

LITTLETON BAPTIST NEWS

A Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Congregation

“Our mission is to make Christ known, by providing spiritual nourishment, ministering to physical needs, and sharing the Gospel.”



Rev. David A. Little, Pastor

www.littletonbaptistchurch.org

email: pastor@littletonbaptistchurch.org

email: office@littletonbaptistchurch.org

(252) 586-5330

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PASTOR'S PARAGRAPH

Christmas season is here again. It is hard to believe that it is already time to celebrate the birth of our Savior. It seems like just yesterday we were lighting the Advent Candles last year.

Christmas is one of my favorite seasons. From the joy of Christmas as a child, to spending time with family, and now starting new traditions with my new family. There is so much joy found in this season.

And then at church, worshiping and celebrating the birth of our Savior means so much to me. Remembering the hope, peace, joy, and love that came down that fateful night. As I think upon the star that guided the wise men to Jesus, I think upon Jesus now guiding us to him.

Even as we worship the birth, I can't help but think of the cross. I can't help but think of this baby that was born so that we could live. So as we gather and worship through many ways this Christmas season, let us not just remember the cradle. For the cradle was not the end of the story, but just the beginning. For the cradle led to the cross and to our salvation. We cannot celebrate the birth of our Savior without remembering why he is our savior.

So let us remember our savior. As we gather on Sunday mornings and light the Advent candles. As we come and hear the songs of Christmas at the Christmas Cantata. As we gather on Christmas Eve to remember the Christmas story. Through everything we do, let us remember the reason that Jesus was born, to save us.

So Merry Christmas everyone! I hope your Christmas is full of great hope, peace, joy, and love. I pray that this season fills you with the spirit of Christ and you are able to take him with you wherever you go. For just as we light the candles in church, you are the light in the world. So be Christ's light. Let the world know why Christmas is important. And remember the reason for the season.

Grace and Peace,

David



'Tis the Season

DECEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Youth Lunch/Shopping	2 8:30 Exercise	3	4 8:30 Exercise 6:00 Young Family Bible Study 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	5	6 8:30 Exercise	7
8 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 12:15 Deacon's Meeting 5:00 Youth Christmas Party	9 8:30 Exercise	10	11 8:30 Exercise 6:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Prayer & Bible Study	12	13 8:30 Exercise	14
15 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship 5:30 Christmas Cantata & Fel- lowship	16 8:30 Exercise	17	18 8:30 Exercise 5:30 Christmas Caroling No Choir or Prayer & Bible	19	20 8:30 Exercise	21 11:00 Christmas Outreach Party at John 3:16 Center
22 9:00 Christmas Breakfast 11:00 Worship	23 8:30 Exercise	24 5:00 Christmas Eve Service	25  Merry Christmas No Choir or Prayer & Bible Study	26	27 8:30 Exercise 9:30 LACTS Food Pantry	28
29 9:45 S. School 11:00 Worship	30 8:30 Exercise	31				



It's here! It's here! The most wonderful time of the year! I love Christmas! The smells, the decorations, the Hallmark Christmas movies, the food and of course, the music!

The Adult Choir will be presenting The First Noel on December 15 at 5:30 P.M. It is filled with classic carols, hymns, and favorite Christmas songs of the season! The children will also be participating in this special presentation. We hope you will join us and we guarantee you will leave in the holiday spirit!

LBC will be having a float in the Littleton Christmas parade on December 7. We will be recreating the Nativity Scene. We have the float, now we need the people. Anyone who would like to dress as shepherds or angels please let me know. If there are grandchildren or others that would like to ride they are welcome on our float! The more the merrier!

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful Christmas! Remember the true meaning of the season and celebrate with family and friends!

Merry Christmas!

Laura



Deacons Meeting

Deacons will meet on Sunday, **December 8**, following Morning Worship.

CHOIR AND PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

There will be no Choir or Prayer & Bible Study on Wednesday, **December 18** and **December 25**.



We're Going Caroling

On Wednesday, **December 18**, you are invited to gather at the church, dressed warmly and prepared to leave at 5:30 P.M. to go Christmas Caroling in the community and visit our homebound.



The Church Office will be closed the week of Christmas so our staff can enjoy time with their families.

Church-wide Christmas



Breakfast

Everyone is invited to our church-wide Christmas Breakfast on Sunday, **December 22**, beginning at 9:00 A.M. This breakfast will extend into the Sunday School hour. After breakfast we will take some time for celebration and thanksgiving. We hope you will be present for this time of fellowship hosted by the Missions Committee.



Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion will be Tuesday, **December 24**, at 5:00 P.M. Bring family and friends and join us for this service as we light the Christ candle and celebrate the good news of the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

NATIVITY SCENE DISPLAY

In the spirit of Christmas, we again have our lighted Nativity Scene on display for our community. This scene debuted here in 2008 following the generous donation of the life-size and life-like figures handmade by Julian and Indie Parks. You are encouraged to view the scene and meditate on the message and meaning of Christmas. We encourage you to invite others to view it as we remember the first Christmas when our Savior was born.





Effective **January 1**, the following policy will go into effect regarding the Prayer List. Please take time to go over the prayer list and call people who you have added to get updates on them. We want to make sure that our prayer list stays current and accurate and we need our church family to work together to accomplish this. So make sure you look over the policy.

1. If a person is added to the list, they will remain on the list for a total of three weeks
2. If after the three weeks they still need to be on the prayer list you can re-add them.
3. If it is an issue that will be an ongoing prayer need, please add them to the ongoing needs.
4. If you add someone to the Ongoing Needs, Missionaries and Ministry Partners prayer list, please keep the church office updated so that we know when they need to be removed.
5. Make sure when you add someone to the list you have their permission to add them.

CHRISTMAS CARDS



The Christmas Card Mailbox for you to “mail” your Christmas cards to church members “in house” begins Sunday, **December 1**. You may bring your Christmas cards to the vestibule for distribution to members. We’ll make sure our Homebound receive their cards as well.



John 3:16 Center

On **December 1** our Youth will be shopping for toys to be shared with children through the John 3:16 Center. We will leave after worship that morning for lunch and shopping. If you would like to help this drive with a contribution, you may give your cash or check to our youth as you leave worship on **December 1**. We will also receive your purchased toys for the center. Last year’s contributions helped the center serve around 150 children during Christmas.

The Center could really use your help with several volunteer opportunities! (For more information or to sign up to help call the Center at (252) 586-1800.



FROM THE
Pulpit

THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

Join us for our Sunday Morning Worship Services

December 1

I'll Be Home for Christmas

Revelation 22:12-13

First Sunday of Advent - Hope

December 8

Another Christmas in the Trenches

Isaiah 11:1-19

Second Sunday of Advent - Peace

December 15

God Bless Us Everyone

Romans 15:7-13

Third Sunday of Advent - Joy

December 22

If You Just Believe

John 3:16 - 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love

December 29

The Great Escape

Matthew 2:13 - 15



Mission Opportunities

Merry Christmas from your Missions Committee!

Looking forward to seeing you at our Christmas breakfast on **December 22** at 9:00 AM.

Would love to have you join us for the Food Pantry on Friday, **December 27**, at 9:30 A.M. as we continue to share the Christmas Spirit with others.



The youth had a wonderful time at the Escape Room in Raleigh. We had a great time bonding enjoying each other's fellowship.

In December, the youth will meet on Sunday, **December 8**, at the parsonage for our Youth Christmas party. We will be playing lots of Christmas games and enjoying good food. Each youth is asked to bring a gift that costs no more than \$15.

We will go shopping for the John 3:16 Christmas Party on Sunday, **December 1** and then we will also be helping with the party on Saturday, **December 21**.



DECEMBER 15, 2019
5:30 PM

ADULT CHOIR CANTATA

DIRECTED BY LAURA KEARNEY

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE, JOIN THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE FOR A TIME OF FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



Again this year we will receive the CBF Global Missions Offering in support of CBF Missions around the world. The offering will be received at a special ingathering on **December 15** as we place our offering on the Chrismon Tree near the conclusion of morning worship. All during December there will be highlights about Global Missions to better inform you how the message of Christ is being carried around the world by CBF Missionaries and Affiliates. Please use the prayer guides to pray diligently and give generously. Your support makes a world of difference!



Again this year our church will be sending cards to cheer up people who will be away from home at Christmas. If you know of anyone in the community who has family or friends that will be away from home such as military personnel or missionaries, please give their name and address to Sid Shearin. The cards will be in the vestibule for you to sign on **December 1 & 8**. Sid wants to remind everyone not to sign for your spouse or children. Everyone needs to sign individually!



The flower committee would like to thank the congregation for all of their support to help make our church auditorium even more special with all the beautiful flower arrangements. Of course we know, we have a congregation that can't be beaten! The loving and caring nature of our congregation is what makes it so special. Let's continue to celebrate and enjoy our Christmas holiday together. We must pause to thank our Lord for his most precious gift; the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Littleton Baptist Church
P. O. Box 216
Littleton, NC 27850

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<u>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</u>	<u>HAPPY ANNIVERSARY</u>	<u>NURSERY WORKERS</u>
7 Kay Beaver 9 Carol Meyer 10 Julian Parks 11 Sid Shearin 12 Sarah Iles 12 Samantha Hall 15 Pamela Morris 16 James Kearney 16 Claire Council (6 yrs) 17 Nicolas Pulliam 22 Libby Crawley (Leon) 23 Debbie Keeter 24 Mike Blanton 24 Virginia Lee 25 Mabel Wilson 26 Carly West 31 Joyce Morrow	21 Tom & Til Tremper (45 yrs)	1 Matthew Council/Sara Council 8 Bob Thompson/Amanda Coffman 15 Kay Tripp/Paula Burton 22 Sara Council/Josie Myrick 29 Sandra Lynch/Melinda Harris
	<u>YOUTH</u>	
	1 Lunch & Shopping 8 Christmas Party 21 John 3:16 Christmas Outreach	