



I read an article on the *Fox Business* website recently that really made me think about the gospel, our culture, and a strategy to reach people. The article is entitled, "Seven Shopping Secrets Retailers Won't Tell You." It

was written by Naomi Mannino. She cites Dave Ramsey, Paco Underhill, and Ellie Kay throughout her article.

We know that everything in any store is on purpose. Mannino's first "secret" is the "Magic of the Display." One scenario from Underhill is that a store buys t-shirts from Sri Lanka for \$3 and sews laundering instructions onto the shirts in French and English leading the consumer to think of France and increase the chance of an impulse purchase! We must be diligent and creative to reach people with the gospel, but never deceptive.

Another of her "secrets" is to be careful about "buy one, get one free" deals. She advises that consumers need to know their retailers, brands, regular prices, promotions, and discounts before making a purchase. She recommends that shopping for clearance items is the best plan. Christians must educate ourselves in the Scriptures so we know what we believe when we share the gospel (1 Peter 3:15).

She framed two "secrets" in regard to the clearance rack. There is a reason the clearance area is always messy. It takes time to find bargains and most shoppers don't have or take the time. Therefore, don't go shopping when you are in a hurry. Also, the clearance racks are nearly always in the back. The store makes us walk past the neatly folded and nicely displayed regular-priced items to gain access to the bargains. It takes discipline to shop smart. It also takes discipline to make witnessing a lifestyle and that begins with knowing and regularly sharing our testimony.

Two other of her "secrets" apply to our witness as well. Beware of the small stuff around the cash registers. Those things can be budget busters. Reject the impulse to take the bait! Rejection is a given in evangelism. Jesus was rejected. Paul was rejected. If we share the gospel, we are going to face rejection. Remember that rejection is temporal, separation from Christ is eternal. Retailers aren't stymied by rejection and we should not be either. Also, be careful with whom you shop. Obviously, we must interact with the unsaved in order to be an effective witness for Christ; but we must always be careful to influence and not be influenced by them.

I saved my favorite "secret" for last. "Don't turn right when entering a store." Mannino cites Underhill, "Retail shopping studies have found that most people turn right when they enter a store. That's because the majority of the population is right-handed and right-oriented." Mannino

adds, "Knowing this, stores highlight tempting new items and trends to the right of the entrance. You will find that the music is louder and displays are brighter to the right so you will be attracted in that direction first. This is where the most expensive items in the store are generally displayed." Everything in a retail store is intentional and on purpose. So should our witness for Christ be!

I look forward to growing with you in Sunday School and worshipping with you in church!

Merry Christmas!

Bany

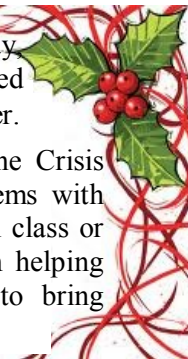
Our Goal
for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
\$10,000

Envelopes are in your envelope packet and in the pews.

The **JOY Club** will meet Tuesday, December 13 at 11 a.m. for a skit entitled *Mary, the Mother of Jesus* by Bonnie Grier.

We are also having a **pounding** for the Crisis Center, so bring non-perishable food items with you to the meeting. Any Sunday School class or individual who would like to join us in helping feed the less-fortunate is encouraged to bring items to the church by December 13.

Hostesses: Eunice Graham, Mary Ridgeway, and Nancy Stephens.



**No GROW
in December
and January.**

With Sympathy
Lola Pinson
November 22, 2011

Christmas Dinner and Entertainment

Our annual Christmas Dinner is Wednesday, December 14 beginning at 5:15. If you plan to eat, your name must be on the reservation list by noon on Tuesday, December 13. Remember to remove your name if you are not coming to eat. The menu is ham, mac 'n cheese, green beans, corn, and Christmas cake. Following the meal, our children will present the play, *What God Wants for Christmas*. Parents, remember to make your meal reservations. No walk-ins, please.

**The church offices and buildings
will be CLOSED on Friday, December 23
and Monday, December 26.**

No Gate Post

There will be no Gate Post the week after Christmas, December 25-31. Get your articles for the first of the year to the office by Friday, December 16.

For Preschoolers and Children

All preschoolers and children are invited to Christmas Craft Day on Saturday, December 10 from 10 a.m till noon in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Celebration Choir** will have a dress rehearsal for Christmas music on Saturday morning, December 10 at 9:00 in the sanctuary.



Marriage Retreat Weekend

The deadline is drawing near! Plan to attend this weekend retreat with your spouse and strengthen your marriage. It will be at Bonclarken in Flat Rock, North Carolina, November 9-11, 2012. We must turn in a \$40 deposit per couple by January 15. See Tina Jimmerson for more details. This would make a wonderful and much-appreciated Christmas gift for your children, grandchildren, or even your parents (yes, parents!).

Our church family **MATTERS**

In Case of Emergency Call

Barry Jimmerson @ 609-1845
Ruth Harrison @ 380-7850

Blue Bryan @ 243-7377

Our Homebound Member of the Week

Alberta Odom
109 Covington Road, Greenville SC 29617

Giving to the Lord

November 27
Budget Receipts \$ 6,222
Budget Required YTD \$495,216
Budget Received YTD \$422,328

Giving to the Lord

December 4
Budget Receipts \$ 18,217
Budget Required YTD \$505,533
Budget Received YTD \$440,545
Lottie Moon \$ 1,463

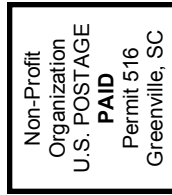
Thank You Notes Have Been Received From

David and Linda Craig, Hospice House of Tri County for Louis Kunkle

Happy Birthday December 11 - 17

12: Sara Chandler, Rusty McAlister
13: *Dorothy Sabeau, Tammy Bennett, Emily Jimmerson
14: Rick Hudson
16: Teresa Howard, Danette Hunter, Katy McCollister
17: Christy Johnson

Call the office before noon on Tuesday to remove your name from the permanent supper list or to add/remove it for the week. Payment will be expected the next week for meals not canceled by this time.



Northgate Baptist Church
633 Summit Drive
Greenville South Carolina 29609

Return Service Requested



Ministers for the Week of December 11 - 17 Every member a minister

Deacons of the Month: Will Kirby, Barry Agnew, Porter Huskey

Preschool Worship: Jamie and Teresa Brazell, Beth Todd, Wil Kirby, Jack and Carol Dill

Children's Church: Joey and Kelly Hall

Wednesday Ministers: Heather Bryan, Dan Burgess

Preschool Sunday School: Joan Hall, Almena Simon

Ushers: Jamie Brazell, Markus Heinis, Nick Shaler, David McClure

Sound/Video Projection: John Folk, Steve Todd, Kelsey Todd

Counter: Mary Jane Peden

Fellowship Meal: Judy Whaley, Almena Simon, Linda Smith, Laverne Walls, Perry Folk

Release Time: Jan Calvert, Barbara Lollis, Dawn Painter, Lou Jean Barker, Nancy Stephens

Church Staff

Pastor: Barry Jimmerson
Minister of Students and Children: Blue Bryan
Minister of Children/Preschool: Ruth Harrison
Worship Leader: Richard Hendricks

The Gate Post

Northgate Baptist Church
Pastor, Dr. Barry Jimmerson



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Schedule of Christmas Services

December 18: Regular schedule of Sunday School at 9:30 and worship at 10:45.

December 24: Christmas Eve service of *Carols, Candlelight, and Communion* at 5 p.m.

December 25: Christmas Day worship service at 10:45 a.m. No Sunday School.

Bring your family members to worship with you on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. There will be no childcare for either of these services, but parents are encouraged to bring your preschoolers into the sanctuary. Jesus loves the little children!

Northgate Baptist Church
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