



THE ACCENT



Volume XXIV Issue 12

AUSTIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
5919 Austin Grove Church Road, Marshville, NC 28103

December, 2012



To Our Church Family and Friends:

The hectic times that December brings at times are chaotic. I often think at what Jesus thinks of all the strife that this time of the year brings. He came to give us peace not worry or anxiety. Max Lucado said "The gift is not from man to God. It is from God to man." Yet so many times, we lose sight of the real issue at hand which is the joy and peace that Jesus seeks to bring to our lives and existence.

If I may share with you a short message from Charles Swindoll's *The Finishing Touch*. "Christmas comes each year to draw people in from the cold. Like tiny frightened sparrows, shivering in the winter cold, many live their lives on the barren branches of heartbreak, disappointment, and loneliness, lost in thoughts of shame, self-pity, guilt, or failure. One blustery day follows another, and the only company they keep is with fellow-strugglers who land on the same branches, confused and unprotected. We try so hard to attract them into the warmth. Week after week church bells ring. Choirs sing. Preachers preach. Lighted churches send out their beacon. But nothing seems to bring in those who need warmth the most. Then, as the year draws to a close, Christmas offers its wonderful message. Emmanuel, God with us. He who resided in Heaven, co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, willingly descended into our world. He breathed our air, felt our pain, knew our sorrows, and died for our sins. He didn't come to frighten us, but to show us the way to warmth and safety."

Cindy and I wish for each of you a very blessed Christmas this year with Christ at the very focal point of your life and the lives of your family. We thank you for allowing us to be a part of your family throughout these years. May God continue to bless each of you

Leon & Cindy



Hope is born

*A little child, a shining star,
a stable rude, the door ajar.
Yet in that place so crude, forlorn,
The Hope of all the world was born.*

ô Author unknown



Staff & Phone Numbers

Rev. Leon Whitley, Pastor
Church Study.....624-3882
Home.....753-4768
Rocky Rushing, Youth Director...698-5787
Church Office.....624-2929
Fellowship Hall & FAX.....624-3868
Sunday School Office.....624-2929



SUNDAY

Sunday School.....9:45 AM
Worship Service.....10:45 AM
Evening Worship.....6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Gospel Project Night(Ignite Kidz & Ignite Youth)í í í í í í í í .í .:6:30M
Prayer Meeting.....6:45 PM
Adult Choir.....7:30PM

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



Tommy & Linda Edwards in the loss of his mother and Allen Edwards & family in the loss of his grandmother, Dorothy Edwards.



Births in the Church Family

Congratulations to Ray & Heather Smith on the birth of their son, Collin David Smith. He was born on Nov. 29 weighing 8lbs. 14 oz and was 20 3/4" long. Congratulations also to proud grandmother, Carolyn Smith.

Anniversaries

- 5 Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Haigler
- 7 Mr. & Mrs. Reid Phifer
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. Andy Overcash
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Austin
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Edwards
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Craiglow
- 27 Mr. & Mrs. Larry D. Smith
- 29 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Guffey



Seniors Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, December 4

11:30a.m. in the fellowship hall.

Please see sign up sheet on bulletin board if you plan to attend.

Autumn Care Service - Sunday, Dec. 9 at 9:00am
Please come & help out with the service if you are able.

Women's Christmas Party
 December 13 6:30pm



Please bring a covered dish.
 Drinks & desserts will be provided.
 Also please bring a \$10.00 gift to swap.



Outreach Ministry Schedule

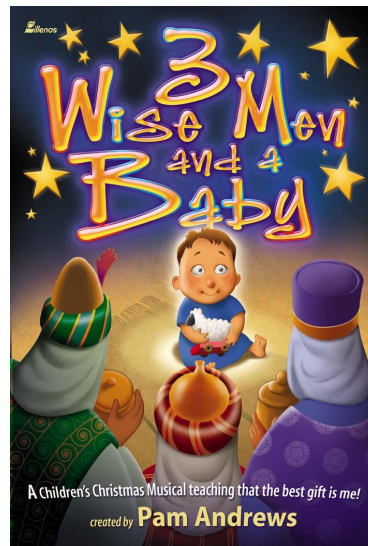
Thurs., Dec. 6, 7pm – Team 1(Phyllis Simpson)

Tues., Dec 11, 10am – Team 2(Frances Knight)

Wed., Dec 19, 6pm – Team 3(Pat Autry)

Preschool Christmas Program
Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 6:45pm
Everyone is invited to join us. Refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall after the program.
Please bring a sweet or salty treat to share.

<u>Nursing Home Residents</u>	
<u>Autumn Care</u>	<u>Rehab. & Nursing Ctr</u>
Dorothy Edwards (606)	Robert Ansley (333)
Lizzie Nance (802)	Pat Cook (203)
<u>Bellaire Health Care Ctr.</u>	<u>Jesse Helms Ctr</u>
Brenda James	Margaret Connell
<u>Carillon Assisted Living</u>	
Ruth Trull	



Children/Youth Christmas Program
Sunday, December 9
6:00pm

Please bring refreshments to share following the program.



Samaritanas Purse

Workday in Charlotte

Friday, December 7

6 . 10pm

Wed be leaving church @ 3:30pm. Please let Betty know if you are driving or riding the bus.

Wed eat at Golden Corral in

Matthews on the way to the warehouse.



Attention: Ladies

Gigi Graham, daughter of Rev. Billy Graham, will be at Hopewell Baptist Church in Monroe on Jan. 26, 2013, 9:30 . Noon. Tickets are \$10.00. Sign up on women's bulletin board if you would like a ticket . must do so before Dec. 20th, also get your money to Rhonda by Dec. 20th.

Hurricane Sandy Update, November 19, 2012 -

So far 300,000 hot meals have been provided. The NCBM feeding teams are preparing meals for recovery volunteers in the Toms River/Wall Community and Piscataway, NJ. In addition, Feeding Unit 2 is preparing meals in Queens, NY at the Aqueduct Racetrack. The Recovery operation is in full swing with many projects completed. Our recovery work at Walls Township, NJ and Piscataway, NJ is going strong with approximately 250 volunteers working. We are also setting up recovery in Queens, NY and anticipate the need for many recovery teams. The sites are supported by a host of volunteers in Admin, Assessment, Maintenance, Safety, Chaplaincy, and Medical. Over 4,000 volunteer days have been given so far. We will need many recovery volunteers for many months to come. Please continue to do three things: Pray, Go and Give.

~ Pray. Pray for people who were affected by Hurricane Sandy. Pray for the volunteers who are going to minister. Pray for safety and the witness of our disaster relief volunteers. Pray that God's love will be shown to hurting people and they will want to know more about our great God who loves them.

~ Go. If you are interested and able to go and help, please go to our website to sign up. To sign up to help, go to <http://www.baptistsonmission.org/Sandy>. You can also get updates on our website and on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ncmissions

~ Give. Give to help those in need. If you would like to make a contribution, please make your check payable to NC Baptist Men, designated for Disaster Relief, and mail to: NC Baptist Men, Baptist State Convention, P0 Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512. You can also give on-line at our website, www.baptistsonmission.org. Also, please support the NC Missions Offering. All of NC Baptist Men's regular budget comes from the NC Missions Offering.

Please follow us on Facebook and visit our website for updates. Thank you for praying, going and giving.

NC Baptist Men/Baptists on Mission



Christmas Cards

Your Christmas cards can be delivered here at church again this year. The postage you save can be contributed to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Autumn Care Gifts

Gifts for the Autumn Care residents need to be turned in by December 9. Please wrap gifts or put in a Christmas bag & tape angels on outside. If you have any questions, please contact Polly Marsh.