



# First Baptist Church of Wallace, NC

## First Family

December 2021



## Grinches Need Jesus, Too!

— And God calls us to reach out to them in love.

Grinches are everywhere! People who are angry, self-centered, short-tempered, rude, and unhappy. Christmas doesn't seem to help them. It may just make them more selfish and grumpy. More *Grinchy*!

But can you blame them? It must be depressing to live every day in a world full of division and conflict, and not have God's peace. It's got to be hard to live in a world where the news is filled with tragedy and danger... and to have no hope of anything beyond the grave.

This Christmas, just for fun, our Sunday morning messages will use clips from the movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." But we will be noticing something different. We'll focus on "How the Grinch Found Christmas."

By the end of the movie, the sullen, angry, withdrawn Grinch has found joy, friendship, and a full heart. What was it that brought about this transformation? Of course, we will be digging into God's word to find the ways that the REAL Christmas story brought

transformation to people's lives on that first Christmas... and how we can help people discover Christ's transforming love for their own hearts today.

As usual, we'll have a "selfie booth" set up in the Fellowship Hall. Stop in and take a picture of yourself and your friends at church. Take a



picture with the Grinch of your choice (see below), and post it to your social media. Use that opportunity to invite your friends to join you for the joy, the fun, and the life-changing truth we share each week at First Baptist Church.

### Christmas Schedule:

**Choir Christmas Program**  
Sunday, December 5 @ 5:00 p.m.

**Student Ministry Christmas Party**  
Sunday, December 5 @ 6:00 p.m.

**Early Candlelight Service**  
Sunday, December 19 @ 6:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**  
Friday, December 24 @ 5:00 p.m.

**Combined Worship Services**  
Sunday, December 26 @ 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday, January 2 @ 10:00 a.m.



## **Worship**

### **Good News for Grinches in the Christmas Story**

If you didn't know the love, grace, peace, and hope of Christ, you'd probably be a Grinch, too! So this Christmas we're discovering how the good news of Christmas can change a Grinch's heart.

As we read the familiar stories about that first Christmas, we'll use clips from the year 2000 movie "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," based on the classic Dr. Seuss story. These light-hearted clips will be our intro to the life-changing story of the coming of our Savior to Bethlehem's major.



**Christmas is found...**

#### **November 28 — First Sunday of Advent**

...through seeking hearts

Luke 2 (Shepherds, Mary, Simeon, Anna)

#### **December 5 — Second Sunday of Advent**

...through inclusive love

Matthew 2:1-2; Luke 2:8-12

#### **December 12 — Third Sunday of Advent**

...through bold initiative

John 1:1-3, 14; Philippians 2:6-8

#### **December 19 — Fourth Sunday of Advent**

...through offering grace

John 1:14,17; Romans 6:23

#### **December 26 — Combined Worship @ 10:00 a.m.**

Speaker: Jon Britton

#### **January 2 — Combined Worship @ 10:00 a.m.**

Speaker: Joe Blanchard



## **Prayer Requests**



#### ***Remember in Prayer:***

*Those in our community whom, God has called us to lead to Christ and minister to in His love. Fred Benton, Sergeant Johnson C. Blanchard, Gary Brown, Gregg Carlson, Warren Cavanaugh, Vicky Evans, Darret Ezzell, Carol H. Fields, Michael Fields, Edie Flowers, Robin Henderson, Gunnery Sergeant Jonathan Hill, Andy Howard, Traci Howard, Dewey Inman, Amy Smith Johnson, Angela Kelly, Edith Merritt, Steve Mills, Rocky Mobley, Jamie Johnson Moore, Mike Pate, Milton & Lavonne Pittman, Potter's Wheel Ministries, Jeanette Ramsey, John Reade, Linda Rich, Bonnie Robinson, David Savage, Renee Stoppelbein, Stephen Thompson, Sharon Webb, and all those who are battling coronavirus.*

#### ***Sympathy to the families of:***

*Hill Lanier*

*Ed Woods*

#### ***New Members:***

*11/21/2021: Daniel & Charmian Watson  
(Haddy & Shiloh)*

*11/28/2021: Kathy Ashburn*

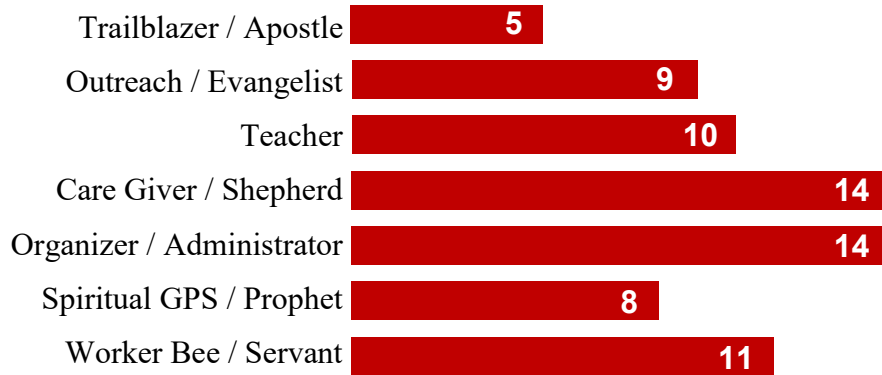




# Spiritual Gifts and Passions Inventory

## *What we learned with your help...*

This Fall, everyone was invited and encouraged to complete a Spiritual Gifts and Passions Inventory. This inventory was designed to help you better understand how God has gifted you to serve, and the unique concerns God has laid on your heart about the needs around us. I appreciate the 31 people who completed the inventory and shared their results with us. We promised to give you an overview of the responses we received, so here's what we found!



This shows how many times a particular spiritual gift showed up prominently in people's responses. It's not unusual for people to have more than one gift for serving, just as we all have a number of abilities.

Notice we had a lot of people with the caring heart of a "shepherd" and great organizational skills. That's exciting! In order for us to do the work God has given us to accomplish, those organizers help us to be more effective, and the care-givers help us to meet needs along the way.

What was most rare was the gift of Trailblazer / Apostle. And that's not surprising. Those people who can envision something new, create a ministry where there is currently nothing, form a team to get it done... They are a special breed! And we need them, but we only need a few. Because the rest of us, with our other gifts, are needed to carry out the ministries they create!

Regarding the "Passions" section of the inventory, there were people concerned about every area of need we listed. We had people for whom God had given them a special concern for children, or senior adults. Others were focused on those in poverty, young adults, those who were dealing with illness or disabilities. We had numerous people concerned about issues like addiction, injustice, debt, and hunger. A large group shared that they wanted to be involved in caring for the needs of other Christians, which matches the large "shepherd" group above. And so many of you listed your concern for those who don't know our Savior.

We will be referring back to this information all through the year as we start new ministries, grow existing ministries, and touch the lives of people in Christ's love. A special thanks to all who got us started on identifying how God's Spirit is at work equipping the people of First Baptist Church to do His Kingdom work.

***Thank you:***

*Dear First Baptist Church Family,*

*I have received your letters over the year and it gives me a smile to get them. Please know that I appreciate your prayers and I pray for you also.*

*May God Bless you all,*

*Scott Matthews, 0260971  
Pasquotank Correctional Institution  
527 Commerce Drive  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909*



## Senior Adults



### Asheville & Charlotte Trip, April 25-29

There's still room on the bus for you for our April trip to Asheville and Charlotte! Reservations are now open for any one - member, regular participant, and non-member - for our fun filled trip next April 25-29, 2022 to Asheville and Charlotte.

This trip is packed with so much including the Museum of the Cherokee Indian, the Qualla arts and Crafts Mutual, The Billy Graham training center at the Cove, Biltmore Estate, tour of Asheville, NASCAR hall of fame, the Charlotte Motor Speedway, the Billy Graham library, and so much more! You will not want to miss a minute!

The \$800 cost covers 4 nights double occupancy lodging (add \$260 if you room alone) 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners including 2 dinner/show combos, entrance fees, gratuities, and travel. Lunches will be on your own each day.



A \$100 deposit will hold your seat on the bus. Full payment will need to be paid by Friday, February 25, 2022 @ noon when the office closes for the day. You will not want to miss this fun and exciting trip,



so come into the office, fill in the reservation form, and pay your deposit ASAP! I look forward to traveling with you!



## Senior Adults

### Alabama Theater, Dec. 7

Our tickets are all sold out for our trip to Myrtle Beach for a Christmas show and dinner! On Tuesday, December 7 @ 9:45 am, we will load up in the vans and head to Alabama Theater to see a terrific Christmas show and then head over to the Chestnut Hill Restaurant to enjoy a delicious dinner. You might want to bring a little extra money as we will grab a quick lunch before the show and there are always treats to be purchased at the theater! If you didn't manage to grab one of the tickets for this activity, don't worry! There will be future, equally fun activities planned!



## Maximize Giving

Support ministry as you wrap up your 2021 tax planning and charitable giving!



As you maximize your giving and take advantage of the deductions the government allows, please remember the ministries of First Baptist Church! What we are able to accomplish in children's ministry, student ministry, music, senior adult ministry, and in meeting the needs of hurting people grows from the giving and generosity of you, God's people.

If you have a tax planner or CPA, please remind them that you want to make the most of your opportunity to give. If you have had any large financial transactions this year, charitable giving could greatly reduce your tax burden... while at the same time making a big difference for God's kingdom!





## Music Ministry

Wow! It seems like December arrived quickly! It's hard to believe that Christmas is less than 4 weeks away now. The music ministry of First Baptist has some amazing ways to help get you in the spirit of the season and to add to your family's celebration!

On Sunday evening, December 5 @ 5:00 in the sanctuary, we will have our annual Christmas program. This year's event will include videos, scripture readings, and songs from our Chancel choir. I hope you are already asking friends and family to come join us as we celebrate God's great gift of Jesus through these different mediums!

We will also have 2 opportunities for you to join us for Christmas candlelight services. On Sunday, December 19 @ 6:00, we will meet together in the fellowship hall in a more casual atmosphere for a telling of the Christmas story and more contemporary styled music. This service is perfect for our families and friends that aren't able to attend the service on Christmas eve or are just looking for something a little different. Then on Friday, December 24 @ 5:00, we will have our traditional candlelight service in the sanctuary with our scripture readings and traditional carols. Either of these services will help to make the Christmas season even more special. Be sure to mark your calendars, invite some friends or family, and plan to join us!



## Chancel Choir

*Rehearsals for the months of December/January*

December 1: Christmas program run through

December 8

December 15

January 12: We will restart after 3 Wednesdays off

## SonShine Choir

*Rehearsals for the months of December/January*

December 14: Lunch @ the Duplin Winery @ 12 noon (call the church office to reserve your spot by Thursday, December 9)

January 18: 10:30 a.m.



## 11:00 Sound Board Team

Our 11:00 service could use another person for the sound board. We have a new person working the sound board for our 11:00 worship services. But just one person doing such an important job isn't enough. We would love to have a whole team of people who help with this important part of our services. Wouldn't it be great to have 2 or 3 people who could fill in this position? Maybe God is calling you! If you are interested, please let Dee know. She can hook you up with the training you will need to do it!



## Dulcimer Concert



## Dulcimer Concert

Sunday, November 28 @ 5:00 we had the Duplin Dulcimers as our guests for a concert of Christmas music! There was a nursery for our preschoolers (birth - 4 years old) and other activities for children aged kindergarten through 5th grade. Following the concert, we enjoyed some delicious treats in the fellowship hall, where we also had some of our crafty church members' crafts available to see and purchase.

## Prom Glitz



## Prom Glitz



Prom Glitz is back!! On Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> our fellowship hall will be filled with hundreds of beautiful prom dresses and accessories. But what will be even more beautiful are the young girls who will be coming to shop. We want them to feel special, loved and told they are beautiful. Everything the girls chose is free even down to the onsite alterations. Prom Glitz is open to W-RH, East Duplin, Duplin County Early College High School and Pender High.

Between now and February 5<sup>th</sup> spread the word, ask friends if they have any gently worn prom dresses, jewelry, shoes or purses they would like to donate. All dresses are carefully checked and taken to the dry cleaners. Also, look for great buys on any of the above items. You can donate or be reimbursed for your great finds!



Each girl who comes registers when they first arrive. We can use their contact information to share and invite them and their friends to upcoming youth events. We have heard over and over, "my child could not have gone to the prom if they had not received a dress from your church!" And all the hard work is worth it, when you see a young girl smile at her reflection in a mirror.





## Wallace Students



### December Student Announcements

Here is a recap of November 2021. During Life Group, the students have studied examples of gratitude and thankfulness in scripture and why we should live out thanksgiving, rather than merely giving words of thanks. This month, the students hosted a deer corn fundraiser and

they raised \$1,185 for the student ministry! The money raised from the deer corn fundraiser goes to help with camp, equipment, and activity costs. Speaking of activities, the students also



went to Crossfire Paintball in Wilmington and played low impact indoor paintball. Many new students and seasoned attenders had a blast firing paintballs at one another for 2 hours!



## Wallace Students

Going into December, Student Life Groups will continue studying scripture together and breaking into small groups for further discussion. Sunday Evening Student Meetings will continue at 6pm on Sunday evenings except for December 19th and 26th due to the alternate candlelight service and Christmas break.



There will be a Student Christmas Pajama Party on December 5th from 6-8pm during their usual Sunday Evening Meeting time. Students are encouraged to wear their appropriate Christmas pajamas to bring a blanket, board game, and a friend. Thank you to all who willingly give their time, prayer, and finances to support and uplift the FBC Wallace Student Ministry!

Grace and Peace,  
Jon Britton



**Merry Christmas  
From the First Baptist  
Church Office Staff!**



## Youth Fundraiser



Thank you to all those who came out to support our youth at the Wallace Students' Deer Corn Fundraiser in November! \$1,185.00 was raised!

## Food Drive



*Thank you to all those who donated food and money for the Holiday Meal Food Drive in November. Doug Lloyd delivered the food bags (pictured above).*

## Bible Learner's



*Another fun gathering was enjoyed by the Bible Learners Life Group as they celebrated November birthdays!*

## OCC Shoeboxes



*310 boxes loaded and delivered to drop off! Thank you all who participated in this year's Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Pictured are Robin Stone and Doug Lloyd.*





# Support Group

## Helping SELF: Helping to Support and Encourage Lost Families

**Purpose:** to support and encourage families dealing with drug or alcohol addiction.



This is not a 12 Step program or a how to group. We simply want to let families dealing with addiction know that they are not alone. Are you feeling lost and alone? Are you feeling isolated? Do you feel like “no one can possibly understand”?

We have been and still are experiencing these very feelings. We are stepping forward to share our experiences, vent to each other, and pray for one another and our families. We can learn together what enabling and co-dependency are and how to avoid those behaviors.

We are willing to laugh with you, cry with you, encourage you, support you, pray with you and help you find your way out of isolation. You are NOT alone.

Our next meeting is at First Baptist Church in Wallace on **December 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.** Park in the back and follow the signs.

Future meeting times and dates will be announced as we find out when we are needed. If you have a different time or day, call 910-284-7101.

## Just for Laughs:

### *Christmas Season Humor:*



Martha wanted to attend the annual Christmas office party but she felt she needed a new party dress. So she went shopping.

In the clothing store she struggle to find the right dress. She settled on a less-than ideal dress and carried it to the cashier. But as she stood there, she saw the perfect dress! It was displayed in the store’s window. Turning to the cashier, she asked, “May I try on a dress in the window?”

The cashier looked at her with an expression of shock, and said, “Absolutely not ma’am!! You’ll have to use the dressing room like everyone else.”

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Horace went to the department store on Christmas Eve to get his wife a Christmas present, but he didn’t want to spend much money. He approached the perfume counter and asked the clerk, “Do you have any perfume on sale?”

The young lady showed him a bottle of popular perfume. “This is on sale for just \$200.”

“Do you have something cheaper?” he asked.

She reached back and got the same perfume in a smaller bottle. “This size is just \$100,” she said.

“I’m sorry, but that’s still too much,” Horace said.

Reaching for a tiny bottle of perfume, the clerk said, “Well, we have this bottle for \$50.”

Horace said, “I really don’t want to spend more than \$20. Can I please see something really cheap?”

So the clerk handed him a mirror.



## Church Staff

### First Baptist Church of Wallace

408 W. Main St., Wallace, NC 28466  
Phone: 910.285.2534 Fax: 910.285.7810  
[www.WallaceFirstBaptist.org](http://www.WallaceFirstBaptist.org)

#### Dr. Alan Thompson

Senior Pastor  
Email: [alan.fbcw@gmail.com](mailto:alan.fbcw@gmail.com)/Cell: 910-282-8095

#### Mrs. Dee Thompson

Minister of Music and Senior Adult Ministry  
Email: [dee.fbcw@gmail.com](mailto:dee.fbcw@gmail.com)/Cell: 434-996-2408

#### Rev. J. T. Hopkins

Associate Pastor of Young Adult Ministry  
Email: [jhopkin2@my.athens.edu](mailto:jhopkin2@my.athens.edu)/Cell: 931-675-0524

#### Rev. Jon Britton

Associate Pastor of Youth and Children's Ministry  
Email: [jon.fbcw@gmail.com](mailto:jon.fbcw@gmail.com)/Cell: 434-444-1482

#### Rev. Arledge Castles

Associate Pastor of Deaf Ministry  
Email: [arledge.castles@gmail.com](mailto:arledge.castles@gmail.com)

#### Mrs. Kim Longenbach, Administrative Assistant

Email: [office.fbcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.fbcw@gmail.com)/910-285-2534

#### Mrs. LaRue Faircloth, Organist/Choir Accompanist

## Office Hours

**Monday:** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. &  
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Tuesday:** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. &  
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Wednesday:** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. &  
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Thursday:** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. &  
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Friday:** 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.



## Worship Services

### First Baptist Church Worship Services

9:00 a.m. Life Café Worship in Fellowship Hall  
10:00 a.m. Life Groups for All Ages  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship in Sanctuary

## Sunday Sermons

### Sunday Sermons

First Baptist Church  
Sunday Sermons are  
broadcast every Sunday  
on our local radio station KIX-FM 100.5 at 11:00  
a.m. (Previous week's message).



And you can listen to each week's message, as well as a number of past message series, on our church website anytime under "Resources > Media/Messages." Messages are usually posted by Sunday evening.

## Easy Tithe

### EasyTithe Instructions:

- No Check Book?
- No Cash?
- On Vacation?
- Have a Smartphone?
- No Worries

Go to our website at [www.wallacefirstbaptist.org](http://www.wallacefirstbaptist.org) and scroll down to the Online Giving Button and click. From here you can setup your account by answering just a few simple questions. Once your account is created you can setup recurring donations and never worry about writing a check again. There is also the option to make a one time donation as a guest without having to create an account.

You can also download the EasyTithe app from the app store on your smartphone. Again just a few simple questions and you are ready to start giving online. Access your account anytime for a summary of your donations. You will still receive annual statements from the office.

- Give Anytime
- Give Anywhere
- Setup Recurring Donations
- Review Past Donations
- Fast - Simple - Secure

**Together, we can make a difference**



## **Volunteers**

### **December Volunteers**

#### **9:00 a.m. Life Café Worship Nursery**

12/5-Hope Rich, Lindsey Blanchard  
 12/12-Debbie Williams, Hope Rich  
 12/19-Jessica Higgins, Allie Higgins  
 12/26-Deb Lloyd, Hope Rich

#### **10:00 a.m. Sunday Life Groups Nursery**

12/5-Susan Ayers, Michelle Coombs  
 12/12-Angie Gurganus, Susan Bradshaw  
 12/19-Michelle Coombs, Susan Ayers  
 12/26-Susan Bradshaw, Angie Gurganus

#### **10:00 a.m. 3 & 4 Year Olds**

12/5-Donna Marshburn  
 12/12-Donna Marshburn  
 12/19-Donna Marshburn  
 12/26-



#### **10:00 a.m. Wallace Kids**

12/5-Doug & Deb Lloyd  
 12/12-Crystal Stallings & Lindsey Blanchard  
 12/19-Amie Cavanaugh-Eakins  
 & Michelle Blanchard  
 12/26-Doug & Deb Lloyd

#### **11:00 a.m. Ushers: Connections Life Group**

**Tellers:** Tammy Patram & Beverly Benton



## **Newsletter**



### **Jan. Newsletter Submission Deadline: Dec. 15, 2021**

Please email articles to  
[office.fbcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.fbcw@gmail.com)  
 Please make articles brief !

## **On the Record**

### **Attendance**

#### **Life Groups**

10-31	11-7	11-14	11-21	11-28
89	102	90	81	79

#### **Worship**

10-31	11-7	11-14	11-21	11-28
135	191	160	146	162

### **Budget and Receipts**

2021 Budget	\$433,490.00
Offering Receipts To Date 11-30-2021	<b>\$408,412.41</b>

## **Dec. Birthdays**

- 1 Rick Donnelly
- 1 John Cavanaugh
- 2 Harold Simpson
- 3 Tripp Perry
- 4 Clayton Davis
- 4 Mark Myers
- 5 Sandra Rogers
- 8 Sharron Batchelor
- 9 Clay Davis
- 9 Kirsten Griffin
- 10 Brianna Davis
- 10 Edith Merritt
- 11 Joanne Lasseter
- 13 Savannah Gurganus
- 14 Sharon Teachey
- 15 Mary Hart Blackburn
- 16 Dixon Lefler



- 20 John Stallings, Jr.
- 20 Marcelle McGowen
- 21 Preston Russ
- 23 Caitlin Miller
- 23 Jocelyn Jones
- 23 Lendell Kenon
- 23 Khaylah Kenon
- 26 Devon Register Faw
- 27 Jon Gurganus
- 27 Daniel Padgett
- 27 Caitlin Hale
- 28 Nicholas English
- 29 Chenara Cavanaugh
- 30 Helen Brinkley
- 30 Abby Evans
- 31 Babs Paul



# First Baptist Events

# December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner 6:15 pm-Chancel Choir 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>	<p>2 Fellowship Hall &amp; Kitchen Reserved 12:00 pm-Advent Serv. @Wallace Presbyterian</p>	3	<p>4 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>
<p>5 Second Sunday of Advent 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 5:00 pm-Scouts, R203 5:00 pm-Christmas Program 6:00 pm-Wallace Students' Christmas Party</p>	<p>6 6:00 pm-CrossFit</p>	<p>7 9:45 am-SAM Trip 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting</p>	<p>8 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner 6:15 pm-Chancel Choir 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222 7:00 pm-Helping Self</p>	<p>9 12:00 pm-Advent Serv. @Wallace Presbyterian</p>	10	<p>11 10 am-12 pm-Parking Lot Reserved: Parade 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>
<p>12 Third Sunday of Advent 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids' Party 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 5:00 pm-Scouts, R203 6:00 pm-Wallace Students</p>	<p>13 6:00 Men's Fellowship Dinner @ Mi Finca 6:00 pm-CrossFit</p>	<p>14 12:30 am-SonShine Choir Lunch @ Duplin Winery Bistro 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting</p>	<p>15 Newsletter Deadline 10:30 am-Community Bible Study @ Pizza Corner 6:15 pm-Chancel Choir 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>	<p>16 12:00 pm-Advent Serv. @Wallace Presbyterian</p>	17	<p>18 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>
<p>19 Fourth Sunday of Advent 9:00 am-Life Café 10:00 am-WallaceKids 10:00 am-Life Groups 10:35 am-Chancel Choir 11:00 am-Worship 5:00 pm-Scouts, R203 6:00 pm-Candlelight Service NO WALLACE STUDENTS</p>	<p>20 6:00 pm-CrossFit</p>	<p>21 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting 7:00 pm-Helping SELF</p>	<p>22 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>	<p>23 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>24 OFFICE CLOSED Christmas Eve 5:00 am-Candlelight Service, Sanctuary 6:00 pm FH Reserved</p>	<p>25 Merry Christmas! Christmas Day FH Reserved 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>
<p>26 10:00 am-Combined Worship 5:00 pm-Scouts, R203 NO WALLACE STUDENTS</p>	<p>27 6:00 pm-CrossFit</p>	<p>28 2:00 pm-Staff Meeting</p>	<p>29 7:00 pm-Cristo Viene, R222</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p>	