

Merry Christmas

THE ACCENT



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

December, 2017

Website: www.austingrovebaptist.com

Email: austingrovebaptist@windstream.net

To our Church Family and Friends,

It has been said that a soul mate is one who protects you, seeks nothing but your interests, wants nothing but your happiness, an ally who lets you be you. You feel safe with that person. God gave us that type of person in the form of a baby born over 2000 years ago in the city of David Bethlehem. I pray that each one will realize all of what God did for us in sending Jesus to us so many years ago. He did not just come and leave us, but He came and remains in each of our lives through the Holy Spirit. Jesus not only came to rid us of what we cannot do for ourselves in removing our sins if we will only trust Him, invite Him into our lives and hearts, confess our sins and make Him our personal Savior. Jesus showed us so much! He taught us how to live day by day, walk day by day, and gave us the example above all others to live, enjoying our lives with the peace and joy that the angels sang about on that hillside years ago.

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful fellowship of believers. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of this body. 2017 has been a great year for our church and that can only be said by each of your faithfulness in giving your time, talents and resources for the glory of God.

Cindy and I would like to wish each of you a Merry Christmas.

May God bless each of you and your families.

Leon & Cindy



Youth and Student Ministry

“And it came to pass in those days.....v(7) and she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:1,7

Many of us are very familiar with this verse. It is the Christmas story of Jesus' birth as told in the gospel of Luke. Many times I have tried to place myself into the story. Tried to imagine if the town would be as crowded as Walmart on Black Friday, as so many filed in to participate in the census. Tried to imagine the sights of so many people coming from many different areas. So many families lines being reunited. The challenge then being, where do you put all these people? I can imagine it's like trying to get a hotel room in Bonne on the weekend of peak leaf color change during the fall, at the same time Appalachian has a home football game. It would be nearly impossible. Now, to compound it, ladies imagine you are at the point of giving birth. I quickly find myself with a great appreciation for the time that we live and the conveniences we have. But to ponder for a moment more that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ came to this earth, under those circumstances, just for you and me. Want to get a glimpse into that night? We hope to provide that for you at “A Night in Bethlehem.” We will have this live outdoor drama for you and our community on December 17th from 6pm – 8:30pm. It is a walkthrough so dress warm. You should anticipate it taking about an hour to experience “A Night In Bethlehem.” You will participate in the census, visit the shops as you enter the town, and finally end up at the stable at the manger where Jesus has just been born. I hope you make this a must see for your calendar. You will see and hear the Christmas story in a different way. We look forward to having everyone as a guest in Bethlehem for the night. **Michael Jordan**

YOUTH Caroling at Autumn Care Wednesday,
December 6th. Meet at church at 6:30 PM.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY directly after church on
December 10th. We will go out to eat then go bowling.
We will return at 4:00 PM.

Student Christmas Party 6:00 Pizza; 6:30 PM Cookie
Decoration



3rd: Ray & Heather Smith
10th: Janel G. & Emma
17th: Josh F. & Sandy P.
24th: Michael & Alicia J.
31st: Craig & Amanda G.



3rd: Cindy Whitley & Emily Oster
10th: Amanda G. & Dawn M.
17th: Debbie J. & Amanda V.
24th: Bill & Carol Fowler
31st: Roger H. & Janel G.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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 Long
13 Stuart James, Joanne Trull
14 Eric Helms
14 Maleah Long Batchelor, Brittany Rivenbark
15 Sue Austin, Nick Napier
16 Mandy Phifer, 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
28 Cindy Whitley
29 Vinny Pasciuta
30 Becky Brazell

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

5 Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Haigler
7 Mr. & Mrs. Reid Phifer
13 Mr. & Mrs. Wes Stewart
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

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

Christmas Holiday Office Hours:

Closed Monday, December 25,
Thursday, December 28th and Friday, December 29th
and Monday, January 1st.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY

Sunday School: 9:45 AM

Morning Worship Service: 10:45 AM

Violin Practice: Practice December 3rd then
Starts back in January

Evening Worship Service: 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bell Practice: Starts back in January

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

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

STAFF & PHONE NUMBERS

Rev. Leon Whitley, Pastor

Church Study: 704-624-3882

Home: 704-753-4768

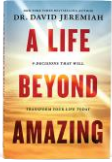
Michael Jordan, Youth Director

Phone: 704-698-5787

Church Office: 704-624-2929

Fellowship Hall & FAX: 704-624-3868

Sunday School Office: 704-624-2929



A Life Beyond Amazing Book Study
\$14.00 each
Please sign up on the bulletin board.

***Book Study Schedule**

***Please note change in dates**

- December 10th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Joy"
- January 7th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Peace"
- January 14th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Endurance"
- January 21st at 6:00 PM: A Life of Compassion"
- January 28th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Generosity"
- February 4th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Integrity"
- February 11th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Humility"
- February 18th at 6:00 PM: "A Life of Self Discipline"

Donna Pittman Christmas Store sign-up sheet for volunteers is on the bulletin board. Please turn in your toys to the Welcome Center, or if you'd like us to shop for you, please give money to Barbara Simpson. **REFRESHMENTS ARE NEEDED...IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE SEE BARBARA SIMPSON.** Thank you.



Charlotte Motor Speedway Christmas Lights Trip

Monday, December 4th
We will leave from the church at 4:00 PM
Please sign up at bulletin board.

Lottie Moon Received as of November 26th: \$3,915.00



Our mailroom is open for Christmas Cards. Please help us out by turning in your cards early. Deadline to turn in is Wednesday, December 13th and pick up will be Sunday, December 17th. Thank you ☺

CHURCH DIRECTORY: **We still are missing some photos and information sheets.** Please e-mail your photos and/or turn in information sheets as soon as possible so we can add to our pictorial directory. **If you need your picture taken, please see Cindy Whitley. Thank you so much.**

DECEMBER EVENTS

Sunday, December 3rd: Donna Pittman Toy Store toys and Autumn Care Angel Tree gifts are due.

9:00 AM: AGBC at Autumn Care

6:00 PM: International Mission Study

Monday, December 4th: **Charlotte Motor Speedway Lights Trip.** We will leave from church at 4:00 PM.

Monday, December 4th: 6:30 PM Church Safety Training Meeting at Wingate Baptist Church

Tuesday, December 5th: **Senior Citizen's Christmas Luncheon** at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Our meal will be catered; however, we are asking that our ladies please bring a dessert.

Wednesday, December 6th: **Second Harvest at Bethel Community Center**

Friday, December 8th: Senior Yellow Jacket Community is invited to Forest Hills High School for Breakfast at 8:30 AM. RSVP at 704-233-4001; Saved to Serve Class Party at Gino's Restaurant.

Saturday, December 9th: Donna Pittman Toy Store at UBA

Sunday, December 10th: 10:45 AM Adult Christmas Cantata; 6:00 PM *A Life Beyond Amazing* Book Study: "A Life of Joy"

Monday, December 11th: WMU & All Ladies of the Church are invited to our WMU Christmas Party at 11:00 AM. Please see women's bulletin board for more details. Thank you.

Tuesday, December 12th: A trip to Old Salem is planned leaving the church at 7:00 AM. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to go.

Thursday, December 14th: Operation Christmas Child-Samaritan's Purse Work Day from 6:00-10:00 PM. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up on the bulletin board.

Sunday, December 17th: 6:00-8:30 PM "A Night in Bethlehem" Event

Sunday, December 24th Schedule of Services:

No Sunday School, Worship at 11:00 AM. We will be having a special Communion Service.

JANUARY EVENTS

We will be hosting the UBA Winter Session here at Austin Grove on Tuesday, January 23rd.