



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 or a donation of your choosing to Lottie Moon or Global Missions. It will be open December 3rd through December 17th.

Children's Church - Ages 3 to 10

December 3 rd	Marianne Casas
December 10 th	Cindy Clark
December 17 th	Julie Striplin
December 24 th	No Children's Church
December 31 st	Kathy Horton

Our **Crisis Control Food Drive** this month will be here at the church. We will collect food items and monetary donations all month long. The food item of the month is beef stew. Hospice Ministry Emphasis will be Sunday the 10th.

2024 Budget

The 2024 Budget will be presented and discussed at church Conference on Wednesday, December 13th at 7 pm. The budget will be mailed out for review prior to conference. Before we begin our morning worship on Sunday, December 17th we will vote without discussion on adopting the budget.

Senior Moments

The ladies will be going to Hamrick's on December 5th at 8:30 am. Our Christmas luncheon will be celebrated on Wednesday, December 27th at 11 am at CiCi's Pizza in HP.

December Birthdays

12/1	Faye Lakey
12/3	Ellen Cook, Mark Reavis
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

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

Union Cross Baptist Church
4350 High Point Rd.
Kernersville, NC 27284
(336)769-2862 Phone (336)769-2864 FAX
www.unioncrossbaptistchurch.org ucbpminist@bellsouth.net

Return Service Requested

Dr. Adam Woods
Mrs. Gayle Smith
Rev. Marty Daniels
Mrs. Angie Weavil
Mrs. Sara VonCannon
Mrs. Teresa Tucker

Pastor
Music Director
Minister of Education
Organist
Pianist
Office Administrator

Union Cross Baptist News

Vol. 45

December 1, 2023

No. 12



- Dec. 2, 10:00 am – Sisters in Christ Cookie Exchange Party
- Dec. 3, 7:00 pm – Chrismon Service & Reception
- Dec. 12, 6:30 pm – Sisters in Christ Christmas Caroling @ Westchester Manor
- Dec. 17, 6:00 pm – Lessons & Carols & Reception
- Dec. 20, 7:00 pm – Candlelight Communion Service



Message from the Pastor

Our heroes usually wear masks, so we don't know who they really are. Like Spiderman and Batman and the Green Lantern and Zorro... and, of course, the original masked man, the Lone Ranger.

We benefit from their kindness -- they frequently save the world from bad guys like the Penguin and the Joker -- but we don't know who they really are. They may be our heroes, but our knowledge of them is limited; they can't be known personally.

There's a sense in which the same could have been said about God. In the Old Testament we learned about him, we saw how his people benefitted from his kindness, but we couldn't really know him personally, intimately. It was like he was behind a mask.

On Christmas Day, the mask was removed. He revealed himself to us fully and completely, so that we may know him as he really is. This is why, when Philip asked Jesus to reveal the Father, Jesus said, *"Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father."* (John 14:9)

God's plan is not to be our hero. He wants to be more than the one we call on in times of trouble. He wants to be our constant companion, our Father, our friend. He wants us to know him personally. This is made possible through his Son, Jesus Christ, who was sent to us two thousand years ago. This is why we celebrate his birth.

Grace and Peace,

Adam



The Baptist Men are collecting money to provide Christmas meals for the homeless through the **W-S Rescue Mission**. Help bring someone in off the street, provide a warm meal and the opportunity to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ. You can make a difference. A meal costs just \$2.99. Please write "W-S Rescue Mission" on your check or envelope if you would like to make a donation.



Margaret Baker, Brent Butler (Sarah Horton's friend), Bobby & Irene Cheek, Marty & Judy Daniels, Larry Davis (Susan Hilton's nephew), Luke Gann, Denny Hester, Ron Mills, Jan & Gary (friends of Kathy Mills), Larry & Carol Reavis (Cousins of Mark Reavis), Bettie Spencer, Kat Varner (Lauren Horton's boyfriend's mother).

Our deepest sympathies are expressed to Brenda Grose in the passing of her husband, Steve. Please keep Brenda and the family in your prayers.

Financial Summary

	November 5, 2023	
Undesignated Gifts		\$4,507.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 354.42
Total Offering		\$4,861.42
	November 12, 2023	
Undesignated Gifts		\$3,211.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 320.00
Total Offering		\$3,531.00
	November 19, 2023	
Undesignated Gifts		\$3,405.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 504.00
Total Offering		\$3,909.00
	November 26, 2023	
Undesignated Gifts		\$2,400.00
Designated Gifts		\$ 814.18
Total Offering		\$ 3,214.18

General Fund

October General Fund Receipts	\$ 12,711.07
October General Fund Expenses	- \$ 13,659.23
October General Fund Net	- \$ 948.16
October Fund Balance	\$ 87,473.62



Women on Mission ladies had their November email meeting on November 1st.

NOVEMBER WOM ACTIVITIES:

- Hospice Ministry Note: Breakfast & snack items were delivered to both WS & HP Hospices.
- A couple of Inward Meals were delivered during the month.

- By vote we approved using \$98.37 of WOM funds to fund 33 Thanksgiving meals at the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission.
- Approval was given to using \$700 of WOM funds to purchase toys for the Baptist Toy Store. With price increases seen & felt everywhere, it was with careful shopping that 43 gifts were bought for a total of \$700.33. Additionally, many of you have also bought toys for our toy store and they are truly appreciated. The deadline for donations is **December 6th**.
- You will be seeing Appalachian Backpack Ministry collections on a monthly basis in 2024. With this being a very large and costly annual project, we voted to emphasize one or two of the required items each month next year. This change will help us fund & plan for another successful Backpack endeavor.

As we approach the end of another year, may we reflect upon the number of lives impacted through WOM as **UNION CROSS REACHED OUT TO SHOW HIS LOVE.**

Let Every Day Be Christmas

(by Norman Wesley Brooks)

Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.
The good you do for others is good you do yourself.

--Jane Sutphin

As your Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Chairman, I am overjoyed at the number of shoeboxes that were donated. With our economic state, I was not expecting to have good participation but we surpassed last year's goal of 100 shoeboxes. I dropped off 106 shoeboxes at The Crossing Church in Kernersville. They were excited to receive the shoeboxes and prayed with me over the shoeboxes one last time, but prayer doesn't stop there! Please continue to pray for the children who receive these boxes that their life will be changed as they come to know Christ. A huge thank you to everyone who packed a shoebox, brought items to donate for shoeboxes, helped with packing shoeboxes, and those who paid for shipping for the shoeboxes. Thank you, Union Cross Baptist Church, by *reaching out to show His love across the world!* -Jill Sutphin