



**Beaumont  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**DECEMBER 2017**

*The stone church . . .  
. . . with the caring heart*

**Worship Services**

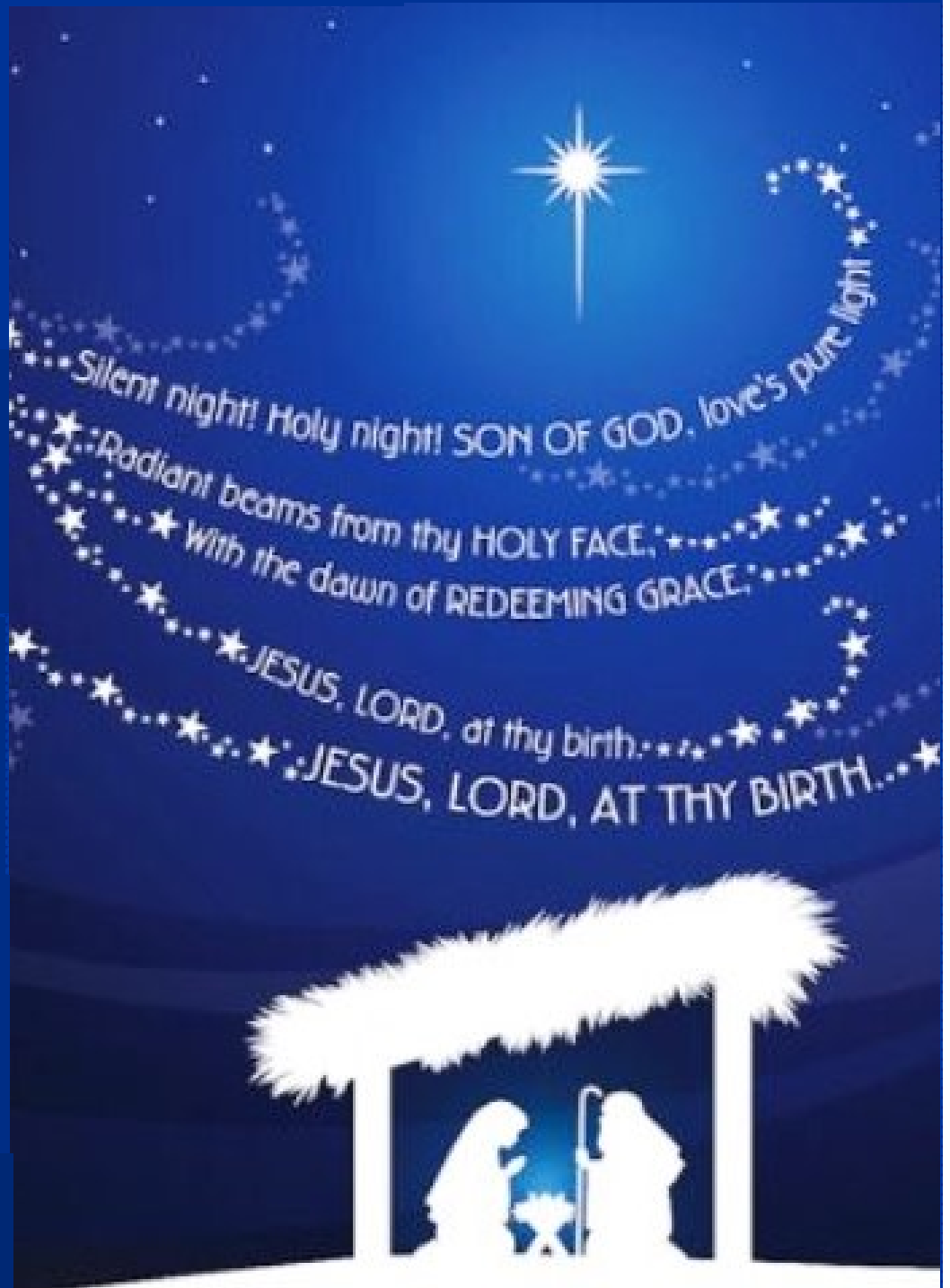
**Sunday  
8:30 AM  
& 10:00 AM**

***Adult Sunday  
School  
10:00 AM***

**Children's  
Sunday School  
10:00 AM**

***Fellowship Hour  
9:30 AM and  
11:00 AM  
Social Hall***

**Korean Church  
12:00 PM**



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## Beaumont Presbyterian Church

### Our Mission

A Christ-centered family of God's  
people, growing in faith,  
caring for each other,  
bringing others to Christ,  
and ministering to the needs  
of our changing  
community and world.

On the cover:

*All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon virgin, mother & child.  
Holy infant, so tender & mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.*

### *INSIDE THIS MONTH*

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### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

DAWN KEHRET

*Submit all articles, announcements, etc. to her at  
dawnsings9@aol.com*

**NOTE: JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:  
December 15, 2017**

Birthday or anniversary information: Call the church office: (951) 845-1506  
Office hours: Monday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm;  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm;  
Friday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

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# A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Last week I was missing my wife and daughter as they were in Houston, Texas for a family reunion. They enjoyed fellowship with cousins my wife hadn't seen in 10 to 25 years. They had a wondrous time being together. The main event of the final evening was Rena's uncle's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party at a function hall somewhere on the northern outskirts of Houston with about 90 people in attendance. **I chose to do something surprising for the first time in my life.** As the party was beginning, Rena's cousins looked towards the open door in excitement and began asking each other in earnest, "Is that Rena's husband?!" "Is that Kavya's father?!" "Rena, Kavya, is that Scott?!"



Everyone was shocked to see me. Rena, Kavya and all Rena's relatives went on and on about what an exciting surprise it was. I can't tell you what a great time I had with my wife's relatives from Houston, Austin and Chicago that night and the following afternoon. They are all loving, hard working, dedicated Christian people. **Minutes before I walked through the door, Rena and Kavya thought they knew where I was, but they were wrong!**

Last Sunday during the 8:30 am worship service, Pat Cummings gave thanks to the congregation for their love and support and said **she knows exactly where Pastor Don is. He is up in heaven!** And, amidst the sadness of his loss, Pat has had peace and comfort and even joy knowing where he is! It will be a joy to celebrate Pastor Don's beautiful life next Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm in our sanctuary. I'm looking forward to our church dinner, on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm in our social hall. We will also have a glorious celebration of the birth of our Savior on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

When God came into the world some 2,000 years ago in the person of His Son it was quite a surprise. Only a small group of the wisest scholars from the East had figured out He was coming. The only reason the shepherds were there to greet the baby is because the angel revealed the news to them first. **Some people today don't know if there is a God or where God is or if they even want to find Him. While all along, the place God wants to dwell is in our hearts.** Two thousand years ago our Savior was born. Light came into the world's darkness. **Let that light find you in a new way and touch your heart as we celebrate how our Savior came into the world to be with us!**

Yours in Christ,  
Scott



1st flower on a new tree



Scott surprised his family when he joined them in Texas

# IMPORTANT DATES



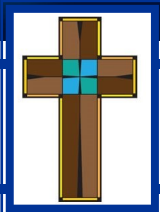
**Deacons:** meet Tuesday, December 5th at 4pm



**Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering:** Friday, December 8th, 12 noon. Guest speaker and lunch, \$10. Purchase tickets Dec. 3rd in the Fellowship Hall.



**Choir practice:** meets every Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00pm



**Christmas Fellowship Dinner:** Sunday, December 10th, 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Tickets available after each service in fellowship hall (Adults \$7 & children \$4)

**Session:** meets Tuesday, December 12th at 3:30pm



**Christmas Eve Service:** Sunday, December 24th, 5pm. Invite a friend. Come celebrate our New Born King!



## MISSION-OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The Mission/Outreach Committee wants to sincerely thank the congregation for the fantastic response to our Free Wheelchair Campaign last month. Your gracious giving came to a total of over \$12,000 for the month and will be matched by a very generous, anonymous donor. Your donations will provide 150 wheelchairs for those in real need around the world.

You should be very proud of your accomplishment with this great project. Thank you for giving so generously so that many more lives might be transformed with the gift of mobility!

Dave Bostic



# SPECIAL DATES



## December Birthdays

- |                  |                          |                    |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Betty Warren   | 8 Ginny Dumas            | 25 Jan George      |
| 1 Jane Sinner    | 11 Tom Howell            | 25 Casey Kreckow   |
| 3 Suzy Kim       | 12 Lyn Reynolds -Johnson | 28 Rene Moreno     |
| 3 Marge Shearer  | 13 Connie Ring           | 28 Jack Schoonover |
| 4 Art Welch      | 15 Betty Rightmer        | 28 Doris Frevert   |
| 5 Lorena Aranda  | 16 Bill West             | 28 Peggy Gates     |
| 5 Linda Adams    | 18 Dean McKernan         | 29 Norman Gibbs    |
| 7 Judy Kelts     | 18 Elsa Rice             | 29 Shirley Webb    |
| 7 Carolyn Moreno | 20 Betty Gibbs           | 30 Dave Knight     |



## December Anniversaries

- |                               |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 18 Dr. Nandi & Alda Dyalchand | 19 Herb & Connie Presson          |
| 18 John & Cheryl St George    | 22 Bobby (Asghar) & Jane Benjamin |
|                               | 26 Art & Jodie Welch              |

## A WORD FROM YOUR CHOIR DIRECTOR



On December 2nd, we gathered together to celebrate the life and resurrection of our retired administrative pastor and long time choir member, Don Cummings. I'm sad that he was too ill to do more than occasionally visit the choir loft during my tenure as choir director. I could easily hear in his speaking voice that, at one time, there was a talented basso profundo residing in that tall, lanky body!

Don was not only beloved by those of us at BPC, but also by many, many more whose lives he touched over the years. I was amazed to see how many schools he had attended and am in awe at the multitude of subjects that he studied. He was a true believer and his life is a living example of the kind of people God calls us to be.

Those of us in the choir have been missing him for quite a long time. We've even saved his robe for him, in case he recovered enough to rejoin us. So, if there is anyone out there who is very tall and loves to sing, we have a very special robe just waiting to be filled!

# TABLE OF PLENTY

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Thanks to the donated turkeys and the contributions of money, we fed about 447 people the day before Thanksgiving! Also our children came to distribute the bags of bean soup they had put together. It was wonderful for them to follow that project through to the end and to actually see our guests receive them.

Our volunteers work very hard to put this meal together; they cook the turkeys at home and on Tuesday, assemble them into trays, chop celery and onions for the dressing and do as much prep work as possible to make the Wednesday feast look easy! In addition, thanks to our pie cutters: Jack Sidwell, George Eichel and Dave Allred for their years of dedication.

We always have a lot of volunteers who want to be part of the celebration. This year we welcomed former manager, Jan Tetzlaff, and her family. Also, the family of Lee Clifton, who had been a long time volunteer, came to honor his memory by helping serve. Larry Ellis took over the mashed potato detail that his wife Shirley had done for years. She was such an important part of our kitchen and we miss her.

We're looking forward to celebrating Christmas, December 20th. Santa will be there and we will have gifts for everyone.

Jodie



**Our amazing Table of Plenty volunteers did an incredible job serving our Thanksgiving meal to 447 guests at Table of Plenty on November 22nd.**

# TABLE OF PLENTY THANKSGIVING PHOTO GALLERY



# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

We look forward to seeing all of you for our Christmas Gathering on Friday, December 8, 2017 when our guest speaker will be Marcia Gehris who has loved music all of her life. She toured the USA with Fred Waring and The Pennsylvanians and also had a career in college administration. Pursuing two careers was very demanding, so Marcia decided to focus on presenting inspirational musical programs, sharing her faith journey for churches and organizations from coast to coast. She has many recordings to her credit and her biography has been included in the publication "Who's Who Among American Women." Lunch will be a potato bar/salad bar with Cherry Crisp for dessert. Cost is \$10. A special thanks goes to Connie Presson for our decorations at each Gathering, as well as to those who show up at 2:45 p.m. each day prior to the Gatherings to help her; and to those who help clean up after each Gathering.

During October and November we collected \$621.00 for the Thank Offering. All the churches in Riverside Presbytery send their Thank Offering collection to the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii in December. She then sends the offering on to Presbyterian Women (USA) for distribution.

Additionally, in December, we will disburse checks to:

H.E.L.P. for the money collected from our four Gatherings plus an additional \$100.00 budgeted.

Least Coin donations from our circles.

\$200 to PC USA Mission Pledge.

A big **thank you** goes out to all who donate to these charitable activities.

Our calendar sales are almost complete; as of November 19 we have 6 calendars left out of 75. They are available for \$7 each.

## **Bible Studies continue weekly:**

Thursday, 10 a.m., contact Liz Linden 951-845-9908. On break from mid-December thru the first of the year.

Friday, 9:30 a.m., contact Betty Mann 951-845-3800. On break from mid-December thru the first of the year.

Friday, 10:30 a.m., contact Sally Burse's 951-769-5980

## **Circles meet once a month:** (September through May):

Esther/Lydia every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed., 1 p.m., Rm. 1 of the Church. Contact: Marge Shearer 951-922-6679

Ruth Circle every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs., 1 p.m., Rm. 1 of the Church. Contact: Jerry Schneider 951-845-1014

## **BPWCT will meet January 5, 2018.**

Advent is here and the Christmas season, with all the beauty of the season, follows beginning with the Christmas Eve service. I wish all of you a Merry Christmas filled with the love of Christ.

Blessings,  
Cathy Calhoun, Moderator





# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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## The Gospels vs. the Great Christian Creeds (Part 3)

The nativity story, which is the story of Christmas, is only written about by Matthew and Luke. According to NT Wright, *“Once we learn, from Mark’s gospel, how we might read the story of Jesus’ birth and life as the story of Israel’s God returning at last, we may find it easier to recognize the ways in which Matthew and Luke are doing something very similar.”* In fact, that’s the reason these three gospels are referred to as the synoptics, meaning they were written alike. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are very similar to each other when compared to John’s fourth gospel. The synoptic gospels tell the story of Jesus in very similar ways, frequently including the same stories and sayings and often using the same words. But unlike Mark, Matthew and Luke start with the lead-up to the night Jesus was born. His birth most likely didn’t happen on December 25<sup>th</sup>, but the date isn’t really important. What’s important was that all of Christendom celebrates Israel’s God arrival in the world on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Matthew begins his nativity story with the phrase, *“The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After His mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit.”* An angel appeared to Joseph and told him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife because her pregnancy is an act of God. Furthermore, Mary’s child is to be called Jesus because, *“He is the one who will save his people from their sins.”* Luke, who writes his gospel from a more historic viewpoint, starts his gospel by setting the scene of Jesus’ birth. *“Joseph went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David... While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.”*

Though the Apostles Creed covers this narrative when it states that Jesus was, *“conceived by the Holy Spirit”* and that He was, *“born of the Virgin Mary.”* But then the creed skips past the overwhelming majority of the material in the four Gospels that contains what Jesus said and did during his ministry. Then picks up again at His *“suffering under Pontius Pilate”* and *“was crucified, died and was buried.”* But it’s the gospels, NT Wright says, that, *“Tell a great deal about what Jesus did between the time of his birth and the time of his death. In particular, they tell us about what we might call his kingdom-inaugurating work: the deeds and words that declared that God’s kingdom was coming then and there, in some sense or other, on earth as in heaven. They tell us a great deal about that; but the great creeds don’t.”* What NT Wright is saying in his book, *How God Became King, the Forgotten Story of the Gospels* is, *“If you start with the Gospels, which form the heart and balance point of the whole Christian cannon, and if you understand them to be telling the story of how God, the creator God, Israel’s God became in and through Jesus, the king of all the world, then you can return to the creeds and say them in a very different spirit.”* His book really became alive to me in chapter four, particularly, the way he breaks down the Apostles Creed and explained each phrase. This is worth the reading if only for the way Wright explains the creed in light of what’s written in the four gospels. Also my recommendation is that you buy one of NT Wright’s translations/commentaries. I’m presently just about finished reading NT Wright’s, *Mark for Everyone*, and I’ve found it, (the story concerning Jesus’ life and ministry) that the evangelist John Mark most likely received from the apostle Peter, to be absolutely fascinating. I purchased it from Christian Books.com for around eight dollars. Wright has written commentaries for all 27 books of the New Testament.

Thanks for reading, Marty Mangan

# YOUTH HIKING TRIPS PHOTO GALLERY



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Our November 4<sup>th</sup> children's program brought 25 children and adults to help assemble our dry soup packages. Children listened to a Bible story focusing on giving and helping. Stories included the little boy who shared his loaves of bread and fish to feed the 5,000; the poor widow who put her only two copper coins in the temple box; the good Samaritan who aided an injured man by the side of the road; and Abigail who fed David's hungry men out in the countryside.

After some games, the children filled 75 bags of beans soup that were passed out at the Table of Plenty for the Thanksgiving meal. We ended the day with pizza, cookies, and ice cream sandwiches.





**Beaumont Presbyterian Church**  
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**The Rev. Scott Mason, Senior Pastor**