



MEMORIAL
BAPTIST CHURCH

Memorial's Memos

November/December 2009

Volume XXV, Issue 5

*Count your many blessings,
see what God has done.*

GIVE THANKS

NEW AT MEMORIAL:



The Memorial Cafe:

Adults, stop by the cafe and get a cup of brew on Sunday morning between 9:30 and 10:00.

The cafe serves hot coffee, hot chocolate, and hot tea. Occasionally some of our ladies will surprise us with fresh baked goods!

EFRID BIBLE STUDY SERIES **"The Birth Narratives"**

Beginning Sunday, November 22, at 10 a.m., Cindy Avrette will be leading an Efrid Bible Study during the Sunday School hour. The Birth Narratives is a study that compares and contrasts the birth stories from Matthew and Luke. We will study the differences in relating the birth and the baptism of Jesus, His first public act, and the perception of Jesus. You will gain exciting new insights by learning how the two Gospels tell of the most important gift ever given to people.

Who is this study for? For those who may desire to be part of a short-term Bible Study on the birth of Jesus; for those who may have become inactive in Sunday School and want to once again participate; or for newcomers seeking a class or a place to belong.

EMBRACE THE WORLD: Supporting Churches in China

Our church provides many opportunities for giving during Christmas including giving to global missions. One of CBF Global Missions' focus will be supporting churches in China. The gospel in China is spreading rapidly. Many Chinese are hearing of Christ's love for the first time, and local churches are growing faster than Chinese pastors can be trained to disciple new believers. Since 2004, Bill and Michelle Cayard have worked with Chinese churches, helping congregations grow and assisting Christian leaders with ongoing training and other support. As they serve, they see God at work, changing hearts and changing lives. You are invited to give to CBF Global Missions during the months of November and December. Make checks payable to Memorial Baptist Church, and write "CBF Global Missions" on the memo line.

FROM THE PASTOR:

Welcome one and all to the Season of Advent, truly the most wonderful time of the year. This is a season for waiting and longing like the prophets did for "the consolation of Israel." This is a season for receptivity to the Spirit of God like Mary who said "yes" to God. This is the season to welcome the promise of peace on earth and good will toward all persons like the shepherds keeping watch. This is the season for wonder, love and joy like that found in the birth of a baby, who is Christ the Lord.



Rev. Dr. David Whiteman

Once again it is my privilege as your pastor to invite you to journey to Bethlehem. Like those of old, we gather to wait, to long, to listen, to wonder, and to welcome His coming. The gift of God's peace is given to hospitable heart. The joy of Christ's birth belongs to those who create open spaces and make room for Him. More important to Christmas than presents under the tree are those times when our hearts and minds grow still enough to receive the gift of God's presence.

Within Memorial Memos you will find the listing of some wonderful opportunities which can guide us in our spiritual journey. This list reminds me that we are blessed as a community of faith by all who prepare and all who share this season of waiting, worshiping, singing, and giving with us. All these opportunities to celebrate and experience the Good News are prayerfully planned and carefully prepared with the conviction that we need each other to fully experience the peace, hope, love and joy of His coming.

*I pray that you will experience the wonder of this most wonderful time of the year. I also pray that you will give Christ first place in your life during the Advent season, and not be too busy "to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to pass." **This season is a gift** and available to all who are wise enough to seek him. The carol of Bethlehem says it best. "Where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in."*



HEARING THE GOOD NEWS!



And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people;

- Luke 2:8-10

Sunday Worship

The Four Sundays of Advent

November 29	Worship at 9 and 11
December 6	Worship at 9 and 11
December 13	Worship at 9 and 11
December 20	Worship at 11 Nine Lesson & Carols

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

During the 11 o'clock service on Sunday, December 20, Memorial will celebrate the birth of Jesus through the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. This format of worship tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus, told in nine short Bible readings, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols and hymns.

The Story of St. Nicholas

On Wednesday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m., Dr. Adam English will share the life of St. Nicholas. Who was the real person behind Santa Claus? Just a quaint story we tell at Christmas? As it turns out, St. Nick is one of history's truly great Christian witnesses. As a bishop and pastor who lived on the southern coast of Turkey in the 4th Century, we can learn many lessons of Christmas and Christian faithfulness from him.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

On Christmas Eve, December 24 at 5:30 pm, bring the family to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child and participate in Holy Communion.

SINGING THE GOOD NEWS!

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

- Luke 2:13-14



Kyle Matthews in Concert

December 13 at 7 pm: "One of Us: The Christmas Story" featuring the Memorial Chancel Choir. (See Page 3)

Fireside: December 20 at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. What new memory will be created this year? Come sit by the fire and hear the Christmas story. We will feel the spirit of Christmas as people share their talents with us. If you would like to participate in the program, see a church staff member.

The Memorial Baptist Children's Choir

presents "Radio J-O-Y" Sunday, December 6, at 7 pm in the Church Sanctuary (following the Advent Dinner). This delightful Christmas musical was written by Terry W. York and Vicki Hancock Wright which retells the nativity story through songs and stories of those who shared in the glorious event of Christ's birth. Radio studio "J-O-Y" sets the stage where a local children's choir and their pastor present the Christmas story while being interviewed by disc jockey celebrity, "Dee Jay."

CELEBRATING THE GOOD NEWS!



When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

"Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

- Luke 2:15

Family Night - Gingerbread House Fun

Bring the entire family to this fun family event on December 9 at 6:30 in the fellowship hall. Houses and icing will be provided. Bring candy and items to design your own gingerbread house.

Angel Tree Mission: Soon after Thanksgiving, a Christmas tree will be set-up in the Narthex adorned with angels with names on them of needy children in the area. You are invited to select an angel and help a needy child's Christmas dream come true. Gifts are to be delivered on December 19.

Advent Dinner: Invitations have been mailed for the advent dinners being held on December 6 at 5 pm. After the meal, all are invited to the church to see and hear the Children's Choir as they present the musical, "Radio Joy."



Kyle Matthews In Concert

with the MBC Chancel Choir
Sunday, December 13, 7 p.m.

Presenting:
"One of Us: The Christmas Story"

In two decades of writing and performing, Kyle Matthews has emerged as one of Christian music's most outstanding and unique songwriters. Of his over 60 cuts by major artists of disparate genres, he has penned such well known songs as "If You Want Me To" recorded by Ginny Owens, "Everything and Nothing," recorded by Vince Gill, "One and the Same," recorded by Cece Winans, "God Forbid," recorded by Point of Grace, and "Been Thru the Water," recorded by Kyle.

His song, "We Fall Down," recorded most notably on a multi-platinum release by Donne McClurkin, won numerous music industry awards. His songs have been broadcast and performed in concerts around the world and have appeared on television shows such as the Oprah Winfrey Show, as well as the BET and WB networks. In 2003, Kyle received a Dove Award Nomination for his song "An Inconvenient Christmas" which was cut by the Oak Ridge Boys.

Kyle will join forces with our own Chancel Choir to present a fresh telling of the Christmas story. Selections both choral and vocal will blend in this unique cantata, created for Memorial and our 2009 Advent celebration.

The concert is free although a love offering will be taken. Invite friends and family to come enjoy this Christmas event!

Decorating for Advent

Christmas 2008



DEAD LEAVES by Dr. Ron Wachs



A long-ago 'love song': "The Autumn leaves drift by my window, the Autumn leaves of red and gold....And I miss you most of all, my darling, when Autumn leaves start to fall." The French title to the same song is less sentimental, "Les feuilles mortes" . . . 'dead leaves'. The nostalgia is strong. A former teacher defined 'nostalgia' as 'a homesickness of the soul'.

By now, the brilliant hues of October have faded and the seasons are moving inexorably towards the darkness and drabness of Winter. Change is definitely in the air. For some the transition signals a melancholic shift in mood and if the melancholy - sadness - persists, that can be an indicator of a more significant condition - depression. Depression hurts.

Many years ago, Harry Emerson Fosdick preached, "No [one] Need Stay the Way They Are." That same hope is available for persons laboring with the burden of depression. If melancholy, sadness, depression are turning your days of color into a dull grey, consider meeting with one of the Pastoral Counselors at CareNet of Harnett. Telephone 910-897-8930.

Dr. Wachs is the director and therapist at Harnett Family Life Center in Erwin, an affiliate of Baptist Hospital's CareNet Counseling Center.

GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP

A newly formed Grief Recovery Group being led by Dr. Ron Wachs of the Harnett Family Center is meeting on Fridays at the Memorial House on 89 TT Lanier Street in Buies Creek. Meeting dates: Nov. 13, 20 and Dec. 4. More dates may follow. Call the church office at 893-4162 to inquire.

CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .

- Elizabeth and Catherine Godwin received ribbons at the NC State Fair for cooking, crafts, and pumpkin and apple decorating. Catherine placed 3rd for her cookies and 4th for her muffins. Elizabeth placed 1st and BEST OF SHOW for her bread. (*Her recipe was borrowed from Theresa Batten for the bread she shares on Sunday mornings!*)
- Spencer Powell was recently part of the cast in Meredith's production of "Ruthless."
- Emily DeVane has been nominated as a Morehead-Cain Scholar at the UNC-CH.
- Harnett Central High School football team are the Greater Neuse River 4-A Conference Champs. Zach Avrette is a member of the HCHS team.
- Walter Weeks, Beverley Howard's brother, was elected Mayor of Coats in the recent election.
- Jonathan McClain will graduate from NCSU with a degree in mechanical engineering in December and has been accepted into the graduate school of engineering to begin in January.
- Hilary Morrow won 1st runner-up and Miss Congeniality at the Miss Harnett Central High Pageant in October.
- Steve DeVane's book, "Making Shifts Without Making Waves" was recently released and is available at Amazon.com.

BIRTHS:

- Kara Jade Sewell was born August 1, 2009. Parents are Joe and Misty Landrum Sewell. The grandparents are Jim and Pat Landrum.
- Brady Everett DeBrand was born September 18, 2009. Parents are Brian and Olivia DeBrand. The grandparents are Roy and Carolyn DeBrand.
- Leah Brooke Brewer was born October 19, 2009. Parents are Sammy and Jennifer Brewer. Leah has an older sister and brother, Lyndsey and Adam.

BIRTHDAYS

November

1	Tricia Carr
2	Beth M. Savage
3	Harold Boykin Eugene Wong
4	Breanne Dzurina Trinity Kelly Phil Morrow
6	Monty Yoder Michael Juby Mary K. Hardison Adam Bryan Michelle Moore
7	Kenneith Calvert Katie Waterhouse
8	Lisa Whiteman Janice J. Bodenhamer
9	Gail Cogdill Elizabeth Godwin Summer Hardison Precious Nakuku Kay Hedgepeth Ricky Holland
11	Ginnie Adams Joshua Savage Christie Yarbrough Lauren Milton
12	David Bryan Sonya Godwin
13	Will Roberts Trinity Kelly Robin Hardison
14	Max Eller
15	Betty Wallace
16	Earl Jones, Jr.
17	David Avrette
20	Seth Hardison
23	Anita Whitley Michael Paul Richey
25	Lisa Stewart
26	Michele Holland
27	Vicky Lasater
29	David Kornegay
30	Blake Jones

December

1	Eric Hood
4	Marty Scarborough Leary Davis Janet Little Willis Gupton
6	Dayna J. Scarborough Pearle McCall Joyce Stewart
7	Delores Bryan Katie Askew Catherine Godwin
8	Ben Powell Todd Clark Jerry Milton Clayton Powell
9	Tom Edwards
10	Seraphina Wong Maquela Moore
11	Luke Page Barry Jones
12	Ramsey Taylor Reed Natalie Wakefield David Storey
13	Linda Robinson Travis Richey
14	Mary Kolesar
16	Christie Yarbrough
18	Paul Johnson David Brown Abby Crooks
20	Patricia Dutton Tom Spainhour Chris Carr
21	William McQuade Sara Jon Paquin
22	Winter Hardison
24	Martha Womble Lisa Stewart Madison Sanderford
25	Mary Jane Marshbanks Stan Stewart Maria McQuade Brittain Storey Charlie McClay Jeff Pope
26	
29	
30	

January

1	Ellie Rich
2	Mac Byrd
3	Todd Taylor Teresa Roberts Madison Pentony
4	Ashley Bradshaw
5	Sarah Royal
7	Allen Lopez
8	Jared Matthews Hayden Mellott 'Zelle Phillips
10	Alice Marshbanks
13	Wanda Hardison Aaron Garris Heather Jones
14	Derek Hogan Ofelia Hoyle
15	Michael Snyder, Jr. Derek Savage
16	Allison Wakefield Jo Gilliland Jeremy Milton Sarah H. Kotzian Garrett Burson
19	Bob Womble
21	Delores Poe
22	Seth Avrette
23	Clara Langston Jay Brown Sandra McQuade
24	Angelica Hardison Tony Saenz Thomas Lopez
25	Amie T. Bloom
27	Dennis Jones Autumn Hardison Isabella Saenz
28	Anne Moore
29	Tommy Stewart Ben Thomas Lori Eason
30	
31	

THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH:

Welcome to our newest member, Brian Honeycutt joined on profession of faith and was baptised on October 25, 2009.

Visit the following website for photos of events at Memorial Baptist Church:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/mbc_buiescreek

MEMORIAL MEMOS

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SERVICES:

SUNDAY: *Worship Services* 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY: 6:00 p.m.

STAFF

Pastor: Dr. David Whiteman
Administrative Assistant: Donna Denning
Minister of Youth & College: Rev. Jenny Folmar
Minister of Children: Rev. Robin Hardison
Ministers of Music: Dr. Phillip Morrow
Susan Morrow
Anne McClain
Patty Jung
Organist:
Minister of Music Emerita:

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