

Florence Baptist Church

201 South Broadway Street

The Messenger

Volume XXXVI Issue 47

December 08, 2009

Featuring our Special Guest:

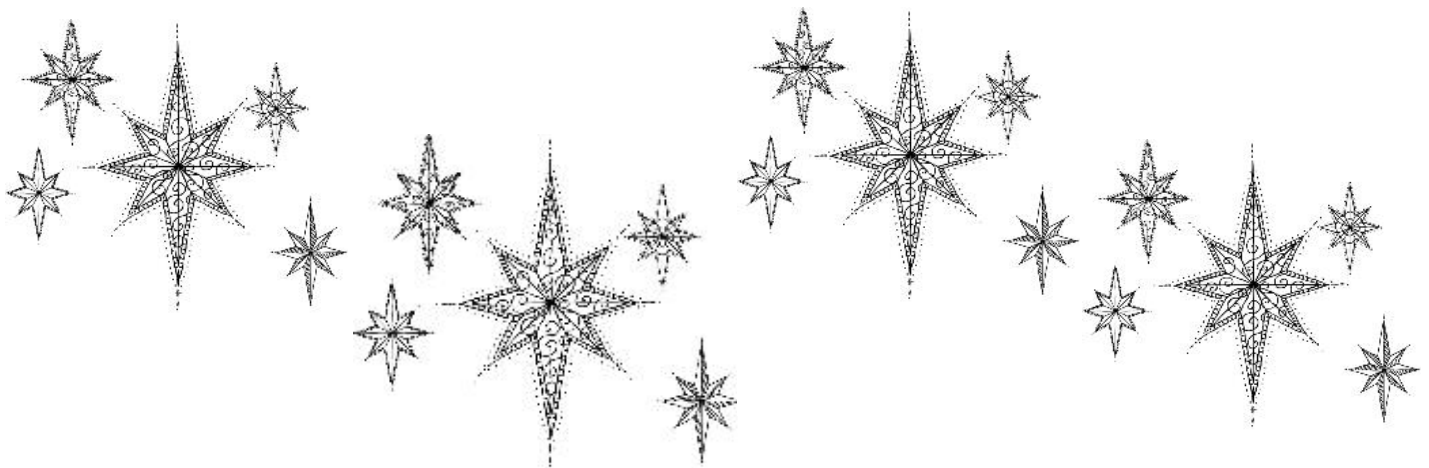
Sunday, December 13

The Census Taker!

First Light 8:45 am

Salt and Light 11:00 am

A Monologue Sermon



A G.L.O.W. CHRISTMAS

Sunday Evening, December 13 @ 6:00 pm

LEC Gym

PREACHER B'S BE-ATTITUDES

Thank you to our Preschool and Children's Choirs for a job well done this past Sunday night! *The Best Christmas Present Ever!* was truly delightful, and we are grateful to Scott and all of our choir leaders for their leadership and preparation. Sunday night was a very special part of our Advent Celebration! Thank you!

We hope you will be present this coming Sunday, both morning and evening. In First Light and Salt and Light, the Census Taker will be our special guest.

Luke 2 reads, "In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child."

The Census Taker will be with us to tell us his version of what happened that night 2,000 years ago. What was the census like? Why did they take a census? How crowded was the city of Bethlehem? Was it chaos or calm? And what did the Census Taker see with Joseph and Mary?

We hope you and yours will join us at First Light, Bible study and Salt and Light and meet this special guest who will be with us.

It is also our hope that you will come back on Sunday night as we enjoy a GLOW Christmas. We are proud of our GLOW Team. They always do a great job. They have faced extra challenges this year, with Vickie Campfield's fall and subsequent surgery a few weeks ago, but we know they will do a wonderful job. Please make every effort to be here at 6:00 in the LEC. Children of all ages enjoy puppets and drama. I can't wait to see you and yours for this special Christmas program.

Throughout Advent, please remember that we are receiving our International Missions Offering. Let's give generously and sacrificially that all the world might hear the Name of Jesus. Please keep in mind that you can earmark your offering for Lottie Moon, the Global Missions Offering of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship or World Hunger.

Preacher B

IN SYMPATHY

Bob Blanton in loss of his sister, Estelle Ledford
Lois Tate Family

Welcome New Member

Loretta Jenkins - Profession of Faith

 **DISTRIBUTUION DAY**
Saturday, December 12 LEC Gym
10:00 am - 11:00am

GIFTS TO THE BUILDING FUND

IN MEMORY OF BENJY HUMPHRIES, grandson of Pauline White

James & Beth Harmon Mack & Pam McKeithan

IN MEMORY OF ESTELLE LEDFORD, sister of Bob Blanton

Patsy Champion Martha Jean McFarland
Mack & Pam McKeithan Pat & Lucille Nanney

IN MEMORY OF WILL MCFARLAND, whose date of birth was December 7

Mike & Mary Jane Hinkle Martha Jean McFarland

IN MEMORY OF LOIS TATE

George & Shirley Bowen Patsy Champion
Dot Culbertson Ruby Culbertson
Marie Davis Edith Dula
Ruby Evans James & Beth Harmon
Tim & Linda Lovelace Martha Jean McFarland
Mack & Pam McKeithan Chester & Glenda Melton
Paul & Terry Munsey Pat & Lucille Nanney
Johnny & Gerry Perkins Mike & Lynn Ruff
Ray & Carolyn Smart
Hope Friendship Sunday School Class

IN HONOR OF MARY LIB HENSON

Ray & Carolyn Smart

IN HONOR OF MARTHA JEAN MCFARLAND

Aubrey & Betty Calton

IN HONOR OF FREDDIE & JANICE OLIVER

Ray & Carolyn Smart

IN HONOR OF KEN PRUITT

Virgil Webb Sunday School Class

IN HONOR OF BILL & ANN SMART

Ray & Carolyn Smart

IN HONOR OF DALTON SMART

Ray & Carolyn Smart

IN HONOR OF JIM & JACKIE SMART

Ray & Carolyn Smart

RA/GA POST OFFICE

IN HONOR OF FLORENCE BAPTIST CHURCH MEMBERS

Bill & Carolyn Hardin

RECORDS December 06, 2009

Sunday School	374
Budget Offering	23,250.55
<i>LightShine</i>	6,468.10
Angel Food Fund	130.00
Benevolence Fund	50.00
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	2,662.00
CBF Global Missions	200.00
World Hunger	20.00
Campus Crusade	85.00
Fellowship Supper	1,335.00
Media Center	5.95
Poinsettias	120.00
RA/GA Post Office	116.00
Upward Basketball	572.00
Youth (M-Fuge 2010)	50.00
Youth (The Edge Winter Retreat)	125.00
Youth (Ornament Fundraiser)	515.00



Last Wednesday night, I shared this with the youth, and I found it to be very fitting for the Christmas season. Jesus Christ is definitely the reason for the season, and to help you keep that fact in balance, remind yourself of the following:

Jesus is always better than Santa because....

- * Santa lives at the North Pole, but Jesus is everywhere.
- * Santa rides in a sleigh, but Jesus rides on the wind and walks on the water.
- * Santa comes only once a year, but Jesus is an ever present help.
- * Santa fills your stocking with goodies, but Jesus supplies all your needs.
- * Santa gives you a few fun things that may last a year, but Jesus gives you life that will last forever.
- * Santa comes down your chimney uninvited, but Jesus stands at your door and knocks.
- * You have to wait in line to see Santa, but Jesus is as close as the mention of his name.
- * Santa doesn't know your name unless you tell him, but Jesus knew your name before you were even born.
- * Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly, but Jesus has a heart full of love.
- * Santa says, "You better not cry," but Jesus says, "Cast all your anxiety on me, for I care for you."
- * Santa makes you chuckle, but Jesus gives you joy that becomes your very strength.
- * Santa puts gifts under the tree, but Jesus became our gift and died on a tree-the cross.

I encourage you to take time and focus on the true meaning of Christmas this year. I pray that you will share "Jesus" the best Christmas present ever with those around you this season.

See you Wednesday!

Laura ☺



Have you purchased your Florence Baptist Church Christmas Ornament yet? Time is running out for you to get your hands on this one of a kind ornament! All of the proceeds will go to help lower the cost for our 2010 M-Fuge Summer Mission Trip to Williamsburg, Kentucky. There are two ways you can purchase one before Christmas. During the week they will be available through the church of-

fice, and on Wednesdays, December 9 and 16, they will be for sale during fellowship supper time. The youth would like to thank the Florence Family for all their support and love. We hope that you and your family have a Merry Christmas!

Come and Join Mission Group 2

Thursday, December 10th **Rollins Cafeteria @ 5:15 pm**

Contact Doris Jones for more information at (828) 305-2521.

Homebound Christmas Cards: Due Sunday, December 13th. Our RA's & GA's will deliver their cards in the time allowed on Wednesday, December 16th, with a special gift from the Piecemaker's Quilting Group.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR - December 13-19

SUNDAY: Amos 3-4; Revelation 4

8:45 - First Light Service (LEC)

9:45 - Bible Study

11:00 - Salt & Light Service

4:00 - G.L.O.W.

5:00 - Youth Praise Band

6:00 - G.L.O.W. Christmas (LEC Gym)

7:00 - Wind Ensemble

MONDAY: Amos 5-7; Revelation 5

9:00 - Exercise Class

5:00 - 8:00 - Upward Basketball Practice

TUESDAY: Amos 8-9; Revelation 6

2:00 - Mission Group 1 Meeting (Martha Jean Mc Farland's)

5:00 - 8:00 - Upward Basketball Practice

5:30 - 6:30 - Cheerleading Practice

WEDNESDAY: Obadiah; Revelation 7

4:30 - Senior Adult Choir

5:00 - Staff Fellowship Supper Serving Time

5:30 - Choir Leaders & Choir Chimes Serving Time

5:45 - 6:15 - Fellowship Supper Serving Time

5:45 - 6:15 - Choir Chimes (4th and 5th Graders)

6:15 - 7:00 - Preschool & Children's Choirs

6:30 - 7:00 - Prayer Meeting (LEC Gym)

6:30 - 7:30 - Youth Bible Study (*The Loft*)

7:00 - 7:30 - Mission Friends/GA's & RA's

7:30 - 8:30 - Adult Choir

8:30 - Adult Praise Band

THURSDAY: Jonah 1-4; Revelation 8

4:30 - 8:30 - Upward Basketball Practice

6:30 - 7:30 - Cheerleading Practice

FRIDAY: Micah 1-2; Revelation 9

9:00 - Exercise Class

SATURDAY: Micah 3-4; Revelation 10

2:00 - 7:00 - Youth Christmas Scavenger Hunt

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

13 - Shea Doty, Wes Mayse, Emma Lovelace, Ann Melton

15 - Elena Moore

16 - Beverly Davis, Jim Shows

17 - Sarah Beth Koonce

18 - Ansley Bennett, Ginger Perry, Linda Putman, Paige Riffle

19 - Tammy Arrowood, Mike Campfield, Brandi Holland, Devin Silvers, L.B. Smith

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

15 - Mr. & Mrs. Mark Bullman

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Hartley

16 - Mr. & Mrs. Robert Litaker

18 - Mr. & Mrs. Kelly Mitchem

19 - Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Campbell

HOMEBOUND MEMBER OF THE WEEK

Frank Settlemyre

Fair Haven Home

149 Fair Haven Drive

Bostic, NC 28018

COLLEGE STUDENT OF THEWEEK

Amanda McMellion

P.O. Box 6288

Boiling Springs, NC 28017-5018



Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Forest City, NC 28043

Florence Baptist Church
201 South Broadway Street
Forest City, NC 28043

Phone: 828-245-5411

Fax: 828-245-5412

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

www.florencechurch.net



**ALL BANANA BOXES
ARE DUE ON
SUNDAY MORNING,
DECEMBER 13TH !**

Church Staff

Dr. Bobby Gantt Pastor
Home Phone: 828-289-5334
pastor@florencechurch.net

Rev. Scott Haynes Minister of Music
Home Phone: 828-245-2791
music@florencechurch.net

Rev. Mike Elgin Associate Pastor & Recreation
Home Phone: 828-245-4594
children@florencechurch.net

Rev. Laura Reich Minister of Youth
Phone: 245-5411 ext. 119
youth@florencechurch.net

Lucille Nanney Administrative Assistant
Home Phone: 828-245-2246
Lucille@florencechurch.net

Crystal Smith Office Assistant/Church Hostess
Home Phone: 828-245-8163
Crystal@florencechurch.net

Tommy Wilson Custodian
Home Phone: 828-245-1073

Glenn Pruett Custodial Assistant

Fellowship Supper Menu

Wednesday, December 16

Main Menu: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy,
Green Beans, Biscuits, Dessert

Alternate Menu: Corn Dogs, Chips, Dessert

All orders must be received by **Monday noon** before the
Wednesday for which you are ordering!

YOKEFELLOW ASSIGNMENT

Crackers (Saltines)

NURSERY SCHEDULE SUNDAY – December 13

8:30 AM - Kim Bridges, Barbara Blue & Assistants

11:00 AM - Barbara Blue & Assistants

6:00 PM - Barbara Blue & Assistants

NO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP – December 13

WEDNESDAY NIGHT - December 16

6:15 - 7:00 - Steve & Jessica Herndon, Kelly Lovelace,
Kristi Germack

7:00 - 7:30 - Steve & Jessica Herndon, Kelly Lovelace,
Kristi Germack