

Upcoming Schedule

No Family Night

Wednesday, November 30

Dinner & Devotion

Wednesdays, December 7, 14

No Family Night

Wednesdays, December 21, 28

Christmas Eve
Service

3:30pm & 6pm
Saturday, December 24

One Worship Service

10am | Sanctuary

No Sunday School

Sunday, December 25

One Worship Service

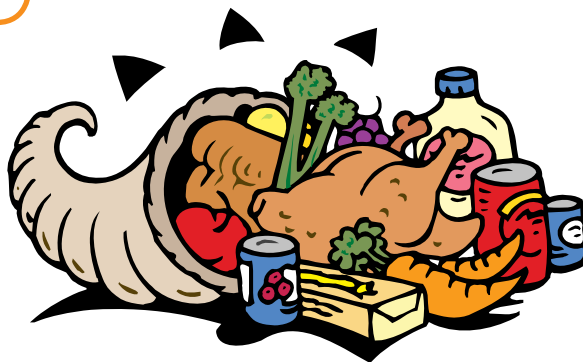
10am | Sanctuary

No Sunday School

Sunday, January 1



**Shoebox
Total
1318**



Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service & Communion

Wednesday, November 23

6:15pm Sanctuary

Church Offices Closed

Thursday, November 24

Friday, November 25

Sunday Morning

Worship Preview

Sunday, November 27

1ST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

HOPE

"Sir, We Would See Jesus"

John 12:20-26

"To See Jesus" Graffiti Wall

8:40am Worship Gathering

(details inside)



Calling All Artists
in our community!

Begins Sunday, November 27

We are setting aside space in our 8:40am worship gathering each Sunday in Advent (starting this Sunday!) for you to help us capture in a visual way what it means To See Jesus - a theme introduced with the Singing Christmas Tree and a thematic thread we are carrying throughout Advent and Christmas. We hope that you, through your expressions of worship - drawings, images and artistic scribbles and scratchings - will help us "See Jesus". We will provide one large canvas and the space and the time throughout our worship to work. All you need to bring are your paints and other art media, brushes and any tools you might need. We look forward to what God will create in our midst through you. It will be set up and ready by 8:25am if you want to come early. Contact gilesb@snydermbc.com for more information.

Snyder's Marriage Ministry
presents:

Couples' Night Out
Saturday, December 10
4-8pm | Youth Suite



YOU'RE INVITED

Whether you are newly-engaged or have been married 50 years, you are invited to join us for fellowship, fun, and a chance to grow closer to your spouse. At each meeting, we will have a new discussion topic pertaining to marriage or family. Meet us in the Youth Suite, and mingle with other couples, leave with your spouse for a date, then meet back here for dessert and more fellowship. If your spouse is deployed, or otherwise unavailable, you are still welcome to attend!



CHILDCARE

Childcare is available to those who need it, for \$5 per family, and will include pizza and juice for the children. **All childcare reservations and payment must be received by Sunday, December 4.**

TO REGISTER

Please call the church office or email marriage@snydermbc.com.

Announcing

2012 Keen Teen Auditions!

Wednesday, December 7

6:15pm | Middle School SS Room

Theme: *Be Our Guest for A Disney Dream Cruise!*

Callbacks on Wednesday, December 14, if needed.

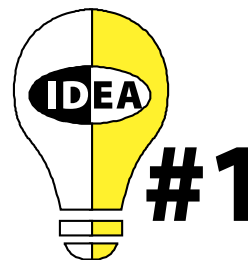
Audition results will be announced Sunday, December 18.

Rehearsals start in January.

SHARE

Family Advent Ideas

Advent is the time before Christmas when we spiritually prepare for the coming or birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. How are you preparing your family for Christmas?



Make a Simple Advent Calendar. Use a large piece of felt or other fabric with body; cut 25 small pockets from the material, numbered 1-25, and attach them to the material with glue or stitches, then attach to a dowel rod or a clothes hanger for hanging/displaying the calendar.

Small nativity scene pieces may be purchased at a craft store and placed in the pockets. When the pieces are pulled from the pockets, talk about what part that piece played in the Christmas story, then hang the piece on your tree. You may also put Scriptures in the pockets to read each day or download pictures of the nativity or baby Jesus from the internet to use to start discussions or prayers.



Do you remember ol' fashioned paper loops? Take 25 strips of construction paper and loop them together with glue or a stapler... but first, write a verse of Scripture on each one pertaining to the Christmas story. Each day read a verse, then read a children's religious Christmas book or do a

Christmas activity such as making cards, ornaments and gifts, sing carols or make a musical instrument, bake cookies or a cake or open a gift. Display the paper loops on your Christmas tree or on the mantle where children can see them and they can be used over and over again!

The ideas don't have to be fancy, but should help to communicate the real meaning of Christmas!



Grief and the Holidays
**Meeting on
 Tuesdays
 November
 22 -
 December
 20**
 10am - 12noon
 The holidays do not necessarily have to be entirely sad. There are ways to help you cope with your

grief during this time. If you are grieving the death of a loved one, join us as we talk about how to get through the holidays when you've lost a loved one. "Our loved ones are still and always will be part of us. They are threads in our fabric and we cannot lose their love."



Thanks to all the volunteers who came last week and this week to erect the Singing Christmas Tree and decorate for Christmas. A great crew

assembled the tree and platforms in record time on Monday and Tuesday, and the paper went on quickly Wednesday. As this is going to press, volunteers are covering the platforms, putting lights, garland and bows on the tree and decorating the sanctuary. Your gifts of time and service are appreciated.



His Little Ones Ministry
 Invites All Children To...

"The Line To See Jesus"



Saturday, December 10

11am - 4pm | Westwood Shopping Center
 (Morganton Road & McPherson Church Road)

His Little Ones Ministry is sponsoring this special time for children and adults alike to gather together to show the world their belief that Christmas is first and foremost the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.



HLOM's book, "Sharing Jesus with Children Around the World", will be distributed.

"Praise Lists For Jesus" will be available as an opportunity for parents and teachers to talk to children about the real meaning of Christmas.

For more information visit HLOM's website:
www.hislittleonesministry.org



To See
JESUS

**Remember
 Christmas Tree
 Hospitality!**

*Speak Up!
 Open Up!
 Give Up!*

December 1 & 2
 7:30 - 9pm

December 3 & 4
 4:30 - 6pm & 7:30 - 9pm

PERIODICALS

WEBSITE: www.snydermbc.com

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Pastor's Perspective

We got word late last week that our son, Joshua, made it to Kuwait. His unit is part of the massive troop withdrawal from Iraq before the December 31st deadline. We knew he and his soldiers would be the last to leave Ramadi. The headlines in last Wednesday's Fayetteville Observer let us know he had in fact left. Knowing that convoys out on the roads are especially vulnerable to IED attacks, we prayed especially hard for his safety last week and were relieved to get a short word from him that he had arrived in Kuwait. What all this means is that our son is almost home! It won't be before Thanksgiving, but it may not be much longer after that.

Having been deployed myself, I have a good understanding of my son's longing for home. There is no place he would rather be. As our anticipation builds at this end, we are trying to exercise patience and continue to lift him to the Father in prayer. While I am confident we will see him soon, I am also aware of the fact that "almost home" is not the same as "home". Almost means not yet. We have to wait a little longer. Oh, how I long to wrap my arms around him and tell him how much I love him!

This longing to see my son reminds me that we have a Father in heaven who is eagerly waiting for us to come home as well. For some of us with more prodigal son in us than we like to admit, He is patiently waiting for us to realize we're not where we need to be in our relationship with Him and that we need to come home. For all of us who have placed our faith in Jesus as Savior and Lord, our Father longs to welcome us home at the end of our life's journey here on earth and to lavish us with His extravagant love for all eternity.

Until that time, we live in a state of being "almost home". It is a time to be thankful for a Father who loves us, a Savior who is preparing a room for us, and a Spirit who lives within us. *"And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession."*

Almost home. It's not home, but it is the next best thing. See you Sunday! ~ John

Overseas: Aric Bowman, David Clark, Joshua Cook, John Crenshaw, Jason Enyart, Jake Hamilton, Crystal House, Jim Lipsette, Jason McAmis, Hector Mendez, Patrick Putt, John Robertson, John & Joy Thomas, Jeff Thompson, Justin Ticknor, Lance Van Wormer

Sympathy Extended to:
Bob Cogswell on the death of his mother, Georgia Davis.

Congratulations to:
Jim and Hannah Abbott on the birth of their daughter, Ali Jean, born on November 17, 2011.

Homebound:
Clara Skaggs
Autumn Care of Fayetteville
1401 Seventy-First School Rd
Fayetteville, NC 28314
(corrected address)

Menu 11/30/11:
No Family Night due to Singing Christmas Tree Dress Rehearsal

Deacon of the Week:
Sara McDonald
919-606-4668

MEMBERSHIP

November 20, 2011

Resident Membership	1840
Number Additions to Date	39
Number Lettered Out to Date	1
Loss by Death	3
Moved to Non-Resident/Roll Rev.	41
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	1834

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Sunday School	719
Fire Station	17
Heritage Place	8
Total Attendance	744

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

A New Way	358
11 o'clock	541
Total Worship Attendance	899

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Budget Gifts	70,196.70
Amount Needed	2,633,076.30
Given to Date	2,342,911.66
Under Budget to Date	3290,164.64

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Senior Pastor	JOHN COOK
Pastor Emeritus	JAMES C. CAMMACK
Minister of Worship	GILES BLANKENSHIP
Associate Pastor	ROBBIE BYRD
Minister of Music	LARRY DICKENS
Church Administrator	GERON GAMBILL
Minister of Children	CATHY HOPKINS
Minister with Youth	CRAIG MORRISON
Minister of Education and Missions	SUSIE REEDER