

## BRADDOCK Baptist Church



Advent

# The BRIDGE

# Building Responsible Individuals Demonstrating Godliness to Everyone

## Note from the Senior Pastor

In the 6th century, Christians had linked what is today referred to as the Season of the Advent to the coming of Christ. But not his first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming which will take place in the clouds as the judge of the world. As the angels had told his disciples that he will return just as you see him leaving.

**Acts 1:11** “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Today, the Advent season lasts for four Sundays leading up to Christmas. Advent begins on the Sunday that falls between November 27th and December 3rd each year.)

Advent symbolizes the present situation of the church in these “last days”, as God’s people wait for the return of Christ in glory to perfect his eternal kingdom. Advent looks back upon Christ’s coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ’s kingdom when he returns for his bride.

I have asked many times lately what you are expecting: are you as the people in Noah's day expecting for things to just continue as they seemingly always have to short sighted individuals, or are you more like Simeon in **Luke 2: 25-26**:

**“Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation (relief from grief) of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah (defender, liberator, savior champion or guardian).”**

We are meant to be longing for relief from the ever-increasing grief that even has the earth itself moaning and heaving for the coming of our Lord. I have witnessed expectant graduates groan with anticipation of the upcoming celebration as well, brides, declaring nothing better get in the way of their impending nuptials.

The only legitimate desire for postponement for the imminent return of Christ should be the Hope of another eternal soul coming to saving faith in his creator! So, while moaning and groaning for our Lords return let's keep bring in those who will be saved. Amen!

Love you, Pastor Timothy

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Sunday School Update

Wow! Can you believe we are now in the Winter quarter of Sunday school? I don't know about you but the Winter season always seems to test my patience—I'm ready for Spring already—I know, be patient it will be here. As Ecclesiastes says, “There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens.” Two reasons for the Winter season: One, for nature to slumber and rest and be ready for a new burst of life in the Spring season and two, the beginning of Winter is the time we celebrate The Greatest Gift We Have Ever Received in Our Lives—The Birth of Our Lord and Savior JESUS!

So why are we then studying the book of Genesis this Winter season? The simple answer is Genesis and the Old Testament is the absolute Firm Foundation for everything in the New Testament, including the Birth, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ...And His promise to come back to us here on earth again. I truly hope we all will enjoy our Winter season in Sunday school as we study the Roots of the Gospel in the book of Genesis.

I know this month as we prepare for Christmas and the birth of Jesus, we can be easily distracted by all the activities and things that are taking places around us. I came across a writing about Christmas recently that I have not seen before and even though it's not Biblical based, I thought just “maybe” we could use this worldly writing to remind us what our Christmas activities and celebration is all about. And “maybe” who knows we might even use it to bring the Gospel to someone who has never heard it before. Merry Christmas!

God Bless You, Gary Moore



Becky and Timothy Corder. Thank you Pastor and Becky!

My hope is that throughout life you and I can take the time to give thanks to God.....no matter what is going on in your life! True thanks is not dependent on our life situation. God’s promises and demonstration of love are not placed on hold when we go through trials. His promises and His love are eternal. May the Lord bless you as you pursue Him, walk with Him and give thanks to Him. As we celebrate His birth, may we not lose sight of His death and His resurrection. Your deacon team has reached out to you and are there to pray for you and be there when called upon to assist. Your deacon assignments were in the last bridge sent out for November, are updated on the mobile phone application and are posted in the main hallway bulletin board. Psalm 37:5 Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. What a God we have! What a privilege to serve Him and worship Him! Your Deacon Team!

As a reminder, your Deacon Team stands ready to assist you when called upon:

Serving families:

A - Dunning	→	Becky Corder & Manjaka Andriamsinoro
El-Naggar - Moore	→	Jim Hix & Bobbie Rivenbark
Moss - Raharinaivo	→	Ken & Ana Maria Pierce
Reeder – Wimberly	→	Elaine Comer & Nancy Bennett

Merry Christmas &  
Lord bless you, **Mitch & the Deacon team**

December Birthdays

- 2
- Louie Rodriguez
- 6
- Bob Berry
- 6
- Irma Dunn
- 6
- Nancy Bennett
- 9
- Robert Gregerson
- 10
- Mary Barham
- 12
- Brittany Gesin
- 12
- Abbie Bennett
- 17
- Dave Waters
- 18
- Dave Salas
- 23
- Stephanie Short
- 29
- Grace Bennett



Deacons

Dear Braddockians,

We just completed our Thanksgiving celebration at our house and in God’s house. It is one holiday I take great pleasure in embracing and celebrating. Any time families, friends and God’s people gather together to express thankfulness to one another and the Lord for all they have, good things will come from it. At the church prior to Thanksgiving, many stood up to give thanks to the Lord for all His goodness. On Thanksgiving Pastor Timothy opened the doors of the church to the community to provide food for anyone in need. Then last Sunday, we all gathered again for lunch provided by



Associate Pastor

It's December!

Honestly, it's hard to believe that this year has gone by so fast! We all have different reasons that things go by fast. For some of us it's because as we get older; as it's been said once, "the years start feeling shorter and the days start feeling longer." But for my wife and I it seems that with a newborn son time is going faster than we want! It felt like only yesterday that Xander was laying on my chest, almost lifeless in rest. And now this boy wants to be up and moving every moment of the day. We are so blessed that God blessed us in August this year with a beautiful baby boy. And thank you, Braddock, for the support and role as a family you all play in our lives and his.

As we step into December with snowfall on the way and lots of hot cocoa to come... I want to remind us of Manjaka's convicting message on November 18. We have a brief moment here on earth that Manjaka referred to as "156 seconds". And he challenged us to go all out with the time we have left. The book of James tells us that we "are like a vapor (mist) that appears for a little while, then vanishes." (James 4:14b) I know the temptation at the end of the year to sink into our vacations and tie the ribbon on the year is an ever present struggle. But please, for the sake of the damned souls in our neighborhoods and for the sake of our very own souls... don't rest from giving glory to God! Don't use December as a time to indulge yourself. Use December as a time to show the world the reason for the season. Without Jesus Christ being born of a virgin and coming to this earth... we wouldn't have been given the opportunity to receive the free gift of salvation through Jesus' death on the cross and resurrection from the grave. That is the good news. That is the MOST RELEVANT NEWS!

Braddock, Alyssa, Xander and I love you guys. As we all together walk through this upcoming phase of renovation discussions and possible renovation beginnings, we want to ask that you all would join us in seeking God's will daily for this body. Thank God for a pastor who wants to know God and show Him to us all daily! Thank God for deacons who want to serve selflessly! And thank God for all the blessings you have received, will receive, and utterly don't deserve.

Thank you Jesus for coming to earth as a perfect, spotless Lamb!

God bless, **Pastor JJ**



Kingdom Work Youth Ministry

What a Month! November has been a month full of fun, food, and family. I am so thankful for the Braddock Baptist Family and everything you guys do for our Lord and Savior. God is truly good, and his love endures FOREVER!

On Thanksgiving Day, we hosted our first ever church wide Turkey Bowl! As football season is in full swing, this is our chance to play some football ourselves. Flag football that is. We had a great turn out, even though it felt like one of the coldest days this year. We played 6 on 6, and most everyone scored at least one touchdown. As you can see from the picture, half of the players are not American, and have never played American football. Come to find out, they picked it up quick and wanted to play more when we finished.



Our youth group is in full swing, from events like Flight Trampoline Park, to service days for our beautiful elders. We meet every Wednesday at my home for a youth bonfire and smores. We are changing things up this month to Winter Coffee House at the church. I am so thankful to our good Lord for his sovereignty over this youth group and bringing each one to Braddock Baptist. If you need anything, please contact me and I will bring a team of hard workers to help you any way we can. We always want to revert back to the Kingdom Work mindset Jesus had while here on earth. We are not of this world; rather, we have been sent into this world by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Merry Christmas!

In Service, **Jonathan Gesin**



Stewardship-Board of Directors-Church Budget

In the November Business Meeting, the 2019 Budget was approved.

In November, the following items were discussed:

- Approved the replacement of the church computer as well as to provide Jon with a computer.
- JJ is researching sound improvements for the existing sanctuary that can also be used after it’s renovated.
- Need to put in place plan to start rotating the review of the security monitors on Sundays



Please stop by the church office for a copy of the 2019 Budget if you did not attend the Business Meeting and would like a copy.

Total budget for 2018:	\$305,614.00
Budget Needed/week:	\$5,877.20
Total Budget Needed (to date)	\$276,228.40
Total Budget Received (to date)	\$244,146.59
Budget Shortfall	-\$32,081.81
Capital Campaign Donations	
Pledged thru 11/25:	\$614,674.00
Received thru 11/25:	\$833,615.25

ANNOUNCEMENTS | (WHAT'S HAPPENING)

12/08 All Church Christmas Brunch 11 AM



12/21 Live Nativity 6-8 PM



12/13 MDO Christmas Pageant 11 AM  
with Pot-luck lunch!



12/24 Christmas Eve Service



