

CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



THE VALLEY ECHO

December 14, 2020

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622
Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612 Phone: (919) 781-5345
Email: cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org Website: www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org
Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)

GUEST PREACHER

Next Sunday, Dec 20th, we welcome back Rev. Johnny Richards as our guest preacher. Rev. Richards is Pastor of Mountain Creek Baptist Church in Oxford. He is also a bereavement coordinator with Heartland Hospice in Raleigh.



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

12/13 Keith Harris
12/20 Beth Jenkins



Holiday Office Hours

Wednesday, December 23

Open for Hope Pantry
Office closing at noon

Thursday, December 24 –

Monday, December 28

Office closed for Christmas

Please note:

There will not be a newsletter published the week after Christmas, December 28.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

Santa Claus is coming to town....

Oh, the happy memories from childhood. We all have them. The excitement, the anticipation, even the hidden disappointment if the gift was not the exact toy we wanted. These traditions are treasures that we may carry on, build upon or change in our own families.

As a child of about 10 years old, I remember one cold Christmas Eve arriving home from Church. We always attended the Christmas Eve service and then had a big family reunion meal with the Burnette's. It was always a great time full of good food, laughter, tall tales and even fireworks in the early days. I would look forward to seeing my grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins and feeling all the family connection and love. This is a tradition that started in the early 1900's and continues even now.

This particular Christmas Eve night, for some reason, is implanted in my brain as a memory. I remember going to bed and hearing Mom say, "Go to sleep so Santa can come". My bedroom door, usually left open at bedtime, was always closed on Christmas Eve. I crawled into bed for maybe 2 seconds and then quietly pulled back the shears hanging at my bedroom window. I was going to wait for Santa. As I sat there looking out into the cold, clear, night, I drew pictures and letters on the glass from my breath on the window. I looked and looked as far as I could see but for some reason, I could not find Santa. I knew deep down that it was not possible to have a man in a red suit, pulled by a sleigh with reindeer at the helm, and delivering presents worldwide; but I just could not let go of the excitement of that early Christmas morning when I would see all my presents left by that red suited man. As I sat there, I could hear my parent's whispers in the hallway; still, I looked out into the night, thinking I might be seeing that sleigh at any moment. I must have fallen asleep at some point because that is all I remember. Experience tells me though, that next Christmas morning was filled once again with treats, love and joy with my family. I asked my Mom later about this whole Santa thing and her answer to me was, "Always Believe".

There have been times in my life I have looked for God. I have watched and waited for him to appear or to give me a sign; anything to know He was there. I may not have seen God in those "God Moments" but I had Faith enough to know He would appear.

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Church office information:

Music Director • Risa Poniros

Secretary • Peggy Utley 781-5345 cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org

Website updates/maintenance webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org



SHARE THE SONSHINE

Week of Dec 13-19 Johnnie Grubbs

Cambridge Hills of Pittsboro – Room 208
140 Brookstone Lane Pittsboro, NC 27312



We're Proud of You!

Congratulations to our Youth Director, Ashley Walker. Ashley graduated on December 4, 2020 from ECU with a BS degree in Elementary Education and is currently teaching at Cleveland Elementary School in Johnston County.



Be sure to watch our virtual Christmas Eve service at 5:30pm, on Thursday, December 24th.

Rev. Charles Allard will be our guest speaker
Message: "An Interrupted Christmas"



Santa Claus is coming to town.... continued

Just as I felt on Christmas Eve as a child, I never doubted the joy would come in the morning on Christmas Day. I do not believe in coincidences anymore.

Too many times I have been in situations that I know if it were not for God's course, my life would be different. In the moment, I might sit and wait and watch for God, but in the end, I can look back and see where God appeared without my seeing him. That is God's gift for me.

I hope we can each look for God in these holidays with the same excitement and JOY we felt as a child looking for a man in a red suit pulling a sleigh with reindeer. Let us recognize those "God Moments" when we realize it was not my plan, but God's. Share the moment with a friend. Let them hear what you see God doing. That can be a part of your testimony.

Merry Christmas Friends and remember, "Always Believe".
We are Blessed. Beth Jenkins

Prayer Concerns:

HOME

Jim Weaver
Armando and Margo Martinez
Anne Barden
Jetta Lewis
Charlotte Phelps (friend of Jean's)
Marci Phelps – Charlotte's daughter (friend of Jean Glosson)
Teresa Smith – recurrence of brain tumor (friend of Peggy's)

REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Anne Jenkins – Morningside on Dixie Trail - Room 132
Johnnie Grubbs – Cambridge Hills of Pittsboro – Room 208
Louise Shore – transferred to PruittHealth-High Point
Greg Small –Atria Oakridge- Apt 214
Bonnie Wright – The Reserve at Mills Farm in Apex
Aladine Rogers – Stewart Health Ctr at Springmoor for rehab

OTHER:

Sonshine Person of the Week
The Price family – Missionaries in Wales
Our church – Pastor search



Holiday Craft Sale items will be on display during regular office hours (Mon-Thurs 9:00-3:00) and on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm when the Sunday service is being recorded. We also have the CVBC cookbooks available, \$5.00 each. *This sale ends Tues, Dec 22.*

The **Christmas Card Mailbox** is near the front door. Please stop by to drop-off/pick-up cards. Use this box to exchange cards with other members. In lieu of postage, please make donations to the Lottie Moon and/or to the CBF Global Missions offering. Sunday School books for next quarter are also available, near the mailbox, for pick-up.

During the month of December, we will receive our **Lottie Moon and CBF Global Missions offerings**. Our goal is \$500 for each of these offerings. *Make checks payable to CVBC – note Lottie Moon or Global on the memo line.*

The Deacons are recommending that our **Staff Love Offering** for this year be divided equally seven ways to include Elizabeth Best and Yilong Wang for their outstanding efforts to record and air our Sunday Morning Virtual Worship Services and Liz Mills who volunteers as our Treasurer and does a great job taking care of our business. Checks will be presented to these three and our Secretary, Peggy Utley; Director of Music, Risa Poniros; Pianist, Cheryl Walker; and Youth Director, Ashley Walker on January 3, 2021. Our thanks to each of them for a job "well done." *Please mark your check or envelope "Love offering."* **All of the above offerings, as well as any contributions for 2020 need to be received at CVBC by Wed, Dec 30.**