



Connections

Becoming Disciples that Make Disciples

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER | 2019 | CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Keeping Christ in Christmas

<https://www.familylife.com/articles/topics/holidays/featured-holidays/christmas/keeping-christ-the-center-of-christmas/>

This Christmas, let's keep Christ at the center of our celebrations. Here are ideas that can help connect hearts and homes to Him:

1. **Bring the story of Christ's birth to life.**

After reading Luke 2:1-20, locate Bethlehem on a biblical map. You can use a map from the back of your Bible or a Bible atlas. Also, look at the daily newspaper and discuss how this same area of the world is still in the news today. Encourage young children to reenact the story.

2. Create a "Tree of Light." Set a small tree/plant on a tabletop. Fill a container with either handmade or purchased stars, and place it at the base of the tree. As a family, read some Scriptures about Jesus being the Light of the world (such as John 8:12, John 9:5, John 12:46). Then, put the first star at the top of your Tree of Light. Encourage family members to allow the love of Jesus to shine through them during the holiday season.

3. As a family, adopt a needy child or family at Christmas. Not only shop for their physical wants, but also give spiritual helps such as a Bible or a book with Christian themes. Pray for their salvation, spiritual growth, and that they will look to God to meet their needs.

4. Give "birthday gifts" to Jesus. Wrap a box in colorful holiday tissue and cut a slit in the lid. Fill a container with blank slips of paper and put it by the box. Brainstorm, as a family, about possible gifts for the Savior for Christmas (patience, love for a difficult person, sacrificial giving, ministry to needy person, etc.). Then ask them to write a description of the gift they'd like to give on a slip of paper and to drop it in the wrapped box—without names. Open the box on Christmas day and see what presents the family has given Jesus for His birthday.

5. Begin "orangitude checks" during the holidays. Keep a bowl filled with oranges in the center of the dinner table. One evening, slice an orange in half and squeeze it into a glass. Ask a child to drink the juice that's in the glass and then say, "What does it taste like?" (Of course, the answer should be orange juice.) Then discuss, as a family, people's actions during the sometimes-hectic Christmas season. What comes out when they are "squeezed"? Repeat this activity one or two more times during the holidays. Discuss family members' experiences as they try to model Christ's love, even when they are "squeezed."

Coming Events

- Dec 1st - "Ice it Up"
Gingerbread Decorating
Contest for Children during the
evening service
- Dec 11th – Children's
Progressive Christmas Party
- Party Dec 14th – Young at
Heart Christmas party –
Bridges' home
- Dec 15th – Christmas Musical
- Dec 18th – Women's Wed.
Joint Christmas Party
- Jan 5th – Home group Kickoff
at church
- Jan 12th – College services

Sunday Nights

All Sunday night services at church at 6:00pm

- 12/01/2019 Praying for the persecuted
- 12/08/2019 Lord's Supper, family style
- 12/15/2019 Christmas Musical: Silent Night
- 12/22/2019 Candlelight – walk through Bethlehem
- 12/29/2019 Celebration of 2019/Fellowship

Week of Christmas and New Year's
– NO WEDNESDAY services

Serving Calendar

Deacon of the Week

- 12/01 Chris Wilson-Phone: 864-680-6320
- 12/08 John Westbrooks-Phone: 864-838-2091
- 12/15 Joel Babcock-Phone: 864-490-1389
- 12/22 Shane Parris-Phone: 864-491-8904
- 12/29 Wayne Bellew-Phone: 864-494-4617

The Treehouse Ministry AM

- 12/01 Ashley Wilkins/Jane Cook
- 12/08 Ernie Ramsey/John Westbrooks/Kim Bolin
- 12/15 Allison Turner/Lori Turner
- 12/22 Ernie Ramsey/Lisa Ward/Judy Millen
- 12/29 College Volunteers

Wednesday Night Kidz Ministry

- 12/04 Sandra Green/Lori Turner
- 12/11 Rebecca Humphries/Ashley Wilkins
- 12/18 Pamela & John Westbrooks
- 12/25 No Services

Nursery

- 12/01 Nicky Federico/Celeste Branham
- 12/08 Cassidy Perry/Sherry Crocker
- 12/15 Marsha Mullinax/Lisa Ward
- 12/22 Patty Lankford/Sarah Bostic
- 12/29 Chuck & Kim Bolin

Security

- 12/01 Bobby Franks
- 12/08 Noah Bridges
- 12/15 John Westbrooks
- 12/22 Chris Wilson
- 12/29 David Spurlin

Counters

- 12/01 Kim Bolin/Monica Medley
- 12/08 John Keller/Volunteer
- 12/15 Shane Parris/Roger McAbee
- 12/22 Kim Bolin/Monica Medley
- 12/29 Lisa Ward/Marsha Mullinax

Wednesday Night Deacon Visitation

- 12/04 Chuck Bolin/Brice Bolin
- 12/18 Shane Parris/Joel Babcock



Lifegroup winter study of Numbers and Deuteronomy begins December 1st

Children who are interested in presenting a song in a Sunday morning service to celebrate Christmas will practice Sunday evenings at 5:30 in the kid's room in the gym. See April Bridges with questions.

Children's Christmas Party
Progressive Dinner
Wednesday, December 11th

Please have children at church between 5:45 and 6:00, we will leave right at 6:00, return by 8:30. Wear Pajamas!



Birthdays

Jana Burnett	12/01
Kendal Parker	12/02
Crystal Jackson	12/05
Tristan Medley	12/05
Mary Starnes	12/05
Morgan Jackson	12/06
Melissa Pennington	12/14
Christian Wilson	12/14
Noelle Bridges	12/16
Ethan Turner	12/17
Bryanna McCraw	12/18
April Bridges	12/19
Nicky Federico	12/19
Chad Turner	12/22
Pam Elliott	12/23
Sandra Green	12/23
Teresa Williams	12/25
Heather Parris	12/26
Marisa Shehan	12/26
Zoey Simmons	12/27
Alec McCraw	12/28
Terry Green	12/30
Joel Babcock	12/31

Anniversaries

Bo & Monica Medley	12/03
Clay & Shea Phillips	12/12
Chris & Wendy Wilson	12/14
Robert and Rhonda Phillips	12/16
Steven & Holly Davidson	12/17
Casey & Ashley Wilkins	12/31