



# THE VISION

December 2019

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...”  
Amen. Matthew 28:19-20*

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\*\*\*PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

GLoucester Point Baptist Church  
7741 Terrapin Cove Rd, PO Box 305  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062



## Dec. 2019

Christmas is a special time of the year. It is a time that we set apart to celebrate the miracle birth of Jesus Christ. God came into this world to bring us the gift of salvation!

There was no fancy motel or home for the baby. There were no fancy ribbons to welcome the Christ Child. There was no Christmas tree decorated with lights and sparkling ornaments. The angels announced His birth to the shepherds and God placed a star in the sky to lead the kings to worship Him. Jesus entered this world in a stable surrounded by straw and animals.

Christmas is a time to celebrate, to rejoice, not only for the birth of Jesus Christ, but for the miracle of Him being born inside our lives making His home in our hearts. Jesus has been knocking on doors throughout the generations. He longs to find a home in the hearts of people who simply believe.

Accepting Jesus Christ is the greatest gift we can receive. His arms are open wide to accept us. Jesus wants us to come as we are and stay close by His side. He will lead us through the darkness and into His light of joy and peace! He will dwell in our hearts.

However, Christmas can become a time of anxiety, stress, and weariness. We can get caught up with buying presents, decorating the

home, cooking, parties and programs to attend. What can we do to stay focused upon Christ?

Through the guidance of God's Holy Spirit, find some quiet time every day to read the Bible and pray. Meditate on what Christ has done for you. Thank Him for what we love about Christmas. Ask God for wisdom to change the things we can and grace to accept the things we cannot change. Pray for each person as you send out Christmas cards. Pray for our family and the special people in our lives.

I want to encourage us to: spend time this Christmas thinking about how we will serve Christ. Will we put Christ first in our lives? Will we make helping others a priority? Will we give of our time, money, and resources to share God's love? Will we share the Plan of Salvation with those who are lost? Will we let the Light of Christ shine brightly through us? God wants our light to shine brightly that others may see our good works and glorify God.

Keep our eyes on Jesus this Christmas season. Please read the birth of Jesus Christ in **Luke 2**. Then, move over to **Luke 19:10** and read "Why" Jesus Christ came, "He came to seek and to save the lost." That is what Christmas is all about. I pray that we find comfort, hope and joy in His name!

Merry Christmas,  
Pastor, Bud Goude



# Deacon's Devotional

## "God Is Good All The Time"

Another short paycheck due to the weather...no way out when you are working outside! Found another leak in the roof. Wow! Thought I had that fixed? Trucks down, seen its better days....got to figure out how to get another. Hot water heater is ruptured. Thank the Lord I saved one off a remodel job. Time to fill the propane tanks again!! Where will I get the money? Oh no!! My stepson Sean has had another episode! Lord, help us!! Sarah is holding on by a thread! Stress, stress, stress!! Now it's almost Christmas again! Presents mean money, money, money!!

Oh Lord, thank you for being Our Anchor in the time of the storm. It could always be worse! Think about it please, my friends. **God is Good Always!!** If you have no troubles then something isn't right, but because we all do, Jesus says "Come unto me and I will give you rest". Thank the Lord that He has it **ALL** under control. He showed us this by allowing his Son to be born in a barn, not in a palace, to a Carpenter and his wife, not to a Senator. Thank you Lord for knowing what we go through and loving us so much. Thank you for giving all humanity a **Present** that can never be matched!

From all of us here at Gloucester Point Baptist Church, Your church, we thank you!! And to all my friends...Merry Christmas!! For God is Good!! All the time!!

Gus Saunders  
Zephaniah 3:17



## Christmas Doves

"...and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove..." Matthew 3:16

Would you like to place a Dove on the tree in memory or in honor of a loved one? A dove can be placed for a minimum of a \$5.00 donation, but more will gladly be accepted. Donations will go to support benevolence. The deadline is Wednesday 12/18 and doves will be placed on the tree as donations are received.

A dove contributors list will be included in the Christmas bulletin. Place your form and payment in the labeled box in the Narthex. If you have any questions, contact Paulette Ashe at 642-3251. Thank you for your generosity!

## Hanging of the Greens Service

Mark your calendars for December 1st, the first Sunday of Advent, to join us at 11:00am for a special morning service, for Hanging of the Greens. This special service will include beautiful Christmas music with readings to explain the meaning of the traditional decorations, as we decorate our sanctuary. The decorations include wreaths, garland, poinsettias, the Advent wreath, and the Christmas tree with Chrismons.



## Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Christmas is rapidly approaching and at this time of year we are called to pray for our missionaries who are spreading the Good News all over the world and support them with the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The Week of Prayer for International Missionaries is December 1- 8.

This year our goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is \$2,500.00.



**Deacon of the Week**

12/1—Sonya Anthony  
12/8—Seth Gandee  
12/15—Keith Belvin  
12/22—Al West

**Nursery Workers**

12/1—L. Walton/G. Breeden  
12/8—Devan/Elyza Willard  
12/15—Mallory Wagner/Youth  
12/22—A. Crummett/A. Zepeda

**December Ushers**

Sonya Anthony  
Seth Gandee  
Stan Gandee  
Jamie Moore

**December Tellers**

Tommy Ashe  
Buddy Hogge

**Sun. Sch. Nursery**

Sharon/Howard Warren



# CHURCH WORKERS

**Older Children's Church**

12/1—Theresa Svoboda  
12/8—Jennifer/Lauren Hall  
12/15—Madison/Denise Gandee  
12/22—Charlene/John West  
12/29—Seth Gandee

**Younger Children's Church**

12/1—Tim Owens  
12/8—S. Anthony/N. Dyson  
12/15—Janis West  
12/22—L. Sentz/R. Wells  
12/29—Tammy Greggs/Youth



## **Christmas Eve Service**

Invite your family and friends to join us for a beautiful candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 5:00pm.

There will be Christmas music, scriptures ,and the Lord's Supper.

## **Christmas Cantata and Dinner**

Please make plans to join us **Sunday, December 15th at 11am** as our chancel choir presents our annual Christmas Cantata. All are invited to worship and celebrate with us!

The Annual Christmas Dinner will follow the Choir's Cantata. The Meat, Bread, and Beverage will be provided. Please bring a Salad, Vegetable, or Dessert (enough to share with 10-12 people) and, of course, your family and friends!



### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

to provide shelter, help and hope to the homeless

The Winter Shelter will open Monday, December 2, 2019 and operate 24 hours a day through Monday, March 30, 2020.

Interested in Volunteering?

Join us at one of these

### **VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSIONS!**

#### **PETSWORTH BAPTIST CHURCH**

2471 Hickory Fork Road, Gloucester  
Thursday, December 5, 7:00 pm

#### **ABINGDON EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

4645 George Washington Memorial Hwy, Gloucester  
Sunday, December 15, 4:00 pm

#### **GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

6470 Main Street, Gloucester  
Sunday, December 8, 4:00 pm

#### **GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST CHURCH**

7741 Terrapin Cove Rd, Gloucester Point  
Sunday, January 5, 4:00 pm

**QUESTIONS?** EMAIL: [info@guestshelter.org](mailto:info@guestshelter.org)  
CALL: 804-792-5046

## Sunday Schedule

Sunday School (All Ages)- 9:40am  
 Worship Service- 11:00am  
 C.A.R.E. Ministry—2:00pm

# December 2019

## Wednesday Schedule

5:30 pm: Teens Living For Christ  
 6:00 pm: Children's Choir  
 6:30pm: Children's Bible Study  
 6:30pm: Bible Study & Prayer Meeting  
 7:30pm: Choir Practice

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Lord's Supper 11am Hanging of the Greens & 1st Advent Lighting 11am Deacon Mtg 3pm	2 American Heritage Girls 6:30pm	3 Bldg & Grounds Mtg 7:00pm	4 Advent Bible School 6:30pm	5 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm	6 Senior's Morning Out 9:30am Homeschool Co-op 10am AA 8:00pm	7
8 <b>NO SS Breakfast</b> 2nd Advent Lighting 11am Children's Council 12n	9 American Heritage Girls Ministry Meeting 6:30pm	10 Choir Practice 7:00pm	11 Called Business Meeting 6:00pm Advent Bible School 6:30pm	12 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm	13 Senior's Morning Out 9:30am AA 8:00pm <b>Fellowship Hall Reserved</b>	14 Choir Practice 9:00am <b>Fellowship Hall Reserved</b>
15 3rd Advent Lighting 11am Cantata 11am Christmas Dinner 12pm <b>NO CARE</b>	16 American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Vision Due	17 Armstrong Circle 6:00pm (meeting only)	18 Advent Bible School 6:30pm Children's Christmas Party 7:30pm	19 Acree Circle 10 am Girl Scouts 6:00pm (Big Fellowship Hall)	20 Senior's Morning Out 9:30am AA 8:00pm	21 Emma Crawford Quilting 9am-4pm Youth Christmas Party 7:00pm
22 Children's Christmas Presentation 11am 4th Advent Lighting 11am	23	24 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm 5th Advent Lighting 5pm	25 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>NO REG. ACTIVITY</b>	26	27 Senior's Morning Out 9:30am AA 8:00pm	28
29	30	31 <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>				

## December Birthdays:

Pastor Bud Goude	12/1
Brad Burgess	12/4
Sue Magowan	12/7
J.E.B. Hutson	12/11
Ann Smith	12/11
Elaina Willard	12/14
Daniel Eifes	12/14
Elisse Fitzgerald	12/14
Sarah Starkey	12/15
Beverly West	12/15
Ray Goude	12/19
Kaleb Barrera	12/21
Elyza Willard	12/26
Madalyn Arquette	12/29
Alyssa Owens	12/30
Murielene Swindeck	12/30
Aaron Cirillo	12/31
Taylor Burgess	12/31

## Anniversaries:

Ricky & Amy Green	12/24
Chris & Hope Hutson	12/30

