



# NEWS FROM THE WELL

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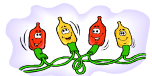
December 2010

## *Making A Difference In Our World In Christ's Name*

### Operation Christmas Child



You are invited to join us on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> as we travel to Charlotte to work in the Operation Christmas Child Processing Plant. We board the bus early that morning and return late that night. While at the processing plant we will help get the shoeboxes ready to ship overseas. If you are looking for an activity to help you get into the spirit of Christmas, this is the event for you!



### Well Wishers Christmas Trip

The Well Wishers are planning to go out for dinner on Tuesday, December 14 and go to Meadows to see the Christmas lights afterwards. We will leave from the church at 4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to come along. Call Beryl Campbell to reserve your seat on the bus.

### Choir Cantata



Our Choir will present its Christmas Cantata on Sunday morning December 10 during our 11:00 Worship Service.

### Outreach and Christmas Caroling



We will go Christmas Caroling in the Eames Drive and Winslow Drive housing complexes on Monday, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. and present each residence with a “pound cake.” We need donations to purchase the cakes (\$2.00 each) and help wrapping them. You can give the money to Mary Griffin. We also need you to go caroling with us, you will receive a blessing.



### Christmas Eve Service

We will again this year have our annual 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service. We hope you will plan to attend and invite others to join you.

### New Year's Eve Singing Celebration



We will have our New Year's Eve singing this year with a little different twist. The time has been altered to 7:00 until 10:00 p.m. It will still contain singing groups, skits, and other inspirational elements to close out 2010. Please spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors to join us.



## Drama Team

Volunteers are needed to help with the dramas for New Year's Eve. This year the service will be from 7:00-10:00 p.m. Practices will be on Wednesday, December 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 (Dress rehearsal) at 7:00 p.m. Please consider being part of this powerful ministry.

## Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship will meet on Wednesday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Golden Corral. All men are welcomed to come and join them in fellowship.

Highway to Healing volunteer drivers take Lee County cancer patients for extensive radiation/chemo treatments to Chapel Hill, Moore County, Wake Med, and Duke. If you or a family member needs long-term transportation service for such treatment, consider calling the Highway to Healing Telephone Center at 774-9940 at least 48 hours in advance of needing transportation.

If you, as a Shallow Well Church member, have a one-day or short term need for non-emergency transportation to a medical facility and there are not family members readily available to take you or you have a definite need for an extra helper, contact Pete Sturm, Chairman off the Men's Fellowship, who will arrange for a volunteer driver, if available, to take you to that medical facility.



## Christmas Card Exchange

Beginning Sunday, December 5, the Deacons will again offer the Christmas Card Exchange program for Shallow Well folks. Just bring your Christmas cards addressed to other Shallow Well attendees, place them in the box in the Narthex. Then check the box each week to pick up cards addressed to you. There will be a jar for donations of postage that you save and the proceeds will go to the Deacon Fund to help those in need. This is a good way to wish your Church Family a very Merry Christmas.



## Winter Retreat



All middle and high school youth are invited to the 2011 Winter Retreat. The dates for the trip are January 21-23. The cost is \$125 and a \$50 non-refundable deposit is due by December 19th to reserve a spot. This cost will include two breakfasts, lunch on Saturday, a t-shirt, retreat material and supplies, two nights lodging, and water park admission for the weekend. We will be talking about how we need to "Walk the Talk!" See Stephen to turn in your deposit or for any questions you may have.

## Bible Readings for December

Dec 1....Romans 7-9  
Dec 2....Romans 10-12  
Dec 3....Romans 13-16  
Dec 4....Acts 20-22  
Dec 5....Acts 23-25  
Dec 6....Acts 26-28  
Dec 7....Ephesians 1-3  
Dec 8....Ephesians 4-6  
Dec 9....Philippians 1-4  
Dec 10....Colossians 1-4  
Dec 11....Hebrews 1-4  
Dec 12....Hebrews 5-7  
Dec 13....Hebrews 8-10  
Dec 14....Hebrews 11-13  
Dec 15....Philemon; 1 Peter 1, 2  
Dec 16....1 Peter 3-5  
Dec 17....2 Peter 1-3  
Dec 18....1 Timothy 1-3  
Dec 19....1 Timothy 4-6  
Dec 20....Titus 1-3  
Dec 21....2 Timothy 1-4  
Dec 22....1 John 1, 2  
Dec 23....1 John 3-5  
Dec 24....2 John; 3 John; Jude  
Dec 25....Revelation 1-3  
Dec 26....Revelation 4-6  
Dec 27....Revelation 7-9  
Dec 28....Revelation 10-12  
Dec 29....Revelation 13-15  
Dec 30....Revelation 16-18  
Dec 31....Revelation 19-22



## December Birthdays

- 1 Corbitt Thomas
- 2 Greg Kelly
- 3 Madison Schooley
- 3 Harley Schooley
- 4 Betty Cox
- 5 Verna Gaumer
- 5 Phyllis Phillips
- 9 Courtney Maness
- 10 Charles Billings
- 10 Linda Parson
- 11 Barbara Norris
- 11 Mark Coggins
- 12 Ralph Yarborough
- 14 Kolby Harrison
- 15 Ricky Taylor
- 15 Cindy Gross
- 17 Dawn Morris
- 17 Tyler Williamson
- 18 Steve Hempe
- 19 Brenda Marsh
- 19 Deborah McClendon
- 20 Thomas McNeill
- 21 Faye Thompson
- 21 Donald Gaster
- 22 Kayla Harrison
- 22 Tracey Parson
- 27 Bonnie Baril
- 27 Wayne Parson
- 28 Brittany Griffin
- 28 David Watson
- 30 Carolyn Williamson



## Loose Change



Remember to bring your loose change (coins and bills) each Sunday and help the youth fill up the jar located in the Narthex. We have raised over \$840 and 93 lbs, but our goal is to reach is 200 lbs. of change. The last Sunday of each month the children will take up change during the Children's Story segment of the worship service and we will also weigh our change. Please help our children continue to learn the importance of giving and the power of working together!



## Women's Fellowship

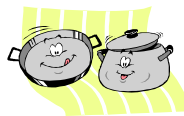
**The Circle of Friends** will meet on Wednesday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. at Café Vesuvio. **The Day Circle** will meet in the Fellowship Building on Monday, December 13 at 11:00 a.m. for a Christmas luncheon. **The Circle of Hope** will meet on Monday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Phyllis Watson.

## Marriage Class



It's not too late for you to join our special marriage class! We meet Sunday mornings starting during the Sunday School Hour. The class will discuss everything from dealing with in-laws to financial challenges. This class is open to all married couples who are interested whether you have been married for a couple of years or if you been married for 20 years.

## Missions



We're celebrating Christmas in Shallow Well style "in service".

We're also leading the way in the community by collecting new items for the Haven complex's kitchen. The kitchen will display a plaque stating the kitchen was furnished by Shallow Well United Church of Christ. Our collection will wind up Sunday, December 19 and be delivered Tuesday, December 21. Storage is available at Haven where our loving collection will await the opening of the new complex. This project has something for everyone from kitchen towels to a set of dishes.

At the same time, we're caring for the hungry by collecting a canned or boxed meal that will feed a family with one to two members. We're always sharing with C.U.O.C.

Big thanks to our Weight Watchers group that meets here on Thursday nights for a donation of 206 food items in November.

A big THANK YOU to Robert Douglas for the beautiful cabinets he made in the Fellowship building. They are certainly appreciated!



## Singing

The Festival Singers of Lee County will present the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Feast of Carols on Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. It is a free concert and open to the public. It will be at the Mike and Mary Harper Youth Center at the First Presbyterian Church on Hawkins Avenue.

## Keep Christ in Christmas

The ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) is suing the U.S. Government to take God, Christmas, or anything religious away from us. Let's send them a nice card to brighten up their dark, sad, little world. Make sure it says 'Merry Christmas' on it. Here's the address, just don't be rude or crude:

ACLU  
125 Broad Street, 18th  
New York, NY 10004

Judy Douglas



## Ministry Assistants for December

**Acolytes:** Dec. 5: Katie Kelly, Thomas McNeill; Dec. 12: Luke Thomas, Abby Thomas; Dec. 19: Kacie Harrison, Kolby Harrison; Dec. 26: Morgan Pedley, Cameron Rowland.

**Altar Flowers:** Dec. 5: Patricia Thomas; Dec. 12: Patricia Thomas; Dec. 19: Joy and Earl Murphy; Dec. 26: Mary Griffin.

**Children's Worship Leaders:** Dec. 5: Camellia Hempe; Dec. 12: Pam Gunter; Dec. 19: Christmas Cantata; Dec. 26: Lora Lee Currin.

**Deacon on Call:** Dec. 5: Johnny Watson; Dec. 12: Dale Williamson; Dec. 19: Wayne Watson; Dec. 26: Faye Thomas.

**Greeters:** Faye Thomas.

**Trustee to lock/unlock:** Larry Thomas.

**Ushers:** Sloan Griffin, Greg Kelly, Allen McKenzie, Eddie Thomas, Dale Williamson, Jeremy Thomas, Ed Matthews.

**Jr. Ushers:** Kayla Harrison, Kacie Harrison, Kaitlynn Lemons, Courtney Jones, Morgan Pedley.

## Poinsettias



If you would like to give a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone please let Camellia or LaVerne know by December 5. The poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on December 12 and 19. The cost is \$10. There will be forms in the bulletin and in the Narthex to fill out the information needed.

## Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire,

If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

Be thankful when you don't know something,  
For it gives you the opportunity to learn.

Be thankful for the difficult times,  
During those times you grow.

Be thankful for your limitations,  
Because they give you opportunities for improvement.

Be thankful for each new challenge,  
Because it will build your strength and character.

Be thankful for your mistakes,  
They will teach you valuable lessons.

Be thankful when you're tired and weary,  
Because it means you've made a difference.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things.  
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.

Find a way to be thankful for your trouble,  
And they can become your blessings.

Author Unknown

## Bible Study

There will be a Bible Study starting Wednesday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m. It is a 7 week study on Anne Graham Lotz's book, "The Magnificent Obsession." Let Judy Watson know if you are interested in taking this study on Abraham.

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Rev. Donald R. Thompson, Minister

Non-Profit Organization  
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### Youth and Children

It's Christmas Time! What an awesome time of year when we get to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. Again this year we have many events planned for our youth and children to try to celebrate the special meaning of Jesus birth and to enjoy the season. Take a look at what's ahead:

**Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** (Time TBD) – ***Train Ride with Santa***

We are traveling on the New Hope Valley Railway to take a ***train ride with Santa***. We will meet at the church and then car pool together. If you signed up for this event be on the lookout for more information about meeting time.

**Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** at 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. – ***Youth Meeting and Play Practice***

**Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** (Time TBD) – ***Broadway Christmas Parade***

Once again this year we will ride in the ***Broadway Christmas Parade***. You are invited to join us for this special event. Stay tuned for times when we will decorate the trailer and when we will meet before the parade.

**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** at 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. – ***Play Practice Dress Rehearsal***

**Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7 p.m. – ***Youth Lock-in and Birthday Party for Jesus***

We have a night of fun and celebration planned as we will be up all night at a ***Birthday Bash for Jesus***. Join us at 7 p.m. that night (make sure to eat supper before you come) ready to party! We will read the Christmas story, make special crafts, have some junk food, watch some movies, and much more! After a lot of fun (and hopefully a little sleep) parents return Saturday morning at 8 a.m. for pickup.

**Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** at 6 p.m. – ***Children's Christmas Play***

You are invited to come hear our children as we present the Christmas Play entitled, "***The Christmas Puzzle***." Our children have been practicing hard and want you to come join in as they share the true meaning of Christmas. We invite you to come join us for the play and then for refreshments in the fellowship hall following the play. Rumor has it that we might be getting a special visitor from up north!

**Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>** – No Youth Activities

Don't miss out on a chance to celebrate this truly amazing time of year and don't forget to invite a friend!  
Stephen



### Applebee's Pancake Fundraiser

On Saturday, December 18 we will have a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at Applebee's at 1325 Plaza Blvd., Sanford. Breakfast will consist of 3 pancakes, 2 sausage links plus coffee, orange juice, milk, and sodas. The profits from this fundraiser will go toward the Building Fund. We will be selling the tickets at \$7. Please see Pete Sturm, LaVerne Maddox, or Mary Griffin if you would like some tickets for yourself and to sell.