

BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH

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THE BETHEL CONNECTION

December 2, 2020

Christmas Giving at Bethel

Pastor Don

God loves people who enjoy giving.

This week Bethel received thankyou's and updates from several missionaries and ministries that we have given to recently. In these we read stories and see pictures of gospel ministry in Chad and Ecuador, with vulnerable children in South Africa and through the printed page in Brazil. What incredible joy is experienced as we see how our financial generosity is both encouraging God's servants and having impact for Christ.

This Sunday we are receiving our annual Christmas offering. This is an opportunity to give over and above our regular offerings to meet needs and advance gospel ministry as we celebrate Christ's birth. Three special areas of gospel ministry have been selected for our giving this year.

1. Ecuador Pastor's Christmas Gifts – In partnership with our missionaries Lynford and Sharon Regier, we would like to provide Christmas gifts for each of the Pastor's and families of the Fellowship of Berean Churches in Ecuador. \$5,000 would provide each Pastor and family \$250 to buy gifts for Christmas.
2. Bethel Helping Hands – We will hear an update from the Deacons on the 6th in our service how God has used this benevolent ministry in many ways this past year. Helping Hands is the fund that is administered by the Deacons to care for various needs that arise around the Bethel church family. This ministry needs funding.
3. Local Food Distribution – The money designated to this fund will be split between the Humanitarian Distribution Center in Francesville (which provides food & other products free of charge to those less fortunate in our community) and the FUEL program at Eastern Pulaski Elementary School (which provides weekend meals for students whose only meals might be school meals).

You can designate your gift to one of the specific areas above or just mark it Christmas Offering and the Elders will determine how the funds are divided between the 3 options.

In Luke's account of the birth of Jesus, the shepherds listened as the angel of the Lord summarized what was happening by saying, *"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."* Let's celebrate with great joy this Sunday as we give so that many will hear and believe the good news of Jesus Christ.



Jabulane Christian Academy

Bethesda Outreach



Chad, Africa



The Angel Tree is ready for you! We have once again partnered with Pulaski County Human Services and Baptist Children's Home to provide gifts to local families and to BCH.

We have been able to adopt 2 local families this year. Their gifts are in envelopes on the tree. On the outside of the envelope is the suggested gift; on the inside of the envelope is the name of the child. After you purchase your gift and wrap it, please use the label with their name on it.

For the gifts for BCH, simply take a tag from the tree and attach that tag on your gift as the label.

We need the gifts back to the church by **Tuesday, December 15.**

Should you have any questions, please contact Melody!

Bethel Prayer Concerns

- Please continue in prayer for the family of Greg Inskip, who went home to be with his Savior early this week. Greg is the son-in-law of Larry & Lynette Miller. Pray for his wife, Tammy, and the entire Miller family as they mourn the earthly loss.
- Pray for Frank Coomes, father of Kathy Smith. Frank is struggling with Covid, pneumonia and poor kidney functions. Pray for Kathy and the rest of the family as they lean on our precious Savior during this season.
- Continue in prayer for the family of Howard Leman, who is rejoicing in the arms of his Savior! Dan Leman and Mike Leman are his brothers. Howard went home to be with his Savior last week. Pray for the family during this time.
- Continue in prayer for Chris Shell as he struggles with his Lyme disease.
- Matthew Scott is still deployed with the National Guard. Please keep him and the family in your prayers.
- Brad Garling has begun treatments. Pray for good health; pray that God would guard his mind.
- Continue in prayer for the Associate Pastor process. The McKays, Hines, Bungers and Whipples are serving as a search committee. There is a conversation that started recently with an individual. Ask God to direct our paths as we gather resumes, get to know possible candidates and discern what He would have us do in this important process.

HOLIDAY BRUNCH!

Thanks so much to all who have signed up for the Holiday Brunch this coming Sunday, December 6.

If you would like to join us but have not yet signed up, please contact Melody.

We will give more directions Sunday morning! Looking forward to a time of worship and fellowship!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

- **Saturday, November 28, Elders Meeting @ 7 am**
- **Ladies Bible Study, Saturday, December 5 @ 9 am**
- **Sunday, December 6, worship service @ 9:15 am, Junior Church & Nursery will be available**
- **Holiday Brunch on 12/6/20 following the service.**

