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From The Pastor's Corner:

I cannot believe it is that time of year once again! The holiday season is a time where it seems as though there are a 1,000 different things calling for our time and attention. If that wasn't enough, this year we had a presidential election to deal with also. I know for each and every one of us, it will be an extremely busy and tiring next several weeks.

At the time of this writing, it is just two weeks to Thanksgiving and less than six weeks to Christmas Day (it would be nice and helpful if these two major holidays were separated by a few months instead of a few weeks), but I digress. What we must be careful to do is not just process the days in that we fail to enjoy the holiday season.



I believe if we get our hearts and minds set on the right things, even the hustle and bustle, and the crowded stores, can bring joy to our lives. (I heard you sigh, just thinking about how crowded the stores are going to be as people shift into high gear to buy that perfect Christmas gift .) Thanksgiving comes first on the calendar and that should remind each of us that the first thing we should do during this holiday season is give thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. Most of us have some type of tradition that we try to adhere to and hopefully pass on to our children. To many, this includes a family get together around the table where all kinds of great food is presented from casseroles to that large turkey and dressing platter. Then after we are stuffed more than the turkey was, we settle in to enjoy one another's company as we look forward to dessert.

To God Be The Glory

Now the next statement I am about to make is not to make anyone feel guilty about their dinner, but we should take the time to be thankful for there are countless people in our country and around the globe that simply do not have the same opportunity. Again, we should not feel guilty, but we should be extremely thankful to be able to have such a dinner and spend time with our friends and family.

Too many times in life we do not realize how blessed we are until the blessing is taken away. I guess when you have been blessed for so long it is easy to take things for granted, but let's not be guilty of that and give thanks to God for the all of the blessings throughout this holiday season. I pray each and every one of you have a great Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas, making God the center of it all.

Thank you, Lord, for your blessings on me, Pastor Robert



Daughters of the King will not meet during the month of December. We will resume regular Saturday meetings in January.

If you adopted a child for Christmas, please plan on having your items delivered to the church by Sunday, December 1st. Please place your items for each child in a large trash bag with the Family Number and Child's Name. If you did not have an opportunity to adopt a child, please consider donating to this cause as your donation will be utilized to purchase bicycles for the children's wish list. God bless and have a wonderful Christmas!

Thank you all for your participation, Valerie Bowen



The Singing Christmas Tree

Mark Your Calendar as the Choir **Presents** "The Perfect Tree" on Saturday, December 21st @ 7:00pm Sunday, December 22nd @ 11:00am & 6:00pm

The **Christmas luncheon** will be on Sunday, December 15th. The church will provide turkey and ham. The congregation is asked to bring sides to feed 8-10 people and a dessert. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for sides. All visitors are encouraged to stay and join us for lunch!

To God Be The Glory



The children made a "Tree of Thanks" where they listed their blessings on their hand prints which served as leaves for their blessing tree. Such blessings included friends, family, church, God, home, parents, food, pets, Jesus and others!



We had a great turnout last month with 43 kids for our Parents Night Out and Youth program. We continued with our series on Moses and learned about the burning bush.

Our next meeting will be Friday, December 6th. Our lesson will be centered on the Christmas story as well as the craft. We'll be decorating ornaments and have other Christmas activities planned.

Special thanks to those who donated desserts and candy for our program.

Outreach at Work!!



OUTREACH

Last month, the **Outreach Committee** coordinated a love offering for Covy Rock Church in Burnsville, NC to help with expenses incurred due to Hurricane Helene damages. We collected over \$4,300 and all donations went towards repairing damages sustained to their church. A special thank you to all those who gave!

By the time the newsletter has been distributed, our church will have participated in the Mooresville Christmas Parade. Volunteers either rode or walked along the church bus to hand out flyers and candy canes to the parade attendees. Thank you to those who gave of their time to support the parade and the Outreach Committee!



Children's Church:

This year has flown by, and I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving! Now that we are moving into the Christmas season, I know a lot of us will be busy with get-togethers, shopping and decorating. Let us not, though, forget the reason we celebrate Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior. I want to say the children have been working hard on the Christmas play and getting their parts memorized. This month we have been focusing on being thankful for the blessings God has given us.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, and I'm looking forward to what God has in store.

Pastor Jesse

Children's Church Schedule:

Dec 1st – Scott and Vernelle Davis

Dec 8th – Christmas Program

Dec 15th – Ed and Judy Cox

Dec 22nd – Singing Christmas Tree

Dec 29th – Mike and Melissa Tabor

Pastor Jesse's Thought for the Day:

May God give you peace with yourselves; may
He give you good will towards all your friends,
your enemies, and your neighbors; and may He
give you grace to give glory to God in the
Highest.
Charles Spurgeon

To God Be The Glory

Youth Ministry:



I am so proud of Spencer and Hayden Hensley in their baptism. See the last page of the newsletter for photos.

Also, our next outing will be **Saturday**, **December 14**th as we head to the Speedway to see the Christmas lights!



The children and youth Christmas program will be Sunday, December 8th at 11:00am. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

There will be a **special practice on Sunday 12/1** immediately following the morning worship service. Lunch will be provided and in addition to play practice, there will be a Christmas party until 4:00pm. All those participating in the program are encouraged to attend both the practice and the party!!



Let's Celebrate!!

Happy Birthday to......

Janice Wilson – 2nd
Logan Jones – 9th
Jerry Honeycutt – 10th
Julie James – 10th

Christopher & Mikey Tabor – 10th

Elisha Holt – 14th Judy Moore – 16th

Trudy Ockerman – 16th

Bob Collins - 18th

Ken Stimson – 19th

Mike Adams - 20th

Ginger Adams – 21st

Jacob Pinkerton – 22nd

Judy Paschal – 26th

Guillermo ("G") Ocana – 28th



Happy Anniversary to...

Jeff & Lori Underwood – 6th Ken & Tena Stimson – Dec 19th Gleen & Joyce Hinson – 21st





This **Month's Big Shout Out** goes to Valerie Bowen for her work and efforts with the ladies group, Daughters of the King. From shut-in gifts to card ministries to baking desserts for Parents Night Out, a special thanks to Valerie for coordinating the ladies' ministry. On a side note, to all the ladies of the church, please join us the second Saturday of each month at 9:00am for breakfast, a devotion, and outreach project. See you then!

December Events:

Dec 6th Parents Night Out
Dec 8th Children & Youth
Christmas Program
Dec 14th Youth Outing
Dec 15th Christmas Luncheon

Dec 15th Christmas Luncheon
Dec 21st & Dec 22nd Singing Christmas

Tree

Dec 25th Christmas Day
Dec 29th Candle Light & Song





To God Be The Glory











Thank you to all those who came out and supported the Fall Festival!! We celebrated the fall season by roasting hot dogs and making smore's! The cake walk, as always, was a hit and thank you to all those who participated in Trunk or Treat. The kids left with bags full of candy!











We had a special **baptismal service** on Sunday, November 17th for Hayden and Spencer Hensley. We are so proud to welcome both brothers into our church family!







