



INVITING IN...
GROWING UP...
SENDING OUT...

Benton United Methodist Church
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The Message

December 2, 2012

A Different Kind of Christmas!
John 1: 1-9

December 9, 2012

Expect a Miracle
Isaiah 9: 2-7; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 4: 18-21

December 16, 2012

Giving Up On Perfect
Luke 1: 26-34

December 23, 2012

Scandalous Love
Hosea 2: 2-3; Hosea 3: 1; Romans 3: 23-24

December 24, 2012

Jesus' Wish List
Matthew 25: 45-46; John 3: 14, 16-18; Isaiah 61: 1

December 30, 2012

By a Different Road
Amos 5: 21-24; Matthew 2: 2-12; Matthew 6: 21

In The News

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Prayer Concerns

The Arbor
Bill & Liz DeBusk

The Arbor House (W. Monroe)
3702 Cypress St, W. Monroe, LA 71291
Frankie Rodes

Cypress Point
Beverly Quillin
Nora Wynne

Pilgrim Manor
Virginia Duke
Ann Husser
Nellie Wyche

Horizon Bay
Lois Beck
Ruth Dixon
Frances Dunnam
Evelyn Futch
Everlene Harvey
Martha Ree Jones
Elsie Whittington

Heritage Manor
Freeman Flowers

Requests

Jennifer Warner
Jim Farnam
Jerry Paylor
Dale Whipple
Ed Berridge
Dana Cherry
Tibb Jacobs
Barbara Hicks
Myrel Jackson
Jack Grisham
Nancy Wilde
Isella Reed
Ross Lloyd
Shirley Mosher
Sierra Irwin Morgan
Missy Faust
Mary Jamroz
Ed Eckfeld
Richard Clark
Mary Beth Dietrick
Justin Bolton
Landon Jacobs
Lynette Savage
Ydell Buck
Dayton Hughes
Lee Grisso
Jerry Teutch
Bob Dehner
Barbara Denmon
Joanne Horton
Martha Mary
Norma Corbin

Community Concerns

Kay Chandler
Gary Fambrough
LaMarcus Thurman
Hank Adger
Tanner Williamson
Chris & Rebecca Morris
John Lavern
Mike Karamales
David Atkins
Shawn
Chiquita Harris
Larry Butler
Gavin Morris
Mark Wise
Ruth Dixon
Mackenzie Green

Deaths

Ralph Bennett
Steve Wilson
Waylon Dixon
Brady Henderson
Rev. Robert Chance

Military

Troops and Leaders
Troops in Afghanistan
Thomas Greathouse
LaVelton Woodberry
Brian Leo
Josh Van Boening

Church Concerns

Government Leaders
Addiction ministry
Gun Violence
Peace in Middle East
Sandy victims
Salem Baptist Church
Lay Leadership Nominations
Missions (Local, National, and International)
Small Groups & Leaders
Church Leadership
Church Staff
Our Pastor & Family
Our Church Family
Seminary Studies
Confirmation Class
Journey to Bethlehem
Advent Conspiracy

Benton United Methodist Church *INsight*

December 2012

Grace and peace to you in the Name and Spirit of Jesus Christ!

Christmas is when God gives us His only Son so that life would be different; so that we would be different; so that we would understand the height and depth, the power and the immenseness and the sheer undeserved love of God. It is this love that created us, blesses us, provides for us, disciplines us, forgives us, helps us, cares for us, goes to the cross for us and never dies. Christmas is a time for us to be open to God's love in both receiving and giving. Christmas can make us different as we make a difference in the world in Christ's Name.

One way we can allow Christmas to make us different this year is through the Advent Conspiracy. This year's theme is *A Different Kind of Christmas*. The Advent Conspiracy is our way of reclaiming the true Spirit of Christmas as we: worship fully; spend less; give more; and love all.

The invitation this Advent is to:

- ◆ worship God each day and weekly with our church family. Spending quality time with God is the most important thing we can do!
- ◆ buy one less gift per person. Usually we buy gifts for people that really don't need anything.
- ◆ give more creatively. Make gifts that are memorable and from the heart and give the money that you would have spent on those gifts toward the Advent Conspiracy offering at church.
- ◆ love everyone. This Advent, make time to serve those in need and find ways to love your neighbor just as much as we love ourselves.

This will be our second year to participate in the Advent Conspiracy. Last year we raised \$13,355.00 for mission through our Advent Conspiracy offerings! I hope to raise at least \$15,000 to support these awesome life changing mission projects in Benton and around the world in Cambodia. *For more information on how your Christmas can be different through the Advent Conspiracy offerings, please turn to page 7.*

This Advent and Christmas can be different! If we allow it to happen, Christmas can be more about God's incarnation in the babe of Bethlehem and less about us. If we allow it to happen, Christmas can be for us the opportunity to focus on the gift of salvation in Christ as we worship more fully, spend less, give more creatively and graciously, and love all of God's children. Will you join me and my family as a co-conspirator in the Advent Conspiracy? Christmas can be different.

Grace and peace,
Rev. Danny Gleason
Senior Pastor

Merry Christmas!!!

Join us for a *different kind of Christmas* this year.

Look through the pages of this newsletter find out how your can serve your community, bless someone's life and yours through this season of Advent.

Helping Hands Souper Saturday

The Table

The Closet

Daughters of Cambodia

Women's Livelihood Projects

And many, many more.

Please visit
www.bentonumc.org

For more information about these and other ministries of Benton United Methodist Church.



Committed to Christ

I have 7 months until my retirement. That's not very long and there is much to do. I have a dream and you are a part of that desire. I love Benton United Methodist Church. You are a rich part of my life long journey in Christian discipleship. Once I learned that it was an on-going process of growing into Christ likeness, I have sought ways to deepen that journey. Will you join me as we focus this year on being fully committed to Christ?

When the staff attended the Leadership Institute at Church of the Resurrection this past October, Cheryl Nelson and I attended a workshop on learning the six steps of a generous life.

Those steps are:

► Prayer ► Bible study ► Worship ► Witness ► Financial Giving ► Service

Sound familiar? May be even "ho hum, there she goes again." I hope not, because I am fully committed to grow in these coming months and I desire you to join me along the way.

com·mit·ment (kə-mīt'mənt)

There were a number of definitions of the word commitment on the web: 1) *The state of being bound emotionally or intellectually (or spiritually) to a course of action or to another person or persons;* 2) *Promise, or personal commitment;* 3) *Commitment is the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity, etc.. It is also known as a pledge or an undertaking. A commitment is never supposed to be broken, if it is broken; that means it was never a commitment rather was just a pretention and lying.*

Wow, that means commitment is really serious. So serious that many of us just don't commit to anything these days, less we cannot fulfill our promise. We are lost in a world of bouncing to our whim and whines.

Most of you are aware that the church talks about commitment mostly around pledge time. Sharing what you estimate to be your financial gifts to our church helps us to plan how our ministry and mission budget will be spent. But what if we each signed commitment cards about the other 5 areas in our lives that demonstrate our commitment to Christ? What if we said:

"Yes, Lord"?

I am fully convinced as we make this journey we will become a high expectation congregation that looks for our believers to pray daily, read and study the Bible regularly, attend worship faithfully, witness willingly, give sacrificially and serve gladly.

It is more than just a nice idea, it truly matters to God that we live in faithful discipleship.

On the journey,

Dianne

Reclaiming Christmas

The focus for most of our Sunday school classes beginning December 2, 2012 will be Michael Slaughter's book "Christmas is Not Your Birthday". Books are now on sale in the church office for \$9.00. There is an accompanying devotional book for \$6.00. If you are not in a Sunday school class, this is a great time to come and learn with others how to Experience *the Joy of Living and Giving like Jesus*.

Every year we say it's going to be different this year. But the advertisements start earlier, bargains on Black Friday beckon us to spend more money, children are bombarded with visuals that increase their desire for more. It seems easier to just give in to their pleas and our wants. Overspending, overeating, materialism, and busyness rob us of our peace and joy AND it robs Jesus of his rightful role as the center of our celebration.

Join us as we make a *life decision* that Advent will be spent preparing our hearts to worship Him, spend less, give more of ourselves and not things, and love everyone including the poor, forgotten, marginalized and the sick in ways that will make a difference.

Rev. Slaughter has written a very readable book that helps us focus on the wonder of Jesus and the joy from being fully committed to him. Join us as we reclaim the broader missional meaning of Jesus' birth and experience a Christmas season with more peace and joy than any toy or gadget could ever bring.



Advent Conspiracy-2012

If you want this Christmas to be different than your last - today might be a great day to tell your family & friends: Conspire Together. Don't give a meaningless gift when you can change the lives of so many just by giving up one gift and giving the money you save to our 2012 Advent Conspiracy.

This year give a gift that gives life to someone. Our mission projects for Advent Conspiracy are: Benton UMC local missions (Helping Hands, Souper Saturday, The Table, and The Closet) and Cambodia. The Youth have selected to raise money for Daughters of Cambodia and the Children's project in Cambodia is Women's Livelihood Projects which provides gifts of livestock and tools for women to create self-sustaining livelihoods.

Local Missions: Benton UMC shares the love of Jesus Christ by providing food, clothing, a hot meal and help with utilities through our special mission focus on helping our neighbors in north Bossier Parish. Your gift will be used to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and care for those in prison.

International Missions: Daughters of Cambodia project The commercial sexual exploitation of children and young people in Cambodia has escalated over the last decade, into what is now an 'industry' utilized by foreign visitors and by a large domestic market. 90% of girls are knowingly sold by their families, a factor which serves to maintain enslavement in the sex industry once there, compounded by lack of alternative job opportunities and social stigma. Families' main reasons for selling their children include poverty, debt & financial difficulties. For each sponsorship the entire amount donated goes direct to the girl, none is deducted for admin costs. This means each sponsorship makes all the difference in changing a girl's life, literally enabling her to walk free from slavery. If you wish to sponsor a girl's to start a business or attend college, you can do so. It cost \$450 to send one young woman to attend college for a year, \$350 to begin a small business, and \$150 for high school students to buy school supplies and uniform. Public schools are free but if you do not have uniform and supplies, you cannot be able to attend.

Can you help us sponsor 10 young women to provide their education so that they do not have to be in this situation in the first place? Your donation of any amount will help us toward that goal.

Women's Livelihood projects help women in the church community who are trapped in poverty cycles. Even if they had the desire and skills to ensure their own local project to support themselves, they do not have the financial means to do so. The goal is to give a gift of livestock (cow, pig or fish to rise), handicraft tool (sewing machine or weaving basket) or other appropriate means of producing income for 90 women each year. **Our children have set their goals:**

- | | |
|--|---|
| ◆ December 2 nd Vegetable growing \$100 | ◆ December 23 rd Loom and thread \$350 |
| ◆ December 9 th Sewing Machines \$150 | ◆ December 30 th Deep Well \$250 |
| ◆ December 16 th Fish Pond \$250 | |

Will you help them make a difference in these lives so they can break the cycle of poverty? Your gift of any amount will help. Checks for Advent Conspiracy that are not designated for a particular project will be equally divided.

Helping Hands Fund

Long before our church moved out of downtown Benton we were involved in helping those who had a need. Those who needed help came to see Pastor Bill Moon who would write a note indicating the amount of groceries that could be bought or gasoline that could be purchased. Covington Grocery would honor the slip and then at the end of the month send a statement to the church. This was paid out of the "Needy Fund" from donations made at the altar rail on Communion Sunday. We help those that live in North Bossier Parish, usually Benton and Plain Dealing.

The name of the fund was changed to "Helping Hands" about 10 years ago. Money is never given out to individuals who come seeking help, but checks are written directly to the source. We limit our help of \$50.00 to once a year. We call Willow Chute and give the name of the person who needs gas. They receive \$30.00 of gasoline and we are faxed the ticket. Now that we are a distribution point for the Northwest Food Bank and have our own emergency food boxes we no longer send people to the grocery store to purchase items. We have also used the funds to purchase fans for Plain Dealing Council on Aging and for Impact Benton.

Our greatest need is for help with utility bills and gasoline or help with overnight lodging. Persons who come in for help have a form to fill out and if they qualify they are put on the Food Box list which helps them in the future have more of their income for utilities or other needs. Anyone who calls is cross referenced with our list of Food box and our Helping Hands participants. This allows us to help more people.

In 2010 we received donations of \$8876.00 and disbursed \$8627.00. In 2011 we received \$7810.00 and disbursed \$7405.00. This year (2012) we were able to supplement our Helping Hands Funds with \$3000.00 from your Advent Conspiracy gifts given last Christmas. Our total income this year is \$9789.00 and we have disbursed through November \$7829.00. Your gifts at the communion rail each month or your Advent Conspiracy gift this month help us to help others.

Thank you for your Helping Hands!

December 2012 at a glance

WEEKLY & MONTHLY

Sunday

Traditional Worship 8:30 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 10:50 a.m.
Children's Church 11:10 a.m. (for ages 3-5th grade)
Sunday School 9:40 a.m.
United Methodist Men's Breakfast 3rd Sunday at 7:15 a.m.

Tuesday

Prayer Team 9:00 a.m.
NWLA Food Bank Delivery & Truck Unloading
Tuesday before 3rd Wednesday at 9:00 a.m.
United Methodist Women Nightingales Circle
3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Eva Smith Room
OPALS (Older People with Active Life Styles)
4th Tuesday at 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Wednesday Night Live Dinner 5:30 p.m.
Every Wednesday
Small Groups & Studies 6:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday
INcounter Student Worship 6:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday
The Closet Clothes Ministries 1:00 p.m.
(1st, 2nd & 4th Wednesday, Contact: Gwen Hodge at 218-3710)
Shreveport Bossier Rescue Mission 4:15 p.m.
(2nd Wednesday, Contact: Bo May at 347-8341)
The Closet Clothes Ministries 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(3rd Wednesday, Contact: Gwen Hodge at 218-3710)
The Table Food Ministries Food Distribution
9:00 – 5:00 p.m.
(3rd Wednesday, Contact: Rachel Stoneman at 965-2273)
Sutton Children's Hospital 6:00 p.m.
(4th Wednesday, Contact: Ron Jones at 469-3693)
United Methodist Women Morning Glories Circle
4th Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Eva Smith Room

Thursday

Choir Practice at 5:30 p.m.
Praise Team Practice at 5:30 p.m.
Alcoholics Anonymous 6:00 p.m. in Pairs & Spares
Al-Anon 6:00 p.m. in the Breakfast Club
First Place 4 Health
10:15 a.m. in the Breakfast Club Room

Saturday

Super Souper Saturday 8:00 a.m.
The Table Food Ministries Distribution 10:00 a.m.
The Closet Clothes Ministries 10:00 a.m.

Monday-Thursday

Church Office Help 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 pm.

AND

Friday

Church Office Help 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
(Multiple shifts, answer phones & other office related duties,
Contact: Rachel Stoneman at 965-2273)

EVENTS

Call the church office at 965-2273 or email
bentonumc@bellsouth.net to submit your calendar
items.

The good news of Advent is this:

Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.
We will welcome Christ into our hearts.
We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry.
We will go forth from this place in hope.

Hanging of the Greens

Benton UMC will celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent on December 2, 2012 during both morning worship services by preparing our Sanctuary for the coming of Christ. Our church will begin to wear its Christmas apparel. The tree and lights, symbolizing Christ as the light of the world will shine for us. Greens such as cedar for royalty, fir and pine boughs for everlasting life, holly symbolizing Jesus' death and ivy represent the resurrection are used. The history of traditional holiday symbols, decorations and Chrismons are explained as we decorate the Sanctuary for the holiday season. As we make ready for the birth of the child, by preparing our sanctuary, we make ready ourselves and the sanctuary of our hearts. We are mindful that although it is not Christmas yet, it will be here soon, very soon. Let us rededicate ourselves to the service of God.

Come Join the Benton United Methodist Women

Fourth Quarterly General Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center

All women are welcome to join us for an evening of fellowship as we share a meal and program. The officers for 2013 will also be installed.

The two circles (UMW small groups) do things a little differently in December. Rather than meet at their regularly scheduled times, each group plans to have a meal together at the local restaurant of their choosing. Join the Nightingales on December 18, at 5:30 p.m., for dinner at Santa Fe on Airline Drive. Morning Glories will meet on December 19, at 11:00 a.m. at Santa Fe.

UMW is active in several ministries of BUMC including the Closet Clothes Ministries and the Table Food Ministries. We have plans to do much more to help bring the Kingdom of God to persons in need. Come join us to learn more.

Thank you Notes received from Sutton Children's Hospital

Ron & Benton UMC
Bingo Team,

Thank you all so much for your time, energy and enthusiasm to serve our patients and families! We are so grateful for each of you! Thanks for making a difference!



Amy

Thank you so much: Gracias! We love you all! We really appreciate you! You make all the difference! Thank you for all you do!

Jessie, RN	Kolla, RN
Christy, PICU RN	Susan, RN
Audra, RN	Micaela, RN
Yvette, PCT/UC	Morgan, PCT
Paige Kaley	LaTressa, PCT
Elizabeth, PICU RN	Ashley Juli, CCLS
Lauren RN	Kimberly, PCT
Glenda, LPN	Danielle, UC
Anita Barrett, UC	

Christmas at Benton UMC

Hanging of the Greens Service

Sunday, December 2
8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.

Journey to Bethlehem

December 8 & 9
6:30-9:00 p.m.

The Christmas Cupcake Children's Program & Jesus' Birthday Party

Wednesday, December 12
6:00 p.m.

Day Care Children's Program

Friday, December 14
10:00 a.m.

Special Christmas Music

Sunday, December 16
8:30 & 10:50

Brought to you by INstudent Ministries
& the youth band, Bringing Two.

Emmanuel, God with Us

Wednesday, December 19
6:30 p.m.

Bring a dessert to share!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Monday, December 24
6:00 p.m.



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. I had a wonderful time visiting my family in Florida. With Christmas coming quickly, I'd like to let you know some things we are doing during this season. The choir has been busy these past few months working on our Christmas cantata, *Emanuel, God With Us*. We will be presenting this music on **December 19th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. We are especially excited to have the children joining us this year, and we hope you will too.

Each month, on the second Saturday, we sing hymns with the residents of Garden Court Nursing Home. This month we will sing our cantata there on December 8th at 10:00 am. Anyone who can come with us on this day to sit with and talk with the residents would be a great addition to this ministry. The residents enjoy having company as much as they enjoy the music.

There are so many areas of ministry to be involved with during Christmas, so check out what's going on around the church. Ask questions if you are unsure how you can serve, and join us as we celebrate Jesus this year!

Kim Winterman



Journey to Bethlehem

Preparations Begin! Get Excited!!

Serve - Enjoy Fellowship - Have Fun for a Common Cause

Journey to Bethlehem is Benton UMC's gift to our community and beyond as we tell the story of Jesus' birth through live postcard scenes. We usually have about 1000 cars drive through our parking lot to see the Christmas story. Check your calendars! Which days can you work? Plan TODAY to support your church by working. Go to our website www.bentonumc.org and sign up for the days and hours you plan on serving.

Journey to Bethlehem-Behind the Scenes

Costumes: Organize, Clean, Repair, Press, Put away, Dress Actors
Scenes: Touch-up Paint, set-up, decorate, tear down, provide hay, pick-up and return hay

Outside: Set up bags with sand and candles, light candles, Locate animals (anybody have a camel?)

Food: Our volunteers get very hungry. We need lots of snack food and servers and clean-up crews

Journey to Bethlehem-In the Scenes

Stand in a scene for 30 minutes and then spend 30 minutes in Fellowship Hall eating and visiting! There are 12 scenes with the same biblical characters in many of them. We need Angels, Roman soldiers, King Herod, shepherds, wise men, Mary and Joseph, Inn Keeper.

Although we try to be still as possible, we want to encourage families with older children to be in the Shepherd scene and Angel choir scene.

Servants Needed for Journey to Bethlehem

On December 8 and 9 we will need over 100 servants each night. The scenes are from 6:30-9:00 p.m. If you choose to be an actor, you will be outside for three 30 minute periods. You can serve one or both nights. Let's all commit to one or more aspect of the Journey. Keep in mind that 100s of people of all ages will come to experience the Christmas story. That will be hundreds of opportunities for us to show the love of Christ to the community. The drive through will draw the people to our church. We need to make them feel welcome and loved while they are here. The impact is huge. We need everyone's help to accomplish this.

Can we count on you?



Beach BUMS News

News for Parents and Kids
(ages 3 years old through fifth grade)



The Starfish Chorus, our children's choir, has begun and will continue preparations to be a part of the adult choir's cantata. We practice on Sunday mornings during Children's Church with Mrs. Kim Winterman. In addition, we have also begun our Wednesday evening practices for our own children's Christmas program, *The Christmas Cupcake*.

Mrs. Jennifer Hable will be our musical director. I look forward to seeing our children **GROW UP** their faith through their musical and dramatic talents. The adult Christmas Cantata will be presented on Wednesday evening, December 19, at 6:30 PM. *The Christmas Cupcake* will hit the stage on Wednesday, December 12, at 6:00 PM followed by a Birthday Party for Jesus at 7:15 PM. **BRING IN** your friends and family to attend both!



We are also **GROWING UP** our faith through our lessons in Children's Church. Our younger students listen to and act out a Bible story related to their Sunday School curriculum and enrich their biblical knowledge using games and crafts. In addition to learning the basics of our Methodist faith and how to use their Bibles, our older students have been training to be acolytes. We look forward to seeing them put their knowledge and understanding to work during our worship. Many thanks to Karen and Matt Wise for the wonderful job they are doing with our older Beach BUMS during Children's Church.

Start doing your chores and saving your dollars and change! We will begin our Advent Conspiracy projects on December 2, 2012. Our children did a FABULOUS job last year during Advent supplying an abundance of livestock to people around the globe. This year we will again focus on livestock that will be specifically designated for the area served by our missionary Esther Gitobu and her family. We want to continue to **SEND OUT** God's love to our community, our nation, and our world through our gifts and service!

We would like to invite all children to wear their Christmas pajamas to church on Sunday, December 23, 2012. We will go directly to Bible Beach. We will watch *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and make a Grinch ornament. In addition, we will have hot cocoa and donuts. We hope all our children will join us for a fun and educational morning.

Our focus will be - *Maybe Christmas, the Grinch thought... doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps... means a whole lot more... And what happened, then? Well, in Whoville they say - that the Grinch's small heart grew three sizes that day. And then - the true meaning of Christmas came through.* **BRING IN** your friends to join us for this wonderful lesson! Great news! Winter VBS will begin Wednesday, January 2, at 8:30 AM. It will continue on Thursday and Friday mornings at the same time. Our theme is - Colossal Coaster World: Facing Fear, Trusting God. Our theme scripture will be 2 Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. Our rotations will include - Main Gate (Worship Rally), Coaster Alley (Bible Study), Adrenaline Zone (Recreation), and Cotton Candy Cafe (Snacks).



Through every twist, turn, and dive, Colossal Coaster World will challenge kids to face their fears and trust God. There's excitement around every curve as kids learn that God has given them a spirit of power, love, and sound judgment. We will collect specific food items for our emergency food pantry that will allow us to **SEND OUT** our love to people in our community. **BRING IN** your friends to join us for this exciting adventure where we will **GROW UP** our faith!

Through every twist, turn, and dive, Colossal Coaster World will challenge kids to face their fears and trust God. There's excitement around every curve as kids learn that God has given them a spirit of power, love, and sound judgment. We will collect specific food items for our emergency food pantry that will allow us to **SEND OUT** our love to people in our community. **BRING IN** your friends to join us for this exciting adventure where we will **GROW UP** our faith!

You are Invited!

Benton United Methodist Church Daycare/Preschool

Christmas Program

Friday, December 14 @ 10:00 a.m.

Family Life Worship Center

Please come and share the "Birth of Baby Jesus" with these little ones!



Can you hear the sleigh bells? Can you smell the cookies baking? Christmas is right around the corner! Here at IN Student Ministries, the student ministry of Benton United Methodist Church, we are looking forward to a great Christmas season.

Here's what's going on with your students this December:

- ♦ Sunday, December 2nd, 4:30-6:30 PM Special Christmas Music practice - youth room, Parent/Adult Leadership Meeting 6:30-7:30 PM in the youth room
- ♦ Wednesday, December 5th INcounter Student Worship
5 Rs of Resisting Temptation: Remove 6:00-7:00 PM - youth room
- ♦ Saturday & Sunday, December 8th-9th Journey to Bethlehem - Family Life Center
- ♦ Wednesday, December 12th Children's Christmas *The Christmas Cupcake*, 6:00-6:30 PM - Family Life Center
IN Student Ministry Christmas Party 6:30-7:30 PM - youth room
- ♦ Friday, December 14th Special Christmas Music practice 4:30-6:00 PM - Family Life Center
- ♦ Saturday, December 15th Special Christmas Music dress rehearsal 5:00-7:00 PM - Family Life Center
- ♦ Sunday, December 16th at both morning services, Special Christmas Music presented by the youth - Family Life Worship Center
- ♦ Monday, December 24th Christmas Eve Service 6:00 PM - Family Life Center
- ♦ Sunday, December 30th Lock-In 7:00 PM-7:00 AM meet in the youth room

We will also be participating in the Advent Conspiracy this year by studying the book *A Different Kind of Christmas* by Mike Slaughter and raising money for Daughters of Cambodia, a ministry in Cambodia that rescues children from human trafficking, especially girls in the sex-trade.

Join us this year as we as a student ministry, and as a church, celebrate the coming of our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ through music, service, giving and community gatherings. Merry Christmas to you and yours!

Chris



WHERE: Bible Bayou (portable building between Education Building and B.U.M. Shack)

The class will begin with a study of *Christmas Is Not Your Birthday*, by Mike Slaughter. Come meet other young parents with small children, have fellowship, and learn how to grow in your walk with Christ.

For more information, please contact Andy Holley at 318-218-3371.

Upcoming Events

Watch for more information about these and other events!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 & 9
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC PRACTICE
4:30-6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5
INCOUNTER STUDENT WORSHIP
6:00-7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12
IN STUDENT MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PARTY
6:30-7:30 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC PRACTICE
5:00-7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC
8:30 & 10:50 AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30
IN STUDENT MINISTRY LOCK-IN
7:00 PM-7:00 AM

Contact Information

Chris Winterman,
Student Pastor

1345 Linton Road,
Benton, LA

Office: (318) 965-2273
Cell: (318) 465-1031

chriswinterman
@bellsouth.net

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/
cwinterman