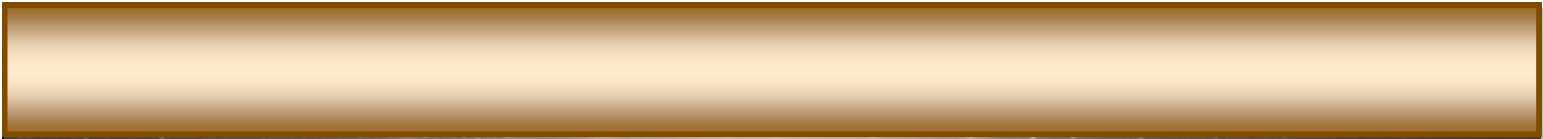




the messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land



BEHOLD,

The Lamb of God.

WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD!



December 2022



AWANA in December:

December 7 Cookies with Mom

December 14 Jammies with Jesus (and hot chocolate)

No AWANA Dec. 21st & 28th

COMING SOON...January Storyteller will be The Rich Young Ruler and GRAND PRIX MONTH.

We will need lots of men willing to help cut & build cars with our kids Jan 18 & 25.

See Richie Kerley or Jamie Creekmore if you love Jesus, kids and cars!

Grand Prix Night January 29th in the Worship Center



Children's Choir!

Children's Choir for December:



December 4th 6-7:30pm rehearsal with adults in the Worship Center

December 10th 10-12 pm rehearsal with adults and lunch!

December 11th 4 pm dress rehearsal and 6 pm is Christmas program

December 18th 2:30 pm Its About the Cross practice in Worship Center

December 25th 10:30 am Its About the Cross

(we understand it is difficult to make all practices and rehearsals, communicate and let us know how we can help you!)

SAVE THE DATE:

Children's Leaders Extravaganza January 20th 5-7:30 An appreciation dinner for ALL the tremendous Nursery, Sunday School, Awana, Choir, C4, Van drivers and VBS volunteers. Dinner and special guest speaker to encourage, train and equip us! RSVP in January and childcare provided.

2023 VBS!

WE ARE WRITING OUR OWN VBS!!!! Want to help us brainstorm and plan for a unique BIBLE week?

You are invited to hear and speak into the vision for VBS this year. Its one whole book.

One big missionary focus. One reluctant prophet, one big fish and one cruise ship vacation gone awry!!!

January 8th immediately after 10:30 am service in the Treehouse.

See Christy Johns, Sharon Magee or Jackie Coleman for details.

6th grade Sunday School is prayerfully seeking an assistant teacher to start in January and work alongside Kelly Moore. Come learn with the kids (16 of them!) more about the names of God through His Word and how that applies to you today. See Christy or Kelly for questions



"We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done" (Psalm 78:4).

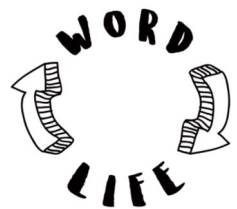
What began as a typical discussion about the theme for our annual Christmas party with the student leaders (STIRR Team), ended with an unexpected turn when an individual mentioned a "Senior Adult Christmas." The suggestion came purely in fun as they went on to describe being able to dress like their grandparent, even borrowing their clothes. The idea caught fire leading to the majority of the students voting to make that the theme. I left that meeting scratching my head as to what this party was going to look like, but I have learned in ministry and life that if you want students to grow into roles of leadership, you have to give them opportunities for ownership even when what they want to do is NOT what YOU would have done.

The idea and theme, personally, caught fire for me when listening to a friend and long time student pastor speak on a youth ministry podcast about introducing older generations to your students. He went on to talk about the benefits of introducing older Christians to your students as someone they can connect to, and how having them share their stories can help students see the faithfulness of God to lead them in their own lives. Therefore, over the next several weeks the students are going to hear from some older Christians in our congregation as they share about major moments of spiritual growth in their lives and God's faithfulness to them through the years. This will be a practical application of living out the verse above from Psalm 78.

God never ceases to amaze me in how He can take something silly and turn it into a serious direction of potential growth in ministry. So, would you pray along with me that these students and adults would be encouraged as they hear these testimonies? And pray with me that more relationships would be formed between our students and the older generation of Christians in our church. Finally, would you pray about making yourself available to serve in some capacity in student ministry, or being very purposeful each time we gather to slow down with a student? They need you! And, I think you will find the need to be mutual.

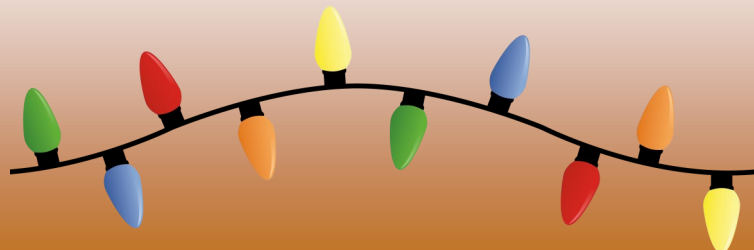
Humbly Desiring to Serve,

Jonathan Kyle



Wednesday, December 14th-Life 122 Christmas Party @6:15

Wednesday, December 21st & 28th-No Life 122



CCA epistola



*“Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, translated from the Greek word *parousia*, which means ‘coming’ or ‘arrival.’*

Upcoming Dates

Dec. 6th - CCA Christmas Program “One King” @ 7pm

Dec. 12-16th - Upper School Semester Exams

Dec. 16th - Early Dismissal

Dec. 19th - Jan. 3rd - Christmas Break

Jan. 2nd - Teacher In-Service

Jan. 3rd - 1st Day of Classes Spring Semester

Adventus - Advent - Coming

Galatians 4:4 *“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,*

Many churches have a traditional observance during the four weeks leading up to Christmas called Advent. Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, translated from the Greek word *parousia*, which means ‘coming’ or ‘arrival.’ Unfortunately, there is no mention of this Advent celebration in many low-church, protestant, evangelical churches. Many of our practically driven, CEO-business model, franchised churches of today have thrown-out centuries of tradition that helps focus the mind and heart on the person and work of Christ along with other holy things. So, where did Advent come from, and what does it mean?

There is no exact historical date when Advent began, but the earliest documentation about Advent is found in the Council of Saragossa in 380AD. The council was formed to discuss asceticism, address Priscillianism, determine Christian community boundaries, and discuss the roles of men and women in private and public. The council issued eight canons (or official statements), and one included that every Christian should daily go to church from December 17th until January 6th. Later, some churches calendared 40 days to be observed from November 15th to December 25th for the Advent celebration by fasting certain days of the week. These 40 days neatly corresponded to the season of lent in preparation for Easter or Passover. It was during the sixth century with Pope Gregory the Great (590-604) that Advent became part of the yearly church calendar along with sermon series focusing on Advent, but which Advent?

Today, we find ourselves looking back to the 1st Advent and looking forward to the 2nd Advent. In earlier times, the first two weeks of Advent focused on the *parousia* (Gk) specifically the second coming of Christ, and the last two weeks leading up to Christmas day reflected on the 1st Advent.

During this advent season, remind yourself and your family members to seek the totality of Advent. Yes, Jesus did leave glory (Phil. 2:7), take on flesh (Phil. 2:8), was born a fragile baby boy in a manger (Luke 2:7), so let us join the heavenly anthem and sing *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* along with numerous other Christmas carols celebrating the birth of Christ. But do not miss he was born that he would die (Heb. 2:9), yet death had no power

over him (Heb. 2:14). Therefore, he resurrected from the dead (1 Cor. 15:4), ascended to heaven (Acts 1:9), and is preparing a place for his people to join him when he fulfills his promised 2nd Advent (John 14:3). In the final verses of holy scripture we read *He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen. - Revelation 22:20–21*

Advent Blessings,

Pastor Dave

CCA Headmaster



Dear Follower of Christ,

I pray that you have made progress in conversations & relationships using a **A MODEL OF PERSONAL MINISTRY & THE ONE ANOTHER CARE COURSE!**

The description for **equipping** is "I make disciples with the life God has given to me," so God has helped us **IMAGINE A BETTER FUTURE.**

- I intentionally build deep **relationships** with other believers in order to... "EmBody, through grace, the *Priorities* of a Disciple and Pass them Along in Relationship for God's glory."
- I intentionally slow down to learn others backstories in order to know who they are, where they have been and help them discern where God wants them to go by discovery and discussion around the Bible.
- I intentionally ask good questions and tell personal stories from my experience.
- I intentionally help others love and live the **Scriptures**. I intentionally help others discover **actions steps** as the Holy Spirit leads. I provide accountability & affirmation.

The description for **loving** is "I serve, care for and encourage my brothers & sisters in Christ," so God has helped us **IMAGINE A BETTER FUTURE.**

- I intentionally love and serve my brothers and sisters in Christ because I have experienced Christ's love and sacrifice.
- I intentionally work to be at peace with & honoring to my brothers & sisters in Christ.
- I am intentionally sensitive to the needs of my brothers and sisters in Christ in order to care for them and bear their burdens as a means to encourage them.
- I intentionally forgive my brothers and sisters in Christ and clothe myself with humility when my personal preferences are different from theirs.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Stan

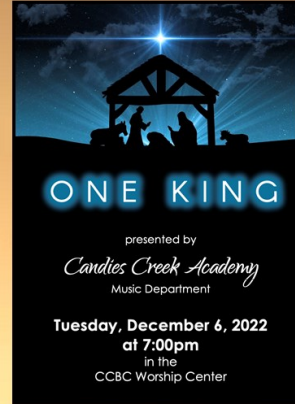
Christmas At The Creek



Parents' Night Out
Fri. Dec. 2nd, 5-8 pm
 Sign-Up Deadline 11/27



Ladies Cookie Swap/ŠtuB
Sat. Dec. 3rd at 9:00 am
 Bring 3 Doz. & Recipe to share



CCA Choir Program
Tues. Dec. 6th at 7:00 pm
 Worship Center



Parent Child Church
Dedication
Sun. Dec. 11th - 10:30 am



Adult & Children's
Choir Musical
Sun. Dec. 11th - 6:00 pm



Grace Asylum Christmas
Fri. Dec. 16th - 7:00 PM
 Worship Center



Christmas Eve Service
Sat. Dec. 24th
at 2:00 pm



Christmas Day
Sun. Dec. 25th
10:30 Service Only



Christmas Caroling
w/Cookies & Hot Cocoa/ŠtuB
Sun. Dec. 18th - 3:00 pm



Cookies w/Mom - 12/7
Jammies for Jesus - 12/14



Christmas Party - 12/14

Merry Christmas!

Shoebox Ministry 2022 Reflections

"It is a simple gift, but it's powerful because God is in it and over it as well. It shows the love of God, and I want more children to find out about that."

-Andrea Bollinger, former shoebox recipient and current volunteer

What a year of blessings the Lord has given us in 2022!!!

--1,648 shoebox gifts were packed and shipped by the believers at

Candies Creek Baptist Church

--The 200 millionth shoebox will be sent out by Operation Christmas Child

--Over 200 Candies Creek people of all ages participated in the Shoebox Ministry this year

--Many believers have used their God-given gifts and resources in service to Jesus Christ and others by packing, labeling, shopping, inventorying, cartonizing, praying or financing the Shoebox Ministry.

Let us rejoice in Him and praise His glorious name!

Dates ahead:

Friday, December 2, 2022....Shoebox Ministry Potluck Lunch, 11:30am

Friday, January 6, 2023.....Shoebox Sisters resume, 9:30am



PRAISE THE KING!

Given in Nov. \$78,632.31
Expenses in Nov. \$73,471.78

Given 2022 YTD \$749,432.86
Expenses 2022 YTD *\$832,749.92

*Includes \$46,000.00 gutter replacement expense

Lottie Moon YTD \$10,430.00



Join us for a common sense, Biblical approach to managing your money. We will give you the tools to get out of debt and save so you can live and give like no one else. Financial Peace University is a 9 week class that will give you the

tools to manage your money in a way that makes sense. Class will meet Sundays at 12:30 beginning January 9, 2023. We will eat together while we learn from Dave Ramsey and discuss the material. Childcare will be provided if necessary. Sign-up sheets are in the fellowship hall and at the Welcome Center. Class size is limited to 10 people. Cost is \$80 per person/couple for materials and online access. Contact Samuel Elmer (423-201-3578) or Robin Elmer (423-201-5590) with any questions.

*Normal is BROKE.
Be Weird!*

FINANCIAL PEACE
UNIVERSITY

Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

The Family of Geneva Fox

The Olmstead & Woulfe Families for the loss of their Mother & Grandmother Racean Edmonds

Garrett Tompson & Family for the loss of his mother Becky Ann Thompson

Robin Elmer & Family for the loss of her grandmother Jewel McDaniel

Eric Moore & Family for the loss of his nephew Keyshawn Tatum

2022 Advent Devotional from the IMB

Prepare for a season of hope, peace, joy and love by downloading your 2022 Advent Devotional from the International Mission Board at this link:

<https://www.imb.org/advent-devotional>

There will be a landing page and then you can open and save the Advent Devotional from there.



Caring Place Annual Coat Drive

Through December

Collection boxes are located in the Fellowship Hall & WC foyer

GENUINE WORSHIP, THE FRUIT OF REVIVAL

Praise the LORD! Praise Him, you servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD. Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time on and forever. From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised. The LORD is high above all nations; His glory is above the heavens (Psalm 113:1-4 NASB).

- 1 As many local churches spend this month celebrating the greatness of God and the birth of Jesus Christ, pray that your church family will truly worship God in spirit and in truth, understanding and experiencing more fully the awesomeness of God in His glory (John 4:24).
- 2 Seeing God as Jehovah Jireh, the One who provides for the needs of His children, pray that the families of your congregation will trust God and cry out to Him first for their physical, relational, and spiritual needs (Genesis 22:14).
- 3 As the families of your church face the enemies of this world system—real enemies that try to rob them of a victorious relationship and walk with Christ—pray that they will cling tightly to Jehovah Nissi, and by faith rally under His banner of victory (Exodus 17:15).
- 4 Pray that your church family will be faithful each week in honoring and observing a day of rest and worship, acknowledging that Jehovah M'kaddesh is the One who sanctifies and sets them apart as holy (Exodus 31:13).
- 5 Just as Gideon, during a season of oppression by the Midianites, discovered that the Lord is peace, pray that the believers in your community who are being persecuted for their faith will also experience the peace that comes when Jehovah Shalom intervenes on their behalf (Judges 6:24).
- 6 Jeremiah prophetically described the return of Israel's exiles under the leadership of Jehovah Tsidkenu, the Lord our righteousness (Jeremiah 23:6). Pray that those in your church who have wandered from God will repent of their backslidden condition and again pursue His righteousness.
- 7 Just as young David found strength in God as he bravely confronted Goliath, pray that the churches in your community will also depend on Jehovah Sabaoth, the Lord of armies, as we confront the giants of sin in our culture (1 Samuel 17:45).
- 8 Pray that your church family will hunger for God all the more in their pursuit of His manifest presence, and in doing so will find strength, comfort, and power from Jehovah Shammah, the Lord who is there (Ezekiel 48:35).
- 9 Just as David's loving Shepherd guided and cared for him, pray that your church family will recognize Jehovah Rohi as their Shepherd while facing today's challenges and the ongoing need for direction (Psalm 23:1).
- 10 As relational and financial insecurity for families is becoming the norm, pray that those in your congregation facing this challenge will find renewed hope in their relationship with the Ancient of Days, the One who has always been there to understand and care (Daniel 7:9).
- 11 For your church family, pray that the meditation of their hearts and the words from their mouths will be acceptable in God's sight (Psalm 19:14).
- 12 Pray that your Christian friends will "trust in the LORD forever, for in GOD the LORD, we have an everlasting Rock" (Isaiah 26:4).
- 13 Knowing that God has not forsaken those who seek Him, pray that your church family will always pursue God and rest in Him as "a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble" (Psalm 9:9-10).
- 14 As a sun and shield to each believer and One who gives grace and glory to those who walk uprightly, pray that God will not withhold any good thing from those in your church family who are walking before Him with integrity (Psalm 84:11).
- 15 With many undermining the fact that God is our Creator (Genesis 1:1), or that He even exists, please pray that the churches of your community will become bolder in loving people. Pray that through their unity and changed behavior, Christians will show the world the reality of God.



- 16** With churches often not thinking about the refining, maturing work God does in the lives of His children, pray that the members of your congregation will grow in their understanding of God as One who is “like a refiner’s fire, and like launderer’s soap” (Malachi 3:2).
- 17** Just like a father who has compassion on his children, God has compassion on those who fear Him (Psalm 103:13). Pray that today’s church, which so needs God’s compassion, will learn better how to fear and reverence Him.
- 18** Having graciously received comfort from the One who is “the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,” pray that we in turn will comfort others with the same kind of comfort we have received from Him (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).
- 19** Pray that your church family will not be deceived into thinking that the supernatural blessings they experience are produced by the efforts of man. Instead, pray that they will give thanks to the Father of lights, from whom every good thing and perfect gift comes (James 1:16-17).
- 20** Ask the Father of glory to give you and your church family “a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him” and His holy ways (Ephesians 1:17).
- 21** Pray that the spiritual eyes of your congregation will be so enlightened that they will “know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the boundless greatness of His power toward us who believe” (Ephesians 1:18-19).
- 22** Pray that those in your church family who may be feeling rejected and alone will have the same kind of comforting encounter Hagar had with the angel of the Lord. She was so encouraged in her loneliness that she described God as El Roi, “a God who sees” (Genesis 16:7-13).
- 23** Just as God was known to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as El Shaddai, God Almighty, pray that He will be just as powerfully known as a covenant-keeping God among the Christians in our nation (Exodus 6:2-4).
- 24** Even as Melchizedek, a priest of El Elyon, blessed God and Abram after the defeat Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, pray that your church family will also bless God Most High, who gives us victory during our fiercest struggles (Genesis 14:17-20).
- 25** As we celebrate the birth of Christ today, take a few moments to praise God for Jesus, the Son of the Most High, the One whose kingdom will have no end (Luke 1:32-33).
- 26** Knowing that Jesus will someday come again “in the glory of His Father with the holy angels,” pray that even now, while living in an adulterous and sinful generation, the members of your church family will not be ashamed to declare that Jesus is Lord (Mark 8:38).
- 27** Pray that when the members of your church family refer to Jesus as “Lord,” they will do so with humility, truly acknowledging that He is the head of the church and worthy of our submission (Luke 7:6-7).
- 28** Jesus is described in the Bible as the Word and the Light of men (John 1:1, 4). Pray that Christians will hunger to encounter Jesus every time they read their Bibles. Pray that they will be open to receive the exposing, convicting, spiritual light His presence brings.
- 29** Pray that your church family will recognize Jesus as the interceding, great high priest He truly is, the One who is “holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens” (Hebrews 7:25-26).
- 30** Pray that justice will be established on the earth as Jesus, the Servant of God, continues to “bring forth justice to the nations” (Isaiah 42:1).
- 31** Before we begin a new year, please take time to thank God for sending His Son into the world to save us from our sins. Praise Him for Immanuel, the One who truly is God with us (Matthew 1:23).

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

December



| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | | | 1 Rev 1 | 2 Rev 2 | 3 Ladies Cookie Swap 9-11am/StuB  | |
| 4 | 5 Rev 3 | 6 Rev 4  CCA Choir Presents "ONE KING" 7 pm - Worship Center | 7 Rev 5  AWANA Cookies w/Mom | 8 Rev 6 | 9 Rev 7 | 10 Adult & Children's Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am & Lunch | |
| 11 Dedication 10:30 am Service Deacons' Mtg. 4:30 pm  | 12 Rev 8 | 13 Rev 9 | 14 Rev 10  Students Christmas Party | 15 Rev 11 | 16 Rev 12  Grace Asylum Christmas 7:00 pm/WC | 17 | |
|  Adult & Children's Choir Musical 6:00 pm/WC | 18 | 19 Rev 13 | 20 Rev 14 | 21 Rev 15 No Children's or Youth Activities | 22 Rev 16 | 23 Rev 17 Office Closed | 24 Christmas Eve Service 2:00 pm  |
| Church-wide Caroling 3:00 pm  | 25 Merry Christmas! 10:30 Service Only w/Children's Choir Special  | 26 Rev 18 Office Closed | 27 Rev 19 | 28 Rev 20 No Children's or Youth Activities | 29 Rev 21 | 30 Rev 22 | 31 New Years Eve |

SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service (no C4).....8:00 am
Community Groups.....9:15-10:15 am
Late Worship Service (no C4).....10:30 am
Children's & Adult Choir.....6:00 pm

TUESDAYS

One Another Care Course.....10:00 am

WEDNESDAYS

Prayer Meeting.....6:00 pm
AWANA.....6:00-7:30 pm
Life 122.....6:15 pm

THURSDAYS

Men's Prayer Meeting6:30 am
Praise Team Practice.....6:30 pm





CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
294 OLD EUREKA RD.
CHARLESTON, TN 37310

Stan Gibson, Lead Pastor
Jonathan Kyle, Co-Pastor & Student Pastor
Sammy Parris, Worship Pastor
Christy Johns, Preschool & Children's Director

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|------|--|
| 1st | Allie Johns, Owen Smith, Wade McClanahan |
| 2nd | Christy Johns, Cesar Zaidman, Terry Graham |
| 5th | Avery Elmer, Lauren Hall, Marissa Shoemaker |
| 6th | Kendall Barkley |
| 7th | Michele Gustafson |
| 8th | Makayla & McKenzie Brewer, Tim Cody, Bob Ebling |
| 9th | Eric Moore |
| 11th | Anna Ruth Crumbley, Mitchell Delmotte |
| 13th | Tommy Scoggins |
| 15th | Julie Adolph |
| 16th | Abella Parsons, Linda Catoe |
| 17th | Lilly Cooke, Stephen Parris, Ethan Cavanaugh |
| 18th | Connie Baumgardner, Matthew Simmons |
| 19th | JoAnna Simko, Dan Smalley |
| 20th | Carolina Simko, Gayle Pierce, Dennis Tweed |
| 21st | Hannah Long |
| 22nd | Brooklyn Barkley, Tom Woulfe |
| 23rd | Martha Moses, Shawn Williams |
| 24th | Tommy Medley |
| 25th | Jesus Christ |
| 26th | Garrett Winsor, Ken Clemons |
| 27th | Connie Humphreys |
| 28th | Carson Barkley |
| 29th | Kim Burnette, Mike Celender |
| 30th | Tyler Ledford, Catherine Marcum |
| 31st | Sawyer Moseley, Trent Johns |



One Minute Clinic

I Wait for
THE LORD,
my whole waits,
BEING
& IN HIS WORD
i put my **HOPE.**

PSALM 130:5