

December 2024 Newsletter

Christ-centered. Family-focused. Bible-based.



# WHERE DO PEOPLE NEED TO HEAR THE GOSPEL? EVERYWHERE.



Every day, more than 174,000 of them will die without Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Will you join us in the Great Pursuit of taking the gospel to the lost — wherever we find them?

#### Lottie Moon Post Office

The Lottie Moon Post Office will be available beginning on December 1. You are welcome to leave your addressed Christmas Cards for church members and attenders. We kindly suggest that you donate what you would have spent on postage to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.



INTERNATIONAL

ISSION BOARD





# WESTFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH



#### **People in Waiting**

December is here, and with it comes the season of Advent—a time of waiting, preparation, and hope. As we light the candles, sing the carols, and read the prophecies of old, we find ourselves swept into the grand narrative of God's redemptive plan. Advent invites us to pause, to reflect, and to remember that we are a people in waiting.

For centuries, God's people waited for the Messiah, holding tightly to promises like Isaiah 9:6-7: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end."

And then, in the fullness of time, the Christ came. Born in Bethlehem, the Light of the World broke into the darkness, fulfilling every promise and bringing hope, joy, and peace to a weary world.

Yet, Advent is not just about looking back to Christ's first coming; it is about looking forward to His return. Advent, derived from the Latin word, adventus simply means "coming" or "arrival." Just as Israel waited for the Messiah, we now wait for the King of kings to come again and make all things right and new.

And so, we await the return of Christ, who will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him (Hebrews 9:28).

But our waiting ought not to be passive one. It is an active, expectant anticipation. Let us await our Savior faithfully, prayerfully, and joyfully.

Faithfully obeying the Lord in all that he has commanded to us.

Prayerfully seeking the Lord's help to do all that we do in the strength that he alone can supply.

Joyfully proclaiming to a lost and dying world that the Messiah has come and they need wallow in their sins no longer. Salvation is offered to the least of us and the hope of heaven is promised to any and all weary sinner that desire to take hold of it by faith.

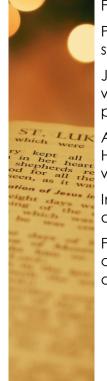
Advent reminds us that God is faithful. He fulfilled His promises through the birth of Jesus, and He will fulfill His promises again when Christ returns. Until that day, let us be a church that waits well—faithfully, prayerfully, and joyfully.

In the words of Titus 2:13, may we be a people who are "waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ."

From my family to yours, we wish you a season filled with the hope, peace, joy, and love that can only come from knowing Jesus. May God be glorified in Westfield this Advent season and always.

In Christ,

Pastor Blake



WESTFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH





#### Student Ministry Tanglewood Trip Friday, Dec 6

We will meet at church at 4:00pm and then go to dinner after driving through the Lights at Tanglewood. You must sign up in the youth room.



#### **Making Lasting Christmas Memories**

I've always loved the Christmas season—the time spent with family, the chance to slow down, create new memories, and reflect on the years past. One of my favorite childhood Christmas memories is an annual tradition our church hosted called *Bethlehem Experience*. It was an outdoor, walk-through, narrated Christmas production where you'd journey through seven scenes that told the story of Jesus' birth.

I've been told that I played the role of baby Jesus when I was just a few weeks old, and over the years, I took on various roles in all seven scenes. Even now, my brothers and sister still quote lines from the narration. It was a special memory for our entire family, and one that we all got to experience together. And yes, there were live animals in some of the scenes—sheep, donkeys, and even camels! Our church was located in the heart of the city, so seeing these farm animals in the middle of South St. Pete was quite the sight. I'll never forget one year when my dad was tasked with watching the animals overnight, and somehow, the sheep got loose. There was even a newspaper article about "sheep on Central Avenue in South St. Pete." It still makes us laugh.

I share these memories with you to ask: What Christmas memories is your family making this year? Will your children remember a time when Mom and Dad were too busy running errands, or will they recall the many ways they heard the Christmas story? Will they remember giving to others or the gifts they received? Here are some practical ways to make an eternal impact on your family this Christmas season:

- Attend our Jingle Jam Event on December 1 at 5:00 PM. It's a fun way to kick off the Christmas season! We'll play games, sing some worship songs, and hear the story of Jesus' birth. You'll also receive a resource to help you start the Advent season together.
- Read through the book of Luke each day from December 1–24. It's a wonderful way to walk through the entire story of Jesus' birth and life.
- Participate in an Advent activity as a family. Whether it's a devotional, a countdown calendar, or an act of service, these activities can help bring your family closer together.
- "Adopt" a child through the Salvation Army Christmas Tree. You can often find a tree at local stores like Walmart in Mt. Airy, with a list of items to purchase for a child in need.
- Create a reverse Advent calendar for a local food pantry. Each day leading up to Christmas, add an item to donate, and deliver the items to the food pantry on Christmas Eve (or the next time they're open).

My prayer for your family this Christmas season is that you grow closer to each other as you celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. I pray that the memories you make will be centered on Him, and that they will last for many years to come. In Christ,

Tricia Lowe



#### Staff Christmas Gifts:

This holiday season, the Finance Committee will place a basket at the front of the Sanctuary where you can leave a card with a monetary gift for our staff. If you feel led to contribute, please make checks payable directly to the individual staff members, not to the church. If you give unidentifiable cash, it will be divided proportionally among the paid staff. Our current staff includes:

- Pastor Blake Bowman
- Tricia Lowe (Youth/ Children's Director and Secretary)
- Ruth Chilton (Financial Bookkeeper)
- Bob Rosell (Custodian)
- Vickie Burleson (Pianist)
- Amber Bowman (Pianist)
- Collection dates are 12/1, 12/8, and 12/15.
- Thank you for your generosity and for blessing our staff during this special season!

**WMU** Meeting

Monday, December 2

12:00 pm

Alice Arrington's home



# **OCC Shoebox Update**

Thank you to your generous donations, WMU's hard work, and our Kids and Student Ministry's help, we were able to send 158 Shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse!

Cookies open doors for gospel conversations



The people in China were suspicious of missionary Lottie Moon. Lottie turned to a favorite Christmas activity to build relationships with her new neighbors — baking cookies. Children flocked around her to try the sweet treats. Soon, mothers within the community invited Lottie into their homes where she told them about Jesus.

As made by Lottie moon Plain Tea Cake 3 teacups of sugar 1 teacup of butter 1 teacup of sour milk 4 pints of flour 3 eggs, well beaten 1/2 teaspoon of soda Flavor to taste. Roll thin. Bake in a quick oven. Adapted recipe for today's cooks Plain Tea Cake 2 cups of flour 1/2 cup butter 1 heaping cup of sugar 1 well-beaten egg 1 tablespoon cream Cream the butter and sugar. Add the egg and mix well. Add the flour and cream. Dust a board with flour. Roll the dough very thin. Cut cookies with a round cookie cutter. Place on a buttered or nonstick cookie sheet. Bake at 475 degrees for about 5 minutes.

-www.imb.org/generosity/lottie-cookie-recipe

# WESTFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH





# Happy Birthday

- 1 Kathryn Barker
- 4 Tricia Lowe
- 6 Jackie Nester
- 8 Chris Sloop
- 10 Brandon Lowe,

Madeleine Bullington

- 11 Karen Midkiff
- **13** Phyllis Phillips
- 16 Grant Overby
- 17 Ted Cox, Byron Voigt, Kathy White
- 20 Sue Davis
- 24 Taylor Sutphin
- 26 Scott Smith

28 Susan Brannock, Stacey Watson

**31** Ruth Chilton, Phil Sutphin

# **Assisted Living and Nursing Homes**

#### **Trevella Collins**

Priddy Manor Assisted Living 1294 Priddy Rd. King, NC 27021

#### Hazel Burkhart Arbor Ridge at

Stanleyville Apartment #124 350 Arbor View Lane Winston Salem, NC 27106

#### **Roxie Owens** Room #203 **Ridgecrest Assisted Liv**ing 1000 Ridge Crest Lane Mt Airy, NC 27030 336-673-0365

#### Iris Kuhl Walnut Ridge Assisted Living, 411 Windmill Street Walnut Cove, NC 27052

# Homebound

Sue & Kelly Davis 6679 Westfield Road Westfield, NC 27053

**Edith Epperson** 1536 Asbury Road Westfield, NC 27053 336-351-2284

#### Marie Jessup

131 Marshall Johnson Road Pilot Mountain, NC 27041 336-351-2872

**Barbara Lowe** 10670 NC Hwy. 89 W Westfield, NC 27053 336-351-2727





 $\cdot$  In Memory of Wayne Tilley from Lois and Doreen Tilley

· In Memory of Margie Cheek from Josh Cheek

• In Memory of Swanson Tilley, Virleane Tilley, Robin Estes and Tina Tilley from Lisa Tilley

• In Memory of Larry Fogleman and Howard Lictenberger from Duane and Trena Fogleman

• In Memory of Deborah Voigt from Byron, Caitlin, Chris, Aisa, Ireland, Britain, and Xander Voigt

• In Memory of Dwight and Shirley Voigt from Byron, Caitlin, Chris, Aisa, Ireland, Britain, and Xander Voigt

• In Memory of William and Louise Barker, Frankie and Brenda (Jimmy Barker's Parents and Sisters) from Jimmy and Kathryn Barker

 In Memory of J.D. and Maxine Goins and James and Roylene Rosell (Kathryn Barker's Parents and Brother) from Jimmy and Kathryn Barker
In Honor of Teddy
and Angio Chambe

 $\cdot$  In Memory of Lois Christian from Grant Christian and Family

· In Memory of Donald Chilton from Ruth Chilton

 In Memory of family members in heaven from Bonnie and James Paul Jessup

 $\cdot \, \mbox{In Memory of Tina Tilley from June Tilley}$ 

 In Memory of Lois Christian from Shane and Sebrina Mabe

• In Memory of my husband, Mickey Arrington from Betty Arrington

·In Memory of my mother, Mary Elizabeth Tilley from Betty Arrington

• In Memory of my daughter, Lynn Renay Arrington from Betty Arrington

· In Memory of Berkley Rogers from Carole Rogers

 $\cdot$  In Memory of The Fred Smith Family from Sylvia Smith

 $\cdot$  In Memory of the Reece Arrington Family from Sylvia Smith

 $\cdot$  In Memory of the Roscoe Cooke Family from Sylvia Smith

 $\cdot$  In Memory of Phil Arrington from Alice Arrington and girls

• In Memory of Carol Christian from Jimmy Christian and Chad and Pam Davis

In Memory of Bruce Lowe, Ernie and Gayle
Daugherty (Dad of Brandon Lowe and Parents of
Tricia Lowe) from Brandon and Tricia Lowe

· In Honor of Barbara Lowe from the Lowe Family

 $\cdot$  In Honor of Bonnie Jessup from Bob and Roylene Rosell

 In Honor of Wayne and Jackie Nester from Bob and Roylene Rosell

• In Honor of Teddy and Frances Cox from Travis and Angie Chambers and Kelsey Hutchens

•In Honor of Ginger, Amber, Jackson, and Adalee from Jimmy and Kathryn Barker

In Honor of Doyle and Stacey Watson from
Frank and Cook'e Jessup

 $\cdot$  In Honor of Wayne and Jackie Nester from Frank and Cook'e Jessup

 In Honor of our Children and Grandchildren from James Paul and Bonnie Jessup

In Honor of Christian and Luke Mabe from
Shane and Sebrina Mabe

• In Honor of Wayne and Jackie Nester from Paige Lynch and Susan Inman.



# 2024 Christmas Poinsettias

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday School 9:45 a Worship 11:00 a	Every Monday Walk in Faith 4:15pm		Every Wed. Bible Study 6:30 pm Kids/Students 6:30 pm	Every Thurs. <b>Walk in Faith</b> 4:30 pm		
1 Family Ministry Jingle Jam 5pm	2 WMU 11:30 a	3 Staff Relations 6:00 p	4	5	6 Student Min– Tanglewood	7
8 Student Min- istry Lunch with Friends	9 Finance 6:30p	10	11	12	13	14 June Tilley FH
15 Student Min- istry Christ- mas Party	16	17 Prayers and Squares 1:00 p	18 Business Meeting 7:00pm	19 Golden Agers Christmas Party Deacons Mtg 6:30 pm	20	21 Jill Smith FH
22 Bonnie Jessup FH	23 D. Jessup FH	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed	25 Christmas Office Closed Christmas Day Service 5:00pm	26	27	28
29	30	31				



# January 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday School 9:45 a Worship 11:00 a	Every Monday <b>Walk in Faith</b> 4:15pm		Every Wed. Family Dinner 6:30 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	Every Thurs. <b>Walk in Faith</b> 4:15 pm		
			1 No Family Dinner No Kids/Youth Adult Bible Study 7:00pm	2	3	4
5	6 Finance 6:30p	7 Staff Relations 6:00 p	8	9	10	11
12 Student Min- istry Lunch	13	14 Prayers and Squares 1:00 p	15	16 Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	







# CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 5:00 PM



# Christ-centered. Family-focused. Bible-based.

"We proclaim Him, warning and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ." Colossians 1:28 336-351-3311 wbc1@surry.net www.westfieldbaptistchurch.org

#### Sundays:

9:45 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service

Wednesday6:30 pm Family Dinner7:00 pm Adult Bible StudyKids & Student Ministry

Telephone Conference System 336-374-1445, code 27053

## WESTFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH