

The Witness
Western Heights Baptist Church
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Rev. Jonathan Dundalow, Pastor

December 2015

Come let us
Adore
Him



Address Service Requested

Western Heights Baptist Church
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Petersburg, VA 23803

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Pastor's Corner

I am truly amazed at all the controversy that the color and appearance of a Starbucks cup of coffee can make. Individuals vowing to never again visit Starbucks simply because a company who has no Christian influence whatsoever has chosen to remove snowflakes from their cups. My guess is that they are doing this to make more money, which is their ultimate goal. I am not sure why we are so alarmed when the lost act lost. The Bible tells us that they are walking in darkness and that they are in need of a Savior. We can picket and protest and fill our Facebook statuses with the latest rant. However, I think we should be more concerned with living as Christians and encouraging our fellow Christians to do the same. In the process of living for Jesus we should also be evangelizing to the lost, A.K.A. those who do not recognize Jesus and His birth with any significance. If we spent more time evangelizing and less time protesting behind our computers screens we might just make a difference in this world. If we could learn to recognize people as lost souls and not just offensive to our faith then we can develop compassion for them. Now I am not saying that we should accept false teaching or false religion. What I am saying though is that we should do what we are called to do and win the lost! America is the only place in the world that Christians expect everyone to act like them, but that will soon change if we don't stop taking our freedoms for granted and use them to do more than protest.

January Birthday List

1	Cindy Dundalow	19	Holli Fischer
3	Travis McDaniel		Frank Glazier
4	Creed Fallin	20	Dakota Blankenship
5	Collin Branch		Michael Crance
	William Gibbs	21	Shannon Seay
6	Pamela Williams		Wendy Chapman
	Chris Kollman IV	22	Scarlett Yates
8	Andy Eubank		Melanie B. Orton
9	Virginia Bishop		Mille Dear
10	Jon Elsea		Bailey Witt
	Michael Guyette	23	Jacob Mitchell
	Christy Tripp		Shane LeeRoy Whirley
		24	Keith Schmidt
11	Jorja Allen		Marie Smith
	Megan Brockwell		Elsie Eley
	Coleson E. Branch		Jean Gibbs
12	Matthew Allen		Preston Ramsey
	Kirsten Basham	25	Pamela J. Munford
	Brittany Carr	26	Wendy Sue Evans
	Jane Stallings	27	Nicole Claiborne
13	Bobby Harris		Robert Ingram
	Lauryl Marek	28	Johnny Howard
	Wayne Ivey		Gerry Howard
14	Rachel Rush Wynn		Vera Mitchell
17	Barbara N. Adkins		Stephanie Lamm
18	Morgan Dundalow	29	Emma Berry
	Brigette Gomez		Michael Wade
	Hanna L. Barton	30	Brian Connelly
	Christy Miller		Barbara McCoy

December Birthday List

1	Rhianna Mathias	17	Debbie Chappell
2	James Burnett		Cameron Lewis
	Cheri Owens		Dennis Sullivan
	Tammy Van Scyoc		Kayleigh Whirley
3	Ellie Conley	18	Andrew Chappell
	A.J. Ricci		Kalah Wood
	Rena Leslie	19	Gwen Dunn
4	Pam Burton		Chip Pletcher
	Paul Hoylman		Heather Rote
5	Nancy Houthouser	20	Stephen Beasley
	Jamie Lafoon		Ashton Mellott
6	Brian Price		Christine Ramsey
8	Drew Berry		Loretta Smith
	Linda Sullivan	21	Ellen Massengale
	Edith Vaughan		Joshua Kollman
9	Alexandra Via		Adam Wells
10	Kenneth Debose	22	Heather Summers
11	Jade Cook		Faye Veazey
13	Edward Cunningham	23	Harvey Tarleton
	Raleigh Norris		Jessica Allred
14	Flora Ainsley	24	Kendall Walker
	Beverly Mathias	25	Debbie Banner
15	Betty Edgerton		Ray Gooch
	Jonathan Neddo	26	Patricia LaPlante
16	Jeremy Cecchetti		Marty Baird
			Ernest Harrison
			Judy Schmidt
			Phillip Vollhardt
		27	Cassandra Sullivan
		29	Bryce Witt

Let's use this Christmas season to show the world that we believe in a risen Savior and that He has made a difference in our lives. I challenge you over the next few weeks to live out your faith as you celebrate Christmas. Love those around you and share the gospel with them. Invite them to your church and into your homes so that they might have an opportunity to see the love of Christ in action. Let's focus this holiday season on the gift of salvation that is given freely to all and not the gifts we are planning to purchase. Let's work hard to love the lost in this world in a way that honors Christ and remember that we were all lost once and in need of a Savior. Thanks be to God that He sent us a Savior to meet our greatest need!

**Until He Comes,
Jonathan Dundalow
Galatians 6:9**

These are the names of individuals who are either church members of WHBC or are enrolled in our Sunday School. Please advise the church office (733-8172) of any additions or corrections. Thank you!



A Note From The Children's Director

Merry Christmas WHBC! December is here and the Children have a lot going on 😊 Please plan to support the children in their upcoming play, "The Fear Not Factor" we have been working hard to prepare for this celebration of the Christmas season.

The children have several events coming up:

- Final rehearsals for the children's play, "The Fear Not Factor" Wednesday, Dec. 2nd & 9th 6:30-8PM
- WOL Awards---Sunday, Dec 6th 5:00PM
- Dress Rehearsal Saturday, Dec. 12th 10-1pm Taco Bar Lunch will be served for the parents and children participating in the play. Please sign up if you plan to attend.
- The Christmas presentation, "The Fear Not Factor" will be on Sunday, Dec. 13th 5:00PM. Please provide finger foods for the fellowship following the play.
- Christmas Eve Service 6:00 PM The nurseries will be available for children birth - 4 yrs.
- One Note for January--- January 10th following the morning service there will be a Centri-Kid meeting for all parents and children who plan to attend camp. Please plan to be there. \$50 Camp deposits will be due.

HIS Servant,
April Norris



Message from the WHBC Clothes Closet

Thank you to the many that have donated to the clothes closet. We have a lot of adult clothes but we are really need children's clothing. Some of our sizes are completely gone. If you have children that have outgrown their clothes, please consider donating them.

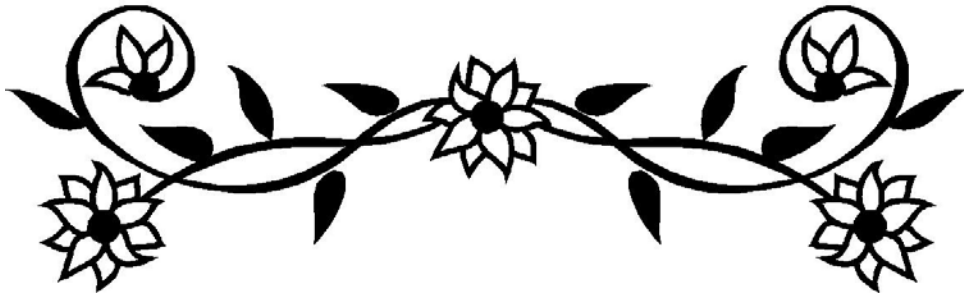
I have a family that is in need of ornaments. They are not asking for anything new. They have three children and would like to have a tree with a few ornaments on it for them to enjoy. If you have some that you could donate, please let me know as soon as possible.

Thank you so much for your help with this ministry. Without you, this ministry would not be possible.

May God bless you!

Leura Kay

Matthew 25:40 – Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.



Notes of Gratitude

Dear Western Heights Church Family,

I want to thank all of you for allowing me to be your Administrative Assistant for nine years. I have enjoyed working here, but, most of all I can truly say I have made a lot of friends that I can call my “Christian Brothers & Sisters” and will miss you all!

I will keep Western Heights Baptist in my prayers and will never forget you.

Merry Christmas to all of you!

“Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” I Corinthians 1:3

*In Christ Love,
Betty Robertson*

December Children’s Church Schedule

Date	Volunteers
December 6 th	Rachel Wynn, Donna Temple & Leslie Bostic
December 13 th	Samoa Allen, Jason & Austin Hudson
December 20 th	Keith & April Johnson, & Melissa Dear
December 27 th	Mike & Megan Demaline, & Ashley McFarland

December Nursery Volunteers

<u>Date</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Nursery Volunteers</u>
Sunday, December 6th	Birth	Shaun & Melanie Orton
	Cruisers	Chelsi Holderfield & Megan Faulkner
	Toddlers	April Johnson & Kathy Tarleton
	3 yr Olds	Jody & Faith Driggers
Sunday, 5 PM, December 6 th	Combined	Janelle Brown & Leslie Bostic
Wednesday, 6:30 PM December 9 th	Combined	Ashley McFarland & Lisa Witt
Sunday, December 13 th	Birth	Pamela J. Munford & Janelle Brown
	Cruisers	Lea & Rachel Mitchell
	Toddlers	Christie Leggett & Diane Reish
	3 Yr. Olds	Becky Pierce & Ashley McFarland
Sunday, December 13 th 5 PM	Combined	Children's Christmas Program
Wednesday, 6:30 PM, December 16 th	Combined	Donna Temple & Melissa Connley
Sunday, December 20 th AM	Birth	Andrea Beville & Heather Gibbs
	Cruisers	Jarrett & Johanna Munford
	Toddlers	John & Christine Croarkin
	3 Yr. olds	Donna Temple & Amanda Whirley
Sunday, 5 PM December 20 th	Combined	TBD
Wednesday December 23 rd	Combined	Paid Workers
Sunday, December 27 th	Birth	Levi & Vera Mitchell
	Cruisers	Mike & Megan Demaline
	Toddlers	John & Heather Mills
	3 Yr. Olds	Keith & Debbie Schmidt
Sunday December 27 th 5 PM	Combined	No Evening Services
Wednesday, 6:30 PM December 30 th	Combined	Keith & April Johnson

Events Coming Up at WHBC 2015

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
December 2	Bible Study & Prayer, 6:30 PM
December 7	Deacon's Meeting, 7:00 PM
December 9	Business Mtg. & Prayer, 6:30 PM
	Final Practices for Children's Christmas Pay, 6:30 PM
December 12	Dress Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Play
December 13	Brotherhood Breakfast, 8 AM Children's Christmas Play, 5 PM
December 16	Bible Study & Prayer, 6:30 PM
December 19	Christmas Basket Packing & Delivery - Deacons
December 21	Winter begins!!
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	Christmas Eve Worship, 6:00 PM
December 25	<i>Christmas – A Savior was Born!</i>

Hello All! This week our students are beginning a new series entitled “Battlefield”. It is full of great biblical lessons that will hopefully fuel our students to live more like Christ in the midst of conflict! I hope you will join me in praying that they are opening their ears to what the Lord has for them in this series! I am of a firm belief that all of the actions that we take on a daily basis are directed by our **END GAME**. Here is what I mean: Imagine you are a high school quarterback. If your end game is the NFL, or at least a full ride to a division one college, there are some things you will do differently. With that end game in mind, you should find yourself in the gym more, in the film room more, and on the field more. Your priorities and especially your actions will be colored by the fact that your end game is that full scholarship. Ultimately, you can tell an athlete’s true end game by his work ethic, and his actions on and off the field. It is the same for us in our Christian walk. People can tell our end game by how we act. All too often, however, our actions tell those around us that our end game is quite different from what the Bible tells us it should be. See, the Bible calls for our end game to be the advancement of the **Kingdom of God**. Our actions, however, often speak of an end game that is quite different, namely **SELF PRESERVATION**. We make decisions with self preservation in mind, and people can tell, especially in the area of conflict. When in conflict, our words and actions are colored by a desire to look out for ourselves, no matter the cost to others. We will say and do whatever needs to be done to preserve our health, and especially our image. The result is a strategy of conflict management that hurts others and reflects badly on the person of Christ. We are called not to reflect badly on Christ but to glorify Him in all things, especially conflict.

- Pastor Dustin Harris



Are you ready for Christmas? Me neither! The best way to get ready for the CHRISTmas season is to be close to the one who IS the season... Jesus Christ!

We at Western Heights Baptist Church have been working hard from the Children’s, Youth, and Adult Choirs and even up to the Orchestra to prepare music for this special time of year.

Our Children’s Choir will be presenting “The Fear Not Factor” play on Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 5:00 PM. You won’t want to miss this chance to see our kids in action...

Our WHBC Night of Music will be presented on Sunday, December 20, 2015 at 5:00 PM. Our Adult and Youth Choirs and Orchestra will be singing Christmas selections along with a few special guests to perform as well. Please be in prayer for this evening as we usher in the most beautiful time of the year, the birth of Jesus Christ.

From our WHBC Music Staff to your home... Merry Christmas and PEACE. ~ Bonnie



*Merry
Christmas*

Remember the true meaning of this beautiful holiday season. May God bless you and your families.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas

Your WKBC Staff



A note from the Sunday School Director

It is hard to believe that we are three months into the new church year and Christmas is right around the corner! Are you looking for the perfect gift for that person who has everything? Maybe this would be the perfect time to tell that person about Jesus! It doesn't have to be Christmas to tell someone about our Savior but what better time than on His birthday? Not quite sure how to go about it? All Sunday school books have the plan of salvation in them. Just see Alan Kissner or me and we would be happy to get you one. Are you active in Bible Study? We have classes for all age groups and would be happy to help you find a class. Sunday School starts at 9:45 AM and we would love to have you! This is a time of study as well as an opportunity for open discussion.

Judi and I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas! I hope to see you this Sunday at 9:45.

In His service,

Robert Tucker



Operation Christmas Child News:

Thank you to all who participated in this year's "Operation Christmas Child". Our total collection was 190 boxes! Our Children's Ministry prepared 126 boxes and 64 were donated by our congregation. If you participated, you have already been blessed. Please continue to pray for the children that will receive these boxes that they will experience hope, joy, love, and the seeds will be planted so many children will come to know Jesus and experience His great love for them.

Judi Tucker
Women On Mission



"Tacky Lights Christmas Tour"

Senior Adult Committee would like to invite all seniors to come join them for the "Tacky Lights Christmas Tour". This event will take place on Thursday, December 3rd. The cost is \$20.00 per person. Please meet at the church at 3:45 PM and bring a bagged meal. Sign up on the Senior Bulletin Board. Hurry Space is limited!!

