



## Mount Hermon Baptist Church

**Enewsletter** – December 12, 2013

[www.mt-hermon.org](http://www.mt-hermon.org)

Lee Ellison, Pastor

Susan Prather, Minister to Youth & Children

Peiling Zhao, Minister of Music

Ron Hatcher Deacon of the Month

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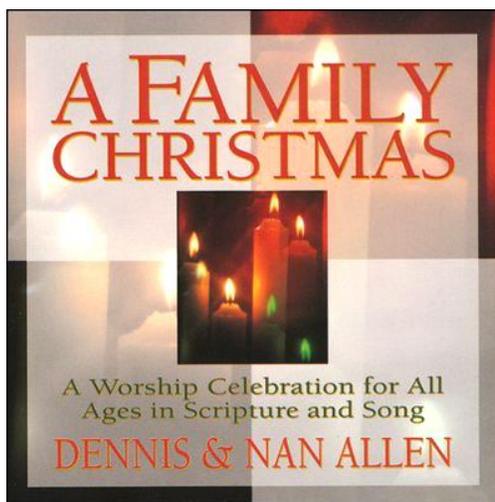
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### *A Family Christmas* – this Sunday, 11:00 am



A special time for adults, youth, and children to join in a family- centered remembrance of our Savior's birth, including many familiar Christmas songs sung by the choir and congregation. Don't miss this joint presentation by our adult choir, children, and singers from the Chinese Baptist Church. – Bring family and friends.

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Because we missed church last Sunday, we will receive poinsettia orders through this week. Simply **email** the info to [ellisonmhbc@aol.com](mailto:ellisonmhbc@aol.com), or **call** the church office indicating...

\_\_ **Number** of poinsettias \_\_ **Name(s)** of donor(s)

\_\_ **Name(s)** of person(s) being remembered/honored

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**Still to come...**



Saturday, Dec 14 – **Rehearsal** for *A Family Christmas*, 10:30 am  
**Snow/Spraker Open House**, 3:00 pm till

Sunday, Dec 15 – **Adult Choir presents: *A Family Christmas***, 11:00 am  
**Gingerbread Houses**, 2:00 pm  
**Youth Dinner**, 5:00 pm  
Sunday, Dec 22 – **Caroling**, 5:00 pm  
Tuesday, Dec 24 – **Children’s Christmas Eve Service**, 4:00 pm  
**Christmas Eve Service**, 7:30 pm

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**Open House** at the home of Kitty Snow  
Saturday **Dec 14** - 3:00 till...



**Gingerbread Houses:** this **Sunday, Dec 15** - 2:00 pm, a fun event with no age limit. Donations of **\$5** per house for materials. Parents with young children, please stay to help your little ones.

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**Sunday, Dec 15 – 5:00 to 7:30 pm**

at Emilee and Tyler Kowalewski’s house: 1003 Amber Meadows Court, Midlothian  
**A fun and wacky Christmas party** with dinner, exchanging “White Elephant” gifts (\$15 or under) and a ***Tacky Christmas Sweater Contest***. – Be there!

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No dinner or activities at church on Wednesdays until Jan 8

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**New Offering Envelopes for 2014** are in the Commons Area ready to pick up. I encourage everyone to use envelopes to ensure that you are given a proper record of your giving at the end of year. If you do not receive envelopes and would like a box, please contact me or the pastor.

We are so blessed at Mount Hermon to have financial resources to help spread God’s word through Missions in our community and around the world. You are to be commended for your generosity. May God richly bless each of you during the coming year.

**Linda Meyerhoeffer**  
Financial Secretary



**We regret that icy weather conditions kept us from enjoying the children's Christmas program and the Christmas Dinner last Sunday.**

**The Children's program has been rescheduled for Dec 29!**



(Of course, missing a week of regular offerings has an impact on our end of the year finances, so please make a special effort to convey your contributions to the church.)

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**A good conscience is a continual Christmas.**

- Benjamin Franklin

**Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.**

- Norman Vincent Peale

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**Prayers appreciated for...**

- **Jean Boykin**, Beth Paul's mother, recovering from knee surgery
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*Happy Birthday!* December

15 Waverly Winn  
17 Annette Critelli  
17 Hazel Williams  
17 Miranda Hall  
18 Harper Goode

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**This Sunday**

**9:30 am** – Coffee fellowship  
**9:45 am** – Adult Bible classes  
**11:00 am** – Worship (nursery care provided)  
No Children's Church  
**2:00 pm** – Gingerbread Houses  
**5:00 pm** – Youth Christmas Dinner

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## Holiday House Tour

A benefit event for **Richmond Friends of the Homeless**

**This Saturday, Dec 14 and Sunday, Dec 15**

**5pm – 8pm**

4600 Jaydee Drive, Moseley, VA 23120

- Entrance admission by donation
  - Proceeds provide meals and services for people in need in our community
  - Make checks payable to: *Richmond Friends of the Homeless*
- For more info, contact Shawnee Hansen: 608-0971
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**From the Pastor**

**You Never Know...**

**I wrapped my Christmas presents early this year, but I used the wrong paper. See, the paper I used said 'Happy Birthday'. I didn't want to waste it so I just wrote 'Jesus' on it. - Demetri Martin**



An amusing commercial airing now shows people puzzling over Christmas gifts which are wrapped exactly to the form of that item. It is quite easy to tell that it is... a kayak, or a helmet, or a fishing rod. Too obvious... that's the joke. After all, we wrap gifts precisely so the recipient *cannot* tell what it is. That's part of the joy of a present, not knowing what you have until you open it.

God lays a packaged gift under everyone's life-tree... and it is for everyone, everywhere. Too many folks leave the gift unwrapped, and thus miss out on meaningful life in Christ. Our mission is to point out this gift to everybody who doesn't know it is for them. We can point it out, yes, but they cannot experience the joy of the gift until they open it themselves... by faith.

The world wraps up Christmas in so much commercialist noise as to obscure its true meaning. Comedian Demetri Martin's little joke reminds us that it is Jesus' birthday. Let's keep unwrapping the gift, for each of us still has more blessings to discover in the rich, abundant life God gives. – What's your next blessing? Well, *you never know...*

God's best to you today,

*Lee*



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**December 15, 2013 - 11:00 am**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

*The Advent Candle of Love*

Scripture & Prayer

Ron Hatcher

Psalm 138:1-5

\* Song of Praise 94 Angels from the Realms of Glory

\* Greeting Time

Welcome & Church Highlights

The Bible Says... Matthew 1:1-12

\* Offering Song 101 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

\* Offering Statement & Prayer Ron Hatcher

Offertory Music

*A Family Christmas*

\* Parting Prayer



**Poinsettias** given in memory and honor of loved ones will be in the worship center this Sunday. Thanks to everyone who made these special remembrances for this Christmas season.