

**PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!!!!**

Lots of fun in December. The 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Sundays at 6pm, Wednesdays at 7pm. Keep coming to learn your parts and songs!

**A chance to give a gift of love right here in our community!**

The Dollar General along with the Port wanted to help the Westport resident children have a wonderful Christmas this year! We are collecting toys to hand out free on December 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm. A box will be at the Dollar General to buy & place your toy there. Applications will be around area businesses and at the Port to fill out and see if you are eligible to receive toys for your children.

Applications are due back on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> For more information call the Port or go to the Dollar General Store.

**Samaritan's Purse**

Thank you to all who gave to the children of the world. Keep them in prayer that they will see Jesus through your gift of love.

**LADIES**

Break out the saddle shoes and poodle skirts. We're having a sock-hop! Actually, we are hosting our first



Women's Conference January 21, 2012 with a Fifties theme. Claudia Mitchell and Love Lockman will be



our guest speakers. The day starts with registration and a continental breakfast and continues with singing, special music, our guest speakers, games, and door prizes. Lunch will be provided. Registration is at 8:00am and our conference concludes at 3:00pm. Registration forms are on the back table or online at the church's website. Join us for a great day and remember . . .



Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8.

**Men**

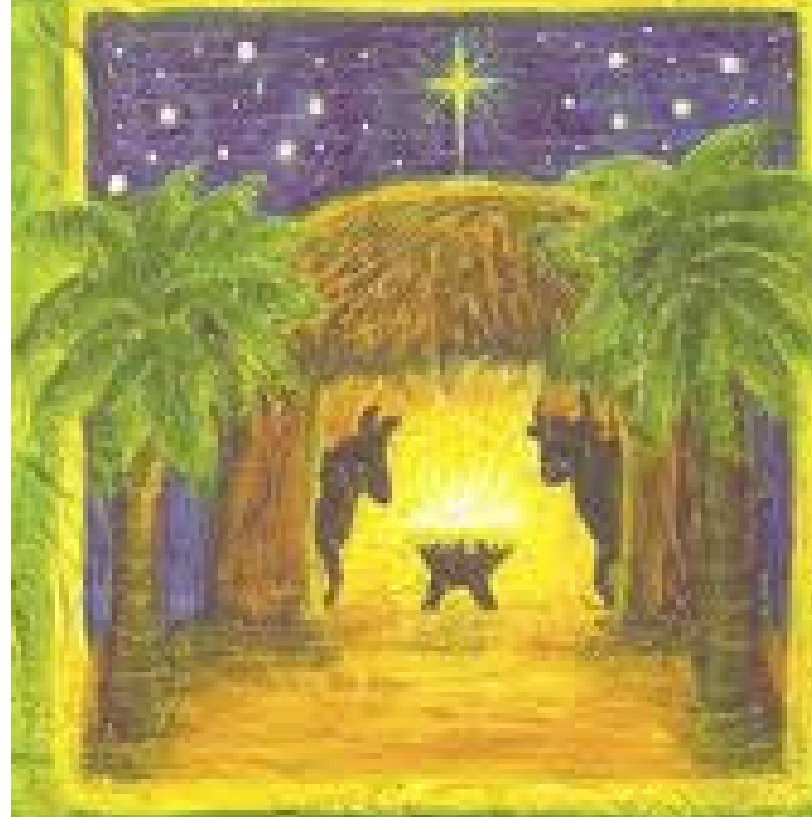
We need your help this day also to help with parking, serving breakfast and lunch, and returning the church to normal for Sunday.

**WESTPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**THE PORT IMPACTING LIVES**

[www.westportchristianchurch.com](http://www.westportchristianchurch.com)

She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus,



for He will save His people from their sins."

**December 2011**

**OUR VISION**  
A Place Where Jesus is IMPACTING LIVES

**OUR MISSION**  
THE PORT IS MADE UP OF PEOPLE WHO Live Like Jesus by. . . Seeking the lost Making disciples Showing Compassion

**OUR CORE VALUES BY GOD'S GRACE. . .**

The Bible is THE final authority. We are a holy people. We are culturally relevant. We are faithful stewards striving for Excellence.

The Port: 591-3807

Shepherds:  
Mike Bartlett -591-2913  
Kenny Blanton -663-7919  
Dennis Newland - 591-3528  
Don Ritchey -591-0908

## Mike's Message

Where has the year gone? Here it is December and with a few days left in 2011 there is so much left to do before the end of the year. I want to take a few moments to share with all of you some very exciting things taking place this month. The children's Christmas shopping day on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a great opportunity for the children of the church to be able to come and select a gift for the members of their family, to have it wrapped, to enjoy refreshments and games all for free! We will also have a time for Christmas caroling. This is taking place on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who would enjoy that please get with Jill. Also, we will be having a children's Christmas program on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. The children have been working hard so come and support them.

On Saturday, December the 17<sup>th</sup>, Ronda and I will be hosting an open house here at the house. We would like to invite all of you to stop by for a special treat as well as a cup of coffee, hot chocolate, or hot tea. We want **all** of you to know that you are very special to us and we would like to express our gratitude to you. So, stop on by.

December is the time of the year when Christians around the world celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Beyond popular belief, (I'm not really a Scrooge) I truly enjoy Christmas; I just don't like what it has become. It is no longer a time when people see Christ in Christmas. As a matter of fact, it has become unpopular to even say "Merry Christmas." It is politically incorrect. And to that I say, Hum--bug!

It is true that we do not know for sure when Jesus was born and I'm okay with that. Now, there are many reasons as to why we don't know the day or month which Jesus was born. They didn't keep birth records for common folk back then. After all, Jesus' earthly father was a carpenter. Jesus was not born in a hospital, but in a cave or a barn, again no way of collecting or keeping records.

After all, if we did know the exact day and time, what difference would that make? You see, I am convinced that if we knew the exact location, the exact day, the exact time, people would worship those things instead of worshipping Jesus! As a matter of fact it has already happened. Let me explain. Several years ago, the Catholic Church established a day which all people could remember the Lord and a day was set aside to honor His birth. Since that time many people have set out to disprove that was the day Jesus was born. I believe they had good intentions but in doing so, they caused disunity with people of faith.

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Since that time, those who are against Christ and Christmas have gained a foothold in turning a holy time into a secular tradition. Many towns across America have stopped putting up Nativity scenes because of being afraid of being sued. Shopping Malls and department store now use this time of the year to make a high percentage of their yearly sales in just a few weeks. Last year \$45 billion was spent on Black Friday alone.

The day Jesus was born is not important. What is important is the day that you accepted Jesus into your life. The day that Jesus was born in you!

We, the Church, have allowed Jesus to be replaced little by little until He is no longer even invited to His own birthday party. We have fell into the trap satan set so long ago. We are afraid to stand up for the truth because people may think we're weird. We have fell into the lie that if we tell our children the truth about Jesus then we might stunt them. I'm just as guilty as everyone else, but I am taking a stand for the truth. I have set the course to proclaim, "I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Merry CHRISTmas, Mike



Children's Christmas shopping day  
at The PORT

December 3rd from 1-4:30pm  
This is the day that the children  
can shop for the special people  
in their life.

*Christmas Caroling at the Port  
will be on December 10th starting at 3pm.*

*If by chance it is raining,  
Caroling will be postponed until the 17th.*

*Christmas at the BARTLETT'S  
You are invited to an open house at the  
Bartlett's on December 17th from 3-6pm  
They would like to wish you personally a  
wonderful and joyful  
CHRISTmas  
And that we keep Christ all year through!*

## **Chris-myth Busters**

**What:** The youth performing in their Christmas play  
**When:** December 24th at 7pm  
**Where:** At the PORT  
**Mark your calendars now so you can be here to encourage our YOUTH! And so the kids may encourage us to remember Jesus is the reason for the season.**

**Praise, learn and grow at the *PORT!***

Sunday Morning

Morning prayer/fellowship 9:00  
Biblical Ed. Classes 9:30  
Worship 10:30  
7:00

Sunday Evening

Adults Evening Study & K-5 6:00

Wednesday night

Adult Biblical Ed. & K-5



# December 2011

<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
5 <sup>th</sup> Micah Finchum Blake Bennett 13 <sup>th</sup> Diana Moore 14 <sup>th</sup> Cole Sebastian 15 <sup>th</sup> Louis Baugh 19 <sup>th</sup> Larry Rowe 21 <sup>st</sup> Griffin Finchum 22 <sup>nd</sup> Josie Timbrook 28 <sup>th</sup> Robert Timbrook					1 Youth Group 6-7:30 <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	2 food giveaway 4-5pm <b>First Place 7pm</b>	3 <b>Kid's Christmas Shopping day!</b> 1-4:30pm
<b>Anniversaries</b> December 16th Ron & Donni Buchanan December 19th Robert & Josie Timbrook December 27th Kenny & Carolyn Blanton	4 <b>Family Sunday</b> <b>Play practice 6pm</b> <i>Praise Team</i>	5 10-11:30pm & 5-6pm food give away	6 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i> <b>Marriage Enrichment 7-8:30</b>	7 <b>Youth play practice 7pm</b> <i>A.BEC. 7pm</i>	8 Youth Group 6-7:30 <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	9 food giveaway 4-5pm <b>First Place 7pm</b>	10 <b>The Port's Christmas Caroling, meeting at church at 3pm R.O. on the 17th</b>
	11. Skybird Manor 3pm <b>Play practice 6pm</b> <i>Praise Team</i>	<b>12. Ladies for the LORD 6pm/ Susan &amp; Amanda</b> 10-12pm & 5-6pm food give away	13 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i> <b>Marriage Enrichment 7-8:30</b>	14 <b>Youth play practice 7pm</b> <i>A.BEC. 7pm</i>	15 Youth Group 6-7:30pm <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	16 food giveaway 4-5pm <b>General Elders Mtg. 6pm</b> <b>First Place 7pm</b>	17. <b>Christmas Open House @ the Bartlett's from 3-6pm</b>
	18. <b>ALL PORT PITCH-IN</b> <b>Play practice 6pm</b> <i>Praise Team</i>	19 10-11:30pm & 5-6pm Food Give away <b>Toy Pick-up from 6:30pm—8:30pm</b>	20 <i>Encouraging Others 10am</i>	21 <b>Youth play practice 7pm</b> <i>A.BEC 7pm</i>	22 Youth Group 6-7:30pm <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	23 food giveaway 4-5pm <b>First Place 7pm</b>	24 <b>Christmas Eve Program</b> Chris-Myth Busters 7pm
	25 <b>JOY TO THE WORLD</b> <u>Worship 10:30am</u> No AM B.E. Classes <u>Morning Breeze 2:30</u> No PM BEC or K-5	26 10-11:30pm & 5-6pm food give away	27.	28 <i>A.BEC 7pm</i> <i>K-5 7pm</i>	29 Youth Group 6-7:30pm <i>Women Celebrating Christ Bible Study 7pm</i>	30 food giveaway 4-5pm <b>First Place 7pm</b>	31

