

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

November Newsletter



Community Christmas

December 11 - 13

Community Christmas Market

December 11 - 13, 2025

We all know the joy of giving. It's what drives many of us to donate or volunteer during the holidays. However, charity often robs struggling families of that same joy. Rather than choosing gifts for local families, our Community Christmas market creates a space where families can shop for their own kids and buy gifts at about 70-90% off retail value. In addition to letting families help support the ministry and make it more sustainable for future years, this model also preserves the dignity of parents by letting them provide for their own children at a price point that works with their budget. Furthermore, every family meets with a staff member or volunteer who gets to know them and their unique gifts and needs, focusing on restoring relationships instead of mere consumerism.

Why Community Christmas?

Welcome to the new Share Your Christmas, or as we at Community Outreach Ministries like to call it, Community Christmas!

Community Christmas is about making parents the heroes of Christmas again. Parents will have the opportunity to shop for their children at a very reasonable cost—70% to 90% off retail. We ask parents to participate in purchasing gifts for their children, which serves three important purposes: it ensures that the child receives a gift they truly want, gives parents the satisfaction of knowing they personally selected their child's gift, and allows Community Christmas to continue for years to come.

For more information visit bolivarcom.org.

How can you help?

Volunteer

Heritage has offered to assist with child care while parents enjoy their time shopping at the Christmas Market. This three-day event will require significant manpower. The child care setup will resemble a Vacation Bible School (VBS), but with a festive Christmas theme!

This is a wonderful chance to reach out to the children and families of Bolivar, particularly those who may not have had the opportunity to hear the gospel.

*Childcare will be available for ages 0-18**, and we will need support in the following areas:

- Snacks
- Crafts
- Music
- Bible lessons for all ages
- Check In/Check Out
- Security

For additional information, please visit the bulletin board in the entryway!

Donate

We will be collecting stocking stuffers for the month of November for the Christmas Market! Stocking stuffers will need range for those aged 0-18.



Upcoming Events

November 2 - Daylight Savings Time Ends (Clocks fall back); Generations of Grace Women's Class Begins

November 8 - Donuts & Diapers for Amanda Bouling & Baby Elijah Bouling

November 16 - Veterans Recognition & Thanksgiving Dinner

November 27 - Thanksgiving Day

December 1 - Trail Life at Light the Park

December 2 - American Heritage Girls at Light the Park

December 6 - Christmas Parade at 5:30 pm followed by Christmas at Fellowship Park

December 7 - Christmas Caroling at 5:30 pm

December 9 - AHG & Trail Life Christmas Party 6 pm - 8 pm

December 11 - 13 - Community Christmas

December 14 - Christmas Dinner

December 21 - Candlelight Service at 5 pm

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: DAN STANLEY

For seven years, Dan Stanley has been a dedicated leader to the Trail Life troop, inspired simply "to help out the kids and share the Gospel." His favorite memory isn't about achievements, but about transformation, specifically "Watching them grow in Christ and get excited about accomplishing something." He recalls an impactful moment with a Trailman who struggled with reading and



writing but was able to master basic life skills through the program. To Dan, leading this ministry is personally significant, helping him realize he's part of "a bigger picture than I ever realized." He sees the program's faith integration as key, teaching the boys how to work together, believe in God, and realize they can "do more than they think they can."

Ultimately, Dan hopes the boys take away a strong spiritual foundation: "Reading scripture, teaching, working together not ourself but for God. This is God's troop." This focus on Christ, both in skill-building and spiritual growth, is why he wholeheartedly endorses the ministry to new families. His message to any parent considering getting their son involved is simple and firm: "Go for it. Highly recommend it." His leadership is a testament to the powerful, life-changing impact of Trail Life on both the boys and the adults who guide them. Thank you, Dan, for your service!

