

Mintz Baptist Church



Paster: Dr. John McBride

www.mintzbaptist.com

910-564-6500

December 2009

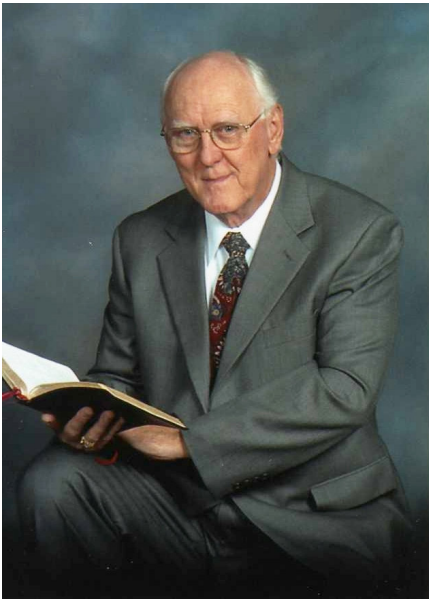
Christmas Programs

Thursday, Dec. 10 at 7 PM
MCA Program

Saturday, Dec. 12 at 7 PM
Adult Cantata—"It's the Most Wonderful Time of The Year"
Children's Drama—"Christmas: FA2"
Refreshments and fellowship

Sunday, Dec. 20 at 10:30 AM
Adult Cantata—"It's the Most Wonderful Time of The Year"
Youth Drama—"Christmissed?"

Sunday, Dec. 20 at 7 PM
Adult Cantata: Robinson Chapel



Dr. John McBride
Pastor

Sarah and I want to wish each one of you a very Merry Christmas. We are so happy to be the spiritual leaders of this church family. We love you and appreciate your support in doing the Kingdom's business. 2009 has been one of the most thrilling rides of our ministry and it was great sharing it with each of you.

Starting in January 2010, I plan to preach through the Book of Revelation during the morning services. I have taught this Book many times and have written an extensive manuscript from my studies of Revelation throughout my ministry. But this is the first time I will attempt to preach through this great and exciting book.

At this point in history I believe the message God has for us will be revealed through these messages. This will not be a verse-by-verse study, but a study of the major themes found in Revelation. The first message will be "The Golden Key" which will be an overview of this powerful and prophetic Book. Some of the messages we will focus on are: "Coming Attractions," "The Future is Here," "He Holds The Keys," "The Windows of Heaven and the Door of Hell," "The Midnight Cry," (Rapture), "The False Prophet," "The Voice of the 144,000," "The Great Supper," "The Millennial Reign," just to mention a few.

I can promise God is going to add great excitement to our morning services starting in 2010. Make sure you bring your Bible, a highlighter and a note pad. We are going to have a great time studying this powerful book together.

Pastor McBride



Ms. Joy McDowell
Principal

MCA News

This is just the best time of the year! Traveling home after a weekend with family for Thanksgiving and listening to Christmas music set the mood for a wonderful holiday season. I hope you find yourself almost giddy with joy that can't be suppressed in anticipation of Christmas. The birth of Christ, your Redeemer!

Our focus shifts to others as we prepare and plan gifts and gatherings. Jesus the beginning of this gift giving is still the best gift of all. MCA has been a gift to the staff and me this year. It is a bright beacon of Christ to this community. Emmanuel, God is with us each day. As you observe **A**dvent, **B**ake goodies, **C**elebrate Christmas, **D**ecorate your home, and **E**njoy family and friends, know that the staff and I are grateful to be included in your "family" this Christmas.

In chapel this month we are presenting the Jesse Tree, a family tree of Jesus born from King David's lineage. It fascinates me to see all the Old Testament stories linked together by God's plan of redemption. My favorite part is Rahab, the lady who helped the spies before entering the promise land. She marries one of the spies, lives outside the camp because Rehab not one of the chosen. Their son is Boaz who then understands Ruth's need for a kinsman redeemer. God created man in His image to share in a relationship. There is no greater love than the outstretched hand of God welcoming us into His family.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

Merry Christmas,
Mintz Christian Academy Staff

Created to be used by God

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

We've all heard the Christmas story hundreds of times, but have you ever wondered about some of the incidents that took place in the story? Like, why did they have to go and be registered? Was the city of David named after the David that slew Goliath? Why did the shepherds have to stay in the fields?

And just what is myrrh anyway; and why would they want to give it to Jesus? Well if you have often wondered about these very questions; then you don't want to miss our children's program entitled CHRISTMAS: FAQ being presented Saturday, December 12 at 7 pm. Bring your family and friends and enjoy a night when you will leave with more answers than questions.

THE ADULT CANTATA

This year's adult cantata is entitled *"It's The Most Wonderful Time of The Year."* There will be a heart-warming drama unfolding during the musical. The drama tells of a young boy and his mother who come to a strange town looking for a healing miracle. The little boy is deaf and the mother has heard about a doctor who is qualified to perform this needed surgery. The family is poor, but the mother has hope. The story is told by a vendor, played by Angie Buchanan, who is friendly, knowledgeable and a good storyteller. Other characters are: stage manager played by Deborah Johnson; the doctor played by Wootie Norris; the dad played by Bryan Jackson and the son

played by Colton Norris.

Both the message in song and drama will set the mood for you to have a blessed and Merry Christmas. Invite your friends to join you. The choir and drama team have been invited to Robinson Chapel on Sunday night, December 20th @ 7pm.

FINISHING STRONG IN 2009

Have you caught the spirit of our final emphasis for 2009? This is not just a catchy phrase, but a vision and a commitment to bring glory to God's work in 2009. 2009 has been a historic year at Mintz and through our obedience, God has blessed us tremendously. If you have not kept your hands on the pulse of what has been going on at Mintz, you have missed out on some of the most evident and exciting things God is directing. 2009 has been a strong year from day one. We had new and God-sized challenges ahead of us, but together we moved forward trusting God to fill in the blanks of our lack of vision or faith. Let's review a few things:



1. We approved the largest operating budget to date for Mintz Baptist. You have been kept informed throughout the year on how we were doing and it appears that we will meet this budget.

2. MCA was started in obedience to God's leadership. Mintz had no funds, faced many improvements to our building, had no operating budget, had no faculty, no students and faced doubts in the community and even perhaps within our own fellowship. But, praise God, we have met every obstacle, overcome doubts, enrolled 28 students, hired three wonderful, talented and Christ-loving teachers, filled needed part-time positions and when this school ends, it appears the school will operate in "the black." Wow! Who says God is not alive among His church?
3. We have paid two large loans. We borrowed approximately \$22,000 from the building fund. These funds were needed for the new well, pump house, driveway and engineering fees. We have repaid that amount except for \$6,000 which will be put in the 2010 budget. We faced an outstanding \$20,000 land-clearing bill and by exceeding our Homecoming goal, praise God we paid it!
4. We presently have in our Building Fund \$74,557 to go toward our future expansion.
5. We had numerical growth in our church membership by letter and by baptisms.
6. We finished strong in November - Sunday School averaged 126 with a high attendance of 141. We averaged 8 visitors per Sunday. Worship attendance averaged approximately 85% capacity. November's

income was only \$37.19 short of meeting that month's budget. MCA added 2 new pupils. We met our special offering goal for the Children's Home. Who says God is not awesome?

There are many other things which could be listed, but we only highlighted six. We now begin December with excitement and determination to definitely finish strong in 2009. It is our prayer that if you have not caught the spirit of *togetherness* in finishing 2009 strong, you will. We want to exceed the things accomplished in November and pack God's House in honor and worship of Him. What a way to magnify His birthday!

MCA - TWO UPCOMING EVENTS

On Thursday night, December 10, at 7:00 PM our academy students will present their first Christmas program. Plan to attend and support MCA. A great program is planned and your heart will be blessed by being present.

The annual Roseboro Christmas parade will be this Friday night, December 11, and MCA will have a float in the parade. We hope you will be in the crowd when our students come by to give them a big cheer.



TWO WAYS TO SUPPORT MCA

We have had questions concerning what the financial needs of our Academy are and how someone can give to MCA? On your church envelope, included in with your tithe, just write in "MCA" and the amount of your gift and you will receive credit. You should also note on the envelope that this designated offering is for **MCA budget** or for **MCA Scholarships**. There is a great need to build up a scholarship reserve in order to help future students who may need assistance. If your gift to MCA does not specify "scholarship" the amount will go into the operating budget of MCA. Scholarship money can only be spent on scholarships. This fund is managed by the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Deborah Johnson.

During 2009, God has blessed MCA financially through the generous and sacrificial support of many. At the conclusion of our first school year, you will be amazed at how God has worked. A full financial report will be shared with the church in the near future. Continue to pray for our school.

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES

We would like to thank the Directory Committee for a job well done. If you have not picked up your new directory then you are unaware of how beautiful this directory is and how useful it will be. The front cover and the back cover speak volumes to



the eye. The inside shows the Mintz family at work, play and worship. Take time to read the pastor's comments as they speak to the vision and direction of our church.

If you do not already have a directory, see Dale Johnson to get your copy.

MISSION TRIP TO GERMANY

Remember Jessica Sessoms in your prayers as she seeks support for a mission trip to Germany this summer. She has a box in the foyer of the Educational Building for all who would be willing to help her raise money needed for this trip. Jessica will share more information on her trip in the near future.

SPECIAL PRAYER FOCUS

Pat Partridge has been impressed by God to begin a special prayer focus for our country. The focus of prayer will be for revival in America. All ages are invited to attend. You do not have to pray out loud unless you are so led.

These prayer times will be held on the first and third Sunday afternoons at 5:30 PM. The first one will be on the third Sunday of January (17th). The pastor will have a scriptural focus for each of these sessions. We hope you will join us.



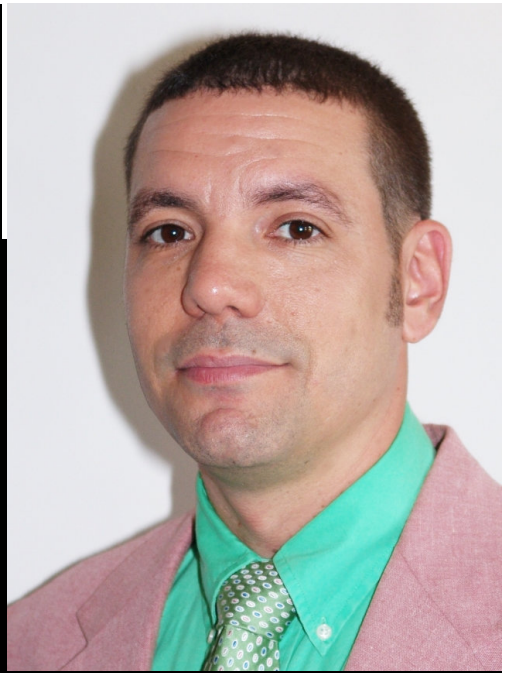
Youth Ministry

News and Updates

Our upcoming Youth drama will be presented on December 20th. The Lord led us to a drama which has a powerful message and which speaks to our hearts entitled "*Christmissed?*" This modern story touches on struggles that many have in their walk with Jesus. This testimony focuses on obedience, submission and complacency among Christians and the excuses they offer for their lack of service. It will be an eye-opening presentation through which God will speak to us individually about our commitment to His Kingdom's work.

In this drama, Mary and Joseph are given the choice of being obedient to God's will and plan. Although related to biblical greats like Abraham and David, Joseph and Mary were two ordinary people from a little town. They weren't wealthy or highly influential. Joseph was a carpenter betrothed to Mary., Mary and Joseph lived their lives in a way that God could use them. Would they follow through with the challenge to be a part of God's plan to present Jesus to the world? The fate of the world pinned on a youth and her future husband! In this drama, Mary and Joseph are challenged to *chose or reject* their call to God's will. Did Mary make excuses? *No!* She responded to God's call! Did Joseph find the time to allow God to call him into service? *Yes!* Not only did Mary and Joseph *trust the Lord, they believed Him*. They laid their lives into the very hands of God! When we enter into a relationship with God, we are to willingly obey Him in His plan for our lives. When we accept Christ, it isn't over - it's only just begun - we should be willing to do whatever God asks in service to Him.

Will we structure and conform our lives to fit *God's* calendar? Where will we make the sacrifice to fit into God's plan for our lives? Jesus desires to use each of us to make a difference in this world. Like Mary and Joseph, all it takes is for us to be obedient and give **OUR ALL to JESUS**. What choice will we make? Your service to Him will be the greatest present someone will ever receive from you. Your service to Him will be the greatest present someone will ever receive from you.



Bryan Jackson
Youth Pastor

In Christ,
Bryant