

December 2018 Newsletter

Madison Avenue Baptist Church

1703 E. Laurel Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534; 919-734-3761

December Birthdays:

1	Elizabeth Vinson	17	Jo Ann Tart
5	Dave Periconi	18	Cynthia Cain
9	Venessia Hill	23	Michael Bass
10	Penny Westover	28	Owen Richardson
12	John Compton	30	Maddox Edwards
15	Bob Frederick	30	Madysen Edwards
15	Carrie Edwards	31	Floyd Daughtry

December Calendar of Events:

2 (Sun)	Church Council, 2:00pm
5 (Wed)	Covered Dish Supper
9 (Sun)	Baptist Men and Women Breakfast, 8:00am
13 (Thu)	Adult Sunday School Banquet at 6:30pm
18 (Tue)	Deacon's Meeting-7:00pm
19 (Wed)	Old Timey Christmas
24 (Mon)	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
25 (Tue)	Merry Christmas and Church Office will be closed till Thursday Dec. 26

Deacon Corner

Christmas is almost here! The Advent Season will be commemorated in our Sunday morning worship services during Advent with the display of the Advent Wreath and individuals or groups lighting the candles and stating the special meaning of each Sunday in Advent. The month of December leading up to Christmas is always action-packed with events and schedules, both church and non-church related. We trust that all our church family will plan to participate in the events and activities planned here at Madison:

- The **Adult Sunday School Christmas Banquet** is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, at 6:30 pm. Sign up by name through the Sunday School classes.
- The **Old Timey Christmas Program** on Wednesday, December 19, at 6:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall featuring our traditional Hot Dog Supper (FREE!). Sign up for the Wednesday evening meal as usual (permanent list or call-in). Bring Christmas goodies!
- The **Christmas Eve Communion Service** on Monday, December 24, at 7:00 pm.

The church office will be closed on Monday afternoon, Tuesday, and Wednesday, December 24, 25, 26, and there will be no Wednesday evening meal or Bible study on December 26.

Remembering our Church Staff at Christmas

We are requesting everyone to be generous in giving so that we can properly remember our church staff, both those employed and volunteer members, twelve in number, during this Christmas season. Gifts of cash or checks can be given to Mike Williford or I. K. Williamson or turned in to the office in a designated sealed envelope. We hope that individuals as well as Sunday School classes will contribute. Checks should be made payable to Mike Williford. Please contribute no later than Sunday, December 16. Gifts will be given at the Old Timey Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 19.

Adult Sunday School Christmas Dinner Thursday, December 13

The Adult Sunday School Christmas Banquet will be held on Thursday evening, December 13. There is no cost to attend. This is a covered-dish dinner with couples or individuals attending asked to bring a salad, vegetable dish or dessert. Two meats will be prepared by the Hospitality Committee. Voluntary contributions will be accepted in a box at the entrance table to cover the cost of the two meats. So that the committee will know how much to prepare, each Sunday School class is requested to record the names of those who will attend and turn the list in with the records on the Sundays of December 2 and 9. This will be a fun night of good Christmas fellowship and food. Please plan to attend.

A New Birth Bearing the Name “Madison”

One of our military families, the Justin Steffens foursome, were members at Madison Avenue for a few years until being transferred. They were very special to the church, and the church family quite obviously was very special to them. Lindsay, just a few weeks ago gave birth to their third daughter, and because of their close ties to our church and the love and affection that they felt were shown to them during their few years with us, chose to name their new daughter “Madison” in love, honor, and appreciation for all the individuals at Madison Avenue who loved them and cared for them while they were among us.

A Fine Example of Mission Opportunity and a Caring Response

Our church made an appeal to our church family to respond to the needs of Kennedy Home, our Baptist Children’s Home just this side of Kinston, because of the extensive damages suffered as a result of Hurricane Floyd. Not only did we respond but we responded generously. As of Sunday, November 25, \$505 has been given for this cause. For those who might wish to be a part of this mission opportunity but have not done so, please respond immediately so that this project can be completed before the end of the year. Checks should be made payable to the North Carolina Baptist Children’s Home for “Kennedy Home.”

I. K. Williamson, Diaconate Chair

Thank You for all your prayers on my recent surgery. I did get a good report today from the doctor with no further treatment needed. Darlene Mathias.

A Thank You Note has been received from all the staff of Kitty Askins (3HC) and is posted on the bulletin board.

Memorials made during the month of October were in memory of: Dick Manley.

A Bit of Madison History

REMEMBERING CLYDE WHITENER

All “old timers” and a few “new comers” will remember three of our earlier faithful families, the Clyde Whitener, Liles, and Ray Rouse families. Many members of these families are now deceased, except for Hilda Strider and Meredith Liles who are still with us. Members included Clyde and Millie Whitener, Charlie and Butch Liles and Charlie’s sisters, Hilda Strider, Meredith Liles, and Horty (Mrs. Ray) Rouse. Clyde’s wife, Millie Bumgarner Whitener, was the sister of Butch Liles, Charlie’s wife. Clyde for many years found his place of service at Madison Avenue in the church nursery. He could be seen every Sunday morning in his red-checked smock sitting on the floor in the nursery teaching and playing with the toddlers. After many years of dedicated service to his Lord, to the church, and to the nursery children at Madison, the church expressed its official appreciation to Clyde at the January 18, 1984 church conference for the many years of service that he had given as a Sunday School teacher to the toddlers in the nursery. It was never possible to determine who had the greater love for the other—Clyde for the toddlers or the toddlers for “Mr. Clyde.” Incidentally, Clyde was a public-school teacher at Goldsboro High School for many years. His father in law, Mr. Bumgarner, operated a public bus transportation system in Goldsboro for many years, discontinued during the mid-1960s.

Pastor’s Article for December

"God's my size!" The three-year-old girl jumped up to tell her mother. "Mom, God's my size!" She got the idea while lying on her stomach looking at the manger scene beneath the Christmas tree. Eye level with a baby is a good position from which to do theology.

Adults look at the baby and say, "This can't be God! This is a bawling baby!" The protests are diverse. "This can't be God! This baby is Jewish. This baby is poor. This baby is illegitimate. This baby is male. This baby is traditional. This baby is a refugee. This baby is, well, a baby." Children look at the baby and say, "God's our size!" Adults look at the baby, shuffle their feet in the straw, and mutter to each other.

This Christmas let us view Christ from a child's point of view. The God of the universe left His glory above and chose to enter the world as a baby born to poor parents in a back corner of the world. God became a man and experienced the human condition. The Word became flesh and dwelt (tabernacled) among us. God came down to our level that He might bring us to be with Him.

"God's my size!" He became like us to show us the way to the Father, to be THE way to the Father. Jesus was born to be our savior, to die for our sin. God has shown Himself in the person of Jesus. Christmas is when God invaded history. Celebrate this Christmas with this in mind. Praise God!

Pastor Randy

Senior Adult News

On November 8, our seniors along with those of six other churches had a great trip to Historic Edenton. After an introduction at the Penelope Barker House Welcome Center, we had an educational trolley tour of the town. We ate lunch in several downtown restaurants, then visited the Visitor's Center, the Iredell



House, and the Light House. The Lord blessed us with good weather and safe travel.

At our Very Special People meeting on Monday, November 26, we discussed several upcoming activities and possible activities. We will not have a monthly meeting in December. Three events in early December will also be of interest to those who are not quite senior adults. These are:

A Night in Bethlehem: Thursday, Friday, & Saturday (Nov 29, 30, & Dec 1), at Stoney Creek Church. We have a group already planning to go on Thursday night, leaving from the church at 6:15. The event is free, but a gift of non-perishable food items to the Salvation Army is requested. You may register to attend by going to this website:
http://ncrrbiz.formstack.com/forms/untitled_form4.

Christmas By Candlelight: Saturday, December 1, at the First Baptist Church of Mount Olive. This is an excellent program of music and Scripture. A group from our church is already planning to attend the 2:30 program and will leave from the church at 1:30. The event is free, but tickets must be reserved in advance. I will call to reserve tickets on Thursday morning, November 29, for those I know are going.

Christmas Presence: Sunday, December 9, at 7:00, at the Meymandi Hall in Raleigh. This music program was written by Pepper Choplin from Raleigh, whose music we have all heard or sung. Cost is \$10 and must be purchased through his website, or through Rick Pridgen. If we have enough interest, we will take the church bus, so please sign up on the VSP bulletin board. The website is:

<http://www.pepperchoplin.com/meymandi/christmas-presence-raleigh-dec9-2018>