

NEWS RELEASE

Augusta First Seventh-day Adventist Church
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH CHANGES VENUE FOR
ANNUAL DRIVE THRU BETHLEHEM**

*Augusta First SDA Church and Augusta First Baptist collaborate
in Christmas treat to the community.*

Augusta, Ga. (January 30, 2016) — Drive Thru Bethlehem, an annual christmas outdoor program organized by Augusta First Seventh-day Adventist Church, announces a partnership with Augusta First Baptist in this years program. In this new partnership the venue location has changed from Augusta First's church to a venue on 8th Street.

The new collaboration will allow a greater performance with live animals, engaging actors, and opportunity for all to hear the message of Christmas. The inaugural Drive Thru Bethlehem will take place on December 16 and 17, 2016 from 6:00-9:00 pm.

“Augusta First is excited and thrilled to have First Baptist participate with us in sharing the message of Jesus Christ and the true meaning of Christmas,” says Mark Etchell, Augusta First's senior pastor. “Drive Thru Bethlehem is a wonderful opportunity for the community to enjoy a program with a loving message that is completely free. The new partnership will add a greater value and larger participation in the program.”

The new venue that is being rented out by Augusta First is the old Sonic drive thru that will be transformed with lights, live animals, singing children, live demonstrations of a small

town, and engaging actors. The new changes also include a part-two event in showing the Resurrection story. Drive Thru Bethlehem is free of charge and allows donations at the end that goes toward church collaborations to enhance community outreach.

“The Resurrection is an important event in Christ’s life, the reason why Christians still have hope today,” says Dr. David Hull, Interim Pastor for the First Baptist Church. “Though the birth of Jesus is crucial, as a growing community we need to spread the word of hope of Jesus’ second return.”

About Augusta First Seventh-day Adventist Church

Organized in 1863, the Seventh-day Adventist Church seeks to enhance quality of life for all people in our communities, adhering to the ideals described by the Bible. The church has approximately 19 million members worldwide and more than one million members in North America, with more than 6,200 Seventh-day Adventist congregations in North America. Seventh-day Adventists proudly have the world's second largest integrated network of schools with 852 schools in the United States and Canada. For more information visit, www.adventist.org.

About Augusta First Baptist Church

American Baptists, Southern Baptists and all the scores of other Baptist bodies in the U.S. and around the world grew out of a common tradition begun in the early 17th century, the earliest Baptist churches 1609-1612. Today the Baptist faith has a worldwide number of 43,000,000 baptized members—and a community of more than 100,000,000 people—in approximately 160,000 churches. For more information visit, <http://www.abc-usa.org>

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