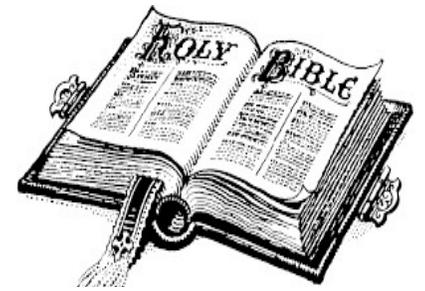




*Caraleigh Baptist Church  
January Newsletter  
Established June 2, 1904*



*Desk of Pastor Michael Simmons*

**Pastor's Paragraphs**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

It is the beginning of a whole new year. 2025 is gone and 2026 has begun. It is like closing a chapter on a book about our lives and beginning to write a brand-new one. We learn from the past and look forward to the future while living in the present. I hope that all of you had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and are now ready for all that is before us. I do not know all that 2026 holds in store for us, but I know that God has a plan. The wise old writer of Proverbs 3:5 gives us some great advice as we go forward, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." It is not what we want for our church, ourselves, our families, or others. It is all about what God wants for us. What is God's plan for this year? This, we will discover together through serious soul-searching with openness of mind and heart. The writer of Proverbs continues with his advice in verse 6: "In all your ways, acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths." 2026 is the time for all of us to let the Lord direct our paths. The first Sunday of the year is Epiphany Sunday when we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. As we share together in this sacred meal, let us remember what our Lord has done for us and commit ourselves anew to seeking his will for our lives and for our church. Let us also commit ourselves to acknowledging him in every aspect of our lives and letting him make our paths clear and straight.

Among the many things that I have learned in life, one thing stands out. If I depend on myself, my intellect, my abilities, and my strength alone, I can only do so much. However, as Paul writes in Philippians 4:13, when I depend on the Lord, I "can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." So, it is with all of us. If we depend on Christ and discover his will, if we seek to see things through his eyes, as the Holy Spirit leads, we will begin to see and understand what he wants to do in us and through us this year. This will take commitment to spending time in Bible study and prayer, and to one another. I think that this will be a good New Year's resolution to make and keep.

Pastor Michael

*Looking Ahead*

*Worship Service 11:00am*

*Sunday School 9:45 am*

*Thursday - Bible Study 11:00am*

*Birthdays & Anniversaries*

<i>Anita Godwin</i>	<i>January 01</i>
<i>Leo Inscore</i>	<i>03</i>
<i>Mike Poole</i>	<i>04</i>





**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**

Prayer Concerns

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



*Peace in Jerusalem and Gaza*

*People out of work*

**Music Notes: Desk of Margie Huggins**

New Years day, January 1, 2026 . I can't hardly believe it. As a child of God, I look back over the years and bring to mind the beautiful hymn, "God Will Take Care of You." He has certainly watched over me and cared for me all these many years. What a wonderful journey it has been. Through the good times and through the harder times we have walked together side by side. God has never let me down and He will never let any of us down who love and trust in Him. When Jesus is your life, it is the greatest life you can have.

As we go through 2026 together, we can go with confidence that God WILL take care of us if we trust Him.

"Be not dismayed what-e'er be-tide. God will take care of you; Beneath His wings of love abide, God will take care of you. Through days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you; When dangers fierce your path assail, God will take care of you. All you may need He will provide, God will take care of you.

Nothing you ask will be denied, God will take care of you. No matter what may be your test, God will take care of you. Lean weary one, upon His Breast, God will take care of you. God will take care of you, Thru every day, O'er all the way ; He will take care of you, God will take care of you"!!!!!!

I think this is a most excellent way to start off our new year together, knowing **GOD WILL TAKE CARE OF ALL OF US.**

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!!!!! GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!!!!**

**Inspiration & Humor: Desk of Teresa Moore**

"The most important resolution you can make as another year approaches is this: to open your heart and life to Jesus Christ, and commit your life to Him. Don't waste your time on resolutions that don't ultimately matter; resolve instead to live for Christ."

"It's really wonderful to enter the new year with Jesus Christ... all through the year to be going along with Christ and have Christ going along with you. No matter what the problems, many of them uncertain, many mysteries out there in the future, but Christ is with you. Whether we know the future or not, we know the one who holds the future."  
**Reverend Billy Graham**

*Missions Report: Desk of Connie Crumpler*

I will know our total for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering that supports our foreign missionaries later this month and will report it in the February newsletter. Our goal was \$900. It's still not too late to give!

Thank you, Caraleigh Baptist Church, for having a heart for missions!

Missions discipleship is grounded in the command of Jesus to His disciples, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19–20 CSB).

The 2025 – 2026 Theme for WMU is "What Joy." We think of a lot of things that bring us joy: friends, family, children, and grandchildren. We bring God joy when we serve him and are obedient to Him. There are 4 core objectives that drive our theme this year:

- (1) Passionate about the lost.** "When we reach out to those who haven't yet encountered the love of Christ our passion mirrors the deep love God has for every soul. Our dedication to evangelism and our heartfelt prayers for those who are searching reflect the profound joy of participating in God's mission to seek and save the lost."
- (2) Compelled by love.** "The love of Christ should compel us in our service. When we allow God's love to flow through us, it drives us to serve others selflessly. As we serve with love, God's joy is magnified through our actions."
- (3) Generous in sharing.** "Joy comes from the act of giving and sharing. God delights in our generosity. When we use our resources, time, and talents with others we reflect the generosity that God shows us daily."
- (4) Serve with great delight (Joy).** "When we approach our mission with a heart full of joy, our service becomes an act of worship, God finds great pleasure in our willingness to serve with gladness and to spread His love through our joyful service."

As we embark on this new year, let us continue to embrace the theme "What Joy!" amplified by our passionate, loving, generous, and delighted service. "May we strive to serve the Lord with the same joy and enthusiasm that fills our hearts when we are with our loved ones. Let this year be a testament to the incredible joy that comes from serving the Lord with all our hearts!"

**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!)