

December  
2017  
Volume 21  
Number 12

# THE MISSION



## The Living Nativity: "A Journey Foretold" December 1-3 & 8-10

The free tickets are going fast, but check out [www.broaduschurch.org](http://www.broaduschurch.org) to find a time for you and your friends to attend this exciting presentation of the birth of Jesus Christ. There are nine scenes in this guided tour along a path in the woods behind the church. Reservations can also be made by calling the church office at 779-2700. Please let us know if you have mobility issues or plan to bring a large group. Invite your friends and neighbors. Be praying that the Living Nativity plants the seeds of faith in many hearts!



### Advent Celebration

Sunday, Dec. 3rd, is the first Sunday of Advent. On the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, including Christmas Eve morning, we will be lighting the candles of Advent as we reflect upon the Hope, Peace, Joy and Love that comes into our hearts when we accept the Savior.



### Christmas Music Program

On Sunday, Dec. 17th, the worship choir, praise team and our children's choirs will join together to bring a special presentation of "Wonder and Glory" at both the 8:45 and 11:00 services at the Pole Green Campus.

### Christmas Eve

This year, Christmas Eve is a Sunday. We will have our normal schedule in the morning. In the evening, our church will host a 5:00 Christmas Eve Service at both campuses which will feature the nativity story, carols, and the Lord's Supper. A nursery will be available at the 5:00 Pole Green service. At 7:00, Shalom



Baptist Church will lead a Christmas Eve Service in our Pole Green worship center which will also feature the Lord's Supper. Members of both churches and all community guests are welcome at either service!

### Thanksgiving Missions Offering

This is one of our two big missions offerings each year. Our goal this season is \$18,000. All contributions will be disbursed to these ministry partners:

- 50% for Lottie Moon Offering for International Missions
- 25% for Virginia Baptist Kingdom Advance Ministries
- 25% for World Hunger Relief

We kicked off our offering on November 19 and will receive donations through the Christmas season. Let's give generously so that Christ can be known around the world!

# December 2017

For more information about Broadus Church and a PDF of this Mission newsletter, visit [www.broaduschurch.org](http://www.broaduschurch.org).

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
The church office is regularly open on Monday—Thursday, 8:30-4:45.						
<b>SUNDAY MORNING AT POLE GREEN CAMPUS</b> 8:45 - Traditional Service 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 - Contemporary Service			<b>SUNDAY MORNING AT HEBRON CAMPUS</b> 3407 King William Road Aylett, Virginia 9:45 - Fellowship and Snacks 10:00 - Sunday School 11:00 - Worship Service		1	2
						Living Nativity Friday thru Sunday
3 <i>1st Sunday in Advent</i> 	4	5	6	7	8	9
			5:15 Dinner 6-7:15 Programs 7:15 Choir	6:30 Praise Team	Living Nativity Friday thru Sunday	
						Living Nativity
10 <i>2nd Sunday in Advent</i> 	11	12	13	14	15	16
			5:15 Dinner 6:15 Music Program Rehearsal		10-2 Nativity Clean-Up	
						Living Nativity
17 <i>3rd Sunday in Advent</i> 	18	19	20	21	22	23
Christmas Program at Pole Green 6:30 Connect Grps	MCEF Fund Raiser at Stevi B's	9:45 Broadus Bells 6:30 Hebron Bible Study	6:00 One Voice 6:00 Youth Christmas Party in CB	4:30 Hebron Youth to G-Force 6:30 Praise Team		
24 <i>4th Sunday in Advent</i> 	25 <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>  Our Savior is Born	26	27	28	29	30
5:00 Broadus Christmas Eve Services (both campuses) 7:00 Shalom Service at Broadus				2017 Financial Contributions Due by Noon		5:00 Hebron to Tacky Light Tour
31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>						

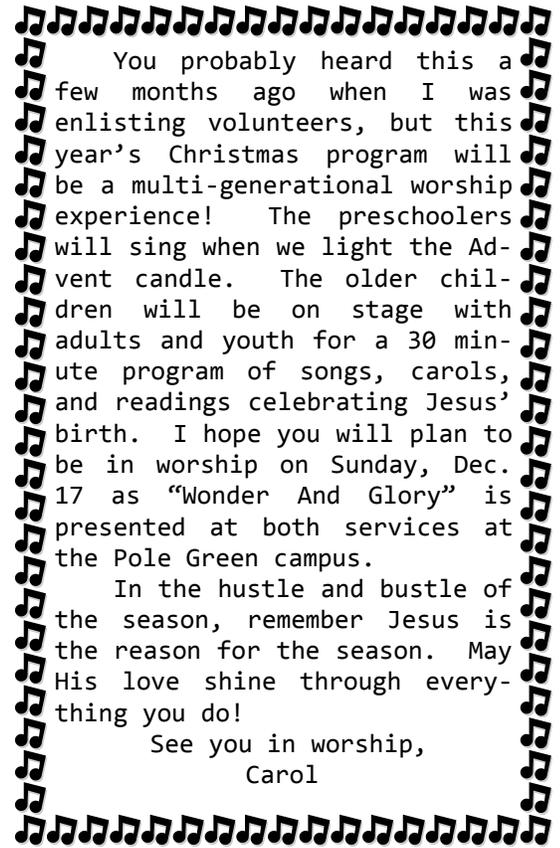


Scholars have long said we are most likely celebrating the birth of Jesus on the wrong day. Surely this is not a surprise to you? We don't have any kind of birth certificate for Him, and I hope you will be rightfully skeptical if someone claims to have stumbled across one. It's no secret that some years after Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity, church leaders rather arbitrarily picked December 25th to celebrate the birth of the Son of God—probably to over-shadow the previous pagan celebration of the “sun god” Mithra on that date. Based on calculations related to the conception and birth of John the Baptist, it is more likely Jesus was born earlier in the fall, maybe late September. It's also more likely the shepherds were still out in the fields keeping watch over their flocks by night in the warmth of September rather than in the chill of December.

I hope this bit of new doesn't ruin your Christmas. It shouldn't, because the Apostle Paul assures us that *“when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman...”* (Gal. 4:4). He tells us that whatever the date, God chose the perfect time to send the Savior into the world. God knew when mankind needed His help the most! And He also knows when we each need His help the most—when we need His hope, peace, joy and love. The blessings of God are there when we need them. Our responsibility is to receive them, which only happens when by faith we open our hearts to receive Jesus. It doesn't matter what day of the year you celebrate the birth of the Savior as long as you know Him as *YOUR* Savior.

I hope you enjoy Christmas as much as I do. Come make Sunday morning worship a part of your celebration during this Advent Season!

—Pastor Phil



You probably heard this a few months ago when I was enlisting volunteers, but this year's Christmas program will be a multi-generational worship experience! The preschoolers will sing when we light the Advent candle. The older children will be on stage with adults and youth for a 30 minute program of songs, carols, and readings celebrating Jesus' birth. I hope you will plan to be in worship on Sunday, Dec. 17 as “Wonder And Glory” is presented at both services at the Pole Green campus.

In the hustle and bustle of the season, remember Jesus is the reason for the season. May His love shine through everything you do!

See you in worship,  
Carol

### Broadus Youth: **Belong! Believe! Become!**

#### EVENTS COMING UP:

- Wednesday, Dec. 20—Christmas Party @ 6:00 pm in community Bldg
- Jan. 7 - THE GATHERING- A New Year's Youth worship experience!
- Jan. 14- 15 HS RENEWAL Overnighter @ the river
- Jan. 28- Annual Parent Luncheon/Meeting. Please don't miss out.
- Feb. 4 - Super Bowl Party

#### REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

- Elevate meets Dec. 6 + 13, and will resume Jan. 10
- Connect Groups do not meet Dec. 3 + 10 due to the Nativity, but will meet Dec. 17 for the final time this year—and will resume Jan. 14.

### Hebron Happenings

#### Sunday School & Small Groups

*“Within the walls of the church, the thing that has impacted my life and my relationship with God and my fellow church members most has been my Sunday School Class.”*  
—Jeff Poythress

If you attend Sunday School or a small group, you will probably agree with me. If you do not attend Sunday School you need to come find out why we love it so much. In Sunday School you form a unique bond with people traveling on a journey. You can ask questions and make friends. I have had some incredible pastors in my life, but none of them have impacted me as much as a Sunday School Teacher.

If you have never attended Sunday School, I encourage you to make a 6 week commitment to try out a class or Tuesday Night Bible Study. You will be glad you did!

\*\* Sunday Mornings at 9:45 AM \*\*  
\*\* Tuesdays at 6:30 PM \*\*



*May the joy of knowing the only begotten  
Son of God fill your heart this season.*

*Merry Christmas from  
the Broadus Church Staff!*

*Karen Jeff Buddy Carol  
Phil Dave Gladys Ellis Randy*

