

Newsletter of Kenmore Baptist Church

The Compass ~ December 2023

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year”, as the saying goes!

The month of December, leading all the way up to the celebration of the birth of King Jesus, is so rich with traditions, happiness, family and nostalgia. December is the month that no one really seems to mind the snow as we all wish for a “White Christmas”, and we tend to choose momma’s famous cookies to warm our spirits and bellies instead of worrying about the calories!

December also comes with a look back at our year, to see what we’ve accomplished, made it through, enjoyed, learned from, and progressed in different parts of our lives. It’s time to evaluate where we are, compared to where we were on January 1st, because the New Year is once again right around the corner!

As a church family, we can and should do the same things together, right? We, being SET APART from the world, have the most special reason to celebrate the Christmas season, because we have received the ultimate gift of a Savior sent from Heaven just for us. We not only enjoy the traditions and nostalgia of our home and families, but with our church family as well! There is always something that makes us even more loving, giving and grateful during December, and I challenge you to be sure you share these beautiful traits with your church family.

Also, as a church family we look back on 2023, and WOW what a year it has been! Our church has been in a season of growth for the last 7 months, and it is so exciting and humbling to see and be a part of! Many new friends have joined us, and we have welcomed back many friends we haven’t seen in a while. We are brimming with life, love and excitement in all aspects of our beloved church home, and I can’t help but be extremely grateful, and hopeful for what is to come!

So, as we enjoy our December and holiday season with our families and church family, be proud of what you’ve accomplished, and in awe of our Lord, who has walked with us and guided us through this exceptional year! Celebrate the birth of our beloved Savior, King Jesus; without Him coming to this world, we couldn’t and wouldn’t be safe and secure in His grasp.

And continue to lift up His name! In John 12:32, King Jesus says, “But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” As a church family, we will continue to lift Him up, lift His banner high and be the light He calls us to be. When we are known for praising our King and living the way He calls us to, He will continue to draw people to Him through us!

Amen?!

It’s been an AMAZING year at KBC.... and I can’t wait to see what is in store for us!

**With all the Love,
Pastor Brian**



On Sunday, December 10, we will be hosting Dr. Carter from Creation Ministries, a global creation apologetics ministry. They support local churches in defending the literal, foundational teaching of creation, connecting creation to the Gospel, and equipping believers to better evangelize. They specialize in answering the hardest questions that people have about Biblical origins, Cain's wife, dinosaurs, fossils, and death and suffering. You won't want to miss it!



Angel Tree Gift Giving at KBC

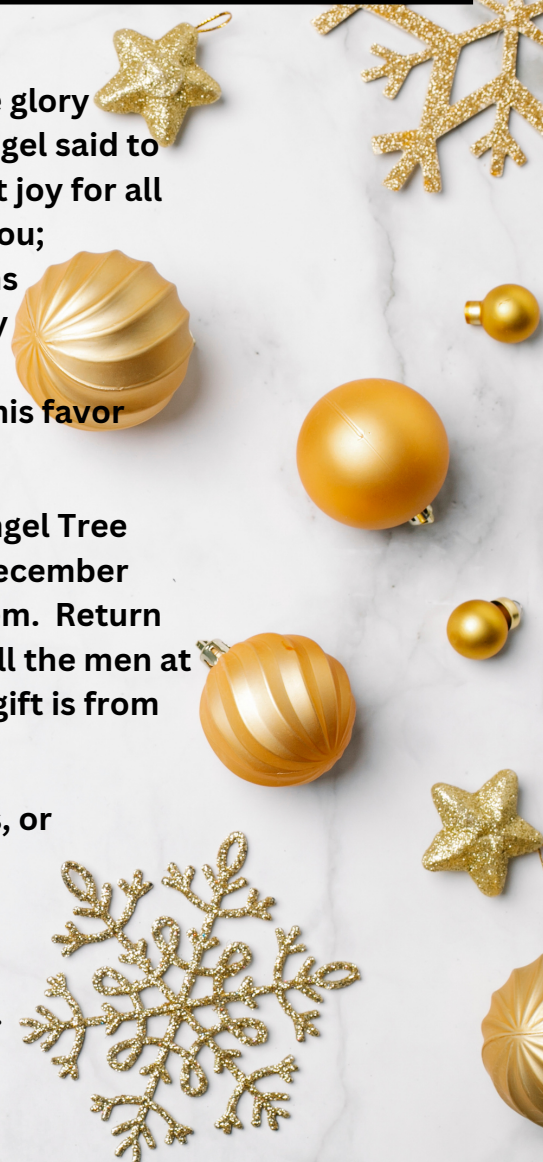
An angel of the Lord appeared to [the shepherds], and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.... You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests. Luke 2:9-14 (NIV)

Angel Tree Ministry – The Mission Board is again sponsoring the Angel Tree which will be displayed in the foyer from December 3th through December 17th. Please take a card or two from the angel tree noting a gift item. Return the unwrapped gift with the card taped to the gift. The card will tell the men at City Mission and the women and children at Cornerstone that the gift is from Kenmore Baptist Church.

Suggestions for men include socks, underwear, warm shirts, gloves, or a gift of your choice. Suggestions for women and children include pajamas, warm clothing, toiletries, Christian story books or a gift of your choice.

May you receive a blessing this holiday season for your generosity.

Grace Barnes for the Mission Board



Blessing Bag Wish List:

The Esther Circle is in need of some more items to put in our Blessing bags.

We will have a laundry basket and sign in the upstairs foyer outside the sanctuary.

1. travel size toothpaste
2. Warm hats
3. Scarves
4. Gloves or mittens
5. Socks

Thank you to all who donate so that we can give comfort to those less fortunate this Winter.



The Esther Circle will Not be meeting in this month

The Blessing Bags that will be available in the church foyer on Sunday, December 3rd.

You can take one to put in your car for someone who might be in need this winter.

We will meet on Thursday, January 18, 2024, weather permitting.

We pray that everyone will have a Blessed Christmas.

The American Baptist Women's Ministries of Erie and Niagara Falls will be having their Annual Christmas Celebration on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 10am at the Polish Nook, 2242 Cudaback Ave., Niagara Falls, NY 14303. It will be a Brunch Buffet. If you haven't already paid, it will be \$30 at the door. We will probably be carpooling from our church. Please contact Barb Schultz or Sharon Benton if you haven't reserved a seat for the Brunch.

Please bring socks, gloves, scarves or hats to be given to a Niagara Falls Mission. Also if you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a gift to receive a gift. We invite all the women of the church to join us for a Blessed day of Christian fellowship.

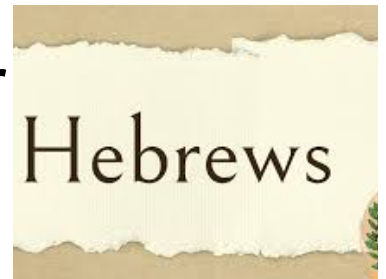


The Decorating Committee will again be decorating the sanctuary at Christmas with live red Poinsettias.

They will be for the purchase price of \$8.00 each. Forms will be available Dec. 3- Dec. 17 so you may dedicate them in memory or honor of a Loved ones.

Please make checks payable to Kenmore Baptist Church with FLOWERS in the memo line or on the envelope. Please contact Barb Schultz if you have any questions.... 941-412-6321.

Wheeler Bible Study



We will meet 2x per month,
Monday at 7pm

Studying verse by verse.

Looking at a chapter a week.

We will break down the Scriptures based on cultural context, discuss parallel Scriptures throughout

the Word, and we will discuss together how to apply these ancient truths to our current world.

Kids Pop Up
Event

Movie Matinee at KBC

Saturday, December 16 at 2pm

This is a FREE family event, adults are required to stay with children.

Join us for the story of JESUS birth,
and find the Reason for the Season
Popcorn, crafts and FUN!



PLEDGE



It's envelope time.

If you need new tithe envelopes or have never had them before, please contact Donna Ryan. If you don't need a new supply, continue to use the envelopes previously given to you.

Kenmore Baptist Fellowship Feast

When: Wednesday, Dec. 6th
Where: Kenmore Baptist Church

Open to everyone who would like to share delicious food and fellowship. Every month we choose a theme and for December we'll be tantalizing our taste buds with Kenyan cuisine!



Thank
you
to the
Ladies
of
Esther
Circle

Blessing Bag



*Sunday at 7pm
Join us for a Family friendly
time together.*

Christmas Eve Services



We invite you to take a bag
to keep in your car
to share with someone you
may meet this winter who
is in need.





RMMO2023: Good will come.

*“Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,
who conduct their affairs with justice.” — Psalm 112: 5 (NIV)*

**During the month of December KBC will receive the
Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering (RMMO).**

The Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering supports retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses who have devoted 15 or more years of their lives to service in American Baptist Churches USA.

**For all they’ve done for us, let’s thank our faithful pastors and missionaries.
*“I thank my God every time I remember you.” (Philippians 1:3)***

Giving to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering is one tangible way to say “Thank you for...” all the ways ministers and missionaries have helped guide you along your spiritual journey.

This offering supports those who have devoted their lives to God’s service by providing emergency assistance in their times of need and a Thank You check at the end of each year. With gift revenue from the RMMO 2022 offering, we distributed 3,332 thank you checks averaging \$154, a modest amount in which the gesture says far more than the dollars. For all the Goodness they’ve brought, let’s do this for them again this year.

RMMO recipients have used their funds to:

- **Pay for medical expenses not covered by Medicare, such as hearing aids, dental services, and vision care;**
- **Purchase prescription medication not covered under health insurance; and**
- **Make emergency home repairs.**

Envelopes are located on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Checks can be made payable to Kenmore Baptist Church with RMMO written in the note section of the check.

Please give as you have been blessed.

Grace Barnes, Chair of the KBC Mission Board



HAPPY
Birthday

December 1 - Gavin Miller III
December 2 - Jennifer Longwith
December 3 - Jodie Shields
 William Chapin II
December 4 - Russell Dasaro
December 7 - Felix Nitrenganya
December 8 - Joseph Poole
December 10 - Hannah Holden
 Nancy Babin
December 15 - Kayla Lopez
 Olivia Lattimore
December 17 - Brittany Wzontek
December 18 - Peter Lorey
December 19 - Susan Swartz
December 23 - Erica Eggleton
December 26 - Grace Barnes
December 27 - Edward Poole
 Ray Schooler
December 29 - Jeffrey Millen
December 31 - Charles Reinhardt

Happy
anniversary

December 3
 Ray and Gail Schooler
December 21
 Walter and Farah Thermidor



*in
loving
memory*

Our Hearts go out to
 Joey Mann (Mote)
 On the loss of her
 husband, Hap