

The Conversation



VOLUME 18, NUMBER 12

Unity Baptist Church—Richmond, Kentucky

DECEMBER, 2011



Christmas Cantata
Sunday, December 11
10:45 AM

Service Of Silent Communion
Christmas Eve, December 24
5:30 PM

Annual Christmas Meal
Sunday, December 4
6:00 PM

Children's Christmas Program
Sunday, December 18th
10:45 AM

From Our Pastor

Dr. D. L. Brewer

For millions of people, the Christmas season means nothing more than parties, gifts, decorations, and time off work. For Christians, however, this time of year is a happy reminder of the hope we have because of Jesus Christ.

Before Jesus came, God seemed distant, hidden in the Holy of Holies in the temple, accessible only to the high priest. Worshipers wondered whether their sacrifices were acceptable. They doubted their salvation.

Christ means hope—to the person out of work, to the struggling single mother, to the dying believer. Even if you're just slogging your way through the disappointments of life, if you have Jesus, you have hope. And he is not a false hope, a childish fairy tale that we wish will have a happy ending. When Christ rose from the dead, that ended the argument. Period. Our hope in him is solid and it is real.

Christmas is a renewal of that hope. It reconfirms it for us if our vision has grown dim. It was settled long ago, so we don't have to doubt any more. Jesus is the fulfillment of our hope, our deepest longings come true.

As you read this month's edition of The Conversation, you will be confronted with the **"Uniqueness of Unity."** You will find within these pages the many activities for each age level as we celebrate the anniversary of our Savior's birth. Take the time to mark your calendars and be involved in as many of the events as you possibly can.

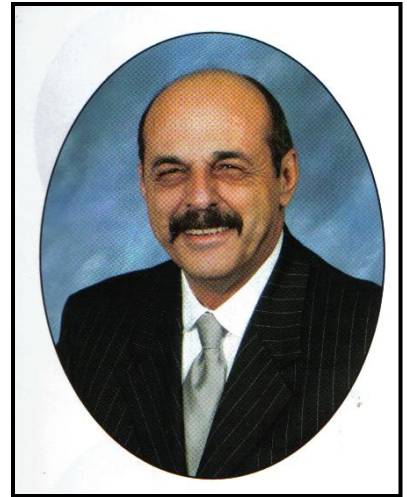
I, along with Lucille, also want to take this opportunity to offer you the best of Christmas wishes from our family to yours. You are truly a very special fellowship of believers in our precious Lord and we count it a privilege and joy to share in your life as your Pastor. You have been and remain a special joy and blessing to our lives and we thank God daily for each of you by name.... As we approach a Holy time of remembering God's great love for each of us, You shall be in our thoughts and prayers of thanksgiving....

Dennis And Lucille

**PLAN NOW TO JOIN US AND
INVITE OTHERS TO ATTEND THE**

**Christmas Eve
Service Of Silent Communion
December 24th
5:30 PM**

***Don't miss one of our most beautiful
And touching services of the year.***



Pastor Dennis Brewer
582-2495
cell phone number
624-9464
church phone

DEACONS FOR DECEMBER



GLEN RENFRO



LARRY MORGAN

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Clay Wilson
- 2 Janet Hagan
- 2 Ollie Jordan
- 5 Michael Carter
- 6 Joshua England
- 8 Rick Austin
- 8 Robin Mason
- 8 Karen Tackett
- 9 Chad Dillman
- 9 Kim Jarvis
- 10 Jeff Cornelius
- 10 Virginia Johns
- 11 Richard Byers
- 11 Logan Slone
- 14 Sherry Baynum
- 14 Phil Brashear
- 14 Martin Jordan
- 15 Paul Price
- 19 Alvin Cheng
- 19 Mallory Robinson
- 20 Derek King
- 20 Tim Puckett
- 20 Robert Yost
- 22 Daniel Aluru
- 22 April Heatherton
- 24 Sarah Cornett
- 24 Dwight Potter
- 26 Jessica Baynum
- 26 Robert Lyons
- 27 Craig Challenger
- 30 Earla Brackett
- 30 Ray Ball

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 James & Cynthia Nolan
- 9 Franklin & Missy Marcum
- 31 Lawrence & Juanita Anderson

If you have additions or corrections to our Birthday and Anniversary listings, please share those with us by e-mail or by calling the church office.

Our Thanks to Sherri Wilson for her leadership of our Children's Program at Unity Baptist. If you would like more information about their Christmas Program or how you can help, contact her at:
gsscdwilson@aol.com
 or call 626-7567

The Wise Men Bid You

Join Us For The Men's Second Saturday Fellowship Breakfast
Saturday
December 10th
8:00 AM



Invite a friend and bring your son For an hour of fellowship and good conversation.

Join Us
Sunday, December 11
 As our
Sanctuary Choir presents

The Night Before Christmas



Children's Christmas Breakfast and Program
Sunday Morning

December 18
Breakfast at 9:00 AM
Program at 10:45 AM

Rehearsals

December 4, 7, 11

Perform at Nursing Home December 14

Dress Rehearsals

Saturday, December 17 at 10:00 AM & Sunday, December 18

It's Not too late for your child to start practice with us. We want all our children involved in this time of Divine Wonder!



SERVING THIS MONTH

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS (PSALM 100:2A)

DATE	USHERS	AM NURSERY	CHILDREN'S WORSHIP	PM NURSERY	GREETERS
DECEMBER 4	Fred Dodd David Snyder Tom Bugbee Duard Hamm Rodger Mason Lamont Leary	Judy Barker Sheila Brooks	Holly Long Lois Morgan	Janie Jordan	Rodger & Robin Mason Clarenetta Watters Clara Mieres
DECEMBER 11	Fred Dodd Sean Brewer Art Turner Vernon Lamb Charles Long Michael Brooks	Judy Dodd Linda Renfro	Tammy Simpson Carol Reeves	Peggy Weston	Andy & Juanita Anderson Jamie & Jennifer Moscrip
DECEMBER 18	Fred Dodd David Snyder Tom Bugbee Duard Hamm Rodger Mason Lamont Leary	Kathy Robinson Stacy Taulbee	Lois Morgan Scarlett Whitaker	Lucille Brewer	Dell Robbins Lamont Leary Ima Dale Lowery
DECEMBER 25	Fred Dodd David Musick Andy Anderson Bill Barker K Gamble Jamie Moscrip	Louise Ball Amanda Renfro	Sherri Wilson Jennifer Moscrip	Sherri Wilson	Geneva Doolin Art & Hazel Turner Cora Willoughby
JANUARY 1	Fred Dodd Sean Brewer Art Turner Vernon Lamb Charles Long Michael Brooks	Judy Barker Sheila Brooks	Holly Long Lois Morgan	Janie Jordan	Jamie & Jennifer Moscrip Andy & Juanita Anderson

IN THE EVENT YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON THE SUNDAY WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED, PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO RESCHEDULE WITH OTHERS WHO ARE ON THE LIST. IN THE EVENT YOU ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL, CONTACT SHERRI WILSON FOR A REPLACEMENT.

WMU's Annual Gift/ Cookie Exchange

(The year's most fun!)
Tuesday, December 13
6:30 pm
in Fellowship Hall



We'll enjoy an appetizer potluck before exchanging gifts (\$15 limit). If you want to participate in the cookie exchange, bake a batch of cookies or Christmas candies and bring a container to haul your loot home!

If you have questions, contact Melanie Musick at 314-5807.

Giving Tree Just A Reminder!

Giving Tree Cards should be returned to the church no later than **Wednesday, December 14th** for presentation to those families receiving them. In the past, you have helped make the holidays much brighter time for countless families and we encourage your support during this season as well. Families within our church will be the recipients of the gift cards. Call Melanie Musick if you need additional information.








**DEACONS
FOR THE
MONTH**



DECEMBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <small>A Nativity is born this day, which is Christ the Lord!</small>	EACH SUNDAY 9:00 AM—Coffee & Donuts 9:30 AM—Sunday School 10:00 AM—Radio Broadcast—WCBR 10:45 AM—Morning Worship 6:00 PM—Evening Worship			1	2	3
4 Church Council 5:00 PM Annual Holiday Meal @ 6:00 PM	5	6	7 Midweek Programs 6:30 PM	8	9 Senior Adults to Renfro Valley	10 Men's Second Saturday Breakfast @ 8 AM
11 Christmas Cantata During Morning Worship	12	13 WMU Cookie and Gift Exchange 6:30 PM	14 Midweek Programs 6:30 PM Gifts for The Giving Tree Due	15	16 Youth Lock In Parent's Night Out 7:00-Midnight	17
18 Children's Breakfast—9:30 AM Children's Christmas Program During AM Worship	19	20	21 Midweek Programs Monthly Business Meeting @ 6:30 PM	22	23	24  Silent Communion 5:30 PM
25 WORSHIP SERVICE ONLY—10:45 AM [NO EVENING SERVICE]	26	27	28 Midweek Programs 6:30 PM	29	30	31

Youth Notes

JOHN SMOOT, YOUTH MINISTER



⁹ *This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.* ¹⁰ *This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:9-10)*

It's hard to believe that as I am writing we are into thanksgiving week. This Thursday we will celebrate thanksgiving with our families and enjoy the freedoms that we are blessed to enjoy. My son Brandon turns sixteen the Monday after thanksgiving and this is added stress to my life I'm not sure I am ready for. Where does the time go?

We have had several youth activities over the last month, some I will bring you up to date on here. Let's first look at the trip to the corn maze that we were preparing for at my last writing. The trip went very well. This was the first time that I had visited one of these so I was not sure what to expect. We had about 16 participate and go through three lengthy mazes. There was a map provided for those that could read it, others just walked around aimlessly looking for a way out. The group quickly split off into different directions as everyone figured they knew where they were going, I was lucky enough to hang out with a young Kelsey Limm, I say lucky because Kelsey was amazing at reading the map and leading us down the correct path with limited distractions or dead ends, nice job Kelsey. Many others did well also but I also heard of some minor mix ups and times of reversal to find the right path. Makes you think about our Christian walk, where are we at? Are we on the right path or are we wondering aimlessly around. More on that later.

We have also been busy with the nursing home ministry. Last week 16 youth visited Kenwood and assisted or made Christmas cards with the residents. These hand made cards are being used by the residents to send to families and friends or to just share themselves. Each card was decorated by hand by the youth with scriptural readings and pictures relative to the season. I continue to be encouraged by the youth's interest in maintaining this ministry. Additionally, we have asked the congregation to be involved in the nursing home ministry by taking names for an angel tree opportunity. To date we have taken about 15 names of residents that Unity will be supplying gifts for. These residents would not be receiving gifts if it was not for the generosity of Unity. Thanks for your help in this important ministry.

We are looking into a ministry with Shriner's Children's hospital in Lexington. Ashley Garrett requested that we see if we could somehow provide Christmas for kids that might be at the hospital. I have talked with the hospital and have learned that they actually have very few staying at the hospital these days, that's a good thing. Most are outpatient rehabilitation situations and we are working on getting something organized to make some visits to spread some Christmas cheer. I can see this developing into another ministry that we will participate in year round. It's encouraging to see these youth willing and wanting to participate in ministry in different areas. We have been discussing Christian service and our responsibilities a lot and will focus even more on that in the coming weeks of during our Sunday school hour.

Lastly for activities, we had our third annual chili cook-off the first week of November. We had 16 wonderful pots of chili and several other items such as sandwiches and desserts. Thanks to all that participated. We raised \$424 to assist the youth ministry.

Next year we will have to go cups so that you can easily take home some chili.

Winners:

Best Overall – Holly Long – A repeat winner
Hottest – Andrew Mason – A repeat winner, 3 years
Most Unusual – Michelle Garrett – Enough said
Most Ingredients – Stacy Taulbee – Included a sink
White Chili – Fred Dodd – Not really sure who made it.

The last month we have been studying "Jesus" and "Why did He come into this world?" in Sunday morning Bible Study. Sounds simple for a Christian but what an opportunity to get back to basics and refresh our thoughts at this time of year. We know He came to be a "Life Giver" – a real and meaningful life, more on this later, secondly we know He is a miracle worker and revealed Himself to us through His works, thirdly we know He is the only hope, the only way to reconciliation and the only hope for a meaningful life, lastly we know He is Lord of all, the question is are we allowing Him to be Lord and Savior or are we failing to stand for Him. We should be ready to surrender all, to take up our cross and follow Him daily.

I am following up this lesson with a new series on Sunday and/or Wednesday nights with a lesson on Life – Imagine the possibilities. I think many people today may struggle with the fact that they "matter to God", some people have a problem even realizing that they matter at all. We want to reiterate that God is not just a creator of everything that created and then removed Himself from the equation, no He is here and in control, He is still on the throne and He cares for each and every one of us. Without this realization people are not going to be able to live a life that God and us would want to live, we have to understand the reality that we do matter to God. He never said life would be easy but He does promise that when things go wrong He will be there to listen, comfort and help. He cares about us.

One way that you can help in fundraising without even giving money is to use the Kroger cards that we have available, if you have one, please continue to use it, usage has fallen off dramatically but we generally receive a \$200 check from Kroger's about every three months and that helps. If you don't have one and want one please talk to me. Also, Debbie Vescio has organized with Meijer the use of a Meijer card, this card is different than the Kroger card as you do not have to load it then use it, you just present it when you pay at Meijer's and the youth will receive a small percentage. Please utilize each of these to help support your youth. Here are a couple activities coming soon:

Nursing Home visit – December 14—We will be taking the Children's Christmas program to the nursing home. Thanks to Sherri Wilson, Sally Arms and all the parents for making this happen.

Lock In – Parents' Night Out – Saturday, December 16—Lock In with a parents night out from 7 – midnight. Let us know if your interested in having the youth with some adult monitors watch your young ones for a few hours. Donations Accepted

Ski Tip – MLK Weekend – Jan 13 – 16, 2012 – Winterplace West Virginia. God is doing great things in each of our youth's lives. I ask that you continue to pray for their continued growth in the Lord. These young people are growing up in a very challenging time and they are our future.

Blessings!

John

Parcel's Page

IN LOVING MEMORY OF UNITY'S,
ASSOCIATE PASTOR, PARCEL FLANNERY



Going To The Top

About two weeks before Christmas, a little Catholic boy decided to write a letter to Santa. He started "Dear Santa...", he thought "No, I will go to a higher authority", so he decided to write a letter to Jesus.



"Dear Jesus, If you get me a bike for Christmas, I will be good for two weeks.."

"NO NO NO NO I can't be good for two weeks", he thought to himself.

So he started all over again...

"Dear Jesus, If you get me a bike for Christmas I will

be good for one week."

"NO NO NO NO I can't be good for one week", he thought to himself.

So he quickly ran to the Study room and grabbed their statue of Mary, and quickly wrapped it up in a blanket.

He started all over again.

"Dear Jesus, I have your mother...if you ever want to see her again...get me a bike for Christmas!"

Share your favorite jokes for Parcel's Page by sending them to our pastor at

dennisbrewer@bellsouth.net

UNIFIRES Senior Adult Ministry

Phil & Linda Brashear, Directors

We've been on the road again – railroad, that is. As I write this (November 18), we've just come back from McCreary County in southern Kentucky. Nine of us went to the old lumber and coal company town of Stearns, where we had lunch and then rode the Big South Fork Scenic Railway down into the headwaters gorge of the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River. Thankfully, the cars were enclosed and heated. Unfortunately, the window latches didn't work very well, so there were a lot of drafts. No matter – the scenery was great! We saw rocks (really big rocks), white water rapids, trees, rhododendron bushes (everywhere) and a tunnel, all (except the tunnel) under a bright blue sky.

In this old mountain boy's eyes, it was simply majestic. Still, I couldn't help but think how God made all this beauty; then man came and spoiled it by cutting the trees, digging up the coal, and polluting the streams. But then, God designed more trees, hid the evidence of mining under more vegetation, and cleaned up the streams. It's not the original beauty that God made, but in his grace, he cleans up behind us and leaves us breathless.

On December 9, we're going to Renfro Valley for dinner and a concert by Gold City Quartet. The deadline for purchasing tickets has passed, but the lady at the Valley told me to call if we "pick up any more hitchhikers." So, if you would like to go, just tell us and we'll see whether there's room for more.

In January, we plan to go to Michael's Restaurant in Ravenna (a suburb of the city of Irvine, if you didn't already know). We'll be settling on a date and time before long. Then, in February, we're going to try to have "Big Blue" night – gather for pot luck and watch a Wildcats game.

If you're 65 or older, think about joining some of our activities – and if you hang out with someone who's under 65, bring 'em along!

God bless you!
Phil and Linda Brashear

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Dr. D. L. Brewer, Pastor
 Marion Turley, Senior Associate Pastor
 Sam Sowder, Associate Pastor
 Mark Williams, Minister of Music
 Sherri Wilson, Children's Ministry Director
 John Smoot, Minister to Youth
 Sherri Wilson, Children's Ministry
 Phil & Linda Brashear, Sr. Adult Ministry
 Becky Bryant, Secretary
 Tim Bryant, Custodian
 Laura McGhee, Financial Secretary
 Charles Long, Chair of Deacons
 Fred Dodd, Chair of Ushers
 Tammy Simpson, Clerk
 Debra Vescio, Treasurer
 Rhojalia Rhodus, Sound Room
 Peggy Weston, Media Center Director
 Rhojalia Rhodus, Sunday School Director
 Melanie Musick, WMU Director
 Tom Bugbee, TeamKid Director
 Janie Jordan, College & Career Director

ACTIVE DEACONS

Charles Long, Chair

Larry Morgan	Rodger Mason
Bill Grigsby	Tim Simpson
Art Turner	Wesley Frazier

INVITE A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR TO WORSHIP WITH YOU THIS AND EVERY SUNDAY.....

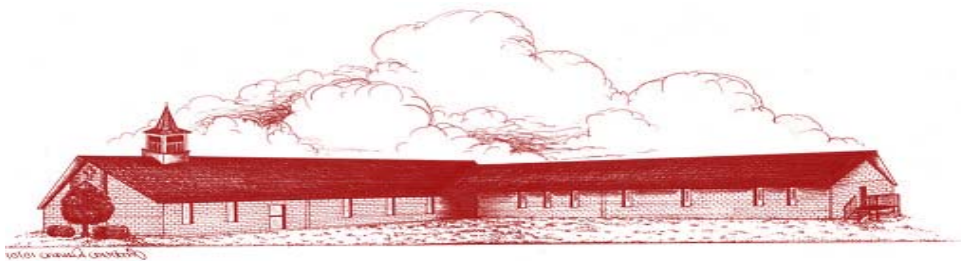


**WANT TO KNOW A SECRET?
 THEN MAKE PLANS TO VISIT THE BETTY JAMES GRIGSBY MEDIA CENTER FOR BOOKS AND VIDEOS.**

THE CENTER ALSO HAS PRINTED COPIES OF MANY OF THE MESSAGES DELIVERED BY OUR PASTOR AND THEY ALSO HAVE SERMONS BY THE PASTOR ON CD. THE MEDIA CENTER IS OPEN EACH SUNDAY BEFORE MORNING WORSHIP HOUR.
FOR OTHER HOURS, SPEAK WITH PEGGY WESTON OR JUDY DODD

REMINDER

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON CHRISTMAS DAY... WE WILL HAVE WORSHIP ONLY AT 10:45 AM



The Unity Baptist Church

1290 Barnes Mill Road
 Richmond, Kentucky 40475

UNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
 A place for You
 1290 Barnesmill rd.
 Richmond, Kentucky
 1-859-624-9464
 Dr. Dennis Brewer
 Pastor
WCBR RADIO BROADCAST
 Sunday's at 10 am