



# God's Country Tidings

Blackwater Baptist Church

www.blackwaterbaptist.org

## Sharing Christmas

<sup>1</sup> The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who testifies to everything he saw—that is, the word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.

*Revelation 1:1-2*

The revelation of Jesus Christ was placed into the hand of the Apostle John for a reason. It is because he **testifies to everything he saw**. When we say, “*oh here comes another Christmas, I’m not getting anything from the Lord, nothing is happening in my life, there is no revelation, I’m just not growing.*” We need to understand that as it relates to revelation and guidance from the Lord, at Christmas or at any other time, there is a prerequisite. Will **YOU** share what the Lord gives and reveals freely, with others? In the book of Genesis (see Genesis 18) the Lord said to His angels, “I’m going to tell Abraham what is going to come down in Sodom because I know he will receive and share it.” Jesus put it like this in Mark 4:24-25, “With the measure you use, it will be measured to you—and even more. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him.” In other words, if you approach the Christmas season or even Bible study or your morning devotions saying, ‘Entertain me,’ you won’t receive and

will have nothing to share. But if you are looking, listening, studying, learning, and praying, for the purpose of embracing the message **and then** sharing it with others, then the Lord will give you continual revelation, continual inspiration.

*In Christ,  
Pastor Greg*



Merry Christmas

### Some Christmas Reminders. . .

May the Christmas **gifts** remind you of God’s greatest gift, His only begotten Son.

May the Christmas **candles** remind you of Him who is the “Light of the world.”

May the Christmas **trees** remind you of another tree upon which He died for you.

May the Christmas **cheer** remind you of Him who said, “Be of good cheer.”

May the Christmas **bell** remind you of the glorious proclamation of His birth.

May the Christmas **carols** remind you of the song the angels sang, “Glory to God in the highest.”

May the Christmas **season** remind you in every way of Jesus Christ your King.

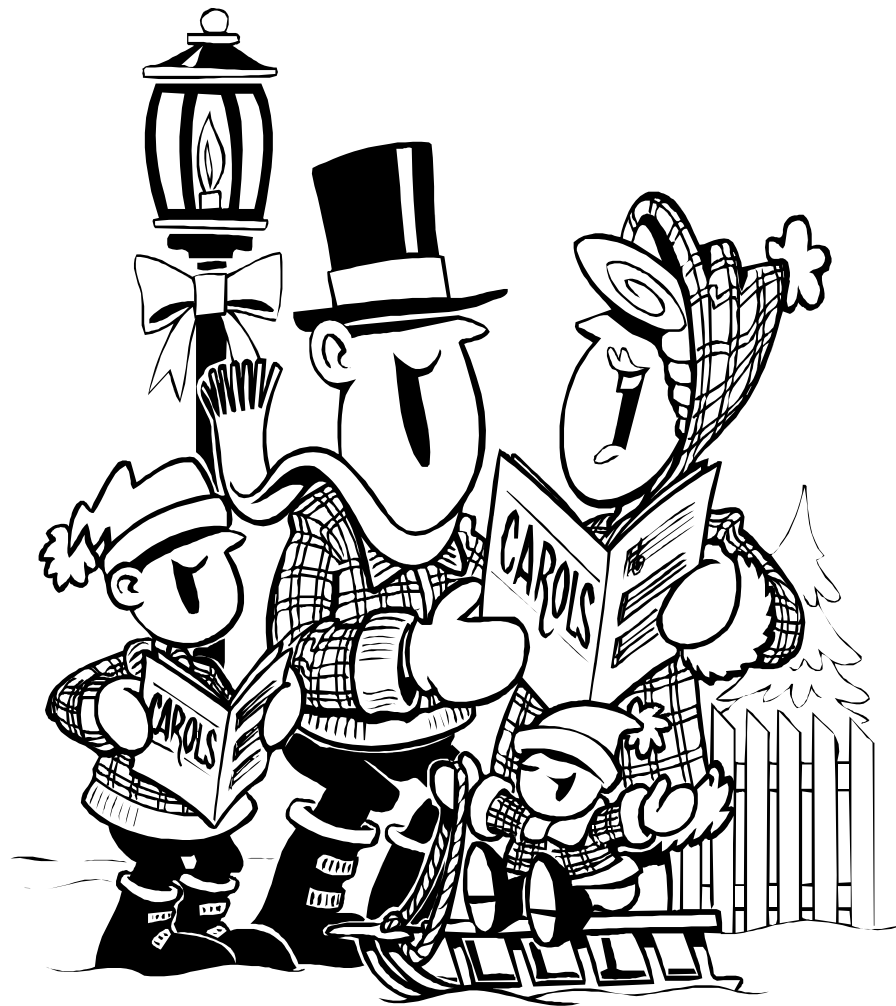
"TAKE TIME OUT FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE MALLS"

JOIN US FOR A

*MARCE*

*OF*

*MADON STREETS*



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH  
7:00 P.M.

JOIN US FOR RECEPTION AFTERWARDS

**CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS IS LIKE GIVING A  
PRESENT WITH NO GIFT INSIDE!**

## NABA Report

On October 25, the Norfolk Area Baptist Association held their 54th Annual Fall Meeting. Blackwater Baptist Church messengers PJ and Gloria Whitehurst and Earl and Laura Tebault attended.

73 Southern Baptist churches make up the NABA with Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Virginia Beach being served.

Committee reports were given and are available for review on the hall table.

Church and community ministries report:

- (1) Christmas Store
- (2) Baby Boutique
- (3) Block Party Trailer
- (4) International Soccer Camps
- (5) Disaster Relief (communication trailer and mass feeding unit are available on call)
- (6) Adopt-a-School is one of the new projects for 2007 with 14 churches matched with neighborhood schools. Virginia Beach has eight.
- (7) A new project for Palm Sunday (3/16/08) is a partnership with City Preachers to deliver a New Testament to 400,000 homes in the Virginia Pilot delivery.
- (8) South Africa continues to be the overseas mission need.

Dr. Mark Pullen, Bayside Baptist Pastor is the 2008 moderator.



## Ruth Walden Circle

Our November meeting was held at Laura Tebault's home. We voted to make a nice donation to the Lottie Moon offering. We also recently gave a donation to the MS Society in honor of one of our members, Joyce Meiggs. This month we fixed a soup basket with crackers for the Steve Dunn family.

November 29th, our circle celebrated our Christmas outing early by attending the "White Christmas" production at the new Sandler Center for the Performing Arts in Virginia Beach.

We will start off the New Year by feeding the Ruritans in January. Come join us, we are always looking for new members.



## Centennial Jenny McClain Circle

Our November meeting brought five members to Lettie Dozier's home on November 6th. We donated Christmas boxes in support of the church-wide Operation Christmas Child collection.

We also gave goodies to the volunteers at the fire station, which has become an annual event for us.

Our next meeting will be at Irene Frost's home December 11 at 1:30 pm. Come join us!



## Daily Bible

### Readings for the Christmas Season

December 24: The message of cheer: Isaiah 40:1-11.

December 25: The message of peace. Hosea 14:1-9.

December 26: The message of redemption. Revelation 5:1-14.

December 27: The Word and the world. John 1:1-14.

December 28: The first Christmas service. Luke 2:8-17.

December 29: Good tidings. Psalm 86:1-10.

December 30: The sustaining gift. John 6:22-35.

December 31: The immeasurable gift. John 3:23-36.





# Christmas Service

December 23rd, 7 pm at church



## A Free Family Event at Triple-R Ranch

Come out to Triple-R Ranch in Chesapeake for a seasonal celebration with hayrides, pony rides, children's crafts, cider and cookies, live entertainment, a live nativity and the Triple-R Ranch aglow with lights!

FREE ADMISSION (donations accepted)

Chuckwagon meals available for purchase

December 14&15 ~ 5:30-9 pm

Entertainment 6:30 & 7:45 each night

Friday - three for one

Saturday - Hunt Family Fiddlers



Triple-R-Ranch

(757) 421-4177

[www.triplerranch.org](http://www.triplerranch.org)

Located at 3531 Bunch

Walnuts Rd, Chesapeake



# REVIVAL

WITH PASTOR RICKY BISHOP

BLACKWATER BAPTIST CHURCH, FEBRUARY 10-13, 2008

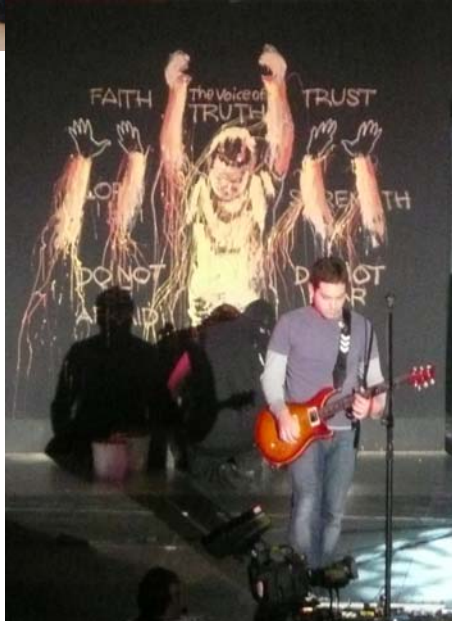
## “20-Something’s” Outing

On November 10th, the “20-Something’s” ventured out to Norfolk. First stop was Doumar’s where good old-fashioned burgers and ice cream were had by all. We

then went on to Scope to see John Waller, Leeland and Casting Crowns perform.

We had a great time and can’t wait for our next outing.

Come join us! We meet every Sunday at 10 a.m. in the classroom behind the church office.



## The JOURNEY

**A MISSION TRIP  
OPPORTUNITY IS COMING!  
ARE YOU READY?**

**Acts 1:8, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere (NLT)**

# **The Meaning of the Candy Cane**

*The fascinating story behind the candy cane ...  
The birth, ministry, and death of  
Jesus Christ are signified through  
the elements of the candy cane ~*

JESUS CHRIST is....

our Good Shepherd (staff shape) ~ 1 Pt. 5:4  
our Rock (hard candy) ~ 1 Cor. 10:4  
our Sinless Savior (white) ~ 2 Cor. 5:21  
our Sacrificial Lamb (red) ~ Eph. 1:7

**The STRIPES** symbolize pain inflicted upon Jesus before his death on the cross and a bold stripe to represent the blood he shed for mankind. The three stripes can also represent the power and presence of the Trinity (the Father, Son and Holy Spirit).

The smell and taste of PEPPERMINT relate to the herb hyssop. Psalm 51:7 states, *"Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean, wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."*

The candy cane is meant to be shared -- broken into pieces for all to share. That reminds us of Jesus' words, *"This is my body which is broken for you"* (1 Cor. 11:24).

**What a sweet way to share the Gospel!**

# December 2007

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY  |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |   |   |  |   | 1<br>Anne Askew<br>Don Horsley<br>Robert & Susan<br>Kovacs                |
| 2<br>Contemp Svc: 8:45 am<br>Sunday School: 10 am<br>Traditional Service: 11<br>Christmas Play Practice: 6-<br>7 pm<br>Violet Jensen<br>Anne Stone   | 3<br>Mack & Bonnie<br>Satterthwaite                              | 4<br>Visitation, 6:30 pm  | 5<br>Praise Team, 7 pm<br>Robert & Martha<br>Goodman  | 6<br>Steve Jones                                       | 7<br>Adabelle Riddick<br>Don Talbott  | 8<br>Nancy Jones  |
| 9<br>Contemp Svc: 8:45 am<br>Sunday School: 10 am<br>Traditional Service: 11<br>Christmas Play Practice: 6-<br>7 pm<br>Sunday School Teacher's<br>Mtg, 7 pm<br>Phyllis Arth<br>Matthew Lopes<br>Kenneth & Gladys Brown | 10   | 11  | 12<br>Praise Team, 7 pm<br>Ricky Askew<br>Sue Shirley<br>Sheilah Walker<br>Kenneth Washington | 13   | 14<br>Twylla Williams   | 15  |
| 16<br>Contemp Svc: 8:45 am<br>Sunday School: 10 am<br>Traditional Service: 11<br>Christmas Play: 7 pm<br>Walter Cardwell<br>Jimmy & Shirley Falls  | 17<br>Corinne McClain  | 18  | 19<br>Praise Team, 7 pm<br>Mary Cardwell<br>Vivian Tucker                                     | 20<br>Jake Wesson Barbee                               | 21  | 22<br>Shirley Cardwell  |
| 23<br>Contemp Svc: 8:45 am<br>Sunday School: 10 am<br>Traditional Service: 11<br>Christmas Service: 7 pm<br>Matthew Dailey   | 24<br>Kenneth & Pat<br>Washington                                | 25<br>Merry Christmas!<br>Happy Birthday<br>Jesus!<br>Allison Cole<br>John & Helen Swan | 26<br>Praise Team, 7 pm<br>Diane Crawford<br>Michael & Pam Ives                               | 27<br>J.W. Askew<br>Pat Riddick<br>Hollie Schratwieser | 28<br>Dave & Ethel Bryant<br>Charlie & Marie<br>Hughes<br>Leroy & Violet Jensen | 29  |
| 30<br>NEWSLETTER<br>ARTICLES DUE<br>Bill Cole<br>Kathy Gribbs  | 31<br>Angela & Gary<br>Gregory<br>Robert & Suzanne<br>Whitehurst |   |   |  |   | <b>Upcoming Dates:</b><br>February 10-13:<br>Revival with Ricky<br>Bishop |

**IDENTIFICATION  
STATEMENT**

**God's Country Tidings  
Newsletter**

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**Blackwater Baptist Church**  
6000 Blackwater Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23457