

*December Birthdays*

1	Terry Zieke	Melanie Mitchell	
3	Linda Pitchers		
4	Lois Chapline	Ryan Steen	Carol Kumar
	Deborah Slay	Pam Rowlett	
6	Drew Wielgus	Bill Davis	
7	Deborah Milton		
8	David Gordon		
11	Alicia McCormick		
12	Danny Warfield		
13	Cindy Wielgus		
15	Dawn Whitmire	Sarah Phelps	
18	Judy Dockery	Lori Schultz	Song Lim
20	Brenda Hayes	Chris Evans	
	Harold Bellinger		
21	Sheri Peralez	Connie Peck	
23	Robert Elders		
24	Dee Smith	Christopher Tindall	
26	Beverly Donnell		
27	Brittni Salzman		
28	George Callender	Ray Straedey	Bryan Becherer
29	JoAnn Barnett	Mark Gerkin	Chase Young
	Jake Roustio	Jamie Roustio	Carter Roustio
31	Natalie Wiezer	Debbie Fremont	Mary White



**Church Staff:**

Mike Barnes, *Pastor*  
 Steve Stanford, *Minister of Music*  
 Scott Young, *Minister to Youth*  
 Lora Fuller, *Ministry Assistant*

**Office Hours:**

7:30 am—4:00 pm, Weekdays  
 Phone: 618.876.7404  
 Fax: 618.876.7719

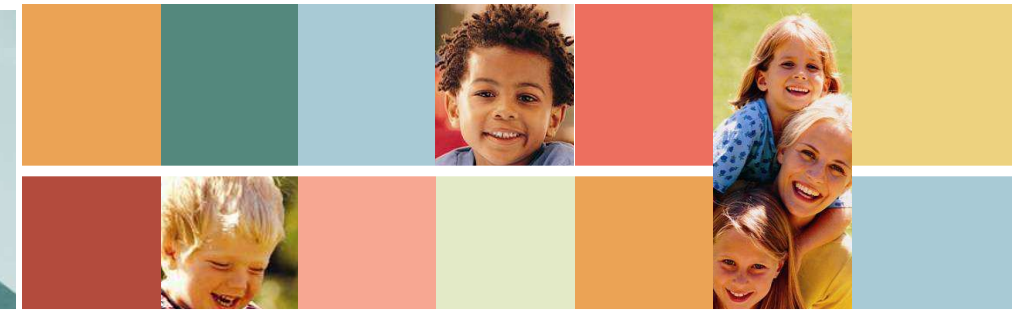
Email: [info@suburbanbaptistchurch.net](mailto:info@suburbanbaptistchurch.net)

Web address:  
[www.sbcgc.net](http://www.sbcgc.net)

**Service Times:**

Sunday  
 9:00 am—Sunday School  
 10:15 am—Morning Worship  
 6:30 pm—Evening Worship

Wednesday  
 6:30 pm—Bible Study



November 30, 2009

**SUBURBAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

# The Beacon

*"Shining His light on Granite City and surrounding communities..."*



2500 ST. CLAIR AVENUE GRANITE CITY, IL 62040  
[HTTP://WWW.SUBURBANBAPTISTCHURCH.NET](http://WWW.SUBURBANBAPTISTCHURCH.NET)

*Return Service Requested*



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## Drive Through CHRISTMAS CAROLS

See the scenes that inspired the music!

Saturday, December 5th  
 Sunday, December 6th  
 6 - 9 pm

## Our Mission:

# "To Reach, Teach, and Equip People to Know, Love, and Serve Jesus"



THANK YOU

Thank you for all the prayers, calls, visits and cards during and following my recent hospitalization.

*Kenneth Fuller*

I want to thank the family of Suburban Baptist Church for all the thoughts and prayers following the death of my mother. I want to thank the Priscilla class for the meat tray. It came in handy. I want to thank Pastor Mike for visiting mom and praying with and for her. That meant a lot to everyone.

*Judy Dockery*

Thank you to everyone for all the cards, calls and prayers following my back surgery. Your love and concern is very much appreciated.

*Karen Simon*



### Poinsettia Sunday December 13

Orders for Poinsettias are now being taken to be placed in the Sanctuary in memory/honor of someone. Please stop by the church office to complete order form. The cost is \$10.00 for each Poinsettia. Orders will be taken through next Sunday, December 6 and will be placed in the Sanctuary December 13. Poinsettias may be taken home by the donor following the Christmas Eve service.



### Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24  
6:00 pm

### Upcoming Events

#### December

- Drive Through Christmas Carols—Dec. 5 & 6
- Adult 5 Christmas Party—December 11
- Deacon Christmas Party—December 12
- Christmas Eve Service—December 24
- New Years Eve Fellowship—December 31



### Christmas Baskets

Donations are being requested for Christmas Baskets. Items will be collected through Sunday, December 13. Baskets will be delivered on Saturday, December 19.



The Music Ministry of  
Suburban Baptist Church  
Will present  
"Glad Tidings of Great Joy"  
December 19 & 20  
6:30 pm



Christmas Open House  
Sunday, December 20  
2:00 - 5:00 pm  
46 Mimosa Dr.  
Pontoon Beach

*Pastor Mike, Michelle &  
Hannah invite you to join them  
at their home for food and  
fellowship.*

## Pastor Mike's Moments

There is something special about seeing Christmas through the eyes of a child. Children have a way of communicating and expressing themselves in a way that reflects their childlike faith. Recently we were out shopping and the store we were in already had a Christmas tree up. When Hannah saw it she ran up to it and said "Oh Wow!" As she said that I remember asking myself why I didn't have the same reaction to the Christmas tree? I rationalized that I had seen so many beautiful Christmas trees in my life that one more really didn't excite me all that much. But the more I think about it, the more I see that it should excite me. The wonder of what Christmas truly means should excite me to the inner most part of my

heart. But I fear that my familiarity with the true meaning of Christmas has caused me to lose that sense of awe and wonder over what God did on that silent night.

The Bible tells us in Matthew 18:2 that we are to exhibit a "childlike faith." Jesus told His disciples in this passage "unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." A child-like faith is pictured as the simple, helpless, trusting dependence of those who have no resources of their own to help themselves. This is the way all sinners are before they come to faith in Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us in Ephesians 2:12 that before we were saved we had "no hope and were without God in

the world." Without Jesus we would be in a most desperate situation with absolutely no hope of overcoming or making amends to God for our sins. This is where the message of Christmas becomes such good news to us. God recognized our helpless state and sent His only Son into the world to make a perfect, complete and eternal sacrifice for our sins. We must only approach God with that child-like faith that recognizes that it is utterly hopeless without the grace of God and the sacrifice of Jesus. When we respond with that kind of faith the salvation of God will enter our hearts and souls, cleanse us from all of our sins and place us in a right standing before God that will enable us to enter His presence when we die. That is why we celebrate

Christmas. We celebrate Jesus! When you stop and think about it, Jesus was God incarnate, veiled in human flesh, born of a virgin, born in a humble manger, born a King, born to die for you and me . . . Oh Wow!

This Christmas don't allow your familiarity with the Christmas story to rob you of the awe and wonder over what God did on that silent but holy night in Bethlehem.

May the awe and wonder of the season be yours!

Pastor Mike

