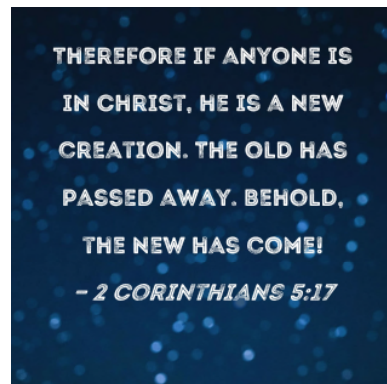


From the Pastor's Desk:

"Renewed, Refreshed and Resolute!"

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

As I reflect on the past year, and the challenges, and issues, and blessings, that it offered, I think about the things that I should be praying for to occur in 2024 and the embracing of the "new creation" that I actually am! I am committed to being grateful that God has made all things new through His Son, Jesus! I am grateful for the experiences of 2023, that have made me stronger and more determined. I am praying that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct each of my steps, in this new year. I am praying that every decision and every thought will be for His purpose and for His glory! I am asking for more wisdom, for the strength and the power to constantly be what He would have me be and to make me strong and courageous, as I face the road ahead. I am praying that God will keep me from the traps and snares of Satan's temptations and that He will protect me from the onslaught of evil and disharmony. I am praying for discernment and Heavenly insight, beyond my human creation. I am praying that I will be sensitive to His Voice and will listen and respond to His commands! I am praying that He will forgive me when I walk in my own way and exercise my human pride and selfishness, and when I am distracted from walking in His Grace and Promises! I am praying for a renewal, a fresh start, every day! I am asking for a renewal of my heart and mind and my activities and for all that I am to honor Him! I am praying for focus and for His pure "Light" to guide my paths and that I will be that "Bold Voice" and that "Bright Light" that shouts His "Good News" into this deaf and dark world! I am praying that my life will be a witness to others and that they will see His Blessings that are evident in my life! I am praying that God will make me more generous and more giving! I am asking to be more loving and more accepting of His Truth and that my life will be a "Fruit Producing" Blessing for God! I am praying for His Light to shine in me and through me and on me! I am praying that I will make a difference in this world, in 2024, and that my life, my actions, my words, my very existence will guide others to a relationship with my Jesus and that they will reflect His Grace and Power and will live to please God! Does this sound like something that you should be praying? My desire for all is that your plans succeed, your lives be filled with His Peace and may you be Blessed in 2024! I choose to be "renewed, refreshed and resolute!" To God be the Glory and Honor, in 2024, and beyond.... Stay Strong, Stay Focused... THE BEST IS YET TO BE!



January 2024 Newsletter

Our Memory Verse for January is:

Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning;
for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

Psalm 143:8 KJV

January 2024 Bible Reading Schedule

Day 1	Genesis 1-3	Day 17	Matthew 1-3
Day 2	Genesis 4-6	Day 18	Matthew 4-6
Day 3	Genesis 7-9	Day 19	Matthew 7-9
Day 4	Genesis 10-12	Day 20	Matthew 10-12
Day 5	Genesis 13-15	Day 21	Matthew 13-15
Day 6	Genesis 16-18	Day 22	Matthew 16-18
Day 7	Genesis 19-21	Day 23	Matthew 19-21
Day 8	Genesis 22-24	Day 24	Matthew 22-24
Day 9	Genesis 25-27	Day 25	Matthew 25-28
Day 10	Genesis 28-30	Day 26	Exodus 1-3
Day 11	Genesis 31-33	Day 27	Exodus 4-6
Day 12	Genesis 34-36	Day 28	Exodus 7-9
Day 13	Genesis 37-39	Day 29	Exodus 10-12
Day 14	Genesis 40-42	Day 30	Exodus 13-15
Day 15	Genesis 43-45	Day 31	Exodus 16-18
Day 16	Genesis 46-50		

SAVE THE DATE

Meetings/Gatherings this Month:

Monday, January 8th: Levada Driver Circle Group @ 2:00pm in the FMC

Monday, January 8th: Leadership Team Meeting @ 7:00pm in the FMC

Tuesday, January 9th: O.W.L.S. going to Fort Fisher Aquarium leave at 8:30am

Saturday, January 13th: Baptist Tabernacle Meet & Greet with reception at the Wendell Historical Museum 1-5pm

Sunday, January 14th: Music Appreciation Sunday

Sunday, January 14th: Deacon Ordination

Monday, January 15th: Vera Hocutt Circle Group

Monday, January 15th: Administrative Team Meeting @ 7:00pm in the FMC

Sunday, January 21st: Quilters Interest Meeting in the FMC @ 3:00pm

Monday, January 22nd: Deacon's Meeting @ 7:00pm in the FMC

Sunday, January 28th: Souper Bowl Sunday Youth Fundraiser, immediately following Worship Service

Tuesday, January 30th: O.W.L.S. Monthly Meeting in the FMC

Every Wednesday:

Wednesday Night Meal 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Youth Bible Study at 6:00pm

Bible Study Groups at 6:30pm (Adult & Children)

Choir Practice @ 7:00pm

Mission Marketplace

Open for Shopping on Wednesday, January 17th, 24th & 31st



Please join us for
Music Appreciation Sunday
January 14, 2024



Recurring Prayer Needs

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Shawn Allen | Edwards | Jack Lofton | Clay Whitley |
| Larry Alston | Brad Ferrell | Kay Maningas | Tempie Whitley |
| Larry Anderson | Carol Flowers | Anna Martin | Becky Wiggs |
| James Bailey | Tim & Laura Ford | Cathy Maynard | Betty Williford |
| Mike Bailey | Candice Green | Pam Maynor | Lee Williford |
| Margie Baker | Doug Hahn | Ken Moore | Robert Williford |
| Nancy Batchelor | Gayle Haines | Nancy Morse | Doug Vaughan |
| Wanda Batten | Randy Hales | Jonathan Newell | Bruce Young |
| Joe Bloniarczyk | Linda Hammett | Mike O'Neal | Israel |
| Judy Boswell | Shannon Hamrick | Teresa O'Neal | |
| Lester Boyd | Jimmy Rex Harris | Vic Pace | |
| Ann Boyette | Janice Hill | Susie Peoples | |
| Bruce & Judy Brantley | Margorie Hill | Clarice Peterson | |
| Sandra Bullock | Mike & Georgia Himmel | Pat Pettit | |
| Natalie Brock | Douglas Hinton | Donna Pippin | |
| Greg Clay | Al Hocutt | Larry Price | |
| Linda Coffey | Danny Hocutt | Joan Privette | |
| Heather Cooke | Elizabeth Hocutt | Cameron Richardson | |
| Tim Cooke | Roger Hocutt | Christi Sasser | |
| Clyde Cornell | Carl Holt | Connie Scott | |
| Brian Cox | Fannie Holt | Mykayla Smith | |
| Tim Craig | Jax Hopkins | Ray & Donna Smith | |
| Anna Creech | Donna K. House | Katie Spear | |
| Wayne Currie | Joan Hunter | Lori Stokes | |
| Angela Curtman | Bruce Jacobs | Eldie Strickland | |
| Ray Davis | Grady & Bettie Ann Johnson | Kenneth Strickland | |
| Charles Driver | Kenneth Jones | Julie Swinson | |
| Shirley Earp | Kim Kasai | Randy Talton | |
| Barbara Eatmon | Oscar & Shirley Lane | Cameron Thompson | |
| Kim Eatmon | Jerry & Linda Lee | Terry Wall | |
| H. E. & Phyllis | Denise Lewis | Dale Weathers | |

New Prayer Needs

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Elaine Barham | Teresa Harrell |
| Chris Batten | Cindy Hauer |
| Connie Bechdolt | Ken Hunter |
| Kim Bertaux | Annette Ragan |
| Brandy Bruce Family | Warren Ramsey |
| Patsy Coates | Jane Strautnieks |
| Lynsay Creech | Marie Strickland |
| John Diener | Joseph Tarlton |
| Debbie Fulghum | Paula Dean Williams |
| Ray & Cecilia Gardner | Unspoken Requests |
| Lorrie Gay | |

Youth Team (Danielle Gidding-Team Leader/Christin Brown-Co-Leader):

We had a great time at our Christmas party, Thank you to Brandon & Crystal for hosting!
 We are looking forward to camp this year! We have some fundraisers coming up to help us fund our way.
 Sunday, January 28th is our Annual "Souper" Bowl Sunday. We will have a variety of soup & sandwiches available for lunch after Worship Service (Dine-In or Take-Out).
 We also are planning a Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, February 10th, be on the lookout for more details to come!
 Just as a reminder that Youth Summer Camp (Grades 6-12) is July 15th-19th. If you are interested in going please let Sandy Morgan know by Wednesday, January 31st!
 Thank you for bringing your Youth and encouraging them to stay involved!
 We are looking forward to the many new adventures we will have in 2024!

Children's Director Search Committee

Thank you for the prayers and support during our search process.
 We are excited to announce we have hired Danielle Gidding as our Children's Director!
 We look forward to her leadership in this role for our Children!

Youth Director Search Committee

Thank you for the prayers and support during our search process.
 We are excited to announce we have hired Sandy Morgan as our Youth Director!
 We look forward to her leadership in this role for our Youth!

**Saturday, January
 13, 2024 1-5 p.m..**



**Baptist Tabernacle
 "Meet & Greet"**

The Museum invites you to visit Wendell Museum on **January 13, 2024, from 1-5** and learn about the history of Baptist Tabernacle Church, its impact on the Wendell Community, and meet members of the congregation as they share their history.



January Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1st Kathryn Batten | 19th Wanda Batten |
| 3rd Joan Hunter | Angela Curtman |
| Roy Pope | Sheri Henry |
| 6th Brian Bailey | 21st Ann Badger |
| Dale Driver | 23rd Mike Bailey |
| 7th Sadie Batten | 25th Kathy Ayscue |
| Samantha Hunter | 26th Judy Boswell |
| Franceline Price | Steven Carlyle |
| Rondy Ward | Matt Dillon |
| Chris Wright | Donald Gay |
| 8th Samantha Creech | Cynthia Hudson |
| Donna Smith | Shelby Makepeace |
| Allison Staton | Logan Whitley |
| 9th Jackson Morgan | 27th Kerry Garner |
| Brandon Pulley | Ray Guy |
| 12th Wes Privette | Jennifer Thompson |
| Glenn Strickland | 28th Erin Bell |
| 14th Crews Baker | Darby Bishop |
| Rickie Driver | Bridget Brown |
| Dylan Melvin | Patsy Narron |
| Mary Lou Richardson | 29th Kathy Flynn |
| 15th Matthew Grady | Ashley Maidon |
| 16th Christin Hunter | 31st Mackenzie Bell |
| 17th Brooke Bailey | |
| Sheila Stancil | |
| 18th Dana Hocutt | |



January Anniversaries

- | |
|--------------------------------|
| 5th Tyler & Lauren Windham |
| 15th Victor & Linda Sue Coffey |
| 27th Jerry & Linda Lee |

What are our Ministry Teams up to?

Pastoral Team (Ricky Narron-Team Leader/Jimmy Faison-Co-Leader):

The Deacons continue to visit shut ins with calls, cards, and prayer. We have started our Deacon of the week. If anyone needs help of any kind, fee free to reach out. Remember. God is good today, every day, all the time.

Administrative Team (David Hughes -Team Leader/Ricky Watson -Co-Leader):



Happy New Year from the Administrative Team! We hope you have a great 2024! We will begin the New Year with completion of the 2024 Ministry Budget, which will be presented at the January Church Conference for Church approval. The Administrative Team meeting for December consisted of the usual reviews of the financial reports, investments, and a discussion of the church insurance policies and then spent the rest of the meeting continuing to work on the 2024 Budget.

This month's Constitution & By-Laws section features a revision to the Guidelines for use of Sanctuary, Family Ministry Center, and the Education Building. Specifically, about the change to the dancing policy. The change is to Section A, paragraph o, which previously stated that dancing is not permitted on church property. It has been revised as follows: For weddings only, the Traditional first dances are permitted (that is dancing by the bride and groom, father and daughter, mother and son and parents) at a wedding reception held in the Family Ministry Center. Dancing is not permitted at any other location on church property.

All music, live or otherwise must be approved by the Worship Ministry Team. Music selections must be classical or Christian. A BTC trained sound team member will operate the sound equipment. At the close of the traditional dances, dancing will cease. Soft music of the same kind may continue under the guidance of the BTC sound team member. At no time are D/J's permitted.

If you do not have a copy of the Constitution & By-Laws, please contact the Church Secretary for a copy.

If you have any questions concerning the Administrative Team or our meetings, please contact one of the members.

They are: **Chair, David Hughes, Members:** Ricky Watson, Allette Hale, Kelly Currie, Juan Trippe, Crystal Baker, and Joyce Creech (ex-officio).

Discipleship Team (Susan Andrews-Team Leader/Tonya Bailey-Co-Leader):

Sunday School is available from 10:00-10:50 in the following locations:

Children's Classes: Location: Education Building

Nursery I: Ages birth - 2 years old (Room 101)

Bible Beginners: Ages 2 - 4 years old (Room 102)

Bible Learners: Ages 5 - 7 years old (Kindergarten - 2nd Grade) (Room 201)

Bible Discoverers: Ages 8 - 11 years old (3rd - 5th Grade) (Room 202)

Youth: Ages 12 - 18 years old (6th - 12th Grade) (Room 208)

Adult Classes: Location: Education Building

Journey: Young Singles & Couples (Room 205) Studying Books of the Bible

Mildred Driver Class: Singles & Couples (Room 108) Studying Bible Studies for Life series from Lifeway

J.O.Y.: Ladies Class (Room 103) Studying Bible Studies for Life series from Lifeway

Andrew Batten/Gary Hocutt Class: (Men's Class) (Room 104) Studying Bible Studies for Life series from Lifeway

Adult Class: Location: FMC

Growing in Jesus: Singles & Couples: Studying Bible Studies for Life series from Lifeway (KJV)

Visitors to Sunday School may check in with Susan or Tonya to help you locate a class. Everyone is welcome!

Worship Team (Dana Hocutt-Team Leader/April Adams-Co-Leader)

Save the Date:

- Sunday, January 14th: Music Appreciation Sunday

Mission Team (Annette Ragan-Team Leader/Co-Leader):

Happy New Year to All! We are so Thankful and Blessed to have been able to help so many local families not only for Christmas but throughout last year! Thank you for the support through shopping and donations to our Mission Marketplace Flea Market.

Flea Market update: The BTC Flea Market will be open on Wednesday, January 17th, 24th & 31st, and Saturday, February 3rd.

Beginning in February, the Flea Market will be open only on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays and the 1st Saturday of each month.

Property Management Team (Steve White-Team Leader/Ricky Andrews-Co-Leader):

Happy New Year to all! We don't have any updates for now.

OWLS-Older, Wiser, Livelier, Seniors (Patsy Narron-Team Leader/Olivia Cooke-Co Leader):



The O.W.L.S. had a great December worshipping our Savior and having fun. On December 7th we watched a live play at the Narrow Way Theater outside of Charlotte. This play entitled "The Real Christmas Story" reminded us all what Christmas is really about. We had 13 seniors attend. On December 19th we had 19 seniors attend our Christmas Party and lunch at Carolina BBQ in Garner. We had lots of great food and Bingo games. We are looking forward to lots of new adventures in 2024.

On January 9th we are going to the Aquarium at Fort Fisher. The bus will be leaving the Church at 8:30am. ALL SENIORS ARE WELCOME! There is a sign-up sheet in the information center. Cost is \$11.95 for the aquarium and we will also eat lunch while we are away.

God Bless,

Patsy Narron and Olivia Cooke



Children's Team (Wayne Batten-Team Leader/Pam Batten-Co-Leader):

We are EXCITED!!! Danielle Gidding has been hired as our Children's Ministry Director and we are looking forward to seeing her in action. Thank You Danielle for taking this opportunity to work with all our Children. Let's all continue to volunteer for her programs and Pam and I are looking forward to seeing what's about to happen.

I will not list all the names because I know I will miss some, but I want to start the New Year by thanking all the people who have stepped up to make our Children's Program such a huge success. Sunday mornings are great and sometimes a little loud during Children's Church. Thanks to Pam and all our Youth who assist us with the weekly lessons and crafts. Wednesday nights are fabulous. Do you remember what our Wednesday night parking lot looked like a couple of years ago? Pretty barren, but it is bustling now. We now have Mission Friends and Journey Kids every Wednesday. You may sometimes hear balloons popping when we are working on those.

Many of our Children attended The Kennedy Home Open House and some were actors in the Live Nativity.

Be looking for us to post dates for Easter Egg Hunt and our Spring Block Party soon. Don't forget to sign up for both events.

Thank You All the parents for bringing your children to Church for these events. We are looking forward to many new adventures in 2024.

Thanks again to all of you for making this such a wonderful Church.

Wayne & Pam