

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

TODAY *We are glad that you chose to join us for worship today!!*

Poinsettias -- Thank you to everyone who brought a poinsettia to decorate the altar for Advent. You can pick up your plant starting on December 24 following worship service.

Join us after worship service for a birthday cake for Jesus.

Christmas Caroling -- Meet us here at the church at 4:00 p.m. or at Drew's Place in Coldwater at 5:00 p.m. Invite a friend!!

There are no Sunday School classes today or next Sunday. Small groups are on break until January.

NEXT SUNDAY Join us next Sunday for a special **Christmas Eve service** at 9:30 a.m. Invite your family and friends!

NEXT MONTH **March for Life** -- there is information in the lobby regarding the March for Life, which will be January 19, 2018. See Jennie deAr-
aujo with any questions.

Ladies Alive Retreat -- a ladies winter get-away retreat February 3 at First Baptist in Coldwater. Reservations are due by January 1. Information and registration forms are in the lobby.

PLEASE NOTE **2018 Council meetings:** The church Council voted to hold their 2018 meetings as follows:
February 19, April 16, June 18, August 20, October 15 and December 17. *The Executive Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. and Council meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m.*

Directory Photos -- If you did not receive your directory photos in the mail, please see Pastor Dave.

Weather Cancellations -- If church is to be cancelled due to inclement weather, it will be decided and announced on WTVB radio or posted on the church website, www.bethelgilead.org. by 8:00 a.m.

Communication Cards -- please use the cards enclosed in your bulletin to let us know how best to text and what information we can send to you. Please drop the cards in the offering plate when completed.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pastor Jim Erwin
517.756.8001

Associate Pastor David Minard
517.756.8000

Church Office
517.369.1588

DECEMBER 17, 2017

SERVICE: 9:30 AM

JUNIOR CHURCH: 10:10 AM

CHRISTIAN ED: 11:15 AM



MISSION STATEMENT

"WE HONOR GOD THROUGH REGULARLY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER TO WORSHIP HIM AS LORD, STUDY AND OBEY HIS WORD, AND ATTEND TO THE NEEDS OF HIS PEOPLE. WHEN WE LEAVE, WE GO OUT COMMISSIONED AS CHRIST'S REPRESENTATIVES TO A NEEDY WORLD."

876 BLOCK RD

• BRONSON MI. 49028 •
VISIT US AT WWW.BETHELGILEAD.ORG

(517) 369-1588

DECEMBER 17, 2017

NURSERY..... Sherry Neesley and Anna Mae Wickey

SOUND ROOM..... Kenny Bennett

GREETERS.....Kerry and Elise Skinner

ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS..... David Minard

ADVENT READING..... The Long Family

O Come, O Come Emmanuel..... Praise Team

O Come All Ye Faithful..... Praise Team

READING: LUKE 2:1-7..... Kim Erwin

OFFERING Frank Cabrera

Special Music..... Melissa Houtz

The First Noel..... Gillian Carpenter

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen..... Praise Team

Joy to the World..... Praise Team

READING: LUKE 2:8-14..... Kim Erwin

Christmas Hallelujah..... Rachel Bach

Special Music..... Donna Green

JUNIOR CHURCH (TODDLERS-GRADE 5) Dismissal

READING: LUKE 2:15-21..... Kim Erwin

MESSAGE Jim Erwin

Silent Night..... Praise Team

MESSAGE

A GIFT FROM GOD

INTRODUCTION:

Christmas = God to the rescue!

[Colossians 1:13-14](#)

I. RESCUED FROM THE DOMINION OF DARKNESS

The people walking in darkness.....*[Isaiah 9:2](#)*

“The rising sun will come from heaven to shine on those living in darkness.....*[Luke 1:79](#)*

TO THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT

In him was life and that life was the light of men.....*[John 1:4](#)*

Live as children of the Light.....*[Ephesians 5:9](#)*

II. THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT EVER!

But as many as received him.....*[John 1:12](#)*

This is the testimony, God has given us eternal life and that life is in his Son.....*[1 John 5:11](#)*

APPLICATION

1. Open your gift.... forgiveness of sins (put it on, wear it daily)
2. Extend that same gift of forgiveness
 - to someone you know
 - to a stranger
 - to yourself

Forgive as the Lord forgave you.....*[Colossians 3:13](#)*
3. Share the gift with someone still trapped in sin.



Recent additions

- *Tina Graybill* -friend of Melissa Houtz, double mastectomy on 12/20.
- *Mary Sue Baldwin* - second hip replacement
- *Jean LaClair* -- at U of M Hospital undergoing treatment for leukemia
- *Wanda DeBolt* -- at home; health issues
- Family of *Bill Long*, Tim's grandfather
- *Flo Cabrera's mother* -- health issues
- *Ron Will's niece's husband, Ernie*, stage 4 cancer.
- *Solano's sister, May*, health issues
- *Lisa Frank's Uncle Tony* -- in hospice care
- *Lee Bidwell* -- recovering at home from surgery.
- The family of *Linda Smith's sister, Lorna*.
- *Jennie Williamson* -- final stages of ALS
- *Ethan Metzger* --student in Bronson; seizures
- *Jen Byler's stepdad, Rex* -- more eye surgery required.
- *Gary Ratkowski* -- undergoing 12 rounds of chemotherapy at U of M.
- *Mary Stall* -- Dale Davis' cousin--undergoing treatment for stage 4 cancer.
- *Jim Comb*- vision issues

Continue to remember those in need

- *Brian DeBolt* -- feeling better
- Rick Hollister's mother, *Kathleen's* health.
- *Steve Russell* --heath issues
- Brandon Carpenter's brother-in-law, *Eric Algrim and family*, major heart issues.
- *Jim Eley* is at Maple Lawn, room 508.
- *Carmel Roberts* - health issues
- *Rick Wilcox* - Alzheimer's, failing health

Praises

- Shanda Carpenter's cousin, *Nick* --out of hospital, improving

December 17, 2017



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