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PLEASE
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Merry Christmas

Monthly Calendar of events

Sunday, Dec. 2nd—Christmas Program Practice

Wed., Dec. 5th—Business Meeting

Friday., Dec. 7th—Children's Christmas Party

Sunday, Dec. 9th—Christmas Program Practice

Thurs., Dec. 13th—Associational Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 16th—Christmas Program & Dinner

Tuesday, Dec. 18th—Food Pantry

Tuesday, Dec. 25th Christmas

Ladies Bible Study Night group—each Tuesday Night

Daytime group—each Wednesday morning

G.R.O.W. Outreach —Each Thursday Night

DECEMBER

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- G.R.O.W.
- Christmas
- Getting to know Mark
- Salvation
- December's Assoc. Meeting

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VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6

Gatherings from Gautier

DECEMBER 2007

Be part of a winning team!

Are you ready to G.R.O.W.? It's time! God rewarding our work is what G.R.O.W. is all about! It's each member of North Gautier committing to outreach and God rewarding that commitment! The month of November was dedicated to training and sign-up's but it's not too late to be a part of a winning team. The G Team will meet the first Thursday night of the month and is led by Team Leader,

Ronald Thomaston. The R Team meets the 2nd Thursday night and is led by **Scott Mitchell**. The 3rd Thursday night's team leader is **David Mitchell**. And the 4th Thursday night of each month is led by **Bud Bloom**. The commitment to G.R.O.W. is just over an hour each month. Can you give an hour each month to be a part of the Great Commission? Can you give

an hour each month is make a difference in the community? Can you give an hour each month to further the Gospel through North Gautier Baptist Church? Can you visit a church member? Can you make a phone call? Can you invite someone to church? Can you write a letter? Can you help watch children? Can you share your testimony? Yes! For more information see Brother Dana Williams.

Drama Team and Youth Choir TEAM UP!

December's Gulf Coast Associational Meeting will be held at North Gautier with the Youth Choir and Drama Team taking center stage. The two have come together to work on this year's Christmas Program, "Glory to God in the Highest" which they will perform during the

meeting. The Associational Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13th at 7 p.m.



Then on Sunday, December 16th the program will be presented during the morning worship. We would like to ask that all members will invite a friend and come and share in the excitement and celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”
ROMANS 10:13

Food Pantry
Last month NGBC’S food pantry served over 30 families and over 100 people. We would be glad to have helpers if any church members find they have some free time and would like to be a blessing to someone. The time for the food pantry is the third Tuesday of each month. Contact Shelia or Nina for more information.

The Plan of Salvation by: Brother Dana Williams

This month I would like to give you a gift. For the believer the gift is a clear way to present the Gospel to someone. For the unbeliever it is a way to go to heaven. In the following is God’s Plan for the Salvation of mankind and to redeem them from the clutches of death and sin.

What is sin? (I John 3:4)
Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Everyone has sinned against God. (Romans 3:23) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Sin must be paid for. (Romans 6:23) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sin is born in us. (Romans

5:12) Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Sin can be paid for by God’s gift. (Romans 10:9-13) That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. ¹²For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that

call upon him. ¹³For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

If you desire to accept the free gift of God, then all you have to do is ask Him to forgive your sins and believe that He is able to do that which He has promised.

A simple prayer to this God who has loved you enough to send His Son to die and pay for your sin debt, if you will believe will give you eternal life and set you free from your burden of sin.

Will you ask Him now? Cry out to God forsake your sin and He will save you!

If you have prayed this prayer you now have a new life and are redeemed by the blood of Christ for your sins. Welcome to God’s family!

Absolute Truth? Absolutely!!!!

In today’s society many people are embracing a cultural relativism that at its heart denies any type of absolute truth. A good question to ask people who say “There is no absolute truth” is: Are you absolutely sure of that? Just consider for a moment if there really was no absolute truth and that everything really is relative (no standards of any kind). In essence what happens is everybody sets their own rules to live by and does what they think is

right in their own eyes. (Proverbs 12:15) “It is in the Scriptures that we learn truth; and these truths are absolute! Were it not for the Scriptures, how would we know right from wrong; good from evil; truth from falsehood? Where else could we go to discover the unfathomable love of Christ; the incalculable work of Christ; and the immeasurable glory of Christ? The Word of God exposes us to all of this and much more! Were it not

for the Word of God, the people of God would have no absolute standards in which to govern their lives. It would be a complete free-for-all with every one of us doing what is right in our own sight. Truth is not something that you and I conjure up in our minds; it is fixed by God and communicated through His Word. The problem with our culture today is that it is failing to submit to the absolute truth of Scripture.” Brock Bolde

Getting to know your family! A member’s Profile

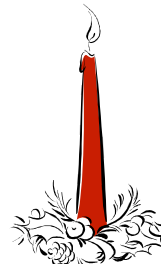


Mark Birchfield

Your Name: **Mark Birchfield**
Name of Spouse: **Jami**
Children: **Cassidy & Laney**
How long have you been serving at this church? **10 years or so**
Name of the last book you read (other than Bible)?
Basic Photography
Favorite Bible Verse: **“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.” II Timothy 4:7**
Hobbies: **Photography, technology, traveling**
Bible Characters you’d most like

to meet? **Job**
Tell us something about you that people would be surprised to learn. **I absolutely HATE sitting around; I’d rather be busy doing something, than nothing.**
Most embarrassing moment? **In High School I wore two different shoes and didn’t notice until lunch.**
Best Advice you’ve ever received? **Your mama doesn’t work here, clean up after yourself!**

Making Christmas Meaningful: by Kimberly Williams



The one theme throughout the entire Bible is relationships, our relationship with God and our relationship with others. There is no better time to develop these relationships than during the Christmas Season. And as parents, there is no better time to teach your children this important lesson. Too many children tend to have a selfish attitude when it comes to Christmas and too many parents play right along with them, even encouraging them toward this. How many times have you seen a child produce a mile-long wish list for themselves? The Christian life should be a selfless life that gives to others, not one that says “ME, ME, ME”. Instead of making a Christmas wish list, something that we have taught our children to do is to make a “wish list” of what they would like to buy for others. This takes the focus off of

them and puts it on those around them. A child is never too young to learn this godly principle. For several years now each year at Thanksgiving my parents have given to each of their grandchildren a gift of money. They are told that this money can be used for anything they want as long as it’s used for someone else. My children have been very creative in how they spend their money. We have made gift bags and spent the day at a nursing home giving them out. We have given gifts to the elderly at our church. The kids one year picked a neighbor who was a lonely widow to give gifts too. We’ve given to foster children and to those in Children Homes. Every year we pick a different project and every year we are blessed beyond measure. It truly is “more blessed to give than receive.” My all-time favorite tradition our family does is the celebration of Advent. Advent is a threefold celebration of the birth of Jesus, His eventual second coming to earth, and

His continued presence in our lives here and now - God in our past, God in our future, and God in our present. For us we set aside a time each day from Thanksgiving to Christmas to center our thoughts on Jesus. It’s a time of family worship, a time of reflection, and a time of focus. In the midst of December’s commotion and stress, it’s a few moments to stop and renew our strength from the only One who can provide true strength. Each night before the children goes to bed we light candles and they gather around while Dana reads a story, he then shares scripture and we sing a Christmas song and pray. Once we start getting Christmas Cards in the mail we will use this time to have a special prayer for those who sent them. Whatever Christmas traditions you decide to make just be sure to make some. It’s the most wonderful time of the year for your family to develop a closer relationship with our Heavenly Father and then with others.