

VOICE OF FRIENDSHIP

NEW FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

FROM THE PASTOR'S ❤️...

Baptist Press released an interesting article this week about increased Bible reading among the general population. Most of us would have thought that the trend would continue to decline. It was declining, but younger adults have begun investigating the Bible! ***That is wonderful news*** and the details are that roughly half the population claims to read the Bible at least weekly. That's pretty impressive and has to do some good. Maybe reading the Bible will influence many to follow its teachings and embrace the God who gave it to us.

The Lord has placed it upon my heart for a few months now to journey through the Scriptures together as a congregation. I have mapped it out over a ***3 year period*** and next month's newsletter and corresponding Sunday bulletins will have assigned daily readings to keep us on track. Our journey will be chronological to a historic timeline, so it will not necessarily go in the order they appear in the index of your Bible. Sunday sermons will also correspond to that week's reading.

I hope you're already in the Word. I hope you love the work that it's doing in your life. I look forward to the biblical journey together.

May you and your family have an amazing celebration this Christmas!

Glory to God in the Highest and Peace on Earth!
Pastor Chris

LOTTIE MOON MISSION OFFERING

December is our annual ***Lottie Moon Missions Offering*** to support international missions. Give generously so our more than 3,500 missionaries can stay in the field 100% of the time and not worry about fundraising. Every dollar you give goes directly to the mission field. These offerings help with medical supplies, clean water and cross cultural training. Most importantly, this offering enables those who do not know Jesus to come to know Him and His love for them. This year's goal is \$210 million. **Our goal is \$2,500.**

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

November 30th - December 7th is the Week of Prayer for International Missions. ***Please remember to pray for these international missionaries below as well as the Jones we support in South Africa:***

~ Emilio and Hanna Marrero

~ Katee Sheppard

~ Freshta and Nawid Aziz

~ Nick and Amber Sroka and Family

~ Hun and Eunjoo Sol

~ Landon and Megan Williams

~ Carlton and Cornelia Walker

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL CHURCH MEMBERS IN THE WELCOME CENTER. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DISTRIBUTE YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS AS TIME PERMITS!

ASSOCIATE PASTOR NEWS:

NFBC Family,

There is much to be thankful for in this holiday season! However, the most important thing we have to be thankful for is our great and matchless God whose ever-kind providence works for our good and His glory.

There is also much to look forward to in this season. I am looking forward to serving alongside a team from our church with the Coats for the City trip to New York City during the first weekend of December. I am also looking forward to seeing the children's Christmas program on the evening of Sunday, **December 14th**. I am quite obviously biased, but would be remiss if I did not mention the hours upon hours that Brittany has spent working on the play itself and practicing it with the children. She has put a great deal of care and effort into this, including completely rewriting the play to make it work best for our group of NFBC kids. If you attend the play, please let her know you appreciate her hard work!

Additionally, we will have our youth group Christmas party on Wednesday, **December 17th**. **Teens should wear their best Christmas outfit and bring a gift worth around \$5 for our gift exchange.** Snacks and games will be provided! There are many other Christmas events for all ages that you will read about elsewhere in this newsletter, but please keep these youth and children's opportunities in your prayers!

I often use this space to recommend good books because I firmly believe that Christians ought to read good books. A Christian who does not read will starve themselves not only of the life-giving text of Scripture, but also of the wisdom that God has given to faithful men and women throughout the centuries! However, let me do something different this time. I often

wonder how many people read these newsletter articles so I'd like to do a survey of sorts. I keep a bag of chocolates in my office that I sometimes use for treats when teaching lessons. Once you have read this article, come see me at church and I will give you a piece of chocolate. Typically you see this done with money but you will have to settle for chocolate. Don't let the secret out! Just come see me and I'll get you your chocolate.

**FOR HIS GLORY,
PASTOR BRANDON**

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS

Wednesday night meals are \$5/person or \$15/family. There are sign-ups for a permanent placement, a weekly placement and a dessert volunteer sign up on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center.

DECEMBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT MENUS:

12/3 - Hamburgers and Fries

12/10 - Breakfast for Supper

12/17 - Pizza & Salad

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Sunday, **November 30th**, there will be a Christmas program run-through in the sanctuary at 6PM while the worship service will be in the Fellowship Hall. Then, Saturday, **December 13th**, Christmas program dress rehearsal will start at 10AM and will be followed by a pizza lunch out in the pod. **Preschoolers and kindergarteners will not be needed until 11:30AM**. Finally, on Sunday, **December 14th**, the Children's Christmas program will take place at 6PM with refreshments provided afterwards.

KIDS' MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

There will be **NO** Sunday night classes in December. We have many events planned to enjoy with your family: Caroling, our Children & Youth Christmas Program and our Choir Cantata. There will be no children's classes on Sunday night, **December 28th**.

On Wednesday nights, there will be normal classes/play practice **December 3rd** and **10th**. The Kids' Ministry Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday, **December 17th**. There will be **NO** classes **December 24th** and **December 31st**.

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS BANQUET

The Senior Adult Christmas Banquet will be held on Saturday, **December 6th** at 5PM in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board outside of the church office. Please make sure to list each name individually.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a sign up on the bulletin board to let us know if you are available to participate in our Christmas Caroling evening on Sunday, **December 7th**. This is a very special time for our shut-ins and we pray that everyone will find the time to participate. (The Outreach is meeting on **December 11th** at 6PM.)

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION

The WMU morning group will meet on Monday, **December 8th**, at 10AM to assemble Christmas gift bags for our shut-ins. We will deliver as many as possible afterward. The After Hours group will not meet but are encouraged to attend **Christmas With A Capital "C"** event on Monday, **December 15th** at 6PM to meet and greet our guests.

CHRISTMAS WITH A CAPITAL "C"

Our annual "Christmas With A Capital 'C'" will be on Monday, **December 15th** at 6PM. It truly is one of the most loved programs we have at New Friendship. This ministry helps families in need. We are currently accepting donations and ask that you put contributions in an envelope marked accordingly and place them in the offering plate.

JAMMIES AND JESUS

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a night of fun and fellowship for ladies on Friday, **January 23rd** from 6PM to 9PM. More details to follow.

WESTERN NC NEEDS

Please prayerfully consider traveling to Western North Carolina and helping with the rebuilding of homes for those who lost their homes during hurricane Helene. Teams are desperately needed at the five rebuild sites in Western NC. If only for a weekend, you are needed (*experienced or not*)! As of August 10th, 433 homes have been completed and 248 are in progress. However, there are still more than 1300 requests. More than half the cost of building is labor, but with volunteers providing the labor, NC Baptists on Mission can double or even triple the number of families that get back into their homes sooner rather than later. Let's not only receive word of the needs of others, let's continue to respond to their needs and show them the love of Jesus Christ. **LET'S LIVE SENT!**

NEEDED FOR FOOD PANTRY

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| ~ INSTANT MILK | ~ FRUIT JUICE | ~ COOKIES |
| ~ BAG OR BOX OF RICE | ~ BOX OF PASTA | ~ PAPER TOWELS |
| ~ ROLLS OF TOILET PAPER | ~ GREEN BEANS | ~ BLACK BEANS |
| ~ SPAGHETTI O'S | ~ CORN | ~ FRUIT OR APPLESAUCE |
| ~ CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP | ~ ONE MEAT TO FEED FOUR (CHICKEN, TUNA, SALMON, HAM OR BEEF) | |

NEEDED FOR BABY BASKETS

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| ~ Hooded Towels | ~ Bibs | ~ 0 to 3 month Onesies |
| ~ Small Hand Sanitizer | ~ Pacifiers | ~ 0 to 3 month Outfits |

DECEMBER AT-A-GLANCE

12/5-8 - Coats for the City Mission Trip

12/6 - Senior Adult Christmas Banquet

12/7 - Pray for the Bride of Christ
Church Family Christmas Caroling

12/8 - Women's Missionary Union

12/13 - Trailblazers' Christmas Party

12/14 - Children's Christmas Play

12/15 - Christmas With A Capital "C"

12/21 - Celebration Choir Christmas Cantata

12/23 - Lord's Supper Candlelight Service



<u>November Numbers</u>	2025	2024
Sunday School Average:	127	137
Avg AM Worship Attendance:	162	171
General Offering:	\$54,974	\$44,239

If you need to reserve the building or the bus for any reason, please call the church office at 336-788-3112 or email us at newfriendship@icloud.com as soon as you know about your event so that we can keep the calendar organized. If you have information that needs to be put in the bulletin, please have that to the church office by **10AM on Thursday mornings**. If you have information that needs to be put in the monthly newsletter, please have this information to the church office by the **20th of each month**.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday (8AM to 1PM)

