

# Merry CHRISTMAS

For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will  
be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace

ISAIAH 9:6



**The Link**  
December 2025  
Volume 39 number 12



**GARDEN CITY  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **December Events**

- 11/30 Fall Church Conference
- 12/1-2 Trip to NarroWay
- 12/5 Women's Christmas Party
- 12/7 Special Music:  
Christmas Choir
- 12/8 Joy Fellowship
- 12/9-10 Trip to Connie Maxwell
- 12/10 Churchwide Christmas Party
- 12/13 Men's Breakfast
- 12/17 Christmas Caroling
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service
- 12/31 No Wednesday Night Study

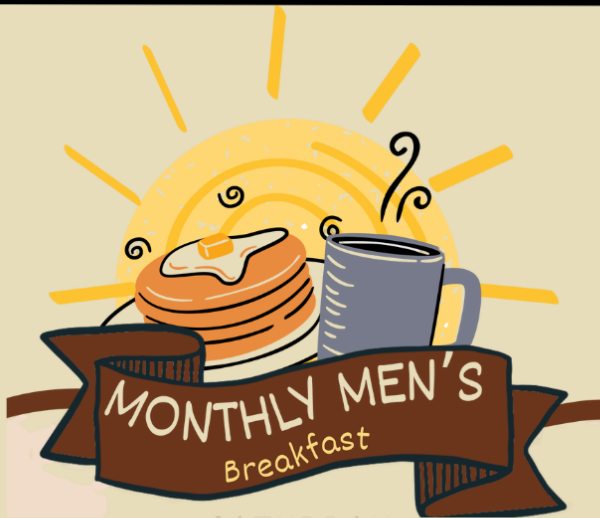
**GET INVOLVED-**

**DECEMBER  
8TH**



**FELLOWSHIP**

Neil & Kelley Forney will lead us in song



**MEN'S  
FELLOWSHIP  
BREAKFAST  
SATURDAY  
12/13**



**Connie Maxwell**  
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

**DECEMBER  
9-10**

We're looking forward to our second trip to this Baptist Children's Home. We'll spend several hours Tuesday night wrapping donated presents that will be given out to the children at Connie Maxwell on Christmas. As a church we help support this ministry through the church's budget and through the Cooperative Program.



**GET INVOLVED-**

**CHURCHWIDE CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**WEDNESDAY, 12/10**

**5:15PM**

**BRING HOR D'OEUVRES TO SHARE  
FOOD, GAMES, MUSIC, FUN**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**WEDNESDAY, 12/17**

**5:00-7:00PM**

**SIGN UP AND JOIN US AS WE SPREAD  
CHRISTMAS CHEER TO OUR SHUTINS**

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE**

**WEDNESDAY, 12/24**

**6:00PM**

**INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS AND JOIN US  
FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENING!**



# GET INVOLVED-

## *The Voices of Advent*

### Women's Bible Study

Mondays: December 1, 8, and 15 at 6:00pm  
or

Thursdays: December 4, 11, and 18 at 10:00am  
Meet in Room 202. Sign up in the side hallway.



## WOMEN'S *Christmas* PARTY

DECEMBER 5 AT 6:00 PM

GARDEN CITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

*Bring a finger food to share and a  
holiday gift valued up to \$15.  
Sign up in the side hallway!*



COMING  
SOON

## *Women's Bible Study*

**A NEW STUDY STARTS IN JANUARY!**

Mondays beginning January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.  
Thursdays beginning January 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.



# Children



## KIDS WORKING HARD MAKING COOKIES:





# Youth



**We are incredibly grateful for every prayer lifted up and for everyone who provided food for our Bonfire Worship Night. We had 150 people join us for an evening of lifting up and glorifying our Savior's name. Several leaders have shared that salvation decisions and baptisms took place in their groups after the event. To God be the glory!**



# Missions

At **New Directions**, I see the reality of homelessness every single day. It doesn't have one face or one story. It touches people from every walk of life - men and women who've lost jobs, families with children trying to stay together, individuals battling addiction, and others who never imagined they'd need help. Some are working full-time and still can't afford a safe place to call home.

For more than a decade, New Directions has been a lifeline. Guided by our belief that Hope Starts Here, we provide not only shelter and daily meals but also the support and resources needed to build a sustainable future. Our team walks alongside each person, helping them overcome barriers like mental health struggles, substance use, transportation issues, and job loss, step by step toward stability and independence.

There are so many worthy causes to support this season, but helping right here at home has never been more important. Together, we can break the cycle of homelessness and bring light and hope to our community. This work is only possible because of you.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Kathy Jenkins

Chief Executive Officer, New Directions

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## Some of the Missions we support:

Jason & Laken Cizdziel - Papua New Guinea

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering - NAMB

New Directions (Homeless Shelter)

The Church at Morgantown

Child Evangelism Fellowship - Good News Club

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering - IMB

Martha Compton Offering - Waccamaw Baptist Association

The Fisher Family - Japan

Connie Maxwell Children's Home

Coastline Women's Center

One Mile Mission - New Foundland

Coastal School Ministries

Janie Chapman Offering - SCBC

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## Jason & Laken Cizdziel - Papua New Guinea

Mid-November Jason sent out a request for prayer for a young boy who fell in a fire and had burns across the entire front of his body. They cared for him during the night and the next day they took him on an hour-long canoe trip downriver to meet Samaritan Aviation, a medical float plane ministry for an additional two-hour flight to the hospital. The boy remained unresponsive. Tribe leaders made arrangements for the family in town.

Jason wrote "Everything we could possibly do to help came together beautifully and with great speed. We don't think this is a coincidence. Please continue praying for Rops (pronounced "ropes") and his family. Dad is a new believer, and a guy I disciple. Mom is still on the fence."

In his last post, Rops and his dad are still in the hospital, but he is improving. He is having surgeries to keep the burns clean. The family comes to Jason's home nightly for news.

# MUSIC MINISTRY

A Season of Thanksgiving and Praise!

"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" is a beloved Christmas song, and this sentiment should resonate deeply with Christians as we commemorate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I eagerly anticipate worshipping alongside you in the coming weeks as we honor the true meaning of the season.

This is a time to express gratitude with a thankful heart and to worship the King, lifting our voices in praise.

On Sunday, December 7th, our Christmas Choir and Praise Team will lead us in some of the beloved carols of the season, guiding us to "Come and Adore the King of Kings and Lord of Lords." Let us raise Him high and share the greatest gift of all: JESUS.

## MEDIA MINISTRY

**Number the Stars** by Lois Lowry is a Newbery Award winning novel. Although it is a work of fiction it is inspired by real events that took place during the Nazi occupation of Denmark.

Ten-year old Annemarie Johansen is Christian, and her best friend Ellen Rosen is Jewish. Many of Annemarie's friends and their families are disappearing, there are food shortages, and Nazi soldiers are marching in the streets. As Nazi relocation gets underway, she is worried about her friend Ellen and her family's safety. The Nazis won't stop, so Ellen moves in with the Johansens and pretends to be part of the family. Then Annemarie is asked to go on a dangerous mission. Does she have the courage to save her best friend's life?

I was fascinated to find that what I thought was a farfetched device involving a handkerchief towards the end of the story turned out to be a true to life fact which played a big role in the escape of the Jewish population.

This is an amazing story of courage, bravery, and kindness. It is estimated that with the help of many ordinary people 7,000 Jews living in Denmark crossed the sea to Sweden.

NO Ladies Lunch Bunch in December

Widow's Birthday Lunch - California Dreaming  
Sunday 12/7 - After Worship  
Honoring Lucille McNeil & Peggy Hodges

## BIRTHDAYS

01 – Griffin Bailey  
03 – Debbie Good  
05 – Carmen Carella  
05 – Skylar Hays  
06 – Carol Haire  
06 – Peggy Hodges  
06 – Blanche Markley  
07 – Katelyn Hawes  
07 – Alex Beri  
07 – Nancy Todd  
12 – Perry Walp  
13 – Darlene Pope  
14 – Skyler Stoll  
17 – Peggy Smith  
18 – Lucille McNeill  
18 – Bob Wood  
19 – Betty Wing  
20 – Doug Shirley  
22 – Abraham Clark  
22 – Mike Reese  
22 – Bob Green  
23 – Warren Lynch  
25 – Karen Peavey  
26 – Linda Williams  
26 – Alayna Lanier  
27 – Hal Duke  
27 – Will Peterman  
30 – Barbara Carraway  
31 – Joy Kimel



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