

THE
CONNECTION

CHURCH ON THE DRIVE NEWS

December, 2017

Join us for
Christmas
Eve



Candlelight & Carols

**Christmas Eve Services:
10:15 a.m., 5:00 & 11:00 p.m.**

Schedule for Sunday, December 24

8:30 a.m. - Living Water Café Opens
Library Opens

9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Community Groups

10:15 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary)

3:30 p.m. - Cookies, Cocoa, & Nativity Viewing (Fellowship Hall)

5:00 p.m. - Candlelight & Carols Christmas Service (Sanctuary)

6:00 p.m. - Cookies, Cocoa, & Nativity Viewing (Fellowship Hall)

11:00 p.m. - Candlelight & Carols Christmas Service (CLC)

Operation Christmas Child Trip to Atlanta

Please pray for the people who are at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Atlanta, helping to sort, inspect, package, and ship millions of shoe boxes all over the world. They will return from the trip on Saturday, December 2.

Sonshine Kids

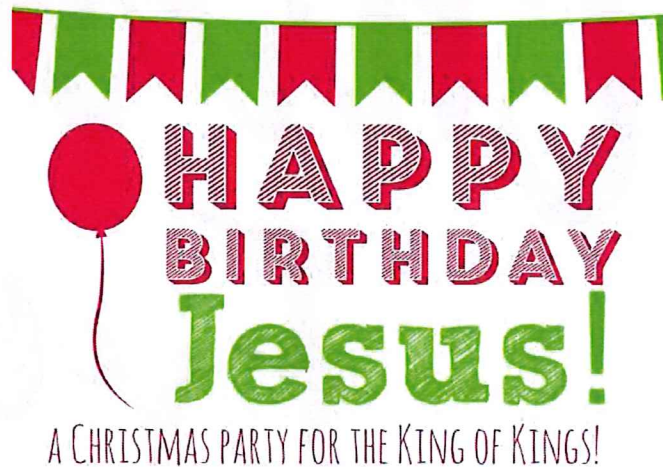
Crystal Holic

Contact: cholic@churchonthedrive.org

Happy Birthday, Jesus!

A Christmas Party
for the King of Kings
Friday, December 22, 9:00 a.m. -
12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Kids of all ages - come and celebrate Jesus' birthday with us. It's FREE for kids who bring an adult; \$10.00 per kid otherwise. (So, yes, children can be dropped off so you can get your last minute shopping done!)



There will be games, crafts, and activities that take us back to Jesus' birthday. Lunch will be provided. You must RSVP by Tuesday, December 19, by emailing Crystal at cholic@churchonthedrive.org.



PASSPORTkids 2018

For current 3rd-5th graders
June 10-13, 2018 at Stetson
University in DeLand
Cost: Approx. \$350 per child

Interested? There will be 2 info
meetings early next year:

Wednesday, January 10 at 6:30
pm &
Sunday, January 14, at 11:30
am.

Both meetings are in the
Community Room.
Mark your calendars now!

Weekly Family Story Time
Every Friday at 10:30 am
In the Library



**Sunshine Kids Wednesday
Night Schedule**

Faith Foundations, 6:15 -7:15
p.m.,
Community Room

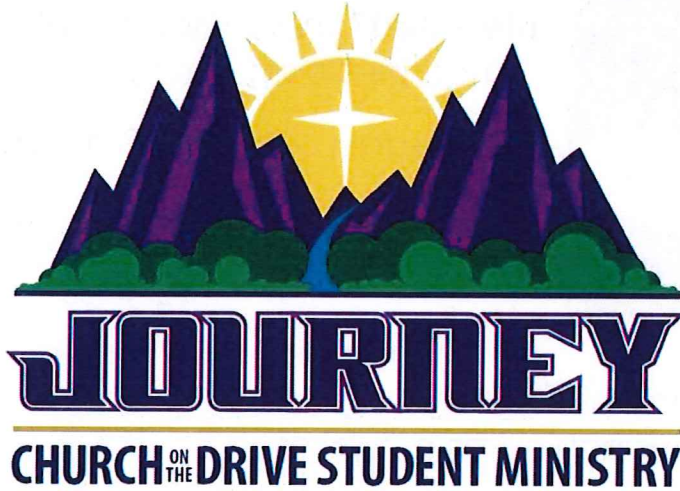
Join us as we prepare for our
Christmas presentation on
December 20.

(For Kids PreK4-5th Grade; Childcare Provided for Kids Ages 3 & Under)

Student Ministry

Rev. Josh Plant

Contact: jplant@churchonthedrive.org



Journey Sunday Night Schedule

Worship, Fellowship, Gym
Time, and more, on
Sundays, 5:30 - 7:30
p.m. All students in grades
6 - 12 are welcome!

Contact [Josh Plant](#) for more
information.



breakfast club

Middle School Breakfast Club

Thursday, December 7 at 8:00 am

Meet at Einstein's in College Park

Contact [Josh Plant](#) for more information.

Senior Adults

Debbie Hairel

Contact: dhairel@churchonthedrive.org



Christmas Lights Tour & Dinner

Tuesday, December 5
Meet at COTD at 4:30 pm

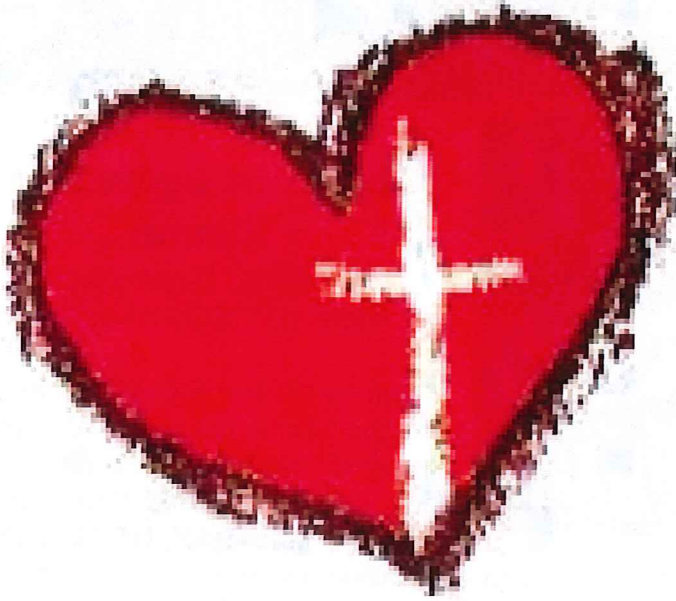
Join us on our annual tour to see beautiful Christmas lights! We will also have dinner together while we are out. **CONTACT THE CHURCH TO RSVP BY MONDAY, DECEMBER** so

we can reserve your place in the vans and make reservations for dinner.

Senior Adult Christmas Reception

Saturday, December 9
11:30 am - 1:00 pm in the
Fellowship Hall





Young at Heart
Thursday,
December 14
Meet in the
Fellowship Hall at
10:30 a.m.

Women's Ministry

Crystal Holic

Contact: cholic@churchonthedrive.org



Mom to Mom

We will only meet once
this month,

Wednesday, December 6, at 6:15 pm

Community

Crystal Holic

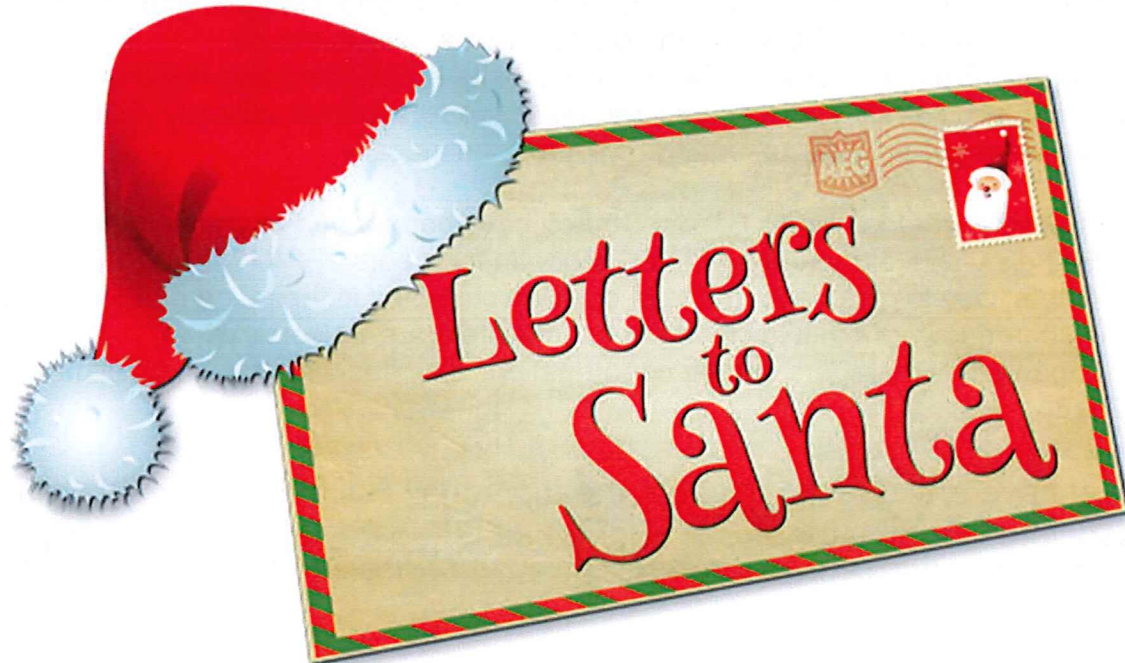
Contact: cholic@churchonthedrive.org



**Holiday
on the
Drive**
Thursday,

December 7
5:00-9:00 pm
Along Edgewater Drive

Volunteers needed:
4:00-9:30 pm
Contact Crystal Holic
cholic@churchonthedrive.org

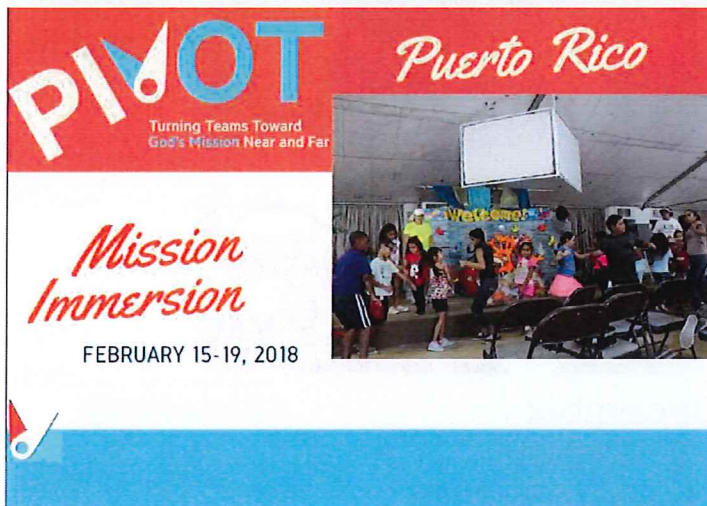


Letters to Santa
Thursday, December 14, 6:00-7:30 pm., Albert Park
Volunteers needed, 5:30-8:30 pm
Contact Crystal Holic at cholic@churchonthedrive.org

Missions/Outreach

Crystal Holic

Contact: cholic@churchonthedrive.org



**PIVOT Puerto Rico: A
Disaster Recovery Trip
February 15 - 19, 2018
Cost: \$300 plus air travel**

On February 15-19, 2018, CBF Florida and CBF Global will partner with Jesus Garcia of Metropolis Baptist Church in Carolina, Puerto Rico, to lead a group of adults in the PIVOT experience in Puerto Rico as

scheduled but not as planned. The recent hurricane devastation requires that we be good, adaptable missionaries, so this endeavor will include disaster recovery. Two full days of the trip will be dedicated to working in homes and churches affected by Hurricane Maria.

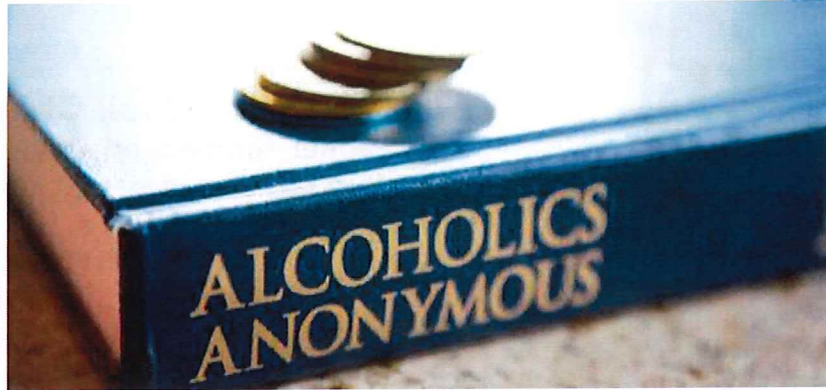
During this trip we will work, study, live, rest, pray, and worship alongside our brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico. Expect your traditional thoughts and beliefs about God's mission in the world and our role in that mission to be challenged. From the mission preparation, on-site experience, and pivoting back home, this experience will help train and equip leaders to think critically about mission engagement internationally, regionally, and locally.

Jesus Garcia and Metropolis Baptist Church have been a part of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Florida and the Caribbean for years. PIVOT: Puerto Rico is a meaningful way to give back to one of our own churches in their time of need. This trip is geared toward adult lay leaders, but ministers are welcome when accompanied by members of their congregation. The deadline to sign up in January 5, 2018.

If you have any questions about the trip, email Rachel Gunter Shapard, Associate Coordinator of CBF Florida, at rshapard12@floridacbf.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Every Monday
7:00 pm
Room 302



English Classes

Every Wednesday
6:00-8:00 pm
Room 302

Music Ministry

Edith Marlo Wright

Contact: emwright@churchonthedrive.org

Children's Choir

Children's Choir rehearses each Sunday after worship until 1:00 pm. Lunch is provided. This is for 2nd-6th graders with unchanged voices. Interested in joining? We are adding more voices in January 2018.

**Info meeting on Sunday,
December 3 at 5:00pm.**





Adult Choir Christmas Musical
Hope! - composed and arranged by Joel Raney
Sunday, December 10, during morning worship.

This musical tells the story of Christ's birth through 6 choral anthems, each presented in gospel style. There is original music, but there are also plenty of familiar carols! Don't miss your chance to enjoy this new cantata!

Life of the Church

Church Office

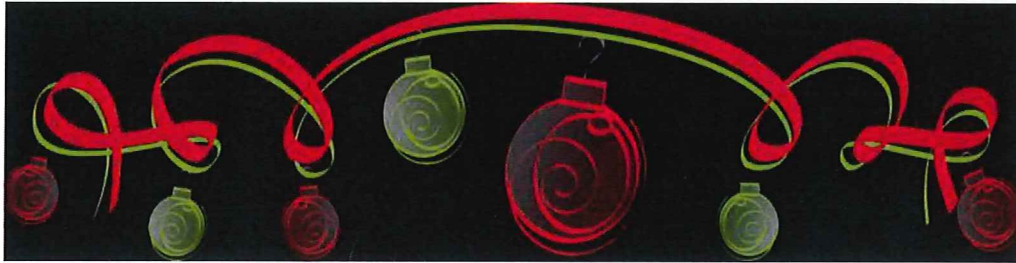
Contact: btstern@churchonthedrive.org

welcome
to our newest members!



Pat Davis

**Church Council Advisory
Team and Church Council Meetings
have been cancelled for the month of December**



Christmas Parties at COTD

Friday, December 8, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Prayer Warriors & Wise Old Men Community Group

Saturday, December 9, 11:30 a.m.,
Senior Adult Christmas Reception

Saturday, December 16, 6:00 p.m., Diane Stanton's Home
Sandwich & Commissioner Community Group

Sunday, December 17
Students - A Very Classy Christmas

Friday, December 22, 8:00 a.m.
Kids - Happy Birthday Jesus! Party



A Note of Gratitude

As you probably know by now, Cynthia McInvale, Minister of Business Administration has accepted a job with Z Radio. We want to take this chance to thank her for her 19 years of ministry to Church on the Drive. Her presence in the office will surely be missed! We want to wish her the best of luck in her new journey!

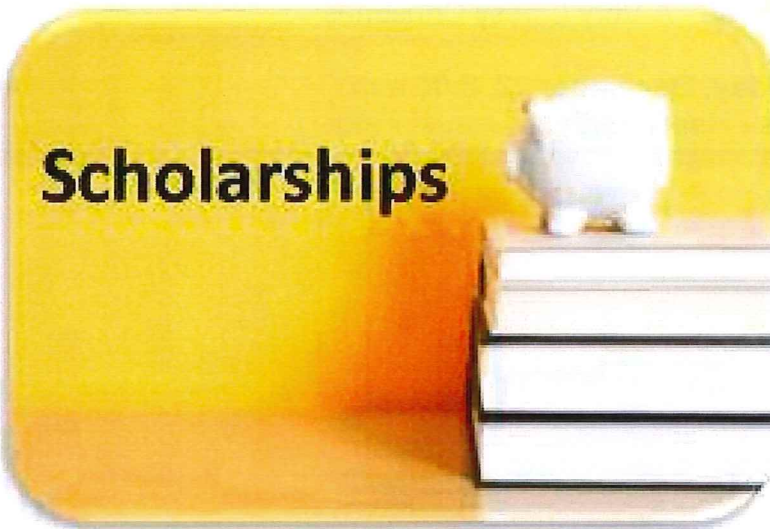
Cheers! at Ollie's

2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 pm
at
Ollie's on Edgewater Dr. (in front
of EHS)

Dive into topics that impact our faith!



Scholarships



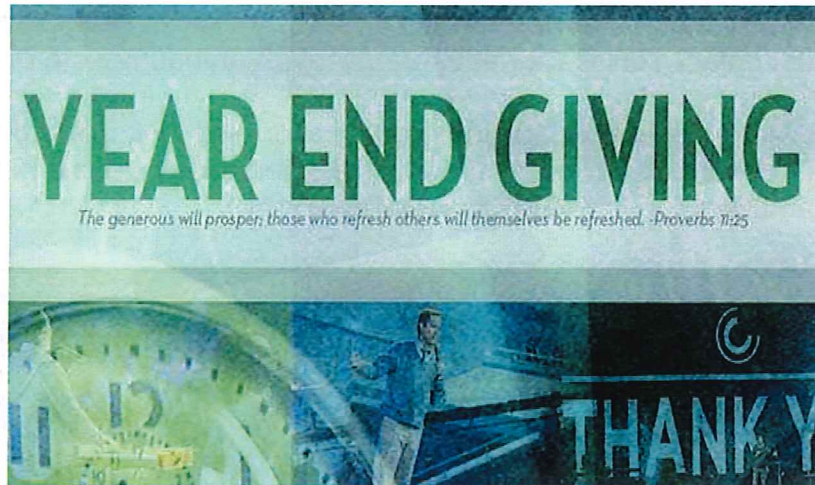
Scholarship Applications

Scholarship Applications for college & graduate school students for Spring 2018 are available in the church office or by email. Completed applications must be returned by 11:30 a.m., on Sunday, December 10, 2017 for consideration. Contact

Cynthia McInvale at mcinvale@churchonthedrive.org with questions.

Giving to COTD

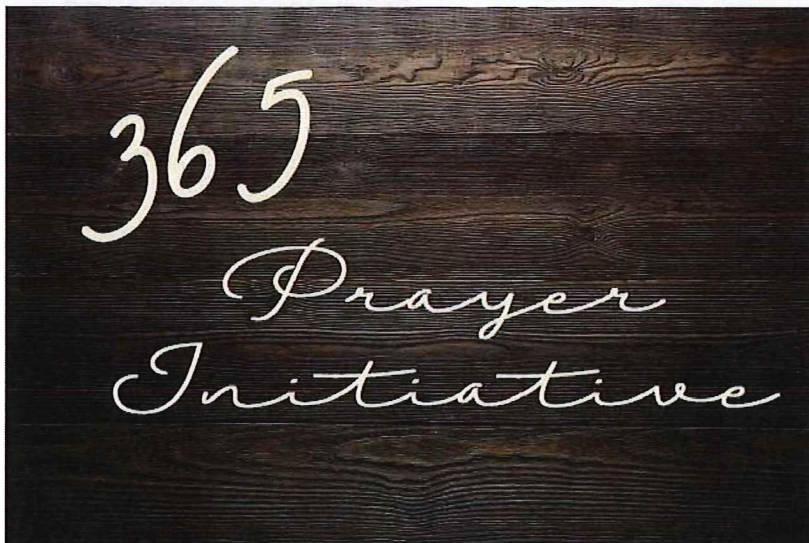
Please prayerfully consider your financial gift to the church budget as 2017 comes to a close. Contributions must be received in the church office by 11:30 a.m., on Sunday, December 31, or postmarked no later than December 31 for credit on your 2017 giving records.



WAYS TO GIVE:

1. Online at churchonthedrive.org. (If possible, please add the 2.3% + .35 processing fee the church is charged for this giving option. You will receive credit for the entire amount you give.)
2. Through your personal online banking; set-up the church as a biller and your bank mails a check to the church. No cost to the church.
3. Mail a check to the church.
4. Place cash or check in the offering plate.

May God bless your gifts as we reach out into our community and beyond!



365 Prayer Initiative

The Prayer Team would like to invite the whole church to join us in praying for Church on the Drive (COTD).

Don't worry, you will do this individually, at home or wherever you like. The goal is to have every day of the year covered by at least one person praying for COTD. You pick when you want to pray, provide your email address and your preferred reminder type. Toni Carter will email the list to you the night before and send a reminder (text, email or phone). You pray when you want, one time or multiple times during that 24 hour day.

Please sign up after Sunday Worship by Prayer Team banner, in Community Group, or contact Toni Carter at tcarter@churchonthedrive.org or 407.721.4259.

We greatly appreciate your participation and look forward to the awesome things God will do at Church on the Drive when all His people here are praying. Thank you and God Bless. COTD Prayer Team

Harp Concert
Sunday, December 3
3:00 pm in the
Sanctuary

Presented by the Central
Florida Chapter of the
American Harp
Society. There is no
charge for admission. A
love offering will be



collected.

January

**January Connection
Newsletter Deadline
Friday, December 15**

COTD Christmas Schedule

Family Christmas Dinner &
Business Meeting on
Wednesday, December 20,
starting at 5:00 p.m.

No Evening Activities,
Rehearsals, or Meetings on
Wednesday, December 27,
or Wednesday,
January 3, 2018.

Office Closed on Monday,
December 25, and Monday,
January 1, 2018.



**Monday Evenings, 6:15 -
7:15p.m.**

Fellowship Hall
Edith Marlo Wright is teaching a Zumba
class here at COTD.

Contact her

at emwright@churchonthedrive.org for more info.

Monthly Church Business Meeting

Wednesday, December 20
6:00 pm in the Fellowship
Hall

*Please note the change in day
and time



December Menus

December 6

Chicken & Yellow Rice
Green Beans
Roll
Salad Bar
Dessert

December 13

Taco Bar
Christmas Cookies/Brownies

December 20

Christmas Dinner Buffet

December 27

No Dinner or Evening Activities

Coming Next Month...

- **Interest Meeting for Brazil Trip** - January 21
- **Betty Ratliff at COTD** - January 28
- **Overnight Extravaganza!** - Friday, January 12 - Saturday, January 13
A weekend for ALL kids who want to have fun!

A stuffed animal sleepover for babies, toddlers, & Pre-K: Starting at 6:00 p.m., on Friday night - games, cookies and milk, and a sleepover at church, then breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday. No charge for this event

Kids' Night Out for Kindergarten - 2nd graders: Starting at 7:00 p.m., on Friday night - Glow in the Dark putt putt at Putting Edge. Then, back to the church for games and snacks. Pick up is 11:00 p.m. Cost per kid is \$18.00.

Kids Night Out & Lock In for 3rd - 5th graders - Starting at 7:00 p.m., on Friday night - Glow in the Dark putt putt, back the church for fames and snacks, and then Movie Night! Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Cost per kid is \$18.00.

DECEMBER 2017 CHURCH ON THE DRIVE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		Trip to Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Atlanta				
					1	2
Harp Concert 3:00 p.m./Sanctuary Children's Choir Interest Meeting 5:00 p.m./Room 302 Personnel Committee 5:00 p.m./Room 208 3		Christmas Lights Tour 4:30 p.m./Meet at COTD 4	Mom to Mom 6:15 p.m./Room 205 6	Middle School Breakfast 8:00 a.m./Einstein Brothers Quilters on Mission 9:30 a.m./Room 255 Holiday on the Drive 5:00 p.m./Edgewater Drive 7	Prayer Warriors and Wise Old Men Christmas Party 6:00 p.m./FH 8	Professional Men's Christian Fellowship 9:a.m./Room 206 Adult Choir Rehearsal 9:00 a.m./Sanctuary Senior Adult Christmas Reception 11:30 a.m./FH Servants for Christ Christmas Party 6:00 p.m./FH 9
Christmas Musical During Morning Worship 10:15 a.m./Sanctuary Deacons' Meeting 3:30 p.m./Room 208 10	Marketing and Communications Committee/ 6:30 p.m. Barbara Stuart's Home 11	COTD 90th Anniversary Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m./Conf. Room 12	Cheers @ Ollies 6:30 p.m. 13	Young at Heart 10:30 a.m./FH Kids - Letters to Santa 6:00 p.m./Albert Park 14	15	Sandwich and Commissioner's Groups Christmas Party 6:00 p.m./Diane Stanton's Home 16
Benevolence Offering Students - Very Classy Christmas Party 5:00 p.m./Off Campus Finance Committee 11:30 a.m./Room 208 17	18	19	Christmas Family Dinner 5:00 p.m./FH Business Meeting 6:00p.m./FH Kids' Christmas Presentation 6:30 p.m./Sanctuary 20	21	Kids - Happy Birthday, Jesus! Party 8:00 a.m./FH 22	23
Christmas Eve Christmas Eve Candlelight Service/5:00 p.m. Sanctuary Christmas Eve Candlelight Service/11:00 p.m. CLC Green Room 24	Christmas Day Office Closed 25	26	NO EVENING ACTIVITIES 27	28	29	30
31						

KEY TO CALENDAR:
 C.G. = Community Group
 COTD = Church on the Drive
 FH = Fellowship Hall

Ministry Staff

Senior Pastor

Dr. Jack Mercer

Associate Pastor

Rev. Josh Plant

Minister of Community Outreach

Rev. Crystal Holic

Minister of Church Administration

Cynthia McInvale

Minister of Senior Adults

Debbie Hairel

Director of Music

Edith Marlo Wright

Instrumental Music Associate

Abby Mejeur

Audio/Visual/Lighting Technician

Brendan McCarty

Ministry Assistant

Colleen Cart

Ministry Assistant

Betsy Stern

Director of Food Services

Shelley Garza

Custodian

Calvin Gilley

Custodian

Dan Rudolph

Ongoing Activities

Monday

TNT Elite Hoops/2:30 p.m./CLC Gym

Zumba! Class/6:15 p.m./FH

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting/7:00 p.m./Room 302

Tuesday

Ministry Team Meeting/2:15 p.m.

TNT Elite Hoops/2:30 p.m./CLC Gym

Community Group-Conway/7:00 p.m./Cristi & Paul Valdes' Home

Wednesday

TNT Elite Hoops/2:30 p.m./CLC Gym

Wednesday Night Dinner/5:00 p.m./FH

Adult Bible Study/6:00 p.m./FH

English Literacy Ministry/6:00 p.m./Room 301

Knitting Group/6:00 p.m./Room 207

Praise Team Rehearsal/6:00 p.m./Sanctuary

Faith Foundations for Kids (Pre-K4-5th Grade/6:15 p.m./Community Room

Adult Choir Rehearsal/7:00 p.m./Music Suite

Thursday

TNT Elite Hoops/2:30 p.m./CLC Gym

Community Group for Young Adults/7:00 p.m./Sandy & Jack Mercer's Home

Community Group-Winter Park/2nd & 4th Thursdays/7:00 p.m./Aixa Catala's Home

Friday

Family Story Time/10:30 a.m./Library

TNT Elite Hoops/2:30 p.m./CLC Gym

Men's Basketball League/6:00 p.m./Gym

Saturday

TNT Elite Hoops/9:00 a.m./CLC Gym

Sunday

Library Opens/8:30 a.m./Library

Living Water Café Opens/8:30 a.m./Café

Community Groups/9:00 a.m./Various Rooms

Worship Service/10:15 a.m./Sanctuary

Kids' Bells Rehearsal/5:00 p.m./Room 302

Students - *Journey*/5:30 p.m./Gym, Student Wing

Celebration Ringers Rehearsal/6:00 p.m./Music Suite

Wind Ensemble Rehearsal/7:00 p.m./Sanctuary



1914 Edgewater Drive

Orlando, FL 32804

407-843-0140

churchonthedrive.org

Address Service Requested

Sunday Services:

Community Groups – 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:15 a.m.