

JANUARY CALENDAR

- 1 Sunday School & AM Worship only
Regular times
- 2 Church Office Closed for New Years
- 4 AWANA begins again @ 6:45 PM
- 8 Youth Luncheon @ 12:15 PM
Choirs & Discipleship Resume Today
- 11 AWANA –Special Guest @ 6:45 PM
Bring a canned food item—100 pts.
- 15 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ 8:00 AM
Missions Luncheon @ 12:15 PM
- 17 Garden City Rescue Mission @ 5:00 PM
- 18 AWANA @ 6:45 PM
- 25 AWANA @ 6:45 PM
- 29 Power of One Luncheon @ 12:15 PM
5th Sunday Worship at HUMC @ 6:45 PM



Stewardship Report	as of	December 2011
Budget Expenses YTD	\$ 256,869	
Budget Received YTD	\$ 254,053	

- ## January Nursery Workers
- 1 **Leslie Derrue**
Roxie Whitaker
 - 8 **Raven Truitt**
Hope McClellan
 - 15 **Jennifer Guy**
Tiffany Gurley
 - 22 **Yong Clark**
Anita Conley
 - 29 **Susan Knight**
Shannon Starranburg

DEACON OF THE MONTH -
Don Heathman - 706-825-1769

HARLEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Philip Vestal
Pastor
Wade Sosebee
Youth Minister
Edith Sweatman
Minister of Music
Hope McClellan
Children's Coordinator
Christa Hyman
Administrative Assistant

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Harlem, GA
Permit No. 8

HARLEM BAPTIST CHURCH

www.HarlemBaptist.org

January 2012

CONNECTIONS

Anniversaries this Month

January 17
Stephanie & Martin Salazar

January 23
Tiffany & Chris Gurley

January 26
Carol & Terry Carter

(Please call the Church Office if your birthday or anniversary is not on the list.)

Birthdays of the Month

- 5 Katie Borseth
- 6 Maria Simpson
- 7 Sherrie Coulson
Thomas Johnson
- 8 Mark Williamson
- 10 Benjie Moore
- 11 Mary Usry
- 14 Tiffany Gurley
Don Heathman
- 16 Amber Lewis
- 18 Kelly Hawkinberry
- 19 Keith Solomon
Alicia Stephenson
Cole Williamson
- 22 Wendy Audette
- 23 Rusty James
Nicole Abbott
- 25 Kathy Holley
- 26 Josh Heath
- 27 Kyle Knight
- 28 Katie Johnson
Staci Williamson

(Please call the Church Office if your birthday or anniversary is not on the list.)

Thank you!

Dear HBC Family,

Thank you so much for all of the love shown to us during the recent passing of our mother, Jean Burgin. We loved her very much and find comfort in knowing she is with Our Lord. God Bless each of you.

In Christ's Love: Her four loving daughters, Deborah Ousley, Alice Jones, Donna Caldwell and Ruth Hill

My Church Family,

I cannot thank you enough for the prayers, concern, emails and hugs from all of you. If you have been through anything like this, you know how much it means. Prayer has gotten us this far and it will continue to strengthen and heal Angela.

May God bless you all for all you have given us.

Susan Knight and Family

Dear Church Family,

Word's can't express how much I appreciate the thoughts, prayers and phone calls. By His grace and a loving church family and friends, I am doing well.

In His love,
Martha Esposito

2012 Flower Calendar

Sign up now at the new flower calendar for placing flowers in the sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one. Reserve your date now.



The Power of **One** MY TITHES AND OFFERINGS for The General Fund

HARLEM BAPTIST CHURCH

NAME _____ DATE _____

January 29th - Commitment Sunday!

It's finally here! Welcome to the **Power of One Campaign...one church, one fund, one step.** This vital stewardship initiative is designed to help all of us support HBC by increasing our financial giving towards the General Fund. Starting this month, we are strongly encouraging every member to begin tithing if you currently do not or increase your tithe so HBC can receive an additional \$1,300 each week. With God leading us, we can do a lot if we all do a little. REMINDER: The General Fund now includes in its monthly operation the FLC mortgage payment, along with all of our other ministries, missions, utilities and payroll. Inside you will see 2 charts – one shows a 'Step Program.' Locate what amount you are currently giving each month and then prayerfully, faithfully take **one step** towards an increased level of giving. Also, there is a 'Personal Plan for Giving' chart. This graphic helps you see what percentage amount you are currently giving or need to start giving, with the biblical goal being 10% (the tithe). May we all pray, commit and decide to increase our giving some so that, together as one, we can be the one church God has called us to be for His glory. Thank you HBC for your faithfulness, and for the sake of both our present and future may we be united as ONE in this very important effort.

HBC MISSION STATEMENT

To be a Christ-centered family of faith seeking to connect all people to a life-changing relationship through biblical core values of :

- Worship**
- Discipleship**
- Ministry**
- Missions**
- Fellowship**



Happy 2012! My prayer for each of us is that we will continue to know and rely on the love of God for our lives, our families and our church. When we walk in

His love, we experience God's sacred and sustaining presence, which empowers us and leads us towards living in and for His glorious kingdom.

As always, with any new beginning there is a sense of excitement. And with that excitement comes an opportunity for each of us to set new goals, seek new commitments and even be open to new ideas.

This is true in church life as well. At HBC, I hope some new doors are opened. In 2012, it's my prayer we will see and do some things which are new to us; things that we've never tried before. I don't have any specific examples to offer at this point, but this is when I think a lot about our 5 Core Values and reflect. Reflect with me....

Worship. In what new ways might we worship? Is a contemporary service in our future this year?

Discipleship. Could a church-wide seminar take place in 2012? What if we began new Sunday School Classes? What if we all committed to reading the Bible through together as a church?

Ministry. Could a new ministry begin this year? How could new initiatives be created within existing ministries?

Missions. Is this the year that every member is able to go on a mission trip? Perhaps a new local missions ministry could be started?

Fellowship. What if we had a family retreat? How might God lead us to reach out to inactive members?

Jesus speaks to this idea of 'newness and effectiveness' in the gospels when he tells us we can't put new wine in old wineskins. The gospel message is the same, but as a congregation we must always be looking, open to and praying towards new ways to take care of and distribute the message of Jesus Christ. To only use old wineskins eventually leads to leakage and eventually ruin. It's the same in the life and ministry of a church, and we don't want to be ineffective when it comes to being faithful stewards of everything God has given us to manage.

We are new creations in Christ, made to be new for His glory and called to bring new change in this world. So here's to a happy New Year and also to a happy **NEW US!**

**In His Love,
Pastor Vestal**



Ministry Team from Gibson, GA

Coming to HBC on Wednesday, January 11th is a ministry team that presents the gospel through music, drama and puppets. We will be having a joint service with adults and children in the Sanctuary at 6:45 PM. We hope to see everyone there!



Benefit Luncheon

January 15th at 12:15 p.m.
in the Family Life Center

Menu:
Vegetable Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Potato Soup
Salad Bar, Bread and Dessert

The Missions Committee would like to give a big THANKS to the HBC Faith Family for their support during 2011 and pray that their generosity will continue in 2012. With your help, we have packed book bags with school supplies, helped send church members on mission trips, contributed funds to various CBF and SBC charities, filled shoe boxes that children all over the world received for Christmas, provided snacks for students at North Harlem, and many other mission opportunities.

The Missions Committee

From the Missions Committee



As an on-going effort with the **Pack-A-Backpack** mission, the Missions Committee **will be asking for a different school supply each month.**

The item can be turned in at the monthly Missions luncheon.

This month's item is erasers.



A Note from the Minister of Music

January... the "clean slate" month! A time for looking at things in a new light, reorganizing, forgiving and forgetting, giving our minds and hearts a chance to reflect and to change the things that need to be changed! We can use January as a starting point to change our lives for the better, to use our time and talents to help our church be more alive, to strengthen our families and our friendships. Henry Ford once said, "Whether you think you can or think you can't---you are right." Attitude resolutions can be a big step in changing ourselves. May that be our prayer for HBC...to resolve to be a better people beginning with ourselves and to deal with more things through love and understanding in this new year.

A big "Thank You" to all who were a part of the many programs of our Christmas season. Thanks to our Sunshine Choir, Music Makers, Youth Choir, Adult Choir and Handbell Ringers for the wonderful music during the month of December. You made our spirits brighter and warmed our hearts with the story of the Savior's birth. I appreciate you all so much, and thank you for sharing your gifts and talents during this most blessed season.

Our Adult Choir will resume rehearsals on January 4, and our children and youth will resume on Sunday, January 8. Joyful Sounds will resume in February. Thank you, Gayle and Andre Miller, for hosting our awesome Christmas brunch for the Joyful Sounds!

I hope that 2012 will be filled with many blessings and much love for you and your families. Happy New Year from the Sweatmans!

Edee



Men's Ministry

Men's Prayer Breakfast
Sunday, January 15, 8:00 a.m.

Garden City Rescue Mission
(Men, your opportunity to serve.)
Tuesday, January 17, 5:00 p.m.
(Please note the change in day of the week.)



Saturday, January 7
at 6:30 p.m.
in the FLC

Sweetheart Banquet
in the Family Life Center
Saturday February 10
6:30 p.m.
\$25.00 per couple
No cost for widows



Happy New Year to all the Women of HBC. Rest and revive this month and we will begin the new year's events next month. Bless you all!
Leslie



January 8
Youth Luncheon
Dork Loin Collard Greens
Black-eyed Peas
Bread And Dessert

Youth Ministry Update:

At their December meeting, the Deacon Ministry unanimously approved a recommendation from the Youth Committee to ask Ethan DeMoore to help speak and lead worship on Sunday and Wednesday nights for our Youth. The Youth Committee will continue to lead in planning and organizing youth events, trips and other programming issues, but Ethan will help give spiritual leadership for our youth as we seek a new, full-time Youth Minister. In the meantime, the Youth Minister Search Committee will continue their efforts in reviewing resumes, interviewing those persons and eventually presenting a candidate to HBC for approval/hire. It is the prayer of our leadership to hopefully have someone in place by June 1, 2012. We thank God for Ethan's willingness to serve and we ask the church to pray for him, our Youth Committee, the Youth Minister Search Committee, and please continue to pray for our young people throughout this entire process.

YOUTH Here's What's Happening:
MASS (Morning Assembly and Sunday School) - Every Sunday @ 9:45 am
Youth Choir—Every Sunday @ 5 pm
Youth Bible Study—Sundays @ 6 pm

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY AND YOUTH CHOIR STARTS BACK ON JANUARY 8TH.



Wow! Where has the time gone ...? January 2012 is here! We hope you all have enjoyed your Christmas Holidays and had a lot of time with your family and friends. As we reflect on the past year here at HBC, a smile comes to our faces of all the special things that have taken place within our Children's ministry. All the events planned could not have taken place without many awesome volunteers. Easter Egg Hunts, Mission Projects, VBS, Summer Nights, Fall Fest, & AWANA have all been a great success. Each of these events and ministries reach others for Christ. Thanks for all the support given. Awana will start back on January 4th. Make sure you get back involved...bring your bible, uniform, & dues.

Go ahead and mark your calendars for January 11th. You will not want to miss this special evening with the Puppet and Drama ministry from Gibson First Baptist. Awana kids will check-in, in the foyer area of the sanctuary. We are asking them to bring canned goods, for an extra 100 points, to help re-stock Columbia County Cares, after the holidays.

Thanks!
Hope & John McClellan



AWANA starts back January 4th.



Contribution statements will be available in January. If you desire a statement, **sign up at the IC, call, or email** the Church Office. A statement will then be prepared by the Finance Office and given to you in church or mailed to you as you request.