

## Ebenezer Baptist Church

### Prepare for the Lord

Advent is about preparing a people, us, for the Lord. Luke speaking of John the Baptist said, “And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.” (Luke 1:16–17, NKJV)

COVID has wreaked havoc on our sense of normalcy with sickness, job losses and quarantine. As a result, the holidays will be different this year. Let us turn our hearts to God and recognize that He came into this world for us, you and me. God is at work in any crisis we face.

4 BC was during a time of political uprising. Herod the Great died, and his son, Herod Antipas, now ruled in his place. The Jewish people revolted and tore the eagle from the gate of Jerusalem. Rome sent soldiers to squelch the rebellion. Rome would now have an ever-present military presence in Jerusalem. The Romans would crucify over 2000 rebels to show their dominance in Jerusalem.

Times seemed hopeless, but God was still at work. In times of hopelessness, despair and uneasiness with the world around us, God’s people must recognize that God is at work. John the Baptist recognized Jesus in the womb, and Mary marveled at the birth of her child. For such a time as this, God entered the world. This Christmas let us prepare for the Lord with hope and love turning our hearts to God who is ever-present and actively involved in our lives.

Continued on page 2

### **Ebenezer Baptist Church**

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Pastor: Bro. Chad Phelan

Music Minister: Anighya Crocker

Youth Minister: Larry Cantrell

Preschool Director: Bobbie Morgan

Children’s Director: Pam Hardy

Senior Adult Directors: Barbara Freeman  
& Vicki Clark

Ministry Assistant: Brenda Kelch

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## Prepare for the Lord (cont.)

### Recognition

Who on earth saw him first, knowing truly who he was? Belly to belly, when John, prophet in utero, distinguished in the natal soup the fetal bones, the body curled like a comma, eyes tight, skull packed with universal wisdom, this unborn cousin began to dance.

And when she, birth-giver—  
her ordinary vision arrowed down between her legs, through pain and straw, to her son's dark, slime-streaked hair, to his very skin, red with the struggle of being born—she lifted him to her breast, kissed the face of God, and felt her own heart leap.  
—Luci Shaw

John Blase, *Touching Wonder: Recapturing the Awe of Christmas* (Colorado Springs, CO: David C Cook, 2012).

Grace and peace to you,

Bro. Chad Phelan  
Pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Greenbrier, TN  
(615)643-0637

Highland Crest School of Ministry

Spring Semester Classes begin Tuesday, January 26, 2021

6-9 PM at Springfield Baptist Church

Registration open now - 615-384-8197

Class is on Hermeneutics and will be taught by Bro. Chad

Cost is \$100 plus materials

**We Need You!** We need volunteers for the **Cold Weather Shelter** which helps the homeless in Robertson County on nights in the months of Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb. and March. We need folks to help with sign in and scanning, overnight chaperones, devotionals, meals and laundry. Please consider a couple of nights a month to help those less fortunate in our county. Call Linda Ring at 615-212-8735 if you need more info. Epiphany Baptist Church, 211 W. 1st Ave., Springfield. Background checks required with cost of \$10.00. Must be 18 years old.

The Elect Sunday School Class is collecting the following items for the homeless children and youth in Greenbrier: individual **food** items, especially fruit cups, breakfast bars and macaroni and cheese. They do have access to a microwave so individual non-perishable microwavable items are welcome. Thank you for your donations. Please drop the items off at church.

The Master's Table is a Soup Kitchen that serves a hot meal to anyone who comes by from 10-11 AM, Monday-Saturday. They are in need of:  
three compartment to-go boxes, ground beef, bacon, eggs, and ham.  
If you would like to bring these items to church we will get them to the Master's Table or you can drop them off at the Master's Table between 9:30-11 AM. Thank you for your continued support!

### **CHILDREN'S NEWS**

Hey everyone, the children's area is back in full swing. We have a couple of events coming up you won't want to miss! On December 8, from 6-8 Santa and Mrs. Claus will be joining us in the fellowship hall for a story time and a chance to get a picture taken with Santa. Also on December 13 from 5-7 we will be taking Happy Birthday Jesus churchwide! Please join us at both events and let's celebrate our Savior! We hope to see you then.

Pam Hardy

Children's Director

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2- Sophia Kirby                      4- Norma Bass                      5- Jo Brown  
6- Joe Schussler                      8- Dianne Evans                      10- Barbara McLean  
11- Paisley Hasty                      16- Larry Cantrell                      16- Tommy Claiborne  
18- Kathleen Woody                      22- Lilly Mills                      23- Jimmy Wilson  
24- John Bush

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11- Jeff & Renee DeLong                      17- Robby & Bobbie Morgan

## CHURCH CLEANING SCHEDULE

Week of:

12/6- Thom & Debi Wilson, Harvey Major  
12/13- Dianne Evans, Marion Dobbs  
12/20- Sonya Henry, Amber Hudgins, Claudia Bales  
12/27- Thom & Debi Wilson, Harvey Major

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

December 6 Eddie Suter  
December 13 Gary Suter  
December 20 John Twist  
December 27 Wayne Semore

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday School 9 AM  
Morning Worship 10 AM  
Children's Worship 10 AM  
Wednesday: Prayer and Bible Study 7 PM

## EBENEZER HAPPENINGS:

December 1 Deacon's Meeting 6 PM  
December 8 Storytime with Santa 6-8 PM  
December 13 Business Meeting after morning service  
December 13 Happy Birthday Jesus Party 5-7 PM  
December 25 Christmas Service 8 AM  
December 27 Bank Sunday

## Community Happenings:

November 29-December 6 Week of Prayer for IMB & Lottie Moon  
Christmas Offering  
December 4 Ridgetop Christmas Parade 7 PM  
December 5 Christmas in the Commons 11-4, Greenbrier  
Christmas Parade 4 PM  
December 21-January 4 No school

Storytime with Santa

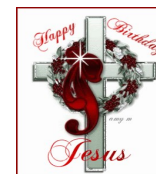


December 8 6-8 PM

Happy Birthday  
Jesus Party!

December 13

5-7 PM



# December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Deacon's Meeting 6 PM	2	3	4 Ridgetop Christmas Parade 7 PM	5 Christmas in the Commons 11 AM – 4 PM Greenbrier Christmas Parade 4PM
Week of Prayer & Mission Study for IMB & Lottie Moon Christmas Offering November 29 - December 6						
6	7	8 Storytime with Santa 6-8 PM	9	10	11	12
13 Business Meeting after morning service Happy Birthday Jesus Party 5-7 PM	14	15	16	17	18 1/2 Day of School	19
20	21 Robertson County School Break begins 12/21 - 1/4	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25  Christmas Service 8 AM	26
27 Bank Sunday	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 2020 Ends	1 New Year's Day	