



**Pastor | Rev. Josh Beeler** - josh@madisonheightsbaptist.org

**Director of Music | Catherine White** - catherine@madisonheightsbaptist.org

**Office Administrator | Sharon Walters-Bower** - sharon@madisonheightsbaptist.org

**Youth Pastor | Rev. Randy Bower** - randy@madisonheightsbaptist.org

**General Contact** - office@madisonheightsbaptist.org

**Vol. 63**

**December 4, 2024**

**No.11**

## **ALL IS CALM...**

I love rewatching movies that were part of my childhood and seeing new things as an adult. And in my household, on Christmas morning, there were a few constants. First: my brother and I were allowed to come out of our rooms at 6:30am to finally come set our eyes on presents. Second: my dad would make can cinnamon rolls and pigs in a blanket for breakfast. And finally: A Christmas Story would play in the background, no matter which point we picked it up at. There are a number of scenes I will never forget that I have enjoyed since I was a child. But since I've been a parent, the ending has taken on new meaning.

No, I'm not talking about the dogs getting the turkey and the duck losing its head (though that's still a good one!). And no, I'm not talking about Ralphie ACTUALLY shooting his eye out (though, as a parent, I do love a good "I told you so lesson"! ). No, the ending I'm talking about is the VERY end. With the parents sitting in the dark silently next to the Christmas tree as the kids sleep and the snow falls—triumphant in their task of creating Christmas joy, and finally sitting in what we all long for at Advent/Christmas... PEACE. The season and all its chaos wind down to a non-assuming conclusion, and as a parent, I've realized that I could want nothing more!

Peace is often so fragile. So elusive! It's something that everyone KNOWS there is value in, and yet very few do work to actually achieve it. And you best believe, it does take WORK! Peace is not something we usually get the privilege of falling into—it takes dedication, commitment, and struggle to actually achieve—especially if it's a TRUE peace really worth anything. And so, this Advent season, as we all trim trees, check off shopping lists, attend holiday activities, and try to find moments to reflect on the meaning of it all, I wonder...what kind of peace are you working towards? And is it the peace that Jesus is the prince of?

This will be the focus of our Wednesday Bible Study this week—I hope you will consider joining us as we meet from 7-8pm! This will also be the topic of our worship service on Sunday, December 8—I hope you will be able to be in attendance. There are so many opportunities afforded us this time of year, to be sure; but I hope that we can all do the work to make peace in the most meaningful places in our lives—and that we can do so together. As always, it is my great joy to serve as your pastor. **-Josh**

### **SUNDAY MORNING**

**9:15 AM - SECOND SUNDAY**

**FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**

**9:45 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**11:00 AM - MORNING WORSHIP**

### **SPECIAL ELEMENTS**

Rev. Josh Beeler's sermon: "Peace"

Malachi 3:1-4

Chancel Choir - Dona Nobis Pacem

Youth Handbells

Children's Choirs

**DEACON OF THE WEEK**

Dec. 8 Les Irvin & Michael McPhatter

**DEACONS SERVING DECEMBER 8**

Nancy Campbell Mike Garrett  
Luke Hamel Marvin Jefferson  
Harold Massie Lesley McPhatter

**DECEMBER 1, 2024 OFFERINGS**

Budget Envelopes.....\$ 9,652.00  
**(Weekly Budget Needs \$9199.06)**  
Plate Offering.....\$ 54.00  
Designated Offering..... \$ 1,698.00  
TOTAL DEPOSIT..... \$11,404.00  
Find Us Faithful.....\$ 615.00

**DECEMBER USHERS**

Brad Burchette & R.J. Pugh

**IN THE HOSPITAL**

Richard Wilburn - VA Baptist

**THANK YOU**

We want to thank Bonnie and Jerry Mayberry for their help in putting up the tree and decorating the sanctuary.  
Eileen & Cary Murphy

**HEARTFELT THANKS**

The Helping Hands Ministry would like to express our sincere gratitude to those who helped make the Christmas Festival a tremendous success. Nearly \$4,700 was raised through the silent auction and live auction!

**COMMITMENT CARDS**

55 Commitment cards have been received pledging \$251,148 which is 51% of the \$494,520 budget for 2025. There is still time! Drop your pledge card in the offering plate, mail or stop by the church office.

**ACTEENS MISSIONS MAILBOXES**

The Acteens Missions Post Office is open! Mail Christmas cards to active church members and shut-ins. A donation box is beside the mailboxes on the table in the main hallway.

**JERICHO TOY BARREL**

It is time for our annual partnering with Jericho to bring joy to children in need. NEW toys/games/books, etc. can be placed in the barrel located in the foyer until **Dec. 19.**

**KOINANIAS**

Dec. 3- 9:15 a.m. Depart for Runk & Pratt

**MEALS ON WHEELS**

December 16 - 20  
Thank you to those who deliver hot meals to our neighbors!

**POINSETTIAS**

Special envelopes are available if you wish to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary or give the cost of a poinsettia to the CBF Global Missions Offering in memory or in honor of a loved one.  
The cost is \$10.

 FELLOWSHIP

**WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY MINISTRIES**

6:30 Children board the bus for caroling. Parents, please pick up your children at the Madison Heights Dairy Queen by 8:15 No money needed!  
6:30 Acteens leave to shop for Angel Tree gifts and will be at MHDQ by 8:15.  
6:45 - Adult Bible Study

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
MADISON HEIGHTS, VA 24572  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit 2

MADISON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH  
329 Main Street  
MADISON HEIGHTS, VA 24572  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED