

THE ACCENT

December 2020



AUSTIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

5919 Austin Grove Church Road, Marshville, NC 28103

Website: www.austingrovebaptist.com

E-mail: austingrovebaptist@windstream.net

YouTube Channel: Austin Grove Baptist Church

704-624-2929



To Our Church Family and Friends:

I want to take this opportunity to thank our deacons and others in leadership for continuing to lead our congregation through times like we have never witnessed before. Thanks for keeping our safety and wellness at the very forefront of the decisions that have been made and will be made in the future. God has honored those decisions and I know each decision has been bathed in prayer.

Can you believe it is December already? Christmas can be defined in many ways, but the only real and genuine definition must be that it is Christ. Without Christ, there would be no atonement for our sins, no grace, no mercy, no hope of eternal life. The list can go on and on. Where does Christ stand in your life and what priority does Jesus find in your life? This is a difficult challenge and question. Many profess with our lips He is Lord and little evidence or signs are to be seen to back up what we say up. Many times we get caught up with the glitter and other events that come alongside Christmas. Our children always said, "Careful Be", this phrase is very fitting when we choose to ignore the real meaning of Christmas as Christ. He is Lord! He came and took on the form in flesh and showed us the love that His (Our) Father has for each of us. He showed us how to live and walk in real life. Not just at certain times, but how to deal with everyday ordinary decisions that we all face and will face in life. He reminded us to walk and talk using the wisdom of God within the framework of our lives.

Christmas will come and will be gone. Please take time to experience the real meaning of Christmas this year. Christ is waiting for you and me to acknowledge Him and give Him the right place in our hearts and souls. Enjoy all that Christmas has to offer. We are all blessed in such immense ways. Please be sure to put Christ at the top of the list of priorities in your life, for then and only then will you find the real experience and meaning of Christmas.

May God bless and keep you safe!

Merry Christmas,

Leon and Cindy



Lottie Moon Week of Prayer
November 29 – December 5, 2020

A Great *Multifaceted* + You
Rev. 7:9

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

Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry

Anson Crisis Assistance & Second Harvest Food Bank - Local Churches - FREE FOOD

Wednesday, December 2

Pleasant Hill UMC, 126 Church Street, McFarlan, NC 28102

Arrive & Register Between 8:00-10:00 am



DATE: Wednesday, December 2nd

TIME: 12 Noon PLACE: Fellowship Hall

Please contact Melissa Smith to place your lunch order. Kate Clyde's Catered Creations will be catering. Thank you.

BLANKET MISSION PROJECT

In lieu of their Christmas gift exchange this year, the women of the church will be collecting NEW blankets and/or donations for blankets on Friday, December 11th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. They will also accept donations on Sunday, December 13th. We are partnering with the Church of God Marshville and they will give these out to needy families. Please see Melissa Smith or Brenda Walker for cash donations or you may leave blankets in Larry Smith's Sunday School Class. Thank you.



The Baby Shower for Katie & Mason Cuthbertson will be rescheduled. Please watch bulletins for more details. REGISTERED AT: Amazon

LIBRARY NEWS

There is a nice article about Ben Davis in the Wingate University magazine. We will place a copy in the church library and post a copy for your viewing on the bulletin board.



Donna Pittman Toy Store

Please see the bulletin board for more details about volunteering and donating toys.

Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Packing Night

A sign-up sheet for Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Packing Night is on the bulletin board.

DATE: December 17th TIME: 7:00 – 10:00 PM

Thank you for the Samaritan's Purse OCC shoeboxes. If you still have yours to bring in, please do so and leave in Pastor Leon's office. Thank you.

Please note new room number: Mrs. Gerrie Williams, Room 216, 2515 Fowler Secrest Road, Monroe, NC 28110

New Address for: Ms. Polly Marsh, Woodridge, 2515 Fowler Secrest Road, Monroe, NC 28110

2020 Christmas Card Lists will be available on Sunday, December 6th Please have all cards "delivered" by Wednesday, December 16th and pick up your cards by Sunday, December 20th. Thank you.





It is rapidly approaching to the end of 2020. A year that will forever go down in history for the pandemic, mask, and shutdowns. There is still time to add to that list. While we should be social distancing and keeping each other safe, we still are called to be generous and giving. And in doing so you will reap as well. 2 Corinthians 9:11 says "You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." We are to bless others from what God has provided to us. In turn, the result will be thanksgiving to God.

As we go headlong into the Christmas season, I want to challenge each of us to be generous in our giving to those in need. Not for our own recognition but do it so that there is thanksgiving given to God. Thanksgiving for the abundance he has blessed us with, and thanksgiving by those receiving for the providence that God provides. Another way to put it is hold your material possessions loosely so you can hold onto God tightly. Store up our treasures in heaven where moths and rust do not destroy and where thieves do not break in and steal Matthew 6:20. Let's keep our focus on God this holiday season rather. He is the reason for this season. *Michael Jordan*



Children's Church	Date	Nursery
Heather & Janel	12/6/2020	Michael & Alicia Jordan
Christa & Julia	12/13/2020	Aaron & Kimberly Griffin
Cindy & Kelly	12/20/2020	LeBron & Shirley Crowe
Michael & Alicia	12/27/2020	Janel & Kelcey Griffin
Heather & Janel	1/3/2021	Brandon & Christa Love
Cindy & Kelly	1/10/2021	Debbie Jordan & Amanda Vann

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Jack Napier
- 3 Freddy Griffin
- 4 Kristina Deese, Charles Ivey, Jason Little
- 5 Parker Ivey, Allison Ivey
- 6 Carol Fowler, Kelly Martin
- 7 Russell Smith
- 8 Shirley Griffin
- 10 Alice Jordan Long
- 13 Stuart James, Joanne Trull
- 14 Eric Helms, Maleah Long Batchelor, Brittany Rivenbark
- 15 Sue Austin, Nick Napier
- 16 Mandy Phifer
- 17 Landon Newsome
- 18 Laura Stoddard
- 19 Aaron Griffin, Jacob Griffin, Brandon Love
- 20 Olivia Whitley
- 22 Julie Davis, Cynthia Miller
- 24 Carole Helms, Sophia Hutson
- 26 Lewis Throckmorton
- 28 Melva Seay, Cindy Whitley
- 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
Rev. & Mrs. John Wood
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Austin
- 23 Mr. & Mrs. Joe Byrum
Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Edwards
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Craiglow
- 29 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Guffey