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We just got finished with Christmas and although we tend to celebrate gifts, decorations, food, family, and Santa more than the birth of Christ, we at least say that we know that Christmas is *supposed* to be a celebration of the Incarnation. In light of that, I think we have a fairly good understanding that God came to earth, as Jesus Christ, to dwell among us. For a while we understand Emmanuel—God with us. However, once the Christmas season is over, we are inclined to forget this idea of Emmanuel-God with us.

What I am understanding better and better is the reality that God still dwells with us. Let's read the words of Jesus spoken to his disciples some time before his arrest and crucifixion:

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will obey what I command. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever- ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." John 14:15-21

Jesus tells us in this passage that we will not be left alone. He promises us a Counselor (other translations say Helper and Comforter). Christians know this Counselor/Helper/Comforter as the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit not only dwells with us, it dwells *in* us. **The Holy Spirit is God with us!**

Christmas 2011 may be over, but we can still sing *Hallelujah!* for we are not alone! God dwells in us in the form of the Holy Spirit. In this next year (and for the rest of our lives for that matter), let's resolve to yield to the promptings of the Holy Spirit more than to the promptings of our sin nature. The Holy Spirit will not prompt us to sin; our Counselor will give us wisdom to do the will of God and obey His commands. Let's also pray that our obedience to God's commands will be a clear display of our love for the Father that will honor and glorify Him.

²⁶ "But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you." John 14:26-27a.

Soli Deo Gloria.
Brian

Adaton Baptist Church
2872 MS Hwy 182
Starkville, MS 39759
662-323-3735 phone
662-323-9688 fax
www.adaton.org

Return Service Requested

Observance of the Lord's Supper
Sunday, January 1, morning worship service

Children's Ministry Team Meeting
Sunday, January 8 at 4:30pm in the fellowship hall.
Any parents interested in helping alongside the Children's Team in 2012 are encouraged to come join us for this meeting.

SEND US YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES

With this past year's 911 readdressing project, we no longer have current mailing/street addresses for many of you. Please email/call/write them on your tear-off tab at your earliest convenience. We appreciate it!!

2011 Tithe Statements Available Soon

If you haven't signed up for a copy of your 2011 Tithe Statement and still need to, please do so ASAP on the office door or by calling the church (323-3735). Statements will be available for pick-up mid-January.

Youth KRAVE CONFERENCE Deposit Due

Conference dates: January 20-21 at FBC Jackson. Cost: \$50 (includes fees, hotel lodging, & all meals). **\$20 deposit due by SUNDAY, JAN 1;** balance due by January 20.

NEXT NEW MEMBER CLASS

Interested in church membership or learning more about ABC? Come join us for this class with Pastor Tom. Childcare & refreshments provided.

Next class will be held on Sunday, January 22, at 6:00pm in Education building Room 107.

Women's Ministry in January

Moms of Babies/Preschoolers (MOPS)
Group Meeting at ABC

Tuesdays, January 10 & 24, 10:00am-11:30am.
(Meets the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month.)
Bring a snack to share. Meet in the fellowship hall.
Questions about this ministry?
Contact Sharon James - sajames85@gmail.com



Sunday Morning Worship 9:15am
Sunday School 10:45am
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Worship 6:15 pm

**SENIOR
SAINTS
LUNCHEON**

**Thursday, Jan. 12
11:00am**

Potluck meal in the fellowship hall at ABC

Special program by Margy Whitehead.

**CHILDREN'S
MINISTRY
NEWS!**

Wed. PM Children's Activities

Date for 2012 Kick-off of Children's activities TBD. Check the website to stay up-to-date.

AWANA THIS MONTH

Jan. 8 - Patriotic Night (STORE)
Jan. 15 - Pass-A-Section Night
Jan. 22 - Twin Night (match a friend)
Jan. 29 - Black Out Night (bring a flashlight)

Sign in at 5:45pm.

Baby Shower for Emily Francis

Sunday, January 22 from 2:00-4:00pm
ABC Fellowship Hall.

David & Emily are expecting a baby girl, Lucy Jean, in February. Registries at Walmart, Polka Tots, Babies-R-Us, & Target.



**50th Anniversary
Celebration for
John Allen & Sandra Smith**

Sunday, January 15, from 2:00-4:00pm
Held in the ABC Fellowship Hall

(See bulletin board for invitation. The Smith family would like to invite you to join them for this special occasion as they celebrate 50 years of marriage—1962-2012.)

January 2012

Make Sure You Stay Up-to-Date By Checking Our Website: www.adaton.org

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</p> <p>No Sunday School this AM No PM Activities Tonight</p> <p>No AWANA Tonight (New Years Holiday)</p>	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>8</p> <p>Children's Team Meeting at 4:30pm</p> <p>Properties Committee Meeting at 5:30pm</p> <p>AWANA @ 5:45pm! Patriotic Night (STORE)</p>	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>15</p> <p>50th Anniversary Reception for John Allen & Sandra Smith 2:00-4:00pm</p> <p>AWANA @ 5:45pm! Pass a Section Night</p>	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>22</p> <p>Baby Shower for Emily Francis @ 2:00pm</p> <p>NEW MEMBER CLASS @ 6:00PM</p> <p>AWANA @ 5:45pm! Twin Night (match a friend)</p>	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>29</p> <p>AWANA @ 5:45pm! Black Out Night - bring flashlight</p>	30	31	<p>Wednesday Night Meal</p> <p>Adult plate - \$5.00</p> <p>Child's plate - \$2.50 (ages 4-10)</p> <p>COLLEGE STUDENT - \$3.00</p> <p>KIDS 3 & UNDER EAT FREE</p>		<p>Missions First Offering Total for December: \$383.00</p>	

<p>Sunday Schedule</p> <p>Morning Worship 9:15am Fellowship Time 10:20am-10:40am Sunday School 10:45am Evening Worship 6:00pm</p>	
<p>Wednesday Schedule</p> <p>Family Meal 5:15pm Youth "FUEL" Worship 6:15pm Children's Activities/Choir 6:15pm Evening Worship 6:15pm Adult Choir Practice 7:05pm</p>	
<p>Blessings on December 4, 2011</p>	
Sunday School Attendance	150
Morning Worship Attendance	216
Total Contributions	\$13,131.25
Less other Designated Gifts	\$ 717.00
Less Cooperative Program 10%	\$ 1,241.43
Less Building Fund 10%	\$ 1,241.43
Less Building Maintenance 1%	\$ 124.14
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 9,807.26
Needed Operating Receipts	\$ 7,584.55
<p>Blessings on December 11, 2011</p>	
Sunday School Attendance	147
Morning Worship Attendance	183
Total Contributions	\$ 4,488.32
Less other Designated Gifts	\$ 191.00
Less Cooperative Program 10%	\$ 429.73
Less Building Fund 10%	\$ 429.73
Less Building Maintenance 1%	\$ 42.97
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 3,394.88
Needed Operating Receipts	\$ 7,584.55
<p>Blessings on December 18, 2011</p>	
Sunday School Attendance	147
Morning Worship Attendance	166
Total Contributions	\$ 7,899.85
Less other Designated Gifts	\$ 1,761.00
Less Cooperative Program 10%	\$ 613.85
Less Building Fund 10%	\$ 613.85
Less Building Maintenance 1%	\$ 61.38
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 4,849.38
Needed Operating Receipts	\$ 7,584.55
<p>Blessings on December 25, 2011</p>	
Sunday School Attendance	No SS
Morning Worship Attendance	105
Total Contributions	\$ 9,135.00
Less other Designated Gifts	\$ 345.00
Less Cooperative Program 10%	\$ 879.00
Less Building Fund 10%	\$ 879.00
Less Building Maintenance 1%	\$ 87.90
Total Operating Receipts	\$ 6,944.10
Needed Operating Receipts	\$ 7,584.55