Volume 4 Issue 12 December, 2012

A Monthly Publication of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

Come Home To Family

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Many people in our world find themselves distant, alienated and estranged. They feel that they are in this world alone and must face the challenges of this world alone. This in itself is painful enough, but the pain becomes almost unbearable when the cause of this estrangement is self-inflicted. This is the dilemma of mankind without Jesus Christ. Mankind is completely separated from his Creator, the source of what gives life meaning without Jesus Christ. The wonder of Christmas is that God remedies the distant alienation and estrangement experienced by man.

The wonder of Christmas is found in the term Emmanuel. Emmanuel simply means "God with us." We must not lose the profundity of this term in its simplicity. The Creator God has come to dwell with us. He who has the power to make something out of nothing is with us. This fact should be an antidote for despair. The presence of God with us means that no situation is without hope. The Omniscient God is with us. The God of all wisdom has moved into the neighborhood. He who knows all about us and our circumstances has become our constant companion. This means that we are never left to the limitations of our understanding. What we can't figure out, He already knows the answer to. The God of our salvation has taken up residence among us. He has come with the power and willingness to rescue us from that which would destroy us presently and eternally. God could have allowed us to continue in our miserable state, but He chose to enter into our state of affairs to deliver us from damnation and ruin. God did not create us to abandon us. He loves us. Christmas is about God's love for us.

The love that God has for us and the gravity of our situation caused Him to show up Himself. God did not do this by sending some intermediary. God did not dispatch a proxy. Love caused Him to show up. It is this love that motivated God to take upon Himself human flesh, without ceasing to be God, and live among us. It is this love that allows God

continues on Pg. 9

Come Home to Family

Publisher Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

Editor-in-Chief Pastor Nathan Johnson

Editor Deacon Jerry Moses

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It is the mission of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church to: exalt the Savior through worship and praise, expound the scripture through Biblical preaching and teaching, embrace the saved through membership and fellowship, equip the saints through Christian education and discipleship for the work of the ministry, encourage the struggling through ministries for the whole person and evangelize the sinner through the sharing of the Good News, all empowered by the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, all done to the glory of God.

Come Home to Family is a monthly publication created to inform and encourage Tabernacle friends and family. Material must be submitted before the 15th of the month preceding each issue.

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church 2080 W. Grand Blvd Detroit, MI 48208

www.tmbcdetroit.org

Highlighted Ministry Events

Our Christmas Musical Presentation

"The Messiah"

The Negro Spirituals

performed by

Tabernacle Choir
Tabernacle Orchestra Ensemble

Tabernacle Dance Ministry

Sunday, December 9, 2012

4:00 p.m.

Dr. Walter McLean, Dean of Music Music Director

Thank you!!

The Tabernacle Board of Deacons would like to thank all of those who made our 92nd Anniversary Celebration possible.
We thank you for your support through the years and are looking forward to your continued support.
Isaac Washington, Chairman
Tabernacle Board of Deacons

Sermon Topics

(all sermons by Pastor Johnson unless otherwise noted)

November 4

"The Blessing That Calms" Psalm 138

November 11 (92nd Church Anniversary)

Rev. Dr. J.C. Wade, Jr. East Chicago, In 2 Timothy 3:16-17

November 18

"Above and Beyond" *Ephesians 3:20-21*

November 25

"A Life of Distinction" 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Deacon's Lesson

Authentic Relationships

Lesson 12: Partnering in the Journey

Goal: Build Authentic Relationships by Reestablishing the Art of "One

Anothering."

Objective: Provide Scriptural support for partnering in the journey.

Overview:

We are by nature people of relationship. For this reason, our series of Deacons lessons have addressed authentic relationships with others over the past year with the interest of promoting sound Christian interactions and relationships within the church body and among family members. By virtue of the fact that we are social beings, makes for challenges, no matter how spiritually mature, wise or stable an individual we are. Day to day events bring about changes in life circumstances. The perplexity of many of problems necessitates seeking advice or input from another brother or sister in Christ. We hope for a listening ear and sound godly advice. We may seek others from within the church body or others may come to us for opinions, advice, or answers to questions. In essence, we become what Jacobsen called 'partnering in the journey'. This provides a spiritual support system for Christian brothers and sisters. This is so vitally needed in the body of Christ especially when others are struggling. We would want to give and receive godly input and conduct ourselves in accordance with biblical principles.

Submission plays an important role. It keeps us from being controlling, overbearing, and judgmental. "Unfortunately ...more abuse travels through the body of Christ under the guise of submission than any other admonition, often making believers a battered group of individualists rather than people who can effectively help others." Sometimes, various personality factors cause misunderstandings and ill feelings especially when the other person feels pressured, criticized, rejected, abandoned, or even judged wrongly. In order to demonstrate the love of Christ, the church should be reminded to keep healthy supportive relationships as a prime

goal. Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. Ephesians 5: 21 [ESV]

This month's lesson is based on Scripture; Ephesians 5:21, "Submitting to one another". Submission is the wiliness to yield or surrender oneself to the authority of another. Additionally, it is to be humble or compliant. When we allow our brothers and sisters to follow their conscience when they feel they are being led by God and not try to control them or pressure them to conform to our way of thinking, relationships can be preserved and the door can remain open for future input even if they make a mistake or a poor decision. God can still use their errors for His purpose. Our own perspectives can sometimes be restricted and twisted by blind spots Submission in the body of Christ does not reduce decision-making to majority rule. God gives us liberty and freedom in Him and we should offer that same freedom to others by being honest, patience and loving when we differ. No Christian is inherently superior to any other Christian in their standing before God; we are all equal. Jesus Christ Himself was equal with God but did not cling to His privileges or position but He assumed a submissive role during His ministry on Earth.

Who being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation taking the form of a bond servant and coming in the likeness of men. Philippians

¹ Jacobsen, W. & Jacobsen, C. Authentic Relationships: Discover the lost art of "one anothering". Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Publishing Group, (2003). Print. ² Ibid, 135 ³ Ibid, 135

⁴ Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary. "Submission". Springfield, Massachusetts: Merriam-Webster Inc., Publishers, 1983. Print

⁵ Ibid 142

⁷ John MacArthur Study Bible

Flowers Enhancing the Beauty of the Sanctuary

December 2

In Loving Memory of

Louis L. Sikes, Jr.

A Husband, Father and Grandfather You will always be in our hearts

Placed there by

Wife ~ Dorothy Children ~ Christopher & Angela Sikes Grandchildren ~ Brandon & Cameron Sikes

December 23

Thank you to everyone who joined the Joys of Christmas Fellowship

It was a blessed occasion!

Placed there by

Group 29 ~ The Injoyables

December 16

In Memory of
Eddie & Jeannette
Thomas ~ Parents
Beverly Thomas ~
Sister

At the end of the day, it is well with my soul

Placed there by

Deacon Daryl & Deaconess Pearl Thomas & Son~ Phillip

December 9

In Loving Memory of

Mrs. Ethel Hall ~ Mother

Mr. Odis Hall ~ Father

Mr. Lloyd Hall ~ Brother

Placed there by

Anelda McKenzie, Ada, Elliott, Charles, Seabron & Zedler Hall

December 30

In Memory of

My Beloved Wife, Mattie May

Forever in My Heart

Placed there by

Samuel B. May



Weekly Sunday School Lessons (and Daily Bible Readings)

SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS IN JESU	S CHRIST	CHRIST'S LOVE FOR THE CH	URCH
Lesson 1	December 2	Lesson 5	December 30
Devotional Reading:	Psalm 33:8-12	Devotional Reading:	John 3:16-21
Background Scripture:	Ephesians 1	Background Scripture:	Ephesians 5:15 - 6:9
Print Passage:	Ephesians 1:3-14	Print Passage:	Ephesians 5:18-33
Key Verse:	Ephesians 1:5-6	Key Verse:	Ephesians 5:21
26 "Blessed by God's Forgiveness"	(Psalm 32:1-7)	24 "God Is Love"	(1 John 4:7-12)
27 "Blessed by Being Chosen"	(Psalm 33:8-12)	25 "God's Gift of Love"	(John 3:16-21)
28 "Blessed by God's Gift of Grace"	(1 Corinthians 1:4-9)	26 "The Proof of God's Love"	(Romans 5:6-11)
29 "Blessed by God's Revelation"	(Daniel 2:17-23)	27 "The Example of Jesus' Love"	(John 13:1-9)
30 "Blessed by the Word of Truth"	(Colossians 1:3-8)	28 "Abiding in Christ's Love"	(John 15:9-17)
1 "Blessed by God's Redemption"	(Luke 1:67-79)	29 "Following the Commands of Ch	rist" (1 John 3:18-24)
2 "God Has Blessed Us"	(Ephesians 1:3-14)	30 "Following the Example of Christ	t" (Ephesians 5:18 - 6:4)
ONE IN JESUS CHRIST			
Lesson 2	December 9	Reading thru the	Bible in a Year
Devotional Reading:	Ephesians 3:14-21	3	
Background Scripture:	Ephesians 2, 3	D 1	
Print Passage:	Ephesians 2:11-22	Decem	
Key Verse:	Ephesians 2:21	1 Ezekiel 45, 46 2 Ezekiel 47, 48	2 Peter 3 1 John 1
3 "Reviving the Humble and Contrite	e" (Isaiah 57:14-19)	3 Daniel 1, 2	1 John 2
4 "Building on the True Foundation"	(1 Corinthians 3:10-16)	4 Daniel 3, 4	1 John 3
5 "Sharing in the Promise"	(Ephesians 3:1-6)	5 Daniel 5, 6	1 John 4
6 "Making Known the Wisdom of God"	(Ephesians 3:7-13)	6 Daniel 7, 8	1 John 5
7 "Praying for Spiritual Power"	(Ephesians 3:14-21)	7 Daniel 9, 10	2 John
8 "Discovering the Gift of Salvation"	(Ephesians 2:1-10)	8 Daniel 11, 12 9 Hosea 1, 2, 3, 4	3 John Jude
9 "Discovering Our Oneness in Christ	" (Ephesians 2:11-22)	10 Hosea 5, 6, 7, 8	Revelation 1
PAUL MINISTERS IN MALTA		11 Hosea 9, 10, 11	Revelation 2
Lesson 3	December 16	12 Hosea 12, 13, 14	Revelation 3
Devotional Reading:	Romans 12:3-8	13 Joel 1, 2, 3	Revelation 4
Background Scripture:	Ephesians 4:1-16	14 Amos 1, 2, 3 15 Amos 4, 5, 6	Revelation 5 Revelation 6
Print Passage:	Ephesians 4:1-16	16 Amos 7, 8, 9	Revelation 7
Key Verse:	Ephesians 4:4, 5	17 Obadiah	Revelation 8
10 "One Lord"	(Zechariah 14:6-11)	18 Jonah 1, 2, 3, 4	Revelation 9
11 "Working as One"	(Philippians 1:27-30)	19 Micah 1, 2, 3	Revelation 10
12 "One in Christ Jesus"	(Galatians 3:23-29)	20 Micah 4, 5 21 Micah 6, 7	Revelation 11 Revelation 12
13 "One God"	(Exodus 20:1-7)	22 Nahum 1, 2, 3	Revelation 13
14 "One Spirit"	(1 Corinthians 12:4-13)	23 Habakkuk 1, 2, 3	Revelation 14
15 "One Body"	(Romans 12:3-8)	24 Zephaniah 1, 2, 3	Revelation 15
16 "Building Up the Body Together"	(Ephesians 4:1-16)	25 Haggai 1, 2	Revelation 16
ALIVE IN THE LIGHT OF CHR		26 Zechariah 1, 2, 3 27 Zechariah 4, 5, 6	Revelation 17 Revelation 18
Lesson 4	December 23	28 Zechariah 7, 8, 9	Revelation 19
Devotional Reading:	Psalm 97	29 Zechariah 10, 11, 12	Revelation 20
Background Scripture:	John 1:1-14; Ephesians 4:17 - 5:14	30 Zechariah 13, 14	Revelation 21
Print Passage:	John 1:1-5, 14; Ephesians 5:1, 2, 6-14	31 Malachi 1, 2, 3, 4	Revelation 22
Key Verse:	John 1:14	Januar	
17 "Light Dawns for the Righteous"	(Psalm 97)	1 Genesis 1, 2	Matthew 1
18 "The Way of Darkness"	(Ephesians 4:17-24)	2 Genesis 3, 4, 5	Matthew 2
19 "Putting Away the Old Ways"	(Ephesians 4:25-32)	3 Genesis 6, 7, 8 4 Genesis 9, 10, 11	Matthew 3 Matthew 4
20 "Be Careful How You Live"	(Ephesians 5:15-20)	5 Genesis 12, 13, 14	Matthew 5:1-26
21 "We Have Seen His Star"	(Matthew 2:1-11)	6 Genesis 15, 16, 17	Matthew 5:27-48
22 "He Is the Light"	(John 1:1-14)		

"He Is the Light"

23 "Light Shines in the Darkness"

(John 1:1-14)

(Ephesians 5:1-14)

Event Schedule

Dec 1- Saturday

7:30 Minister's Meeting - FH

10:00 Leadership Council - MR

12:00 Knitting / Quilting Class - Rm 2159

12:00 N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) - BC

1:00 Board of Deacons/Deaconess

1:00 PRECIOUS MEMORIES

CEREMONIES (Sampson Chapel)

3:00 JOY OF CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

Dec 2 - Sunday

8:15 Dawn Seekers Class - FH

9:30 Sunday Church School TABS-Truth Applied Bible Series

11:00 Morning Worship (Lord's Supper)

11:00 Children's Church

1:30 Group #7

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) - BC

Dec 3 - Monday

3:00 HOPE Diabetic Class

4:30 Prayer Partners - Quiet Room

6:00 Troop #97 Boy Scout Meeting - Rm 2152

6:30 Mon. Night Bible Stdy

Dec 4 - Tuesday

10:00 PRIVATE EVENT (Morris Rm)

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous)- BC 6:30 Pastor's Bible Study (Adult)- M.R.

"REVELATION - Four Views"

6:30 Children's Bible Study - (2156-2159) "Following the Bible" (ages 5-8) "Growing Through the Bible" (9-12)

6:30 Youth Bible Study - "Digging Deep for a Spiritual Foundation" (ages 13-17)

Dec 5 - Wednesday

12:00 Noon Bible Class (Books of Kings & Chronicles)

6:00 Teachers' Bible Study - Rm 2161

7:00 Prayer & Praise

Dec 6 - Thursday

5:00 Male Choir Rehearsal

5:30 Ushers' Instruction

5:30 Thursday Night Bible Class-Romans "The Well of Enlightenment"

6:30 Tabernacle Choir Rehearsal

Dec 7 - Friday

11:30 Circle of Care

4:45 Girl Scouts (Troop #1261)

G-3

5:00 ORCHESTRA (Music Room)

6:00 Friday Night Bible Study "Study Through 1 Corinthians"

6:00 Liturgical Dance Ministry -Sanc.

Dec 8 - Saturday

8:45 MEDCCE

12:00 ANGEL TREE

12:00 Quilting / Knitting Class - Rm 2159 12:00 N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) - BC

1:00 MUSIC DRESS REHEARSAL

2:30 Contemporary Christian Chorale

Dec 9 - Sunday

8:15 Dawn Seekers Class - FH

9:30 Sunday Church School TABS-Truth Applied Bible Series (3 Classes)

11:00 Morning Worship (Baptism)

1:30 GROUP #15 - Rm 2173

1:30 GROUP #2/16 (Morris)

1:30 GROUIP #19 (Wilcoxson)

4:00 CHRISTMAS MUSICAL (Sanc.)

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) - BC

Dec 10 - Monday

10:00 AARP Chapter 4803

3:00 H.O.P.E. Diabetic Class

4:30 Prayer Partners - Quiet Room

6:00 Troop #97 Boy Scout Meeting - Rm 2152

6:30 Mon. Night Bible Stdy

Dec 11 - Tuesday

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous)- BC

6:30 Pastor's Bible Study (Adult)- M.R. "REVELATIONS - Four Views"

6:30 Children's Bible Study - (2156-2159) "Following the Bible" (ages 5-8) "Growing Through the Bible" (9-12)

6:30 Youth Bible Study - "Digging Deep for a Spiritual Foundation" (ages 13-17)

Dec 12 - Wednesday 2

12:00 Noon Bible Class (Books of Kings & Chronicles)

6:00 Teachers' Bible Study - Rm 2161

7:00 Prayer & Praise

Dec 13 - Thursday 2

5:00 Male Choir Rehearsal

5:30 Ushers' Instruction

5:30 Thursday Night Bible Class-Romans "The Well of Enlightenment"

6:30 Tabernacle Choir Rehearsal

Dec 14 - Friday 2

6:00 MOVIE NIGHT - Children's Min.

6:00 Friday Night Bible Study "Study Through 1 Corinthians"

6:00 Liturgical Dance Ministry Rehearsal-Sanc.

Dec 15 - Saturday 3

12:00 Quilting / Knitting Class - Rm 2159 12:00 N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) - BC

Dec 16 - Sunday 3

8:15 Dawn Seekers Class - FH

9:30 Sunday Church School

TABS-Truth Applied Bible Series (3 Classes)

11:00 Morning Worship (Baby Dedication)

11:00 Children's Church

1:30 GROUP #1 (Chapel)

1:30 GROUP #4

1:30 GROUP #10/21 (Morris Room)

1:30 GROUP #12 (Wilcoxson)

1:30 GROUP #18

1:30 GROUP #25

1:30 GROUP #29

1:30 Health Ministry

4:00 PRIVATE EVENT

6:00 MARR-O-NOTS

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) - BC

Dec 17 - Monday 3

3:00 HOPE Diabetic Class

4:30 Prayer Partners - Quiet Room

6:00 Troop #97 Boy Scout Meeting - Rm

6:30 Mon. Night Bible Study-

Dec 18 - Tuesday 3

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous)- BC

6:30 Pastor's Bible Study (Adult)- M.R. "REVELATIONS - Four Views"

6:30 Children's Bible Study - (2156-2159) "Following the Bible" (ages 5-8) "Growing Through the Bible" (9-12)

6:30 Youth Bible Study - "Digging Deep for a Spiritual Foundation" (ages 13-17)

Dec 19 - Wednesday 3

12:00 Noon Bible Class (Books of Kings & Chronicles)

6:00 Teachers' Bible Study - Rm 2161

7:00 Prayer & Praise

Dec 20 - Thursday 3

5:00 Male Choir Rehearsal

5:30 Ushers' Instruction

5:30 Thursday Night Bible Class-Romans "The Well of Enlightenment"

6:30 Tabernacle Choir Rehearsal

Event Schedule

Dec 21 - Friday 3

6:00 Friday Night Bible Study "Study Through 1 Corinthians"

6:00 Liturgical Dance Ministry Rehearsal-Sanc.

Dec 22 - Saturday 4

12:00 Knitting / Quilting Class - Rm 2159 12:00 N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) - BC

1:00 S.S. DRESS REHEARSAL

Dec 23 - Sunday 4

8:15 Dawn Seekers Class - FH

9:00 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Sunday Church School
TABS-Truth Applied Bible Series (3

Classes)

11:00 Morning Worship

11:00 Children's Church

1:30 GROUP #6/23

1:30 GROUP #19 - Wilcoxson

1:30 GROUP #20/24 - Morris Room

1:30 GROUP #26/28

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) - BC

Dec 24 - Monday 4 CHRISTMAS EVE (OFFICES CLOSED)

Dec 25 - Tuesday 4 CHRISTMAS DAY (OFFICES CLOSED)

Dec 26 - Wednesday 4

12:00 Noon Bible Class (Books of Kings & Chronicles)

6:00 Teachers' Bible Study - Rm 2161

7:00 Prayer & Praise

Dec 27 - Thursday 4

5:00 Male Choir Rehearsal

5:30 Thursday Night Bible Class-Romans "The Well of Enlightenment"

6:30 Tabernacle Choir Rehearsal

Dec 28 - Friday 4

6:00 Friday Night Bible Study "Study Through 1 Corinthians"

6:00 Liturgical Dance Ministry Rehearsal-Sanc.

Dec 29 - Saturday 5

12:00 Knitting / Quilting Class - Rm 2159 12:00 N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous) - BC Dec 30 - Sunday 5

8:15 Dawn Seekers Class - FH

9:30 Sunday Church School TABS-Truth Applied Bible Series (3 Classes)

11:00 Morning Worship

11:00 Children's Church

1:30 GROUP #6/23

1:30 GROUP #19 - Wilcoxson

1:30 GROUP #20/24 - Morris Room

1:30 GROUP #26/28

6:00 A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous) - BC

Dec 31 - Monday 5 NEW YEAR'S EVE

(OFFICES CLOSED)

10:30 Watch Night Service

Jan 1 - Tuesday 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY (OFFICES CLOSED)

> FH - Fellowship Hall BC - Beechwood Campus

Prayer & Praise

December 5

Evangelism Rev. Miller Adams

December 12
Leadership Council

Sister Ann Harris/Sister Mary Lee

December 19 Ministers' Wives Sister Michelle Johnson

December 26 Optimist Club Sister Shirley Tolliver

Fellowship Hour

December 9

Group #1 & Autumn Fellowship Deacon Jerry Moses/Deacon Robert Files & Sister Louise Bunkley

December 16

Well of Enlightment & Monday Night Bible Classes Rev. Patricia Mobley & Rev. Debra Carter

> December 23 Board of Deacons Deacon Isaac Washington

December 30 NO FELLOWSHIP HOUR

What's Happening

Precious Memories Ceremony "Memorialize the life of your loved one" Sponsored by The Comfort and Care Ministry Saturday, December 1, 2012, 1:00 pm (Sampson Chapel) Bring a memento for the memorial table.	Watch Nigh Service - New Year's Eve Monday, December 31 @ 10:30 pm Dec 31
Joy of Christmas Fellowship Church Wide Family Dinner sponsored by Group 29 Saturday, December 1, 2012, 3:00 pm Fellowship - Music - Family or Group photos available - Dining & Celebration	Hartford Memorial Baptist Church Vesper Services Rev. Dr. Charles G. Adams, Pastor 18700 James Couzens Freeway Sunday, January 6 @ 6:00 pm
Project Angel Tree Saturday, December 8, 2012, 12:00 pm Dec 8	Women & Girls' Ministry - Save the Date!! Saturday, January 26, 2013 Daughters of the KingWomen of Royalty 1 Peter 2: 9-10 Jan 26
Tabernacle Authors' Book Signing Sunday, December 9, 2012, 1:30 pm - corridor outside of Bookstore Dec 9 Christmas Musical Presentation Sunday, December 9, 2012, 4:00 pm Featuring Excernts from "The Messiah" & The Negro	Weekly Bible Study Sunday 8:15 am
Featuring Excerpts from "The Messiah" & The Negro Spirituals - Performed by The Tabernacle Choir, The Tabernacle Orchestra Ensemble & The Tabernacle Liturgical Dance Ministry	Family Bible Study 6:30 pm
Dec 9	- Youth (Green Rm.) 6:30 pm

<u>Friday</u> 6:00 pm

..... Friday Night Bibly Study "Study Through 1 Corinthians"

God With Us!

conclusion

to reach out to us in spite of our rebellion toward Him. God comes where He is not wanted because in His infinite wisdom, He knows that He is needed. "God with us" is a manifestation of God's tenacious love for us. God refuses to let us go through life alone. He chose to come to us. The love of God is not only evidenced in His presence but ultimately in the payment for our sins on Calvary. The wonder of this is that this ultimate sacrifice, this testament of love was demonstrated while we were yet His enemies.

This display of God's love toward us deserves a response. We should not merely rehearse the great truths of God loving us; we should receive the God of this great love in our hearts. God has shown up in the One who was born to die, the One who stood in our place on Calvary. The One we call Jesus. This is the One we should quickly invite into our hearts. So, this Christmas, if you have not received Jesus

into your heart, do so. Receive the wonder of God's love and experience that which eliminates distant, estrangement and alienation from the true source of life. The great Christmas hymn of Isaac Watts states it like this:

Joy to the world! the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing. ...

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns. Let men their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy. ...

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found. ...

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love. ...

Shalom! Pastor Nathan Johnson

The Real Meaning of Christmas

Now that Thanksgiving is behind us many people are quickly getting into the Christmas Spirit. The Christmas spirit for many people, however, is centered around parties and giving and receiving gifts. During all the festivities, the real meaning of Christmas can easily get lost.

Christmas (Christ's Mass) is an annual commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ and a widely observed holiday, celebrated generally on December 25 by billions of people around the world. A feast central to the Christian liturgical year, it closes the Advent season and initiates the twelve days of Christmastide. Christmas is a civil holiday in many of the world's nations, is celebrated by an increasing number of non-Christians, and is an integral part of the holiday season.

The precise year of Jesus' birth, which some historians place between 7 and 2 BC, is unknown. By the early-to-mid 4th century, the Western Christian Church had placed Christmas on December 25, a date later adopted in the East. The date of Christmas may have initially been chosen to correspond with the day exactly nine months after early Christians believed Jesus to have been conceived, as well as the date of the southern solstice (i.e., the Roman winter solstice), with a sun connection being possible because Christians consider Jesus to be the "Sun of righteousness" prophesied in Malachi 4:2.

The popular celebratory customs associated in various countries with Christmas have a mix of pre-Christian, Christian and secular themes and origins. Popular modern customs of the holiday include gift giving, Christmas music and caroling, an exchange of Christmas cards, church celebrations, a special meal, and the display of various Christmas decorations, including Christmas trees, Christmas lights, nativity scenes, garlands, wreaths, mistletoe, and holly.

A good way to get people thinking about the real reason for Christmas would be to ask the question, "Why do you celebrate Christmas?" or "What does Christmas mean to you?" Be prepared for some responses to be theologically correct, some to be vague and some to be wrong. In contemplation of your entering this type of dialog, you might refresh your own thinking about Christmas. Don't judge the responses you get as right or wrong. You can just share what Christmas means to you and why you celebrate it. Consider God's gift to the world: John 3:16. Consider what the prophets said about Him: Isaiah 9:6. Consider what Jesus said of Himself: 14:6, John 10:17. Consider what others have said: Matthew 16:16; Romans 14:9; 1 Peter 2:24; 2 Corinthians 5:15; 1 Thessalonians 4:14. The most powerful witness you can give is what Jesus has done in your life. Some information in this article is taken from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE 12IN2012

We encourage you to IDENTIFY, PRAY, WITNESS, & INVITE (I.P.W.I.) 12 unsaved persons in 2012 to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Tabernacle Evangelism Ministry

Get Connected

Introducing an additional opportunity to study the Word! T.A.B.S.

The Truth Applied Bible Series (T.A.B.S.) will examine everyday issues and how to apply the principles of God's Word to our life. In addition to the International Sunday School Lesson, the Church School will provide quarterly T.A.B.S. as an option for the engaged student. .

IMPORTANT!!!!!

ALL Announcements you would like to submit for publishing in the Monthly Newsletter MUST BE SUBMITTED to the Clerk's Office or emailed to ftaylor@ tmbcdetroit.org 45 days prior to the

JOIN THE DANCE MINISTRY Praise the Lord with your BODY, Mind and Spirit. The Dance Ministry rehearses on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. Call Church Office for more details.

PRAYER REQUEST BOXES can be found outside of the Sampson Chapel and in the Vestibule of the church. You may also email your prayer requests to prayer@ tmbcdetroit.org

DO YOU KNOW A "SHUT IN" Who would like a visitation? Leave a message for Group #10 with the Church Office

COMING SOON... to H.O.P.E. (Helping Operations for People Empowerment) Mini Market with fresh fruits and vegetables to complement our Bakery. For more information call 313-897-5503

ONLINE GIVING

may be the right opportunity for you! Take your contribution today 'ONLINE" at www.tmbcdetroit. at www.tmbcdetroit. org. This is a great way to help your church. Try it today!!!

QUILTING & KNITTING Learn to make precious items & gifts for friends and fellowship at the same time. Every Saturday at 12 noon in Room 2159. BRING No. 8 knitting needles, worsted wool yarn & scissors

REMINDER

"First Saturday Meetings" (Leadership Council, Ministers, Deacons, etc.) will be held on the Saturday BEFORE the 1st Sunday.

MOM 2 MOM

For information please email Sis. Johnson at sisterj@tmbcdetroit.org or Dr. Kimberly Elyse at kelyse@ tmbcdetroit.org

IT'S TIME TO A C T! Please complete the Membership Registration Card and drop it in the marked boxes outside of the Sanctuary doors. Call the Church Clerk's Office if you have any questions.

ENDOWMENT FUND!

The Endowment Program was established with a two-fold purpose: 1) to increase parishioner awareness of the long-term financial needs of the church, and

2) to lay the groundwork to sustain our church in perpetuity. This program is open to all gifts of any size and most forms of giving. An endowment gift is one of the most important aspects of stewardship, as it is investment in the future. Contact the Church Office for additional information.

WORSHIP ARTS MINISTRY

Tabernacle Choir - Women & Girls' Choir - Cherub (Children's) Choir, Men's Choir - One Liturgical Dance Drama - Contemporary Christian Chorale - TNT Steppers - Mime CALL Church Office for rehearsal

COMPUTER LAB USAGE

Please treat the computers in the computer lab with care, do not change anything (e.g. desktop wallpaper, home page, etc.) Please report any problems or concerns to Deacon Clarke at 313-898-3325. Thank you.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES Pastor will recognize ALL birthdays & anniversaries on the 4th Sunday of each month ONLY! (These observances will still be a part of the Sunday video presentation and still showing weekly, just not acknowledged)

INQUIRING MINDS . . .

There are Surveys online for the Evangelism Ministry and the Health Ministry. Please Participate! Go to www.tmbcdetroit.org

DRAMA MINISTRY

We are preparing for several presentations. We need actors, presentations. stagehands, and technical. Call the church for more information.

H.O.P.E. 1st Sunday Café

Sunday, November 4, 2012 Dinner Fund Raiser @ Tabernacle Community Center, 6125 Beechwood from 1 pm - 5 pm, on 1st Sundays. Please RSVP @ 313-897-5503 by the Wednesday before for menu and to place your order.

ANNUAL POINSETTIA PROJECT

A three-fold project:

to honor and memorialize our loved ones;

to add beauty to the lives of our sick & shut-in and our members in Nursing Homes; and

to beautify our Sanctuary. Donate in Cloak Room before & after morning worship by Sun., Dec. 16, 2012.

2012 ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION LETTERS

In order to expedite your 2012 statement it is imperative that your correct mailing infomation is up to date in the church clerk's office. PLEASE call the Clerk's Office @ 313-898-3325 or stop by the Envelope Room and leave your updated information. Thank you!!!

Tab/HOPE S.A.Y. YES! Volunteers needed - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm. For more information contact the HOPE office at (313-897-5503 or <u>hope@</u>

tmbcdetroit.org).

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

THE CLOTHING DEN

at the Beechwood Campus is fully stocked. PLEASE DO NOT BRING **<u>CLOTHING.</u>** We will <u>not</u> accept any more items until after December 1, 2012. At that time we would like to receive WINTER CLOTHING. Thank you for your support and previous

BIG SISTERS' MINISTRY

provides child care during worship services for children ages 21/2-5. If you are looking for an opportunity to share your gift or talent, please consider providing love and care to these children of God. Call Church Office.

DOOR MONITORS NEEDED

Contact Deacon Theron Harley @ 313-898-3325

NURSES NEEDED

Male & Female - contact the church office @ 313-898-3325

Sick & Shut In

ARNOLD, Deaconess Viola

ATKINSON, Sis. Johnnie Mae

ATKINSON, Sis. Susie

BEASLEY, Sis. Oveda

BENNETT, Bro. Roland

BERYL-BANKS, Sis. Cynthia

BROOKS, Sis. Dorothy

BROWN, Sis. Katherine M.

BRUNSON, Bro. Todd

BURKE, Bro. Louis

BUSCH, Bro. Leon

BYAS, Sis. Flora

CALLOWAY, Sis. Autrey B.

COLLINS, Sis. Janie

COLLIN S, Sis. Ruth

DONALDSON, Sis. Willie B.

GALE, Jr., Bro. Sheady

GALTNEY, Sis. Maxine

GEORGE, Deacon John

GILCHRIST, Sis. Doris

GORDON, Bro. Walker

GRAY, Bro. James

GREEN, Sis. Pamela

HAMLIN, Sis. Eugenia

HARRIS, Bro. Charlie

HICKS, Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn

HICKS, Sis. Mary

HINES, Sis. Bernadine

HORTON, Sis. Carrie

HOWARD, Sis. Mary

HUNTER, Sis. Mary

JOHNSON, Sis. Ruby

IONES, Sis. Bernice

JONES, Sis. Helen

JONES, Sis. Jennie

JORDAN, Sis. Georgie

LINEBARGER,

Deaconess Nazell

LOGAN, Sis. Norma

LYNCH, Sis. Willie B.

MANGRUM,

Sis. Willie Belle

MARTIN, Disciple Joan

MAYFIELD, Dr. Jean

McKEE, Sis. Johnnie M.

McNEIL, Dr. Pearl Walker

McNEIL, Sis. Pecie

MILLENDER, Sis. Sara

MILLENER, Bro. Michael

MORRIS, Sis. Dorothy

NEAL, Bro. James

NEAL, Sis. Lois

NORRIS, Sis. Leola

PITTMAN, Sis. Juanita

PRUITT, Sis. Bessie

QUARTERMAN-MORRIS, Sis. Dorothy RANDALL, Sis. Jessie

ROBERTS, Sis. Mildred

THOMAS, Sis. Margaret

WARREN, Bro. Bruce

WARREN, Sis. Thelma

WASHINGTON, Rev. Mary

WINDOM, Sis. E. Mae

WOODS, Sis. Naomi

Our Deepest Condolences for the month of November are extended to...

Brother Damon Woodson & family for the loss of his grandmother,
Sister Mattie Woodson

Sister Ora Brown & family for the loss of her husband, Brother William W. Brown

Sister Mary Scafe & family for the loss of her son-in-law, Brother Anthony Howard in Nebraska

Brother William Harris, Jr. & family for the loss of his father, Brother William Harris, Sr.

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church

2080 W. Grand Blvd. • Detroit, MI 48208 • 313.898.3325 • Website: www.tmbcdetroit.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Offices Closed on Saturdays & Sundays)

Fax: 313.898.7347 • Prayer Line: 313.898.3349 • Bookstore: 313.899.8935 • Media Duplication: 313.899.8912

Bookstore Hours: Every Sunday - Before & After Worship Celebration

Directory

Nathan Johnson, D.D., Senior Pastor

Rev. Johnnie Green, II, Assistant To The Pastor

Rev. Terry Robinson, Minister of Discipleship And Kingdom Expansion

Deacon Isaac Washington, Chairman, Board of Deacons Deacon Theron Harley, Business Manager Trustee Garlin D. Gilchrist, Chairman, Board of Trustees Deacon Jerry Moses, Church Clerk

Deacon James McDonald, III, Interim Church Treasurer

Autumn Fellowship 313.898.3040

Rev. Miller Adams, Evangelism Ministry

Rev. Samuel E. Spruill, Jail & Prison Ministry

Trustee Stephen Smiley, Facility Manager Deaconess Mary Lester, Events Coordinator

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Every Sunday

Worship Service	l:00 a.m.
Sunday Church School	9:30 a.m.
Big Sisters - children 2-1/2 - 5 yrs - C.D.C	:00 a.m.

Celebration of Holy Communion • Every 1st Sunday (11:00 a.m.)

Baptism • Every 2nd Sunday (11:00 a.m.) Dedication of Babies • Every 3rd Sunday (11:00 a.m.) Children's Worship Celebration • Every 1st & 3rd Sunday (11:00 a.m.)

Family Bible Study • Every Tuesday (6:30 p.m.) Midweek Prayer & Praise Service • Every Wednesday (7:00 p.m.)

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