



Caraleigh Baptist Church  
December Newsletter  
Established June 2, 1904



Desk of Pastor Michael Simmons

Pastor’s Paragraphs

December is both a wonderful and busy month of the year. I look forward to December each year because I love to celebrate Christmas. I love the family gatherings, singing the beautiful carols, attending all of the special events and worship services, and especially, celebrating Christmas and the birth of our Lord. To me, there is not a more beautiful time of the year. Sandra and I have already decorated our home with all of the special decorations of the season. We have purchased some of our Christmas gifts for family and friends and are busy trying to finish our shopping. For us the joy of Christmas presents is not in what we get, but in what we give to others. It makes us feel all good inside when we see the smile on the faces of others who receive our gifts.

This month, our giving as a church family includes our Lottie Moon Christmas offering for International Missions and our shoebox ministry for Samaritan’s Purse (even though the shoeboxes were prepared in November). Thank you for your generous giving to these special ministries.

Advent began in November 30<sup>th</sup> and marked the beginning of the Christian New Year. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the second Sunday of Advent. On December 14<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the third Sunday of Advent with a service of Christmas carols, Scripture, and a message titled, “When Peace Comes.” After the service we will have a brief business conference to elect the officers and teachers for 2026, as well as vote on our budget for next year. On December 21<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent and will have a time of worship which will include a special candlelight service celebrating the birth of our Lord. On December 28<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the end of the old year as we prepare to usher in the new calendar year of 2026.

This month, Sandra and I want to wish each of you a very Merry Christmas filled with the love, joy, and peace of Christ. It is our hope and prayer that you will experience the warmth of the presence of the Christ of Christmas and have a wonderful time to spend with family and friends.

Pastor Michael

Looking Ahead

Worship Service 11:00am

Sunday School 9:45 am

Thursday - Bible Study 11:00am

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Martha Whitehead                      Dec.    27



Remember Pray for Our Shut – Ins

Rachel Council	The Landing of Chestnut Grove, 158 Chestnut Grove Church Rd.	Phone# 919-247-0873	Sparta	NC	28675
Edith Crumpler	54 Summit Ave.		Raleigh	NC	27603
Sue Denning	Smithfield Manor                      Rm. 421 902 Berkshire Rd.	Phone# 919-616-9000	Smithfield	NC	27577
Clyde Hutton	Raleigh Rehabilitation Center   Rm. 426 116 Wade Ave.		Raleigh	NC	27605
Johnny Hutton	Lawndale Manor Assisted Living Rm. 201 601 Lakeside Dr.		Garner	NC	27529
Linda Hutton	Wedgwood Homes Apt. 15 740 Smallwood Dr.		Raleigh	NC	27605

Prayer Concerns



Pastor & Deacons	Church Family	Caraleigh Comm.	United States
"Leaders of the USA"	World Leaders	World Hunger	Jean Myers
Linda & Karl Stephenson	Angela Melton	Sue Denning	Sandra James
Cindy Poole	Windy Tedder	Clyde Hutton	Carolyn Murphy
Linda & Glenn Suggs	Seth Tedder	Missionaries	Sue Price
Barry McNamara	World Hunger	Mike Poole	Connie Crumpler
Barry West	Baby Boy Madden		



Peace in Jerusalem and Gaza                      People out of work

Music Notes:    Desk of Margie Huggins

Music is what has brought you and me together since 1986! Being part of the Caraleigh Family has enriched my Christian life so much and given me many of opportunities to serve my Lord. What a blessing it is to be able worship together for so many years. My prayer is that each of you will have a very wonderful holiday season. James Montgomery wrote the words to the beautiful Christmas hymn, "Angels, from the Realms of Glory." "Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sand creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Come and worship; Worship Christ, the new-born King! All creation, join in praising, God, the Father, Spirit, Son; Evermore your voices raising, To the eternal Three in One, Come and worship; Worship Christ, the new-born King!" Orphaned at the age of six, he went through school and studied as best he could. When grown, he held down several jobs before realizing writing was his special talent. He remained devoted to Christ and the scriptures. Early on Christmas Eve, in 1816, as he was studying Luke 2, words came to him and thus we area blessed with the beautiful hymn, Angels, From the Realms of Glory". The world is so blessed to have men and women who are able to write poetry, and later it will be put to music. Thank you Father, for your rich blessings to the music world.

Merry Christmas to each of you my brothers and sisters in Christ. To God be the glory, great things He has done.

Inspiration & Humor: Desk of Teresa Moore

**May Your Light Shine Forth** "Almighty God, who has poured upon us the new light of your Incarnate Word; Grant that the same light en kindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen ~Book of Common Prayer

**The Perfect Gift** "Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that He gave His only Son. The only requirement is to believe in Him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life." ~Corrie ten Boom

**Ah, Dearest Jesus** "Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, make thee a bed, soft, undefiled, within my heart, that it may be a quiet chamber kept for Thee. My heart for very joy doth leap, my lips no more can silence keep, I too must sing, with joyful tongue, that sweetest ancient song. Glory to God in highest heaven, who unto man His Son hath given, while angels sing with pious mirth, a glad new year to all the earth! Amen." ~Martin Luther

Why did Dad stop using his loyalty card to scrape ice from his windshield? He only got 10% off.

What did the snowman say to the aggressive carrot? "Get out of my face!!!!"

How is a reindeer like a coin? It has a head on one side and tail on the other side.

What does a parent consider the best Christmas present ever for their child?

A broken drum – you just can't beat it!



*Missions Report: Desk of Connie Crumpler*

**Update:** On November 16 we dedicated 12 Samaritan’s Purse shoeboxes that were made by our church members. Adding the 5 shoeboxes that were made online, gives us a total of 17 shoeboxes made by Caraleigh Baptist Church ! Thank you for caring enough to make a shoebox for lost children around the world! A special “thank you” to Frances and Arnold Collins for handling the dedication of the shoeboxes and for taking them to a drop-off church where they will be packed up with shoeboxes from other churches and sent to Charlotte to continue their journey.

December is the month for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering that supports missionaries around the world. Our goal for this offering is \$900. 100% of the funds given to this offering goes to help missionaries; none of it goes to administrative costs!

Growing up in Virginia, Lottie Moon and her siblings chose to rebel against Christianity. At 18, Lottie followed Christ and was baptized. When she was 33 (in 1873), she sailed to China as a Southern Baptist missionary (one of the first single women to be sent as a foreign missionary on her own). She saw firsthand the world’s greatest problem – lostness. Through her heartfelt letters home, Lottie encouraged churches to support missions through their prayers and giving. Those efforts led to the creation of the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Which continues today = supporting missionaries around the world as they share the hope of Christ.

Lottie Moon died on December 24, 1912 as she was returning to the United States.

As of 12/31/2024, we have 3,577 missionaries on the field, we’ve had 68,628 baptisms, 2,409 churches planted, 144,969 professed faith in Jesus, and 1.6 million heard the Gospel presentation! Let us celebrate all God is doing around the world!

Remember, missions is about sharing the Gospel and meeting needs in Jesus' name. The impact is eternal. As the old saying goes: "Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as you can."

*GIVE*                      to missions (church offerings and organizations). Give sacrificially of your money, time, and talents!

*THANK*                    God for your blessings.

*PRAY*                     for someone (and don’t forget the missionaries!)