

# CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



## THE VALLEY ECHO

November 4, 2013

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622

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### *Preparing for the Christmas Season*

#### **NEW - Wednesday Night Study**

**Wednesdays, Nov 6 – Dec 11 at 7pm**

This study is based on “The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem” by Adam Hamilton. The first week will focus on **Mary of Nazareth - Luke 1:26-38**. Having a copy of the book is not required, however if you would like a copy of the book, there are some available at our local libraries. You can also find it on Amazon.com, they have hard copies and Kindle versions.

#### **NEW - Midweek Daytime Study**

**Each Tuesday, Dec 3-17 at noon**

Soup and Scripture – Enjoy a hot bowl of soup (prepared by the pastor) as we look at some Advent passages in the Bible.

#### **Church office contact information:**

Pastor • Nola Boezeman

[pastor@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:pastor@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

Office hours: Mon-Tues: 8am-3pm

& Wed: 8am-2pm

Secretary • Peggy Utley

[cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

Mon-Thurs, 9am-3pm

Music Minister • Mr. Ernie Rushing

[music@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:music@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)



This week we began the third (and final) part of our series on “Living Our Mission” where we are focusing on “proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.” This brings to mind words like “evangelism,” “testimony,” and “witnessing.”

These words tend to get mixed reviews from Christians. On the one hand, evangelism, testimony, and witnessing are positives – they are methods of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. On the other hand, many have had bad experiences with evangelism – even Christians. Someone being pushy, not listening, being defensive, using too many big “religious” words.

Several years ago, I was talking to a couple about evangelism. They had just taken a class at their church on the topic. In the class, it was suggested that they approach people they meet by asking, “If you were to die tonight, how likely would it be that you would go to heaven?” They were uncomfortable asking this question, but they did it anyhow. Months later, after numerous failed attempts, the man said, “I think we turned more people away than we attracted.”

In his book, “Evangelism without Additives,” Jim Henderson suggests that the “If you died tonight...” question is too intrusive – and negative. If you are not comfortable asking it – that’s great! He says, “Ask that question nowadays, and it will probably be the last question you get to ask.” He suggests it is better to start a conversation by simply asking “How are you?” and then *listen, really listen* to what is said. Henderson further suggests that you might go on to ask something like “Who is a spiritual person you admire?” Listen to the response. He also suggests asking, “If Christians would listen, what would you tell them?” Then *listen* to what they say without interrupting or being defensive.

I think Henderson’s suggested questions are a step in a positive direction. But, we are all different –we have different relational styles, different personalities, and different perspectives on life. Because of this, there is no universal formula or standard script of questions that can teach us the perfect way to be a witness for Christ. It has been said that “evangelism is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find food.” (D.T. Niles) When have you been a beggar? Where and how did you (and do you) find “food”? How do you see your personal story as part of God’s bigger, magnificent story? Your story *is* part of God’s story! As we listen to others, as we continue to grow in our own understanding of God’s story, and as we study the scriptures together, we will also grow in the ways we “live our mission” by “proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ.” Blessing to you – from one beggar to another. And praise be to God who fully satisfies us with the richest of foods! (Psalm 63:5)

Yours in Christ, Pastor Nola

## Weekly Church Calendar:

### EACH SUNDAY

9:15-9:30am – Prayer – Ben Best classroom

\*9:45am Sunday School

\*11:00am Worship Service

\*Child care provided downstairs.

2:30-7:00pm Kenyan Fellowship

### EACH MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Hope Pantry is open

**EACH TUESDAY:** 6:00-7:30pm Kenyan Fellowship

### EACH WEDNESDAY:

6:30pm Children and Youth Mission groups

7:00pm Bible study & Prayer

7:45pm Choir Practice

### EACH THURSDAY:

8:00pm Gamblers Anonymous

**EACH FRIDAY:** 7:00-9:30pm Kenyan Fellowship

**MONTHLY: (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month)**

6:00pm Young Hearts (Senior Adults)

## Calendar of Events

### Wednesdays, Nov 6 – Dec 11

7pm- New study based on “The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem”

### Sunday, Nov 24

6:00pm Fellowship Hall

7:00pm Business meeting

Deadline for Christmas Child boxes

### Thursday, Nov 28

Closed for Thanksgiving Day

### Attendance                    **11/3**

Sunday School                    46

Visitors                            1

Total                                47

*Worship Attendance:*        **75**

**Deacon for this week:**    11/10 Jean Glosson

**Deacon for next week:** 11/17 Whitt Stallings

### Greeter Schedule (front entrance)

11/10 Youth group            11/17 Aladine Rogers

### Properties for October

Steve Wheeler

### Ushers for October

Rudy Barden    Ed Glover

Robert Best    Walt Switzer



Now you can follow us on Facebook at “Crabtree Valley Baptist Church” and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/CrabtreeBaptist>

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

### HOME:

Marlyn Ervin

Mary Cain

Pat Jenkins

Larry Nunery

Bob Poole

Bonnie Wright

Jack Porter

Susan Carden – Francis Viano’s daughter

Van Phillips

Lee Snyder

Jean Greene

Pam Bilbro

### REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Bob Davis - Greensboro

Elouise Leffler – Crabtree Valley Rehab center - Room 412-A

Lois Capps – Rex Rehab - Apex

Al Coley – Sunrise at North Hills – Room 286

Wilton Harris – Heritage Woods Ret. Comm. - Winston-Salem



## **Your Thoughts Are Important!**

As of Sunday, we are moving into our final phase in our sermon series on “*Living Our Mission*”. This phase focuses on *ways we are and will be “Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ”*. We appreciate all those who have participated by turning in leaves during phase 1 and 2, and we encourage everyone to be a part of this final phase. Blue and gold leaves are available in the Narthex. Please write down your thoughts and place completed leaves in the offering plate or in the basket on the table in the Narthex.



**POINSETTIA  
DONATIONS**

**We are now accepting \$12.00 donations to the Flower fund to help with the cost of the Poinsettias that will decorate our church for the Christmas season.** Please use one of the forms (at church) if you would like to make your donation “in honor of” or “in memory of” a loved one. Also, please indicate on your envelope, “Flower fund”. For donations made on behalf of someone, the deadline is Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, a printed insert will be in the Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> bulletin.