

# THE ACCENT

December 2019



## AUSTIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

5919 Austin Grove Church Road, Marshville, NC 28103

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704-624-2929

### *To Our Church Family and Friends,*

Let me share with you a story of a missionary in Africa and the gift he received one Christmas...

One Christmas a missionary in Africa was given many gifts. Each one was treasured by him, for it represented love. But his favorite was not a gift that could be seen or touched. A man came to him with his gift, a simple one. The missionary knew the man came from a village deep in the jungle, miles away.

"Thank you, my friend, but you should have never come so far, alone, and through treacherous jungle."

"But sir," the smiling native replied, "the walk was part of my gift to you."

Gifts wrapped in tissue and ribbons are exciting and beautiful, but the pretty wrappings are torn and thrown away. The gifts are enjoyed for a while, then they wear out and are gone, even forgotten. But what we give of ourselves lives on.

"And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold, and frankincense, and myrrh" (Matthew 2:11).

The material gifts were second in importance—they gave of themselves first.

The gifts have been put away; the tree looks a little shabby. Do you feel, as one teen-age girl put it, "sort of blah and letdown"? Or is there still joy in your heart and excitement in living? Was Christmas centered on the tree, or on Christ, who lives on in the heart and cannot be put away, worn out, broken, nor forgotten? Has his precious gift of love been accepted, and has he been given a gift of love in return?

*Dear Jesus, we would give to thee our time, our service, and our hearts overflowing with love. Amen.*

Continued...

If we heed this message, this will be the best Christmas we have ever experienced.

Thank you so much for allowing Cindy and me to serve such a wonderful church. Merry Christmas to all and thanks for all you do in service to our Lord year long.

God Bless! *Leon & Cindy*

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### Children's Church Workers

- 1<sup>st</sup>-Cindy W. & Kelly M.
- 8<sup>th</sup>-Amanda G. & Heather S.
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Debbie J. & Amanda V.
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: Bill & Carol Fowler
- 29<sup>th</sup>: Roger H. & Janel G.

### Sunday Morning Nursery Workers

- 1st: Dustin & Dawn M.
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Brandon & Christa L.
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Ray & Heather S.
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: LeBron & Shirley Crowe
- 29<sup>th</sup>: Bill & Carol F.

### Sunday Evening Nursery Workers

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Sandra Helms
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Play
- 15<sup>th</sup>: Beverly Napier
- 22<sup>nd</sup>: No Evening Services
- 29<sup>th</sup>: No Evening Services

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**December Fellowship Hall Clean Up:  
Knights for Christ, Adult Class #1, Adult Class #5**

## CHILDREN & YOUTH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

DATE: Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> TIME: 6:00 - 7:30 PM

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### YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Meet right after church at the fellowship hall.

We will return at approximately 3:30 PM

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Youth/Children Regular Meeting times unless noted below

No Youth-Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Play)

No Youth-Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

No Children/Youth Wednesday Night Activities-December 25<sup>th</sup>

No Youth-Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>

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### Ida Mae James Meeting

DATE: Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Fellowship Hall

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### Give the Gift of Education

#### "Be the Village" Campaign

Help the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students to visit the United States Capital in Washington D.C. in the Spring of 2020.

See the bulletin board for more details. Thank you.

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Forest Hill's Athletic Boosters, FFA & FCA  
Cordially Invites the Senior Yellow Jacket Community  
to an

## OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>

8:30 AM - FHHS Cafeteria

Featuring:

A Country Cookin' Breakfast, Holiday Music,  
Games & Festivities

Please RSVP to 704-296-3025.

See Bulletin Board for flyer.

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### Donna Pittman Toy Store: Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

Volunteers are needed to work in 2 hour shifts that day. Call Teresa Polk at 704-283-8932 to volunteer or sign up on the bulletin board.

Watch bulletin for more information about our church toy collection dates. Thank you.

## THANKSGIVING MEAL

Thank you to all that helped with the meal.

Everyone had a great time!

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

## MAY GOD BLESS!



## Student and Youth

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

### 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18

Wow doesn't those two verses sound great? Don't they sound inspiring? Let me put this thanksgiving into the real context. The writer here is Paul. The journey he was on, the things he had faced already were documented in 2 Corinthians chapter 11 "24 Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. 27 I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches."

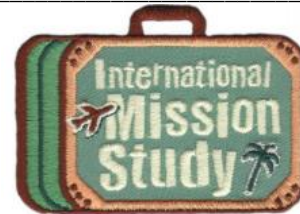
Now let's be real, if we had all that happening to us, today, in our life, would we be able to Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances? I dare to say that the majority of us would not. We are surrounded by a broken world that doesn't understand true Thanksgiving. They don't understand true Thanksgiving because they don't know the One that all thanks giving should be through and for, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There are many times I catch myself worn out due to the business of life. I allow myself to be in a negative mindset. I think we all do from time to time. As we are leaving the season of Thanksgiving, heading into Christmas, let's all make it top priority to stop our worldly view of what it looks like to give thanks and move to the greater praise that is due our heavenly father. **As 1 Corinthians 15:57 says, "57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our LORD Jesus Christ."**

Michael Jordan,  
Student & Youth Director

BABY JESUS, WE LOVE YOU



**DATE:** Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 6:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Fellowship Hall



**DATE:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019;  
**TIME:** At our 6:45 PM service.

### Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse Workday

**DATE:** Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 7 PM – 10 PM

Please sign up on bulletin board.  
13+ years or older. Dinner at Chick-fil-A.



### Billy Graham Library Christmas Lights

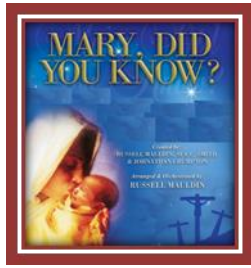
**DATE:** Saturday, December 7th.  
**TIME:** Leave the church at 3:15 PM  
Please sign up on the bulletin board. Thank you.

### 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



**“Very Brief” Nominating Committee Meeting**  
**DATE:** Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> **TIME:** 6:15 PM  
**PLACE:** *Knights for Christ* Classroom



### Adult Choir Cantata

**DATE:** Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 10:45 AM

### Sisters In Christ Mission Project

We are collecting gently used purses.  
Ladies, clean out those closets!  
Please leave in *Knights for Christ* Classroom. Thank you.

### Vote on Budget

**DATE:** Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> **TIME:** 10:45 AM

### Second Harvest Food Bank

**DATE:** Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 8:00 AM  
**PLACE:** Bethel Community Center

5180 NC 742 Hwy S., Wadesboro, NC 28170 (Across the street from address)

### CHRISTMAS CARDS



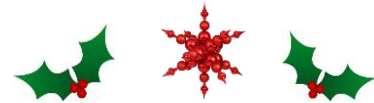
**The mail room is now open.**  
Please be sure to pick up your Christmas Card List located in the Adult Sunday School Classes and Vestibule. **Please help us out by getting all your cards placed in the mailboxes by Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** so everyone will be

able to pick up their cards and enjoy them before Christmas. Thank you and Merry Christmas!



### Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

Watch bulletins for our church goal.



### Senior Christmas Party

**DATE:** Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 11:30 AM **PLACE:** Fellowship Hall  
You do not need to bring anything.  
Please sign up on the bulletin board.

### Sisters in Christ Christmas Party

**DATE:** Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>  
**TIME:** 5:30 PM – Until  
Meat will be provided, please bring a side dish.  
Bring a fun pair of socks for a game.



Gift exchange \$10.00.  
Ladies, sign up on bulletin board!

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Jack Napier
- 3 Freddy Griffin
- 4 Kristina Deese
- 4 Charles Ivey
- 4 Jason Little
- 5 Parker Griffin
- 6 Carol Fowler
- 6 Kelly Martin
- 7 Russell Smith
- 8 Shirley Griffin
- 12 Parker Griffin
- 13 Stuart James
- 13 Joanne Trull
- 14 Eric Helms
- 15 Sue Austin
- 15 Nick Napier
- 16 Mandy Phifer
- 16 Kenny Stewart
- 17 Landon Newsome
- 18 Laura Stoddard
- 19 Aaron Griffin
- 19 Jacob Griffin
- 19 Brandon Love
- 20 Olivia Whitley
- 22 Julie Davis
- 22 Cynthia Miller
- 24 Carole Helms
- 26 Lewis Throckmorton
- 28 Melva Seay
- 28 Cindy Whitley
- 29 Vinny Pasciuta
- 30 Becky Brazell