

Bearing
the
Fruit
of
Love



The LifeVine

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
13800 Aiken Road
Louisville, KY. 40245-4624
(502) 245-4250

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www.pgbconline.org

pgbconline@bellsouth.net

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Volume 17

December 2017

Issue 12



Servants, in His Service

Louis H. Humes
Sr. Pastor

Mary Rumsey	Music Minister
Abby Smith	Youth Minister
Kay Edwards	Pianist
Angela Humes	Secretary

Worship and Study Times

Sunday

Sunday School	9:45am
Morning Worship	10:55am

Wednesday

Church Supper	6:15pm
Prayer Meeting	7:00pm
Children & Youth	7:00pm
Adult Choir	6:45pm



News and Announcements



Joyous Singers Christmas Sing-a-Long . . .

Our own Bro. Larry Petty and the Joyous Singers invite you to a free Christmas Sing-a-Long at the following times & places:

Wednesday, December 6 @ 2pm
Calvin Presbyterian Church
2501 Rudy Lane

Monday, December 11 @ 11:30am
Christ Church United Methodist
4614 Brownsboro Rd

A catered lunch will follow this performance for \$10 per person. Please make a reservation by December 4 by calling 893-2201 x328.

Silver Servants . . .

Our next meeting is on Dec.15.

We will be having an ornament exchange. Anyone that wants to participate will need to bring a \$5.00 ornament, due to the game I have planned to go with this I am asking that they be placed in a small bag, please. I'm not trying to advertise but Cracker Barrel has some good ones.

For the potluck bring your favorite **Christmas dish**.

If you need a ride or have a question give me a call.

A very Merry Christmas to All and many, many Blessings.

Loraine

lmc12943@gmail.com

243-1105

Thank-you, dear Church Family, for your kind and loving support all year long that was also expressed through your generous Christmas Bonuses!

We love you all!! Bro. Louis and Angela



Tis the Season . . .

December 1, 5- 9pm

Kid's Movie Night for ages 5-12! It's going to be Muppet night. We're watching "Emmett Otter's Jugband Christmas". We'll eat dinner, do crafts and maybe play a game. Please call or text Robin at 881-6750 if you are planning to come or if you would like to be a chaperone.

Caroling, December 2, 12 Noon

We will be carpooling from our church to go caroling to our care ins. Bring your favorite soup/sandwich for us to enjoy a warm meal afterwards. We will also be having S'mores over the bonfire for dessert!!



See Laura, 541-6737

December 9, 12:00pm

Sr. Adult Christmas Banquet sponsored by our Deacons and Staff! You don't want to miss this celebration if you are 55 or older!!

December 10, 10:55am

Annual Christmas Musical
The choir will present the cantata
Lead Me Back to Bethlehem.



December 13, 7pm

The Deadline for turning in your Christmas Cards for Church Boxes!!

December 17 @ 12:30pm

Christmas Luncheon with Santa




December 24, 5pm

Our Annual Christmas Eve celebration includes the Scripture of Jesus' birth, most of your favorite Christmas Carols, the celebration of the Lord's Supper and the lighting of Memorial Candles all in one very meaningful hour!

Please don't miss this blessing - invite someone to join you!

December 2017 Calendar of Events & Birthdays

Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Web Page www.pgbconline.org E-Mail pgbconline@bellsouth.net

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Regular Schedule Sundays 9:45 Sunday School 10:55 Worship Tuesdays 6:30 Adult Choir 2nd & 4th	Wednesdays 6:15 Dinner 6:45 Adult Choir 1st & 3rd 7:00 Prayer Mtg. Children & Youth				1	2 12 Caroling
3 2nd Sunday of Advent	4 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Panera 6:30 Recreation	5	6 8 Deacons' Mtg. <i>Barbara Goins</i>	7 <i>Kevin Belden</i>	8	9 10 Choir Rehearsal 12 Senior Banquet
10 3rd Sunday of Advent 10:55 Christmas Musical 2:30 Masonic Home	11 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Home Run 6:30 Recreation	12	13 Christmas Card Due! 7 Business Mtg.	14	15 11:30 Silver Servants <i>Justin Cash</i>	16
17 4th Sunday of Advent 12:30 Lunch with Santa	18 5:30 Recreation Meal @ Capt. Ds 6:30 Recreation	19	20	21	22	23
24 5 Candlelight Service 31 10:55 Lord's Supper	25  Merry Christmas! <i>Chris Klenakis</i>	26 <i>Dorothy Hanks</i>	27 <i>Susan Hunsaker</i>	28	29	30

Pastor's Paragraphs . . .

It has been interesting to hear so many football commentators and coaches talk about finishing the year. Of course a number of them are talking about finishing the year on a really good note while others are lamenting about finishing the year on a negative note. I realize they are generally only speaking about winning and losing. Yet it still causes me to think about how I am finishing the year and about how our Church is finishing the year.

We have only one more month to serve the Lord this year. That also means you only have one more month to make a difference through our church this year. Are you finishing the year on a strong positive note? Consider just one area where you can measure your answer to this question and decide what to do about it.

Stewardship. That one word causes comfort to many church members since they know they are fully obedient and God can fully bless them as a result. That one word also strikes fear in many church members because they are less than faithful in that area of their Christian life and it makes them feel guilty as they try, unsuccessfully, to justify their selfishness to their own conscience.

Consider the following story which, I was told, occurred in a small community in Florida in the 1970's.

A heartless, miserly old man, Peter Brunson, died possessing considerable property, no portion of which he had used, while still alive, helping the poor, the sick and/or the spiritually lost people around him. Unsurprising, to those who knew him well, he wrote in his will, that *"No less than \$30,000⁰⁰ should be expended on his funeral."* The rest of his estate went to support political causes he favored. He had no children so it fell to one of his nieces, a notably generous and charitable lady, to execute his will.

As she pondered his desires, she suddenly thought: *"Why not invite all the needy, infirm, and aged of the neighborhood to this rich man's funeral and then give them clothing that would be suited to the ceremony?"*

It was a delightful funeral, one of the most cheerful scenes that anyone had witnessed for years. No tears, no groans, no sighs, not a mourner visible; everybody smiling, and in tip-top spirits. Many poor children, men and women, each in a warm cozy black outfit complete with a warm comfortable coat, gloves and shoes were tickled to be at that funeral!

Nobody looked sad or mournful; rather really felt very joyous! It was followed by the most warm and delicious and sumptuous meal that any of them had eaten in many months. There was even money leftover for a generous donation to the Church and, as a result, the largest funeral crowd anyone could remember was truly happy that Peter had died!

Did you catch that last sentence? I still remember when I was given this in 1982 how that line caught my attention. Nobody was particularly glad when he was alive. The politicians only saw him as a donor which is why none were mentioned at his funeral. Instead, people were mostly just glad he had died!!

Which raises the important question for you and me to consider: are as many people glad to see us alive as will be glad when we are dead? Will we be missed and, if so, why will we be missed? What will be tangibly missing in our community or Church after we are gone?

Take a couple of minutes to re-read and really reflect on that last paragraph before going on.

Similarly, I wonder if many of us have made provisions that will benefit the poor, needy and/or spiritually lost now, while we are living, and later, through our estate? Or will somebody have to do things and give things IN SPITE of us in order to make our life count in those areas of ministry?

That brings us back to our original question, doesn't it? Are you finishing the year strong in the ways that matter? More specifically, are you finishing it strong in your financial giving to this Church and other areas of ministry that are building our Lord's Kingdom here on planet earth while we await His 2nd Coming?

Our Church is close to finishing this year in the black rather than in the red in part because a faithful Christian remembered us in her estate. She and I prayed together many times and she always prayed for God's blessing on my ministry and on our entire Church. Always and without fail we prayed this together!

She often mentioned how she felt her tithes and offerings were too small to make a difference. Yet I was able to point out new Christians we were baptizing and older Christians who were re-dedicating their lives to the Lord and remind her that she was partly responsible for God's blessings because of her faithfulness. It was true of her and it is also true of you if you are also being faithful in your prayers, tithes and offerings! Sound unbelievable? Consider that it was God who said:

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows." Mal. 3:10

Yes, we have only one more month in which to be faithful this year. One more month to decide before the Lord if we will finish strong or weak, positive or negative, selflessly putting God and/or some others first or selfishly putting ourselves and our own family first.

Notice I said before the Lord. I am not asking you to do anything before the public. Just decide how much you want your life to count to God, the community and the Church now, while you are still alive, and later, after you have died. Then act accordingly!

It will be natural to share many moments and gifts with your family and friends. It will be less natural and so you will have to be more intentional in order to share moments and gifts with the Lord and with those who are in need. Yet this is central to truly pleasing the Lord God!!!

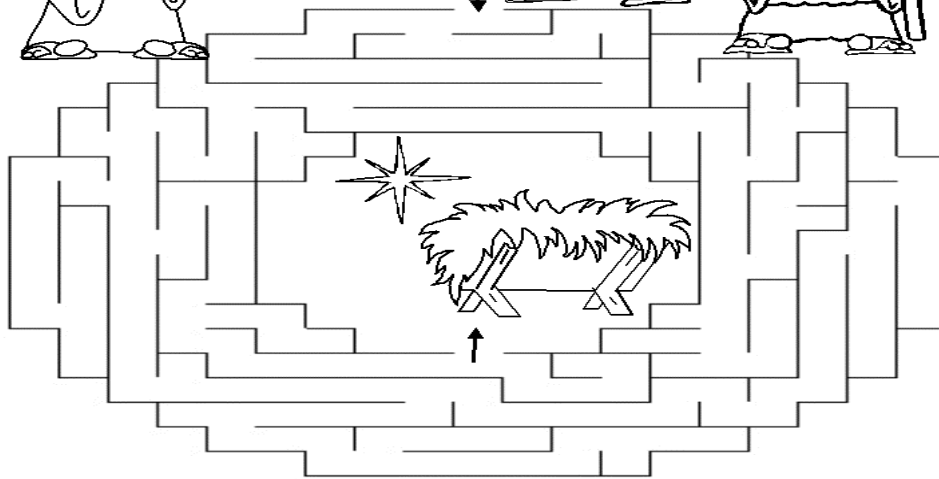
I hope we will all finish the year strong together. **I love you and wish you the Merriest Christmas Possible!!!!**

Love, In Christ Jesus, Bro. Louis

Christmas Maze



Help the wise men find the manger.



Loving & Leading Our Children
Linda Beville

Mary's Notes . . .



Ah - There's a bit of a nip in the air; the beautiful Christmas lights are beginning to appear on homes in our community. And all around, there are Concerts and Special musical events going on. If you are a fan of Christmas music, and the weather is cooperative, plan to get out of the house and challenge yourself to do something different this season to help guide you into the Christmas spirit.

On the first Saturday in December, I always go to Memorial Auditorium to the Thoroughbred's Christmas show. I usually go to the matinee with some of my girlfriends. I'm definitely doing that, and then I'm also going to the Kentucky Center for the Arts to see and hear the Straight No Chaser concert. This is a group of men from Indiana that sang together while they were in college. They enjoyed it so much and their voices blended so well that many people began requesting

that they sing at their holiday parties and special events. Let me suggest that if you choose to go to this concert, you absolutely will receive a blessing and be uplifted.

On Saturday, December 16th, Southeast Christian Church is sponsoring a concert by King and Country, with a message brought by Dave Stone. In the last few years, I have gone to this at Southeast and was truly uplifted, but this concert is in such high demand, that they have moved it to Freedom Hall.

Our own choir will be presenting the cantata, Lead Me Back to Bethlehem, narrated by Pam Kirchem on December 10th. Please plan on being here to support our choir in their efforts and invite friends and family to attend with you.

Merry Christmas to you and your family.

Mary Rumsey

The first "Big" event I planned here was the lock-in this past weekend. A lock-in is where a bunch of kids and their chaperones stay up all night and have fun! I had never heard of a lock-in before I came to this church, so I planned one because I knew how much the kids loved them and now I love lock-ins too!

This is what we did throughout the night. First, we played ice breakers to get to know each other. We heard a sermon by Tim Rumsey, who did an amazing job; and thank you, Tim and Melissa, for helping with the scavenger hunt. Also the kids worshiped with Barry Curry; and thank-you, Barry, for spending your time with us. The kids loved it.

We also played 'Sardines' and it was cool to see the whole church dark when the kids looked for the person who was hiding. We also had a lip-sync contest, ate food, had a "Silly String" war outside, prayed for the church, won prizes and watched a movie, which was when everyone fell asleep!

My favorite part was waking everyone up with a loud and obnoxious bell that scared everybody. My parents provided dinner and breakfast, which the kids loved. Bro. Louis came and had breakfast with everyone.

Lastly, I want to thank Pam Kirchem, Carol Jean Epley, Tim Rumsey, Barry, My parents, Bro. Louis, and Katelyn White for helping out. This lock-in was really special because each of these kids experienced community and they learned more about Jesus.

I hope we planted seeds for the kids and they have great memories of this, our first Lock-in together!! P.S. we are thinking about going to "Believe" and if you would like more information about it, ask me soon! Merry Christmas!

*To God be the Glory,
Abby Smith*



December

01. I Corinthians 6-9
02. I Corinthians 10-12
03. I Corinthians 13-14
04. I Corinthians 15-16
05. II Corinthians 1-5
06. II Corinthians 6-10
07. II Corinthians 11-13
08. Galatians 1-3
09. Galatians 4-6
10. Ephesians 1-3
11. Ephesians 4-6
12. Philippians 1-4
13. Colossians 1-4
14. I Thessalonians 1-5
15. II Thessalonians 1-3
I Timothy 1-3
16. I Timothy 4-6
II Timothy 1-2
17. II Timothy 3-4
Titus 1-3
18. Philemon 1
Hebrews 1-4
19. Hebrews 5-9
20. Hebrews 10-11
21. Hebrews 12-13
James 1
22. James 2-5
23. I Peter 1-5
24. II Peter 1-3
I John 1-2
25. I John 3-5
II John 1
III John 1
26. Jude 1
Revelation 1-3
27. Revelation 4-10
28. Revelation 11-15
29. Revelation 16-19
30. Revelation 20-22
31. Your favorite passage

*Your Word is
a lamp unto my
feet and a light
unto my path."*

Psalm 119: 105



Stewardship Report

We want to express sincere appreciation for your faithfulness through Tithes and Offerings.

Here is our report through Nov. 26 Please continue to be faithful so that we may bring glory to God and may He bless you richly as a result!!

2016 BUDGET SUMMARY

\$ 217,670.00 \$ 4,092.00 per week

Through week 48

General Fund Needs:	\$ 196,416.00
General Fund Receipts:	\$ 209,443.91
Designated Receipts:	\$ 33,030.43
Total General & Designated:	\$ 242,474.34
Total Receipts to Date:	\$ 257,499.84
CTL Fund	\$ 12,681.88

Sunday School, a Place for YOU . . .



"It's the most wonderful time of the year" to invite someone to visit our church. We have so many activities going on right now! There's our weekly recreation meal and bean bag, our monthly Silver Servants luncheon and outing, the Christmas Cantata, lunch with Santa and our candlelight Christmas Eve Service. These are great non-threatening activities, for folks who are unchurched, to come and get to know Jesus and us!

I know at least 2 of our Sunday School Classes are having Christmas parties. These are opportunities to bring a friend to meet your church family.

A casual party is a great place to meet and make new friends...it's much easier that walking into a classroom filled with strangers sitting around tables. How much easier it would be to get a friend to Sunday School after they are familiar with others in the class.

My prayer for you this Christmas is for your relationship with the Lord to deepen...your relationship with your family to be sweeter...your relationship with your church family to like family...and for each of us to be deeply burdened to bring others to Jesus. May your Christmas be filled with Joy!

Merry Christmas!! Angela

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas!

