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## Desert Shores “Beacon”

THE PURPOSE OF DESERT SHORES COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH IS TO SHARE THE LOVE AND SAVING GRACE OF JESUS CHRIST WITH EVERYONE, THROUGH GOD'S POWER, MAKE DISCIPLES WHO LOVE GOD.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast.

### *Perspectives on the Advent of Christ*

**John 1:14** “and the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

It is my hope that you will gain new insights, understandings and perspective on the coming of Christ, not only as we get ready for Christmas, but as we relate His advent to our salvation, sanctification and ultimately our glorification.

During this Advent season, we will be focusing on the different perspectives on the Advent of Christ. We have given out a booklet called “The Christmas Code” and I hope you will read it much like you would a daily devotional. It is just another way to get our minds focused on the real meaning of Christmas.

Let’s consider the verse listed above:



The Word became flesh... Jesus the Son of God became flesh. He wasn’t made flesh. He became flesh. He is the eternal Son. He always has been, always will be. That is an eternal perspective on our Savior.

And dwelt among us...He didn’t just look down over the creation. He left his position in Heaven and the privilege or rights he had in eternity and he took the form of a baby and dwelt among us for 33 years as one of us. Another passage, Philippians 2:7 “but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.”

We saw his glory...We saw by his actions and miracles the glory of God. We read in the Bible how Jesus taught, healed and raised people from the dead. John 2:11 “This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.” His actions reflect the Glory of God and caused the disciples to believe in and follow Him. His sinless actions reflect his Glory. When He came, the Angels in Luke chapter two spoke of His glory. Peter saw the Lord’s glory on the mount of

transfiguration. He was so blown away that he wanted to build an altar to honor that glory. Mankind was able to see the Glory of God in the form of a Man, Jesus Christ.

Glory as of the only begotten of the Father...Jesus represented the glory of the father as the only begotten Son. No one else has this title. God's one and only son is the one who came at the advent. It was not just another person who was sent into the world perhaps to make it a better place or reflect a more loving demeanor or somehow show that man can evolve to a place of equality with God. He was God. He was the full embodiment of God. John 7:18 "He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him. Jesus was here on behalf of the father to provide the way of redemption for us as his creation.

Full of Grace and Truth... Jesus was the embodiment of God's grace. He showed God's grace in all his interactions with mankind. His grace that saved us, His grace that is greater than all of our sin. Truth is found in Christ. Jesus said in John 14:6, that "he is the way the truth and the life, no one comes to the father except through Him. Jesus' advent was God's plan to reach a lost and dying world. He came and showed you His great love for you so that you would share that love with others.

### ***Be a Blessing! Pastor George***

It's beginning to look a lot wonderful time of year to Jesus Christ. December is and Youth.

Mark your calendars for Christmas Cantata. J.R., friends will be there too to begins at 6:00pm.



like Christmas here in Bullhead! What a celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, going to be a very fun month for our Children

Sunday, December 9 for the Children's Harmony, Pastor Wally, and all our puppet tell us about the true meaning of Christmas. It

Also, our Children and puppet friends will be singing Christmas Songs for the residents at Sunridge Village on Friday, December 7 at 10:00am. Later that day our Youth and Children will be participating in the Boom Box Parade here in town! We hope you can make it out to see our awesome Joyful float and see our Youth and Children Participating.

Our Youth will be having their Christmas party on Friday, December 14 and will have fun participating in a white elephant gift exchange.

I pray and hope you all have a very blessed and Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!!!

***Love in Christ, Timothy Sprenkle (Children's/Youth Director)***

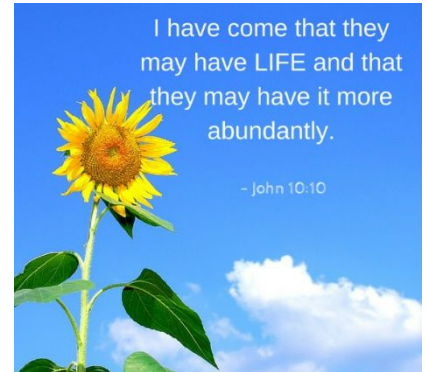
***From your Deacon team***

May the good Lord be with you all this Christmas season, may you all have a wonderful Christmas. I came across something I read I hope you all will enjoy and be blessed. John 10:10 I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly

Christmas is not just a date on the calendar. It is not just an annual holiday. It is not a day to glorify selfishness and materialism. Christmas is the celebration of the event that set Heaven to singing, an event that gave the stars of the night sky a new brilliance.

Christmas tells us that at a specific time and at a specific place a specific Person was born. That Person was (in the words of an ancient Christian creed) "God of God, Light of Light, very God of every God" - the Lord, Jesus Christ.

From the lips of Him who came fell these words: "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Like piercing trumpets, these words heralded the breaking in of the Divine history. They declare that Heaven has come to our rescue and that God has not left us to stumble alone on Earth's pathway. What a wonderful and glorious hope we have because of that first Christmas.



***May you all have a wonderful Christmas. Your servant in Christ Manuel Rojas***

***Blessing bags from God.***

Syl & Leroy Lobato have stepped forward in the Blessing Bag Ministry. Let us also step forward and help this wonderful ministry. Thank you, Mike and Cathy, for doing an awesome job!



Blessing bags are in the foyer. Please take some to give to the homeless standing on the corners around town. The bags include soap, shampoo, toothpaste, water and snack bars. We need more toothbrushes with covers. A package of three toothbrushes with covers can be found at Dollar Tree next to Safeway for one dollar. This has been a very successful mission and we really appreciate your support.

***Remember, keep blessing bags handy in your car.***

***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!***



Van Drivers Needed: You would only have to pick up and deliver on Sunday for one month at a time. If we had 4 volunteers you would only have to drive one month every 4. We need more people to step up and help out instead of expecting the same 2 or 3 people to do everything.

***Your help is needed, please call Ernie at: (928)754-1217 and volunteer to serve our Lord.***

***\*ATTENTION BROTHERS AND SISTERS!\****

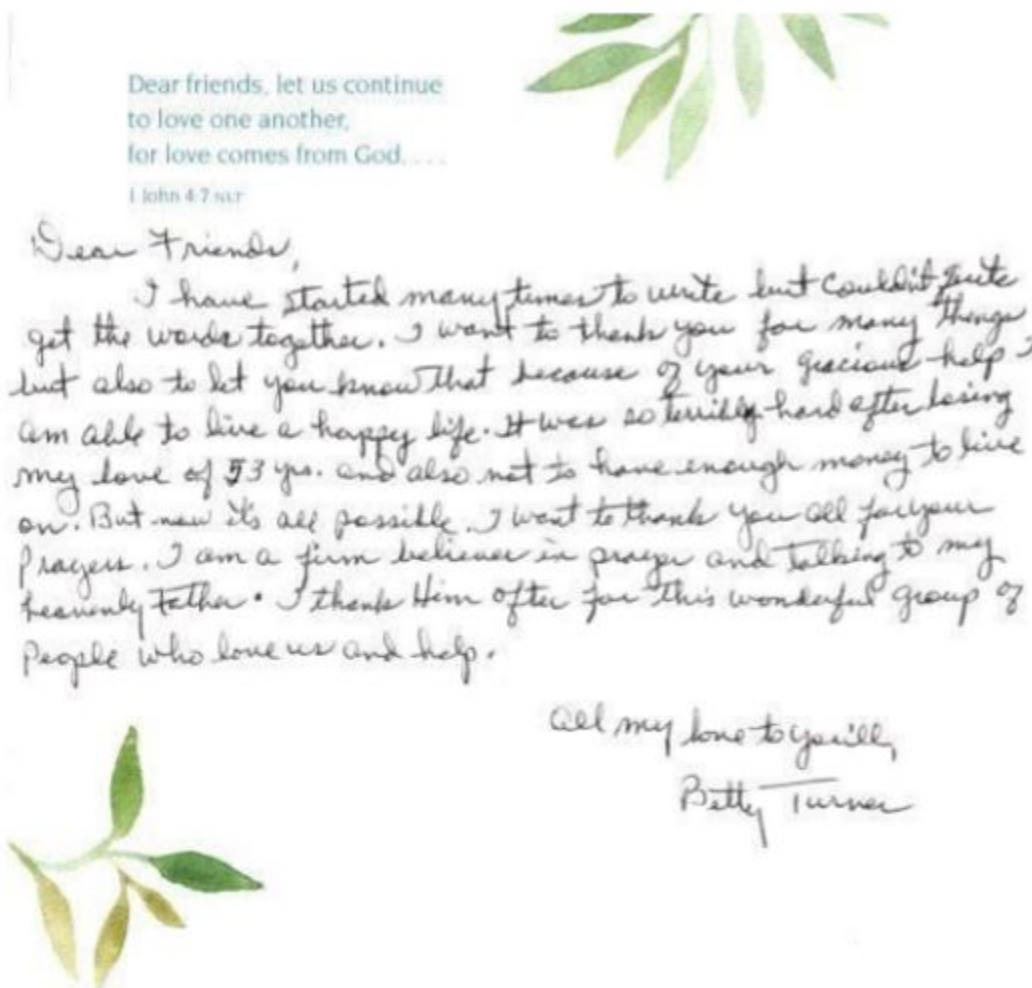
Do you have a business or service you would like to share with everyone? Email your business card or information to editor Ernie at [oreocookie86429@hotmail.com](mailto:oreocookie86429@hotmail.com) and it will show up in the next edition. Free advertising so you can let your brothers and sisters know there are businesses and services available to them

## Mission: Dignity

Each December, Mission: Dignity tries to give a Christmas gift of \$300 to each of their recipients. This gift means a lot to them, especially at this time of year. Please consider a gift to Mission: Dignity for Christmas in any of the following ways:

- 1) Through the church offering (designating Mission: Dignity in the memo line of a check and on the envelope)
- 2) Mail gifts to: Mission: Dignity GuideStone Financial Resources SBC 5005 LBJ Freeway, Ste. 2200 Dallas, TX 75244-6152
- 3) Make an online donation at [MissionDignity.org](http://MissionDignity.org)

Here is a recent note of thanks from one of the recipients



Joyce Larsen has been asked to do a biography or two each month for the Beacon. So, please send your story to Joyce Larsen at [joylrs@msn.com](mailto:joylrs@msn.com) or call (928) 234-5793. What do you most want to know about your church family? E-mail your ideas to Joyce. If you don't send a bio, then Joyce will be calling you. If there are no bios waiting to be shared, she will start interviewing by using the church directory (alphabetically). Let's get to know each other better.



<b>Sunday</b>	09:00 am	Sunday School Classes - Bldg. "B"
	10:00 am	20-minute Fellowship – Bldg. “B”
	10:30 am	Worship Service – Bldg. “A”
	03:00 pm	Sunridge Village Service/Men's Singing Group
<b>Monday</b>	10:00 am	Men’s Singing Group – Davis House
	11:00 am	Men’s Singing Group – Silver Creek Manor
	05:00 pm	Choir practice - Bldg. "A"
	06:00 pm	Praise Team practice – Bldg. “A”
<b>Tuesday</b>	09:00 am	Men’s Singing Group – Joshua Springs
	09:00 am	Prayer Team – Bldg. “B”
	10:00 am	Men’s Singing Group – River Gardens
<b>Wednesday</b>	08:00 am	Men’s Bible Study – Bldg. “B”
	09:30 am	Women’s Bible Study – Bldg. “B”
	10:30 am	Men’s Singing Group - Legacy (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed each month)
	04:30 pm	AST Meeting - second Wednesday of each month
	06:30 pm	Bible Study – Bldg. “A”
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 am	Joshua Springs - Service
	02:00 pm	Legacy - Service
	03:00 pm	River Gardens – Service
	06:30 pm	Family Game Night (last Thursday of each Month)
<b>Friday</b>	08:00 am	Men’s Bible Study – Bldg. “B”
<b>Saturday</b>	08:00 am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast - 1st Sat. of month
	03:00 pm	Movie Night – last Saturday of the month
	06:00 pm	Contemporary Worship Service
<b>Dec 1<sup>st</sup></b>	08:00 am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast
<b>Dec 4<sup>th</sup></b>	01:00 pm	Missions Meeting
<b>Dec 7<sup>th</sup></b>	09:30 am	Deacon Meeting
<b>Dec 8<sup>th</sup></b>	11:30 am	Woman’s Christmas Party (Secret Sister also)
<b>Dec 9<sup>th</sup></b>	06:00 pm	Joyful Singers Cantata
<b>Dec 12<sup>th</sup></b>	04:00 pm	AST Meeting
<b>Dec 16<sup>th</sup></b>	06:00 pm	Choir – Christmas Cantata
<b>Dec 25<sup>th</sup></b>		CHRISTMAS DAY (Our Saviors Birth)
<b>Dec 27<sup>th</sup></b>		Family Game Night – CANCELLED until January 2019
<b>Dec 29<sup>th</sup></b>	03:00 pm	Movie Night – “God Where Are You”
<b>Dec 31<sup>st</sup></b>		New Year’s Eve

December 2018 						
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## Christmas in the Garden - GENESIS 3:1-15

Santa Claus, Rudolph, Jack Frost, the Grinch, Ebenezer Scrooge—all of these stories have become part of our modern celebration of Christmas. But most people, even those who don't go to church regularly, could probably tell you that none of these is the real story of Christmas. Everyone knows that the Christmas story started 2000 years ago with the birth of Jesus, right? Actually, no! **The story of Christmas actually starts at the beginning of the first book of the Bible**, at the very beginning of human history, in a place about as far removed from our idea of a cozy and snowy Christmas setting as possible. The story of Christmas begins in a garden.

The Garden of Eden was as close to heaven on earth as a place could possibly be. The weather was perfect, the flowers never withered, and if there were wasps, they never stung anyone. Adam and Eve didn't have to worry about hunger or animal attacks or splinters. **They were at perfect peace with each other, and God even walked with them in the garden.**

But something happened that plunged this perfect world into the conflict that still rages today, something that causes all the suffering on the planet. The first sin was committed. You may think of sin as breaking a rule, but as we see in the Eden story, sin is simply disbelieving God's word and disobeying his will. **From the moment Eve disbelieved and disobeyed, everything and everyone has been infected by sin.** Roses have thorns. Airports need metal detectors. Cities need cemeteries. And sin has poisoned more than the world around us. Why do we do things we know we shouldn't, and why don't we do what we know we should? Something is wrong in our hearts.

**But God never leaves a problem unsolved.** In the same moment sin entered the world, God had the solution ready, and he revealed it almost immediately in a single verse holding hope for the entire world. "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). The serpent would bruise the heel of this Savior, but the Savior would trample the head of the serpent. You don't have to be a doctor to know which injury is worse—a bite to the foot or a kick to the head! Sin was to be defeated. **We were to be rescued.**

You may never have heard this verse referred to as the first Christmas story, but that's exactly what it is. It's the very first verse in the Bible to tell of a Savior who would bring us salvation from our sin. The most familiar Christmas verse in the Bible is probably Luke 2:11: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." **The very first word used to describe the newborn baby is "Savior" because that is what the world had been waiting for all those long years since Eve ate the fruit.** Only when we understand our need for a Savior can we fully experience the celebration of his birth. So, with every Christmas movie we watch, every cookie we bake, every carol we sing, and every decoration we hang, let these words echo: "I need a

Savior—and he is here!"

### Pray

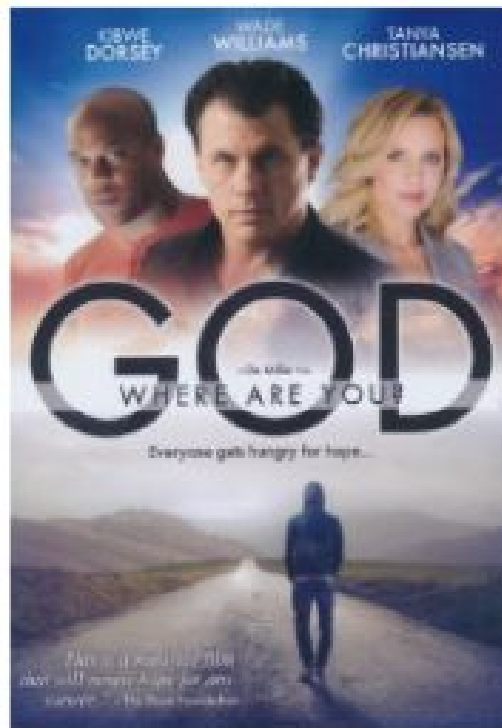
*Father God, thank you for solving the problem of our sin so we could once more walk with you. Thank you for sending us a Savior, and help us to remember our need for him every day of this Christmas season.  
Amen.*

This is a copy/paste story, but we do not serve a copy/paste Lord. He is all we will ever want or need in our lives. So, let us worship Him as the most precious gift that we can place in our hearts and walk with Him. From this moment on, give Him your "All".

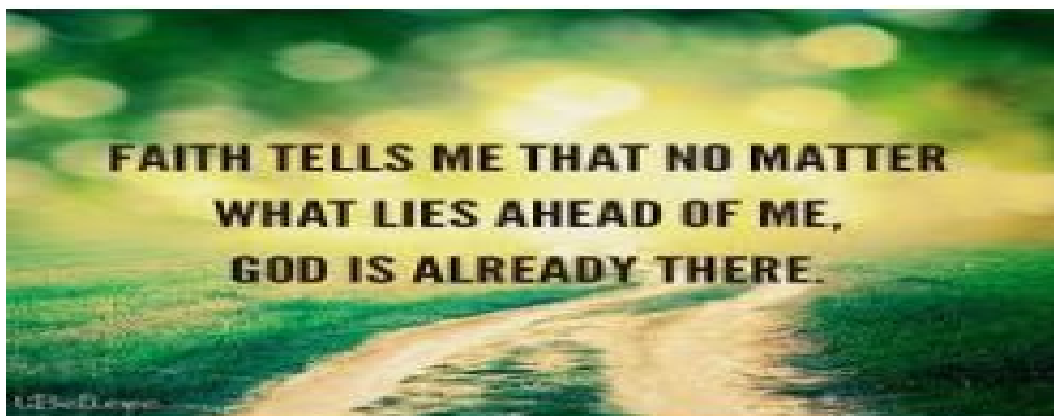
*In Him, Editor Ernie*



**MOVIE NIGHT**  
**SATURDAY, 12/29/18**  
**3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**



Sonny Boone was always a fighter and a champion. but when he loses everything, he blames God. At his lowest point, Sonny is roaming the streets for a place to sleep and scrounging for food in a dumpster. When he meets Malachi Carpenter one evening outside a diner, he is given a free meal and a gentle nudge onto a path that he never expected. But is it enough to help him "forgive" God and save his own life? This film will inspire you to examine the things in life that you are grateful for in order to overcome suffering and loss.





September 12, 2018

Dear Pastor George and all of the Wonderful People at Desert Shores Church,

Just a quick note to say, "Eureka" (they have found it!)

What did they find? They found WATER! Good, clean, cool, drinking water.

Where? In Chigwele Village, Malawi about 25 long miles from Mzuzu, Malawi and at a depth of 250.8 feet.

So I say, "Thank you, guys and may God richly bless each and every one of you who gave and prayed for these very needy people facing HIV/AIDS everyday. God has used YOU to change their lives for decades to come. Thank you so very much.

Bruce

Rev. Bruce A. Sonnenberg  
Executive Director/ Founder



My apologies to Sharon, she sent this to me last month and it didn't get in as it should have. What a wonderful way our God works in the ministries for His Glory.

He Intends Victory "Eureka" (they have found it!)

## GOOD NEWS



### God says all have sinned

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..."

### Our sins separate us from God

Romans 6:23a "For the wages of sin is death..."

### Our sins cannot be erased by our good deeds

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast."

### Dying on the cross Jesus paid the penalty for our sins

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

### Now is the day of salvation

2 Corinthians 6:2 "... Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation."

### Everyone who trusts in Christ has eternal life

John 3:16 "For God loved the world so much, that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die, but have everlasting life."

### With Christ, your life will have meaning & purpose

John 10:10b Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly."

### Share the "good news" with others

Mark 16:15 "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

## To Become A Christian...

It's as easy as **ABC**: **A**dmit • **B**elieve • **C**ommit

Jesus said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father Who sent Me draws him..." (John 6:44). God hears our prayers when we ask to become right with Him, through Jesus: "The Lord is far from the wicked (sinful), but He hears the prayer of the righteous" (Proverbs 15:29).

"Dear Father in heaven, I **A**dmit that I am a sinner and I need a Savior. I **B**elieve that Jesus died on the cross to save me from the penalty of my sins. I am sorry for sinning and ask you to forgive and cleanse me from my sinful condition. I know I must change and turn away from any sin in my life and live for you. I now trust Jesus, accept the free gift of salvation and eternal life, and thank you for loving and saving me. I now **C**ommit my life to you dear Lord, and pray all these things in Jesus' name. Amen."



For more information about our bicycle & motorcycle ministry and living the Christian life, please contact us: WHEEL POWER Christian Cyclists • www.wheelpower.org • 402 Brookfield Road, Lynchburg, VA 24503 (434) 385-5839 • judy@wheelpower.org