

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church
601 Madison Avenue
Kinston, NC 28501

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Kinston, NC
Permit #221

THE TIE

Connecting you with the body of Christ at
Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

DECEMBER 2020

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr., Interim Pastor
Michell Sutton Eguez—Administrative Assistant
Clay Whittington, Director of Music and Organist
Michael and Vance Aldridge, Custodians
Michelle Sutton, Finance Assistant



**DECEMBER 2020
TIE NEWSLETTER**

Answering the Call

Church has always been a part of my life. I grew up in a Christian home that made participating in the life of the church a top priority. My parents were involved in almost every area of lay involvement – Sunday school teachers, Royal Ambassadors, Girls in Action, Mission Friends, as well as the diaconate ministry. We attended Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night AND any other meeting including annual revivals.

It was at a revival in 1971 in Drakes Branch VA, that I answered the call to surrender my life to Jesus Christ and to serve where he called me. I continued to grow in my walk with the Lord and rededicated my life several times while a youth at Trinity Baptist Church in Raleigh NC. I attended Mars Hill College and met a woman (Jo Anne Sanderson) that had a similar Christian background and we were married in 1984 at First Baptist Church, Kinston NC. We faithfully participated and attended First Baptist Church in Raleigh NC and then returned to Kinston in 1987.

While at First Baptist Church, we interpreted for the deaf, taught Sunday school, served on many committees and later I was asked to serve as a Deacon. Just as my parents laid down a pattern for life, I too followed in their footsteps. Due to conflict in the church, we joined Tanglewood Church and continued to serve the Lord among that congregation.

Jo Anne and I both had a strong desire to do more to serve the Lord. She responded by enrolling as a student at Campbell University Divinity School in 1997. I followed her lead and began classes there in 1999. In June 2001 we answered the call to serve as the Pastor of Fremont Missionary Baptist Church in Fremont NC. We served together until Jo Anne passed away in Oct. 2004. I continued to serve in Fremont and remarried in May 2006.

What I saw in Sharon Rouse was a perfect example of grace, love, and mercy. I knew she was the perfect match for me. I thank God for her support and encouragement to me. We continued to serve in Fremont until Aug. 2017. After leaving Fremont, I taught 4th grade for 17 months while providing pulpit supply for Spilman as needed.

After being at Spilman for a several months, we knew this was the place we needed to move our membership to and plant our roots here. It has been a joy to serve the Lord through serving the people of Spilman. Over the past two years as Spilman's Interim Pastor, we have been through many difficult days together. We have lost our Pastor Dan Cromer and many key leaders due to death.

It has always been my desire to serve the Lord and His people in whatever capacity or opportunity that presents itself to me. I will be the first to admit I am not a perfect man. But I serve a perfect Savior, Jesus Christ. It is my desire to be found faithful to the task at hand. If the members of Spilman so choose, and if the Lord wills, I will attempt to live out my call to ministry among you to the best of my ability to serve as your next Pastor.



DR. H. POWELL DEW, JR.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION CENTER UPDATE

from Beth Crisp

Operation Christmas Child was a joyful focus of activity from Nov. 16th until Monday, Nov. 23rd. The individual boxes arrived from partnering churches and organizations. They were packed by Spilman volunteers: Shirlene Koonce, Delores Kelly, Ella Wade, Pat Moore, Amber Arnold, Frances Keel, Jesse Scott, Danny and Johnnee Rice, Berry Ann Pittman, Jerry and Beth Crisp, Powell and Sharon Dew. We packed boxes, prayed and talked all the while wearing masks and using hand sanitizer.

These 1800 boxes were sent to the western part of our state and will soon be on their way around the world to share the message of Jesus and His love. Thank you to all who donated to make OCC another successful year!

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

from Danny Rice—Chair

The Personnel Committee has received the resignation of Clay Whittington as our Music Director, effective December 31st. Clay has accepted a full-time position at a large church in the Raleigh area. He has agreed to perform his continued duties after the first of the year under the current COVID guidelines or until we secure his replacement. The Personnel Committee will be seeking his replacement as Music Director. Our thanks to Clay for his ministry at Spilman for the past two years and we wish him the best of luck in this new endeavor.



WEAR
a cloth mask over
your nose and mouth.



WAIT
6 feet apart. Avoid
close contact.



WASH
your hands or
use hand sanitizer.

Worship Services at Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

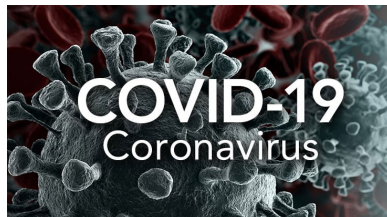
The church will continue with weekly mailings and Facebook Live on Sunday morning at 10:30.

The sanctuary will be open on Sunday mornings for those individuals that feel comfortable coming back to church. We do ask if you are running a fever or experiencing any other symptoms that may be flu like, to please stay home.

Please enter the sanctuary on Sunday morning through the Madison Avenue entrance. The rest of the buildings and doors will be locked and off limits to those attending.

We will continue to offer masks, hand sanitizer, and bulletins for those attending. We do request that those present sit at least six feet from each other and continue to practice social distancing guidelines while at church. We have recently added ropes that section off every other row to help us in our social distancing.

Offering will be collected as people enter or exit the building. We will not be passing the plate. Hymnals and Bibles have been removed from the pews. Please use the worship bulletin for the music and scripture readings.



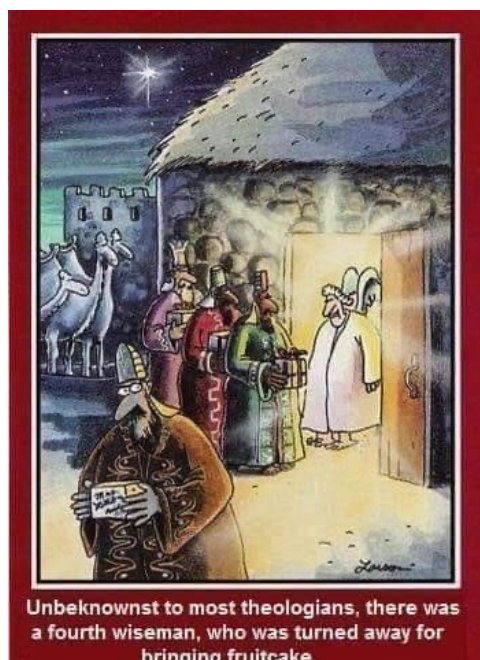
COVID-19 Update from Donna Keith, RN

I wish I could give you a positive update but we are very busy at UNC Lenoir. We are full in the COVID Unit and the Critical Care Unit. Everyday we have patients waiting for beds in our respiratory Emergency Room. Staff are out with COVID and those of us that are well are working extra. We are exhausted.

All of the long care facilities are experiencing an increase. Harmony Hall has had to send positive patients to Raleigh for care and quarantine because Raleigh has more beds than our hospital. This is extremely serious. Young and old alike are affected. This virus does not discriminate!

Please wear your mask, social distance, and wash your hands. You may be saving yourself and another person from being attacked by this virus. The chances are you will survive but you may have long term problems that we are seeing a lot of these days. We still have 1 to 2 deaths per week, which is too many. We ask for your prayers for our patients as well as our staff. This is very hard on the staff. Thank you for staying safe!!!

Spilman 2020 – Facts and Figures	October 2020	Year-to-Date
General Budget Monthly Needs	\$22,462.58	\$224,625.80
General Offerings Received	\$15,645.00	\$195,145.00
Designated Offerings Received	\$725.00	\$13,403.94
Total Offerings Received	\$16,370.00	\$208,548.94
Total General Budget Expenses	\$15,607.00	\$177,793.37
Budget Giving was Over (Under) Budget by:	(\$6,817.58)	(\$29,480.80)
Net Budget Giving vs. Budget Exp.	\$38.00	\$17,351.63



December 2020

DEC 6 (SUN)	DEACON MEETING WORSHIP SERVICE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr. “The Unsung Hero of Christmas” - Matt 1:18-25 Deacon Ordination—Shorty Hill Lord’s Supper Observance	9:00 AM 10:30 AM
DEC 13 (SUN)	WORSHIP SERVICE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Rev. Alta Whitt CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE Vote to Call Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr.	10:30 AM 2:00 PM
DEC 20 (SUN)	WORSHIP SERVICE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr. Three Christmas Sermons—Luke 2:1-20	10:30 AM
DEC 24-25	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
DEC 27 (SUN)	WORSHIP SERVICE Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr. It Wasn’t Santa Clause Who Came to Town Luke 2:1-14	10:30 AM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 2020

Deacons’ Meeting— 9:00 AM
Worship Service—10:30 AM
Deacon Ordination—Shorty Hill
Lord’s Supper Observance

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

LOTTIE MOON & CBF
Please write a “separate” check for each designated gift.

PASTOR SELECTION COMMITTEE

Jerry Crisp—Chair

Merry Christmas to all! It has been an unusual year due to the pandemic and we hope you are staying safe. As we hope for better days in 2021, our church is trying to move forward. There will be a called church conference on Sunday, December 13, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. to vote on Dr. Dew to be our full-time Pastor. Information has been sent out to all members for absentee ballots for those that may not be comfortable attending in person. If you choose this option, please be sure they are returned by December 13th. Thank you and best wishes in the New Year.

In Memory

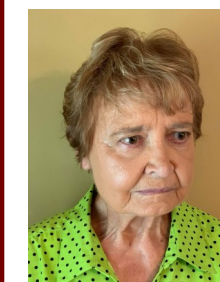
Since July, we have had three church members pass away. Please continue to remember these families during this time—especially since so many are isolated during this pandemic.

Ann West Houston 8/14/1931—7/15/2020
Hazel Harris Thomas 4/4/1926—9/4/2020
Bunn Bennett 6/3/31—11/25/2020



2020
BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 3 Meredith Brooks Baker | 21 Sharon Dew |
| 11 Nancy Goodson | 25 Lorraine Carroway |
| 14 Bess Hooks | 25 David Taylor |
| 16 Alan Burks | 29 Joyce Wilkins |
| 17 Libby Shaw | 30 Claudia Dale |



**Deacon of the Month
Shorty Hill**

Shorty joined Immanuel Baptist Church by baptism at the age of ten. She graduated from Contentnea High School and later worked as a telephone operator for Carolina Telephone Company. She studied at Montgomery College in Maryland for two years. She served in the US Army stationed at Walter Reed Medical Center and worked for the Federal Gov. in Pension Welfare Benefits Administration. When she retired, she moved back to Kinston in 2002 to play golf year-round. She joined Spilman in 2017. Shorty serves on the Finance Team.