



December, 2016

The Accent

AUSTIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

5919 Austin Grove Church Road, Marshville, NC 28103

Website: www.austingrovebaptist.com

Email: austingrovebaptist@windstream.net

To our Church Family and Friends,

Max Lucado puts it like this: "When God chose to reveal himself, he did so through a human body. The hand that touched the leper had dirt under its nails. The feet upon which the woman wept were calloused and dusty. And his tears....they came from a heart as broken as yours or mine ever has been".

Last week we talked about four words (God is with us) Matthew 1:23. God understands us and He has experienced what it is to be human. He knows what it means to grow up in a family unit. He knows what it feels like to be misunderstood and even betrayed and to carry the burden of yours and my sins. He knows what it is like to be you. God is with us!! He is able to look us in the eye and see that which is within us and still love us. He gave us the means to become sons and daughters of His. He made it possible for us to have eternal life by receiving Him as our Savior. As Christmas Day approaches, if there is something that is lacking in your life, please let God reveal it to you. Then let Him restore and light up the path that you should walk on. ***A Savior has come, born in a manger, crucified, and resurrected, all for you and I. What will you do with Jesus? How will you receive Him?***

I wish for each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Thank you for allowing Cindy and I to be a part of this fellowship. Each of you are such a blessing to us!

Merry Christmas!!

Leon & Cindy



Senior Christmas Party/Luncheon

DATE: Tuesday, December 6th

TIME: 11:30 AM; **PLACE:** Fellowship Hall
Ladies, please bring your favorite dessert. Thank you.

Please sign up by NEXT SUNDAY...

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

OUR CHURCH GOAL: \$5,440.00

Received to date: \$ 461.00

The FHHS Athletic Booster Club

and

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

cordially invites the

Senior Yellow Jacket Community

to an

Old Fashioned Breakfast

on Wednesday, December 14th

**featuring a Country Cookin' Breakfast,
Holiday Music, Games and Festivities.**

8:30 AM at the FHHS Cafeteria.

Please RSVP to 704-233-4001

*The Church Office will be closed on:
Friday, December 23rd & Monday, December 26th
for Christmas holidays.*



STAFF & PHONE NUMBERS

Rev. Leon Whitley, Pastor

Church Study: 704-624-3882

Home: 704-753-4768

Michael Jordan, Youth Director

Phone: 704-698-5787

Church Office: 704-624-2929

Fellowship Hall & FAX: 704-624-3868

Sunday School Office: 704-624-2929

SUNDAY

Sunday School: 9:45 AM

Morning Worship Service: 10:45 AM

Adult Violin Practice: 5:00 PM

Evening Worship Service: 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Violin Practice: 5:30 PM; Bell Practice: 6:00 PM

Girls on Mission/Ambassadors for Christ: 6:30 PM

Youth: 6:30 PM; Prayer Service: 6:45 PM

Fellowship Hall Clean-up for DECEMBER:

Knights for Christ, Adult Class #1, Adult Class #5

Ida Mae James WMU

DATE: Monday, December 12th

TIME: 10:00 AM

PLACE: Austin Grove Baptist Church



December

4th: Carolyn D. & Sandy P.

11th: Ray & Heather S.

18th: Craig & Amanda G.

25th: Sandra H. & Beverly N.



December

4th: Amanda G. & Dawn M.

11th: Debbie J. & Amanda V.

18th: Bill & Carol F.

25th: Roger H. & Janel G.

DECEMBER EVENTS

December 4-11 is Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions
Sunday, December 4th

10:45 AM Baptism Service

6:00 PM Foreign Mission Study

Tuesday, December 6th

11:30 AM Senior Christmas Luncheon in Fellowship Hall

Ladies, please bring your favorite dessert. Thank you.

Wednesday, December 7th

8:00 AM Mobile Food Pantry at Bethel Charge UMC

6:30 PM-7:30 PM Children & Youth Christmas

Caroling at Autumn Care

Sunday, December 11th

10:45 AM Adult Choir presents *"One Small Child"*

6:00 PM* Children and Youth Christmas Play,

"It All Happened in the Country"

**If you are in the play, please be here at 4:00 PM.*

Monday, December 12th

6-10 PM Samaritans Purse Work Night

Thursday, December 15th

6:30 PM WMU Christmas Party

Sunday, December 18th

Youth Christmas Party starts directly after church until 3:00 PM

Wednesday, December 21st

6:30-7:30 PM Children & Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 25th

10:30-11:30 AM Morning Worship (No Sunday School)

JANUARY EVENTS

Sunday, January 8th

6:00 PM "Is This the End?" Series continues;
Chapter 2

ONLINE GIVING

Our church offers online designated giving for anyone that would like to make donations in this manner.

Please go to: www.austingrovebaptist.com

Our New Playground Equipment
Thank you!





- 1 Jack Napier
- 3 Freddy Griffin
- 4 Kristina Deese, Charles Ivey, Jason Little
- 5 Parker Griffin
- 6 Carol Fowler
- 7 Russell Smith, Vernon Thornsby
- 8 Shirley Griffin
- 10 Whitney Baucom, Alice Jordan
- 13 Stuart James, Joanne Trull
- 14 Eric Helms, Maleah Long Batchelor, Brittany Rivenbark
- 15 Sue Austin
- 16 Mandy Phifer Nguyen, Kenny Stewart
- 17 Landon Newsome
- 18 Laura Stoddard
- 19 Aaron Griffin, Jacob Griffin
- 20 Cody Earp
- 22 Julie Davis, Cynthia Miller
- 24 Carole Helms
- 26 Lewis Throckmorton
- 28 Melva Seay, Cindy Whitley
- 29 Vinny Pasciuta
- 30 Becky Brazell

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 5 Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Haigler
- 7 Mr. & Mrs. Reid Phifer
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. Andy Overcash
- 17 Rev. & Mrs. John Wood
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Austin
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Byrum
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Edwards
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Craiglow
- 29 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Guffey

Phone Tree Forms are located on the table in the vestibule. Please help us update all our records, including email and texting capabilities, by filling out and returning to the secretary's mailbox or Pastor Leon. We have several email addresses and phone numbers that are no longer deliverable, so please make sure we have your correct information. Thank you so much.

Second Harvest Mobile Food Bank

PLACE: Bethel Charge UMC

DATE: Wednesday, December 7th; **TIME:** 8:30 AM

Please make arrangements to help if you are able.

We would greatly appreciate it 😊



WMU Christmas Party

DATE: December 15; TIME: 6:30 PM

Please bring a gift to exchange (\$10) and a copy of your favorite dessert recipe for a game.

Ham and dessert will be provided.

Please bring a side dish.

Our mission projects:

1. **Collect money to help a family or two keep warm this January through UCCAM.**
2. **We will also be making a few care packages for our military folks.**

Austin Grove—A Special Place

*Lord, we thank you for this place
Where we can come to seek your face,
and our church family comes to meet,
and lay our burdens at your feet.*

*A place of prayer, peace and praise,
A song of joy and thanks we raise,
And for your children—young and old,
To listen to your word unfold.*

*Lord, for your cause let us grow.
Let us come in unity and onward go.
Against evil, we will take our stand.
Let us all work together hand in hand.*

*Lord, you are here as our guiding light.
Show us the wrong that we can right.
Lord, is one of your children going astray?
Quick! We must tell them of your love today.*

*Lord, like you—we want none to perish
And like you Lord—each child we cherish.
Show us where there's a need today.
Let us give our all—and all find your way.*

*Look this way or that way—let me not do—
To see how others are serving you.
For after I have done my best,
I'm certain that you will do the rest.*

*Yes, Lord, this is a special place.
Together in love we seek your grace.
And on we go—this little band.
One day we will reach that Promised Land.*

Polly Haigler

Donna Pittman Christmas Toy Store



Toy Collection Dates: Now through December 9th
 Please deliver to the UBA by the December 9th. Thank you.

If you would like to volunteer,
 we have a sign up sheet on the bulletin board .

"Youth Meal" Sign-Up Sheet is located on the bulletin board in hallway behind sanctuary. We need volunteers 😊 Thanks!

Nativity Word Search

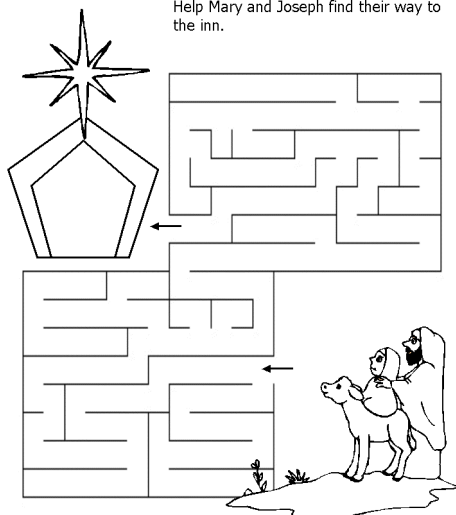
C A N O I T A V L A S D N S H S
 Q S H E P H E R D S R F A L L U
 R A T S A M T S I R H C T E J S
 N E M E S I W S H E E P I G O E
 J G N I K M A R Y G I U V N S J
 M O S Y I H X Q U R Q W I A E T
 D O N K E Y R E G N A M T D P M
 Z I L I N N K E E P E R Y O H F



- angels
- Christmas
- donkey
- innkeeper
- Jesus
- Joseph
- king
- manger
- Mary
- nativity
- salvation
- sheep
- shepherds
- star
- wisemen

Christmas Maze

Help Mary and Joseph find their way to the inn.



December 2016 Children & Youth...

Advent is the name of the season, and looking forward to great events to come is the meaning. I feel like every time I have been able to share in this newsletter it has been with anticipation of the next great thing happening in the student and youth ministry of Austin Grove. This month is no different. We have a month full of activities. First, if you haven't been around to the playground, please stop by and see the new play equipment that is now in place. There are a few final touches before we can call it complete, but this investment in our children will be used for many years to come. We also look forward to a time of sharing carols with the residents of Autumn Care. The students and youth will be caroling on Dec 7th at Autumn Care of Marshville. We will also have Christmas celebrations for the students.

We have now completed the first quarter of Answers in the Bible curriculum, which is apologetics based. It is so encouraging to hear the students begin to understand how to explain the "why" behind what we believe. They are beginning to understand that it is not just something to believe in because their family does, but instead to understand what a personal relationship with Christ really means. We will continue this as we start the New Year off in January.

I want to leave you with a challenge as I have done in the past. Have you stepped up and put works to your faith? We continue to need more volunteers for Children's Church and Nursery. See Janel Griffin if you are willing to serve in this area. Please consider this your call to service. James 2:17 reminds us that "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

Thank you to all those that faithfully give their time in the student and youth ministry. A special thank you for the teachers for Wednesday night. They are Cindy Whitley, Heather Smith, Amanda Griffin, Alicia Jordan, Debbie Jordan, Janel Griffin, and Ray Smith. This ministry would not be what it is without these men and women. Please give them a pat on the back for all their hard work.

Merry Christmas from our family to yours,

Michael & Alicia Jordan