



December 2011

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MEETING

CHRISTMAS
MUSICAL

CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS
MUSICAL



Standard Time

Have you thought about taking Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University course? A free preview class will be offered on Sunday night, December 4 at 5:30 PM. You will hear Dave Ramsey speak on "Beating Debt" and will get a feel for the course which begins on January 8. You are under no obligation to take the course if you come to the free preview session. However, you will be given the opportunity to register that night if you wish. Eddie Patat leads the course.

The proposed church budget for 2012 will be presented in Conference for discussion on Sunday, November 27 at 5:00 PM. The congregation will vote on the budget the following Sunday morning, December 4. You can pick up a copy at the church if you have not gotten one already.

We will once again be offering "DivorceCare," the divorce recovery course that has been of such benefit to so many people. Chris Walker will be leading this class which will be held on Wednesday nights this time. DivorceCare is scheduled to start on Wednesday, January 11 and will be held from 6:00-7:30 PM. This is the same time as Awana which will provide child care for children. Youth can be a part of the Youth Bible Study/Worship Time held on Wednesdays in the Youth Building. Please help us spread the word about this course to those you know who would be helped by being a part of it.

Christmas Day is on Sunday this year as is New Year's Day. We plan to only have our worship service at 10:45 AM (not Sunday School) on Christmas Day and our regular schedule (with Sunday School) on New Year's Day.

We do need your help as we prepare to begin a second worship service on Sunday mornings starting January 29! Here's what you can do:

- Pray for God's blessing as we plan and prepare.
- Plan to be one of 100 people to commit to attend both services for ten Sundays (until Easter).
- Be willing to serve in nursery or in Children's Worship.
- Volunteer to help as a greeter, parking lot attendant or Coffee Fellowship helper.

Remember, this is not just about our convenience or preferences. It is about reaching people who don't know Jesus yet. It's about making room and planning a different time for those who still need a church family. It's about us doing whatever is necessary to obey the Great Commission. Thank you in advance for all you will do to help us in this effort. Together let's trust God and do our best to follow His leading.

December 2011 — more info:

An interview with Mike!

#Collide

What was your favorite part of #Collide!

My favorite part of #Collide was getting to spend time with the speaker!, Ed Newton. There are a lot of fun and exciting times, but when I get to sit down with someone who travels across the US sharing the Gospel, that time is a great encouragement. When I hear the little stories about what God is doing in the hearts of students, what God is doing in churches and youth groups, to read what is going on in his own family, and to hear how God is growing Him and teaching him to live reminds me that we serve a great big God. A God who is capable of meeting all of our needs. The struggles Ed faces of being away from his family take a toll on him, but God has given him this challenge and the reward is great.

It is also very encouraging to see people come to revival that you did not expect to see. See God answer the prayers of students and adults in reaching young lives. To get to see God answer prayers regarding the budget. God is always faithful and this event always reveals His faithfulness and His love for students a fresh and a new.

What Song did #Collide leave you singing?

“Run into your arms, I’ m running to your arms!” Man, Julian Drive was good, can’t wait to see those guys again.

#leaveafatdent



Timberline: : Great skiing and riding begin with great snow, and with a peak elevation of 4,268 feet, Timberline gets more than its share (an average of over 200 inches each season!!)

Balance (\$179) and Medical Release Forms Due: Dec. 18

Meet at the Church 9:30 AM — Dec. 27

Returning - 7 PM Dec. 31

Medical Release Forms

available online at
www.briarwoodbaptist.net

Impact 2012

June 11 - 15

Georgia Baptist Convention Center

Deposit and Paper Work Due

March 11, 2012

Impact is an Epic Camp that is built upon 10 - 12 person family groups that meet after each school and worship session to process the teachings on a practical level. This discipleship approach allows for truly uncommon growth in only five days.

Unhindered - Leading Worship

Sean McDowell - Speaking

Graduating 6th graders - Graduating Seniors

Each grade is a different school on the same campus

Upcoming Summer Mission Trips 2012

International

Sosua, Dominican Republic - July 14 - 21

Approx. \$1200

Zambia, Africa — May 26 - June 9

Domestic Trips:

New Orleans, Louisiana

Rice Lake, Wisconsin

Deposit Deadlines for all trips will be announced soon!

We are really excited about the opportunities to “be His people and reach the world.” This Summer will be full of great opportunities for service. You might want to ask for the deposit for Christmas!

MUSIC NOTES



The familiar carol "*Silent Night*" will be sung at least a few times at Briarwood this Christmas season. It was performed the very first time on December 24th, 1818. Joseph Mohr, a young priest in Austria, wrote the original six stanzas for the song in German. On Christmas Eve, he took the words to his friend, musician and schoolteacher Franz Gruber, and asked him to write a melody and guitar accompaniment.

That night at Midnight Mass at St. Nicholas Church the two men sang "*Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!*" backed by a small choir repeating the last two lines in harmony. Later, an organ repairman took a copy of the composition home with him, and the carol began to circulate around the world. "*Silent Night*" has now been translated into hundreds of languages and is sung by millions every Christmas season.

We forget that God sometimes moves powerfully in quiet, humble settings. A Christmas carol that has touched the hearts of people around the world arose from a modest minister and a musician known only within their village. God stepped into our world through a baby born in a stable in an obscure village. This event, which would change the world forever, occurred in quietness and humility except for the host of angels praising God in the sky before the shepherds.

When Elijah needed a touch from God, He sent a mighty windstorm, an earthquake and a fire. But the Lord was not in any of these. God's presence came in a gentle whisper (1Kings 19:11-12). Our modern Christmas celebrations are often like powerful windstorms or earthquakes and God is often lacking in them. What many of us need for Christmas is a silent night so we won't miss God's gentle whisper.

It is my prayer that the Christmas music at Briarwood offers opportunities to experience Him in quietness and in majesty.

The Adult Choir will present "Sing Gloria! A Concert of Worship for Christmas" on December 11th at 6:00.

Our Children's Choir will present "The First Leon" on December 18th at 6:00.

Mark your calendars and we will see you there.

Keep Singing,

Greg

2011 Contribution Notice!

The church office will be closed the week after Christmas. 2011 contributions need to be received in the offering plate **by Sunday morning December 25, 2011 or postmarked by December 31, 2011** in order to be counted as a 2011 contribution. Please contact Wendy if there are questions.

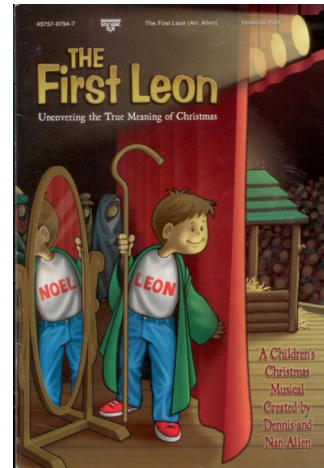


Women on Mission will meet Monday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the home of Ramona Lord, 1070 S. Harrowford Drive. Contact: Ramona at 770-725-2749. We will have a Secret Sister Reveal Christmas Party. All women are invited. If you do not have a Secret Sister, you may bring a small gift to exchange. Please bring a covered dish to share.



Christmas Musical

6:00 p.m. - Sunday, December 11



Children's Christmas Musical

6:00 p.m. - Sunday, December 18

Briarwood Baptist Church

~ Staff ~

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Return Service Requested