



Viewmont Baptist Church

Our Vision: Excellence in Preaching, Teaching, Caring, and Reaching

The Viewmont Vision

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December, 2020
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From Our Pastor . . .

It was first thing in the morning. All three children were ready for the day with bookbags, lunchboxes, masks, and an energized attitude ready to go. We were out the door, loaded in the car, and cruising down the road coming into Hickory. Now, mind you this was about six weeks ago, so it was before Halloween. The girls were asking questions about the upcoming series of celebrations – Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s, etc. With all the changes and instability, they were wondering what we would do. I told them I did not know yet, but we would figure it all out as we went along.

Then Annlyn asked about a very special Christmas tradition for our family. I had no idea she looked forward to it as much as she did. When I told her I did not know what we were going to do, she was a bit emotional. Then, she said, “Well, dad, that doesn’t change Christmas at all!” My heart could have leapt out of my chest that morning. She was spot-on! It doesn’t change Christmas at all.

I think everyone is wondering how in the world we will hold various traditions this year. What about this get-together and that party? What will we do with this tradition or that event? How are we supposed to hold Christmas this year? These are questions I have pondered a lot lately; for my own family and for our church family. I do believe the answer lies in the weeks that lead up to Christmas: Advent.

The season of Advent is one of anticipation. These four weeks are pregnant with expectation. It is a journey of hope, peace, joy, and love, finding the fullest fulfillment in the baby lying in a manger in Bethlehem. Indeed, it is there where “*the hopes and fears of all the years are met in Thee tonight.*”

This year, maybe more than ever before in our lifetimes, we need to be reminded of the very center of the Advent journey. We need to journey back to Bethlehem to be held by hope, peace, joy, and love. As a congregation, the weeks of Advent will still feature the lighting of the candles and the public and corporate reading of the Word of God. But our focus will be on the tangibility of Advent. When we think about what Advent is and what it leads to, the incarnation of God in Christ Jesus is at the very core. Mary and Joseph *held* Jesus. The shepherds likely *held* the lamb of God. The magi could have *held* God’s indescribable gift.

When this is our journey, marked by the promises of God, we see that Advent and Christmas have not changed at all. They are as they have always been. And it is to this eternal truth that we hold. While at the same time, it is this eternal truth that holds us. So, let’s journey together to Bethlehem to fall in worship before the newborn King.

Though things may be different this year in terms of how we hold Advent and Christmas, Advent and Christmas are still the same. I am excited to journey with you to Bethlehem. I am excited to center in on the Christ-child with you. I am excited to be holding Advent with you. Please know just how much me and my family love and pray for you and yours.

Merry Christmas...

-Andrew

Inside This Issue . . .

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Viewmont Baptist Preschool
Tree of Learning

"Nurturing God's Children with Love and Knowledge"



DECEMBER NEWS!

***Christmas Program**

4's December 16th

- Special Thanks to Lauren Brown & Richard Benfield for filming and making DVD's for parents

***Schoolwide Pajama Days**

December 17th & 18th

***Closed for Christmas Break**

December 19th-January 4th
Return January 5th

We hope everyone enjoys a wonderful, safe and healthy Christmas break with family as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

***Looking ahead...**

Closed January 18th

Fall Registration starts-
January 11th-22nd (current users
& Church members)

January 25th (waiting list)

February 1st (open to public)

Attention Parents

If you signed up for

"The Promised Gift" box

Mark your Calendars...

Sunday Dec 6

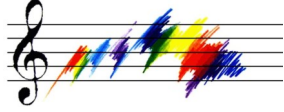
10am - 1 pm

pick up

Gathering Area



UPCOMING



WORSHIP MUSIC

- Dec. 6 *"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"* Praise Team
- Dec. 13 *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"* Bell Choir
"Sing We All Noel" Praise Team
- Dec. 20 *"Joy to the World"* Bell Choir
"Love's Pure Light" Praise Team
- Carols, Candlelight & Communion*
- Dec. 20 *"Breath of Heaven"* Praise Team
"Silent Night" & "What Child is This?" Bell Choir
- Dec. 27 *"What Child is This?"* Praise Team



**Sundays
LIVE
at Viewmont**

December 6 ~
"Holding Advent: The Son"
Luke 2:1-7

December 13 ~
"Holding Advent: The Lamb"
Luke 2:8-20

December 20 ~
"Holding Advent: The Gifts"
Matthew 2:1-12

December 27 ~
"Being Held By Advent"
Colossians 1:15-20

CHURCH REPORT FOR OCTOBER:

Budget Approved:	\$ 48,653.00
Budget Offering:	\$ 66,147.00
Designated:	\$ 951.00
Total Given:	\$ 67,098.00
Total Budget Expenses:	\$ 44,662.00
Total Designated Expenses:	\$ 2,774.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 47,436.00

Capital Campaign given: \$608,861.00

CHURCH REPORT FOR 2020:

Budget Approved:	\$583,834.00
Budget Offering:	\$446,506.00
Designated:	\$ 22,250.00
Total Given:	\$468,756.00
Total Budget Expenses:	\$379,085.00
Total Designated Expenses:	\$ 26,561.00
Total Expenses:	\$405,646.00

November, 2020 (3 out of 5 Sundays)

Avg In-person Morning Worship:	80
Avg YouTube Live:	38

As You Pray, Remember . . .

The Family of Jerry McIntosh on the recent death of his sister, Peggy McIntosh Pope.

The Family of Carolyn Baxley on the recent death of her mother, Alma Auld.

The Family of Lynn Sigmon on the recent death of her mother, Dorothy Wehnt.

The Family of David & Brenda Futrell's daughter, Kathy Mazurek's, father-in-law, Dave Mazurek, on his recent death.

The Family of Roger Bowman on the recent death of his niece, Melissa Bowman.

The Family of Carol Bowman on the recent death of her friend, Betty Flack.

Thank You From . . .

Marjorie Hooper
Lois Snyder
Ann Rogers Family



We need a few volunteers to assist with our Food Pantry. Shopping for the food is each Thursday, 8:30-10:00am. Please consider serving in this great area of ministry. For more information, please contact Carol Bowman @ 828-302-7608.



Advent Bags for At-Home Worship

If you are worshipping with us away from the building, be sure to pick up an Advent bag for at-home worship. Inside are five candles, two pre-packaged communion sets, and a list of weekly scripture readings for Advent.



Carols, Candlelight & Communion
Sunday, December 20~6 p.m.
Viewmont Baptist Church, Sanctuary

Missions and Evangelism News

Continuing through the month of December, we will be accepting donations for North Carolina Baptist on Mission (NCBOM): Disaster Relief. This ministry provides ways for Christians to minister to people who are hurting due to disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, COVID-19, etc. Contributions given to "Missions" during this month will go toward NCBOM: Disaster Relief. Please visit baptistsonmission.org for more information about this wonderful ministry.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Cooperative Christian Ministry hygiene bag project. CCM is very grateful for the donations. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with our community.





December 2020

Monthly Planner

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Each Sunday 9:30 a.m. Praise Team, Sanctuary 11:00 a.m. Worship Service Each Monday 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Second Harvest Food Distribution Each Wednesday 9:30 a.m. Minister's Meeting 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays Worship & Praise 6:00 p.m. Viewmont Handbell Choir Each Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 5:30 p.m. AA, Youth & Activities Building		Monday-Friday 7:15 am-6:00 pm Weekday Preschool Ministry 8:30 am-12:30 pm After School Morning Remote Support Program Closings Dec 19-31 Jan 1-4 Preschool/Afterschool Ministries Preschool/Afterschool Ministries		Our chief ministry as believers is Prayer! Pray without ceasing! Every morning and every evening at 8:00, set a time of dedicated prayer. Prayer for our world, our nation, our community. Prayer for the Holy Spirit of God to bring both hope and healing to a very troubled time.		
		1 6 PM Property Committee, Fellowship Center	2 11 AM Full Staff	3	4	5 
6  "The Promised Gift" Box pick up Gathering Area 10am - 1 pm	7	8	9 	10	11	12
13	14	15 11 AM Volunteers to Hickory Soup Kitchen	16 4's Preschool Christmas Program filming	17 Preschool Pajama Day	18 Preschool Pajama Day	19
20 12:30 PM-1:30 PM Sabbath Soup Kitchen 6 PM Carols, Candlelight & Communion	21 Vision Newsletter Articles Due	22	23	24 <div style="background-color: red; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px;">Church Offices Closed</div>	25 	26
27 	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 		

Opportunities for Service

Sunday, December 6

11:00 a.m. Worship Service in Sanctuary

Monday, December 7

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Second Harvest Food Distribution

Tuesday, December 8

6:00 p.m. Property Committee

Wednesday, December 9

9:30 a.m. Minister's Meeting

11:00 a.m. Full Staff

5:00 p.m. Wednesdays Worship & Praise

6:00 p.m. Viewmont Handbell Choir

Thursday, December 10

Friday, December 11

Saturday, December 12

Monday - Friday

7:15 a.m.-6 p.m. Weekday Preschool Ministry

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. After School Remote Learning

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

5:30 p.m. AA, Youth & Activities Building

December 2020 Deacon of the Week

December 6~ Butch Gryder

December 13 ~ Jason Kahrl

December 20 ~ Sandy McAlpin

December 27~ Don Miller

Broadcast Ministry

Our worship service is broadcast live
each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. on:

WHKY-TV Channel 14

Alexander CTV Channel 7

Caldwell CTV Channel 7

Spectrum TV Channel 7

Also on www.youtube.com

Search: Viewmont Baptist Church Hickory NC

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Our Church Staff

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OUR MISSION: TO SHARE CHRIST AND SERVE OTHERS
Viewmont Baptist Church



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