4. **Psychological Danger ... getting built up for the letdown.** One of the most effective maneuvers of the world system is to create a false sense of excitement. The Christian can get "high" very easily on the crest of Christmas. The afterglow can be a dangerous, depressing experience. Guard yourself. Keep a firm hand on the controls of your mind and emotions. Don't be deceived. Enjoy the 25th... but not at the expense of the 26th. If you stay occupied with the Person, you'll seldom have to fight off the plague. Make Hebrews 12:3 your aim—"consider Him"; just think about Him.

Enjoy the holidays now. Have a wonderful time on Christmas... and on New Year's Day. Just think, this could be our last, so let's make it our best.

- a blog from Insight For Living—
Chuck Swindol.



New Children's Program beginning in
January 2025
See Lisa Dale for more details

I SAW

A GREAT MULTITUDE

FROM EVERY NATION AND ALL TRIBES... REV. 7:9

Your generosity **MULTIPLIES** impact

OUR GIVING GOAL: **\$5,000**

imb | LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING* | imb.org/lmco

DECEMBER
Anniversaries

December 5—
Shane & Tracy Edwards

December 5—
Chris & Mona Brown

December 10—
Hicks & Kathryn Pollard

December 11—
Logan & Emily Reece

December 11—
Jeremy & Christy Abernathy

December 17—
Bill & Annette Holland

December 17—
Don & Mildred White

December 18—
Bud & Frances Franklin



YOU ARE INVITED TO CELEBRATE THE
70th ANNIVERSARY OF

*Luther "Bud" & Frances
Franklin*

DECEMBER 14, 2024

5PM-8PM

*At Hopewell Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall*

Serving heavy hors d'oeuvre with
punch and coffee

RSVP to 828-433-9574

70th Anniversary

We prefer no gifts, but if you insist, donate to the Parsonage Fund of Hopewell Baptist Church



kids of HOPE

Merry Christmas Hopewell Families.

I hope you are as excited as I am about Christmas. I love this time of the year. Everyone seems to be happier, more loving, friendlier and more willing to help people. This time of the year should be cold with maybe already some snow... BUT not yet kids. Maybe later we will be getting that snow we all love. Or should I say that I love snow!

I hope that everyone remembers the real reason we celebrate Christmas. It is because of that wonder, marvelous night the greatest baby was born in the stinky, smelly stable. The birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Can you imagine how those shepherds felt when they were told of the news of Jesus' birth. They must have been so excited but yet in so much disbelief of what was happening. Oh but when they saw that precious baby boy, they knew he was something special.

I hope each of you have joy in your heart that only Jesus can give you when you let Jesus into your heart and live for him each and every day.

I am super excited about the beginning our new Children's Discipleship program called Bible Seekers. This new program will be on Wednesday nights for

babies through 5th grade. The Bible Seekers Club will begin at 6pm each Wednesday night and end at 7:30pm. The program will run on the same schedule as the Burke County Schools. If school is out we will not meet. A schedule will be given out as to when we will meet at the beginning of January. We will have a special themed night once a month to create a "crazy & more fun night". Everyone will be invited to have dinner with us at church from 6-6:30. Then our night will begin with game time then on to Bible story and Bible verse memorization. We need volunteers! Please see Lisa Dale as to where you would like to serve.

Our Children's Christmas play will be on Saturday, December 21, 2024 at 6pm. We will have snacks afterwards to fellowship with one another as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

I hope each of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I love you all.



Hopewell Baptist Church Children
Present...



★ Twas the Night ★
Before Christmas

Saturday, December 21, 2024

6pm

In the fellowship hall

Light snacks will be served after the program

**SUNDAY EVENING
SERVICES**

1st Sunday of the Month

Family Day & Youth Group
Family day means after morning services
make the rest of the day intentional
about spending time together.

2nd Sunday

Youth Group & Choir practices

3rd Sunday

Youth Group, Committees &
Quarterly Business Meetings

4th Sunday

Youth Group & Choir Practice

Every 5th Sunday

5pm Fellowship Supper followed by
Corporate Worship at 6pm

3rd Sunday Committee Meeting Schedule

Fellowship Hall reserved for refreshments

GROUP A meet at 3pm

GROUP B meet at 4pm

GROUP C meet at 5pm


Deacons in room A-107
Benevolence room A-105
Wellness Ministry—Library

Security Team—A-105
Cemetery Team—A107
Children’s Council in
Children’s Church
Media Team—Sanctuary

Building & Grounds A-105
Finance Team—A-108
Vision Team—Library
Mission Development
A-107

6pm Corporate Business Meeting

DAILY BIBLE study



December 1 Acts 7-8
 December 2 Acts 9-10
 December 3 Acts 11-13
 December 4 Acts 14-15
 December 5 Acts 17-19
 December 6 Acts 20-22
 December 7 Acts 23-25

December 8..... Acts 26-28
 December 9..... 1 Timothy
 December 10..... Titus
 December 11..... 1 Peter 1-5
 December 12..... Hebrews 1-6
 December 13..... Hebrews 7-10
 December 14..... Hebrews 11-3
 December 15..... 2 Timothy
 December 16..... 2 Peter; Jude
 December 17..... John 1-2
 December 18..... John 3-4
 December 19..... John 5-6

December 20 John 7-8
 December 21 John 9-10
 December 22 John 11-12
 December 23 John 13-15
 December 24 John 16-18
 December 25 John 19-21
 December 26 1 John 1-5
 December 27 2 John-3 John
 December 28 Revelation 1-5
 December 29 Revelation 6-11
 December 30 Revelation 12-18
 December 31 Revelation 19-22



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 1—Mona Brown
 Dec. 2—Jason Pritchard
 Dec. 3—Jamie Buchanan
 Dec. 4—Brian Shuping
 Dec. 5—Kevin Franklin
 Dec. 7—Derek Deal
 Dec. 7—Jerry Bishop
 Dec. 7—Andersyn Roper
 Dec. 8—Rheta Lail
 Dec. 8—Hope Marler
 Dec. 9—Sage Abernathy

Dec. 9—Rylin Cheeks
 Dec. 11—Kayla Moore
 Dec. 11—Chris Brown
 Dec. 11—Jesse Robinson
 Dec. 12—Brian Hudson
 Dec. 12—
 Tammy Weatherman
 Dec. 13—John Warlick
 Dec. 14—Bridger Miller
 Dec. 14—Cooper Castle
 Dec. 15—Mildred White
 Dec. 15—Tracy Franklin

Dec. 17—Caleb Peters
 Dec. 19—Robert Mauney
 Dec. 20—Lee Rayburn
 Dec. 21—Heaven Dover
 Dec. 21—Susan Miller
 Dec. 22—Dean Cheeks
 Dec. 23—Blake Marler
 Dec. 24—Ashley Miller
 Dec. 25—Martha Stewart
 Dec. 25—Vanessa Clontz
 Dec. 25—Alice Smith
 Dec. 26—Suzanne Averett
 Dec. 28—Pansy Lane
 Dec. 28—Rosetta Fisher
 Dec. 30—Allen Walker



DECEMBER Volunteers

Audio Team

December 1 Nathan Castle
December 8 Curtis Breneman
December 15 Nathan Castle
December 22 Curtis Breneman
December 29 Nathan Castle

Video Live Teams

December 1 Team Storie
December 8 Team Weatherman
December 15 Team Edwards
December 22 Team Burelle
December 29 Team Storie

Prayer Team

December 1 Betty Burnette
December 8 Larry Norman
December 15 Barbara Belas
December 22 Libby Schneggenburger
December 29 Gary Schneggenburger

Sunday Morning Nursery

December 1 Janice Ledford/ Sandy Daves
December 8 Karen Storie/ Becky Strauss
December 15 Evelyn Barnhardt/ Amanda Waters
December 22 Emily Reece/ Amber Vinson
December 29 Janice Ledford/ Sandy Daves

DEACON(s) for DECEMBER

Nathan Castle

Children's Church

December 1 Laura Digh
December 8 Lauren Denton
December 15 Lisa Dale
December 22 Ashton Robinson
December 29 Kaitlin Castle

Welcome Teams

December 1 Bobby & Carolyn Mauney
December 8 Jerry & Peggy Bishop
December 15 Raymond Banner/ Anne Buchanan
December 22 Larry & Linda Norman
December 29 Harold Daves/ Larry Yount

Counters

December 1 Anna Kerley/ David Warlick
December 8 Karlyn McCoy/ Jennifer Clay
December 15 Aimie Annas/ Karen Storie
December 22 Avis Pritchard/ Shelly Smith
December 29 Lisa Storie/ Anne Buchanan

Security Teams

December 1 Team 2—Champ Denton
December 8 Team 3—Scott Kerley
December 15 Team 4—David Warlick
December 22 Team 1—Henry Deal
December 29 Team 2—Champ Denton

USHERS:

Steve Annas, Larry Yount, Chris Mace, Jerry Warlick



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

We will be collecting for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering until December 31, 2024. This offering goes to support International Missionaries. Our goal this year is \$5000.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Starting on December 1, 2024 Children's Church will be held in the fellowship hall. This is due to us practicing for the Christmas Play. Parents you may pick up your child from the fellowship hall after worship service. We will go back to the Children's Church rooms in January. Thank you for your cooperation. We will present our play on Saturday, December 21 at 6pm

YOUTH CAMP: The week of June 2 - 6, 2025 the youth will go to Centrifuge at Southern Wesleyan University. Please join us. \$125 per student. See Jamie or Morgan Buchanan to sign up.

OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving. We will close at 12 noon on Wednesday, November 27. We will reopen on Mon., December 2, 2024 at 8 am.

YOU ARE INVITED

To celebrate the 70th Wedding Anniversary of Bud & Frances Franklin. Sat., Dec. 14, 2024 from 5-8pm. In the fellowship hall. We will serve heavy hors d'oeuvre with punch and coffee. We prefer no gifts but if you insist please make a donation to the Parsonage Fund.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

December 16th. Please be at the church at 5:30pm

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

We will be updating our Church Directory for 2025. Please make sure the church secretary has all your contact information (mailing address, phone numbers). If you are a new member to Hopewell, please send a photo of you and your family to the church secretary at HBCsecretary2016@gmail.com

NEW CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

We are very excited about a new Children's Program beginning in January 2025. We will have a meeting on Wed., Nov. 20 at 7:30pm after evening service for all those interested in helping with this new program. We need everyone to help make this a great program for our children. We need teachers, game helpers, people to help listen and teach Bible verses, kitchen helpers and attendance helpers. Please make plans to attend and help us kick off this program with excitement and fun.

