



Graham, North Carolina

DECEMBER 2025 E-NEWS



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas everywhere you go." In fact it has been looking that way for several weeks now. It seems we get earlier and earlier every year. Before long we will start decorating before we get through with summer. YIKES! I do enjoy all the decorations and especially the songs of the season, but I think we over do it just a bit and sometimes we forget the real meaning.

I think about this every year. How would I feel, especially when I was a child, if everybody gave each other gifts on my birthday and I got little to no gifts? I bet I would have been really upset! Yet that is just what we do at Christmas. Instead of celebrating the one whose birth is supposed to be celebrated, we spend hundreds of dollars on gifts for others. I know Jesus said doing it for one of the least of these is like doing it for Me. But I don't think He was talking about giving gifts to our family and friends.

Now don't get me wrong. I am not opposed to getting gifts, in fact I kinda like it. It's just that I think our gift giving needs to be put into perspective. Where is Jesus on our Christmas gift list? How much do we spend on Him? The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions is a great way to give to Him. The money is used to send the Gospel around the world - exactly what He told us to do.

Have you decided how much you will give this year? Why not take a moment and count up how much you plan to spend on Christmas gifts this year and for food for family dinners, then give a percentage of that or perhaps a matching gift through the Lottie Moon Offering to help spread the message of the greatest gift around the world. Our church goal for this year is \$8,500 which means each light on our display board represents \$85 given for missions. We will turn on our board for the first time on Sunday night December 7 during the Hanging of the Greens service. I hope we can see all the lights lit at that time.

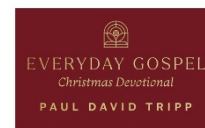
December is a month filled with activities, both church related and family related. With that in mind there are a couple of dates you need to keep in mind. There will be **no** Wednesday morning or evening Bible studies on **December 24 or 31**. The church office will be closed on December 24 and 25. There will also be **no** evening service on Sunday, December 28.

I hope each of you has a wonderful Christmas celebration and remember the true meaning of Christmas is Jesus. He is the reason for the season and always will be. The world is trying to push Jesus out of the celebration by removing CHRISTmas from their vocabulary and replacing it with Happy Holidays. What they don't realize is they are still wishing us a happy "Holy" day because the original meaning of "holiday" is "holy day," derived from two Old English words. So, when someone wishes you a "Happy Holiday" don't be too offended, just asked them which one they are referencing. *"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"* and celebrate Jesus until He returns.

Pastor Bob

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped us send **234** Shoeboxes to boys and girls all around the world. Each box is a gospel opportunity. Your simple gift can and will make a big difference in sharing with kids that God loves them.

Make sure that you have grabbed a copy of the **church Advent book**. This is a devotional to help prepare our hearts and to help us stop to remember what Christmas is all about. The devotional book is set to start on December 1st and lead us all the way to Christmas day.



Join Paul Tripp for 25 days leading up to Christmas in "The Everyday Gospel Christmas Devotional." Designed to be used during the advent season, this devotional provides the perfect way to close out the year together and prepare your heart as we begin the new year immersed in God's word.

"Hanging of the Greens" Service will be **December 7th at 6pm**. This is a great service to invite your friends to attend as we begin to prepare our church and our hearts for Christmas.

This month we focus on our annual **Lottie Moon International Missions Christmas Offering**. 100% of the money collected goes to place missionaries in the field around the world. The cause to share Christ has never been more needed. Pray for what you can give and partner with those who have answered the call to be your hands and feet to the nations. You can find more information on our missions table located outside the Sanctuary. We also have our **Lottie Moon Post Office** up and running. It is designed so that you can use it to share Christmas cards with fellow church members and regular attendees. The postage that you would use for sending the cards you can place into the box beside the post office. Please make sure that the people actually attend church regularly and be sure to check to see if you have any mail.



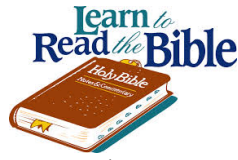
Begin to pray now for **VBS** - for the children, the workers, and how God will use **you** to impact the lives of children. We are in desperate need of someone to lead the music aspect for our children and pre-school rotations. If we can not find workers, we may have to cancel VBS. Please pray!

We already have a theme for next year. The theme is Illumination Station - shining a light on who Jesus really is. The scripture focus will come from John 8:12, "Jesus spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life." Culture claims to know about Jesus, but many are in the dark about who He is. Illumination station will challenge kids to answer the question Jesus asked His disciple "Who do you say I am?" Kids will discover that Jesus is the light who brings hope to a dark world. So, mark your calendars and plan to join us as we see that Jesus is the light of the world - **June 14-18, 2025**



Pastor Mark

BIBLE READING FOR THE MONTH



Dec. 1 1 Corin. 14-16
Dec. 2 II Corin. 1-5
Dec. 3 II Corin. 6-9
Dec. 4 II Corin. 10-13
Dec. 5 Galatians 1-3
Dec. 6 Galatians 4-6
Dec. 7 Ephesians 1-3
Dec. 8 Ephesians 4-6
Dec. 9 Philippians 1-4
Dec. 10 Colossians 1-4

Dec. 11 I Thess. 1-5
Dec. 12 II Thess. I Tim. 2
Dec. 13 I Timothy 3-6
Dec. 14 II Timothy 1-4
Dec. 15 Titus 1-Phil. I
Dec. 16 Hebrews 1-4
Dec. 17 Hebrews 5-8
Dec. 18 Hebrew 9-11
Dec. 19 Heb.12-James 1
Dec. 20 James 2-5

Dec. 21 I Peter 1-3
Dec. 22 I Peter 4-II Peter 2
Dec. 23 II Peter 3-I John 3
Dec. 24 I John 4-III John
Dec. 25 Jude 1-Rev. 2
Dec. 26 Rev. 3-5
Dec. 27 Revelation 6-8
Dec. 28 Revelation 9-12
Dec. 29 Revelation 13-16
Dec. 30 Revelation 17-19
Dec. 31 Revelation 20-22

December Anniversaries

1st Bill & Brenda Aydt

17th Dennis & Carol Brown

3rd Billy & Edith Williams

29th David & Linda Webb



December Birthdays

3rd Richard Brown

4th Glenda Carden

6th Makayla Bui

8th Juanita Stone

12th Milton Wilder

14th Faye Benthe

17th Ken Johnson

17th Virginia Gerring

20th Cali James

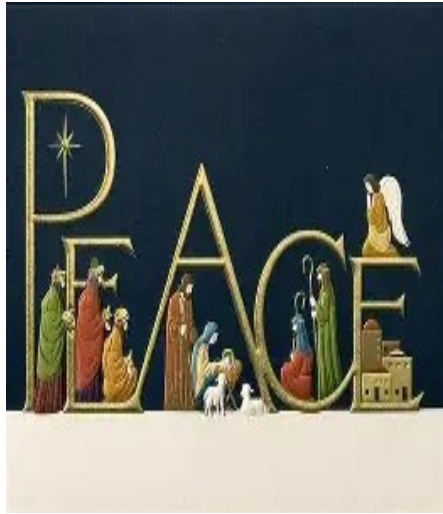
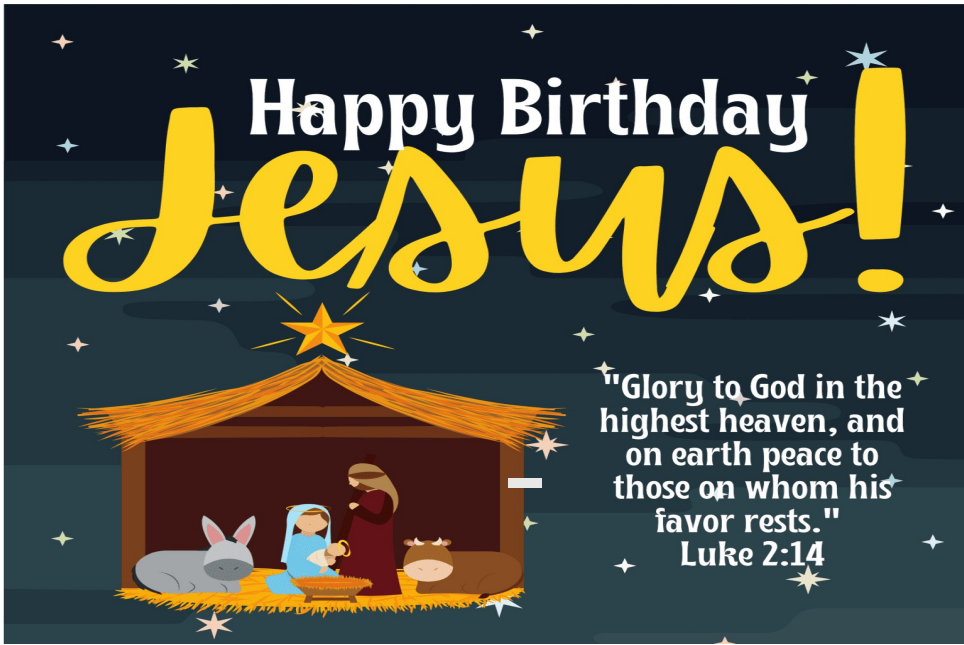
21st Serenity Crisp

26th Tara Martin

28th Jeanette Tuck

29th Carolyn Toney

Shirley King



December

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

	<p>1</p> <p>Grief Share 10:00 AM</p> <p>11:30 AM Genesis Circle (Siloam Home)</p> <p>7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Brotherhood Mtg 7:00 PM (FH)</p> <p>7:05 PM Prayer Time where you are</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p>  <p>Bible Study 6:30 PM</p>		<p>5</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>Young at Heart Christmas Dinner 5:00 PM (FH)</p> 
<p>7</p>  <p>“Hanging of the Greens” 6:00 PM</p> <p>Awana 5:30 PM</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12:30 PM (FH) Josie Brewer Circle</p> <p>6:30 PM (FH) Lydia Circle</p> <p>7:05 PM Prayer Time where you are</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p> <p>Bible Study 6:30 PM</p>	<p>11</p> 		
<p>14</p> <p>Awana 5:30 PM (last mtg until January)</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:05 PM Prayer Time where you are</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p>  <p>6:30 PM Bible Study</p>		<p>19</p> 	
<p>21</p>  <p>6:00 Christmas Communion</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:05 PM Prayer Time where you are</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p> 	
<p>28</p> <p>No PM Service</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:00 PM AA Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:05 PM Prayer Time where you are</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p> <p>No Church Services</p>			

