



### Christmas Cards Post Office

Are you getting your Christmas cards ready to be sent out? We will be having our post office again this year. You can mail your church family Christmas cards for \$0.25/card. Your donation will go to the Lottie Moon Offering. It will be open December 7<sup>th</sup> through December 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Media Center Update:

The Media Center Committee has completed the removal of unused books to make space available for the Medical Equipment Ministry. Books have been donated to these charities: Goodwill, UC Thrift, Carolina (veterans) Thrift, and Next Step Ministries. Jill Sutphin carried books to McKay's and obtained supplies for the Backpack Ministry and Operation Christmas Child. Funds from McKay's were also donated to the Homecoming Offering. Fiction books and Bible references are still available. There is now no checkout procedure: return books to the shelf just inside the Media Center door.

### Winston Salem Rescue Mission

The WOM are collecting money to provide Christmas meals for the homeless through the **W-S Rescue Mission**. A meal costs just \$3.99. Please write "W-S Rescue Mission" on your check or envelope if you would like to donate.

### Children's Church - Ages 3 to 10

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| December 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Marianne Casas |
| December 14 <sup>th</sup> | Cindy Clark    |
| December 21 <sup>st</sup> | Robin French   |
| December 28 <sup>th</sup> | Kathy Horton   |

### December Birthdays

|       |                              |
|-------|------------------------------|
| 12/1  | Faye Lakey                   |
| 12/3  | Ellen Cook, Mark Reavis      |
| 12/11 | Ron Pinyan                   |
| 12/12 | Edna Bond                    |
| 12/15 | Marty Daniels                |
| 12/16 | Irene Cheek                  |
| 12/20 | Lisa Young                   |
| 12/27 | Avery Lindley, Tammie Weavil |
| 12/28 | Robin French                 |
| 12/31 | Clinton McCann               |

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Return Service  
Requested

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Greensboro, NC  
Permit 5043

Pastor Dr. Adam Woods  
Music Director Mrs. Gayle Smith  
Minister of Education Rev. Marty Daniels  
Organist Mrs. Angie Weavil  
Pianist Mrs. Sara VonCannon  
Office Administrator Mrs. Teresa Tucker

# Union Cross Baptist News

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No. 12



**December 7th, 7:00 pm**

Lovefeast @ Wait Chapel

Leaving the church at 5:15 pm

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm**

Lessons & Carols

Finger foods following the service

**December 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 pm**

Candlelight Communion Service

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

## Message from the Pastor

In the Christmas story, I like how Luke used the phrase, "All who heard the shepherd's story were astonished, but Mary quietly treasured those things in her heart and thought about them often." (Luke 2:19) The King James says, "Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart."

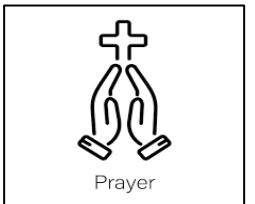
It means that year after year she thought about the events leading to the first Christmas -- how she was chosen to participate in God's story of salvation, how God brought everything together, how she witnessed firsthand that, like the angel had said to her many months before, "Nothing is impossible for God." (Luke 1:37) Mary's example is a good one to follow. We should remember to treasure these things and think about them often. There are so many lessons to be learned from the nativity story. • From the wisemen, we learn that God speaks to anyone who will listen, and he leads anyone who is willing to follow. • From Mary and Joseph, we learn what it means to fully submit to the will of God. We learn that obedience takes courage, and that it's better to obey God than worry about what others think or say. • From the shepherds -- those minimum wage workers who were watching sheep late in the night -- we learn that no one is too poor or too insignificant to have a personal experience with God. • Even from cruel Herod, we are reminded of how foolish it is to try to hinder the purpose of God. Most of all, from Jesus, we learn that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. We're beginning a busy season of the year -- stressful sometimes, hectic, and financially challenging. Follow Mary's example: Remember to remember the first Christmas. Treasuring the story, think about it often, ponder its meaning in your heart.

Grace and Peace,  
Adam

## 2026 Budget

The 2026 Budget will be presented and discussed at church conference on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm. The budget will be available for review prior to conference. Before we begin our morning worship on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, we will vote without discussion on adopting the budget.

**Medical Supply Ministry Update**—The medical supplies have been moved from the choir room closet to a larger space in the library. The newly formed WOM team (Jane, Jennie, Kathy I, Nancy, and Beverly), who will maintain these supplies, are now in the process of cleaning, disinfecting, and rewriting the check-out guidelines. In the meantime, you may still borrow any of the equipment, but it is very important to fill out the present check-in/out form.



Darrell Beaver, Ellen Bobbitt, Roger Burnett (Lisa Young's father), Marianne Casas' father, Ellen Cook, Bobby & Irene Cheek, Jr. Clodfelter, Marty & Judy Daniels, Ann Huth, Laura Boers (friend of Kathy Mills), Delbert & Becky Lauten, Jr. (Delbert Parkinson's), Ritchie & Stoney Longworth, Juan & Lidia Mendoza (neighbors of Hal & Melissa Little), Ron Mills, Ron & Doris Pinyan, Derek Reavis (friend of Mark Reavis), and unspoken prayers.

## Financial Summary

|                    | November 2, 2025 |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Undesignated Gifts | \$4,485.00       |
| Designated Gifts   | \$1,010.99       |
| Total Offering     | \$5,495.99       |

|                    | November 9, 2025 |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Undesignated Gifts | \$1,817.00       |
| Designated Gifts   | \$ 734.00        |
| Total Offering     | \$2,551.00       |

|                    | November 16, 2025 |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Undesignated Gifts | \$2,893.00        |
| Designated Gifts   | \$ 716.00         |
| Total Offering     | \$3,609.00        |

|                               | General Fund  |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| October General Fund Receipts | \$16,914.00   |
| October General Fund Expenses | - \$13,808.87 |
| October General Fund Net      | \$ 3 105.13   |
| October Fund Balance          | \$98,575.01   |



**Women on Mission ladies had their November email meeting on October 27, 2025.**

### NOVEMBER WOM ACTIVITIES:

Hospice Ministry Note: Snack donations continued for both WS & HP Hospice Homes.

November Mission Projects and Outreach—Members voted & approved the following:

- \$900 of WOM funds for toys to be donated to the Eastern Forsyth Toy Store. We are also collecting toys from the congregation as well as hats/toboggans, gloves & coats this year. Donations will be accepted until Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

- Established a "contingency" fund with a \$250 cap within the current WOM account to allow us to participate with an urgent need should one arise. This will be monitored by the WOM President & Vice President (Jane & Beverly), with a report provided to the other WOM members when this special fund is used.
- Sponsor the WS Rescue Mission Thanksgiving Meals emphasis. The cost for each meal is \$3.99 & \$139.65 of WOM funds were used to pay for 35 meals.
- An anonymous \$100 donation was given to WOM with the intention of providing something specifically for children. 45 fleece throw blankets were purchased for the 2026 Appalachian Backpack Ministry at a cost of \$96.31.
- Vote carried to reimburse those who incurred expenses for the Veterans Hot Dog Luncheon.

### Additional WOM Activities:

- 13 ladies met at the church on Saturday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> to fill OCC shoeboxes. Jill will provide a detailed report on the success of OCC this year.
- 51 people attended the Veterans' Hot Dog Luncheon on Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. A special thank you to all WOM members who helped make this a great event & tribute to our veterans.

As we make preparations to celebrate Christmas, it is our prayer that Jesus became real to many of God's children through the WOM outreach projects completed during 2025 as UNION CROSS REACHED OUT TO SHOW HIS LOVE & we pray with Christ as our guide, 2026 will be another year we will be His instruments here on earth to meet the needs of others.

--Jane Sutphin

## Operation Christmas Child

As your Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Chairman, I am once again overwhelmed with joy at the shoeboxes we are able to send this year. I want to give a shout out to Women on Mission (WOM), who decided to donate money to purchase items for shoeboxes, those who made items for the shoeboxes, those who gave money to fill shoeboxes, those who contributed to the shipping costs of the WOM-filled shoeboxes and everyone who filled a shoebox. With all of our contributions, Union Cross Baptist is sending **172** shoeboxes this year! I know these shoeboxes will be the best gift the children will encounter this year and possibly their lives. Please continue to pray for the shoeboxes and the children who will receive them. Thank You, Union Cross Baptist Church, for reaching out to show your love to the ends of the earth!

-Jill Sutphin, UCBC WOM OCC Coordinator