

God Comes Near

DECEMBER 13, 2009

Prelude

Angels We Have Heard on High, Hymn 192

Pastoral Welcome

Scripture Reading

Processional

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne, Hymn 170

Advent Prayer

Of the Father's Love Begotten, Hymn 172

Offering of Worship

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

Ministry Notes

Our Offerings

Jesus is Born, Prince of Peace, Children's Choir

Message

Ron Mangin • Isaiah 49:1-13

Go Tell it on the Mountain, Hymn 205

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.

Please note that from December 20-January 3, our classes for children, students, and adults will not meet.

BLANCHARD'S TEACHING PLANS

	Wheaton	Warrenville
Today	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>
December 24	John Casey	Jeff Kamphausen <i>Luke 2:1-20</i>

Praising God Who Comes Near

DECEMBER 13, 2009

Prelude

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Welcome & Ministry Notes
Jeff Kamphausen

Advent Processional & Prayer
Come Lord Jesus

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Offering of Worhsip

Christmas Offering

Our Offerings

Jesus is Born, Prince of Peace, Children's Choir

This is What it's Like to be Remembered

Jeff Kamphausen • Luke 1:39-56

Breath of Heaven

Grace Frank

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Closing Prayer

Postlude

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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 our International Workers who will be leaving soon for overseas assignments.
- Pray for the 600 families who received assistance and care through Christmas Sharing this past Friday and Saturday at Blanchard Warrenville and five other churches. Pray for God to open doors for the gospel to continue to be shared through us in word and deed in the year ahead.
- Pray for God to rule as fifteen Blanchard small groups use Deacons' Matching Grants to serve those in need in our community this Advent.

UPCOMING EVENTS

PerSisters	December 17
The EDGE Christmas Coffeeshouse	December 18
Christmas Eve Services [<i>Wheaton 4:00 & 6:00 P.M. Warrenville 4:00 P.M.</i>]	December 24
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.

ADVENT PODCASTS

One way to prepare your heart in the Advent season is to listen 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.

DONATING THE GIFT OF BLOOD

LifeSource is at our Wheaton campus today ready to receive your blood donations. Head to the Cornerstone Room at any time between 8:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M. to give the gift of life – walk-ins are encouraged!

CHRISTMAS EVE AT BLANCHARD

In Wheaton, we will have Christmas Eve services at 4:00 and 6:00 P.M. Begin now to invite neighbors and friends to join you and use this service as a way to ponder Christ together. If possible, attend the 6:00 P.M. service where there tends to be more room. In Warrenville, we will have our service at 4:00 P.M., another wonderful opportunity to bless friends spiritually in this season.

MISSIONARY GIFT OPPORTUNITIES

Blanchard has exceptional missionary families serving around the globe. You are invited to express appreciation for their commitment and service by purchasing a gift of their choice and sending it overseas. Check out the listings in the foyer this Sunday.

2010 DIRECTORY

We are working on the 2010 Blanchard directory. Our current information has been posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the Cornerstone Room in Wheaton, and in the foyer in Warrenville. Please make sure that your address, phone number and spelling are correct, and make any necessary corrections. If the information is correct, initial next to your name. If your info is missing, please add it on the sheet provided.

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 (petyee@juno.com) 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.

WORSHIP PAGE FOR CHILDREN

Did you know? There are pages available at the Welcome Center in the foyer for children who attend the worship service with their parents. They contain questions and activities to help them connect with the message. Stop by and pick one up for your child this morning!

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

SERVING ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Please consider serving parents of wee ones by volunteering to provide child care in an Early Childhood classroom this Christmas Eve. Wheaton will host services at 4:00 and 6:00 P.M. and Warrenville's service will begin at 4:00 P.M. Sign ups to serve will be at the Early Childhood sign-in desks at both campuses. This is a wonderful opportunity for college kids, empty nesters and families to serve. Also, we'll provide a light dinner in between services for volunteers at Wheaton. If you'd like to help with food, sign-up in Wheaton or call Raechel Richmond for details.

INNER-CITY SOUP KITCHEN

The needs of the homeless are daily but we try to step in once a month to provide them a hot meal. You can bless those in need by either serving food on Sunday afternoon, December 27 or by preparing food to be shared. Contact Anita Sanchez for more information, or sign up at the Welcome Center.

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.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Recently, a team of 35 people from Blanchard, along with our neighboring friends, met at Feed My Starving Children to pack meals. We were joined by two other groups from Batavia and Citibank. In less than two hours, we packed 25,920 meals, which will feed 72 kids for an entire year! That's the number of children in one orphanage in Haiti! We are so excited to be serving together and inviting our neighbors to join us as we help feed starving children around the world. We hope you will consider joining us next time we serve, on January 19, 2010.

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

SWAT Teams - Thursday, December 17

This Thursday, December 17, is our final SWAT Team meeting of the year. If you don't know where or when your team is meeting, please contact James Grout in the Student Ministries Office.

Christmas Coffeeshouse and Acoustic Cafe

Join us for our annual Christmas Coffeeshouse on Friday, December 18 – a casual night with specialty coffee drinks, live music (from people you know), and a lot of time to just sit and hang out with friends. Doors open at 7:00 P.M., and stay open until 10:00 P.M. There is no cost and all of your friends are welcome.

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.