



Beth. Star Lighting set for December 3

The traditional Bethlehem Star Lighting will resume on December 3, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the stage near the Pavilion on the west side of Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church. The first segment of the Star Lighting will highlight performances of the Alexander Central High School Jazz Band and a selection of Christmas music by the Alexander Central High School Chorus.

Following this segment of the night's activities, attendees will be invited to move to the area under the Bethlehem Star. Members of Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church will lead the program. Pastor Dale Bost will read from the scripture about the Bethlehem Star. In 2022, the star will be lit by a representative group of Bethlehem pastors' wives.

Other activities in this area will include a live nativity scene under the star manned by adults and children from Mt. Bethel Church. Boy Scout Troop 275 will serve hot chocolate and cookies. They will also tend bonfires in the area near the Star. Bethlehem Brownie Scouts will distribute bulletins. The Bethlehem Fire Department, Alexander

County Sheriff's Department, and Law Enforcement Explorers will assist with traffic control and parking. Special parking for handicapped visitors will be coordinated by Law Enforcement Explorers.

The local girl scouts will sponsor a craft fair in Celebration Hall of Mt. Pisgah from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m.

2022 Bethlehem Star wooden carved and engraved Christmas gift ornaments will be available for \$20.00. Proceeds will be used to fund the operation of the Star, paid entertainment, and support community youth groups performing and assisting during the Star Lighting night. Ten percent of all funds will be given to the Bethlehem Ministerial Benevolence Fund.

We look forward to lighting the star on December 3. Driving North in the dark on NC Highway 127 and seeing the shining Bethlehem Star provides a feeling of light and love that impact one's spirit and hope.

Pastors' Wives to Light Star in 2022

The Bethlehem Star will be lit this year by a representative group of wives of ministers in the

Bethlehem Community. The Bethlehem Star Committee believes that the wives of pastors serve as the often unsung heroines of individual churches. Pastors serve as the spiritual leaders; planners and organizers of church activities; as counselors for those experiencing grief, health issues, and spiritual issues; and the myriad other expectations. The pastoral role can be challenging, lonely, exciting, frustrating, and yet very satisfying. The success of a pastor's church role is directly impacted by having a "special someone" to assist and fulfill God's calling for their "special work" or ministry. The representative group of pastor wives from the Bethlehem Community expected to attend include Stephanie Chambers (Dean), Dawn Bowman (Neil), Laura Stone (Mike), Hannah Bost (Dale), Shirley Ross (David), Patricia Honeycutt (Billy), and Jennifer Carter (Brett). Others will attend as schedules allow.

The Bethlehem Star Committee felt that pastors' wives deserve recognition for all they have done in support of their husbands. The pandemic years have been especially trying for both pastors and their wives. The symbolism of lighting the star is indictive of their major role in the spiritual well-being of the Bethlehem Community. *

"Scouting for Food" drive is November 19

The Alexander County Boy Scouts/leaders will be running a Scouting for Food Drive to collect food for the local food banks here in the county this Saturday, Nov. 19, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Lowes Foods in Bethlehem.

Receiving agencies are: Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church and the Christian Crisis Center.

Items needed are: applesauce, baking supplies, BBQ Sauce, canned beans, cake mixes, canned fruits, canned meats, canned soup, canned pasta, canned tomatoes, canned veggies, cereal, coffee, cookies, cooking oil, crackers, fruit snacks, granola bars, jelly, juices, ketchup, mashed potatoes, mayonnaise, pancake mix, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, ramen noodles, rice, salt and pepper, spices, sugar, syrup, tea bags, tomato sauce, and tuna fish.

Scouts cannot accept any homemade goods or opened products. They will accept pet food and pet snacks. *

Christmas activities in Bethlehem

The Bethlehem Star Lighting is not the only activity during December in the community of Bethlehem. Other activities allow visitors to hear and see the meaning surrounding the birth of Jesus, attend a craft fair, and stamp Christmas cards at the Bethlehem, NC post office, view a Christmas Boat Parade, and see a representation of the Christmas story.

Christmas Drive-Thru set December 9-11

For the 21st year, the Bethlehem Christmas Drive Thru is set for the December 9-11 from 6:30-9:00 on the campus of Fellowship Advent Christian Church in the Bethlehem Community. Located on Fellowship Church Road in Taylorsville, approximately 40 scenes will be staffed by at least 60 volunteers from several churches in Bethlehem. During several years, over 2,000 people have attended the event.

Visitors will begin their journey in the Old Testament with Isaiah's prophecy, scenes from Herod's Temple, Mary and Martha, a census booth, a biblical village with replicas of a blacksmith shop and bakery, a live Nativity scene, and scenes after the birth. The whole experience is lit by bon fires throughout the pageant.

Visitors are provided access to period costumes and allowed to walk through the scenes. An FM transmitter has been used to allow visitors to hear a special narration of their radios as they move through the various scenes. The program is just another example of the churches of Bethlehem pulling together to provide a special gift to visitors this Christmas season.

Bethlehem Stamp for Christmas Cards

For years, Bethlehem Post Office has allowed customers to use the Bethlehem, NC stamp to imprint the back of their Christmas cards and other mailings. The post office is located opposite the Bethlehem Shopping Center at the second stop light after crossing the Highway 127 bridge.

Christmas Craft Fair

The local Girl Scout troop sponsors a craft fair in Celebration Hall on the campus of Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 3, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Entrance is through the narthex on the North side of the church.

Christmas Boat Parade is December 10

A Christmas Boat Parade is scheduled for Saturday, December 10, beginning at 6:00 p.m. near the Highway 127 Bridge in Bethlehem. Rain date is December 11. Dozens of boaters decorate pontoon boats and provide multicolored lights for the enjoyment of visitors. The parade, coordinated by Lake Hickory Adventures, will host children from the South Mountain Children and Family Services and Santa Claus on the lead boat. This is a non-ticketed event available to the pub-

lic at various viewing locations along Lake Hickory. Donations will be accepted at www.southmountain.org/contact/donate/.

The parade will proceed westward to conclude around 8 p.m. after passing under the U.S. 321 bridge. All times are approximate because travel times for the flotilla along the lake can vary. Participating boaters should rally at Lakeside Marina in Bethlehem before 6 p.m., then line up behind the "big boat" to follow single file for the parade. Boats will travel close to shore at several viewing locations.

Spectators can enjoy the parade from various viewing locations:

- 6 p.m. at Lakeside Marina (81 Marina Drive, Hickory) at the N.C. 127 bridge.
- 6:30 Wittenburg Access Parking area. Note: the fishing point is closed because of construction.
- 6:45 p.m., Moore's Ferry dock area (250 44th Avenue Circle NW, Hickory)
- 7:15 p.m., Lovelady Wildlife Area (6162 Rocky Mount Road, Granite Falls)
- 7:45 p.m., Rotary-Geitner Park, (2035 12th Street Drive, NW, Hickory)
- 8 p.m., parking lot of the former Food Factory Restaurant (5251 Hickory Blvd, Hickory) at the U.S. 321 bridge. *



CHRISTMAS BOAT REGATTA — Several boats took to Lake Hickory last December for the Lake Hickory Christmas Boat Regatta. This year's event is Dec. 10.

Businesses have until Dec. 1 to re-file old Assumed Business Names

The Alexander County Register of Deeds (RoD), Scott H. Hines, records Assumed Business Name (ABN) documents in his office for county businesses or anyone wishing to record ABN's. Some know the Assumed Business Name as "doing business as" or DBA. It is a fictitious name that a company may want to be known as, or do business as.

Local business owners should know about upcoming deadlines associated with the Assumed Business Name process in North Carolina. Register Hines reports that all Assumed Business Name filings before December 1, 2017 will automatically expire on December 1, 2022, based on the Assumed Business Name Act (Chapter 66, Article 14A) (NC G.S. § 66-71.15).

Businesses wishing to renew their ABN's must

record new Assumed Business Name (ABN) filings in the Register of Deeds office by December 1; otherwise, their old certificates will not be effective after that date, according to Register Hines.

"There are about 50 days or about 7 weeks before old ABN certificates recorded prior to December 1, 2017, will automatically expire," according to Hines.

Hines explains that the new process has some positive advantages over the old ABN process. For instance, the newly filed certificates do not expire. They remain effective until they are withdrawn and are on record in the Register of Deeds office. In the past, businesses had to record ABN's individually in each county. The new form allows businesses to apply their assumed name(s) in multiple counties or throughout all 100 NC counties by one check mark on the form and a single recording. The Alexander RoD office informs the NC Secretary of State's office of the filing for inclusion into a statewide online database searchable for all

100 counties.

New ABN Process Advantages are:

- It allows filers to designate up to five (5) assumed business names on one (1) form
- ABN Document no longer has to be notarized
- One filing is effective statewide and searchable in an online database
- Sole Proprietors, Corps, Limited Liability Company, and Partnerships now use the same form

If you would like more information about the Assumed Business Name process, please contact the RoD office during business hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday, or call the Register of Deeds office at (828) 632-3152. Alternatively, use the following links and resources for additional information:

To search RoD public records online visit: <https://www.alexandercountync.gov/rod/index.php> and click on "Search Online Records."

Assumed Business Names forms: <https://edpnc.com/start-or-grow-a-business/start-a-business/business-forms/>. *

Special 50th Anniversary edition of The Star planned

The first edition of The Bethlehem Star publication was in December 1972, and next month will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the newspaper. A special edition of the Star will be printed for December 2022 to commemorate this milestone.

Any current or former Bethlehem resident or business owner is welcome to write to us and share their favorite or most cherished story from the past fifty years of *The Bethlehem Star* publication. Tell us when the article or photo was published and why it's important to you. The deadline to receive these remembrances is Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022.

Letters may be mailed to: **The Bethlehem Star**, P.O. Box 279, Taylorsville, NC 28681, or e-mailed to news@taylorsvilletimes.com.

Next Star prints Dec. 15

The next issue of *The Bethlehem Star* will be printed on Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022. The deadline for advertising and correspondence is Monday, Dec. 12, 2022, before 5 p.m.