

DECEMBER 2019

Glad Tidings

BATESVILLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

1294 COLUMBUS AVENUE, BATESVILLE, IN 47006

Batesville Christian Church exists to glorify God all our days by making disciples who make disciples.



Drop The Blanket

BY BRYCE HOTCHKISS

Sometimes old things are still the best things. Chandler was recently gifted with the book version of “A Charlie Brown Christmas”, which we have read on repeat as he follows along holding his stuffed Snoopy. We now even have a Charlie Brown Christmas tree in his room—albeit it’s not entirely accurate as this one is decorated with dinosaur ornaments in addition to its iconic solitary red ball, but close enough, right?

This December, when that Christmas clas-

sic, “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” hits television screens all over the country once more, it will do so for the 54th year since first airing in 1965. The almost-instant classic was in many ways ahead of its time, forgoing many of the conventions of the day: it didn’t make use of a laugh track, overcame many of the difficulties of animation, and all but killed aluminum Christmas tree sales. But perhaps more remembered than anything else is Linus’s show-stealing monologue when he recites

Perhaps more important than him dropping the blanket, though, is the point at which he drops the blanket...

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MISSIONS UPDATE

*Mission of the Month:
Korean Gospel Ministries*

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

*Parents’ Night Out
Family Dedication—January 19, 2020*

CALENDAR

- DEC 1: New Members Class 9⁴⁵ AM
- DEC 5: Elders’ Meeting 7 PM
- DEC 6: Mom2Mom 9 AM
- DEC 6: Ladies’ Christmas Party 6³⁰ PM
- DEC 8: Congregational Meeting
- DEC 8: Middle School Girls’ D Group
- DEC 8: Variety Show 6 PM
- DEC 10: So Loved Wrapping Party
- DEC 13: Parents’ Nite Out
- DEC 15: Kids’ Sing
- DEC 15: Youth Cookie Decorating
- DEC 18: Blood Drive 12-6 PM
- DEC 19: Elders’ Meeting 7 PM
- DEC 24: Candlelight Services
5 PM and 7 PM
- DEC 25-31: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- DEC 29: Family Sunday

Message from Bryce (CONTD)

Luke 2:8-14 in response to Charlie Brown's exasperated exclamation over the commercialization of Christmas, "Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?!"

Now I'm guessing that after more than 50 years on the air, many of you have seen this special multiple times—maybe every year! But if you're like me, there is one important detail of Linus's scripture reading climax that you've probably missed. I recently came across a blog post called "Drop the Blanket" by Jason Soroski. As you likely know, throughout The Peanuts franchise, Linus is best known for his ubiquitous baby-blue security blanket. The other characters of The Peanuts gang are constantly trying to get Linus to ditch the blanket, but despite Lucy, Snoopy, Sally, and others all working together, none of them succeed in separating Linus from his blanket. Even when his security blanket remains a major source of ridicule for Linus, he simply refuses to relinquish it.

But in this climactic scene when he shares the true meaning of Christmas, Linus...drops the blanket! Perhaps more important than him dropping the blanket, though, is the point at which he drops the blanket—when he speaks the angel's words "Fear not!"

As Soroski states: "The birth of Jesus separates us from our fears. The birth of Jesus frees us from the habits we are unable (or unwilling) to break ourselves. The birth of Jesus allows us to simply drop the false security we have been grasping so tightly, and learn to trust and cling to Him instead."

The world we live in can be a frightening and uncertain place. It can be a world in which it is difficult to "fear not," and in our fear, it's easy to reach for something finite and fragile for our security. This Christmas, as we celebrate the coming of Jesus into our world, let us remember the true peace, hope, and security he brings with him.

Merry Christmas,
Bryce



So Loved Wrapping Party

If you selected a tag for donations to So Loved Clothing Closet, please ensure you return all your items to the church unwrapped (with the child's tag included) by **Sunday, December 8th**.

If you are not able to shop for a child in need but can donate funds towards this project, we would be grateful for that too, as we work to ensure that every child is provided for. Donations of wrap-

ping paper, tissue paper, and Christmas gift bags are also very much appreciated.

On **Tuesday, December 10th, beginning at 6:30 PM**, we will sort all donations and have a wrapping party in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend and help us wrap donated items. If you have any questions, [please contact Kelsey Hotchkiss at mrshotchkiss@gmail.com](mailto:mrshotchkiss@gmail.com).



Save the Dates

DECEMBER 8, 2019

Annual Congregational Meeting

This year's congregational meeting to discuss leadership positions, review the 2020 budget, and overview 2019 expenditures and successes will be at 9:45am on Sunday, December 8, 2019.

Middle School Girls' D-Group

All girls in grades 6-12 are invited to join D-group leaders Jennifer Black and Rachel Bond in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, 12/08, beginning at 12:30pm for fun and fellowship. [Please RSVP to Rachel Bond by Friday, 12/06.](#)

Christmas Variety Show

Join us at 6pm in the Worship Center as our fellow congregants celebrate the birth of Jesus with their special talents!

DECEMBER 13, 2019

Parents' Night Out

Parents! Drop your kids with us from 6-9pm while you go out and enjoy some kid-free time! **You must RSVP by Sunday, December 1st.**

DECEMBER 15, 2019

Youth Cookie Decorating Night

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to the Thomas House for a night of decorating Christmas cookies. More details on p. 5.

DECEMBER 24, 2019

Family Candlelight Services

We hope your family and friends will join our special services at 5 and 7 PM. We will have our White Envelope Benevolence offering available during the Candlelight service. Money placed in the white envelopes will be used to help with needs of those in our church family.

DEC. 25, 2019—JAN. 1, 2020

Church Office Closed

We will re-open on Thursday, Jan. 2nd.

Winter Health & Safety



KEEPING GERMS AT BAY

It's that time of year, again, when the weather turns colder, the nights grow longer, and we all spend more time indoors — together. To keep illnesses from spreading, please be vigilant about hand washing, minimizing physical contact, and keeping yourself or your children home if any of the following symptoms have been experienced within the last 24 hours.

- * runny nose
- * Cough
- * Fever
- * Diarrhea
- * sore/scratchy throat
- * Vomiting
- * flu-like symptoms

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

Sunday Morning

The Deacons shall be responsible for cancelling or rescheduling Sunday morning services. If the decision is to cancel service(s), the congregation will be noti-

fied by email, local radio (WRBI 103.9 FM) and television (WCPO Channel 9 and FOX 19) by 7:30 AM.

If conditions are such that the first worship service is cancelled, Sunday School will also be cancelled. The second worship service will be held at the regular time of 11:00 AM. Only under the *most extreme conditions* will the second worship service be cancelled.



Welcome to Family

Andi & Josh Nuhring welcomed their first baby, Reid Anthony, into the world on Monday, November 25th. He weighed 5 lbs, 14 ounces, and both Mom and baby are doing well. We are hosting a diaper shower for Reid Anthony throughout the month of December. Diapers sized 1 and larger can be placed in the bassinet in the church foyer.

Children's Ministry

BY RACHEL BOND

As we look back at 2019, I'm just so impressed with our BCC congregation.

SPECIAL EVENTS

In the spring we were gifted the Batesville Easter Egg Hunt from the Chamber of Commerce. With short notice, we had a phenomenal team step up to lead and plan that event with a wonderful crew of volunteers. Our summer was a jungle of VBS, where we drew closer to God in the wild. In the fall, we prepared our Halloween Lighthouse event as a way to reach our community where they are, and despite the weather, we were able to shine God's light to our neighbors.

Now, we prepare for our Christmas events: our Parents' Night Out on Dec. 13th, and kids singing during worship services on Dec. 15th. Both of these events will share God's love, and give us a glimpse of His plan for each person.

All of our events throughout the year require a lot of man-hours, donations, and prayer. We wouldn't be able to do it without everyone's help. Thank you all very, very much!

BIBLE MEMORY & LIFE APPLICATION

The 3-year-olds through 5th graders who participated in our Children's Ministry have been able to memorize the Books of the New Testament, the Fruit of the Spirit, Philippians 4:6-7, John 3:16-17, John 14:6 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. We started our year wrapping up a journey through the Bible as we looked at the

book of Acts-Revelation. Then, this summer we dove into the Life of Jesus. We plan to finish this study right before summer 2020.

Thank you to all the parents for your support and being your child's primary teacher, to the volunteers who serve on Sunday mornings, to those who bring donations when we ask, and to those who pray for us and the children in our care. I'm thankful for a wonderful 2019 and looking forward to an amazing 2020.

Rachel Bond



KIDS SING

Christmas is drawing near and we have been learning some Christmas songs that the kids will sing on the stage during worship services on **Sunday, December 15th.**

FAMILY SUNDAY

December 29th will be a Family Sunday, and **there will not be children's programming** during worship services, except for nursery for those under 3 years old. We will have children's bulletins available. Please enjoy worshipping together as a family.

Family Dedication

SUN., JANUARY 19, 2020

When you become a parent your life changes in every aspect —sleeping or lack there-of, questioning how to dress baby for the various seasons, rethinking who we are and what we're created to do. And now, asking how do we want to raise our children?

Our church wants to partner with parents in their journey into parenting. Parents are the primary teachers of their children and responsible for their children learning about God. The church averages about 40 hours a year to influence your child. Parents average about 3,000 hours annually to influence their child!

Let us join you as you commit to raising your child in the Lord. If you haven't made a public commitment to raise your child in a Christ-centered home and would like to, we'd love to give you the opportunity to find out more.

Our Family Dedication services will be **Sunday, January 19th, 2020** during both worship services. This is an opportunity for families who have added to their family through birth or adoption. If you would like to sign up or you have questions, [please contact the church office.](#)



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

WED. DECEMBER 24TH
5 & 7 PM



We hope your family and friends will join us during our special family candlelight services at 5 PM and 7 PM on Christmas Eve, **Wednesday, December 24th**. We will spend time drawing closer to God during worship and dedicate time to adoring Him.

We will also have our White Envelope Benevolence offering available during these candlelight services. Money placed in the white envelopes will be used to help with needs of those in our church family.

Christmas Mailboxes

Be sure to check the wooden mailboxes in the lobby for Christmas cards for you and your family. You can bring your Christmas cards for delivery to BCC families. No digging for addresses or postage!

Youth & Discipleship Ministry



Youth Cookie Decorating

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to the Thomas home at 6 PM on **Sunday, December 15th**, for an evening of decorating Christmas cookies and fellowship. Cookies, drinks, and decorating supplies will be provided. Youth may bring additional snacks. [Please RSVP with the church office by Wednesday, December 11th.](#)

High School Winter Retreat

The annual “The Well” Winter Retreat at Mahoning Valley Christian Service Camp is scheduled for **January 17-19, 2020**. For the 2020 retreat, we will be returning to Valley's Edge Snow Tubing for part of Saturday. A separate waiver is required to participate in the snow tubing. The cost is \$75 if you register your high schooler by

Jan. 6, 2020. [The waiver and online registration are available now.](#)

SuperStart!

This year's SuperStart! theme for preteens in grades 4-6 is “Game Changer” and it takes place at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center in Covington, KY, on **March 6-7, 2020**. Throughout SuperStart!, kids will encounter Christ through worship, interactive teaching and small groups — all of which are designed with their unique needs and maturity in mind. The cost is \$85 if you register your child by Jan. 19, 2020. The cost includes registration, transportation, and lodging. You can register on the church website.

CIY Believe

Believe is a high-energy weekend event for students in grades 7-8. Believe takes place on **February 21-22, 2020** at BB&T Arena in Cincinnati. The cost is \$85 if you register your child by Feb. 2, 2020. Stay tuned for registration details. The cost includes registration, transportation, and lodging. You can register on the church website.

Winter Jam

Christian music's largest annual tour is coming to Cincinnati on **March 14, 2020**. Featured artists include Riley Clemmons, Andy Mineo, Passion, and Crowder. To find out more information, go to the Winter Jam website here: <https://2020.jamtour.com/about/faq>

Kroger Rewards For Scholarships

For the past twenty years, Batesville Christian Church (BCC) has had a scholarship fund for students preparing for the ministry. During that time, we have supported eight students. And now, it is easier than ever to contribute to this fund.

BCC is part of the Kroger Community Rewards program, and each time a registered Plus Card user swipes their card, BCC benefits from their purchases! Every quarter, BCC receives a payout from this program that we deposit directly into our scholarship fund. We currently have 28 households participating in this program. In 2020, we will be funding two student scholarships to Lakeview Bible College & Seminary in India.



Contributing to our scholarship fund by becoming a registered Kroger Plus Card user could not be more simple. To enroll, see the steps below.

1. Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy, then go to <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/>
2. Click on “I Am a Customer”
3. If you do not already have an online Kroger Account, click on “Create Account” at the bottom of the page.
4. After logging in or creating your account, click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus Card number.
5. Update or confirm your information.
6. Enter NPO number or name of organization, select organization from list and click on confirm. **BCC’s number is 81115.**
7. To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization’s name on the right side of your information page.
8. REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your group until the card is registered.
9. You must swipe your registered Kroger Plus Card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus Card when shopping for each purchase to count.

If you have questions about the Kroger Community Rewards program, registering your Kroger Plus Card, or the BCC Student Scholarship Fund, [please contact the church office.](#)



Community Blood Drive

Batesville Christian Church is hosting a community blood drive for Hoxworth Blood Center on **Wednesday, December 15th**, from 12-6 PM in Fellowship Hall. During this season of giving, blood donation is one of the few ways that you can literally “give of yourself” to make a difference in someone else’s life.

Every day, blood recipients at over 30 hospitals in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky rely on the generosity of others who donate their time and life-saving blood to provide the minimum 400 units of blood needed. An hour of your time could give someone a lifetime! [You can schedule your donation appointment time online.](#)

BASIC DONATION CRITERIA

You must meet the all of the following criteria in order to donate.

1. Be at least 17 years old (16-year-olds may donate with parental consent*). Females under the age of 19 may donate once in a 12-month period. Males under the age of 19 may donate twice in a 12-month period.
2. Weigh at least 110 lbs. (body weight) --*16 - 18 year olds please see weight requirement chart in the High School brochure.
3. Generally feel well and healthy.
4. Have no fever, sore throat or flu-like symptom.
5. Have no active cold symptoms.
6. Have not had major surgery recently (released from doctor's care).

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Eat a good meal and drink plenty of non-caffeinated and non-alcoholic fluids before and after donating.
2. Bring a photo ID and your last three years of foreign travel history.

Congregational Meeting

Our annual Congregational Meeting will be held at 9:45am on Sunday, December 8, 2019, in the Worship Center. During this meeting, the Elders will review 2019's achievements and milestones and go over the proposed 2020 budget. Additionally, the congregation will vote on approving the proposed 2020 budget and on nominees for leadership positions.



If you are not available to participate in this meeting and have questions or concerns, [please contact one of members of the leadership team](#) prior to the congregational meeting on Sunday, December 8th.

The following Elders and Deacons are up for reconfirmation.

Vern Hackworth (Elder)
 Doug Haldeman (Nominee — Deacon)
 Darren Cole (Deacon)
 Mike Daulton (Deacon)
 Paul Ehrman (Deacon)
 Gary Najmon (Deacon)
 Bill Trebley (Treasurer)

—
 You can reach the leadership team at the following email address.

elders@batesvillechristianchurch.org

Mission of the Month

KOREAN GOSPEL MINISTRIES

One of the seven mission organizations we support with a portion of our weekly offerings is Korean Gospel Ministries in South Korea. Missionary Dong Ho Cho, with his wife Chansoon beside him, teaches at Hanmin College and Bible Seminary, preaches at the Light and Life Christian Church, and writes and translates Christian church materials for the Korean people.

As members of the Mission Team read Dong Ho Cho's monthly newsletters, we are always amazed at his breadth of activities, and his seemingly infinite well of energy for serving Christ. Reading his posts leave us praising God for his "Energizer Bunny"-like enthusiasm, and leave us humbled by our own efforts in contrast.

As is typical, recent months have been very active. In June, Dong Ho and Chansoon, along with C.Y. Kim and 4 Korean ministry students of Dong Ho went on mission trip to the Bacoor slum in the Philippines. The group visited families and brought supplies to share with 46 new mothers in cooperation with Torch Christian Church. Conditions in the slum are very poor; the slum is located near a beach and has no fresh water supplies. To help, the group purchased water so over 200 people could bathe. The group's combined efforts with a local mission resulted in **106 people (teenagers and adults) coming to Christ in baptism.**

In addition to his weekly duties as the minister for two churches and his teaching at the university, Dong Ho has been a prolific writer creating bible study guides for many of Paul's letters as well as translating

information on Restoration Church history into Korean. These study guides and histories are in PDF form and freely-available to any who wish them through his [Cyber Christian Church Studies website](#). He continues in his effort to translate 27 books of the New Testament into Korean and make them available in PDF form for free use.

Last, Dong Ho continues his efforts to be an encouragement and support to his brothers in ministry around the country of Korea. During this past August, many of them gathered for a full-day conference and prayer session that he helped organize.

The mission team requests that you pray for Dong Ho Cho and his wife Chansoon. Pray for his continued zeal, energy, and effectiveness for the Lord. Additionally, pray for the Lord to continue to bless the Korean people through his efforts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Korean Gospel Ministries
 20-10 Beonyeong 8-gil Umsamyeon
 Kyeryongei Choongnam, 321-931
 Republic of KOREA
<http://kccs.info>
 Em. cho0204b@natc.com

BCC MISSIONS TEAM

Greg Fulkerson, Laura & Darren Cole,
 Lori Daulton, John LaJeunesse, Kathy
 Najmon, Connie Wissel



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 812-934-5147

www.batesvillechristianchurch.org

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH
 5 & 7 PM



LEAD PASTOR

Bryce Hotchkiss

WORSHIP MINISTER

Mark Bond

CHILDREN'S

DIRECTOR

Rachel Bond

ELDERS

*Chris Campbell
 Vern Hackworth
 Chris Lehman
 Kip Main
 Jack Schiller*

DEACONS

*George Bley
 Darren Cole
 Mike Daulton
 Paul Erhman
 Greg Fulkerson
 Greg Glaub
 Gary Najmon
 Russell Nuhring
 Tyler Oda
 Bill Trebley (Treasurer)
 Richard Zeigler
 Jeremy Ziegler*



Are you on our Email list?
 Would you like to receive our weekly email or
 receive a digital copy of this newsletter?
 Email the church office and let us know at
admin@batesvillechristianchurch.org

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

	3rd	10th	17th	24th
Total Attendance	289	294	286	266
Worship	229	230	233	219
Children's Ministry	60	64	53	47

NOVEMBER GIVING

	Month	YTD	BUDGET
General	\$34,935	\$441,679	96%
Missions(10%)	\$6,165	\$61,399	121%