



HERALD

Calvary Baptist Church

314 South Franklin Road

Mt. Airy, NC 27030

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VOLUME XXIX No. 24 DECEMBER 16—JANUARY 5, 2012



Sunday, December 18 at 10:55 AM—Christmas Musical,
“Tapestry of Light”

Sunday, December 18 at 6:00 PM—Children’s Musical,
“Arrest These Merry Gentlemen”

Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 PM—Christmas Caroling

Friday, December 23—Office Closed

Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 PM—Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 25—No Uplift Service
No Sunday School
Worship Service—10:55 AM

Monday, December 26—Office Closed

Sunday, January 1—Uplift Service—8:30 AM
Sunday School—9:45 AM
Traditional Worship—10:55 AM

Monday, January 2—Office Closed



Deacons of the Week:

December 18 Danny Lineberry (320-3018)

December 25 Benny Lisk (789-8852)

January 1 Wade Marion (789-9388)

Deacon Good Shepherds:

December 18 Sherry Hiatt (320-2622), Mary Jo White (786-4852)

December 25 Johnny Surratt (786-1286), David Stone (789-1177)

January 1 Gray & Mary Jane Shelton (789-5821)

First Care Teams:

December 18 Charlie & Betty Wagoner (786-6055)

December 25 Guy & Mary Sparger (786-6906)

January 1 Daylon & Carolyn Greene (786-1426)

Church Statistics

Budget Year as of 12/11/11	Budget to Date	Receipts to date	Expenditures to date	Receipts minus Expenditures
General	\$92,254.25	\$86,683.49	\$61,694.22	\$24,989.27
Debt Retirement	\$2,490.51	\$4,983.18	\$329.32	\$4,653.86
Transportation	\$830.17	\$661.15	\$124.62	\$536.53
Debt Reduction Funds Available		\$24,863.76		
Loan Balance as of 12/07/11		\$45,660.48		

WEEKLY RECEIPTS	12/04	12/11
Operating Income	\$8,572.00	\$6,895.41
Debt Retirement	\$594.00	\$685.00
Transportation	\$189.00	\$10.00

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP ATTENDANCE		
SS Enrollment	517	517
JOY Home Bound Ministry	20	20
Bible Study	203	184
Uplift Worship	64	92
10:55 AM Worship	188	207
Total Worship	252	299



Calendar of Events

<u>Sunday, December 18</u>	<u>Sunday, December 25</u>	<u>Sunday, January 1</u>
9:45 AM Sunday School	<i>Christmas Day</i>	<i>New Year's Day</i>
10:55 AM Traditional Worship	10:55 AM Traditional Worship	8:30 AM Uplift Service
<i>Christmas Musical</i>	<u>Monday, December 26</u>	9:45 AM Sunday School
6:00 PM Children's Musical	Office Closed	10:55 AM Traditional Worship
7:00 PM Youth Christmas Party	<u>Tuesday, December 27</u>	<u>Monday, January 2</u>
<u>Monday, December 19</u>	10:30 AM Women In Mission	Office Closed
6:00 PM Finance Committee	Medical Ministry	<u>Wednesday, January 4</u>
<u>Tuesday, December 20</u>	<u>Wednesday, December 28</u>	12:00 PM J.O.Y. Luncheon
6:15 PM Grief Share	No Wednesday Night Activities	6:30 PM Wednesday Night SS
<u>Wednesday, December 21</u>	<u>Saturday, December 31</u>	7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM Christmas Caroling	New Year's Eve	<u>Thursday, January 5</u>
<u>Friday, December 23</u>		6:30 PM Deacons Meeting
Office Closed		7:00PM Praise Team Practice
<u>Saturday, December 24</u>		
5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service		



Non-Profit Org.
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Return Service
Requested

Calvary Baptist Church
314 South Franklin Road
Mt. Airy, NC 27030

*...striving to glorify God by being a
Christ-centered church through
worship, discipleship, missions and
ministry.*

The Herald is published the first and third Fridays.

Ministers Our Church Family
Pastor Rev. Alex Martin
(e-mail—pastoralex@calvarybcmtairy.org)
Minister of Music Rev. Stephen Farrar
(email—steve@calvarybcmtairy.org)
Administrative Assistant..... Billie Doyle
(email—billie@calvarybcmtairy.org)
Part-time Office Assistant..... Ann Richardson
(email—ann@calvarybcmtairy.org)
Organist..... Carolyn Greene
Pianist..... Jean Williamson
Sound Engineers Phillip Hiatt, Danny Lineberry
Custodian Carlos Delfin



	December 18	December 25	January 1
Nursery Workers	Uplift	Uplift	Uplift
Bed Babies—4years	No Uplift Service	No Uplift Service	Benny & Pam Lisk
Children's Church	No Uplift Service	No Uplift Service	TBA
	Traditional	Traditional	Traditional
Bed Babies/Toddlers	Anne Forrest, Carolyn	Sandy Nowlin, Evelyn Nowlin	Danielle Sechrist, Rachel Hull
2 - 4 Year Olds	Johnny & Mary Lynn Goins	Kent and Kyle Moser, Faye	Dawn & Jack Stanley
Children's Church	No Children's Church	No Children's Church	Deena MArtin



The Pastor Ponders: My Holy Night

As I *suspect* is true for a lot of us, many of my earliest Christmas memories have to do with all the festivities of the holiday season. I remember trips to visit family...and the decorating of Christmas trees (*with meticulously hung pieces of tinsel, no less! Who uses tinsel anymore?*). I remember standing in line to see department store Santas...and – of course – I remember the joy of tearing into brightly wrapped gifts on Christmas morning. But among all these festive memories, there is one that stands out for its decidedly different tone – and for the way that it continues to shape the thing I long for most at Christmas.

My father was a singer – *and a good one!* Trained at a well-known music conservatory, he had sung with symphony orchestras, in musical theater productions, and in countless churches. So it's really no surprise that in the small-town church of my childhood, he was one of the 'anchor voices' in the church choir. But at our congregation's annual Christmas Eve service, my dad would *leave* the choir. He'd sneak away into the balcony, positioning himself where he couldn't be seen. Then – during that portion of worship where candles were lit and the Christmas Story read – he would sing, "O Holy Night," his voice filling the sanctuary like sacred incense - and filling me with pride (because – after all – that was my dad).

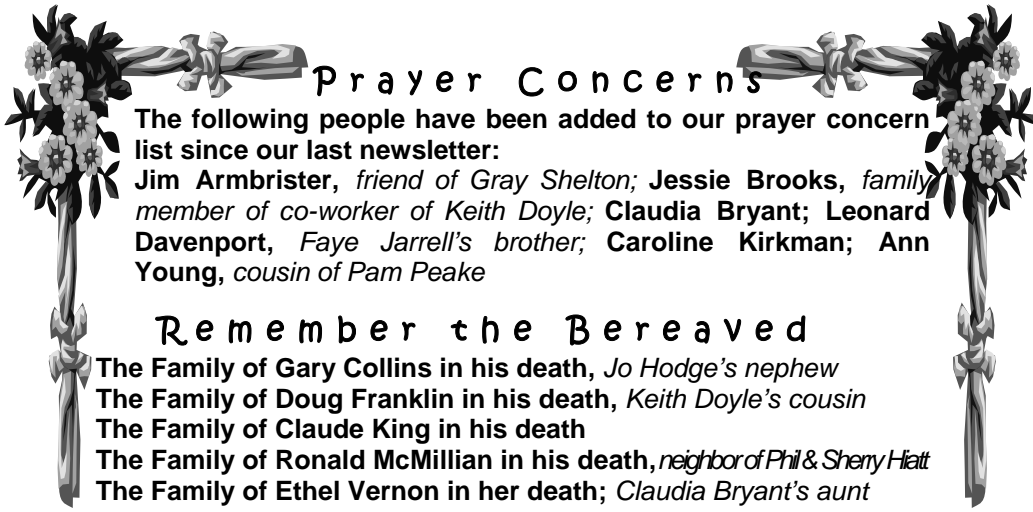
But more than allowing me to hear the voice of my father, those moments introduced me to the voice of The Father. They awakened my soul to what the ancient teachers of the Church called the "*mysterium tremendum et fascinans*"—the *tremendous* and *fascinating* mystery that is the holy presence of God. And I suppose it must be said...that to this day...the thing that I most desire in the Christmas season is that God will allow me to experience again those moments of sacred wonder—moments when lights and music and the closeness of family and friends become the doorway to something even deeper and more life-changing: the reality that God Is with Us.

Thankfully, the awareness of God's holy presence is not limited to candlelight worship services on Christmas Eve. God can slip into our lives in all kinds of unexpected ways and at all sorts of unexpected places... which is kind of what the Christmas story is all about. How and where will you discover the holy mystery of God's nearness this Christmas?

My dear friends, I'm thankful for all the ways that you have been the presence of Christ to me this year. And I pray that God will fill your season with "O Holy Nights"...and "O Holy Days"...and with countless reminders that you are loved with an everlasting love.

Merry Christmas

Pastor Alex



Prayer Concerns

The following people have been added to our prayer concern list since our last newsletter:

Jim Armbrister, friend of Gray Shelton; **Jessie Brooks**, family member of co-worker of Keith Doyle; **Claudia Bryant**; **Leonard Davenport**, Faye Jarrell's brother; **Caroline Kirkman**; **Ann Young**, cousin of Pam Peake

Remember the Bereaved

The Family of Gary Collins in his death, Jo Hodge's nephew
The Family of Doug Franklin in his death, Keith Doyle's cousin
The Family of Claude King in his death
The Family of Ronald McMillian in his death, neighbor of Phil & Sherry Hiatt
The Family of Ethel Vernon in her death; Claudia Bryant's aunt

Recent Contributions

In Memory of

Glenn & Emma Davenport
Fred & Cena Jarrell
Wayne & Norma Jarrell
Luma & Lena Snow



by the Fred Jarrell Family

In Memory of Claude King by:

Don and Mary Nell Byrd
Linda Gordon
Jo Ann Surratt

In Memory of Golie Southern by

Don & Lavon Thompson

NEW BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY

Whispers in Your Ear written by Kelly Sipe.
Donated by Jim and Sandra Byrd.

My First Christian ABC Book written by Bryant C. Buck.
Donated in honor of Pastor Alex's birthday by Johnny and Mary Lynn Goins.



*Wednesday Night Activities Begin
January 11

*Ladies Bible Study

*Blood Drive—January 15

*Youth Ski Trip—January 20-22

*Fifth Sunday Combined Worship
January 29

More Details to Follow....

The Shepherd's House is in need of these items:
Tea Bags, Coffee & Creamer, Cleaning Products, Gallon Baggies
You may drop off items at 227 Rockford Street. Mount Airy



²⁰ Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord. ²¹ The wise in heart are called discerning, and gracious words promote instruction. ²² Prudence is a fountain of life to the prudent, but folly brings punishment to fools. ²³ The hearts of the wise make their mouths prudent, and their lips promote instruction. ²⁴ Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Proverbs 16:20-24

By listening to various media in our society, we hear an assortment of sayings; some with meaning, some silly, and some just downright useless. Commercials are responsible for some catch phrases that people may remember, but not associate with the product that it was used with. In that case, the marketing firms probably did not do what they intended. Some sayings are used so much that they by definition become clichés, overused to the point where the saying loses its meaning. Somewhere through the years, I seem to remember someone using the saying “He who hesitates is lost.” I thought it had come from my school years, but I’m not sure where I heard it or who said it. In researching its origin, I found it has been attributed to Benjamin Franklin, and I can assure you I did not personally hear him say it.

It would not be very difficult to apply some biblical application to this saying. A person who hesitates from starting a relationship with God is not only lost, but also one that hesitates from building the relationship. I know that we as Baptists believe in “once saved, always saved,” but often let our relationship with God slip away over a period of time and drift away. As a person drifts further away, it becomes more difficult to see God and results in them feeling “lost.”

In some instances, hesitation is not a bad thing. Hesitating at the intersection before walking in front of oncoming traffic; well, I don’t think I need to explain that one. But hesitating when it comes to connecting with God is not a good thing. If you become more involved in Bible study, any hesitation in building and strengthening your connection with Him can be overcome. In closing, I remember another saying that did come from my high school principal, Mr. Sigmon, long before coming to Mount Airy. When he wanted to emphasize something, he would end what he was saying by adding, “A word to the wise should be sufficient.”

*Bob McPherson
Sunday School Director*



Beginning Sunday, January 1, Pastor Alex encourages you to be present in worship for “*Resolved: New Hope for a New Year.*” This three week message series invites you to consider: What resolutions will make a “Kingdom difference” in the year ahead? Why not invite a friend to join you in worship as we kick off a new year together?