



The Beacon The Beacon



Jesus said; "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

December 2021



Let's Go Caroling!

Everyone of all ages are welcome to join us Wednesday, December 8th at 7:00p to go Christmas Caroling and share the joy of Christmas!

Children's Christmas Party ~ Friday, December 10th ~ 6:00p

All children, Kindergarten through 5th Grade, are invited to a Christmas Party, Friday Night Dec 10th, 6:00 - 8:30p in the Family Life Center. There will be Dinner, Crafts, and Lots o' Fun!! A sign up sheet is in the Welcome Center.



Church Choir Christmas Celebration

Sunday, December 12, 2021 ~ 8:45a & 11:00a



Be sure to join us as our choir will lead us in a time of worship and praise as we celebrate and proclaim the birth of Christ.

Christmas Card Mailbox

Want to send Christmas Cards to your friends at church? Save your postage and place your cards in the mailbox cubicle located in the Welcome Center.



Family Christmas Service

**Sunday, Dec. 19th
8:45am & 11:00am**

A special time of the telling of Christ's birth and the meaning of Christmas, as our children gather 'round Pastors' Dave and Cameron, to hear the greatest story ever told.

Christmas Play & Fellowship

Sunday, Dec. 19th ~ 6:00p

Join us for a modern day version of the three wise men portrayed as three 'Wise Guy' gangsters who bring 'Gifts Fit for a King'. There will be a Finger Food Fellowship immediately following the play.



Pastor Dave's
Message
 for the
Month

Have you bought all of your gifts for Christmas yet? If you listen to the media, they are telling us that we need to buy our gifts now. If we wait until closer to Christmas, we may not find the gifts we want because of the supply chain being messed up.

Once again mankind has messed things up. Aren't you thankful that God never messes anything up? We may not find the gifts we want to give at Christmas or get the gifts we want for Christmas because supplies run out. However, God's gift is always available. Ephesians 2:8 says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God." I am thankful that God's gift of salvation is always available. There is never a supply chain issue. God desires for everyone to find forgiveness of their sins in His Son, Jesus Christ, and to trust Jesus as their Lord and Savior. His gift of salvation is there for the taking, but so many people don't know about it. So, this Christmas lets give the ultimate gift to others by sharing about God's gift of salvation.

For His glory,

Pastor Dave

Building Loan Balance
 (as of 11/11/2021)
\$ 361,483

Women's
Bible Study

There will be no Women's Bible Study in December. But, be sure to join us **January 4, 2022**, as we begin a new study "*Better: A Study of Hebrews*" by Jen Wilkin. You can order your study book at <https://www.amazon.com/Better-Bible-Study-Book-Hebrews/>.



Start your Christmas shopping with **RADA Cutlery** and other kitchen products by clicking the link: radafundraising.com/?rfsn=4130704.b62946 or use the catalog and order form in the church foyer. **All RADA products are proudly made in the USA!** Each purchase helps support Baptist Women mission projects.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to:

- 🕊 Ingela Gillie and her family in the death of her mother, Kerstin Ottosson
- 🕊 Cindy Jeffries and her family and Tonya McDaniel and her family in the death of their stepfather, Tom Chambers
- 🕊 Priscilla Riggs and her family in the death of her sister, Rochella Hudson
- 🕊 Cathy Taylor and her family in the death of her Brother-in-Law, Burnell Elliott

We Received a Thank You Note From:

- ✍ Joe and Joyce Glenn
- ✍ The Pryor Family



Monday, Dec. 20th ~ 7:00p
 (3rd Monday of each month)

"The Bondage Breaker"

Overcoming: Negative Thoughts, Irrational Feelings, Habitual Sins

"As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend." Proverbs 27:17

The Advent Candles

Within Advent, there are four primary candles with their own unique significance and meaning. One of the four candles is lit on each Sunday during the Advent season (beginning Nov 28th - Dec. 24th). Then in some Christian traditions, there is a final fifth candle usually lit during a Christmas Eve service.

The first candle, which is blue or purple, symbolizes hope. This Advent candle prepares us for Jesus' arrival. We are reminded that there is hope because Jesus is coming!

The second candle represents faith, and this Advent candle is often referred to as the "Bethlehem Candle." This blue candle serves as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's faith as they journeyed to Bethlehem. For our families, this Advent candle reminds us that we can have the same faith in our own lives.

The third candle symbolizes joy. This Advent candle is the only pink or purple candle, and it represents of the joy of the world during the birth of Jesus. For Christians, the third Advent candle reminds us to celebrate Jesus' arrival.


The fourth candle represents peace. This blue Advent candle reminds our families to focus on the angels' proclamation of "Peace on Earth!" On the fourth and final week of Advent, this candle emphasizes the importance of Jesus' arrival.

Finally, the fifth Advent candle is often referred to as the "Christ Candle." Usually lit on Christmas Eve, the white Advent candle represents purity and the life of Christ.

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/welcome-to-advent->

DECEMBER 2021

BIRTHDAYS & EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Memory Verse</p> <p>“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; <i>it is</i> the gift of God.”</p> <p>Ephesians 2:8</p>			<p>1 Wed. Night Service Mtg 7p</p> <p><i>Garnet Ellis</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p><i>Hailey Crabtree Jacob Murray</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Worship Service/ Lord’s Supper 8:45a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10am Deacon’s Mtg 4p <i>Amber Grinstead Robin Pendergraph Sheila Sanders Justin Wilson</i></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Missions Night/ Christmas Caroling 7p</p> <p><i>Annette Glenn</i></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Kid’s Ministry Christmas Party 6p</p>	<p>11 Youth Service Day & Lunch 9am Bahama Christmas Parade 10am</p> <p><i>Lyndsey Brack</i></p>
<p>12 Church Choir Christmas Celebration 8:45a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10am</p> <p><i>Joy Cummings Janice Ellis</i></p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p><i>Mary Oakley</i></p>	<p>15 Wed. Night Svc.& Monthly Business Service 7p</p> <p><i>Cody Ellis</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p><i>Debbie Copley</i></p>	<p>17 Youth Lock-In 6pm</p> <p><i>Crystal Propst</i></p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Family Christmas Service 8:45a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10am Christmas Play & Fellowship 6pm</p>	<p>20 Men of Iron 7p</p> <p><i>Connie Garrett Annabeth Riggs</i></p>	<p>21</p>  <p><i>Don Garrett</i></p>	<p>22 Wed. Night Service Mtg 7p</p> <p><i>Shirley Ellis</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p><i>Joan Hill</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Joslyn Blomberg Jordan Davis Hunter O’Briant</i></p>	<p>25</p>  <p><i>Tammy Ellis Debbie Long</i></p>
<p>26 Worship Service 8:45a & 11a Sunday Sch. 10am</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p><i>Vann Marshall Scottie McFarland</i></p>	<p>29 Wed. Night Service Mtg 7p</p> <p><i>Melissa Oakley</i></p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>Teresa Ellis Judy Stancil</i></p>	<p>Jan 1, 2022</p> 



RED MOUNTAIN
BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 103
ROUEMONT, NC 27572
919-477-3657
www.redmountainbaptist.com



Rev. Dave Pryor - Pastor
Rev. Cameron Lewis - Youth Pastor
Address Correction Requested



When Your Tinsel Is in a Tangle

By Beth Duewel

I'd spotted the must-haves while my husband and I drove the kids around town to look at Christmas displays. I poked the car window. "Oh my gosh," I wheezed, "Wouldn't our eaves look perfect wearing those, honey!"

All seemed merry and bright, but Jerry knew what waited ahead. Okay, maybe I've had some other bright ideas, like: "Let's hang Christmas lights in -2 degrees and slip and slide on the roof." But this idea was golden. Shiny bling on a string, sparkly perfection. Who can resist?

Never mind that when we put the lights up, we knocked real icicles off the gutters to hang fake ones instead. Never mind that it took 260 attempts to stick/clip/glue the tinsel strands to the gutters. Never mind I'd added one more thing on a long string of to-do. Or that the house glowed like day at night! Still, I thought, we'd go big—at home.

Until the icicle lights burned out three days later.

Because not only were the lights horizontally tangly—but vertically tangly too. With Christmas lights testy by definition, all the hype was gone. I'm ashamed to say I got my tinsel in a tangle over, of all things ... Christmas lights?

Despite the house adornment disaster, I maintained the possibility that a house wrapped in lights could illuminate out-and-out joy. Even outshine the tangles in life. And it can. But I had a vision of what I wanted Christmas to be, shiny and perfectly bright, and that December my glistening ideal unplugged with my father's diagnosis of Alzheimer's. Moody and bright—Christmas didn't look, feel, or happen that year even close to how I'd envisioned it. But you know what happened?

Christmas!

Christmas arrived and was more wonderful and beautiful and memorable than in years past. It came without fanfare, fuses, and fixes which meant more time to enjoy each other. To focus. And to pray. Christmas was shiniest that year because we stared at

the limelight of Jesus' joy.

Because while a few dark days can try to tie our thrill up in knots—our shiny reason to celebrate has never burned brighter. Although, I'll admit, two lights can try to sparkle in this world: my own idea of larger-than-life, perfect light, and the One who actually is that larger-than-life, perfect light. But maybe it's good when life loses some of its luster. It seems that when things "outshine" they light up spaces not really intended for them. Perfect joy is so easily overlooked that way. A close but distant mix of both the light of elation and the shadow of sorrow, joy isn't typically flashy or showy. But man, can it light up a room!

I admit, sometimes I let my big ideas capture the spotlight, even the Christmas light. But God's plan for everlasting joy is already illuminated:

"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." (Galatians 4: 4-5 ESV).

The perfect gift of Jesus can untangle our lives. Also, this verse is a beautiful reminder that it's the Father's job to be perfect—not ours.

In fact, Isaiah addressed flawlessness when he talked about what Jesus' kingdom accomplishes:

"Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this." (Isaiah 9:7 NIV).

Jesus' perfect holiness outshines our sin, and His blinding love invites us into relationship despite it. Forever. What shiny relief. And because temporary tinsel tangles too, we need this perfect hope. The light and promise of Christ's reign brings merry with it. Grace too, as God's love accomplished what we cannot, the calm and bright of forever.

There's just no need to get our tinsel in a tangle. With our spotlight on Jesus, we can have the quiet confidence that Christmas brings. Maybe, perhaps, possibly the new rope lights too, because ... "Honey, can't you just see those hanging on our house eaves?!"

<https://www1.cbn.com/>