

No. 1

### **Tri- Annual Meeting** March 23, 2026 5:45 pm **Bannertown Baptist**

### "Preparing, Caring and **Sharing the Good News**"

- **Baptist Men Happenings**
- **WMU Highlights**
- **Discipleship Training**
- **Director of Missions Report** "Interpretation of Theme"
- **Special Music by Bannertown**

All Messengers and interested persons are encouraged to attend.

### Attention!!!!

**Committee Members!** Please make sure you attend the meetings of the committees that you agreed to serve on.

# Missions

in 2026

As soon as you are aware of mission trip opportunities in your church, let the SBA Office know so that we can begin praying for you and help connect other folks to your mission team if you have openings.



"The Mission of Surry Baptist Association is to glorify God through Jesus Christ by assisting and encouraging Congregations in a partnership of cooperative ministries of reaching people and developing believers."

Albion Antioch Bannertown Blues Grove Calvary Cedar Lane **Central View** Christian Community Community Copeland Cornerstone Cross Roads Dobson, First Dover **Fairview** Faith Fancy Gap Fellowship Flippin Memorial Fuente de Vida Gum Orchard Haymore Memorial **Highland Park** Hills Grove **Holly Springs** Indian Grove **Ivv Green** Jessup Grove Ladonia Little Richmond

Midway Mount Carmel Mount Zion Mountain Park Mountain View **New Bethel** New Hope

**New Venture** Oak Grove Oak Ridge **Pauls Creek** Pinnacle View

New Life

**Pleasant View** Rock Hill Rockford Salem Salem Fork

Shoals

Siloam Simmons Grove Slate Mountain Sparta, First

Sulphur Springs **Turkey Ford Union Cross** Victory

Welcome Westfield Westview Woodland

# From Your Director of Missions — Dan Merritt

Another year has found its way into the vault of history, and a New Year has dawned as fresh as a young frost blanketing the barren landscape. The good thing about the birth of 2026, is that we can start anew. Too often, we spend our time looking in the rearview mirror when we should be looking ahead. We can't do much about the past, but we can start anew from the present. The Bible has a lot to say about the "new" that we can encounter in our daily lives. Let's look at a few.

First, we find in I Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation." While we are all sinners by birth and choice, in Christ, He gives us a new beginning, a new birth, a new nature. We can walk in this newness of life in Christ every day. The Lord is about restoring, recreating in us His newness. Because of Christ, He enables us to "live a new life" (Romans 6:4).

Second, Jeremiah tells us that the Lord's "compassions fail not, they are new every morning, great is thy faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23). Because of sin, we live in a broken world; therefore, we encounter on the road of life potholes, detours, speed bumps, and dead ends. This verse highlights the unfailing love and faithfulness of God. It assures us that no matter how difficult our circumstances, God's mercies are new every morning. The love of friends and family, laughter, smiles, living in the USA, our salvation, the forgiveness of sin, our church home, the giggles of children, knowing prayers are being said on our behalf, and the list goes on. His blessings are new every morning if we just take time to look.

Third, the Psalmist reminds us to, "Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things" (Ps 98:1). Christ puts a new song in our hearts. Salvation in Christ restores the broken strings in our hearts and creates a sweet melody of redemption, restoration, reconciliation, and renewal. Psalms 98:1 acknowledges the marvelous works of God and His salvation that He has accomplished. Singing a new song signifies a fresh expression of praise and adoration for who God is and what He has done in our lives. It invites us to approach worship with a sense of awe and wonder, offering our heartfelt gratitude and surrender to God's goodness and faithfulness. Let us sing this "new song" now, for we will be singing it throughout eternity (Rev. 5:4).

Fourth, Paul reminds us that as Christians we are to develop new thoughts. In Romans 12:2, he writes, "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be

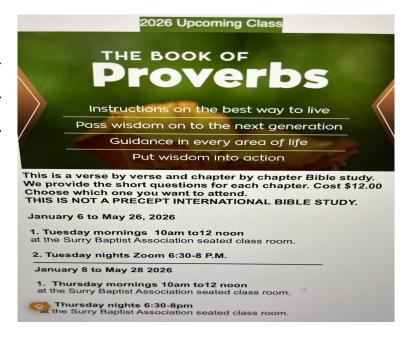
transformed by the renewing of your mind." This verse highlights the importance of renewing our minds according to the truth of God's Word. It challenges us to resist the influences and philosophies of the world, and instead align our thoughts and perspectives with God's perspective. By allowing our minds to be transformed by the truth, we gain insight and clarity into God's will for our lives. It enables us to discern His good, pleasing, and perfect will, and empowers us to live in obedience and submission to Him.

Fifth, Peter tells us that the Christian has the promise in Christ whereby "we are looking for a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells" (2 Peter 3:13). The Bible tells us that it is appointed unto man once to die, but the Christian has the hope of heaven. This world is full of evil and unrighteousness, but in Christ we have the hope of a city where "nothing defiled shall enter in" (Rev, 21:27). This hope anchors us in the midst of a broken world, reminding us that our present struggles are temporary, and a glorious future awaits us. It challenges us to align our lives with God's righteousness as we daily journey toward our heavenly home.

Yes, in the New Year there are many areas of "newness" that surround us. The Lord is daily placing before us new doors of service and opportunities to worship and praise His name for His marvelous wonders. Let us pray for eyes to see His "newness" each day.

It is an honor and a privilege to be your Director of Missions. If I can ever be of help to you, give me a call or stop by the office.

Happy New Year, Dr. Dan.



### **Baptist Men Update**



For our December meeting, we met at Surry Baptist Association. We had 16 present. Our Message was brought by Chris Benfield who spoke on, "As Jesus came to the earth to be the light and all to us here on earth, so we are to continue that promise to the people we encounter". We had a wonderful Christmas meal catered by Jessi Tilley.

Gary reported that we have built at least 25 ramps this year. We have made 4 trips to Lumberton.

And we have done over 120 loads of firewood this year.

The wood splitting has been going well. Our Next wood splitting will be on January 3rd.

Please consider donating to the Surry Handyman Ministry to help fund our local projects. We have many project requests and limited funding; with your help we can continue to make a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

The Baptist Men invite all Men and Women within the association to come join us on Monday, January 12th at 6:30pm at Surry Associational office for a meal. We hope to see everyone there for fellowship and a time of planning how to share God's love through our service.

If your church has a men's group or any individual interested in taking part in any of our activities, you are welcome to call Mike Francis at 336-830-1655 for more information.

# Thenk You

Thank You to all who participated in the Christmas Cantata. It was a most worshipful time. Special Thanks to Randy Pope and all who helped him make this such a beautiful Christmas experience.

# **WMU** News

### **Medical Ministries Clinic:**

Bring food anytime to be given out for January. Salem in Jan.; Antioch in Feb.; Jessup Grove in March; Dobson 1st in April; Flippin Mem. in May; Turkey Ford in June; Highland Park in July; Cross Roads in Aug.; Dover in Sept.; Salem Fork in Oct.; Woodland in Nov.; and Calvary in Dec.

Janu- Page 3



Jan.02: Rev. Ken Clark (Cornerstone) Jan.02: Mrs. Marinda Seal (Siloam)

Jan.13: Rev. Ron Chamblin, Jr. (SulphurSprings)

Jan.14: Mrs. Martha Cogdill (Bannertown)
Jan.14: Pay Justin McCroary (Pauls Crook

Jan.14: Rev. Justin McCreary (Pauls Creek)

Jan.18: Rev. Ed Bowman (Cedar Lane)

Jan.19: Mrs. Carrie Nelson (Mount Carmel) Jan.25: Mrs. Teresa Martin (Calvary)

Jan.28: Mrs. Marilyn McMillian (Slate Mountain)

Jan.29: Mrs. Cynthia Burton (Flippin Memorial) Jan.29: Mrs. Imogene McCraw (New Bethel)

Jan.30: Rev. Cory Honeycutt (Dobson, First)

Jan.31: Mrs. Amy Honeycutt (Dobson, First)

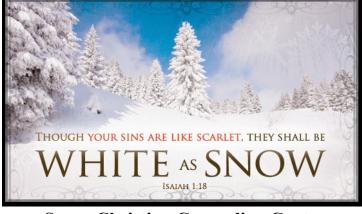
ATTENTION!

**IMPORTANT** 

## **Clerks**

Come by the office anytime after Jan. ACP packets. Must

4 to pick up ACP packets. Must be returned by Jan. 31, 2026 to be an "Honor Clerk".



# Surry Christian Counseling Center Statistics for November 2025

Total Sessions Conducted = 49 Total Clients Served = 36

Client Assistance Fund Sessions = 23

Client Assistance Fund Clients Served = 18

To make an appointment with John Shuler, Counselor, call 789-7405. Volunteer receptionists needed. Call the SBA Office (789-5701) if interested.



#### **2026 NC Baptist Foundation Scholarships**

Applications for these scholarships are online, and were open as of January 1, 2026 and will remain open until the close of business on February 15th, 2026. More detailed information can be found on each scholarship at:

http://ncbaptistfoundation.org/scholarships

Bullard Family Scholarship:
Be committed to preparing for full-time Christian ministry. Be a member (or parents are a member) of a church affiliate with the Baptist State Convention of NC.

Award ranging between \$500 minimum and \$2,500 maximum.

Martha Watson Scholarship:

Be full-time student at any institution of higher education.

Be a member of a church affiliated with the Baptist State Convention of NC. Award ranging between \$500 minimum and \$2,500 maximum.

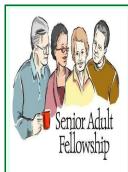
Luther H. Butler Scholarship:

Be a full-time student at a NC Baptist related University. Be a member of a church affiliated with the Baptist State Convention of NC.

Award ranging between \$500 minimum and \$2,500 maximum.

Mildred France Thomas Music Scholarship:
Be a music major with an interest in piano and / or organ as your medium. Be a member (or parents are a member) of a church affiliated with the Baptist State Convention of NC.

### **Upcoming Events!**



### March 10

**Jessup Grove Baptist** (a) 11:30 "Senior Adults"

**Covered Dish Luncheon** with fun and games

**Bring Canned food items for Medical Ministry Pantry.** 



### February 16

@ 6:30pm SBA Office **Directors and Pastors** 

Make your New Year's Resolution about this years VBS. Resolve to make it the best one yet!



Pastor's Lunch @ Libby Hill's Seafood Jan. 6, 2026 @ 11:45am Jan. 5 @ 6pm - WMU Council Jan. 12 @ 6:30 - Baptist Men Jan. 26 @ 2pm - Hospitality Committee Feb. 2 @ 6:30 - Building and Grounds Com.

### SPRING BUS TRIP

Preliminary plans for a trip to the Sight and Sounds Theatre in PA to see "Joshua" in March is underway.



More info coming soon!

Contact the SBA office and let us know if you are interested, 336-789-5701



### **WMU** Winter Gathering

WMU Breakfast **February 21 • 9-11 am (a)** SBA Resource Center



**The Surry Baptist Newsletter:** 

Antioch had 1 Baptism and 1 member to join. Had a wonderful Christmas play glorifying the Lord and Savior. Thank you to everyone that made this play a success. The Children took a trip to the Farm to see the Christmas lights. The Sisterhood continues w/the following ministries: Sunshine Baskets to lift peoples spirits, Lunch bags for the Davis Apts, KAIROS cookies, helped local school children w/clothes. They also help fill the blessing box w/bags. Will have a blood drive on Jan.10. Anyone interested in giving please call the church for more info. The Golden Autumn traveled to Central Cafe' for lunch for Christmas and played a gift game. The Well Food Ministry provided 237 meals at Thanksgiving and also gave out Harvest Bags to people in need. Starting an Upward Pickleball league from ages 19-29. Matches will be on Thurs., beginning Jan. 15, 2026. If you are interested in signing up please email the church at antiochbc@surry.net Collected a Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Choir participated in the SBA Choir Concert. Went Christmas caroling for people that are homebound. Concert. Went Christmas caroling for people that are homebound.

**Blues Grove's** WMU had Christmas meeting w/good food, fun and fellowship. Group decided to send donation to a Missionary in the Philippines and to Samaritan's Purse. Youth enjoyed a great shopping experience selecting Christmas gifts for Angel Tree kids. Youth participated in Advent w/readings and lighting of candles ea. Sunday leading up to Advent. Blues Angels (Seniors) enjoyed a delicious dinner in the Fellowship Hall w/lots of fun and fellowship. Also added names to Memorial Plaque of ones who had passed away during the year. Youth enjoyed a trip to the Farm. Recognized our Veterans in Nov. and presented ea. one w/a gift. Practicing "I Dreamed I Searched Heaven For You" which begins March 28 & 29, 2026. Went Christmas Caroling which brought so much cheer to several of our shut-ins.

Calvary's Dec. was filled w/advent celebrations. Our pastor's sermon making our way to the cradle through the gospel. Our choir presented a cantata, accompanied by North Surry High and community instrumentalists. Our Praise Band presented "The Unexpected Messiah". The children's Christmas play was held and followed by a reception. A Christmas Eve service was held w/scripture, carols, and candlelight. As a reminder of our past, treat bags were handed out. We continued to support Angel Tree children w/support. A Dec. trip was made to West Jefferson to continue the work of rebuilding a home that was destroyed by Hurricane Helene. Calvary is sponsoring a blood drive on Jan 4.

Cedar Lane participated in the Mt. Airy and Hillsville Christmas parades. Our Thanksgiving/Christmas meal was held in the Fellowship Hall after church in Dec. A Christmas program, The Nativity, was held. Snacks was served in the Fellowship Hall fol-

lowing the play

Central View had skeet shoot and Hot Dog lunch. Had a wonderful Old Fashion Day and Chicken stew and special music. We received \$1,020.00 for the BCH. Collected food for children at Central Middle School. WMU enjoyed a Christmas Party hosted by Kim

Payne at her Home.

**Community** made a donation to Give a Kid Christmas, Foothills Food Pantry, and Lottie Moon Offering. Had beautiful Hanging of the Green service. Gave 100 backpacks to Copeland Elem. along w/ Siloam Baptist and Crossroads Baptist Churches. Youth went shopping for Angel Tree recipients. Children presented Christmas Nativity skit. Ladies Fellowship group donated to Senior Santa and had covered dish dinner to reveal our Secret Sister for the year. Had 21 Baptisms and 24 people to join our church in 2025

Cross Roads enjoyed a singing worship service in Nov. w/David Goins. Continuing our tradition of the Advent Wreath during this Holiday season. Hosted annual community Senior Citizen's lunch-eon w/ Salem Fork Christian Church in Dec. Seniors enjoyed a traditional Holiday feast, games and prizes, fellowship and song.

Had Communion service. A group went to a show and wonderful meal @ Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theatre in Whytheville, Va. Excited to put together hundreds of backpacks and give to a Surry

County Élem. School.

Dobson First celebrated four new members this month, two by baptism. Women's Ministry hosted 86 women @ Blueberry Hill Barn for "The Heart of Christmas" program and meal. The adult and youth choirs performed "Christmas is in the Heart" concert in Dec. Had Candlelight service w/a Christmas party afterwards featuring Santa Clause. Dec. 28 will be a combined service @ 10:30am and no Sunday School that day.

**Dover** baptized a precious soul. Held their Christmas play w/a great job by all the cast, Treats were handed out and refreshments enjoyed by all. Brotherhood and WMU held monthly meetings. WMU continues to assist the SBA medical food ministry. Monetary gift to Red Box ministry, Pastor given a monetary gift for Christmas.

Fellowship had 2 new members join. Observed Thanksgiving w/a candlelight communion service. Family movie night was held in Fellowship Hall. "The Star" was shown w/hot chocolate and popcorn served. Adults visited Billy Graham Library and visited the Live nativity Scene. Packed 95 backpacks for a Surry Co. School. Children's Christmas pagent was held w/emphasis on Lottie Moon Offering. WOM delivered monetary and Christmas gifts to residents at Central Adult Care. Thanks to Men's Sunday School Class for helping w/Blessing Bags delivered to Social Services for the homeless

Flippin Memorial had "Seniors Jingle" at the fellowship hall. Held quarterly birthday meal after church for all who had birthdays Oct. Nov., and Dec. Youth went to the Rest Home on 601 to sing. Held Lottie Moon Christmas offering. And as always we are praying for

our sister churches in the SBA. God Bless. **Haymore Memorial** celebrated 318 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. The Baptist Men built a handicap ramp for a local resident. Snacks were provided for teachers @ Tharrington School for the holiday season. A blood drive was held at the church. A fundraiser will be held for the youth of the church. The welcome bags for the new residents at the Shepherd's House continue.

Highland Park received ten new members the past month. Held Lottie Moon Christmas Offering March to the Altar. We were thankful to exceed the goal of \$40,000 for support of missionaries working in foreign fields. Adult Choir presented their Christmas Cantata, led by Kelsey Mathis. There were 301 people in attendance on the coldest night of the year to hear the gospel message proclaimed in song! Our Sunday School classes, along w/our Brotherhood and WMU, were very busy during Nov. and Dec. w/many projects to provide food at Thanksgiving and Christmas for needy families, helping out at the Charlotte Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Operating

Center, providing Christmas gifts to area nursing homes, donating backpacks filled w/clothes, toys and food to an area school, etc. After all the busyness of the holidays, we are now looking forward refreshing our souls as we study the six sessions of a Jan. Bible Study coming up on Jan. 14, 21, 28 and Feb. 11 beginning @ 7pm. Everyone is welcome to join us as we study The Gospel of John, Knowing Jesus Through the I AM Statements.

Holly Springs had youth Sunday and Communion. Had Hanging of the Green w/Hand bells and chimes. Snacks afterward. Celebrated Advent. Nativity presented by the children. Had Walk to the

Manger for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Green's Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark concluded during Dec. The next study will begin in Jan. on the Old Testament book of Nehemiah. The congregation has been busy meeting the needs of others during the month of Dec. We have delivered twenty bags for Christmas to Home Instead for folks on their Give a Senior a Christmas Tree. Also, twenty-five children will receive Angel Tree Christmas bag from our church. In the community, there are several shut ins that need some Christmas Cheer. Working together, thirty-five fruit baskets were made and delivered. Had Christmas program "The Coming of a Savor" w/important characters telling the wonderful story of the coming of Jesus. The congregation received treat bag during Sunday School on the 21st. The "Blessing Box" continues to be filled to meet the need of those w/food insecurities. May God continue to bless the church to be able to meet the needs of others in the community.

**Jessup Grove's** Choir performed a Christmas cantata. Baptist women had bake sale for donations only to fund their projects. They also fixed a meal for the shut-ins and a meal for a funeral of one of our members. Participated in the Lottie Moon Christmas offering Handed out candy w/church info. in the Pilot Mtn. Christmas parade. The youth collected items for stockings for the Hope Center. Filled Thanksgiving bags of food for Pilot Mountain Outreach. Also filled Christmas treat bags for the attendees at the cantata. The Baptist men helped w/the SBA Baptist men's wood

cutting and building handicap ramps

Ladonia's Youth meetings continue on Wed. nights at 7pm for fellowship, activities, and leadership training. Our youth are a true blessing! As we slow down for Winter, 4th Sunday Night services will cease until Spring. Stay tuned for date of restart and for Spring Revival. There will be NO Wed. night service on Christmas Eve. Regular services... Sunday School 9:45am, Sun Worship service

Ham. Wed. night service 7pm.

Mount Carmel's WMU met at the home of Susan Thomas for our monthly meeting and annual cookie exchange w/11 members present. Food for SBA and water for Medical Ministry will be delivered in Jan. Delivered 189 shoeboxes to Bannertown. We delivered 16 plates to our homebound members. Making plans for homebound for Feb. Collecting Christmas cards for members to be given out on Dec 21. All enjoyed a wonderful breakfast, fellowship

and cookie exchange.

Mount Zion held its Thanksgiving meal at Libby Hill. We enjoyed a wonderful meal and a time of fellowship. On that day, we also received a special offering for the Baptist Children's Home. A Hanging of the Greens service was held and it was a wonderful service. Following the service, we shared our Christmas meal, enjoying lots of good food and fellowship. Throughout the month

of Dec., we are also collecting special offerings for Foothills Food Pantry and the Salvation Army. Had Christmas play. Mountain View enjoyed a family Thanksgiving meal w/delicious food & wonderful fellowship. Had Hanging of the Greens Service & started the lighting of the Advent Candles. Our Adult Sunday School class enjoyed lunch, prepared 32 fruit baskets & delivered to local shut-ins to help spread cheer & God's love. Our Christmas play, The Characters of Christmas, had great participation & attendees. Refreshments & treat bags were enjoyed by all following a visit from Santa.

New Hope received 2 new members by faith and baptism into our church family. Hosted our annual 2025 Hanging of the Green service. Enjoyed our Shadow Christmas Play. Prepared and distributed 100 backpacks for the SBA Backpack ministry for Flat Rock Elem. School. Shared Christmas songs and gifts w/the residents at Dunmore's in Dobson. Collected food items to be given to Surry Central Middle School. Celebrated our annual Christmas Candlelight service. Collected food items for the Central Middle School Backpack program. Faith Sunday School class donated to the Dobson Food Pantry. Monthly mission's breakfast is Sun., Jan. 18 @ 8:30am. Our monthly meal delivery ministry is Wed., Jan. 21.

Oak Grove participated in the Christmas Concert at Salem Baptist Church. Had movie night. Went to Boone and packed shoeboxes. Had a Cantata and refreshments afterwards. Also held a Jesus birth party for the kids. Fixed fruit baskets. Having a Christmas play Dec.28. Continuing Bible Study in Revelation on Wed. nights. Collecting food for Food Pantry.

#### Surry Baptist Association Financial Contributions November 2025

NOV	ember 2025	
	2025 Budget	Designated &
	Receipts To	Designated &
	Date	Other Receipts
-		
Albion	\$500.00	\$0.00
Antioch	\$6,297.00	\$0.00
Bannertown	\$7,333.37	\$150.00
Blues Grove	\$1,000.00	\$2,500.00
Calvary	\$1,375.00	\$405.00
Cedar Lane	\$0.00	\$0.00
Central View	\$1,485.36	\$230.00
Christian Community	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community	\$3,025.00	\$2,100.00
Copeland	\$3,411.70	\$1,000.00
Cornerstone	\$974.77	\$1,625.00
Cross Roads	\$1,200.00	\$2,600.00
Dobson, First	\$3,000.00	\$1,750.00
Dover	\$500.00	\$232.00
Fairview	\$8,000.00	\$900.00
Faith	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fancy Gap	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$1,479.00	\$2,250.00
Flippin Memorial	\$2,425.00	\$400.00
Fuente de Vida	\$398.54	\$0.00
Gum Orchard	\$0.00	\$0.00
Haymore Memorial	\$820.33	\$0.00
Highland Park	\$7,875.00	\$4,825.00
Hills Grove	\$0.00	\$0.00
Holly Springs	\$1,050.00	\$0.00
Indian Grove	\$600.00	\$0.00
Ivy Green	\$2,155.34	\$437.00
Jessup Grove	\$4,100.00	\$1,196.00
Ladonia	\$880.00	\$1,600.00
Little Richmond	\$1,518.47	\$0.00
Mount Carmel	\$2,500.00	\$600.00
Mount Zion	\$900.00	\$0.00
Mountain Park	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mountain View	\$1,567.11	\$100.00
New Bethel	\$100.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$800.00	\$500.00
New Life	\$655.61	\$0.00
New Venture	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oak Grove	\$750.00	\$0.00
Oak Ridge	\$2,898.70	\$4,000.00
Pauls Creek	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00
Pinnacle View	\$3,000.00	\$1,800.00
Pleasant View	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rock Hill	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rockford	\$0.00	\$0.00
Salem	\$3,729.13	\$225.00
Salem Fork	\$4,875.00	\$1,927.35
Shoals		\$250.00
Siloam	\$3,500.00 \$2,000.00	\$100.00
Simmons Grove		\$1,200.00
Slate Mountain	\$4,000.00	
	\$1,826.00	\$0.00
Sparta, First	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
Sulphur Springs	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
Turkey Ford	\$2,500.00	\$300.00
Union Cross	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
Victory	\$0.00 \$750.00	\$0.00
Welcome		\$0.00
Westfield Westview	\$7,471.93	\$0.00
	\$525.00	\$0.00
Woodland Woodville	\$1,550.00 \$2,400.00	\$850.00 \$300.00
Other	φ∠,400.00	\$300.00 \$82,114.30
TOTALS	¢120 702 26	
IOTALS	\$120,702.36	\$35,201.35

the kids w/Christmas gifts. Exchanged Christmas cards. PTL for His goodness!

Westview's Christmas play was held w/a beautiful candle light service that followed. Our youth will be taking a trip to Winter place on Jan10. We are having our annual BINGO fundraiser to help w/local missionaries. It will be held Feb.7, @ JJ Jones Intermediate School, w/doors open @ 2:30 and bingo starting @ 4pm. There will be food available. Come out and support a good cause. Continuing to support our blessing box and children's backpack programs.

Woodville had Christmas program w/refreshments following WMU took gifts to sick and shut ins for Christmas. Took and offering and donated toys for the Westfield Fire Dept. Toy Drive. **Church News continued from inside** 

Pinnacle View Had 1 profession of faith, collected 66 shoeboxes four Operation Christmas Child, Had a joint WMU/Baptist Men's Christmas Super at Town and Country restaurant in King. Baptist men collected donations of propane bottles for residents of N/W NC for hurricane Helene relief project. Continued the Women's Sat. morning Bible Study. Decorated both sanctuary and fellowship Hall for the Christmas Advent Season. Held custom weekly Advent Sunday readings, celebrating the churches 95th anniversary year. Held Christmas program hearing both children and adults w/a fellowship meal following and a special guest from the North Pole.

Rock Hill held annual Christmas Play, "Stories of the Savior" w/fellowship and snacks following. Provided food items for Christmas Boxes to the Food Pantry, along w/cereal and breakfast bars for kids out of school during the Christmas holidays. Collected an offering for the Lottie Moon foreign missions and enjoyed special music by the choir on Christmas Sunday. Held a Grinch themed party for youth and kids discovering the manger in our treasure hunt and just like the Grinch, they found that Christmas doesn't come from a store. Christmas is so much more!

they found that Christmas doesn't come from a store, Christmas is so much more!

Siloam recently celebrated 125 years! Recently lost a dear member, Opal Hardy. who was a faithful member for years and has led many young children to the Lord. Had several new church members to join our congregation. Backpack ministry is complete and will be going to Copeland Elem. School. Thanks to all who participated. Ugly Christmas sweater party for the Sunny Seniors was held. Fun was had by all! YWOM and WOM had their Christmas gatherings and fun was had by all. Baptist men continue to do great things in the Siloam community. Lottie Moon Christmas offering was a success. Reading the bible through has been an ongoing yearly event. Community meals continue to be a blessing to our workers and community. Looking forward to an exciting 2026 church year.

Simmons Grove celebrated a Baptism w/2 candidates and one member received by letter. Adult Choir went Christmas Caroling. KIDS Clubs are busy w/ their mission studies. They treated the Wed. Night Bible Study w/pie, ice cream, and coffee. Baptist Women had Christmas Breakfast at the Copper Pot and celebrated the Week of Prayer and kicked off the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Church Council met and planned the 2026 calendar of events. Brotherhood celebrated a Christmas breakfast before worship service. Caleb Waller, former IMB Missionary delivered the morning message. KIDS Club had Christmas party w/pizza and Christmas games. The Sr. Saints had a Christmas Party. The KIDS Club members distributed this years 2025 Christmas Cards to the church families. A Christmas Luncheon was held after the worship service.

held after the worship service.

Slate Mountain had special Sunday service w/Darrell Mabe singing, accompanied by Brad Nichols, Casey McMillian and Connor Nichols; WMU collected Cans for Christmas; WMU met for Christmas meal @ Libby Hill; Enjoyed fellowship and food at Thanksgiving Eve service; had Christmas play Dec. 20.

**Sparta First's** Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes program culminated w/434 boxes being prepared. Hope Ridge Christmas Outreach came to church w/free food, gifts, fellowship, and Christian assistance for all who would come. Tickets were made available for the Singing Christmas Tree held the first week of Dec., the Angel Tree was presented, and the beautiful Hanging of the Greens was held.

Turkey Ford honored our Pastor w/monetary gifts for Pastor Appreciation Day and for Christmas. Began a new Sunday School Class for older teens and Young Marrieds. Made a generous contribution to "Give a Kid a Christmas". Had WMU and Church Christmas Party @ Central Cafe in Dobson, including games and prizes. Observed Season of International Missions w/Adult and Children's studies on Brazil, the Week of Prayer for Missionaries, and a Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

of Prayer for Missionaries, and a Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Union Cross had a special Thanksgiving service w/refreshments. Had a Christmas program and afterwards had a Christas meal. Had Christmas card ministry, Communion, and sent money to Lottie Moon offering. Deacons handed out treats and had special fellowship with one another.

Welcome had a Blessing Tree for Thanksgiving. Marcy Easter shared our kick off challenge for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering w/goal of \$1,000. Observed Communion. Had Pancakes w/Santa and a more than expected attendance of children. Had a wonderful time at annual dinner @Coronet's Seafood in Rural Hall. Met at Colonial Care on Snowhill Drive to sing carols w/the residents and encourage them w/gifts. The WOW Gals (Women Of Welcome) met for a tree ornament exchange and enjoyed a Taco meal. Also visited Joy Ranch and sponsored some of

#### 2026 Calendars

The 2026 Calendar of SBA events are ready to be picked up at the Office. Have someone from your church come by and pick up your copies.

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