

Volume 17, Issue 12

December 2020

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"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

~Psalm 23 (KJV)

The Herald is a monthly publication of Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Members are encouraged to submit all newsworthy articles by the 20th of the month to newsletter@unionchapel-hsv.org. All articles are subject to editing for clarity and grammatical correctness.

From the Pastor's Pen... "Advent"



The King is coming! Jesus' coming is the eager expectation and desire of His people. This is the hope of the Church which He purchased with His blood.

It is our joy because He is our treasure and greatest good. This is the theme of "Advent," formed from a Latin word meaning "coming" or "arrival." It's the traditional celebration of the advent of Jesus in humility and the anxious awaiting of His second advent in glory. Jesus Christ has come and will come again! This season is a time for remembering and rejoicing, watching and waiting.

Advent in the Beginning

Many of us grew up with the story of Advent beginning in a stable. But, the story begins in a Garden. When God created the world, all things were just as they should be. Creation functioned in perfect order according to God's beautiful design. Man walked in unbroken relationship with God, fully known and unafraid. But in an instant, all that changed as Adam and Eve disobeyed God's good instruction. They took of the fruit and ate, and sin entered the world. Fellowship broken. Peace shattered. Creation thrown into chaos. Darkness, depravity, fear, and shame flooded the human heart, separating man from God. The situation was dire. But right then, amid the darkness, God spoke a word of hope: a Savior would come, born of a woman, to defeat the enemy and deliver God's people.

In Genesis 3:15 we see God's promise of redemption. From the moment of our need for rescue, God's promise was there. Before He addressed Adam and Eve, God turned to the serpent and announced that sin would not have the final word, and that the schemes of the enemy would not prevail. The reason we celebrate Advent is because the story of the Garden doesn't end with man's rebellion - but instead with his redemption.

~Pastor O. Wendell Davis

New Members

We welcome you, with the joy of the Lord, to the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church family! It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened as we learn and grow together. We invite you to explore the ministries of the church and ask God to show you where He wants you to get connected. We are truly excited you are here:

Kamari James Cooper Kiara Cimon Cooper Kalila McKenzie Diane Shine Dahlia Catherine Sturdiyant



We Celebrate You...



Congratulations to Miracle Burwell, who recently earned the Girl Scout Silver Award. Miracle's project entitled, "The Recycle Cycle," consisted of utilizing discarded items that could be recycled or repurposed into a variety of useful ways. Her project's purpose is intended to help eliminate trash thrown into our oceans affecting sea life. Her goal is to help save turtles. Miracle's project was first presented during the 2019 Sister to Sister Fellowship sponsored by the Deaconess Ministry and was also featured at the Girl Scouts of North Central Alabama's One Smart Cookie awards ceremony held at the Jackson Center.

Miracle is the daughter of Melodie Morgan.





Congratulations to Olivia Morris, who recently earned the Girl Scout Silver Award. Olivia's project entitled, "Project Pick it Up," consisted of picking up litter while keeping fit, by incorporating exercise while picking up trash that has not been properly disposed. Olivia gave a professional and informative power point presentation on how we can help keep our parks and street litter free. Olivia presented her project during Union Chapel's Girl Scout Annual Lock-in.

Olivia is the daughter of Andrea and James Morris.

Miracle and Olivia, both earned their Bronze Award in 2018 and are currently working on their Gold Award projects. The Gold Award is the highest honor that a Girl Scout can receive.



Congratulations to Wanda Showers, who was recently named 2020 Teacher of the Year, Weatherly Heights Elementary School. Sister Showers teaches third grade at Weatherly Heights Elementary School. Sister Showers is a graduate of Alabama A&M University with a BS, Family and Consumer Science and MS, Early Childhood Education.

Sister Showers is the daughter of Deacon Richard (Sr.) and Mother Bettye Showers and the mother of Delon and Delvin.



Wellness News...

Go nuts! Almonds, walnuts, and other tree nuts may counteract cancer. If the potential health benefits of eating nuts decided to get together, it would be quite a party. In the good-nutrition nook, nourishing fats, fiber, minerals, and protein. The prevention posse would be well represented, as research has linked nut consumption to a



lower risk of obesity, diabetes, insulin resistance, heart disease, and some types of cancer. And there's a newcomer: a lower risk of colorectal cancer recurrence. According to an observational study, among a group of more than 800 people who were treated with chemotherapy for advanced colon cancer, those who ate two or more ounces of nuts a week had a significantly lower chance of cancer recurrence and death compared with those who didn't consume nuts. Tree nuts such as almonds, walnuts, hazelnuts, cashews, and pecans showed a protective effect. (Peanuts, which are in the legume family, did not.) Whether you've had colon cancer or you're trying to stay healthy and prevent chronic illness, include a handful of nuts or a cou-

ple tablespoons of nut butter several times a week as part of a nourishing, delicious diet. In case you need a refresher, make your weekly menu colorful and "close to nature": a wide variety of vegetables and fruit, beans and lentils, intact grains, herbs and spices, olive oil, oily fish like wild salmon...and nuts! Getting nutty has never sounded so sane - and delicious.

~Cleveland Clinic Wellness

Lets Study Together

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

December 2020

"The Beginning of a Call"

12.06.2020	Called Through Heritage Hebrews 1:1-5; Matthew 1:1-6, 16-17	12.20.2020	A Regal Response to Holy Light Matthew 2:7-15
12.13.2020	Called Before Birth Matthew 1:18-25	12.27.2020	Called to Prepare the Way Matthew 3:1-12
		THE WORD OF GOD IS LIKE A SEED. PLANT IT	

HEART.