

God Comes Near

DECEMBER 6, 2009

Prelude

Lord Most High

Pastoral Welcome

Scripture Reading

Processional

Jesus, Jesus, Welcome to Our World

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, Hymn 197

Advent Prayer

What Child is This, Hymn 180

Ministry Notes

Our Offerings

Born in Bethlehem, Worship Choir

My Strong, Gentle Servant Jesus

John Casey • Isaiah 42:1-9

Communion

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, Hymn 166

Jesus, Name Above All Names

Closing Prayer

Postlude

BLANCHARD ALLIANCE CHURCH

1766 S. Blanchard, Wheaton, IL 60189 and
30W251 Butterfield Rd., Warrenville IL 60555
630.653.1555 • FAX 630.665.2299

www.blanchardalliance.org • mail@blanchardalliance.org

OUR MISSION

Forming a people through Christ
to glorify Him everywhere.

OUR LEADERS

Governing Board

Brian Baird, *Elder* • *Al Huizinga, *Chairman/Elder*

*Tim Johnson, *Elder* • *Pete Leonard, *Elder*

Dave Sparkman, *Elder* • Fred VanDyke, *Elder*

Janet Gidding, *Secretary*

Marc Krohn, *Treasurer*

Joan Rieck, *Member at Large*

Sue Roman, *Member at Large*

Ron Morgan, *Financial Secretary*

Pastoral Team

Cheryl Baird, *Women's Ministries Director*

Andy Brumbach, *Small Groups Director*

*John Casey, *Senior Pastor*

*James Grout, *Student Ministries Pastor & Teaching Pastor*

Brad Jones, *Minister of Music*

Jeff Kamphausen, *Warrenville Campus Pastor*

*Ron Mangin, *Wheaton Campus Pastor & Discipleship Pastor*

Mary Ellen Slefinger, *Early Childhood Ministries Director*

Brian Stoffer, *Junior High Ministries Director*

Sarah VanOss, *Children's & Family Ministries Director*

**Catalyst Team members, leading changes
according to our purpose, values, and vision*

WELCOME TO BLANCHARD

We are one church with two congregations in Wheaton and Warrenville, being formed as God's own people and revealing God's grace and truth to people in our lives. Welcome! We are glad that you are here.

OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Early Childhood: Care for babies and classes for two through four year olds is offered during both ministry hours.

Kid's Community offers ministry for K-5th grade children. At 9:00, Kid's Exploration provides a hands-on look at God's Word. At 10:45, Kid's Celebration teaches children to worship in fresh and creative ways.

Student Classes: Our classes for students meet during the 9:00 ministry hour; sixth graders meet at the Blanchard House; junior high students and high school students are currently meeting together in the Foundation Room.

Adult Bible Communities: Our Adult Bible Communities (ABCs) are Sunday morning gatherings of people desiring to grow and learn more about how God's Word applies to our daily lives. For a listing of communities that are currently meeting, please visit the Welcome Center in the foyer.

BLANCHARD'S TEACHING PLANS

	Wheaton	Warrenville
Today	John Casey <i>Isaiah 42:1-9</i>	Skye Jethani <i>Luke 1:26-38</i>
December 13	Ron Mangin <i>Isaiah 42:1-9</i>	Jeff Kamphausen <i>Luke 1:39-56</i>
December 20	John Casey <i>Isaiah 50:1-11</i>	James Grout <i>Luke 1:57-80</i>

Praising God Who Comes Near

DECEMBER 6, 2009

Prelude

Come and See

Welcome & Ministry Notes
Jeff Kamphausen

Advent Processional & Prayer
Come Lord Jesus

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Christmas Offering

Our Offerings
All the World Was Waiting

Mary the Subversive
Skye Jethani • Luke 1:26-38

Immanuel

Communion
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Joy to the World

Closing Prayer

Postlude

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Early Childhood: Care for babies and classes for two through four year olds is offered during both ministry hours.

Kid's Community offers ministry for Kindergarten-5th grade children. At 9:30, Kid's Exploration provides a hands-on look at God's Word. At 10:45, children join the congregation for worship. They are dismissed to Kid's Celebration during the sermon. The children participate in activities which equip them to engage in corporate worship.

Student Classes: Middle School and High School students meet together at 9:30 A.M. in the Student Ministries room (upstairs).

Adult Bible Communities: Our Adult Bible Communities (ABCs) are Sunday morning gatherings of people desiring to grow and learn more about how God's Word applies to our daily lives. Join us at 9:30 A.M. for *Spanish 101*, led by Phyllis Mitchell, or *The Beatitudes*, led by Dan Wisley.

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PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYING TOGETHER

Let's pray for these concerns:

- Pray for missionaries Terri and Todd A as they head to France for an exploratory visit to determine their future assignment.
- Continue to pray for the many unemployed in our congregation. Ask that God would not only provide jobs but a deep sense of His presence this Advent season.
- Pray for those tutoring students from Lincoln and Johnson schools, that they may make learning enjoyable and be Christ to the students.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blue Christmas Service	December 6
Men's Breakfast	December 12
PerSisters	December 17
Christmas Eve Services	December 24
[<i>Wheaton 4:00 & 6:00 P.M. Warrenville 4:00 P.M.</i>]	
Albany Park Soup Kitchen	December 27

BLANCHARD NEWS

A WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

We're glad that you chose to visit us this morning. Our prayer each week is that people attending would meet God. Tell us about your experience at Blanchard by dropping in at the Welcome Center after the service.

LISTENING TO GOD TOGETHER

Blanchard leaders want to establish a rhythm of meeting with God's people to hear Him together and want to get started this Sunday evening, December 6, at 6:00 P.M. in our Warrenville building. In our ninety minutes together, we will read scripture, pray, and listen to God and to one another. With the short notice, come if you can. We have tentatively scheduled our next gathering on Saturday, January 9.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Some people dread the approach of the holiday season because of loneliness, or the loss of a loved one, job, or relationship. In a service of comfort and rest, we acknowledge that pain and sadness and move toward hope. Join us on Sunday, December 6: contemplative music will begin at 5:30 P.M., and the service will be from 6:00-7:00 P.M. in the lower level at Blanchard Wheaton. For more information, please contact Linda Putnam, If you'd like to invite a friend to the service, invitation cards are available at the Welcome Center in the foyer.

ADVENT ORCHESTRA

Adults and youth instrumentalists are invited to participate in the Advent Orchestra in Wheaton on December 20th. Players of strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion instruments should have at least 2 years music reading and playing experience. Sign up in the foyer, online, or contact Brian Reichenbach with any questions.

WARRENVILLE CHRISTMAS CHOIR

If you like to sing, join our choir during the Christmas season for worship at the Warrenville site on December 20th and 24th. We'll be practicing Wednesday evenings at 7:00 P.M. at Blanchard Wheaton. If you're interested, contact Larry Griffith.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

All men and boys are encouraged to attend our monthly Men's Breakfast, to be held at Blanchard Wheaton on Saturday, December 12 at 7:30 A.M. Our speaker this month is Ray Redelman. The cost is \$3/person. Hope to see you there!

ADVENT PODCASTS

One way to prepare your heart in the Advent season is to listen daily to Blanchard's Advent podcasts, which include daily scripture readings and testimonies of someone's faith story or how he or she is seeing God at work today. You'll be both encouraged and inspired. You can either subscribe to the podcasts through iTunes or listen to them online at our web site – follow the link on our home page for instructions.

SAYING "YES" TO GOD IN ADVENT

God invites us to meet with Him during this season. Accept that invitation. Say "yes" to God all through Advent by slowing down, finishing other preparations in a timely way, and being with Him. Advent Scripture Reading Guides are available in the foyer – pick one up this morning and join the church body in hearing from God together.

BLANCHARD ENCOURAGERS

Blanchard attenders 55 and better, you're invited to our Christmas Celebration, Friday, December 11 from 5:30 to 8:30 P.M. at Clara Moore's home. The Jones family will lead in a Christmas Music Fest. Dinner provided. Bring a salad or dessert to share. RSVP to Myrna Stinnette by Wednesday, December 9.

URBANA 09

Join thousands of students and young professionals at Urbana '09, the largest missions convocation held in North America. The dates are December 27-31 in St. Louis. For more information visit www.urbana09.org. The Missions Committee does have some scholarship funding to make available. Contact Peter Yee for assistance.

CASUAL COMMUNITY DINNERS

Beginning this January there will be a series of casual dinners organized for the purpose of connecting with one another. You will be invited to host a dinner on an evening of your choice and people can sign up for the evening that works best for their schedules. More details will follow soon.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BLESSING 80 WHEATON/WARRENVILLE FAMILIES

We need lots of help during the week of Christmas Sharing (December 7-12) for donation pick-ups, organizing the Blanchard Warrenville space and staffing for the Friday-Saturday event as we prepare to bless as many as 80 needy families with clothing, toys, grocery cards-even a frozen turkey! Final sign-up opportunity at both campuses this coming Sunday.

SERVE THROUGH A BLANCHARD

ADVENT PROJECT – OR ONE OF YOUR OWN!

Consider being Christ through your service this Advent, with the people of Blanchard and on your own in your neighborhood and workplace. We have a number of projects together at Blanchard this year: purchasing Angel Tree presents (gifts for families of those in prison), gifts for our missionaries, giving blood, serving a neighbor through your small group, as well as Christmas Sharing at our Warrenville campus. Information on each of these projects will be available in our foyer starting this Sunday.

DRIVER NEEDED

Our Wednesday afternoon tutoring program needs a van driver from 4:00-6:00 P.M. to pick up nine students from our immediate vicinity. If you can help for two months, contact Heather Britton.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

ECHO – THE STORY OF GOD

The Stand and The Edge are joining together throughout this and next semester to go through *The Story of God*. For this special class we meet in the Jubilee Room (below the sanctuary).

THE EDGE - SENIOR HIGH MINISTRIES

Leader's Meeting – Thursday, December 10

Students have the night off as our leaders meet for training, planning and prayer. Leaders, please meet in the Foundation Room at 7:00 P.M.

Shop 'Til You Drop, December 12

Our annual shopping trip to Chicago gives you a chance to purchase an Angel Tree gift, get your own shopping done early, or just spend a relaxing day downtown with your friends. Details are available on the Blanchard web site under Senior High Ministries/Special Events.

THE STAND - JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRIES

The STAND – Wednesday, December 9

Our junior high group meets this Wednesday night for large group fun and small group discussion from 7:00-8:45 P.M.