

## **Northwest News for December 2024**



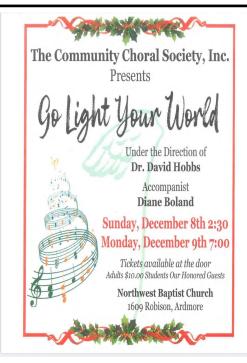
Advent- a season of hope and expectation



# Madill Baptist Home for Girls Christmas Party

Join us Sunday, December 1 at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall as we welcome the girls and staff from the Baptist Home for Girls in Madill. There will be pizza and snacks, music, gifts, and lots of happy faces as we celebrate Christmas together.

We'll provide the pizza; you bring chips, snacks or a dessert.



## The Veteran's Center Christmas Party.

We will celebrate Christmas with our Veteran family of faith by providing each of them with a warm sweatshirt. If you would like to participate, please buy a new regular style sweatshirt sizes Large, Extra Large, or 2X. No need to wrap it; we will wrap it for you (that way they are all wrapped the same way). Please drop your sweatshirts by the church office. Our veteran Christmas party will be Sunday, December 22 approximately 8:15 am during our regular Veteran Sunday service. Join us for a fun time and a huge blessing. You are always welcome to join us any Sunday at the Veterans Center. Singing begins at 8 am and our lesson begins approximately 8:35 am.



We were made to build the church. God made each one of us with unique talents, personalities, and skill sets. And when we asked Jesus into our lives, we were given spiritual gifts to use to serve the Lord. We get the most joy and make the biggest difference when we use our God-given talents, gifts, and abilities to build the church.

Serving allows us to experience miracles. In John 2, Jesus was at a wedding, and the couple ran out of wine. He tells the servants to fill big jars to the brim with water, and the water turned into wine. The guests didn't know what had happened; the servants were the ones who witnessed the miracle. When we serve, we witness miracles. Sometimes the miracle is in others; sometimes the miracle happens within us.

Serving is a form of our worship, a way to express gratitude for what Jesus has done for us, and to share the love and grace what we have been given.

Serving helps us to be more like Jesus. We shift the focus off ourselves onto others through serving. We begin to see others as Jesus sees them. Serving others can be the best distraction for our own troubles.

Serving surrounds us with other Christians who can help us follow Jesus. When we work side by side with other Christians, a bond inevitably forms. This is a part of God's plan for how the church works to "motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together…but encourage one another." (Hebrews 10:24-25). Serving increases our faith. Serving allows us to experience God's presence in new ways.

We make up all sorts of rationale why we cannot serve.

- I don't have the time.
- I don't know how.
- I don't have the special skills needs.
- They don't need me.
- I'm not good enough.

The reality is that the Lord equips who he calls to do the job he calls them to do. Only God knows what he has planned for you to do. Even if you think you are unqualified or insignificant, God has a plan for you to serve in his church, and He will equip you with the ability, time, strength, and self-confidence to tap into our gifts, passions, skill sets, and personalities to be able to do the work. God doesn't just want to work through us; he wants to work in us.

Northwest will soon be building Ministry teams to serve our church during the upcoming year. We need everyone to pray to consider how you can serve. We work together to serve! And don't forget we still have need for Sunday School teachers and helpers for our children. Let us not forget Isaiah 6:8 when the Lord asks for workers and Isaiah says "Here am I; send me."

#### **Women's Christmas Potluck Luncheon**

All Women of the church are invited to join us at the home of Susan Hobbs for a Potluck Luncheon Tuesday December 10 at noon. Bring a dish to share and join us for fellowship, food and inspiration. Bring a gift (\$10) for a gift exchange and we will celebrate the season together.

#### **Church Calendar**

### Sunday, December 1 The First Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

6:00 p.m. Party for the Baptist Home for Girls, Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 2

7:00 p.m. Ardmore Chorale rehearsal

Wednesday, December 4

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting

Sunday, December 8 The Second Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

2:30 p.m. Ardmore Chorale Christmas Concert

Monday, December 9

7:00 p.m. Ardmore Chorale Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 10

Noon Women's Potluck Luncheon at the home of Susan Hobbs

Wednesday, December 11

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting/ Finance

## Sunday, December 15 The Third Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

2:00 p.m. Deacons' meeting

Wednesday, December 18

6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting

### Sunday, December 22 The Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship

Veterans Christmas Party

## **Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve (office closed)**

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25 Merry Christmas (office closed)

No Prayer Meeting

Sunday, December 29 The First Sunday of Christmastide

Northwest Baptist Church 1609 Robison St NW

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