

CHURCH CALENDAR

December 20, 8:30 Deacons Meeting
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Time

December 23, No Activities

December 24-25, Office Close
Merry Christmas!

December 27, 11:00 Family Worship Time
Nursery Available

December 30, No Activities

January 3, 11:00 Family Worship Time
Nursery Available

January 6, No Activities

January 10, 10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Time

January 12, 8:05 Moms in Prayer, Parlor

January 13, 6:00 Mission Friends
G.A.s and R.A.s, Youth
Women’s Bible Study FH
Men’s Bible Study 3rd Floor

January 17, 8:30 Deacons Meeting
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Time

January 19, 8:05 Moms in Prayer, Parlor

January 20, 6:00 Mission Friends
G.A.s and R.A.s, Youth
Women’s Bible Study FH
Men’s Bible Study 3rd Floor

January 24, 10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Time

January 26, 8:05 Moms In Prayer, Parlor

January 27, 6:00 Mission Friends
G.A.s and R.A.s, Youth
Women’s Bible Study FH
Men’s Bible Study 3rd Floor

January 31, 10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Time

In The Media Center...

We have a wide variety of books on many subjects. We are anxious for the time we will be open and we look forward to seeing you!

Church Office: 706-245-9701



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Caring...Connecting...

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No. 1

Who doesn’t love the start of a new year? It goes without saying that 2021 is the most anticipate new year in our lifetimes because of everything that has take place in 2020. Whew, what a year indeed! A new year generally signifies the start of new things. Honestly, who doesn’t love trying something new? The begin-ning of a year seems like a good place to start new beginnings in our lives, whatever they may be. It’s almost like an automatic goal-setting function that restarts with each year. I encourage us all to try new things, to start new things, and to set goals for the upcoming year. Pursuing such new goals and new things opens us up to new challenges, and challenges certainly help to build who we are and who we may become.

I am not sure what your goals, resolutions, or new things may be for 2021, but I want to make one suggestion for us all. Rest! That seems simple, right? I don’t think anyone would argue against the desire and enjoyment of rest. Rest is a good thing. Rest is a necessary thing in our lives, yet we neglect it so often. We make every excuse we can thing of, but the truth is, we make time for what we want to do. Do we want rest? It’s our choice to choose it.

A few weeks ago, my family and I spent most of the day just resting. It seemed weird at first because everything in me was saying that I needed to use that time more wisely. Let’s just say it wasn’t a natural ac-tion. In my mind there were lots of things I “should” have been doing. However, as the day continued to pass, I really appreciated the opportunity to just rest! Simply put, it was a great day.

The truth is that rest is necessary. God rested on the seventh day and created the Sabbath day for man to rest. I really don’t think God needed rest after the six days of creation, but wanted to show us that we need rest. I those times that we rest, hopefully we find rejuvenation, relaxation, appreciation, calmness of mind, and a refocus on what matters most. So for this year, I encourage you to be intentional about find-ing, no, making the time to rest. Watch how it impacts your life moving forward. Now please excuse me while I go and take a nap.

Your Friend,
Matt
Hebrews 4:9

From Hillary Davison, Minister of Music

1 Corinthians 4:1-18

In the spring of 2020, I recorded a version of “Trading My Sorrows” as a part of one of our virtual worship services. Lucy, my daughter, still loves it. Even as a seven month old at the time, I would turn it on in the car and through watching my worship, Lucy, without fail, would raise her hands and move them around when it came on. She would fall silent during the worst of fits and listen. It was truly a beautiful thing to watch and know that even at a young age, the God of all creation reached the mind and heart of my little one and granted her joy and peace.

The song is based out of Corinthians and Philippians. As I was reading the 4th chapter of Corinthians, the words rang so true in welcoming this new year. In this past year, many believers were pressed, persecuted and struck down, just as the scripture and the song says we would be during our earthly journey as Christians. Many of us have felt unimaginable loneliness, hurt and pain in this past year. But the scripture tells us that the same God that raised Jesus from the grave will, too, raise us up. We may be pressed, but we are not crushed. We may be persecuted, but we are not abandoned. And we may be struck down, but we are not destroyed. The Bible encourages us to stand firm in what is written and understand that the world is blinded to the truth that is Jesus Christ. We must show the world the light that is sometimes covered in darkness.

As we move into this new year, I pray that we all remember where our hope, joy, and strength comes from. They ultimately do not come from a politician, medicine, or through our own abilities. They come from the God that had proved time and time again that He is in control and reigning over it all. In this new year, may our God bring you hope, joy, peace, and strength. Stand firm in what He has commanded and know that your faithfulness will be rewarded.

Hillary

Our sincere Christian love and sympathy is extended to the families of

Mrs. Joneal Reeves

Mrs. Dot Jones

Contributions have been received for the Endowment Fund in memory of:

Mrs. Helen Burrell from David & Jina Harris and Lori Herring Carson

Mrs. Dot Jones by Lori Herring Carson

In honor of John and Deborah Herring by Lori Herring Carson

Contributions have been received in memory of:

Mrs. Dot Jones by Logan & Nancy Smith, Donnie & Ann Ashworth, Mary, Pattie & Joseph Strickland, Jeanette Adams, Gary Adams, Stan & Sharon Gilstrap, Michael & Jennifer Lee and Hudson, Jerry & Zadie Gaines, and David & Jina Harris.

Sunday School for All Ages: Each Sunday morning at 10:00

Royston Baptist Church Family,

I hope you are doing well. I wanted to give a budget and finance update, as well as let you know about something new we will be doing this year on Sunday, December 20th.

The year 2020 has not been the easiest for the life of our church, but I think this year has been a true testament to the resiliency and love we all have for the Lord, and for this church; from finding our new pastor and his wonderful family, to finding a way to safely gather together for worship each week, and lastly for continuing to be a light in our community. I want to thank each and every one of you, from the bottom of my heart, who have helped our church navigate through these uncertain times. Your time, hard work, and most importantly, your prayers, have not gone unnoticed-they are all appreciated more than I can say.

When I started attending Royston Baptist Church the thing that stood out to me and that I loved the most about this church was that when there was a need in the church, the church body jumped in without hesitation and started to take care of that need. Well Royston Baptist church, we have a significant need! Our doors are open and the bills are being paid, but our giving is down drastically this year. As of November 30th, we are currently \$46,000.00 away from meeting this year’s budget. To put that into perspective the average month giving is a little over \$16,000.00 a month.

Through the great leadership and guidance from Matt, our church has big plans moving forward in reaching those in our community who are lost or looking for a church to call home. We will be adding a full time Family Life Pastor, we have plans to expand our children and youth areas, and we are hopeful that upgrades can take place to add to the worship experience of every single person who walks through our doors.

On Sunday, December 20th, we will be having our first White Christmas Tree Offering. Some of you may be familiar with this type of offering, but for those who are not; this will be a special offering that will be separate from the regular tithe(s) you give each month. Our goal for this White Christmas Tree Offering will be \$35,000.00. It is my hope that you will prayerfully consider what you and your family can give, so that this money can be used to further God’s Kingdom. That Sunday each family will pick up a gold envelope with a hook on it, you will place your special offering inside of that envelope and there will be a designate time during our service for you and/or your family to bring these gifts forward (socially distanced) and hang them on our tree. If you are not comfortable attending church yet but would like to participate in this please contact me, and I’ll make sure that you receive an envelope and I can pick those up or supply you with a return envelope for you to mail those back.

Lastly, I am asking that you will be in prayer with me for God to do unimaginable things and provide through the giving of His people. This is a substantial goal, but I have no doubt that Royston Baptist church can rise to the challenge and provide what our church specifically needs at this time.

Olivia M. Harris and the Budget & Finance Committee

Mission Opportunity

Many High School students cannot come to school feeling their best because they need toiletries(brushes, combs, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, toothpaste/toothbrush), underwear, socks, etc. We are coordinating with Community Resources to provide these items for the students. A receptacle will be in the hallway to receive your donations. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ!

Up next for Bereavement Meal:
Zadie Gaines’ Group

Look around each week and make a note of someone you miss seeing at church. Give them a call or send a card. It will make a difference.