

**SHARPSBURG BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**6413 Hwy 54, PO Box 127, Sharpsburg, GA 30277**

**Volume 8, Issue 12**  
**December 1, 2024**

# THE SBC SPOTLIGHT



Sharpsburg Baptist Church  
 6413 Hwy 54, PO Box 127  
 Sharpsburg, GA 30277  
 www.sharpsburgbaptist.com  
 Office Email:  
 admin@sharpsburgbaptist.com  
 Office Hours:  
 Tu-Th 8:30a-2:30p  
 P-770-251-6963 F-770-251-8643

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Pastor's Corner	1
Worship / Upcoming Events	2
Music Notes	3
AOM & OB News	4
Youth & Children News	5
SBC Happenings & Events	6
Finance News	6
Calendar / Birthdays	7

**Wednesdays:**

**4:15pm-5pm**

**Bell Choir Rehearsal**

**5pm-6pm Choir Rehearsal**

**5:45pm-6:30pm**

Family Potluck Supper

**6:30pm-7:15pm**

Adult Classes

Youth & Children's Ministries

**Sundays:**

**9:45am** Sunday School

**11am** Worship

**6pm** Ladies Bible Study

**DEACON OF THE WEEK:**

Dec 1

Dec 8      Janice Spradlin

Dec 15     Kay Adams

Dec 22     David Bearden

Dec 29     Andy Cook

**DEACON'S MEETING:**

**7:15pm** Wed, Dec 11

**4Q** Church Conf Dec 15

## PASTOR'S CORNER

DR. WALLACE McABEE, SENIOR PASTOR

HoHoHo and Merry Christmas everyone!

We all love this time of year – the ultimate celebration of our new life in Christ as we enjoy all the wonder of his birth. Just to think that God chose to come and make his dwelling among us, to be one with us, to relate to us, our sufferings, our challenges, our pleasures and struggles – he came to be with us! The amazing story of Advent helps the Gospel make sense. We were all far from God due to our failures, rebellion and sin, Yet, because of his great love, his mercy and compassion, God sent his only son to seek and to save. Yes, this is truly a marvelous time of the year, and I know you will want to join your church family and friends for every celebration! One of our local Christian music stations has already begun playing round the clock Christmas music. It is a bit early for most of us but bring it on! I do not think we can get too much Christmas!

Another big deal around here during Christmas is our Lottie Moon Christmas offering supporting International Missions. Every cent given to missions through this offering goes to the fields overseas. When you give you help orphans in Ukraine have a warm bed and clothes, you help plant churches in South American rainforest, you supply fresh water to villages in Africa and so much more! In all of that, you are helping carryout the Great Commission to take the Gospel and make disciples all over the world. Thank you in advance for your kind and generous support.

One more thing before I cut you loose. You may have noticed that we need additional parking. That is a wonderful problem to have and an opportunity for each of us to pitch in. Many of you can be extra generous with end-of-the-year gifts to the church. One idea is to direct your extra gift toward paying off our debt. We do not owe much but we would prefer to pay that down and even off before we undertake the funding for additional parking.

Christmas peace and joy to all!  
 Pastor Wallace

**2025 Proposed Budget Consideration and Adoption Process**

Please plan to participate in setting our budget goals for 2025r by participating in one or all of the mtgs:

Town Hall Discussion: Sunday Dec 1 at noon

Town Hall Discussion: Wed Dec 4 at 6:00

Quarterly Church Conference: Sunday Dec 15 at noon.

You are also welcome to contact any member of our finance committee or one of our deacons.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Candlelight Christ Eve Service**

**December 24, 5:00 pm**

*The warmth and glow of the season builds toward this amazing night before the most wonderful of days. Plan to join us and bring everyone you know to our annual celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. The service will feature some of your favorite songs, beautiful music, lighting of the Christ Candle and a Silent Lord's Supper by rows.*

# Worship & Upcoming Events

## Wednesday Schedule-

4:15pm-5pm Bell Choir Rehearsal  
 5pm-6pm Choir Rehearsal  
 5:45pm-6:30pm Family Potluck Supper  
 6:30pm-7:15pm  
 Adult Prayer Meeting & Bible Study  
 Youth & Children Ministries

## Thursday Schedule-

**NO AoM Crafts this month**  
**Olive Branch Meeting—6pm– December 12**

## Sunday Schedule-

9:45am Sunday School  
 11am Worship Service  
 6pm Ladies Bible Study

## UPCOMING WORSHIP & Events

### **ADVENT SEASON begins DEC 1st!**

#### **Advent Theme 2024 "Christmas, *Just in Time!*"**

It may be hard to believe but we are only a few weeks away from our favorite time of the year. Our Advent celebration begins Sunday morning, December 1 with songs you love, ancient stories from the Birth narratives in the Bible and memories we will treasure for the rest of our lives. Watch for more details for each Sunday during Advent.

#### **Dr. Mills will be presenting a three-part illustrated Advent series during Sunday School on Dec 1, 8, 15.**

Topics will include Jesus' family tree, his parents' journey to Bethlehem, visitors at his birth such as kings and shepherds, the family's escape into Egypt, Jesus' presentation at the Temple on his 8th day, and the only recorded reference to his childhood life.

The series will be presented with photos from the Holy Land.

#### **Lottie Moon**

#### **Christmas Offering for International Missions**

Lottie Moon Goal: \$2000

"The Great Pursuit" Nothing less than Gospel opportunity in every nation, to every people to every person! Our missionaries stationed around the world depend on the support, prayers and generosity of our churches to continue their significant work.

Every dollar given by you goes directly to Southern Baptist missions efforts on the field. You can be a part of sending and keeping the largest missionary force in the history of the church on the field with your kind and generous support!

## UPCOMING WORSHIP & Events

### **Dec 1 (Sun) - Advent Begins**

9:45am Sunday School in Sanctuary with Dr. Mills  
 12pm — 1st of 2 Town Hall Budget Meetings

**Dec 2 (Mon) - 10:45am—Benton House Visit**

**Dec 4 (Wed) - 6pm—2nd Town Hall Budget Meeting**

**Dec 7 (Sat) - 5pm—Choir Party at the Exner Home**

### **Dec 8 (Sun)**

9:45am Sunday School in Sanctuary with Dr. Mills  
 12pm Secret Sister Reveal Party in Fellowship Hall

### **Dec 10 (Tues) - 11:30am**

Ladies Birthday Lunch for Dec Birthdays—Millers Ale House in Sharpsburg, GA (across from Sams)

**Dec 11 (Wed) 7:15pm—Deacon's Mtg (This is early date due to conference and Christmas events**

**Dec 12 (Thurs) 6pm—Olive Branch Meeting**

**Dec 14 (Sat) - 3:30p-6:30p—Youth & Childrens Christmas Caroling with Hot Cocoa at the church after caroling... ALL are welcome to join us! See Nicole, or Jana for details**

### **Dec 15 (Sun)**

9:45am Sunday School in sanctuary with Dr. Mills  
 12pm 4Q Church Conference

**Dec 16 (Mon AM) - NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE today at the latest—office will be closed the following week**

### **December 19 (Thurs) - 10:15am**

Out to Lunch Bunch Christmas Meetup

**Dec 21 (Sat) - 10a-12p—Choir Dress Rehearsal**

### **Dec 22 (Sun)**

5pm Christmas Musical Performance  
 6pm Christmas Finger Foods and Fellowship

### **Dec 24 (Tues) - 5pm**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service w/ Lord's Supper

**Dec 25 (Wed) CHRISTMAS DAY—No Services**  
**Dec 23—Jan 3 — Church Office Closed for the Holidays**

### UPCOMING IN JANUARY:

"Healthy Church" begins January 19.

**Yest, you can experience personal faith revitalization and help breathe life into our entire ministry by participating in the Church-wide revival effort. More details to come.**



# Music Notes



## Christmastime is Here!

*Christmastime is here, Families drawing near. Oh, that we could always see such spirit though the year!*

This song from the Peanuts Christmas TV special is a favorite of mine. The best part is when Linus reads the Bible story from Luke 2, telling his friends about the real meaning of Christmas! What a great tradition!

Our music groups are busy getting ready to add to the Christmas spirit at SBC! First, the choir and handbell choir and their families will be meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Exner house for supper, followed by singing and holiday games. We enjoy this fun time with our friends so much!

Our choir, along with our children, directed by Jana Blackshire, the bell choir, and our narrators, Mark and JoAnn Carroll, will provide a Christmas program at 5:00 on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Afterward, we will all enjoy "finger foods" in the fellowship hall.

Here are some great pictures from November; they are provided by Robert Bearden. Sandra Johnson and Erin Walker sang solos, and we welcomed a guest cellist, Megan Keeley, who accompanied Erin. Do you recognize these choir members dressed in Roaring Twenties attire? Yep, that's Janice, Brenda, Pam, Nicole, and Lela.

Jill and I wish you the very best during this Christmas season! Mike





**OB News**

The Olive Branch is hosting a food drive for the Backpack Buddies Organization. In case you are not familiar with this nonprofit organization here is a little information: Backpack Buddies is a 501c3 non-profit organization created to supply economically disadvantaged children in the Coweta County School System with food for the weekend. Many children

in our county are dependent on the "Free and Reduced" lunch program provided by their schools during the week and they have very little to eat over the weekends and holidays. We work with school counselors to identify children "at risk" for hunger and then we supply them with nutritious, self-serve food that will sustain them when school meals are not available. We are currently serving 1,400 children in 33 schools, which is only scratching the surface of the true need here in Coweta County. Our vision is to be able to service these children year round through our normal school week operation and also be able to provide bags of food for these children over the summer months when the children do not have access to the "Free and Reduced" lunch program offered in the schools. We do this because research shows that hungry children have poorer mental and physical health, suffer with more behavioral disorders and are less prepared to learn when they are in school. Hunger is an increasing epidemic in our county and most residents are unaware. The Backpack Buddies program is essential to help relieve hunger, which in turn will improve grades, health, school attendance and self-esteem in these children.

Below is a list of food items they need now before the holidays:

- Individual Fruit Cups**
- Canned Soup/Ravioli**
- Granola Bars**
- Mac-n-Cheese boxes**

A box has been placed outside of the office for donations. **The last day to give will be Sunday, December 8, 2024.** All donations will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support on this project that will feed so many of our kids in the school system. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Stevenson.

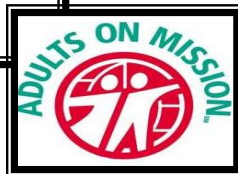
Thank you,  
The Olive Branch Ladies



**ABOVE:** Jo Ann and Barbara are displaying the "grow shoes" that Olive Branch purchased to go into some of the SBC's Samaritan's Purch Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

See you at our next meeting on Thursday, December 12th at 6pm. Bring a \$5 gift to play the White Elephant Gift Exchange Game and also bring a finger food to share! Look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas Party Meeting!

**AoM News**



The Ladies of AOM have finished the year with bags of goodies to Benton House and Avalon Nursing Home. We gave *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* \$250. That will buy a bed and all the bedding to go with it. We were able to supply sewing kits, dresses, backpacks and brackets for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. We have already planned our next Christmas gift for the nursing homes. We will be taking the month of December off but many of us will still be making different things for the new year. Merry Christmas from the Ladies of AOM. See you in January.

*"Outreach involves extending ourselves, our talents, and our resources, to help others."*

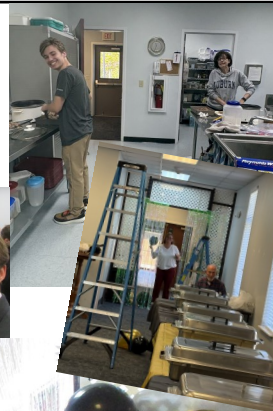
# YOUTH News

Good morning Sharpsburg,

I wanted to take time first to thank all the volunteers that helped with the roaring 20s lunch in, the lunch in was beautiful and we were so happy to see all of you all come and join us and dress up it was marvelous. I am beyond proud of the young ladies and gentlemen you all have helped raise their hearts to serve others shines brighter than ever now. I am excited to say that we will be taking the youth this summer on the ark trip, we will also be helping in our community with families in need at BTG (bridge the gap). All of the church love and support was greatly appreciated and I can not wait to share with you all next years adventures with these sweet kiddos!



Peace and blessings, Nicole



# KID's Corner

## What are we studying?

November is all about the people's journey through the wilderness. In December, we will switch over to the New Testament and the birth of Jesus.

## Friendsgiving

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, we are teaming up with the youth for a fun and exciting day. There will be crafts, food, and a movie. Please sign-up to bring your favorite food item. The sign-up sheet can be found on the hallway bulletin board in the Children's Wing.

## Christmas Performance

Also, our rehearsals for the Christmas pageant are coming up. If you have your heart set on a particular role, you might want to sign up fast as they are filling up fast. Please see the bulletin board for sign-ups.

**PLEASE Prayerfully consider helping in our toddlers room or at the podium as our children arrive at church. WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!! And we take the safety of your children very seriously; this is why we have the check-in process that we do. In fact, by having Ministry Safe in place, due to the church voting to put this in place many years ago, we must remain vigilant in helping with this important step in safety; ie: checking your children in and out the way we do.**



*"Outreach involves extending ourselves, our talents, and our resources, to help others."*

# SBC Happenings & Upcoming Events

\*\*\*\*\* FINANCE NEWS \*\*\*\*\*

Dear Sharpsburg Baptist Family,

I want to express my sincere gratitude for the support you have shown me since I started my position. Your kindness and encouragement have truly meant the world to me. As we approach the festive season, I would like to wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving and a joyous Christmas. May your celebrations be filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with friends and family. Please note that the giving statements will be placed in your mailboxes during the first week or two of January. If they are not picked up by the end of January, they will be mailed to you. Thank you once again for everything. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Warm regards,  
Karen Hayes, SBC Finance Secretary



ABOVE: Speakers at our Community Wide Prayer Event prior to the 2024 Election to pray for our Country, Our leaders and each other.

BELOW... Pics from the Shoebox Packing Party....

WOW!! What a wonderful turnout for our Shoebox Packing Party and Shoebox Dedication Sunday. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROCITY!! We packed and dropped off 568 shoeboxes!!! What a blessing it is to be a part of sharing the love of Christ with others around the world!!



ROARING 20s Event—GREAT JOB from our Youth and the wonderful Director we have!! Thank you for all you do! Great Planning!! We know it was a lot of work



ROARING 20s Event—FUN Times with the costumes!! Ladies of SBC

# DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>ADVENT</b> Lottie Moon Offering 9:45am Sunday School with Dr. Mills 12p Town Hall Mtg for 2025 Budget	2 10:45am Benton House Visit	3	4 6pm Town Hall Budget Meeting for 2025 Budget	5 NO AoM Crafts this month - they will resume in January	6	7
8 <b>ADVENT</b> Lottie Moon Offering 9:45am Sunday School with Dr. Mills 12pm Secret Sister Reveal Party	9	10 11:30am Ladies Birthday Lunch - Millers Ale House	11 7:15pm Deacon's Mtg (Mtg is early due to Conference & Events)	12 6pm Olive Branch Mtg	13	14 3:30p-6:30p Children & Youth (with SBC Choir) Caroling & Cocoa
15 <b>ADVENT</b> Lottie Moon Offering 9:45am Sunday School with Dr. Mills 4Q Church Conf.	16	17	18 Wednesday PM Services End until School Resumes in January	19 10:15am OTLB Meet  <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK THRU Jan 3, 2025 (Coweta County)</b>	20	21 10am-12pm Choir Dress Rehearsal
22 <b>ADVENT</b> Lottie Moon Offering 5pm Christmas Musical 6pm Christmas Fellowship & Finger Foods	23 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	24 5pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Srvc w/ Lord's Supper <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	25 <b>Christmas</b> <b>NO SERVICES tonight</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	28
29 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	30 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	31 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	1 <b>NO SERVICES tonight</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	2 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	3 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	4

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 1- Robert Bearden  
 December 3- Gail Cook  
 Corey Gaissert  
 Larry Hyde  
 December 4- Mike Schrepfer  
 December 5- Jessica Rogers  
 December 6- David Bearden  
 Pat Hodgeman  
 Betty Key  
 Joy Morman  
 Betty Thomas

December 7- Jimmy Richardson  
 Layton Gordy  
 December 14- Sandra Johnson  
 December 15- Lydiann Kettering  
 Noel Whitwood  
 December 17- Jo Ann Carroll  
 Cathy McInvale  
 December 19- Allen Nolan  
 Lorrie Zehms  
 December 20- Pam Sims  
 December 22- Wallace McAbee

December 24- Lincoln Tolleson  
 December 27- Janice Dukes  
 December 28- Dell Thompson





Sharpsburg Baptist Church  
6413 Hwy 54, PO Box 127  
Sharpsburg, GA 30277

**CHURCH STAFF:**

**Senior Pastor:**  
Wallace McAbee

**Pastor Emeritus:**  
Dr. Watson E. Mills

**Minister of Music:**  
Mike Exner

**Accompanist:**  
Jill Exner

**Youth Director:**  
Nicole Wilson

**Children's Director:**  
Jana Blackshire

**Administrative Assistant:**  
Cheri O'Neal

**Financial Secretary:**  
Karen Hayes

We would love to have you as our guest. We have many upcoming events that we are sure will be great fun as well as be a blessing to you. We have classes and fun events for our children on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights as well as Sunday School classes, Prayer Meeting and Worship time for our adults. If you have any questions, feel free to ask us, fill out a visitor's card in the pew when you visit or just speak to one of us to let us know how we can be of assistance to you. We are here to serve each other and those in our community.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US  
**Sharpsburg Baptist Church**  
6413 Hwy 54, PO Box 127, Sharpsburg, GA 30277



**JOIN US!**

**Sundays:**

**Sunday School: 9:45 am**  
**Sunday Worship: 11:00 am**  
**Ladies Bible Study: 6:00 pm**

**Wednesdays:**

**4:15pm-5pm Bell Rehearsal**  
**5pm-6pm Choir Rehearsal**  
**5:45pm-6:30pm**  
**Family Potluck Supper**  
**6:30pm-7:15pm**  
**Adult Prayer Meeting**  
**Youth &**  
**Children Ministries**

P- 770-251-6963  
F- 770-251-8643

Check out our website for any events that may be going on and to see and learn about our church. We seek to share the love of Christ with those around us. And, we hope that you will come visit our church soon!

[www.sharpsburgbaptist.com](http://www.sharpsburgbaptist.com)