

NONPROFIT
PERMIT NO.
250
Longview, TX

WOODLAND HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH
preparing people for the coming Lord
2105 East Loop 281
Longview, Texas 75605
903.757.3110



weekly schedule

- SUNDAY**
 8:45am Coffee & Donuts
 9:15am LifeGroups
 10:30am Worship
 6:00pm Children's Choir Practice
 6:00pm Worship & The Word
- MONDAY**
 5:30pm Meal
 6:15pm Celebration Place
 6:30pm Celebrate Recovery
- WEDNESDAY**
 5:15pm Fellowship Meal
 6:00pm AWANA
 6:00pm HillsPraise Choir Practice
 6:15pm Youth
 6:15pm Adult Bible Study

www.whbchurch.com

New LifeGroup Class
 Dr. Gene Petty, Leader



Join Dr. Petty on January 15 at 9:15 am
 in the Choir Room
 (located above office area)

Study: The Book of Ruth
 This new class is open for all ages

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Monthly Newsletter of
Woodland Hills Baptist Church
| December 2016

the connection

Woodland Hills Music Department presents
THIS IS
Christmas
Sunday December 11 at 6:00pm
Wassil Fellowship following Service

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP SERVICE
 Come as you are Family Service
 10:30 AM
 No LifeGroups or Sunday Night Services

*Candlelight Lord's
 Supper Service*
 Wednesday Night,
 December 21
 6:30
 Worship Center



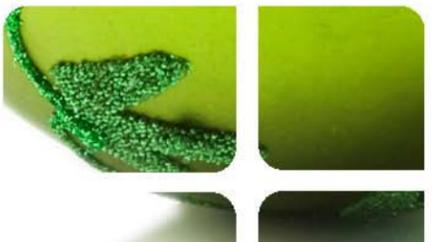
Missions & Christmas Service
 Sunday Night, December 18
 In the Grand Hall at 6:00pm
 Bring finger foods and desserts

Featuring Mission Guest,
 Alexandria Hammontree, Haiti

Special 12 Days of Christmas



LMCO
 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING 2016
 Collecting through December





from my heart Bro. Charles Hunt

It's my favorite time of the year... Christmas! There's music in the air...I've been playing Christmas music since before Thanksgiving. I love it. Many people will try to figure out this year how to celebrate Christmas...let me share with you a plan.

If you are not a saved believer, the best way you could celebrate Christmas is by becoming a Christian, that is, by believing in Jesus, asking Him to come into your heart and determining to follow Him as His disciple. If you already are a Christian, how should you celebrate Christmas? The story of Mary and the

shepherds and the angels gives us some clues in Luke 2...

First, the shepherds "spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child" (verse 17). This means that they became witnesses to Jesus. That God used them to spread this heavenly message must have stunned them. Shepherds were a despised class in first-century Palestine. The nature of their calling kept them from observing the ceremonial law, which meant a lot to religious people. Shepherds were also considered unreliable and were not even allowed to give testimony in the law courts. Despite what others thought of them, the shepherds knew that lost people needed to hear that great message. It is the same today. Jesus is the world's Savior. And people are still lost without Him.

Second, the people who heard the message "were amazed at what the shepherds said to them" (verse 18). People today are hardly amazed at anything, but it is hard to see how anyone can understand what Christmas is about and not be amazed. Christmas is the story of God becoming man, like us, in order to save us from our sins. This truth was so astonishing that people believed even shepherds! When you think about what God did for us, aren't you even amazed?

Third, Mary "treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart" (verse 19). What Mary did went beyond mere amazement, though she marveled too. This wonderful woman also made an attempt to remember everything that was happening to her in those days and then to figure out what each of these things meant. That is, she took time to think about spiritual things, just as we should do. Christmas is a very busy time, but don't allow the business of Christmas to keep us from reading the Christmas story again and again, thinking about it.

Fourth, the shepherds "returned glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen" (verse 20). This means that they spoke not just to others, they also spoke to God, praising Him for it. They saw the birth of Jesus as something God had done, and they wanted to thank Him.

Think about why Jesus came to earth on that cold night so long ago. And marvel that, because of His birth, life, death, and resurrection, you have not suffered God's just punishment for your sins but rather have been saved from them! Hallelujah! What a Savior!!!

Preparing People For The Coming Lord,
Bro. Charles

dead faith? By Kason Kuykendall



Faith... We hear about faith often; It is a crucial word to Christianity we talk about 'having faith,' 'developing faith,' and 'growing in our faith.' Usually when we talk in this way we are referring to our belief system and the way that we have trust or confidence in the Lord Jesus.

In other words, we refer to faith as noun, let me remind you back to your school days a noun is a: person, place, or thing.

The problem is that in modern Christianity there are many times that faith is nothing more than a belief system. We have faith, we know the Word of God, we know the Bible stories, we know about ecclesiology and eschatology and all these other big words that make us feel like we are smart. We come to church often, we read books, and we attend conferences; but I want to present to you that if this is all our faith is then it is DEAD.

I don't want a DEAD faith, but what does it mean to have an LIVING faith? A living faith is one that is proven by works. **James 2:17 "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."**

James gives us an example of a DEAD faith: James 2:15:17 **"If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."** A brother is starving and comes to your door for help; but you go and grab your Bible and offer to lead him in a Bible study.

- "My Bible tells me that there were 5,000 men plus women and children hungry and Jesus fed them."
- "My Bible tells me the Lord provided Manna from Heaven for his hungry people."
- "My Bible tells me that He is the Healer of the Sick, and the Feeder of the Hungry." "Let us pray together for your hunger brother." Then you say; "My brother we have studied, we have prayed, may the Lord be with you. Go in peace!"

James says that is USELESS. That man at that time didn't need a sermon, he needed some food. That man didn't need a Bible Study; he needed some bread and turkey. To give him a prayer meeting becomes irrelevant. The right information without the right action is a waste for everyone.

Words—Sermons-Prayers-Confessions of faith-Wise Advice- Encouragement: These are all indispensable to true Christianity. But they are shown to have real meaning, James reminds us, when people can see actions that correspond to those words.

In my life, I want my faith to be more than a noun; I want my faith to be an action. When I look in the Bible I see great men and women of faith who backed up their belief system with their lives. Let us be a people of action, not just a people who always have the right words to say. I pray that we will be known as people who will get our hands dirty

because we love Jesus, We will give money away because we love Jesus, we will feed the hungry because we love Jesus. I pray that our faith will be a verb and not just a noun.



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HAITI MISSION TRIP



DECEMBER 26-JANUARY 1

Please be praying for the group of 8 that will be flying to Haiti to do mission work. They'll have several jobs that week. Pray that God will use them in a great way to be a blessing!

CRUISE WITH US!

April 22-29, 2017

Adventure awaits while you are whisked off aboard the Carnival Freedom to Montego Bay, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel..

Get a brochure from the Connection Center.

Deadline to sign up and pay \$250 deposit is December 15, 2016





Area Agency on Aging to Assist with Benefits Counseling Through Open Enrollment

October 15 - December 7

Medicare plans may change their benefits and costs each year, so it is worth taking the time to review and compare Medicare prescription plans or Medicare Advantage.

Certified Benefits Counselors with the Area Agency on Aging also known as the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) are available to compare your current coverage with available options and assist you with enrollment.

Local Scheduled Presentations

Call your local State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) / Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-442-8845 or 903-218-6500 and speak to a Certified Benefits Counselor. Our counselors have an event scheduled for every county that the Area Agency on Aging services. These counties include Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt and Wood. A list of the scheduled presentations can be viewed below. listen to our words, but be assured, they will observe our works.

HILLTOPPERS

December 13 at 11:00am

Join us as we worship and fellowship together. Whether you have been every time or this will be your first time don't miss out!

Meet us at 11 for a time of old fashion singing, scripture, and a delicious meal and fellowship to follow. You provide the sides and dessert and we will provide drinks and meat!

NO HILLTOPPERS ON DECEMBER 27





The Upper Room

Children's Ministry

WHBC ANGEL TREE

For most of us, Christmas truly is the most wonderful time of the year, however right here in our area it can be a very hard, or heartbreaking time as well. This year "Angels" that have been placed on the angel tree are hopeful children who are involved in WHBC Bus Ministry. This is an excellent opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child and family, and to share the love of Christ during this Season.

To participate in this year's Angel Tree simply select an Angel off of the Angel Tree located in the foyer area, and return it with gifts that you would like to donate. Your angel will receive the gifts that you donate, and will cherish the memory that you provide them during this Christmas season.

All gifts need to be returned to the church by December 18th.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PREVIEW

December 4 - Anticipating the Coming King

December 11 - Jesus Was Born

December 18 - Wise Men Visited Jesus

December 25 - No Sunday School

AWANA

December 7 - Store Night

December 14 - Christmas Party

December 21 - NO AWANA (Christmas Break)

December 28 - NO AWANA (Christmas Break)



WHBC CHRISTMAS TRIP

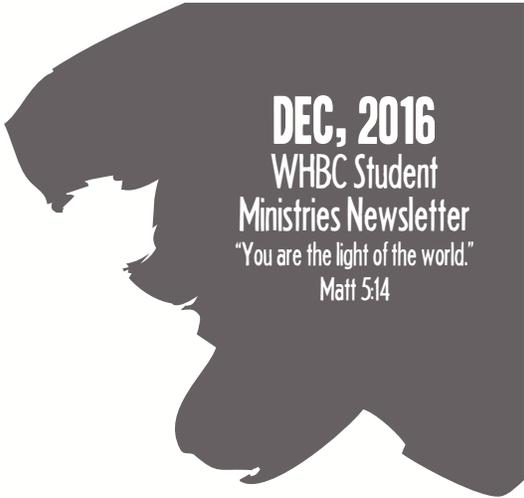
WHBC Kids and families on November 28 enjoyed an evening seeing the Kansas City Southern Holiday Express in Jefferson, and then seeing the Marshall lights!

Children's Choir
Sunday Evenings 6:00pm

**Woodland Hills
Baptist Church**

2105 E Loop 281
Longview, TX 75605
903-757-3110

Christy Mayfield
Children's Director
christy@whbchurch.com



DEC, 2016
 WHBC Student
 Ministries Newsletter
 "You are the light of the world."
 Matt 5:14

1Church

December 7 from 6:30-7:30pm
 We will leave Illuminate building at 6:15 and travel to Macedonia for a night of worship with other local youth groups. You won't want to miss this.



**Volunteer of the month
 Micah Huckaby**

Coach Huckaby leads our 8/9th grade guys small group on Wednesdays. He also spoke to our students this past month and we had 10 students surrender their lives to Christ! Thanks Micah for your willingness to serve!

**Elf Christmas
 Student Christmas Party**

December 16 at 6:00pm
 Join us as we celebrate Christmas Illuminate style! Theme: Buddy the Elf. Prizes for most creative/best dressed! Supper is provided and party is totally free.

Teenagers and Christmas

Home Word.com

For most of us, Christmas is an exciting time of year. It's the same for teenagers. But don't forget that teenagers are experiencing adolescence -- and with this -- come some potentially awkward moments.

Buying Christmas gifts for friends. Okay, so your teenager wants you to pay for Christmas gifts for close friends. Well, that request might have been cute 5-years ago... but now?! What's a parent to do? If you are in the habit of supplying money for your kids' expenses (including gifts for friends), then reach a consensus with your daughter or son on how much money you'll provide for Christmas gifts. Then, let your teen experience the wonderful (and sometimes painful) lesson of budgeting. Sometimes kids believe their parents are living breathing ATM machines and that you have an unlimited abundance of cash. Now is a good time to dispel the myth.

You can make the budgeting process an excellent learning experience. Have your teenager write out the names of friends she or he will be giving gifts to and place a dollar amount beside each name. Your teenager may find that he or she doesn't have enough money and then she or he will have to explore an even more meaningful way to give gifts for those on the list. As your teen gets older, you will probably want to allow her or him the privilege to pay for her or his own purchases. This will teach a healthy dose of responsibility.

Friends, not family for Christmas. Christmas can be a wonderfully social time of the year. Unless you are a teenager being forced to attend family Christmas events. Can you say boring? You can if you are a teenager who would rather spend the holidays hanging out with friends.

Here's a suggestion: Look at all the Christmas activities as a family before the season gets underway and budget your time commitments. Discuss the importance of each activity and help your teen understand the importance or lack of importance for each event. There's nothing wrong with making high priority family celebrations pretty much non-negotiable. For others, discuss expectations, exchange opinions, and reach reasonable decisions. Who knows, if your season is too busy you may decide to shorten or cut out of a couple of those Christmas events as well. Consider choosing the better option of spending more time focusing on a few key Christmas traditions and eliminated some of the busyness. You might find that less is more.

DNow

January 13-15, 2017
 \$40 if paid by Dec 18 \$50 beginning Dec 19. This will make a great Christmas gift for your student. For more information or to register and pay visit the church website @ whbchurch.com

Come Worship the King

By Katherine Kehler



"They saw the child and his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him" (Matthew 2:11)



Do you worship God with your words and actions? Do you worship Him with your heart?

Because we have nine grandchildren, we try to make our family Christmas gathering a time of focusing on Christ. One way we have found very effective is to act out the Christmas story.

We have as many actors as there are family members (and others who have come for the Christmas dinner). Because we have as many as 17 people, we have a lot of sheep. We put the names of the biblical characters and animals in a hat and everyone picks one. Then everyone has 10 minutes to find his or her costume and props from anywhere in the house. We gather in one room and the narrator begins to slowly read the Christmas story, usually from the Living Bible so the children can understand.

The costumes are usually very creative, from the camels wearing real saddles, the kings wearing up-side-down silver or gold trophies on their heads and even our Dalmatian dog being recruited to be one of the sheep. One year a new grandchild was the baby Jesus.

We have fun and laugh a lot. But when it comes to the part where the wise men come and see the Child and His mother and bow down and worship Him, we become quiet.

One year, a non-Christian guest, playing the part of a king, also knelt down and worshiped. As I watched him, I silently prayed that soon and very soon, he would worship Jesus with his whole heart.

He has not yet given his heart to Jesus. But we keep praying for him. The Bible tells us that when we pray according to God's will, He will answer. Soon this man WILL worship the Lord with his whole heart.



Who are you praying for?



December 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Eden Place Meal/Service Hosted by Doulas Class 6:00pm Kindermusik 6:00pm	2 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am Adult Game Night 6:00pm	3 Worsham/ Swearingen Wedding 3:00pm
4 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	5	6 Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	7 Arabella Service 10:00am Connection 6:00pm	8 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm	9 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am	10 This is Christmas Dress Rehearsal 9:00am
11 <i>This is Christmas</i> 6:00pm	12	13 HillToppers 11:00am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	14 Arabella Service 10:00am HillsPraise Caroling & Party 6:00pm	15 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm	16 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am	17 Kindermusik Playdate 10:00am
18 Church Wide Christmas & Missions Service 6:00pm	19	20 Shamgar 8:30am Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	21 Arabella Service 10:00am No AWANA Candlelight Lord's Supper Service 6:30pm	22 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Page Place II 6:30pm	23	24
25 Christmas Worship Service 10:30am (No LifeGroups or Sunday Evening Services)	26	27 Children of Issachar Bible Study 6:30pm	28 Arabella Service 10:00am NO AWANA	29 Hawkins Creek 10:15am	30	31

Haiti Mission Trip





December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1-Anaiya Amos
1-Jan Humphrey
1-Taylor McNeal
1-Kayden Johnson
1-Wyatt Morgan
1-Braxton Mull
1-Shirley Perkins
1-Mary Walton
2-Jim Fleck
3-Dale Dawes
3-Malaiah Gaona
3-Jace Roberts
3-Mary Ann Sanders
3-Shannon Smallwood
4-Tabitha Lair
4-Carolyn Northcutt
5-Kim Allen
5-Walker Cherry
5-Ernest Dozier
5-Lonnie Jones
5-Iva Dee Smith

6-Ivan Eidson
6-Makenna Hargrove
6-Deborah Jones
6-Nicole Roadcap
6-Jacob Walters
7-Reyne Merrell
9-Jaydan Adams
9-Betty Hudman
9-Jason Pevey
10-Kathy McGuire
10-Barbara Parrish
11-Darian Lamborn
11-Johnny Lummus
11-Linda Motley
11-Cynde Phariss
12-Don Kuykendall
12-Brandy Wooley
13-Ray Hairston
14-Alton Blair
14-Jeremy Hudson
14-Daniel Johnson

14-Jennifer Perkins
14-Hayden Roadcap
15-Gracie Baird
15-Ashley Giles
16-Mary Bobo
17-Ashleah Daugherty
17-Mark Mowery
17-Julie Mowery
17-Jacob Owen
17-Michele Walker
18-Vernon Burks
18-David Mason
19-Sue Childress
19-Brianna Lansdale
19-Julie Richards
20-Ramon Hill
21-Bill Darby
21-Aaron Perkins
22-Kim Hall
22-Shamiah Morris
23-Morris Johnson

23-James Stone
24-Denise Bowens
24-Michael Hill
24-Jessica Purifoy
25-Dorene Craig
25-Weldon Richie
26-Edward Blanchard
26-Michelle Cunningham
26-Ginger Richardson
27-Reese Richardson
28-Ron Fitzgerald
28-Kitty Minor
29-Cindy Downey
29-Layne Hopkins
29-Phillip Williams, Jr
30-Daniel Golden
31-Nora Chucci
31-Linda Lee
31-Hope Lyons

5-Paul & Leann Spencer
6-Thomas & Diana Graves
7-Jody & Laura Day
8-Ricky & Shannen Lamar
8-Marty & Christy Mayfield
10-Michael & Renae Purifoy
13-Steve & Lana Snider

15-Charlie & Sandy Johnson
17-Danny & Crystal Jones
17-Jeff & Maryann Thomas
18-Mark & Debora Alford
18-Mark & Jan Humphrey
18-Pat & Yvonne Wisdom
19-Lee & Sheri Hopkins

19-Lonnie & Kahlan Stanley
21-Morris & Evelyn Johnson
21-David & DeAnn Miller
30-Billy & Kim Hall
30-Clay & Stacey Perkins