



December CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 1-5 Meals on Wheels
- Dec 2 Willing Workers
Decorate the church
- Dec 3 Holiday Dinner
- Dec 4 Holiday Concert with
the Lesters
- Dec 7 Community Service
- Dec 14 Christmas Cantata
- Dec 21 Youth Christmas musical
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Service



**Decorate the Church
for Christmas
December 2 at 7 p.m.**

**Holiday Dinner
December 3 at 6 p.m.**
Meat & drink provided
Please bring a salad, dessert, or
covered dish to share

**Holiday Concert
with The Lesters
December 4 at 7 p.m.**

**Community Service
December 7 at 6 p.m.**
at Clay City Christian Church
Bring finger foods to share

**Christmas Cantata
December 14 at 10 a.m.**
"Come, Let Us Worship the King"

**Youth Musical
December 21 at 10 a.m.**
"A King Is Coming To Town"



*Christmas Eve
Carol Service*

5:30 p.m.



Sermon Titles

- Dec 7 "The Signs of the Season"
- Dec 14 Christmas Cantata
- Dec 21 Youth Christmas Musical
- Dec 28 "To Dream Again"



Clay City Christian Church
907 S. Main
Clay City, IL 62824

Darrel Brandon, Minister Phone 676-1164
Linda Schnepfer, Music Director Phone 689-3282
Caralyn Riley, Youth Director Phone 508-4164

Sunday: 9 AM Bible School for all ages
10 AM Morning Worship Service
6 PM Youth Program (age 3 - grade 3)
7 PM Evening Service & Youth (grades 4-8)

Wednesday: 6 PM Youth Program (age 3 - grade 3)
7 PM Adult Bible Study & Youth (grades 4-8)

Email address: ccdchurch@verizon.net
Web address: www.claycitychristian.com

Non Profit Org
Permit No. 13
Clay City, IL

Attendance	
November 2	107
November 9	97
November 16	105
November 23	97

visit us on the web at www.claycitychristian.com

From Darrel's Desk

"Christmas is the season for giving." I'm sure you've heard that before. People often think that the precedent for giving at Christmas came from the example of the magi (wisemen) who brought precious gifts to Jesus. And their example is instructive.



However, the real pattern for giving comes from a much higher Authority than that. John 3:16 declares, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." The wisemen probably did not arrive in Bethlehem until about two years after Jesus was born. But on the night of Jesus' birth, the model for giving had already been established.

While many of us lament the commercialism of the modern Christmas, there is something to be said for the benefits of the giving and receiving of gifts during the holiday season. There are two lessons we all need to learn:

- It truly is more blessed to give than to receive.
- It is important to learn to receive graciously and gratefully.

When we help our children to select, wrap and then give presents, we teach them about the blessedness of giving. And when we allow them to receive presents and we help them to say "Thanks," whether in person or in writing, we teach them to receive with grace and gratitude.

Not everyone has learned how to receive. For instance, some have been steadfastly unwilling to receive God's gift of salvation through His son, Jesus. Some refuse to acknowledge that they need a savior. Some proudly insist on working for the salvation they know they need. Some are determined to try to pay God back for that which is beyond their means. And some just refuse to accept the gift from God.

As we navigate the busy waters between Thanksgiving and Christmas, let's all be sure to receive the gift that God has given us and to do so with grace and gratitude.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Crystal Snell
- 10 Amanda Higgs
- 10 Darrel Brandon
- 11 Maggie Snell
- 12 Josephine Harris
- 15 Leon Travis
- 17 Leon & Revetta Travis
- 17 Revetta Travis
- 19 Darrel & Sandy Brandon



- 20 Larry Brant
- 26 Steve Spitzner
- 27 Landon Byrd
- 28 Larry & Marilyn Brant
- 28 Melissa Riley
- 29 Roger & Teresa Herdes
- 30 Bill Staser
- 31 Keith Patridge

I want to thank everyone for all the love and concern shown me during my recent outbreak of shingles. I appreciated all the cards and calls. And thanks to the many who sent food. Darrel was busy taking care of me so that was an added blessing. We feel so much love from our church family.



Sandy

THANK YOU SO MUCH...

Elsewhere on this page, you will read the total given in our special Thanksgiving offering. While we have not yet reached our goal of \$25,000, the amount given is truly impressive and for that we give you thanks and we give God the glory.

Please keep in mind that:

- This amount is on top of the money given in our regular Sunday morning offering.
- Donations are still coming in so that total will change.
- If, on November 23rd, you were unable to give toward the Thanksgiving offering, you still may. You may leave your offering in the church office or place it in the regular Sunday offering. Just *please* make sure it is marked in some way that it is designated for the annual Thanksgiving offering.



Robin Shaw was baptized on November 2nd

MAKE IT A RENEWED YEAR

The last couple of months, Clay City Christian Church has rejoiced to receive several people into membership in the church. Some have been immersed into Jesus Christ and received into the fellowship of the church. Others are people who have been previously immersed for the forgiveness of their sins and have transferred their membership to CCCC.

If you have not yet been immersed into Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, we implore you to make that decision. If you are an immersed believer who worships with us regularly and have not yet placed your membership with us, we encourage you to make that decision. What a great way to begin a new year: with a new relationship with Jesus Christ and with his body, the church.



\$16,697 received towards \$25,000 goal

In His Service for December				
	7	14	21	28
Pastoral Prayer	Darrel Brandon	Bill Staser	Gary Clark	Larry Brant
Reading at the Lord's Table	Larry Brant	Jim Cockerel	Darrel Brandon	Gary Clark
Communion Preparation	Lou Anna Brant			