

December 2025

To God Be The Glory



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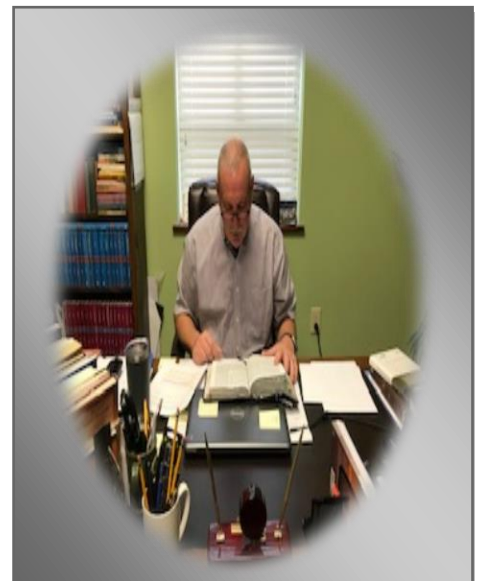


From The Pastor's Corner:

At the time of this writing, I sit at my desk and Thanksgiving is quickly approaching. By the time you read these words, Thanksgiving will have already passed. I, like many others, seem to spend a lot of my time dwelling on the things that I need to get done, whether they are at home, work, or at church, and it seems as though the list is endless at times. However, I am trying to make a conscience effort to spend more time thanking God for all of the blessings that are in my life as opposed to being overly concerned with the temporal things that seem to tug at my life and my time relentlessly.

I realize there are many things that require our attention, but may we make a concerted effort to not let the noise of them eternal things that matter most. (I feel like I am unable to put into words what I am truly feeling.) I guess when push comes to shove, the truth of the matter is that we are all going to pass away one day, and when we do, many of the things that absorbed us and our time in this life will not matter at all. In fact, the only thing that will matter is that we have accepted the Lord Jesus as our Savior.

For the last several months I have tried to spend more time thinking on the blessings of God in my life and all of the good things instead of what I don't have or even what I might consider to be bad things. I want to go to God in prayer with a heart of thanksgiving, more so than with a list of wants or even needs. After all, He knows what I stand in need of before I know myself. Now don't misunderstand me, I still ask God to help me as I pour out my petitions, but I want to always begin with thanking Him first just for being God and loving and saving me.



(Continued on the back)

December 2025

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I hope that each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, enjoying the company of your family and eating your favorite Thanksgiving foods. These are both tremendous blessings that if we aren't careful, we will take for granted. I also realize that there are some within our church family that celebrated Thanksgiving for the first time with an empty chair at their table due to the loss of a loved one. My prayer is that God would comfort you during this no doubt difficult holiday season and fill that space with His love.

May God Bless Each of You,
Pastor Robert



Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the towel and washcloth drive. We made 4 drop offs of new and gently used towels and washcloths along with new toothbrushes. I'm sure all of those items were greatly appreciated thanks to your generosity!

Our outing to Southern Supreme was a great success! We had 20 folks participate in the trip, 14 by bus and 6 by car. Perhaps we will try another day trip at a later date.

Our last get together was one of our best this year. Everyone enjoyed fish, fries, slaw and hushpuppies! As usual, the ladies brought some delicious desserts!

Richard and I want to thank everyone who has participated in our Seniors Group this past year! We are looking forward to meeting in the New Year! We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

We love you all,
Richard and Linda Moody



***Singing
Christmas
Tree***

Sat, Dec. 20th at
7:00pm
(refreshments
to follow)

Sun, Dec 21st at
11:00am and
6:00pm

Please help spread the word!



**Everyone is
invited!**

Christmas Lunch
Sat, Dec. 14th
following the morning
worship service. See the
sign-up sheet in the
narthex. The church is
providing turkey, ham and
bread. The congregation
is asked to bring sides and
desserts.

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We had a fun night at our last PNO as we learned about God's blessings and also had a sneak preview into this month's lesson about the birth of Jesus Christ. We have a number of Christmas activities planned and are looking forward to our last meeting of 2025. Please continue to pray for our program as volunteers are still needed to provide effective coverage as we average about 30 children and youth each month.

Pictures: top left – craft class, middle left – preschool lesson, bottom left – youth class. The below picture is our preschool class holding bags of manna (marshmallows) as they learned about God's provisions.



Daughters of the King will not meet during the month of December; regularly scheduled meetings will start back January 10, 2026.

Thank You to ***EVERYONE*** who participated in the Life Choice Rowan Baby Shower!! Your generosity allowed us to collect the following items: 1 bassinet, 1 crib mattress, 2 walkers, 1 play pen, 1 stroller and 500 diapers. In addition, we collected baby food, bottles, wipes, quilts and blankets, a Bumbo seat and clothes. Life Choice was thrilled with the donations and has expressed their gratitude.

Have a Merry Christmas, and I look forward to next year!!! *Valerie Bowen*

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Children's Church:

Merry Christmas! I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving! This month, we have been learning about being thankful and praising God in all that He has done in our life, even in the small things that we take for granted. We have also been learning about the reason Jesus was born, and the gift He has offered each of us. I hope everyone has a great Christmas and enjoys spending time with family.

To God be the Glory and Merry Christmas,
Pastor Jesse

Pastor Jesse's Thought for the Day:

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

We want to focus on the Southern Baptist mission of the **Lottie Moon Christmas** offering. Please see the handout in the narthex which explains who Lottie Moon is, the reason for the offering, and the prayer requests for the foreign missionaries who are supported by this offering. Please pray on giving to this very important gospel outreach. Special envelopes are placed by the handouts. Please also remember Nov. 30th – Dec. 7th which is the week of prayer for international missions.

To God Be The Glory



Youth Ministry:

The children and youth have been working so hard on the Christmas play which is Sunday, December 7th, and I am proud of all of them.

The picture below is from our fall party:



Children's Church Schedule:

Dec 7 th	Christmas Play
Dec 14 th	Michael and Angela Hinson
Dec 21 st	Singing Christmas Tree
Dec 28 th	Scott and Vernelle Davis



December 2025

Let's Celebrate!!
Happy Birthday to.....

Janice Wilson – 2nd
Jerry Honeycutt – 10th
Julie James – 10th
Christopher & Mikey Tabor – 10th
Judy Moore – 16th
Trudy Ockerman – 16th
Bob Collins – 18th
Ken Stimson – 19th
Judy Paschal – 26th
Guillermo ("G") Ocana – 28th

*happy
birthday !!*



**Thank
You!**

A big "shout out" to the Outreach Committee for organizing the Fall Festival. And, a big "thank you" to all that participated and came out to support the event! We did have a couple of people in the neighborhood that expressed interested in visiting our church. See the end of the newsletter for several photos!

To God Be The Glory

Happy Anniversary to...

Jeff & Lori Underwood – 6th
Ken & Tena Stimson – 19th
Gleen & Joyce Hinson – 21st
Justin and Brittany Owen – 31st

**HAPPY
anniversary**



UNTO
US A Child
IS BORN

ISAIAH 9:6

December Events:

Dec 5 th	Parents Night Out
Dec 7 th	Children's Christmas Program
Dec 13 th	Drive-Thru Prayer
Dec 14 th	Christmas Luncheon
Dec 20 th	Singing Christmas Tree
Dec 21 st	Singing Christmas Tree
Dec 25 th	Christmas Day
Dec 31 st	New Year's Eve

**KEEP
CHRIST
IN
CHRISTMAS**

December 2025

To God Be The Glory



The Properties Committee is starting a “roof fund” as our sanctuary roof will need replacing in the next few years. The goal to save is set for \$25,000. Watch the bulletin for details as we progress towards our goal.

Daughters of the King and Parents Night Out

joined forces to prepare stockings for our backpack kids at Millbridge Elementary. The filled stockings will be placed in the children’s backpack on the last day of school in December.



OUTREACH



As a reminder, remember to pray for our monthly “**drive through**” **prayer tent** for anyone who would like to have members of our church pray with them. This was first introduced at the Fall Festival. We will be continuing to have it set up one Saturday out of the month. There will be a sign in the church yard to tell those driving by to stop in if they have concerns they would like to pray for and have others to pray for them. The time will be from 9:00am until noon and people can stop in to pray **on Saturday, Dec. 13th**. We will also be providing coffee and Danishes to those who stop by. Pray for your role in this which may be to serve the Danishes and coffee, to talk in general, or pray alongside them if asked to.

Continue to pray for our children we bring on the bus to church each Sunday. There are three as of now. They have learned what church is about and have made lots of progress in behavior and learning about Jesus, and we have opportunities for more to join us on the bus. Please pray for this outreach. These children may not seem like they are an asset to our church, but they are to the Kingdom of God. Who knows, one of them may be an evangelist or missionary one day! If you’d like to be a chaperone on the bus, please see Billy Hodge or Vernelle Davis.



BUS MINISTRY



Redeeming the Wasteland

Redeeming the Wasteland

Isaiah 45:18

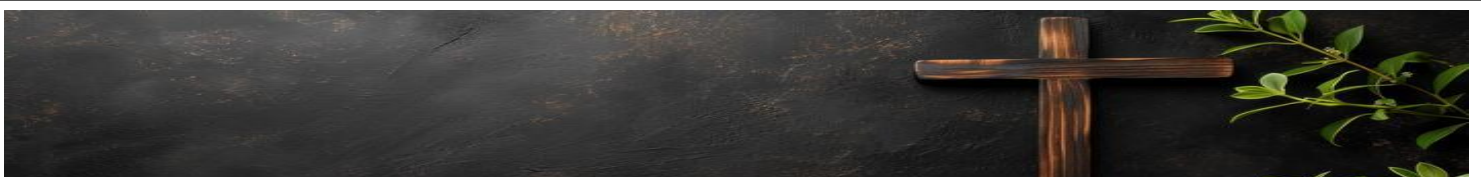
Sometimes, life seems more like a wasteland than a flourishing garden. When it does, we might wonder why a good, life-giving God opens up deserts in His people's lives. Recently, an almost parenthetical phrase in Isaiah 45:18 jumped out at me. The entire verse introduces the LORD as the world's Creator and only God. Amid this introduction, almost as a side note, the writer says, "he did not create it [the earth] to be a wasteland, but formed it to be inhabited." (CSB)

Maybe that's why God sends His people into wastelands. Maybe He wants to use us to bring life to the desert. To carry hope into the hospital, love into the broken family, peace into the difficult work situation, joy and contentment into the financial hardship. Church, God's Spirit dwells in each of His children. Maybe, through us, He wants to bring His presence to uninhabited places. I don't know why the wastelands have to exist to begin with. I just know our God loves redemption. And He loves working with and through His people.

So, as you navigate your wilderness, ask God to use you to bring His kingdom into it. Ask Him to help you walk this hard road in a way that glorifies Him and blesses others. Invite the Holy Spirit to work in and through you. And when you can see no signs of life or goodness around you, ask the LORD to show up with His miraculous grace and redemption. Persevere through the hardship, knowing that in God's hands your wasteland won't be wasted.

-- Megan Bean

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December 2025

To God Be The Glory

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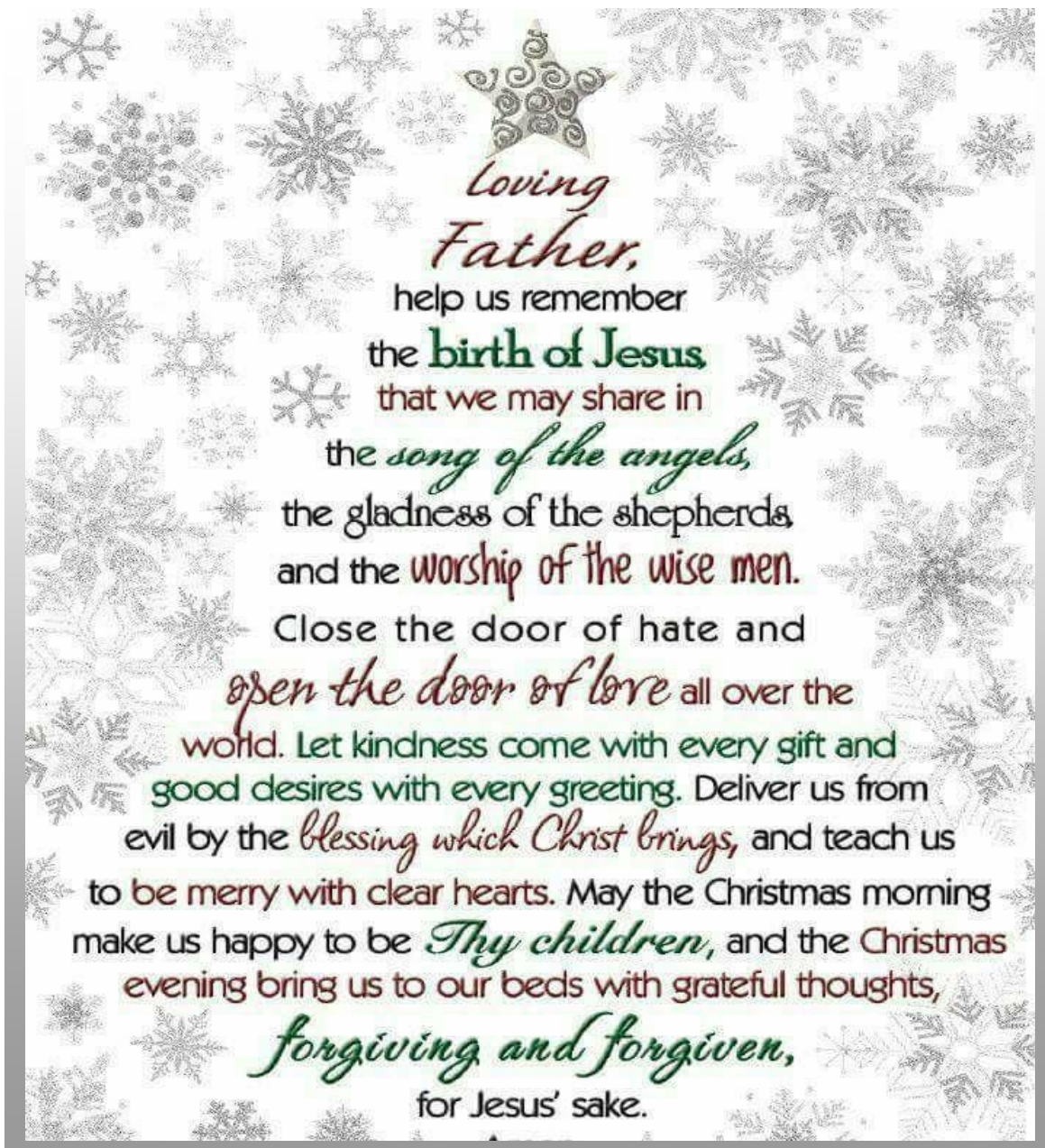
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We observed **Veteran's Day** on Sunday, November 9th by honoring military veterans of the US armed forces. Thank you to all those who have served to protect our country!





Merry Christmas!