

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church
601 Madison Avenue
Kinston, NC 28501

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

DECEMBER 2023
TIE NEWSLETTER

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DECEMBER 2023
FOR ALL THE SAINTS

DECEMBER 3RD
HOPE COME DOWN
ISAIAH 64

DECEMBER 10TH
THE SHEPHERD'S PEACE
ISAIAH 40:1-11

DECEMBER 17TH
A DAY OF REJOICING
ISAIAH 61

DECEMBER 24TH
YOUR STEADFAST LOVE
PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26; LUKE 1:46b-55

DECEMBER 31ST
HEAVEN AND NATURE SING
LUKE 2:25-33, 36-38; PSALM 148



Join Us for An Evening
of

Christmas With the Family

Friday, December 15, 2023

5:00 p.m.

Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall

Meal catered by Nana's Catering

with lots of

Fun and Fellowship

Tickets \$15.00/Person

Baked turkey with gravy, baked pork loin
with gravy, green beans, cheesy potatoes,
sweet potato casserole, rolls, cream cheese
bars, and tea

THE TIE



Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

Our Mission is to ...

Worship God, Serve Him, and Serve Others

DECEMBER 2023

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. H. Powell Dew, Jr., Senior Pastor
Carol Stevens, Administrative Assistant
Melony Rasbury-Cobb, Pianist/Organist
Michael and Vance Aldridge, Custodians
Michelle Sutton, Finance Assistant
Jerry Crisp, Security

The Coming of Christ

God, in His eternal wisdom, chose to redeem mankind from its sinful nature by sending His Only Son, Jesus Christ into offer up the ultimate sacrifice for us – His life. God wove His promises to His people in His written word giving us “bread crumbs” of prophecy as a foreshadowing of what was to come.

In Matthew chapter 1, we see God is a promise keeping God, from generation to generation. The human lineage of Jesus is laid out for us, fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen generations from David to the Babylonian captivity, and fourteen generations from



the Babylonian captivity to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. Jesus was born to the young woman Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph.

Christmas Has Its Cradle by Rae E. Whitney 1927-2023

Christmas has its cradle, where a Baby cried;
Did the lantern's shadow show Him crucified?
Did He foresee darkly His life's willing loss?
Christmas has its cradle and Easter has its cross.

Christmas has its cradle, shepherds came to see
Little Son of Mary, Lamb of God to be;
Had His Father warned Him,
none would grant Him room
Save in the Christmas cradle and in the Easter tomb.

Christmas has its cradle, Wise men came to bring
Myrrh and gold and incense, offerings for a King;
Myrrh alone stayed with Him, death's balm for this Boy,
From the Christmas cradle and to His Easter joy.

Christmas has its cradle, where that Baby cried;
In the Easter Garden, Christ lay crucified;
When death's pow'r was conquered,
God's life through Him poured:
Christmas has its cradle and Easter has its Lord!

The child conceived in Mary was of the Holy Spirit. (Matt 1:18-25). Wisemen from the East came bringing gifts to the newborn King. (Matt. 2:1-12). Alerted in a dream of King Herod's desire to kill the newborn, Mary and Joseph left quickly under the cover of darkness, and went to Egypt to live until the death of Herod. (Matt. 2:13-15) In a fit of anger, knowing he had been deceived by the Wisemen, Herod had all the young male children under the age of two killed in and around Bethlehem. (Matt. 2:16-18) When Mary, Joseph, and Jesus returned from Egypt, they settled in the region of Galilee in the city of Nazareth. (Matt. 2:19-23)

Each event in the first coming of Christ may seem random to the casual reader of the story of Christ's birth. But it was all apart of God's eternal plan as recorded in various prophecies in the Old Testament. Christ's life, from beginning to the end, was all a part of the fulfillment of God's eternal plan of salvation for mankind.

(Continued)

The Coming of Christ (Continued)

During the season of Advent (which means coming), we celebrate the first coming of Christ. Over the years, Spilman hosted a live nativity scene (including animals) with many people participating and bringing life to the story. This season of the year many churches perform cantatas which sing of Christ's coming. We put up Christmas trees in our homes to remind us of this season of the year. We give gifts to one another to remind us of the gifts of the wisemen that were given to Jesus and also to remind us of the gift Jesus was to mankind. We decorate to excess to demonstrate how important this event is to us.

It is my prayer in the midst of this year's Christmas celebration that we remember, *Christmas has its cradle, but Easter has its cross*. Approximately 33 years after Jesus' birth, He steadfastly headed to Jerusalem to face the indignation and humiliation of the cross. It is through the cross we all are united in God's steadfast love for us. It is through His death on the cross and His resurrection we are united in both in His death and His life. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, we too rise and will be reunited with Him one day!

Christ has come ... and He will come again to take us to be with Him eternally!

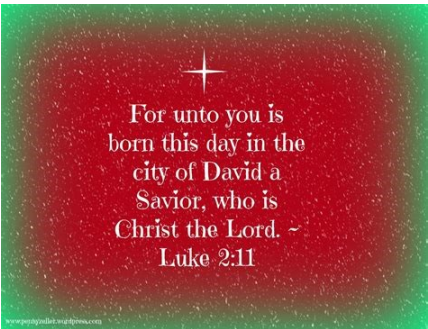
As we celebrate Christmas this year, may we have ears to hear, eyes to see the times and seasons, and a heart of wisdom to continue to look for His second coming!



If you are unable to worship with us in person on Sunday morning then pull Spilman up on your computer or phone. You can still be a part of our worship by joining Facebook Live.



Click on the QR Code to watch: A Charlie Brown Christmas Reading the Christmas Story



Meredith Baker	12-3
Nancy Goodson	12-11
Bess Hooks	12-14
Alan Burks	12-16
Ava Cooke	12-17
Libby Shaw	12-17
Sharon Dew	12-21
Lorraine Carraway	12-25



Deacon of the Month
Larry Williams
December 2023

Larry is married to Sylvia Williams and has a daughter Lynn, a son, Stanley and a daughter-in-law Betsy.

Larry has been at Spilman since 1963. He is involved with Spilman in many ways. He serves as a Deacon; a teacher of the Travis/Daly Class, on the Long Range Planning Committee and is Chairman of the Finance Committee.

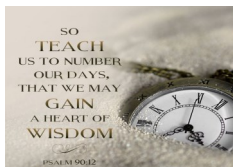
joy
grace
hope - love
faith - peace
honor - purity
courage - loyalty
goodness - prudence
sympathy - humility
fortitude - temperance
brotherhood - cooperation
and
God
is
love
Unknown

DECEMBER 2023

DEC 3 (SUN)	DEACONS MEETING	8:00 AM
1 st Sunday in Advent	SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP AND THE LORD'S SUPPER <i>CHRIST IS COMING</i> ISAIAH 64:1-9 PSALM 80, I CORINTHIANS 1:3-9, MARK 13:24-3	9:15 AM 10:30 AM
DEC 6 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST MONTHLY PRAYER GATHERING SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	8:00 AM 11:00 AM 2:30 PM 4:00 PM
DEC 10 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE <i>INTERRUPTIONS AT CHRISTMAS</i> MATTHEW 1:18-25	9:15 AM 10:30 AM
DEC 12 (TUE)	LEADERSHIP MEETING	4:00 PM
DEC 13 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	8:00 AM 2:30 PM 4:00 PM
DEC 15 (FRI)	CHRISTMAS WITH THE FAMILY	5:00 PM
DEC 17 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE <i>CHRISTMAS FEELINGS</i> ISAIAH 9:1-7 AND MATTHEW 2:1-11	9:15 AM 10:30 AM
3 rd Sunday in Advent	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	8:00 AM 2:30 PM 4:00 PM
DEC 20 (WED)	SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE <i>WAITING ...</i> ISAIAH 7:13-14, LUKE 1:26-38 PSALM 27:1-3, 13-14 and LUKE 1:67-75	9:15 AM 10:30 AM
DEC 24 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE <i>WAITING ...</i> ISAIAH 7:13-14, LUKE 1:26-38 PSALM 27:1-3, 13-14 and LUKE 1:67-75	9:15 AM 10:30 AM
4 th Sunday in Advent	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	8:00 AM 2:30 PM 4:00 PM
DEC 27 (WED)	SUNDAY SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE <i>THE ULTIMATE BABY DEDICATION</i> LUKE 2:22-40	9:15 AM 10:30 AM
DEC 31 (SUN)	1 st Sunday after Advent	



December 31st will be the last day to receive 2023 tithes and donations. There are no exceptions. Remember to write out a separate check for each designated gift.



2023 BIBLE READING PLAN DECEMBER

- ☐ 1 Rom 15-16; 1 Co 1-2
- ☐ 2 1 Co 3-7
- ☐ 3 No Reading
- ☐ 4 1 Co 8-11
- ☐ 5 1 Co 12-15
- ☐ 6 1 Co 16; 2 Co 1-3
- ☐ 7 2 Co 4-9
- ☐ 8 2 Co 10-13; Gal 1
- ☐ 9 Gal 2-5
- ☐ 10 No Reading
- ☐ 11 Gal 6; Eph 1-4
- ☐ 12 Eph 5-6; Phil 1-2
- ☐ 13 Phil 3-4; Col 1-3
- ☐ 14 Col 4; 1 Th 1-5; 2 Th 1
- ☐ 15 2 Th 2-3; 1 Ti 1-5
- ☐ 16 1 Ti 6; 2 Ti 1-4; Tit 1
- ☐ 17 No Reading
- ☐ 18 Tit 2-3; Phlm; Heb 1-3
- ☐ 19 Heb 4-9
- ☐ 20 Heb 10-12
- ☐ 21 Heb 13; Jam 1-4
- ☐ 22 Jam 5; 1 Pe 1-4
- ☐ 23 1 Pe 5; 2 Pe 1-3; 1 Jn 1
- ☐ 24 No Reading
- ☐ 25 1 Jn 2-5; 2 Jn
- ☐ 26 3 Jn; Jude; Rev 1-2
- ☐ 27 Rev 3-8
- ☐ 28 Rev 9-13
- ☐ 29 Rev 14-18
- ☐ 30 Rev 19-22
- ☐ 31 No Reading