

Hephzibah Baptist Times

DECEMBER 2024

Wednesday Menus for the Month of December:

Dinner begins at 5:50 pm.

All meals include tea and coffee.

\$7—11 & Up, \$4—Children, 5-10, \$7—Take Out \$25 max. for immediate family.

*To-Go” Plates will be prepared by the Kitchen

Personnel after the serving line closes. We cannot guarantee “to-go” orders until all of our dine-in family members are served. As available, additional take out plates may be purchased at the regular price.

Meal dates are to be determined!

FYI

- **MEN’S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST:** Cancelled for December.
- **CHILDREN’S CHOIR SINGING:** Sunday, December 8th at the 11am service.
- **YOUNG AT HEART:** December 9th at Noon.
- **HEPHZIBAH CHRISTMAS PARADE:** Friday, December 13th at 6pm at Ag Center.
- **LIVE NATIVITY:** Saturday, December 14th & Sunday, December 15th from 6-8pm at HBC.
- **DEADLINE FOR JANUARY NEWSLETTER:** Monday, December 16th, at 9am.
- **CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Wednesday, December 18th at 6:00pm
- **OFFICE CLOSED:** December 25th & 26th for Christmas.
- **NO ACTIVITIES:** Wednesday, December 25th

TEAM MEETINGS IN DECEMBER:

- **Building & Grounds:** Wednesday, December 4th, at 6:15pm
- **Stewardship & Finance:** Wednesday, December 11th, at 6:00pm

Please Note:

All events, dates, and times are subject to change.



Church Staff

- Senior Pastor.....Dr. C. Michael Wren, Jr.
mwren@hephzibahbaptist.org
- Minister of Worship/Music.....Amanda Brookins
abrookins@hephzibahbaptist.org
- Minister to Children and Families..... Cindy Lewis
clewis@hephzibahbaptist.org
- Minister to Students.....Bernard Harper
bharper@hephzibahbaptist.org
- Administrative Assist./Finance.....Kelly Rabun
krabun@hephzibahbaptist.org
- Administrative Assist./Ministry.....Renee Jenkins
rjenkins@hephzibahbaptist.org
- Custodian.....Gary & Sue Thomas
office@hephzibahbaptist.org

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|---|--|
| 12/4 Pork Loin, Rice & Gravy, Vegetable, Roll, & Dessert | 12/11 Soup, Grilled Cheese, Salad, & Dessert |
| 12/18 NO FELLOWSHIP MEAL | 12/25 NO FELLOWSHIP MEAL |
| | |

MEMBERSHIP FINANCIAL REPORT:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Monthly Budget Needs: | \$37,042.00 |
| Weekly Budget Needs: | \$8,548.00 |
| General Offering Received as of 11/18/2024 | \$30,748.70 |
| Year-to-Date Budget Needs: | \$111,126.00 |
| Year-to-Date Budget Received: | \$105,568.00 |
| 11am Worship Service Average Attendance | 117 |
| Average S.S. attendance as of 11/18/2024 | 98 |



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“Indeed, we have all received grace upon grace from his fullness.” (John 1:16)

You may not know this, but the word “holiday” derives from “holy day.” A “holiday” is supposed to be a religious celebration. In this secular age, our holidays have mostly lost their religious character, and we’ve added special days to the calendar that have no theological significance at all. While the rest of our culture celebrates Christmas because of family gatherings, gift exchanges, lots of food, and mythical jolly elves, Christians have the opportunity to meditate on the incredible gift God has given us in the coming of His Son in the flesh. Yes, we enjoy many of the cultural practices that we associate with the Christmas season., like the lights, food, and family time. But most of all, we ought to be mindful of the grace the Lord has given us in sending His Son to save us. The Apostle John opened his gospel by contemplating what Jesus’ coming means for us. He was so deeply moved by God’s gift of Jesus that the word “grace” was not adequate. From Jesus’ fullness we receive “grace upon grace.”

As we worship together this Christmas season, we will take time to appreciate the fullness of God’s grace in Jesus by looking at four stories of grace, encounters with Jesus that changed people’s lives. Let these stories of grace remind you of the incredible gift God has given you in Jesus, and invite someone to join us who needs a better appreciation of the true Christmas holiday.

Your Pastor,

Michael Wren



Please join us on Tuesday, December 24th at 5:30pm for our annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Service as we joyously celebrate the birth of our Savior. The service will be in the Sanctuary.

LOTTIE MOON
Collection will run from
Dec. 1st-Jan. 1st

OFFICE CLOSED
Wednesday, December 25th &
Thursday, December 26th



COMING IN JANUARY
NEW YEAR’S DAY
Office Closed
NO WEDNESDAY
ACTIVITIES

Children's Ministries

Please join us & sign up AGES 2-5TH GRADE

DECEMBER WEDNESDAYS
6:30PM - 8:00PM

Please register @ www.hbckids.us



Dec. 4TH
We will make
nativities!!



Christmas
Caroling
Dec. 18th



FREE SEE YOU THERE! BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

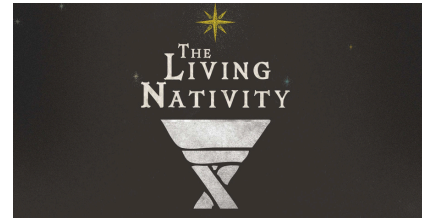
HEPHZIBAH CHRISTMAS PARADE
LIGHT UP THE NIGHT
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2024
6:00PM
Hephzibah AG Center

centrikid
camps

HIGHER
living our calling

June 9-13, 2025
Grades 2nd-5th
Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, NC
Deposit of \$75.00 by February 2, 2025
See Cindy Lewis for more info.

Community Events



Hephzibah Baptist will present our annual walk-thru Living Nativity on Saturday, Dec. 14th and Sunday, Dec. 15th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. From prophecy, to the miraculous birth, to the cross, we will journey through key events in the life of Jesus, as God brought salvation to the world. We are so excited to be able to offer this event again for our church and community.

Student Ministries



HEPHZIBAH BAPTIST CHURCH STUDENT MINISTRY

We will only meet on Wednesday, December 4th. December 11th will also be our Christmas party. On December 18th students are encouraged to join in the Christmas caroling.

*Student Christmas
Pajama Party/Pot Luck*
December 11, 2024
6:30 - 8:00pm
\$10 Gift Exchange
Bring a dish or dessert to share
Meet at the Youth House

Generate Camp is scheduled for June 9-13, 2025 at Mount Vernon, GA. Camp is for Grades 6th-12th. Registration and a \$75 deposit are due February 21st.

Women's Ministry

THURSDAY MORNING 10 AM BIBLE STUDY



Ladies, Thursday morning Bible Study will not meet in the month of December.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

The Wednesday evening Women's Bible study will on December 4th & 11th. We meet from 6:30pm to 8:00pm on Wednesday, in room 102.



Ladies of all ages! Please join us on Saturday, December 7th from 10:00am to 12:00pm for a Christmas Ornament Swap. Bring an ornament (\$10 limit) to exchange as well as a dish to share for brunch. If you have any questions, please see Cindy Troxel.

Music Ministry

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join us on Wednesday, December 18th, at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will split up in groups to sing to some of our church members who have been unable to attend lately. We will stand outside to sing, so dress warmly.

Men's Ministry

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST
is cancelled for December.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible study will meet on Wednesday, December 11th from 7:00-8:00pm in Open Door class room.

Missions Ministry



A Big Thank You to all who helped us this year and who also helped pack 274 boxes.

YOUR donation that you gave throughout the year and YOUR giving heart made this possible. This past week we have sent off the boxes that have been dropped off from other churches and the ones we prepared. Truly, without you this mission would have not be a success!

Thank you again,

Amanda Larson

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

The week of prayer for international Missions is December 1st-8th.



The Children's Choir will be singing a special music during our 11:00am worship service on Sunday, December 8th.

Please have the children in the Sanctuary at 9:30am to rehearse before Sunday School.

Senior Adult Ministry

YOUNG AT HEART LUNCHEON

Young at Heart will have our Christmas luncheon on December 9th at noon. Bring sides and desserts - turkey, dressing, will be provided. Bring a \$15 gift women's for women and men's for men for our gift exchange.

