



Harmony Baptist Association News

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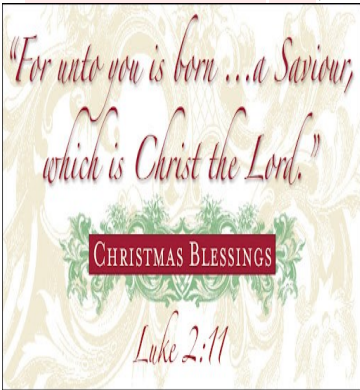
December 2024

Office Hours
 Tuesday - Thursday
 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 12:00 - 12:30 pm (lunch)




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Robert's Ramblin's



And the Lord said to me,
 "Amos, what do you see?"
 And I said,
 "A plumb line."
 Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people."
 Amos 7:8

The plumb line is a symbol in the Bible that represents God's righteous standard for Israel and how far our nation has fallen from it. We should follow the same standard as believers. The plumb line is a line with a weight on one end, used to determine verticality. In the Bible, the plumb line is used in several contexts.

Amos 7:7-8, Isaiah 28:17, 2 Kings 21:13, and Zechariah 4:10



Well, it's Thanksgiving and Christmas time again (we should be celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas every day) and along with this time of the year, thoughts are about God's provisions for us. Yes, we are in America probably don't have to go without food and daily needs. Let us always be grateful to God for letting us live in our land. And since Missouri's deer hunting season co-insides with the fall season, I want to share a spiritual lesson someone sent me. I don't know the author, but the story fits us all, even though some of us aren't deer hunters. Here goes:

So here is a lesson my papa taught me years ago on a deer hunt. I tried to pass this along to those I take hunting. The bloodtrail is awesome because at times it is the only thing that connects us to the animal that gave his life for us. If we lose the blood trail, we can lose the animal. If you get off the bloodtrail, it can take you through briars and thickets that just waste time. At time it is hard to follow and requires work, other times it is easy to see. Sometime the bloodtrail takes you right through the briars, but it still leads you to the prize.

In our faith, Jesus left a blood trail. When we lose sight of it, we can get lost. When we stay on the trail, even though the briars of life tear at us and tangle us up, we are making progress toward the prize. The bloodtrail leads us to the Lamb that gave His life for us. This bloodtrail leads right to the foot of the cross. **Stay on the bloodtrail!**

"Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift"

December 2024



Anniversary dates are Pastor anniversary with each respective church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Adult Bible Study, 10am @Calvary BC	3 Travis Battershell, Bethany Birthday Winter Bible Study Planning, 7pm	4	5	6	7
8 Lottie Moon Offering	9	10	11	12 News Item Due	13	14 Pastor/Wives Christmas Dinner, 6:30pm
15	16 Natalie Bryant, FBC Sedalia Birthday	17	18	19 Newsletter Mailed	20 Efrain Baeza, PIB Birthday	21
22	23	24 Mission Office Closed	25 Christmas Day Marc Knapp, New Hope Birthday Mission Office Closed	26 Mission Office Closed	27	28
29 Ron Griffith, Memorial Birthday Bill Johnson, Mt. Olive Birthday	30	31 Mission Office Closed	 Antioch BC Anniversary 12/1868	 Broadway BC Anniversary 12/7/1966		

2024 Monthly Requirement	\$7,472.25
Church receipts for November	\$9,418.36
Net Budget difference	\$1,946.11



UPCOMING Events



Dec. 3	Winter Bible Study Planning, 7pm
Dec. 8	Lottie Moon Offering
Dec. 14	Pastor/Wives Christmas Dinner
Dec. 24-Jan. 2	Christmas Break (Office Closed)

Adult Bible Study Meeting
 December 2, 2024; 10am
 @Calvary Baptist Church
 Pot Luck, Meat & Drinks provided.



ADULT BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME IN APRIL 2025 AFTER DECEMBER'S MEETING!



Christmas Trivia

1. What type of fruit is traditionally put inside a Christmas stocking?
2. Which Christmas song holds the record as the best-selling single of all time?
3. What popular Christmas beverage is also known as "milk punch"?
4. What Christmas carol contains the lyric "Let men their songs employ"?
5. What is the most recorded Christmas song?
6. What is the name of George Bailey's guardian angel in It's a Wonderful Life?
7. In the book of Matthew, who told Joseph that the baby was to be called Jesus?
8. In the Gospel of Luke what is the name given for an army of Angels praising God?
9. Which prophet said "unto us a child is born"?
10. Where did Mary & Joseph go to live after their time in Egypt?
11. Which prophet told where Jesus would be born?
12. What does the Title Immanuel mean?
13. What is a manger?
14. How many Christmas trees are sold in the US each year?
15. What was the original title for the song "Silver Bells"?
16. What else did the Wise Men do aside from give gifts to Jesus?
17. What direction did the Wise Men travel to going to Herod's Palace?
18. Who did an angel tell about the death of Herod in a dream?

Answers on last page

HARMONY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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*For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in Him
should not perish, but have
everlasting life.*

John 3:16

**But you will receive power
when the Holy Spirit comes on
you; and you will be my
witnesses in Jerusalem, and in
all Judea and Samaria, and to
the ends of the earth**

Acts 1:8

Christmas is a time of gift giving. The gifts of this world do not last. But as Christians we see the best gift that we can share is the eternal gift of love and salvation through faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior by witnessing to our family and friends.

God out of love gave the first and greatest gift of grace to all people who trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior. God gave His Son to come among us to fulfill His plan of salvation to show God's love and grace and open the door to an eternal relationship with God by dying on the cross for our sins; and by His resurrection. Forgiving and cleansing us that we may experience, live for, and live in His presence eternally as we trust in Him as Lord and Savior.

As Christians we are told, by the presence of God's Holy Spirit, we are to share the gift of Jesus and salvation through Him with all we know. This Christmas let's share the Christ of Christmas.

Penning by: John Barrett

Wishing you a blessed and
MERRY CHRISTMAS

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF
JESUS CHRIST
 BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH



DECEMBER CHURCH FAMILY EVENTS

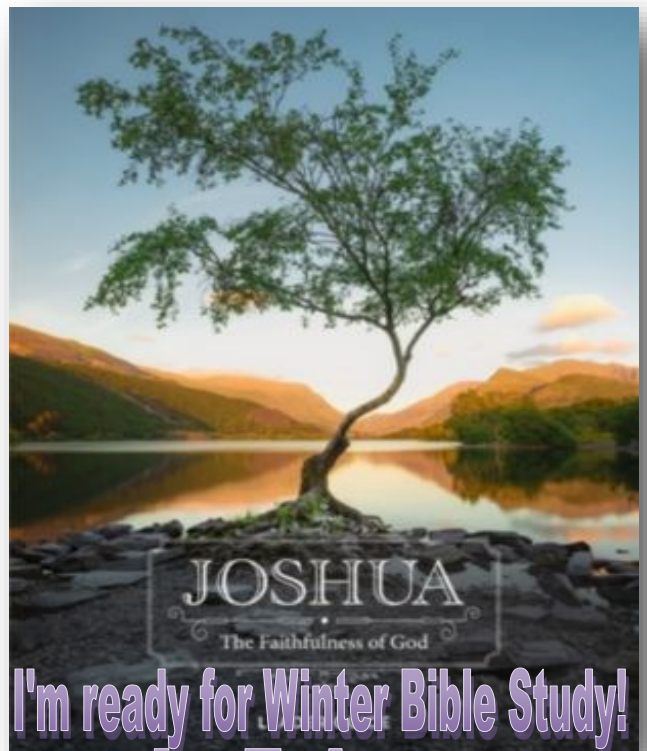
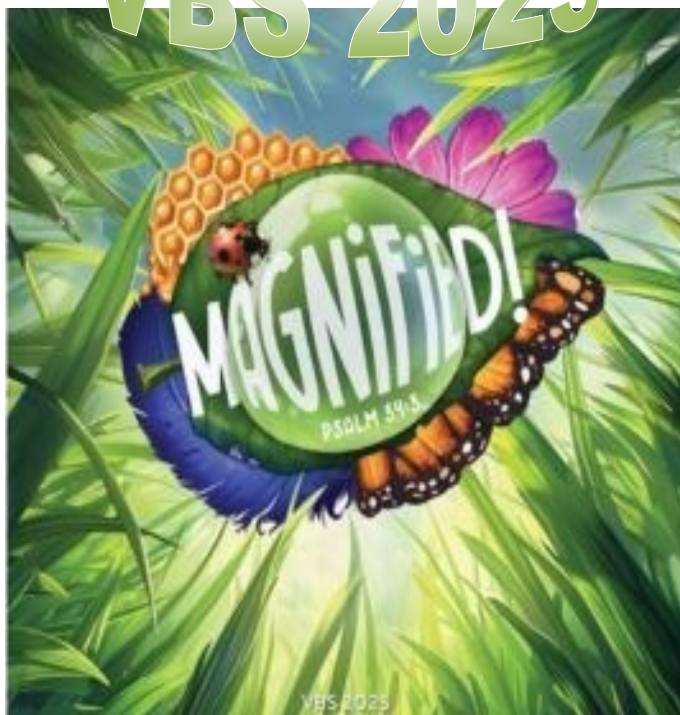
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 2024
 Sedalia Area Christmas Parade 6:00pm
 please arrive early for set up (more details to come)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 2024
 Church Family Christmas Party 6:00pm at the church
 Please bring your favorite appetizer, finger food, or dessert.
 we will have a mens and womens gift exchange, please bring a gift (\$20 limit).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 2024
 Bethlehem Baptist Christmas Cantata 7:00pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 2024
 Christmas Eve Candle Light Service 6:30pm

VBS 2025



I'm ready for Winter Bible Study!
In Febuary

Bethlehem: Give thanks to the LORD for He is good His love endures forever. Chronicles 16:34. † October was an amazing month for our Church. We more than doubled the amount of Shoe Boxes that we sent the Samaritans Purse. We had 162, and last year we did around 67. Thank you everyone for all your support. †. On November 3rd we had our Thanksgiving dinner after church. So many stayed and helped up rejoice in our thanks to the LORD. † We again are providing food for two families for Thanksgiving. “Do not forget or neglect to do kindness and good, to be generous and distribute and contribute to the needy, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.” Hebrews 13:16. † We will start off the Month of December by joining the Sedalia Christmas Parade on December 7. Please join us. We need people to sit on the float, and people to walk and pass out candy to the little ones. † On December 13 we are going to have our first Church wide Christmas Party. It sounds like it will be wonderful. We will have games, finger foods, desserts, and a gift exchange. Praying to see everyone there. † Our Choir is practicing for the Christmas Cantata. Keep everyone in your prayers that we stay healthy enough to be able to perform it on December 14, for our Church. † On December 24th we will have the Christmas Eve Candle Light Service. This is always so special. Join us to celebrate the Eve of our LORD's birth. † Enter His gates with thanksgiving, His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name; Psalm 100:4

Broadway: Broadway Baptist Church offered Trunk and Treat not to celebrate Halloween but as a Christian witness for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). 4 church members distributed bags of candy including a gospel tract for children. They talked with each group of adults about the church and gave a brochure of church mission, leadership, and activities. 32 children and 15 adults visited on October 31. Pastor and Mrs. Gray attended the HBA workshop on November 16 and learned several ideas for our worship service. Missionaries to Haiti Terry and Carolyn Routon were our guests on November 17. We look forward to the soon celebration of our Savior's birth and His return.

East Sedalia: We have started a special offering once a month for children to be able to go to camp next summer. On Nov. 10th veterans were honored for their service in the Sunday morning service. Also three members of the church were honored as being 90 years or older. Each one's favorite scripture was given and their favorite hymn was sung. A special booklet was given to the congregation telling about each of their lives and a bouquet was given to the honorees. On Nov. 10 a group of people went to E.W. Thompson to visit with patients. On Nov. 12 the Women's Fall Gathering was held. Crafts, recipes and snacks were enjoyed with lots of good fellowship. On Nov. 15 eight youth went to the concert of Christian music artist Da Mac at New Hope Baptist Church. It was a night of Christian music, prayer and a great time of fellowship with other youth from Sedalia. On Nov. 20 the Thanksgiving Service was held at the church. After the inspirational service, refreshments were enjoyed by all attending.

Mt. Herman: Bro. Robert visited Katy Park for worship service on Nov. 17 and the men from Standing in the Gap came and shared testimonies with our congregation. We celebrated Thanksgiving with a carry-in dinner on Nov. 24.

New Hope: Starting on December 1 New Hope will observe the four-week season of Advent--remembering and celebrating the birth of Jesus and the anticipation of His second coming with reflections each Sunday on hope, peace, love, joy, and finally--Light at the Christmas Eve service. Men's Ministry will meet for breakfast and Bible study in the fellowship hall at 7 am on Saturday, Dec 14. Our Christmas Family Gathering will be held at 6 pm Sunday, Dec 15. This is a time of fellowship with finger foods, Christmas carols, and fun activities for our church family. We will not have our regular mid-week activities on Wed, Dec 18 so that everyone can go caroling. Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be held at 6 pm on Tues, Dec 24. The church office will be closed Dec 25-27 for the Christmas holidays. Women's Ministry will have supper and a Christmas stocking exchange at 6 pm Tuesday, Dec 17. They'll meet in the fellowship hall. As a drop-off location for Operation Christmas Child, New Hope received 1,958 shoeboxes this year. We have collected 39,982 over the 20 years we have been a drop-off site.

Answers To Trivia

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. An orange | 13. A feeding trough for animals |
| 2. “White Christmas” by: Bing Crosby | 14. Approximately 25-30 million Real Christmas Trees sold in the U.S. every year. |
| 3. Eggnog | 15. “Tinkle Bells” |
| 4. “Joy to the World” | 16. They kneeled down and worshipped Him |
| 5. “Silent Night” | 17. Westward |
| 6. Clarence | 18. Joseph |
| 7. An angel | |
| 8. Heavenly Host | |
| 9. Isaiah | |
| 10. Nazareth | |
| 11. Micah | |
| 12. God with us | |