Spilman Memorial Baptist Church 601 Madison Avenue

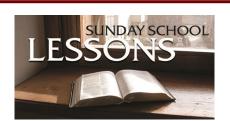
Kinston, NC 28501

DECEMBER 2025
TIE NEWSLETTER

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

«AddressBlock»





Join us at 9:15 each Sunday Morning

<u>DECEMBER THEME:</u>
THE ONE WHO COMES

NOVEMBER 30TH SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES Isaiah 2:1-9a, 11-17

DECEMBER 7TH
WEARING RIGHTEOUSNESS
Isaiah 11:1-10, 15-16

DECEMBER 14TH
THE BLOSSOMING DESERT
Isaiah 35; Psalm 146:5-10

DECEMBER 21ST GOD WITH US Isaiah 7:10-25

DECEMBER 28TH
LED THRO«AddressBlock»UGH THE DEPTHS
Isaiah 63:3-14







Spilman Memorial Baptist Church

Our Mission is to ...

Worship God, Serve Him, and Serve Others

DECEMBER 2025

CHURCH STAFF

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

Emmanuel—God with Us!

Jim was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. He looked up to heaven he said, "Lord take pity on me. If you find me a parking place, I will go to church every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up drinking beer!" Miraculously, a parking place appeared. Jim looked up again and said, "Never mind, I found one."



O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Chorus*

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things, far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, And cause us in her ways to go. *Chorus*

O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Chorus We laugh at Jim for quickly forgetting his vow unto the Lord. Yet, we may have made similar promises unto the Lord and quickly forgot. Mankind's longing for



God and His guiding hand is low when things are going well in life. Yet, when times become difficult, our pantry gets low, our income dries up, our bills pile up, our enemies seek us harm, and our health declines; we spend more and more time seeking God's hand of provision and protection. In our prosperity we turn from God, in our poverty and persecution we seek God.

The nation of Israel operated in much the same manner with God. When times were good, they did as they pleased, ignoring the admonitions of the Lord. When times got hard, and judgement came, they repented and sought the Lord. This cycle of rebellion, rejection and repentance repeated over and over – generation to generation.

The universal cry of mankind is for God to be with us. God fulfilled His promise of a Messiah by sending His one and only Son, to be with us and redeem us. The word Emmanuel means, "God with us." As we enter the Advent Season, the four weeks prior to Christmas, we should prepare our hearts to receive the Son of God into the regular systematic rhythm of our lives. We should seek Him every morning in prayer. We should seek Him daily in God's word. We should gather weekly with fellow believers in celebration and praise for what God has done for us. We should not wait until poverty and persecution come our way. We should rejoice in the Lord – ALWAYS! (Continued on next page)

Emmanuel—God with Us! (Continued)

May we this Christmas season renew our commitment to the Lord as he walks with us, talks with us, in the twists and turns of life. May we be mindful of others around us that are walking in darkness and are in need of God's daily presence in their lives. May we recommit our lives to be light bearers and bread sharers of the good news – Jesus Christ is with us! Amen.

The Promise of God – Fulfilled

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:7)

Kinston Christmas Community Events

Mon. Dec. 1st 5:30 pm Lights of Love—UNC Lenoir Wed. Dec. 5th 4 to 8 pm Kennedy Home—Open House Thurs. Dec. 6th 4:30 pm Kinston Christmas Parade Mon. Dec. 8th 7:00 pm Kinston Community Choir—Messiah

Nov. 28th—Dec. 23rd (5:30 pm—9:00 pm)

First Presbyterian Church Lights at the Refuge—14 nights Thur. 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

Fri. 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19 Sat. 11/29, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20 Sun. 12/21, Mon. 12/22, Tue. 12/23



Wednesday Bible Study

A Backwards Study of the New Testament

Over the past year, we have been working our way backwards through the New Testament. We have worked through the Book of Revelation and are currently working through the Epistles of Paul. Some of these smaller books rarely get looked at in a systematic way. During December we will be studying 1 and 2 Timothy. If you are looking for a "verse by verse" study of the Bible, please join us on Wednesday as we walk *backwards* in scripture together!



The 2026 Offering Envelopes will be ready for pick on Sunday, December 14, 2025. They will be on the table at the back of the church.



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 us on Facebook.



Meredith Baker	12-3
Bess Hooks	12-14
Alan Conner	12-16
Alan Burks	12-16
Ava Cooke	12-17
Libby Shaw	12-17
Sharon Dew	12-21
Zac Larkins	12-21
Lorraine Carraway	12-25



Deacon of the Month Doug Blizzard December 2025

Doug has been a member of Spilman for 50 plus

years. This is his fifth term serving on the diaconate. He has also served as a Spilman trustee twice. Doug has worked with the NC Baptist Men's Disaster Relief for several years as a communication specialist. This has included trips to Texas and New Jersey. Forty-six years ago, Doug married his high school sweetheart, Kay Allen. They have one daughter, Sarah Beth who lives in Vermont.



December 28th will be the last day to receive 2025 tithes and offerings.

Please write a separate check for each designated gift.

DECEMBER 2025

DEC 3 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
,	MONTHLY PRAYER GATHERING	11:00 AM
	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	1:30 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
	WEDNESDAT BIBLE STUDI	3.00 1 WI
DEC 7 (SUN)	DEACONS' MEETING	8:00 AM
	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE—LORD'S SUPPER	
2 nd Sunday in	JESUS, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD	10:30 AM
Advent	John 8:12-30	10.30 AM
	30HH 0.12-30	
DEC 9 (TUE)	LEADERSHIP MEETING	3:00 PM
DEC 7 (TCE)	EEMBERSIII MEETING	3.00 I WI
DEC 10 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
ŕ	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	1:30 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
DEC 12 (EDI)		5:00 PM
DEC 12 (FRI)	CHRISTMAS WITH THE FAMILY	5:00 PM
DEC 14 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
` ′	WORSHIP SERVICE	
3 rd Sunday in	JESUS, THE GOOD SHEPHERD	10:30 AM
Advent	John 10:11-18	
DEC 17 (WED)	MENIC EEL LOWCHID DDE AVEACE	0.00 434
DEC 17 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	8:00 AM
	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	1:30 PM
	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	3:00 PM
DEC 21 ST (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
	WORSHIP SERVICE	
4 th Sunday in	WHAT CAN YOU GIVE JESUS	10.30 13.5
Advent	THIS CHRISTMAS	10:30 AM
	Matthew 2:1-12	
DEC 24—26	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
DEC 24—20	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
	CHRISTMAS HULIDAY	
DEC 28 (SUN)	SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:15 AM
,	WORSHIP SERVICE	10:30 AM
	WORDHII DERVICE	20.00 11.11
DEC 31 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST	CANCELED
DEC 31 (WED)	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	CANCELED CANCELED
DEC 31 (WED)		
DEC 31 (WED)	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	CANCELED
DEC 31 (WED) JAN 1 (THU)	SS CLASS AT SPRING ARBOR	CANCELED



DECEMBER 2025 BIBLE READING PLAN

\Box 1	Romans 15-16 ;	
	1 Corinthians 1-4	
□ 2	1 Corinthians 4-7	

- □ 3 1 Corinthians 8-11
- □ 4 1 Corinthians 12-15
 □ 5 1 Corinthians 16;

2 Corinthians 1-4

- ☐ 6 2 Corinthians 5-9
- □ 7 Catch Up
- ☐ 8 2 Corinthians 10-13; Galatians 1
- ☐ 9 Galatians 2-5
- ☐ 10 Galatians 6; Ephesians 1-4
- ☐ 11 Ephesians 5-6; Philippians 1-3
- ☐ 12 Philippians 4; Colossians 1-3
- ☐ 13 Colossians 4; 1 Thessalonians 1-5; 2 Thessalonians 1
- ☐ 14 Catch Up
- ☐ 15 2 Thessalonians 2-3; 1 Timothy 1-5

□ 17 Titus 2-3; Philemon 1;

- ☐ 16 1 Timothy 6; 2 Timothy 1-4
- Hebrews 1-4
- □ 18 Hebrews 5-9□ 19 Hebrews 10-13
- ☐ 20 James 1-5
- □ 21 Catch Up
- □ 22 1 Peter 1-5
- ☐ 23 2 Peter 1-3; 1 John 1
- ☐ 24 1 Jonn 2-5; 2 John 1; 3 John 1
- ☐ 25 Jude 1; Revelation 1-3
- □ 26 Revelation 4-8□ 27 Revelation 9-13
- □ 28 Catch Up
- ☐ 29 Revelation 14-18
- ☐ 30 Revelation 19-22
- □ 31 Catch Up