

Good News

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

First Baptist Church
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DECEMBER 2010

ISSUE 12



Community Chorus

Judy Lair

The Christmas Concert of the Community Chorus will be performed on Sunday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m. at Polk County High School. Six of the 80 singers are from FBC of Tryon: Paula Edwards, Kay Greene, Judy Lair, Kim McFarland, Cheryl Roach and Laura Spinks.

Tickets are \$10, but there is **no** charge for students! Tickets are available from Charles McKeller, Judy Lair and Bob Lair.

All proceeds from ticket sales will be used to fund Rotary Scholarships at PCHS.



CHRISTMAS PAST..... CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Phil Scoggins

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT CHRISTMAS TIME WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD?

WHAT WAS THE WEATHER LIKE
AROUND CHRISTMAS TIME?

WHO DID MOST OF THE
DECORATING OF THE TREE?

WHAT SPECIAL TRADITION DID
YOUR FAMILY OBSERVE AT
CHRISTMAS?

WHAT IS YOUR EARLIEST
MEMORY OF A CHRISTMAS
MORNING?

WHEN AND WHERE DID YOU
OPEN YOUR PRESENTS?

WHAT CHRISTMAS PRESENT
STANDS OUT IN YOUR MEMORY?

WHO WAS THE PERSON IN YOUR
FAMILY WHO MADE CHRISTMAS
SPECIAL?

WHAT TRADITION WOULD YOU
LIKE TO CONTINUE WITH YOUR
CHILDREN?

Give thanks to God our Father
for the memories of Christmas
past, and the memories you will
make this Christmas.



Children's and Preschool Choirs

Kay Greene

The Christmas dinner is always a special time for our church family. On December 5 after our "feast", you will be treated to a Christmas program presented by some of our young people. The program will include instrumental selections from some of our church's developing pianists and songs by our young preschool choir. The children's choir will become "shepherds" for the evening. Through their songs and narrations, they will tell the Christmas story, from the viewpoint of these first visitors to the manger.

These youngsters have worked all fall to create this presentation. Our prayer is that all who attend will be drawn a little closer to our Lord.



CHILDREN'S CORNER



Q: Why was Cinderella kicked off the basketball team?

A: She ran away from the ball!



Q: What is the laziest vegetable?

A: A couch potato!



December Anniversaries

- 4 Don & Jan Ponder
- 5 Archie & Marie Pearson
- 6 Darnell & Kathy Ashley
- 16 Bennie & Gwen Goodwin
- 17 Dan & Mona Kimble
- 22 Mike & Di Greene
- 29 James & Mildred Bodie



December Birthdays

- 1 Shirley Edwards
- 5 T. J. Fincher
- 7 Lydia Dona
- 7 Pam McFalls
- 12 Georgia S. Pack
- 13 Linda Fincher.
- 13 Mike Greene
- 13 Beth McCallister
- 13 Andrew McKaig
- 14 Dee Huneycutt
- 15 Katie Cothran
- 16 Scott Harding
- 16 Georgie Hawkins
- 16 Vern Hendricks
- 17 Johna J. Searcy
- 18 Julie Miller
- 19 Joey Whiteside
- 22 David Graham
- 22 Ella Waldman
- 25 Renae Waldman
- 29 Archie Pearson
- 30 Jacob Covil
- 31 Haley Dusenbury



MILITARY PERSONNEL DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

Lydia Dona (Paquito) (12-7-98)
2100 Skyuka Road
Columbus, NC 28722

COLLEGE STUDENTS' DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Andrew McKaig (12-13)
479 Rippy Road
Tryon, NC 28782
(amckaig@uncc.edu)

Megan Stone (12-15)
105 Sumter Court, Apt. Q
Central, SC 29630
(mstone4@clemson.edu)

Halie Moffitt (12-17)
7079 UNC-G Station
Greensboro, NC 27412
(hnmoffit@uncg.edu)

Louis Rossi (12-17)
486 Peniel Road
Columbus, NC 28722

Will Henderson (12-21)
1834 Wake Forest Road
Campus Box 7749
Benson 101, RL & H
Winston-Salem, NC 27109

Luke Lair (Greg) (12-24-03)
2819 Rosemeade Drive
Monroe, NC 28110



Advent and Christmas 2010

December 3, Tryon Christmas
Stroll; Handbells ringing.

December 5
Second Sunday of Advent, **PEACE**
11:00 a.m. Worship
(Handbells ringing)
6:00 p.m. **Annual Christmas Dinner**

December 12
Third Sunday of Advent, **JOY**
11:00 a.m. Cantata
3:00 p.m. Community Chorus
December 15
2:00 p.m. "A Christmas Carol" at
Flat Rock Playhouse

December 19
Fourth Sunday of Advent, **LOVE**
11:00 a.m. Worship
(featuring guitar and violin)

December 24
5:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Worship
(with Candlelight and Communion)

December 25
Merry Christmas!

CONGRATULATIONS!



PCHS Wolverines –
2010 Conference Champions
AGAIN

Carl Campbell, Georgia Garrett and Malik Miller – PCMS Grade 6 first six-weeks honor roll

Caitlin Britton and Lydia Dona – PCMS Grade 7 first six-weeks honor roll

Kaya Bishop, Chase Constance, Sydney Waldman – TES Grade 3 first six-weeks honor roll

Izabella Jackson – TES Grade 4 first six-weeks honor roll

Frank "Boat" Williams – 'Frank "Boat" Williams Landing' on Lake Lanier dedicated November 14, 2010

Frank "Boat" Williams – 104th birthday – November 24

Geoffrey Tennant – awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine (presented to individuals who have a proven record of extra-ordinary service to NC) at retirement party November 7].

Evelyn Bradley - honored for 250 hours - St. Luke's Hospital volunteer service

Linda Fincher - honored for 100 hours - St. Luke's Hospital volunteer service

Franklin Williams - honored for 50 hours - St. Luke's Hospital volunteer service

Youth's Corner

Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently. Henry Ford



Consider the postage stamp; its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing 'til it gets there.

John Billings



Handbells

Sandy Frady

The Bell Choir will be playing December 5 for the morning service. We also plan to play for the Tryon Christmas Stroll December 3. Although we will be playing several Christmas songs for the Stroll we have chosen two for the morning service. One of these songs is a familiar carol "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear".

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" was written by a Unitarian minister, Edmund Sears. He believed in the deity of Christ and he also believed in the angels' message of "peace on earth". This hymn was written in Massachusetts in 1849 and focuses on the angels' song of "peace on earth". Peace was a timely topic when Sears wrote these words. Tensions leading toward the Civil War were rising in the United States. The peace promised by the angels is not only national; it is personal as well.

This hymn calls people to live well, to be at peace and to honor God. Wouldn't the world be a more wonderful place to live if we could live by the words and meaning of this beautiful song!

"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men."



Night of the Father's Love

The Awe and Mystery of God with Us

Anne Tauber

The Adult Choir began learning our Christmas cantata in September and will sing **Night of the Father's Love** during worship December 12. Some of the choir members say this is the most beautiful cantata we've sung. The composer, Pepper Choplin, is music director at Greystone Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The night of the Father's love...the night the ancient prophecies were fulfilled; the night of the angelic announcement of the birth as the star shone brightly above, leading others to witness this incredible gift of love from God in human form – Jesus, the babe.

Words and music guide the listener through the Christmas story as if hearing it for the first time. Three narrators interject with familiar scripture passages and personal reflections to express the essence of Christmas: the gift of the Father's love. This worship experience will reassure all of us that, indeed, Christ is born! Now all is well! Christ is born, Nowell! Nowell!

The **Missions Committee** thanks everyone who participated in **Operation Christmas Child** this year. **Sixty-eight** shoe boxes were delivered to the collection site. Children all over the world will have a gift to open on Christmas morning and also have the Good News of Jesus Christ shared with them.



BROTHERHOOD

John Spinks

The Brotherhood of Baptist Men concluded another successful year of fellowship with a delightful meal by Robbie and Leta (mostly Leta) Scruggs. We certainly enjoyed many fine meals in 2010, as well as informative and uplifting programs by our own Brothers.

We concluded our year in the Brotherhood tradition of choosing names and delivering poinsettias to a few fine members of our church. We feel a poinsettia does not have to be consumed right away and can be enjoyed throughout the season. It's the Brotherhood's way of showing our appreciation to some of the saints among us.

As another order of business we elected officers for 2011 which are as follows: Rick McCallister – President; Phillip Pleasants – Vice President; John Spinks – Secretary and Ellis Fincher – Treasurer.

The year 2011 promises to be a good year for the Brotherhood. Of course we'd like to increase our numbers but that depends on you. Where is Brotherhood on your list of priorities?



From Our Pastor



Happy Advent! I love this time of year. The sanctuary is dressed in greens and reds, carols are vibrating off the walls, and a nice slice of Red Velvet Cake looms in the distance. I suppose I could make up some symbolic references to the red and white of the cake and why it's meaningful, but the truth is I just like the way it tastes. Um um good! When our spiritual ancestors entered the Promised Land, I like to think the milk and honey was actually Red Velvet Cake; at least that's the literal translation of the Hebrew (okay, it's not actually the literal translation, but it ought to be!). I digress.

As we move toward the manger it is difficult to dodge the rampant consumerism that seems to dominate this time of year. I was actually in line at Sears by 3:30 am the morning after Thanksgiving to buy, of all things, a washer and dryer. (Standing in line in the middle of the night for a washer and dryer is a true sign that one is aging!) We needed some new ones, and the deal was just too good to pass up, so we made the purchase. And since I was already awake, and had nothing else to do (who really needs to sleep?), I stopped by a few other stores and made a few other purchases. They were good deals, and they were all

things we will use. And that's how it works, buy, buy, buy--often times buying things we don't even need. It's almost impossible to avoid the temptation, unless you make a conscious and disciplined decision to live in a very different way. Of course, the decision to live thrifty is not about padding your own savings account; the real decision to live thrifty is to wisely use the resources around us and to share what we have with those in need.

I want to challenge you (myself included) to be wise stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. May we especially remember the poor this Christmas, as well as the rest of the year, because poverty is not a seasonal problem, it is a year-round epidemic. May our Christmas generosity extend the whole year, lest we be unfaithful.



A Poem of Praise

Anonymous

For Your endless love
For the life You gave
For the second chance
For Your priceless grace
For Your healing hands
For the gift of peace
For the blessed hope
And for the faith to believe
For these reasons I praise You
For these reasons I worship You
For these reasons I live to tell
Of Your love
To all the world.



SO....YOU THINK YOU KNOW THE BIBLE?

from THE BOOK

1. What name for Jesus, meaning "God with us", was first used by Isaiah? (Isaiah 7:14)
2. What name for Jesus, meaning "Anointed One", did the angel of the Lord use when speaking to the shepherds? (Luke 2:11)
3. What word, which has been translated "astrologer", does Matthew use to describe certain visitors to Herod? (Matthew 2:7 NIV)
4. From what tribe did Jesus descend? (Matthew 1)

[Answers on next page]



"Boat"

Sadie McKaig

Did you know that Frank "Boat" Williams reached the wonderful age of one-hundred-four November 24! Yes, that is right **104**, and he has celebrated with joy! One party hosted by Ned Gallaher at Tryon Youth Center lasted from 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM, and "Boat" arrived at 2:00 so he could welcome his well-wishers!

"Boat" has led an exemplary Christian life witnessing wherever he has been. We know this about "Boat" and many other facts and stories. Please keep "Boat" in mind and as you remember, send your memories to Jeff Corrigan. Jeff is working on a "memoir" for "Boat" and would like to have your recollections. (jeffcorrigan61@yahoo.com, 424 Cobblestone Drive, Inman, SC 29349-7186)





The Christmas Story

--The Main Character?

Phil Scoggins

Who is the central figure or main character in the Christmas Story?

That's easy to answer!

The angels: They appear everywhere in the story. They appeared to Zechariah and Elizabeth to announce the birth of John the Baptist. They appeared to Joseph and Mary to announce the birth of Jesus. Angels appeared to the shepherds to tell the great news that Jesus was born and where to find Him. The central figures in the story are angels.

No...not the angels, but...

John the Baptist: An angel foretold John's birth before Jesus' birth announcement to Mary and Joseph. An angel told Zechariah of the birth of John, his son. The angel told him that John was chosen to "make ready a people prepared for the Lord". John is the main character of the story because he prepared us for Jesus' birth, Jesus' life, Jesus' baptism and Jesus' ministry.

No...not John the Baptist, but...

Joseph: The angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and directed him to take Mary as his wife because she was to give birth to Jesus, the Messiah. Joseph continued to listen and to obey God by taking Mary and Jesus to Egypt to escape Herod's plan to kill Jesus. After the death of Herod, an angel directed Joseph to take Mary and Jesus back to Israel. Joseph obeyed and returned to Nazareth. Joseph's care and protection of Jesus and Mary makes him the main character.

No...not Joseph, but...

Mary: God sent the angel Gabriel to visit Mary and give her the good news concerning her upcoming pregnancy. Of course Mary was frightened, and did not understand. Gabriel explained, "Don't be afraid Mary; God has shown you His grace. Listen! You will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be

great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of King David, his ancestor, He will rule over the people of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will never end. The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will cover you. For this reason the baby will be holy and will be called the Son of God." Mary believed the word from God and accepted her responsibility to be the mother of Jesus. She responded to Gabriel saying, "I am the servant of the Lord. Let this happen to me as you say! Mary surely is the central figure due to her love, devotion and faith.

No...not Mary, but...

Jesus: Jesus is the greatest gift, Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus is the Son of God...Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. Isaiah 9:6,7 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be on His shoulder. And his name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

No...not Jesus, but...

God, the Father: Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. God sent the angels...God chose John the Baptist...God chose Joseph...God chose Mary and God sent His Son Jesus.



Field of Hope Project

Joe and Frances Wray

There are many indicators around us that our neighbors need help providing enough food for their families. In our schools, we have the highest percentage of students participating in the free and reduced lunch programs. At Thermal Belt Outreach, a significant number of new applicants for assistance have qualified for help.

The mission organizations of our church including the **WMU**, the **Brotherhood** and the **Sisterhood** have committed to help with the **Field of Hope Project** in an effort to raise produce to be distributed to feed the hungry. We appreciate the offer of the Burrell Family to use farmland to raise **potatoes** this coming season.

Presently we are creating a list of volunteers needed for two workdays. We will need a large team for planting in April and again on **Harvest Day** 120 days later. **Fields of Hope** began in Madison County and welcomes our involvement in the project. Our crop will be about a month ahead of their Harvest Day because of the different weather conditions.

Our harvest will be shared with local food banks and distributed through **MANNA**, Mountain Area Nutritional Needs Association.

First Baptist Church of Tryon has a long history of supporting the food bank at Thermal Belt Outreach. **Fields of Hope** is another way we can help each other.

ANSWERS to

SO....YOU THINK YOU KNOW THE BIBLE?

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| 1. Immanuel | 3. Magi |
| 2. Christ | 4. Judah |