



VICTORY NEWS by Victory Baptist Church
Where Everybody is Somebody and Jesus Christ is Lord of All

December 2011



Pastor's Corner

Christmas is my favorite time of year. We've all heard the story many times. But, I think we need to ask that question: "What does it mean to us? What does it mean to us in terms of living?"

I think Jesus came for reasons. I believe those reasons are very important. First of all, the *Bible* says he came "that we might have life and have it more abundantly." There's nothing more wonderful than life. There's nothing more precious than the life we have. There's nothing more valuable to us than the very life we have as living and breathing human beings full of life, full of joy. There's nothing more precious than that.

Jesus came so that we "might have life and have it more abundantly." Do you know what that means? That means that Jesus recognized that his life here on earth had to make a difference. Jesus came that we might have life and have an abundant life.

Quite often in our lives, we find ourselves saying, "Can I make a difference in this world? Will I affect anybody in this world? Will my life be anything to anyone?" Jesus, at 12, had already started to open the incredible gifts that were in his own life.

There are so many gifts in the lives of the people here at Victory Baptist Church. I want you this Christmas to recognize every one of those gifts. I want you to start opening them, like a child and to realize that all those gifts came from God. When you open those gifts and share those gifts with other people, some wonderful and marvelous things will happen.

There is a second reason he came. He also came to show us how to live. I discovered early in life that Jesus came to show us how to live. Jesus teaches us how to

live. Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is within." In the teachings of Jesus, you find every thing you ever need to know how to live life. In Jesus you find the instructions for life and living: how to live, how to be a child, how to be a teenager, how to be an adult, how to be a senior citizen. In Jesus, you find all that.

The one thing we have to say to ourselves is this: "We have to live every moment. We have to live every hour. We have to live every day. We have to live every month. We have to live because Jesus lives within us." As you move into 2012, you're looking for life. You're looking for happiness. You're looking for fulfillment. You're looking for peace in the world. All those things are possible through the power of Jesus Christ.

From me and my family to you and yours, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

God Bless You All,
Pastor Steven D. Swords



A Note From the Associate Pastor

Let us reflect on how many wonderful things God has blessed throughout the year of 2011. I think the older I get the quicker the years pass by. It seems like only yesterday when my family came onboard here at Victory. I want us to look back on the past year and give thanks to our Lord for providing us with all our needs and watching people grow in the Faith.

In January 2011 we started planning our first mission trip. In the early stages it seemed almost impossible to raise enough money to send 25 people to World Changers and one to Africa. Just like always, we saw Him show out. Not only did He provide the funds but He changed the lives of the people that went. It's awesome to see

1644 O'Brig Avenue, Guntersville, Alabama 35976

Phone: 256-582-5054

Visit our website at www.victorybaptist.com

the after-effects to God's people when they follow through with that commitment to serve Him.

As we look back over the past year, we can reflect on all the Salvations and Baptisms. It has been a true blessing to see God work in our church. I think we all, as a church, have grown this year. I believe as Christians that it should be a goal of each member of the church body to serve Him and grow closer to the Father. As we approach the end of 2011, I am looking forward to opening another year in the presence of a Holy God and the leadership of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I would like to finish this year by giving thanks for everything He has done. I am very excited about the upcoming year and I challenge every one from Victory Baptist Church in the closing of 2011 to look at yourself and ask the question: "What can I do for you Lord in 2012?"

Merry Christmas and may God richly bless you in the New Year,

Associate Pastor Jeremy Patterson



December Events

- Dec. 4 – Christmas Fellowship Dinner
- Dec. 11 – Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- Dec. 11 – Barfield Nursing Home Christmas Caroling and Gift Giving
- Dec. 18 – Christmas Program (Evening)
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Day
- Dec. 24 – Communion Service
- Dec. 25 – Christmas Day
- Dec. 31 to Jan 2 – Teen Xtreme Conference



Sunday School and Bible Study

We would like to encourage everyone to attend and participate in Sunday school classes and Wednesday night Bible study every week. We have an excellent Children's Sunday school program. Our awesome teaching staff really cares and desires your children to grow in Christ. We also have four different adult Sunday school classes. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m.

Victory Baptist Church provides nursery during both Sunday school and Worship service on Sunday mornings. On Wednesday evening, beginning at 6:30 p.m., we have Bible study classes for children of all ages as well as an adult Bible study in the sanctuary.

Please take the opportunity to learn more about God's word and "fall in love" with God by attending Sunday school and Wednesday Bible study classes every week. Share God with others but inviting them to Sunday school and Wednesday night Bible study!! Everyone is welcome!!!

Matt Dibler & Family Singing

It was a blessing to have Matt Dibler and his Family here to sing for us on the 20th. We look forward to him coming back soon.

WMU

The WMU would like to thank you for your support with the Bean and Cornbread Lunch and with the sale of the RADA Knives.

We still have a few Victory Baptist Church Cookbooks available. The cost per cookbook is \$10. They make GREAT Christmas gifts!!! See Trish or Kim to purchase your cookbook today.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

If you are a follower of Jesus, you are part of the task to fulfill the Great Commission? Paul said, "All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it" (1 Corinthians 12:27). Jesus has commissioned us to be His heart, His hands, His voice. Through praying, giving and going, Southern Baptists have fulfilled this legacy for more than 160 years.

Our churches must take direct responsibility for helping reach the nearly 3,800 unengaged, unreached people groups that missionaries may never be able to get to. And, since most unreached people groups likely are represented in the world's urban centers, we have unique challenges and opportunities to reach the world through the cities.

Let us help reach the national goal of \$175 million and give to help reach those who would otherwise not be through giving for the Lottie Moon offering through Southern Baptist missions! Victory Baptist will be taking up our Lottie Moon Christmas offering on Sunday, December 11th.

1644 O'Brig Avenue, Guntersville, Alabama 35976

Phone: 256-582-5054

Visit our website at www.victorybaptist.com

Did You Notice...

... the white wooden church house sitting near the piano? Have you wondered why it's there? This church is Victory Baptist Church's new "money jug" to raise money throughout the year for Vacation Bible School. This money is kept separate from the kids' money jug money and is designated strictly for Vacation Bible School expenses. We encourage everyone to give as they can so that we can ensure that we have a super Vacation Bible School in 2012!!!

New Members

Victory Baptist Church would like to welcome our newest members:

Alyvia Ellis
Chad Jones
Mike Mosely
Nehemiah Riedinger



Children's Money Jug

We are so proud that the kids are doing a great job putting their money into the 'big jug' every week. The monies from the 'big jug' are deposited into the children's fund and are used to support the youth ministries including their fun activities, pizza parties, concerts, youth rallies and field trips. GREAT JOB KIDS!!



The Word of God

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

~ Isaiah 7:14 (KJV)

Tidbits

The Christian Singles Ministry meets on the 1st and 3rd Saturday nights of the month in VBC's Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m. Due to the upcoming Christmas season, they will meet this Saturday, December 3rd for

their Christmas party. They will have an ornament exchange that night. For information call Nellie Cornett at 256-753-6345 or Stephanie 256-738-0450.

The church library is open every Sunday morning and Wednesday evening and is loaded with books and videos for enjoyment of all ages -- children through adults. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Delilah Ryan. Happy Reading!!

December Birthdays

7 - Kelsey Sims
8 - Tyler Ellis
10 - James Upton
12 - Grace Patterson
12 - Jean Shelton
12 - Sara Bermudez
14 - Calvin Lang
15 - Nehemiah Riedinger
19 - Madison Ellis
21 - Keith Russell
21 - Toney Goble
22 - Jan Dixon
24 - Christi Smallwood
26 - Dave Kiefer
27 - Lisa Bearden
28 - Margaret Cordell
29 - Brandon Werner
31 - Bob McClung



December Anniversaries

4 - Teresa & Mark Hawkins
23 - Belinda & Johnny Harris
23 - Katie & Larry Stoner



If you would like to contribute an article or information for our newsletter, please email Kim Johnson at office@victorybaptist.com

1644 O'Brig Avenue, Guntersville, Alabama 35976

Phone: 256-582-5054

Visit our website at www.victorybaptist.com