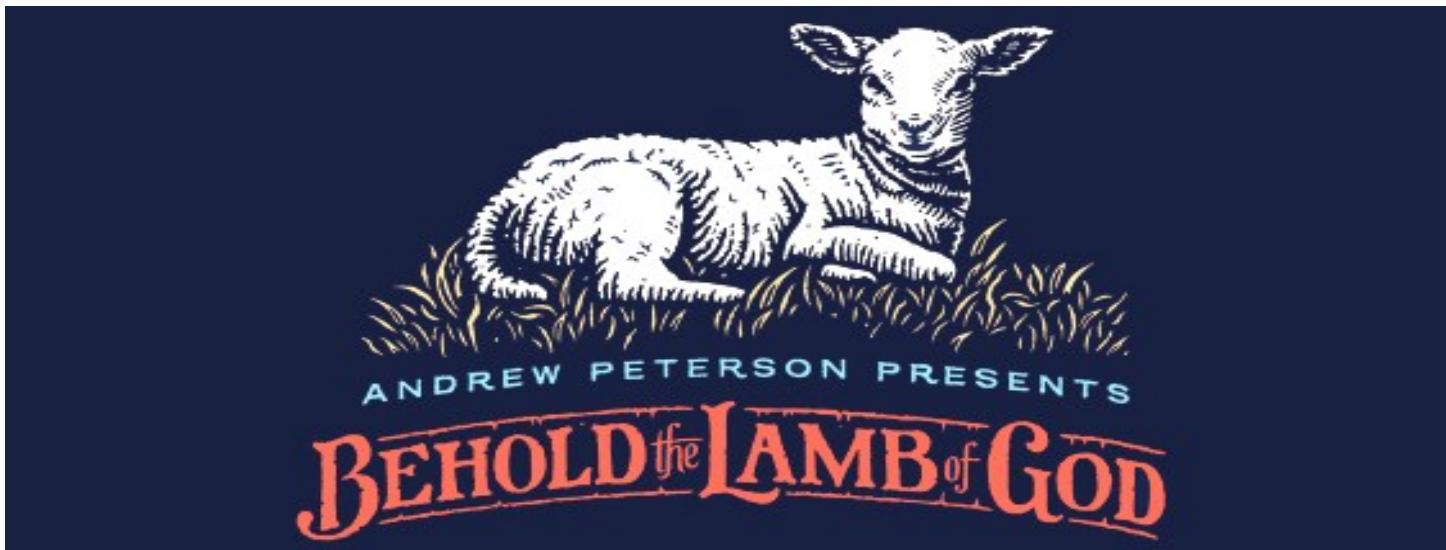




SIMPSONVILLE
BAPTIST CHURCH

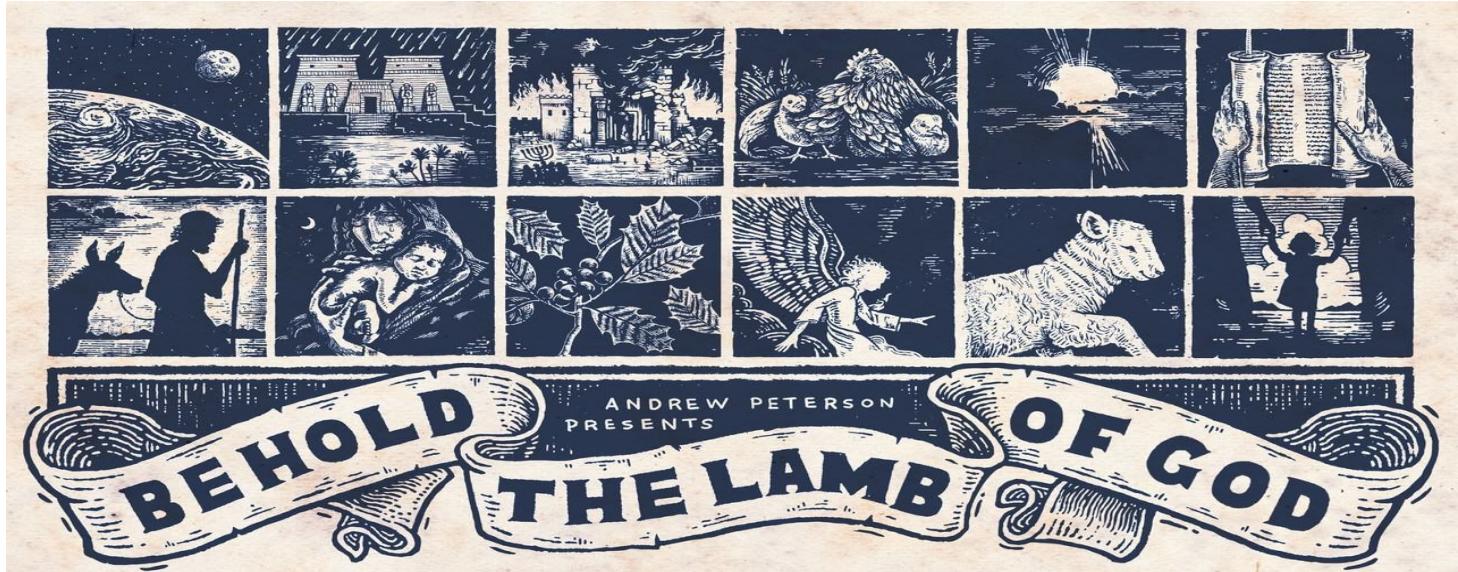
December 2021

Volume 32 Issue 12



OUR PRAISE CHOIR PRESENTS
BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD: THE TRUE TALL TALE OF THE COMING OF CHRIST
DECEMBER 4 AT 7PM

THE CHRISTMAS STORY AS IT IS FORESHADOWED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND BROUGHT TO BEAR IN THE NEW.
THESE CHRISTMAS SONGS SHOW HOW THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL WEAVES IN AND OUT OF SCRIPTURES AND THROUGHOUT HISTORY.



Kingdom Life by Steve Boyd

Welcoming Church

One of the first and most basic building blocks to be a healthy church is friendliness and a welcoming environment. There's a difference in being friendly and being welcoming. Friendly is greeting someone with a hello or some short statement. Friendly is opening a door to serve. Being a welcoming church member means going a step further:

- * Speak to them introducing yourself, asking about them, sharing personal and church information.
- * Invite people to your Sunday School class.
- * Invite them to lunch after church.
- * Share with them about nursery and children's church.
- * Send a card to them thanking them for attending worship and saying it was nice to meet them.
- * Invite them to the next church event or program.

You get the idea and there are many more!

We have an unprecedented number of guests attending our church worship and community events.

We need everyone to be a host as if you were welcoming friends into your own home. We can be filled with the love of Christ for each person, knowing every one of them has a story and some personal need!

There is a reason that guests have come to our church, and we must be ready to serve.

We must resist the temptation to come, sit, and leave. Our calling as Christ-followers includes serving others, as well as worship. This is a supreme act and extension of our worship. Worship moves us to action, and being a welcoming church is a first sign to being a healthy church.

The Holy Spirit has prompted their hearts to attend our church and we must see that as an invitation to be involved in their lives!

I believe we are a friendly church, and our guests frequently give us compliments. I am thankful for their remarks and our friendliness is received well! Let's take the next step to becoming a welcoming church, saying through our words and actions that we welcome and want them here! Pray for our church as the Holy Spirit leads us to be healthy and whole in Him!

**let's
GATHER
together**

Hebrews
10:23-25

Let's gather together intentionally as the Lord instructs us to! In the Word, we are instructed to gather together like it says in Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

We Gather Together is an opportunity for you to get to know some of the new faces you have seen on a Sunday morning and some that you may have seen for years, but have not yet gotten to know!

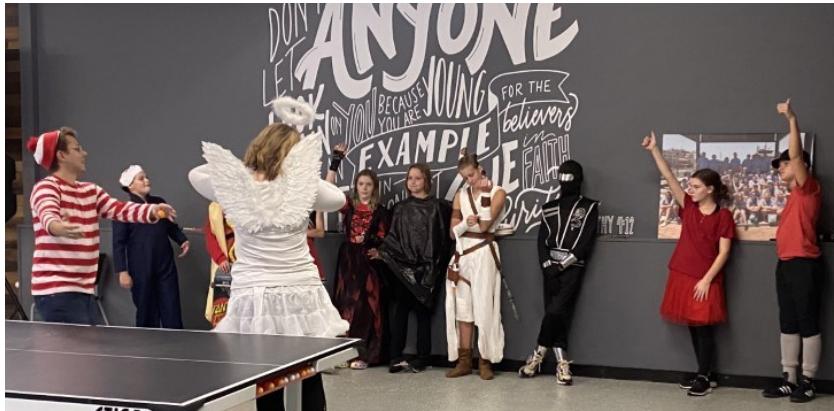
How will this work? We will put groups of 5-8 people together to gather for a meal. We will assign one person/family to be in charge of contacting the rest of the group and setting a time and place to meet. We will change up the groups for each month so everyone has an opportunity to meet 15-20 new people by Easter!

When will this take place? We will leave that up to each group, but we would like a commitment to gather one time for each of the months of January, February and March.

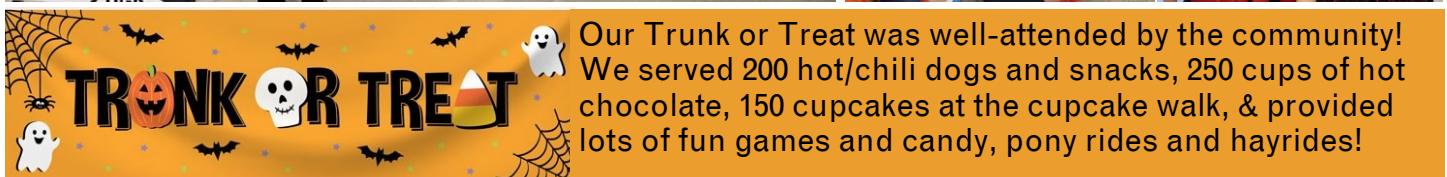
Where will you gather? We will also leave that up to each group. We would highly encourage you to meet in someone's home as a restaurant doesn't lend itself to having great conversations.

What will you eat? We will also leave that up to the group. You can choose to have the host family cook the meal, you can have everyone bring a dish to share, you can order pizza and split the cost or you can just have dessert and coffee!

Who gets to gather? Anyone and everyone! We want to see as many people connect as possible. To sign up or if you have questions, please email WegathertogetherSBC@gmail.com.



Our students had a great time at their Halloween party!



Master Plan Initiative Team

Our church has been both blessed and challenged during the last two years dealing with COVID's impact on our church and our ministry expansion plans and vision. By now I'm sure you know that our congregation has voted to move forward with a new two-story Multipurpose Education Building, replacing our aging Fellowship Hall. As I write this article, I know our Building Team and Contractor are working diligently to nail down the first order of materials with as firm a delivery date as we can believe. COVID and the lean work force effect on getting building materials lingers on. I wish I could give you a 'breaking ground' date and projected completion date, but that is just not possible right now.

What we do know, however, is that we need a number of 'transition tasks' to be assigned, defined, developed and completed before and during the construction period. Each one will need to work within our budget. Our Master Plan Initiative Team is reviewing the following list of tasks for completion and will be looking for interested volunteers from our congregation to help fulfill these tasks:

- Technology (Voice/data/communications/sound system wiring, mag locks, fobs, etc.)
- Security (Electronic safety and security, fire & security alarms, and wiring)
- Equipment (Cameras, televisions/monitors, and wiring, other?)
- Furnishings (Offices, classrooms, gathering areas, kitchen appliances, tables/chairs, desks/chairs, etc.)
- Inside Décor/Colors/Aesthetics/finishes
- Exterior Color/Aesthetics/Landscaping, and any coordinated paint or color scheme changes to the FLC.
- Parking (minimum requirements until Phase 2 Worship Center completed, or complete finish out now.)
- Preparation (Decide to move Storage Shed, or design rear drop-off, turn-around and driveway around shed?)
- Concerns during the Transition Times of Demolition, Construction and Finish (Adventure Club and Sunday (and daily/evening) access to the FLC) and temporary staff office space.
- Removal of Fellowship Hall and Contents: What to keep (store, where?) or donate?

Please consider where you would like to serve and let me know which area best suits your gifts.

MPITeam Leader: Lowell Ashby (call: 502-777-2540; or email: lowellashby9@gmail.com)

Adult Open Play

Volleyball

Beg ins Thursday,
January 6
at 6:30pm.



Please note that childcare is not provided and parents will be responsible for children which accompany them.



**Friday, December 24 at 5pm
We will offer communion in individual
serving cups.
Please invite your family and friends.**



New Sermon Series

December 5 - The Gracious King

December 12 - The Saving King

December 19 - The Suffering King

December 26 - The Coming King



SIMPLY LOVE

Meadow Ridge Blessings Box

The Blessings Box at Meadow Ridge is used every day of the week.

Donation requests: cereal, oatmeal, cereal bars and PopTarts, canned meats, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, dried black beans, soup mixes, white rice, sugar, corn meal, toilet paper, paper towels, dish liquid, tuna helper-type products, vegetable oil, canned fruit and vegetables, bags of apples/potatoes.



Cereal and canned fruit are high priority items.

Donations of food can be dropped off at the church office or placed directly in the box.

Monetary donations can be taken to the church office.

FAMILYLIFE[®]

Help for today. Hope for tomorrow.

A Cru Ministry



Ryan and Mandy Gossom were an integral part of the leadership team for the Louisville Weekend to Remember. We celebrate the victories of faith at the weekend marriage conference! Please pray for Ryan and Mandy as they began full-time ministry with Family Life on November 1.

If you would like to be a prayer and financial supporter of Ryan and Mandy, please contact Ryan at Ryan.Gossom@gmail.com.

Attendance Goal: 500 Final Attendance: 426

Professions of Faith: 3

Recommitted their life and marriage to God: 126



While I'm on maternity leave for a little while, one of our wonderful staff women, Joanna is taking over some of my responsibilities on campus including discipling two of my girls (Madison & Mariah) and coaching the Community Group I usually attend.

On October 8-9, we hosted our annual Fall Getaway. It was such a joy to see so many returning and new students diving into the community so early in the Fall semester. One joy was to see students I saw come to know Christ last year now on the other side welcoming new freshmen. Praise the Lord for allowing us to see His goodness through the transformation. There are so many more stories like this. Please pray for these students and that the relationships formed at Fall Getaway would continue to blossom as the semester goes on.

Katie Harrod



Joanna (right) with one of my disciples, Madison (left)

International Mission Board Advance the Kingdom App

Download the app today for exclusive content that will inspire and equip you to advance the kingdom, including videos, stories, practical tools and actionable resources.

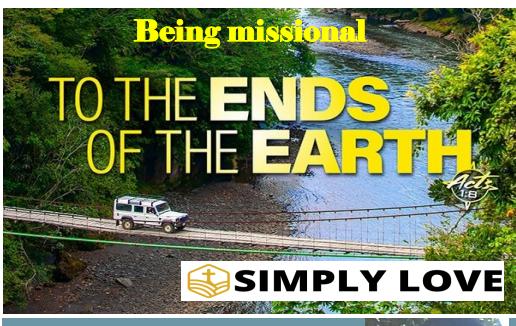
With the IMB Advance app you can discover the stories of people and places whose lives are being transformed through the gospel with international missions work, get to know the unreached people and places of the world, gain a deeper understanding of the global, cultural and spiritual realities shaping and impacting missions work around the world, connect with our team and build community through real-time interactions in messaging channels that interest you. Find the app today in the APP store, Google Play, Apple TV, Amazon and Roku.



Youth Ministry Needs

We are looking for drivers to take our students from the church campus to the Warehouse and stay with the students during the Sunday School hour. This would be on a monthly rotation. You will need to be a member and fill out a drivers background check. Please contact angie@simpsonvillebaptist.com.





Frida and Diana are 7 and 8 yrs. old. Their mother, who is 18 yrs. old became a widow and was chased away by their father's family. The sisters were then pawned off on to other relatives. They have been ill, but have received medical assistance and are doing well at the rescue center.

Frida & Diana have been sponsored by Linda Otterback & Sharon Hamilton.

The Mijomboni Orphanage has accepted three more children into the program. It takes a little longer than expected for kids to be approved as the government requires evidence that they are indeed orphans.

"Henry Johnson Kazungu is 8 years old, his mother died two years after his birth and his father one year later. Both died of AIDS. The young boy was taken by his uncle who has ten wives. His sister who is 11 years is more than a house girl in her uncle's house. No school for her. Henry was happy to join the rescue centre and made a request to rescue his sister from her bondage. Henry has been undergoing treatment before being cleared to join us. He is an HIV positive young boy. We will do our best to make him comfortable. He must have been infected when his mother was bedridden." Nathan Osiemo, Director



Our Joy Sunday School class is sponsoring Henry. Each week the class collect \$1 bills. At the end of each month, they have raised enough to entirely support one child for a year.

We are pleased to announce that through Nathan's efforts, all of the children will now have access to government provided health care. One of the young people, Gideon, whom Nathan had scholarshiped to attend medical school, is one year away from graduating. He will do his internship at the local hospital so that he can be on call for the orphanage needs!

Inflation is constantly taking a toll on the budget, so Nathan is working to get the agricultural training going with the students. All of them will help to grow their own food and be taught how to raise chickens. As a side note, they are beginning the chick project in Mijomboni as well to aid the widows in this area.

If you are interested in sponsoring an orphan, please contact Angie in the church office. Sponsorships are \$25 a month or \$300 per year and pay for housing, food, agricultural training, school fees and uniforms, health care.



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missionaries

Church Goal: \$5,000

Some people spend their days pursuing health. Some seek prosperity and success. Some search for safety and security. Some chase the wind.

But the heartbeat of God's people is the vision He has given us in Revelation 7:9—a multitude from every nation, tribe, people and language, worshiping before the throne.

This desire courses through our veins: to see the world transformed by the gospel, the name of Jesus proclaimed in every corner of the earth. We are united for the sake of this cause. Together, we can bring help and hope to a hurting world.

Together, we will advance the kingdom of God. We give ourselves to this mission every day.

LET'S REACH THE NATIONS
TOGETHER.



100% of your gifts to the IMB directly fund ministry overseas.
You can give online through the SBC website or by using the Lottie Moon giving envelopes.

The holidays can be lonely times for our Homebound friends.

Notes of encouragement add cheer to any day!



Liddie Harper 110 Cardinal Dr Simpsonville 40067 405-4292
Ruth Phillips 903 Meadow Ridge Simpsonville 40067 722-5753
Bonnie Pruitt Masonic Home 711 Frankfort Rd. Shelbyville 40065
Tina Ball PO Box 147 Simpsonville 40067 722-5253
Lillie Duncan 3936 Aiken Rd Simpsonville 40067 487-1733
Lillian Brewer 7477 Brunerstown Rd Shelbyville 40065 229-2650

Marie White Amber Oaks Assisted Living 156 Haven Hill Rd. Shelbyville

Nancy Edington 2401 Antioch Rd Shelbyville 40065 386-7741

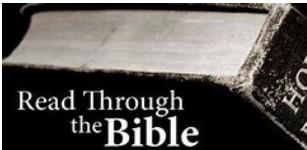
Jimmy & Joyce Crawford: 208 Old Veedale Rd Simpsonville 405-3028

Juanita Myers 370 Colt Run Rd Simpsonville 722-5389

Lewis & Rose Brewer 710 Schumacher Dr. Simpsonville 405-3122

Mattie Johnson 1316 Oak Ridge Court Simpsonville 722-8701

Wendell Casey Crescent Place Assisted Living 148 Allen Dr., Shelbyville 443-4240



DECEMBER

1. Proverbs 27-28
2. Proverbs 29-30
3. Proverbs 31
4. Ecclesiastes 1-2
5. Ecclesiastes 3-4
6. Ecclesiastes 5-6
7. Ecclesiastes 7-8
8. Ecclesiastes 9-10
9. Ecclesiastes 11-12
10. Song of Songs 1-2
11. Song of Songs 3-4
12. Song of Songs 5-6
13. Song of Songs 7-8
14. Isaiah 1-2
15. Isaiah 3-4
16. Isaiah 5-6
17. Isaiah 7-8
18. Isaiah 9-10
19. Isaiah 11-12
20. Isaiah 13-14
21. Isaiah 15-16
22. Isaiah 17-18
23. Isaiah 19-20
24. Isaiah 21-22
25. Isaiah 23-24
26. Isaiah 25-26
27. Isaiah 27-28
28. Isaiah 29-30
29. Isaiah 31-32
30. Isaiah 33-34
31. Isaiah 35-36

In November our Bunco girls brought food items to completely fill the Meadowridge Blessings Box!



Thursday, December 2
at 6:30pm in the
Fellowship Hall.

Please bring 5 of the same gift (valued at \$5 each). You can buy, bake, or make the gifts. Please sign up in the foyer of the Family Life Center if you would like to attend.

Refreshments provided.

December

- 1 Tim Renfro
- 3 Angie Melton
- 4 Rhonda Jones
- 6 Tony Sanford, Stanley Sheehan, Phyllis Walker
- 10 Lillian Brewer, Kelly McAllister
- 11 Christy McEldowney, Jerry Miller
- 12 Al Poulter
- 14 Ian Wyatt
- 15 Linda Kerr, Beckham Stein
- 18 Abbe Henkel
- 19 Liz Encinia, Emily Royse
- 20 Brad Renfro, Linda Wade
- 21 Stanalee Gowin, Jamie McEldowney
- 22 Denise Logue, Mike Waterman
- 24 Ann Purnell, Kim Fulkerson
- 25 Cherissa Eden, Jody Jones
- 28 Nancy McLeroy



**Hey,
have you met...?**

I need to introduce myself. Okay... where do I start? My name is Roberta Erlandson, but I'm really "Bobbie." Born in Chicago, sent to church every Sunday and one day in 3rd grade, raised my hand in Sunday School to accept Jesus Christ as my savior. Thus began a journey of growth with LOTS of slowing and growing.

I went to Rockford for my nursing education, met my husband and stayed there for 30 more years. Then we moved to NV, after his death in 2014, I moved to KY to be near my daughter Suellen Barnes. (Yeah, you already know her) She and her precious husband invited me to share their home and I am SO blessed. I got paid for nursing for 40+ years. Then, like a relative once warned, I began nurse-consulting for family, friends and even strangers!!



In addition to working and raising 2 fantastic daughters, I led some Bible Studies, got to travel – cruises, Europe, Sweden, multiple states -(still do as much as possible – wanna go somewhere? Call me, I'll drive!), taught Sunday School (3rd grade), of course VBS, worked with teens in Quizzing/Bible Bowl – which is team competition between churches over specific portions of Scripture each year, still find time to read, play games – board or card, words or numbers, and sew.

I do have a habit of listening to sermons, so have and will continue to question pastors (take warning, Pastor Steve!) about things I don't understand or don't make sense to me.

There's lots more to my life, so if you really want to know, invite me for coffee, especially Swedish! (Jag talar Svenska). Simpsonville Baptist Church has met a need in my life to REALLY hear the Scripture preached faithfully and continually. Thanks!



**Our Goodtime Travelers and our
Classic Worship will combine for our
Christmas luncheon.**

**Tuesday, December 2
Gather at 11:30am
Lunch at 12pm
Please bring a dish!
Sign up in the foyer of the FLC or
call Dixie Taylor at 216-8713.**

Please ensure that all year-end giving is turned in to the Finance Office by Friday, December 31 at 11am.

As a reminder, the church office closes at 12pm on 12/31.



On December 5, we will be celebrating the ordination of two deacons, Marilyn Rhoads and Troy Fulkerson.

This is a great time to celebrate these individuals and their commitment to Christ. We invite anyone from church and Sunday School, past deacons, friends, and family to join us in celebrating on that day.



The church office will close at 12pm on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

The office will be closed on Monday, December 27 and Monday, January 3.

Worship Directories are available in the foyer of the FLC to aid you in writing your Christmas Card list.

rightnow MEDIA
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Sample video thumbnails include: You and Me FOREVER, PRAYER, HELPFUL HINTS, You and Me FOREVER, LIFE ON MISSION, THE GRAVE ROBBER, simplify, ONE LOVE, and more.

Staying connected to friends, family, and small groups has never been easier. Watch content together on RightNow Media with our new groups feature. One person can play, pause, and rewind videos for the entire group. Everyone can use the chat window as the video plays. Use the groups feature to learn, encourage one another, and grow in your faith.

New Feature: See your whole group and discuss the series with the new built-in video chat function!

The Christmas story, or Advent, is more than a sentimental myth or a quiet manger scene we use to decorate our living rooms. The Christmas story is the good news of God entering into our darkness. Join J.D. Greear in this four-session series as he takes a deeper look at Jesus as Emmanuel, our Wonderful Counselor, the Everlasting Father, and the great I Am. When you know Jesus, you will realize Christmas is more than a nice story—the arrival of Jesus changes everything.



Shake any family tree and you never know what kind of people might fall out. Let's face it; we all have an uncle or cousin we whisper about behind closed doors. We all have a relative or two we try to avoid at family gatherings. No surprise there. But here's something you may not know. Jesus had a few shady characters in his family as well. Actually, he had some relatives that make your most wayward cousin look like a saint.

In this 5-part series, Andy Stanley introduces us to a few of these colorful characters and the role they play in the Christmas story.

Dreaming of a Pink Christmas

Sheila Walsh's **gigi** God's Little Princess®

A Lesson About the Real Treasure of Christmas

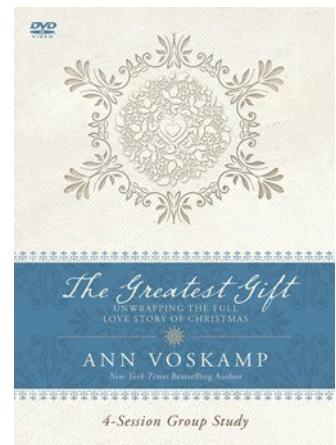
There's only one gift that matters at Christmas!

Sheila Walsh reminds little girls that Jesus is the true treasure of Christmas. Gigi starts off the season with a huge wishlist of things pink and pretty, but soon realizes she hasn't been thinking about giving gifts to other people she loves. Suddenly the whole season turns into a race to give and receive things—and that just doesn't seem right. Thankfully Gigi's mom and dad were kids once too, and can help their little girl remember how to keep her heart aimed at the real star of Christmas—while still enjoying all the celebrations. "I am bringing you good news. It will be a joy to all the people. Today your Savior was born in David's town. He is Christ, the Lord." Luke 2:10-11 (ICB)

In *The Greatest Gift*, New York Times bestselling author Ann Voskamp celebrates the majesty of God's greatest gift to us—His son, Jesus Christ—through the timeless Advent tradition of the Jesse Tree.

Now, in this stunning four-week video curriculum, Ann draws viewers even deeper into Scripture as she explores and illuminates the magnificence of God's Word through the unfurling of the greatest love story ever told—God's ardent and relentless pursuit of us.

Perfect for families and ideal for small groups, *The Greatest Gift* is a moment of calm amid the busy holiday season. This is sure to become an annual Christmas tradition in homes and churches everywhere.



There are thousands of ways that your family can be distracted away from the true meaning of Christmas. We believe this Seeds of Christmas will help prepare your family's heart to focus on and celebrate the birth of Jesus. This musical video journey will take your family through the prophesies in Isaiah and Micah to the incredible accounts of Jesus's miraculous birth in Matthew and Luke. This is not your typical Christmas show - it is a musical journey that endeavors to capture the mystery and majesty of the Christmas Story!

God has blessed this project in a very special way and we believe the music/videos to word-for-word scripture will help your family do deeper with Jesus this Christmas season. The true gift of Christmas is Jesus and this video will help your family and church celebrate Him!

Christmas Village



Simpsonville Baptist Church Toy Store

Joy and Dignity at Christmas

The Christmas Village Toy Store provides a "hand up" for Shelby County families who want to purchase affordable new toys for their children at Christmas. Rather than simply giving a handout of toys to at-risk families, we believe in empowering families to purchase Christmas gifts for their own children.

We will be sponsoring a Christmas Village Toy Store on December 11 where families can come and shop for **new** toys at a discounted price. We are asking you as a church to help provide a dignified Christmas shopping experience for the families by purchasing new toys for the Christmas Toy Store.

This is our 7th year providing the store to the community!

How Can You Serve?

- Pray for the store, volunteers, and shoppers
- Volunteer <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b48aba829a0fc1-volunteer1>
- Make a toy or monetary donation
- Visit our Target registry <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/sbcchristmastystore2021-1>



Contact Us: jill@simpsonvillebaptist.com

Please make all checks payable to SBC Christmas Toy Store P.O. Box 160 Simpsonville, KY 40067

Follow us on Facebook @SBCChristmasToyStore

Simpsonville Baptist Church
PO Box 56
Simpsonville KY 40067