

**Spilman Memorial Baptist Church**  
601 Madison Avenue  
Kinston, NC 28501

**FEBRUARY 2021  
TIE NEWSLETTER**

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Kinston, NC  
Permit #221

# THE TIE



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

**FEBRUARY 2021**

**CHURCH STAFF**

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

### **How to Prepare a Sunday School Lesson – by B. W. Spilman**

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church was named as a memorial to Bernard Washington Spilman (Jan. 22, 1871 – March 26, 1950). Many institutions have buildings named in his honor (Mars Hill University and Ridgecrest). Our church is in possession of some of his original photographs, sermons, papers, and books. (More of his items are kept in a special collection at Wake Forest University) Since Dr. Spilman was known as “Mr. Sunday School,” I thought it would be fitting to share one of his handwritten lessons on “How to Prepare a Sunday School Lesson.”

- I. Master the Facts
  - A. Read the Text (Many times, Prayerfully, Analyze)
  - B. Use the imagination
- II. Get the Context
  - A. Read what is before and after the text
  - B. Study Bible References (Harmony of the Gospels)
- III. Persons – History
- IV. Places – (Location and History)
- V. Interpret the Lesson Text (Words, Phrases, Manners and Customs)
- VI. Teachings (General knowledge of the Bible, Lesson Helps)
- VII. Illustrations (From the Bible and the World which is Jesus’ method)
- VIII. Lesson Plan
  - A. Select one (or a few) truths
  - B. Plan Three parts of the lesson
    1. Begin (Review, Lesson Story, A Striking Truth, Anything of immediate interest)
    2. Body of the Lesson
    3. Conclusion – Do not hold on (linger)

### **The Kingdom of God by Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr.**

In the *Lord of the Rings* books by J. R. R. Tolkien, we are introduced to the events in the “Kingdom of Middle Earth.” In this kingdom there are Elves, Men, Dwarves, Hobbits, Orcs, and Trolls. As the story unfolds, we see each of these are vying for control of the kingdom.

The dictionary defines kingdom as “a politically organized community or major territorial unit having a monarchical form of government headed by a king or queen.”

Any casual reader of world history knows there have been various kingdoms that have risen and fallen over the millennium. Some have lasted centuries, while others have only lasted a few brief years. In the Old Testament, the kingdom of Israel lasted for centuries but eventually crumbled in defeat in 70 A.D. at the hand of the Romans.

In Matthew 4:17 Jesus announces a new era had begun. “*From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”* This is the same message that John the Baptist began to preach earlier in the wilderness, “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*” (Matthew 3:2)

Jesus’ announcement is one that is challenging the current kingdom of this world. Satan has been described as the “*prince of the power of the air.*” (Ephesians 2:2) Satan still continues to exert his influence on the lives of people who are swept up in their sins of disobedience. Satan also has been described as the “*ruler of this world.*” (John 12:31). The kingdom of Satan continues to operate today seemingly unchecked and undefeated. Jesus promises us that “the ruler of this world will be cast out.” (John 12:31) We can take great comfort in knowing the kingdom of God will prevail.

When Jesus made this assertion in Matthew 4:17, He was literally standing right in front of them in the flesh. King Jesus was ushering in a new kingdom where He is Lord, Savior, Master, and Ruler of All.

The key to transitioning from a follower of the kingdom of the world and into the kingdom of God is to “REPENT.” It means to turn from following one set of principles and embrace another. It means to turn from your sins and embrace the forgiveness offered by the Savior who has the authority to forgive you of your sins. It means to turn from following Satan and begin aligning your life with the teachings of Jesus Christ.

God in His infinite wisdom, has given mankind the freedom to choose which kingdom they will follow.

With so much technology available to us today, it is so easy to become ensnared in the day-to-day events of the world. We are inundated with information about what our governmental leaders are doing, foreign politics, global catastrophic events, what celebrities are saying, what is happening in sports, the newest movie, and what all our “friends” on Facebook are doing. As we consume these “worldly” diets of information, it transforms our heart, mind, soul, and strength. It is as tempting as candy to a child, and as addicting as alcohol and drugs to an addict. As someone once said, “We are what we eat.”

Jesus is calling us from the “tumult of our lives wild, restless sea.” He is calling us to “love Him more” than the kingdom of this world. He is calling us to “love and serve Him best of all.”

This year I have made a concerted effort to keep my heart, mind, soul, and strength focused on the things of God. I have committed myself to spend more time in God’s word and nourish my soul with His message of redemption and salvation.

As we move into the next few months, I will be focusing on King Jesus in the Book of Matthew as the basis of our Sunday morning worship sermons. May you join me in keeping the kingdom of God at the center of our lives!



**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.

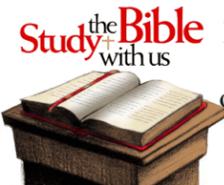
We will continue to offer masks, hand sanitizer, and bulletins for those attending. We do request that those present sit at least six feet from each other and continue to practice social distancing guidelines while at church. We have recently added ropes that section off every other row to help us in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



**“Sunday” School Update**

“Sunday” school has resumed at Spilman Memorial Baptist Church! We are meeting in the sanctuary on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The reason we have moved our Sunday school time to Wednesday is so we are not gathered together for two hours on Sunday morning. Even though we are wearing masks and social distancing, limiting our time together is a best practice policy due to COVID.



Dr. Dew is currently teaching the lessons for our combined Sunday school classes. Once more of our church members feel comfortable in returning in person, we can divide up into our separate classrooms once again.

If you are unable to come in person, you can follow our lessons on Facebook live Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Spilman 2020 – Facts and Figures	December 2020	Year-to-Date
General Budget Monthly Needs	\$22,462.58	\$269,550.96
General Offerings Received	\$20,973.00	\$234,774.00
Designated Offerings Received	\$3,165.00	\$17,229.94
Total Offerings Received	\$24,138.00	\$252,003.94
Total General Budget Expenses	\$16,945.40	\$212,297.52
Budget Giving was Over (Under) Budget by:	(\$1,489.58)	(\$34,776.96)
Net Budget Giving vs. Budget Exp.	\$4,027.60	\$22,476.48

**COVID-19 Update**

*from Donna Keith, RN*

COVID vaccines are now available to people. If you are interested, please call the Lenoir County Health Department. It may take a while for them to return your call to make you an appointment. This vaccine involves two shots, after the first one, you need to get the second one, 21 days later. I would encourage you to get the vaccine. I have had both of my vaccines and I am fine.

Here at UNC Lenoir, we have seen a real increase in patients that are positive with COVID. We are full and numbers are increasing daily. The best defense we have is to wear a mask, wash our hands and social distance. We can see a decrease if we all do this. Most people that are positive, tell us they had a family get together or went to dinner with others. We have whole families with COVID in the hospital. This virus is serious so please be cautious.



**FEBRUARY 2021**

FEB 3 (WED)	“SUNDAY” SCHOOL	10:00 AM
FEB 7 (SUN)	DEACON MEETING WORSHIP SERVICE Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr. “Matthew– The Life of a King” Matthew 1:1-17 Lord’s Supper Observed	9:00 AM 10:30 AM
FEB 9 (TUE)	CHURCH LEADERSHIP MEETING	4:00 PM
FEB 10 (WED)	“SUNDAY” SCHOOL	10:00 AM
FEB 14 (SUN)	WORSHIP SERVICE BAPTIST WOMEN’S DAY Speaker: Sharon Dew	10:30 AM
FEB 17 (WED)	“SUNDAY” SCHOOL CHURCH CONFERENCE ASH WEDNESDAY	10:00 AM 6:00 PM
FEB 21 (SUN)	WORSHIP SERVICE Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr. “The King in Exile” Matthew 2:13-23	10:30 AM
FEB 24 (WED)	“SUNDAY” SCHOOL	10:00 AM
FEB 28 (SUN)	WORSHIP SERVICE Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr. “Forerunner of the King—John the Baptist” Matthew 3:1-12	10:30 AM

**February 2021 Birthdays**

- 1 LORETTA SKEENS
- 5 EARL KELLY
- 7 GNELL HARPER
- 10 LESTER CROOM
- 11 BETTY VALENTI
- 11 ISABELLE JONES
- 17 CARSON RICE
- 22 EDWIN DAWKINS
- 27 RICHARD MOORE
- 28 MARSHA C . HUDSON



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021**

Deacons’ Meeting— 9:00 AM  
Worship Service—10:30 AM  
Lord’s Supper Observed

**“The Blessing Box” and “The Little Libraries”**



The Blessing Box and Little Libraries were completed last week. Before we can begin, it needs to be stained, painted, shingles added, as well as signage. The center cabinet is for non-perishable food and the two little cabinets on each side will hold adult and children’s books.

It is my prayer, our church will embrace this ministry to our community and neighbors.

*So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.—2 Corinthians 9:7*

*“for I was hungry and you gave Me food”  
Matthew 25:35*

**Deacon of the Month**



Donna Keith is the daughter of the late Earl and Barbara Keith, charter members of Spilman Memorial Baptist Church. Donna joined the church in 1968. She has one brother, Earl and four

nieces and two great nephews and two dogs. She enjoys cooking, ballgames, and caring for others and has been a nurse for 43 years.

She has served on many committees at Spilman since 2013 when she moved back to Kinston to be near her brother. “I feel the Spilman congregation is my family, as many of the members knew or worked with my parents. It is the tie that binds my past with my present and future.”