

December 2016

# Blessings

A publication of Byromville Baptist Church



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## About The Cover

Pictured are 41 shoeboxes headed to the Operation Christmas Child collection center in Americus. BBC also packed 15 Backpacks for Appalachia which will be going to Townsend, TN. These shoeboxes and backpacks are just two of many ways BBC shares Jesus at Christmas.



*Pastor's column*

## What is discipleship?



**Jacob Brimm**

Discipleship is an interesting word. At its base is the word disciple. We all know that Jesus had 12 Disciples, but what does it mean to be a disciple? The definition of 'disciple' is first—personal follower of Jesus during his life, especially one of the Twelve Apostles, and second—a follower or student of a teacher. That is a definition that we can understand and to which we can find relation. We are called to be disciples of Jesus. In fact, the word Christian means 'little Christ'; meaning we are to be a reflection of Jesus. Disciple means we identity as followers of our teacher, Jesus.

The suffix, ship, means skill. Now skill is something else that we need to understand. It is defined as a particular ability, or the ability to do something well. If you are a carpenter, you have a particular set of skills that allow you to work wood and build something. If you are an accountant, you have a particular set of skills that allow you to properly maintain books and records for financial reasons. If you are a farmer, then of course you have skills that go along with working the ground to promote the growth of some crop. More than likely these skills took years to foster and grow, and no doubt you are still learning as time passes.

When you marry the base word with the suffix, the word discipleship forms; which carries a complete meaning that is important to the life of a Christian. We are to have a particular skill, or the ability to follow our teacher well. So as followers of Jesus we are to be able to follow Jesus well. In reality discipleship is a class, a constant less, it is a practice that is constantly growing, and it is something we should strive to become better with each passing day.

It is this idea of Discipleship that will be the focus for 2017. What does it mean to follow Jesus? How can we follow Jesus better? How should we handle certain issues as they arise? How can we better reflect Jesus? In the end, what would Jesus do?

I pray that you will join our discipleship classes, and start your journey to a closer walk with Jesus!

## Presents for Pinehill



Many of the 81 residents at Pinehill Nursing

Center across the street from our church house are without supportive family or with no family at all. This is the reason for many years now BBC has provided Christmas presents for the residents there.

Suggested gift items include tshirts, men and women's underwear, men's belts, liquid bodywash, and jackets. All sizes are needed. For additional gift suggestions and sizes, see the bulletin boards.

Be sure to include on the outside of the wrapped present what the gift is including color and size. For example, write on the tag men's red plaid shirt, long sleeve, size medium. The Pinehill staff will know who to give the present to this way, otherwise, they would have to unwrap the present to see exactly what it is and then rewrap it.

Deadline to bring presents is December 7.







## Keep Christ in Christmas

*10 purposeful ways to make Christ the Center of your Christmas*

The number one way to keep Jesus Christ in your Christmas celebrations is to have him present in your daily life. If you've accepted Jesus as your Savior and made him the center of your life, keeping Christ in Christmas is more about the way you live your life than the things you say—such as "Merry Christmas" versus "Happy Holidays."

Keeping Christ in Christmas means daily revealing the character, love and spirit of Christ that dwells in you, by allowing these traits to shine through your actions. Here are simple ways to keep Christ the central focus of your life this Christmas season.

- 1) Give God one very special gift just from you to him. Let this gift be something personal that no one else needs to know about, and let it be a sacrifice. Maybe your gift to God will be to forgive someone you've needed to forgive for a long time. You may discover that you've given a gift back to yourself. Perhaps your gift will be to commit to spending time with God daily. Or maybe there is something God has asked you to give up.
- 2) Set aside a special time to read the Christmas story in Luke 1:5-56 through 2:1-20.
- 3) Set up a Nativity scene in your home.
- 4) Plan a project of good will this Christmas.
- 5) Take a group Christmas caroling in a nursing home or a children's hospital.

*Continued on page 5*



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 2016				1 	2	3 10:30am Senior Adult Christmas Brunch
4 6:00pm Toyland Concert	5	6	7 Deadline to bring Pinehill gifts	8	9 7:00pm Movie Night	10
Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering						
11 6:00pm Conference	12	13	14	15	16 6:30pm Lively Nativity	17
18 6:00pm Candlelight Communion Service	19 10:30am Women on Mission	20	21 Winter beains 	22	23	24 6:00pm Dawn/Darrell Ritchie Christmas Eve Concert
25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 10:30am Worship—No Sunday School	26	27	28	29	30	31 



# Birthdays



12-4 Mindy Caroll  
12-5 Tim Phelps  
Nancy Stephenson  
12-6 Justin Kirksey  
Rebecca Powell  
Roger Roney  
Peggy Epps  
12-8 Nate Kitchens  
12-9 Christi Trimback  
12-10 Sallie Jones  
12-13 Kim Cavanah  
Cecil James  
12-15 Jimmy L. Hendrix

Bethany Powell  
12-16 Sheryl Burnam  
Sherry Bragg  
12-20 Camryn Thompson  
12-21 Davis West  
12-23 Kathy Kent  
12-24 Stephanie Hancock  
12-25 Andy Blankenship  
Amber Morgan  
Josh Peavy  
12-27 Jon-Michael Jones  
Becky Willingham  
12-28 Mary Jo Gauthier

12-31 Tripp Everidge  
1-1 Bubba Hunter  
1-2 Jimmy Barlow  
Steven Lamberth  
Connie Raper  
Rebecca Worley  
1-3 Noah Woodard  
1-4 Dianne Thompson  
  
Please pray for these folks on their birthday.

## Weekly Schedule

**SUNDAY**  
Sunday School. . . . . 10am  
Worship. . . . . 11am  
Worship. . . . . 6pm

**TUESDAY**  
Youth & children. . . . . 7pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
Prayer meeting. . . . . 7pm

Nursery for all services.  
Children's Church for  
Sunday 11AM Worship.



## Schedule of Volunteers for December

Please remember it is up to **you** to arrange coverage if **you** are unable to serve on your scheduled day.

Date	Nursery AM	Children's Church	Deacon of the Week	Offering Bearers
Dec. 4	Mandy/Paula Smith	Alison/Taylor Willingham	Jimmy Lockerman	Joseph Lamberth Keith Lamberth
Dec. 11	Tricia Kent Brenda Lockerman	Jeanie Brimm Kay Green	Arthur Roney	Steven Lamberth George Massey
Dec. 18	Sharon/Sue Thompson Rhonda Youngblood	Vicki Lamberth Robin Peavy	Floyd Tucker	Mark Peavy Kyle West
Dec. 25	Jeanie Brimm Kay Green	Jenn/John John Averill	Joe Kent	Arthur Roney Roger Roney

## November Sunday School Stats

Senior Adults.....	5
FBIC.....	17
CIA.....	4
Young Adults. ....	5
Early Adults. ....	2
Youth. ....	1
Older Children.....	2
Younger Children. ....	3
Older Preschoolers. ....	6
Younger Preschoolers.....	7
Nursery . ....	2
General Officers/Musicians. ....	4
TOTAL.....	56



## Financial Summary

### October receipts

General offerings	\$ 7,255.00
Interest on CD	4.11
Special-Building/Floor Fund	50.00
Special-Bus Fund	75.00
World Hunger Offering	50.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>7,434.11</b>

### October disbursements

General expenses	5,145.00
MissionGeorgia	980.00
Local missions/evangelism	377.60
Houston Baptist Association	453.60
Cooperative Program	1,179.37
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 8,135.57</b>

### *Continued from page 3*

- 6) Give a surprise gift of service to each member of your family.
- 7) Set aside a time of family devotions on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning.
- 8) Attend a Christmas church service together with your family.
- 9) Send Christmas cards that convey a spiritual message.
- 10) Write a Christmas letter or send an email to a missionary. Many missionaries are unable to travel home for the holidays, so Christmas can be a very lonely time for them.

—MARY FAIRCHILD

## the gospel resounds

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING\*

**BBC Offering Goal  
\$3,000**

**100% of your gift helps send and sustain IMB missionaries.**

Week of Prayer guides and offering envelopes will be available at the church house during December.



Blessings is published monthly by Byromville Baptist Church. Send news items and/or comments to Editor Brenda Lockerman at POB 217, Byromville, GA 31007, email to [brendalockerman@windstream.net](mailto:brendalockerman@windstream.net) or call 478-433-2791.

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