

BLUE RIDGE

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Join us in person at Blue Ridge or On YouTube every Sunday!	

From My Heart

It's beginning to look like Christmas! Not even Covid-19 can stop Christmas. Doesn't it seem like something or someone is always trying to take out Christmas? They have tried to get folks to quit saying, "Merry Christmas", but Christmas roars on. They have tried to commercialize it, but Christmas can't be bought.

Decorations are popping up everywhere. They are all great. Who doesn't love a light display? Some are big, elaborate, even synced to music. Can you imagine the hours dedicated to those displays? But even the little displays warm your hearts. When I was growing up, our Christmas lights consisted of one string of big multi-colored lights across our front porch. It was simple, but I couldn't wait to get them up and when I came home from college I couldn't wait to see them.

Then there are all those blow-up displays, I love them all from the ten foot Snoopy in a Santa cap to a life size Santa stuck in the chimney. **The amazing thing is that so many of those decorators don't understand the meaning of Christmas, yet they feel it is so important that they must celebrate.**

Right after Thanksgiving at least one radio station goes Christmas music twenty-four hours a day. There are some mighty strange songs. When you tune in you will get classics like the Beach Boys, "Little Saint Nick" and whoever sings, "Grandma got Run Over By a Reindeer", and who can forget those Chipmunks singing, "Christmas Don't Be Late". It is not always silly, there are classic's that strike a chord like "White Christmas" and Nate King Cole's "The Christmas Song". Ever wonder how many Christmas tracks there are? In 2014 they estimated there were over 914,044 tracks! One of the amazing things is that almost everyone from every genre of music has a Christmas song or a

Christmas Album. While there are a lot of silly songs, do you know what is the most recorded song ever by the most artists? The answer is, "*Silent Night*". That simple story of the Savior's birth has been sung in every style and every language.

Trying to silence the message of Christmas is nothing new. In 1965 Charles Shultz was preparing for his classic, "**A Charlie Brown Christmas**". The sponsors of the show and the network were not happy with the story line. They thought nobody wants to hear that old story about a baby born in Bethlehem. Shultz wouldn't change his story and Linus quoted from Luke chapter two and the nation loved it. Ratings were great and it has been a part of Christmas on television ever since. This year Apple TV bought "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and you were going to have to buy the service to see it. The viewing audience was outraged, and Apple TV gave up and it will be back on TV again. ***Christmas can't be silenced, once you hear it your heart embraces it and won't let go.***

The Enemy seeks to silence the Message of Christmas, but we are called to Proclaim it and when we do Miracles happen. **How will you share the Good News this season?** My Mom proclaimed it in a simple way, in almost every room she placed these small Nativity scenes. You didn't notice them right away, but suddenly they would be there and the story would come to life.

Join us every Sunday as we bring the Christmas story to life!

In His Love,

Bro. John

Sunday, December 13th

Christmas Play

Sunday, December 20th

Candlelight & Carols

Praise God! You sent 40 Shoe Boxes to children around the world!





**2020 Was the Year of Renewal and Renovation
Of Blue Ridge Baptist Church
The Blessing of Working Together!**

Everyone has a purpose and a part in making our wonderful church family who we are! Our renovation and renewal of the church began one Spring evening when a tree broke off in the wind and pierced the glass hallway roof, then traveled through the library walls and into the preschool classes, soaking the ceilings, walls, and contents. After weeks of discovery and waiting for approval and re-imburements from our insurance company, we had an amount from which to work. We thank our insurance company for their agreeable and helpful spirit. They allowed us to do our own repairs and save costs others would charge us. Then, we could spend money we had left on making any repairs and renewal the church needed. We have been blessed with our members Terry and Linda Graydon, Jim and Barbara Harris, Marilyn McGrady, Bro. John and Jackie, and Jim Beck sharing their strength, wisdom, and gifts of time and talents, along with financial investment to work toward daily goals of making our church building and church family hearts a vessel of worshipping our Gracious Lord and Savior. Thank you faithful people and church family, for your love, patience, and appreciation.

These are the works we have been able to accomplish:

New architectural shingle roofs on the Sanctuary, the Fellowship Hall, Children's Wing and a new pitch roof in the glass hallway. New luxury vinyl wood look flooring in the hallways and Coed II class.

New vinyl siding trim in the Courtyard and around the building.

Fresh paint in the hallways and wood work on the windows and doors, inside and on the overhangs outside the entrances.

New paneing/paint in the library, the classrooms, and the restrooms.

New furniture in the classrooms and a paint refresh on some furniture.

New base trim on all areas with new flooring and transitions.

New base trim in the Flower Room in back of the church.

Fresh, new re-coloring on the Sanctuary carpeting.

New ceiling panels in the Childen's Wing and new light fixture in the men's restroom.

Blinds and new screens in the Children's Wing.

Painting the damage on the Sanctuary walls.

All of this work needed to be done and we know our Awesome God made it happen. It would have been impossible for us to be able to have the finances and time to dream of these gifts happening. We give Him all the glory and praise forever! While this year may go down in history as a troubled year, we will always thank God for blessing our church beyond measure in 2020. Many dreams came true!

? Lost and Found Box in the Church Office

Have you lost your umbrella, glasses, etc. or have you found an item? There is now a box in the main office (Jackie's office) for you to place those items or you may look for your property. Please, no masks or items that could have Covid 19 or other Coronavirus germs.

Thank you.



Congratulations Best Wishes

JoAnn Woodfin and Gary Greenshields announce the marriage of their daughter, Hannah Greenshields to Chris Ailor. Our church family sends our love and prayers to them as they begin their new life together.

December Birthdays



- 1 Matt Funchess
- 4 Tammy Cannon
- 5 Sydney Brown
- 9 Linda Graydon
- 14 Lynn Mallonee Lee
- 17 Chasity Elliott
- 18 Vincent Bennett
- 20 Brenda Chambliss
- 27 Renee' Miller
- 28 John Mallonee
Tammi Stevenson
- 31 Howard Bayerle, Jr.
Jon Wall



A Very Merry Christmas and a Thank You

Those are our wishes for Dr. Don and Joyce Cheatham, James and Jody Mallonee, Drs. Cory and Marsha Stanley, and Brenda Chambliss as they so faithfully send their tithes and offerings to Blue Ridge and allow our ministries to carry on. We love you and appreciate you while lifting you up to our Lord.



Our Children's Ministry Schedule for Sundays is the Same. Thank you!



Praise the Lord! We sent 40 shoeboxes of Jesus' loving care to children. That's a record number for our church! Thank you, sweet family!



Sanctuary Poinsettias

Would you like to give a Poinsettia to add to the beauty of our Sanctuary this month? You may give one in Memory or in Honor of someone special to you. The cost of a single is \$7.00 or a double is \$14.00. You may take them home after the 20th.

Your Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

How many and size _____

Have a Merry Christmas

December 2020



God has blessed us with a Savior who has been with us at all times during this year of uncertainty and change in our lives with Covid 19. With Him, we can close out this year with more strength, more servanthood, more joy, more determination, more love, more comfort, and more thankfulness than we have ever known and been privileged to carry out. As we look forward into 2021, we know God is in control and we can turn our concerns over to Him. He hears our prayers and He cares for our every need. Rejoice! Praise! Worship!

December all month

Christmas Angels -see the Angel board

December 2

Decorate the Halls of Church

December 13

Christmas Investigation Play

December 20

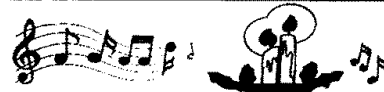
Candlelight and Carols

December 25

Celebrate our Savior's Birth



Wednesday, December 2 is the day of transformation for our beautiful church! Our Flower Committee and some helpers will deck the Sanctuary, the Fellowship Hall, the front of the church and the doors in the back of the church, the Children's Wing, and all of the hallways as a wonderful backdrop for the Celebration of the King! We have been blessed from the past with decorations given by Deetsie Rogers and some from our present members, all working together to bless us. Come, bring others, and enjoy Christmas joy every week.



Come on Sunday evening, December 20 at 5:00 pm for one of our most beautiful services of the year. We will share in singing Christmas carols, the Lord's Supper, and passing candlelight from one family to another as we celebrate the coming of our Lord and Savior. *Reborn Harmony* will bless us in song.



The Blue Ridge Players Present
"The Christmas Investigation"
On December 13 at 11:00 am

Wicked King Herod sends out investigator Sherlock Watson to discover why the Wise Men are so excited to find their King of Kings. Come meet the characters he discovers that bring the Christmas story alive! Laughs, smiles, and new insights are guaranteed!

and
suddenly
there was with
an angel
a multitude of
the heavenly host
praising God
and saying
Glory to God
in the highest, and on earth
peace, goodwill towards
men
Luke 2
13-14



Remember the disadvantaged and homeless families as you change out your closets. There is a box in the front hallway for you to place warm clothing and blankets for them. Thank you to Bruce and Olive for your contributions.

Blue Ridge Baptist Church
 4471 Jasmine Hill Road
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www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net

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 36093



Christmas Play December 13
Candlelight & Carol December 20

Join us every Sunday for Worship at 11:00 AM at Blue Ridge or on YouTube!
 Go to our Website www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net and click on the link.

How to Give Online

Unleash your generosity by giving through our safe and secure GiveThree65 digital platform.
 Visit www.blueridgebaptistchurch.net and click on the Secure Donations Page to begin the process.

DECEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Counting and Lock up David Brown	1	2 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	3	4 Help us provide Christmas for two Families.	5
6 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Bible Study 5:00 PM	7	8	9 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	10	11	12 Watch us on the Blue Ridge Baptist Church YouTube Channel
13 Christmas Play 11:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM	14	15	16 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	17 Remember you can give online at blueridgebaptistchurch.net	18	19
20 Candlelight and Carol 5:00 PM	21	22	23 No Wednesday Activities	24	25 Merry Christmas! Christ is Born	26
27 Bible Study 5:00 PM	28	29	30 The Mid-Week Picker Upper 4:00 PM	31 Visit us on the web at blueridgebaptistchurch.net		
		November 2020 S M T W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		January 2021 S M T W Th F Sa 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		Notes: Coming Up! Lottie Moon Offering Dec. 6 Christmas Play Dec. 13 Candlelight & Carol Dec. 20