

### December Birthdays



1	H.W. Chappell	10	Chris Hatley
1	J.T. Foster	10	Dennis Leonard
1	Dylan Hall	12	Patrick Woods
3	Debbie Bennett	18	Janie Bower
3	Angelica Burton	18	Bill Nelson
3	Nancy Price	19	Unique Chavis
5	Nancy White	21	Darin Wilder
6	Gary Nelms	24	Heather Schutz
6	Jill Righter	29	T.J. Ellington
7	McKenzie Morgan	29	James Small
8	Amanda Kearney	31	Sarah Hagwood

### A Missions Moment

There will not be a Fellowship Meal in December.

Please continue to pray for those affected by Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael in our community and in our country.

We thank God for the success of Operation Christmas Child. Pray for those children who receive a box through this ministry. May hearts be open and receptive to the hearing of God's Word. The boxes have been delivered and are on their way to their destinations!

We will be collecting for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering throughout the month of December. Every Church; Every Nation. It's more than a catch phrase. It is the core of what we do. We believe every church and every member has a critical role to play in the bigger picture of bringing the gospel to the world. Our church has the great opportunity to participate in giving toward the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Know that 100% of this offering goes to those who are serving in places around the world, some unreached people groups, some who have never heard the name of Jesus. Pray now about how you may support this great effort during the month of December.

Whether we know it or not, we each have a mission field. Pray that our intentional encounters with others will be fruitful in speech and in conduct during this blessed season, making every stride to bring glory to God and to be a faithful servant of the King. May we present the gospel in a way that honors Christ. May we be sensitive to the Holy Spirit this season as we keep our eyes and ears open for opportunities to be a channel of blessing. May we continue to make disciples, who make disciples, who make disciples. Pray and Be Blessed.

Thomas Reid and Carol Abbott

### Serving in December

#### December 2

**Deacons of the Week:** Linda Newton (919-495-0790)  
Patsy Tolbert (1-540-570-6464)

**Greeters:** Chris Carter, Linda Newton

**Ushers:** Jodie Bowman, Scott Bowman, Sam Jordan,  
Dennis Leonard

**Ushers for January 6:** Daniel Hymiller, Gary Nelms,  
Patsy Tolbert, Ray Yarborough

**Preschool Workers:** Carol Abbott, Ashton Reid

#### December 9

**Deacons of the Week:** Ann Goswick (919-496-8448)  
Ken Wilson (919-272-6290)

**Greeters:** Youth

**Ushers:** Daniel Hymiller, Gary Nelms, Patsy Tolbert,  
Ray Yarborough

**Ushers for January 13:** Ronald Champion, Andy Hoyle,  
Sam Jordan, Dennis Leonard

**Preschool Workers:** Cindy Hardy, Jason King

#### December 16

**Deacons of the Week:** Carol Abbott (252-495-1281)  
Rick Shirey (919-815-2134)

**Greeters:** Rosemary Champion, Linda Newton

**Ushers:** Youth

**Ushers for January 20:** Youth

**Preschool Workers:** Kassie Grissom, Sue Grissom

#### December 23

**Deacons of the Week:** Ryland Grissom (919-795-6883)  
Vance Mendenhall (919-495-2598)

**Greeters:** Bill and Sarah Hagwood, Beverly Ramey

**Ushers:** Ronald Champion, Mac Turner, Ken Wilson,  
Robin Wilson

**Ushers for January 27:** Amy Mitchell, Shane Mitchell,  
Ken Wilson, Robin Wilson

**Preschool Workers:** Carol Abbott, Cindy Hardy

#### December 30

**Deacons of the Week:** Andy Hoyle (919-417-2942)  
Sam Jordan (919-625-8405)

**Greeters:** Chris Carter, Linda Newton

**Ushers:** Bradley Grissom, Ryland Grissom, J.R. Mendenhall,  
Vance Mendenhall

**Preschool Workers:** Carol Abbott, Susan Leonard

**Children's Church Worker for December:** Sarah Outhouse

*Merry Christmas  
For God so loved the world  
that He gave His one and only Son  
that whoever believes in Him  
shall not perish but have eternal life.*

*John 3:16 NIV*

### December Calendar

December 1: 5:00 P.M., Youth Go to "Walk Through Bethlehem"

December 1: 7:00 P.M., Northeast Piedmont Chorale Christmas  
Concert, Patrick Woods Singing in This  
New Hope Baptist Church, Raleigh

December 2: 7:00 P.M. Hanging of the Green

December 8: 10:45 A.M., Trip to Rudy Theatre

December 9: 11:00 A.M., Children's Christmas Program

December 16: 2:00 P.M., Presentation of Christmas Cantata, Hillside

December 20: 7:00 P.M., Louisburg Methodist Church Handbell  
Christmas Concert (Anita Fuller in This)

December 23: 7:00 P.M., Chancel Choir's Christmas Cantata "Adore"



### Patrick's Musical Passages



It is a busy time of year that, if we're not careful, can distract us from being focused on what God has for us. Even in Bethlehem, over 2,000 years ago, a busy town filled with guests had no room for a very needy couple. Too many folks occupied with meeting their own needs failed to meet the needs of Mary and Joseph. There must have been some serious excuses for ignoring a mother in labor. That's how the story goes, and we fail to look head-on at this extremely sad situation. The true story is still begging us to wake up. For it is the call of the church to feed the hungry, clothe the needy, and look after the sick. (Matthew 25:34-36) And the King Himself makes a simple statement, "Whatever YOU did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, YOU did for me." (Matthew 25:40) It is the final statement from our LORD that defines the righteous who inherit the Kingdom of God (Matthew 25:34) In this holiday season, let's make room in our hearts and homes for those in need.

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown,  
When Thou camest to earth for me;  
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room  
For Thy holy nativity.  
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,  
There is room in my heart for Thee. - E.S. Elliot

Patrick Woods

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## The DISCIPLE

“...go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this—that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.” Matt. 28:19-20

Franklinton Baptist Church  
Franklinton, North Carolina

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### ONGOING CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

**SUNDAY:** 9:15 Prayer Time  
9:15 Library Opens  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Morning Worship Service  
11:15 Children's Church  
5:00 Deacons Meet (Quarterly)

**MONDAY:** 6:30 Al-Anon Meets

**WEDNESDAY:**

7:00 Prayer/Bible Study (Except Conference Time)  
Conference (Quarterly)  
Youth/Children Meet/Nursery Provided  
8:00 Chancel Choir Practice

This may be a first. I am sitting at a computer station in a hotel business center in Santee, South Carolina sending love and Happy Thanksgiving wishes back home to my family and friends. I can never remember being away from home during Thanksgiving, and I must admit it feels strange to be numbered among the millions who are traveling the roads this holiday season. It is a blessing to be able to travel and visit with Dottie's Aunt Madeline in Tampa, Florida for a couple of days, but rest assured HOME is never far from our thoughts!

I want to share something with you that makes me so proud to be your pastor. Yesterday at the close of our service I introduced you to a gentleman named Frank, who had first appeared at our church two weeks ago, looking for a place to worship. When he walked into our Sunday School class that Sunday, he carried with him most of his belongings, save a sleeping bag and a tarp. As he sat and opened his Bible with us, and contributed to our conversation about our obedience to God, we sensed something different about this visitor, a stranger from the streets. Frank is homeless, and has been for 7+ years and spends his nights under the awning of God's great creation, or a bridge overpass, according to the weather. In his quiet humility, he asked for nothing, and simply enjoyed worshipping with us. He came back this past Wednesday night during our quarterly church conference, and I directed him to a Bible study class going on upstairs. Taking a moment to ask if there was anything he needed, he indicated he could use a sleeping bag if anyone had an extra they were not using. (Note: He never asked for one; I asked him). His "home" had been destroyed by the weather, and he was needing an extra layer of warmth for the night. The weather forecast for that night and the day ahead were for cold temperatures and an abundance of rain. What church could possibly send him back out into that cold night? Not this one! We put Frank up in the local motel for several nights, offering warmth and rest for him, as well as providing food for his nourishment. Others from FBC met up with him in the days after to secure better shoes and clothing, a tent, and other traveling necessities. Your generosity does not end there! At the close of the service today your love offering put hope in his pocket! Thanks be to God for the outpouring of His love, on, and through, this congregation. Frank will be leaving town this morning on his way south, to warmer climates. We may never see him again this side of heaven, but I believe with all my heart, that somehow and for some reason God sent Frank our way – not just so we could help him but that he might help transform us! A tear rolls off my cheek as I think about how our hearts have been stirred through all of this! What an awesome God we serve!!

Praise the Lord for the 229 shoe boxes we packed and shipped to Operation Christmas Child. It is noted that as many as nine people may be touched by the placing of one shoe box into the hands of a child. That is 2,061 more people affected by your generosity and obedience. There are more opportunities to minister to others during the holidays as well. Please look for ways to help adopt a family through the TRBA Christmas Family Ministry. We have about nine families that need some love this Christmas. Make me proud again! Thank you in advance for what you are going to do.

So thankful, grateful, and humbled to serve,  
David

### STAFF:

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