

Hey Youth!

Our annual Christmas party will be on Wednesday night, December 19th at 7pm in the youth room. Bring a gift that costs \$5 or less – see Erin if you need ideas! Invite a friend and come celebrate the season!

Calling all Kids!

The Children's Choir will present "The Real Christmas Story" on Sunday night, December 9th at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Don't miss this great reminder of the reason for the season! Then, on Sunday night December 16th we'll have a Christmas party for the whole church at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall. A certain jolly white-bearded guest is expected to make an appearance! Invite a friend to join in the fun!!



It's time again for the youth-sponsored post office. You can mail your church family Christmas cards for 25¢ each card or a donation of your choosing to Lottie Moon or Global Missions. The post office will operate from Dec. 2nd – Dec. 23rd.



December Birthdays

12/1	Faye Lakey
12/3	Mark Reavis
12/4	Heather Dortch, Delese Venable
12/5	Hannah Litaker, Bennett Lysse
12/7	Bob Spencer
12/11	Zachery Beaver
12/12	Edna Bond, Vicki Boyce
12/15	Marty Daniels
12/17	Jerry Haynes
12/19	Kathryn Ashworth
12/20	Elvert Lakey
12/21	Andy Smith
12/22	Jackson Striplin
12/24	Ethan Reavis
12/27	Avery Lindley, Tammie Weavil
12/28	Robin French, Russell Grose
12/31	Clinton McCann

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Schedule of Christmas Events

- Dec. 2, 7:00pm – Chrismon Service
- Dec. 5, 6:15pm – International Supper
- Dec. 9, 7:00pm – Children's Christmas Program
"The Real Christmas Story"
- Dec. 12, 7:00pm – Service of Solace
- Dec. 16, 11:00am – Adult Choir Christmas Cantata
"All is Well"
- Dec. 16, 7:00pm – Christmas Fellowship
- Dec. 23, 7:00pm – Candlelight Communion Service

Dr. H. Mark Ashworth
Rev. Erin Lyse
Mrs. Gayle Wimbrow
Rev. Marty Daniels
Mrs. Angie Weavil
Mrs. Becky Longworth
Mrs. Teresa Tucker

Pastor
Minister to Families
Minister of Music
Minister of Education
Organist
Pianist
Secretary



Mark's Musings

What is the last thing you promised someone? What is the last thing someone promised you? I don't mean small things like "I'll pick up some milk at the store." I mean serious promises about personal things. We don't make promises like that every day. And when we do make that kind of promise, we don't generally make it on the spur of the moment. If it is an important commitment, we want (and need) to be sure we really mean it.

The season of Advent calls us to reflect on promises made and promises fulfilled. When you and I make important promises, we will probably do the very best we can, and yet our track record on keeping promises isn't perfect. God's track record, on the other hand, is flawless. God is completely trustworthy. That trustworthiness is part of what we celebrate this time of year. Yet God's absolute faithfulness doesn't mean that God is always predictable. God's promises will be kept, but God is not bound by the way we expect that fulfillment or even the way we think we want that fulfillment. So even as we celebrate God's perfect record of keeping promises this season, may we also be open to the wondrous ways God can still surprise us.

Grace and peace,
Mark

2013 Budget Presentation

The Budget Committee will present the 2013 Budget at Church Conference on Wednesday, December 19th, at 7:00 pm. The budget will be handed out on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, so you should have time to review it prior to the conference. Your prayerful consideration of increasing your giving for 2013 will insure we meet & exceed our goals. After discussion on Wednesday, we'll vote before worship Sunday, December 23rd.

Senior Moments Highlights

On Tuesday, December 4th, we are going to Hamrick's. We will leave the church at 9:00 am and eat lunch out. Our Christmas luncheon will be on Thursday, December 20th. As you are planning your holiday baking remember that **Happy Home Flavorings** are for sale. Come by the Adult Education Building to see available flavors.

Nursery Schedule

December 2, 2012 (Sun)	Kathy Idol AM
	Alice Striplin PM
December 5, 2012 (Wed)	Barbara Snyder PM
December 9, 2012 (Sun)	Kathy Horton AM
	No Nursery PM
December 12, 2012 (Wed)	Nancy Clodfelter PM
December 16, 2012 (Sun)	Alice Striplin AM
	No Nursery PM
December 19, 2012 (Wed)	Brenda Grose PM
December 23, 2012 (Sun)	Clint & Mattie McCann AM
	No Activities PM
December 26, 2012 (Wed)	No Activities PM
December 30, 2012 (Sun)	Marianne & CC Casas AM
	No Activities PM

Children's Church & Wee Church Schedule

December 2 (Children's)	Julie Striplin & Dale Lakey
December 2, (Wee)	Jane Sutphin
December 9, (Children's)	Lindsey & Neal Parnell
December 9, (Wee)	Susie Hilton
December 16 (Children's)	Randy & Cathy Honeycutt
December 16, (Wee)	Sharon Thompson
December 23, (Children's)	Carole Blakley
December 23, (Wee)	Tina Church
December 30, (Children's)	Mike Simmons
December 30, (Wee)	Mike Simmons

Financial Summary

	November 4, 2012	
Undesignated Gifts		\$ 6,811.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 3,447.04
Total Offering		\$ 10,258.04
	November 11, 2012	
Undesignated Gifts		\$ 3,348.84
Designated Gifts		\$ 310.40
Total Offering		\$ 3,659.24
	November 18, 2012	
Undesignated Gifts		\$ 3,618.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 677.50
Total Offering		\$ 4,295.50
	November 25, 2012	
Undesignated Gifts		\$ 3,845.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 469.80
Total Offering		\$ 4,314.80

General Fund

October General Fund Receipts	\$ 13,501.59
October General Fund Expenses	- \$ 7,413.26
October General Fund Net	\$ 6,088.33
October Fund Balance	- \$ 23,658.99



We continued to send cookies, along with other food items to both Hospice Homes, with special emphasis on the HP location. **Reminder: our next "Hospice Sunday" will be December 9.** It is with tremendous pride that I report there were 31 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This number greatly surpassed the past several years. Thank you so very much and please remember to pray for "your" child at Christmas and in the year ahead.

There was \$503 given to the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission Thanksgiving Meals for the homeless. Remembering those in need during the season of thankfulness was indeed a blessing. The Rescue Mission is also asking for donations for the homeless for a Christmas meal. Just remember how far that \$1.92 can go!

Several toys have already been donated to the PMBA Toy Store. Please keep in mind the deadline to participate is December 9 and donations should be brought to the church and put into the collection basket outside the church office.

We can make Christmas brighter for 6 local youngsters this year. Donations are being collected for these two families. The needs are genuine and if you would like to help with this endeavor, please mark your offering envelopes "**WOM – Christmas Families**" and again the deadline is **December 9.**

Our annual **International Supper** sponsored by the WOM will be held Wednesday night, December 5. Last year we chose to have a soup and salad meal to honor our missionaries and it was decided that we do this again this year. Soooo – get out those favorite soup and salad recipes, make one or the other and plan to join us for this International Supper. Just keep in mind, this is in lieu of the standard Family Night meal that is generally prepared by Edna and Peggy.

We will have a brief WOM meeting following the supper and all ladies are invited to join us.

A season of warmth and glad Christmas tidings is fast approaching. May we continue to demonstrate to our community brotherly adoration as "**UNION CROSS REACHES OUT TO SHOW HIS LOVE.**"

