

Albion
 Antioch
 Bannertown
 Blues Grove
 Calvary
 Cedar Lane
 Central View
 Christian Community
 Community
 Copeland
 Cornerstone
 Cross Roads
 Dobson, First
 Dover
 Fairview
 Faith
 Fancy Gap
 Fellowship
 Flippin Memorial
 Fuente de Vida
 Gum Orchard
 Haymore Memorial
 Highland Park
 Hills Grove
 Holly Springs
 Indian Grove
 Ivy Green
 Jessup Grove
 Ladonia
 Little Richmond
 Mount Carmel
 Mount Zion
 Mountain Park
 Mountain View
 New Bethel
 New Hope
 New Life
 New Venture
 Oak Grove
 Oak Ridge
 Pauls Creek
 Pinnacle View
 Pleasant View
 Rock Hill
 Rockford
 Salem
 Salem Fork
 Shoals
 Siloam
 Simmons Grove
 Slate Mountain
 Sparta, First
 Sulphur Springs
 Turkey Ford
 Union Cross
 Victory
 Welcome
 Westfield
 Westview
 Woodland
 Woodville

The Surry Baptist Newsletter

"Sixty-one Churches, Partners In Ministry"



surrybaptist.org

Surry Baptist Association

364 Welch Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030

336-789-5701 Office
336-789-4342 Fax
surrybaptist@surry.net

Surry Christian
Counseling Center
789-7405

Dr. Dan Merritt,
Director of Missions

Susan H. White
Administrative Assistant

Volume No. 60

DECEMBER 2020

No. 12



**We wish you a blessed
and Christ-filled
Christmas!**

Dr. Dan Merritt, Director of Missions

Mrs. Susan H. White, Admin. Asst.

Mr. John Shuler, SCCC Counselor

Seminary Extension Class "Book of Galatians"

January 12- March 23, 2021

Tuesdays 6:30-9:30pm

SBA Resource Center

\$136 without book

Sign up now!

Instructor: Rev. John Campbell



**PRECEPT
MINISTRIES
INTERNATIONAL**
THE INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY PEOPLE

Precept - Philippians

Instructor: Ladonna Scheaffer

Wednesday mornings only, 10am to 12 noon

Cost \$22.50

Class Starts January 6, 2021

Class Ends March 24, 2021

Discipleship Training Class Book of Revelation

January 5-May 25

Tuesday morning: 10:00-12:00

January 7- May 27

Thursday morning: 10:00-12:00

Thursday evenings: 6:30-8:30

Call the SBA(336-789-5701)

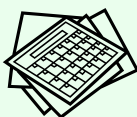
to register by Dec. 15, 2020.

Also will be on Zoom at same times!

Price = \$25

2021 Calendars

Copies of the 2021 Calendar of
Associational events
are ready to be picked up at the
SBA Office.



Dec. 2: Mrs. B.J. Bowman (Cedar Lane)
 Dec.10: Mrs. Kelby Hall (Simmons Grove)
 Dec.12: Rev. Alex Martin (Calvary)
 Dec.12: Mrs. Courtney Atkins (Antioch)
 Dec.12: Mrs. Pansy Jessup (Christian Community)
 Dec.14: Mrs. Barbara Sechrist (Oak Ridge)
 Dec.16: Rev. Chris McMillian (Slate Mountain)
 Dec.18: Mrs. Wanda Wallace (Interim Mount Zion)
 Dec.23: Mrs. Debbie Thomas (New Venture)
 Dec.24: Rev. Bill Faw (Indian Grove)
 Dec.26: Rev. Sean Joplin (Salem Fork)
 Dec.27: Rev. Terry Watson (Holly Springs)

"The Mission of Surry Baptist Association is to glorify God through Jesus Christ by assisting and encouraging Congregations in a partnership of cooperative ministries of reaching people and developing believers."

From Your Director of Missions — Dan Merritt

Christmas is truly a wondrous time of the year. The spirit of Christmas is associated with the word “hope.” The magic of Christmas brings a spark of hope even to nonbelievers, as they “hope” Christmas will usher in a New Year which brings with it a better tomorrow. For the Christian, Christmas brings with it more than a wishful hope, but contains a hope bursting with assurance. The very reason God sent His Son into the world was to give humanity hope for which the human heart longs.

There are two kinds of hope. The world’s definition of hope only holds out the possibility of something may or may not happen. Biblical hope is not wishful thinking, but is wrapped in heaven’s certainty. The birth of the Christ Child brought to expectant earth hope...hope that is found only in the promised Messiah.

As the topsy-turvy year of 2020 draws to a close one truth is apparent, this ‘ol world is in dire need of some hope like never before. We hope for a return to normalcy. We hope for the virus to be a fading memory. We hope we don’t catch the virus. We hope for a vaccine which will eradicate it. We hope for unity in our deeply divided country. We hope for the opportunity to gather for the holidays with our families without fear of catching the deadly virus. We hope for stability in the mist of confusion. Alas, all I hope for in my Christmas wish list may or may not happen. However, the Good News is that in Christmas we find some “hopes” that are filled with assurance and certainty.

In Christ we find the Hope of Pardon of our Sins. Our sins are too heavy a burden to bear that will crush us. In Christ, we find the assurance our sins can be forgiven. The promise of the angel to Mary was that the Babe would be called “Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matt 1:21). No sin is beyond His power to forgive.

In Christ we find the Hope of His Abiding Presence. In Matthew 1:23 we find the angel promising Mary that another one of Jesus’ name describing his character will be “Emmanuel, which being interpreted is God with us.” In Christ we have the certainty that no matter the circumstances we have His ever abiding presence to encompass us.

In Christ we find the Hope of Inward Peace. Even though the world is in turmoil, even amidst the turbulent waters of life, thankfully peace can dwell in one’s spirit because the Prince of Peace sits on the throne of one’s life. In Christ we can possess a peace that passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7).

In Christ we find the Hope of His Power. Our human flesh in the face of all that 2020 has brought our way has left us gasping for breath as we find our own energy, strength and power inadequate to face the challenges. However, the One who is called the Son of the Highest (Lk 1:32), who is called the Mighty God (Is. 9:6), infuses us with His strength to withstand the onslaughts which we may encounter.

In Christ we find the Blessed Hope of His Promised Return. Forty days after Jesus’ resurrection, as He ascended back to heaven, angels promised, “This same Jesus shall return one day” (Acts 1:11). Jesus, as well, throughout his ministry made this promise. With an eye on the skies, such a wonderful hope should spur us on to being faithful for our soon coming King.

The hopes of this world may and will disappoint us, but the hope we have in Christ is more certain than the rising morning sun. May our spirits this Christmas be bolstered by our hope in Christ. He is truly the Gift which keeps on giving

It is an honor to be your Director of Missions. Have a blessed Christmas and if there is anything I can ever do to help you, give me a call or stop by the office.

Merry Christmas,
Dr. Dan.



Baptist Mens' Update

For our November meeting, we met at SBA office. Gary and Angela Cox provided our meal. Eight churches represented, with 10 in attendance. Our devotion was given by Tom Hill, on “Our God answers our prayers”.

Gary reported we completed a ramp last Saturday, gave an update on the ramps have permits to build and other projects we are waiting to do.

We had a wood splitting on Saturday, November 7, at Gary Cox’s farm.

Mike spoke about a food giveaway that will take place at Calvary on November 18.

Terry spoke about the backpacks which were transferred from trailer to truck for delivery November 12th.

The Baptist Men invite all men and their wives of the association to join us on Monday, December 7, 6:30pm for our quarterly meeting at SBA office for a meal, fellowship and a time of planning how to share God’s love through ministry. We hope to see everyone there.

Antioch continues w/ Worship Services in the Sanctuary. Also offer drive-in and Facebook live ea. Sunday. Continue w/Bible Study online or in the sanctuary on Wed. nights @ 6:30pm. Awana Clubs meet via zoom ea. Wed. night. Hospitality Committee hosted drive thru trick or treat. Children's Committee had a drive-in movie featuring the Star w/free popcorn. Successfully finished our Upward Season w/95 kids participating and had an awards celebration. Well Food Ministry had a drive-thru Thanksgiving meal for people in need. Sisterhood collected and distributed items for the Fall Harvest Bags and collected items for the Appalachian Back Pack Program w/100 backpacks collected. Collected money for Lottie Moon w/dedication of a poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone. Golden Autumn went shopping @ Hamrick's w/lunch @ Arcadia Family Rest. Youth continues to meet ea. Sunday and Wed. Hanging of the Greens and Christmas play is @ 10:30am Dec. 13. If you can't come to the service it is on Facebook Live. Also follow on Instagram.

Blues Grove had one profession of faith. Honored each Veteran w/ a gift for Veterans Day. Ladies are continuing a study on "Power of a Praying Wife." WMU will provide food for Medical Ministry in Dec.

Calvary's pastor's Nov. sermon series was titled 'Out of the Bible and into Our Lives', looking @ ways we apply the scriptures that were written thousands of years ago to our modern lives. Is having a Christmas Post Office for our homebound members. Cards will be collected and delivered during mid-Dec. Is approving budget and officers list for next year. Providing an angel tree Christmas this year to families in Surry County's Foster Care System.

Cedar Lane's Christmas play "A Cricket County Christmas Cruise" will be held Sunday evening, Dec. 20 @ 6pm. Services and Wed. night Bible studies are held in the sanctuary as well as in the parking lot and on Facebook. Pastor Ed Bowman was honored on Pastor Appreciation Day.

Central View took kids to Omega Corn Maze. Christmas program, "The Joy of Christmas", will be Dec. 13 @ 6pm.

Community continues to have worship service @10am Drive-in, on FM radio 87.9 and live streaming on Facebook. Wed. night Youth and Adult Bible study @ 6:30pm. Had special Veterans service w/ recognition of all veterans present @ Sunday worship service w/a gift. All veterans and widows of veterans were delivered a home cooked meal to recognize their service for our current freedoms. Had drive thru Trunk or Treat reaching 250+ children w/candy and the love of Jesus. Ladies fellowship meal on Dec. 6. Collecting cards to give to residents of Central Continuing Care.

Cross Roads collected 264 Backpacks w/114 going to Copeland Elem., 150 going to Shelby, NC. Pastor and Deacons made the decision to suspend all indoor services at this time due to Covid-19 numbers rising in the county. We will be broadcasting on Facebook Live @ 10am Sunday Mornings also for those who don't have access to the internet can come to the church parking lot and tune to FM 92.7 and listen to the service live from inside their vehicle. Will continue this until after the Christmas Holidays. Online bible study each Wed. night @ 7pm on Face Book Live. Church continues to pray for all pastor's and families throughout this trying season, as well as the churches without pastors.

Dobson, First is continuing to offer three ways to worship. Inside 8:45 & 11am. Outside drive-in 9:45 am and online. Youth are doing an online Bible study and selling DFBC face masks in a variety of colors. Pre K - 5th grade are meeting Sunday nights for Sunday School from 6-7pm. OPIAM is ongoing. Samaritan Christmas shoebox collection is Nov. 15. Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is being promoted for Dec. Pastor Cory is preaching a series on Psalm 119.

Fairview's Children's Ministry held a drive through "Trunk or Treat for community children. WMU and BYW provided 50 Christmas Outreach backpacks for distribution. The Prayer Shawl Ministry provided 24 blankets and prayer shawls to the Legacy Center and Hospice Home. A special prayer meeting was held for our country on the eve of election night. The Lord's Supper was observed in worship service. Adult Sunday School classes continued on a semi-regular basis. Sunday worship continued w/ two in-person services, also shown virtually. Children's Sunday School class was resumed. Sixty-six "Operation Christmas Child" boxes were provided and dedicated for distribution. Youth Group meetings and Bible studies were held. Hispanic community Bible studies were held each Tues. evening.

Flipin Memorial's Oct. for the church was Socktober. All month we collected socks for those in need. WMU ladies counted 255 pairs of socks and will give out to local families and homeless in the community. Also the last Sunday of the month we returned to worship in the sanctuary. We are following safety guidelines. However we are still broadcasting to the parking lot on 89.1FM and also on Facebook Live. As always we are praying for our sister churches as well as our nation.

Gum Orchard had one come profession of faith and two people requested to be baptized who have accepted Christ in the past. Baptized 7 @ Round Peak Tree Farm in Oct. Sunday morning worship services are inside and via FM transmitter 98.3 FM @ 11am and Wed. night adult bible study and youth bible study @ 7pm. Have not resumed Sunday School at this time. Collecting items for Foothills Food Pantry monthly, collected 106 lbs. for Oct. Preparing order for poinsettias for our Poinsettia Christmas Tree. Youth went on Camping trip to New River Campground. First Men's Bible Study w/Bro Ricky Thomas teaching, Ladies Bible Study continues w/ Deena Longworth teaching. Men and women met and had pizza from Pizze Hut and desserts. Had American Red Cross blood drive in fellowship hall. Had Ladies and Men's Bible Study @ 6pm w/Morgan Lambert teaching ladies class and Bro Ricky Thomas teaching men's class. Had BBQ sandwiches, chips and desserts. Elizabeth Wright will be beginning lesson six for the ladies on November 19, 2020. Prepared meal for the family of Eddie Butcher. Funeral held @ GOBC w/burial in Zephyr Cemetery. Had guest preachers Walter Terrell, missionary w/Rock of Ages and Jack Anderson for 11am worship service. Voted to support missionary Walter Terrell monthly. Youth Fall Festival was cancelled due to rise in COVID in

our community. Had a trunk or treat drive-thru instead. Honored Pastor Joe Lambert and wife Morgan for Pastor Appreciation month w/cards and gifts. Had Old Fashioned Day.

Haymore Memorial has started two adult in-person Sunday School classes which coincide w/the worship services @ 9:30 and 10:45. Operation Christmas Child was a great success. Youth are conducting two fundraisers for the proposed foreign mission trip to South Africa: Rent-A-Kid and Spaghetti Take-out dinner. Nancy McPeak retired as Church Secretary after 38 years of service. Leslie McPeak is now the Secretary.

Highland Park is thankful for the addition of two new members this past month. College/Young Adult Class enjoyed a Fall Retreat @ Raven Knob Will hold a special Thanksgiving service on Wed., Nov. 25 @ 7pm for a time of testimony and sharing of God's blessings. Collected 122 backpacks for the Appalachian Christmas Backpack Ministry. Youth are meeting on Sunday and Wed. evenings in the Fellowship Hall and participated in the Deep Impact Red Springs Missions Weekend in Nov. Teachers of our AWANA Clubs are sending out packets to children during this time. Children's Ministry is selling God's Creation Calendars for the upcoming 2021 year. Cost is \$10.00 ea. Contact our church office @ 336-786-4275 if interested in purchasing a calendar. Proceeds will go to help w/the cost of camp for our children this summer. Preparing Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes online.

Ivy Green collected and sent 30 Back Packs for the children's Back Pack Ministry. For the beginning of Advent we celebrated on Nov. 29w/ Hanging of the Greens Service w/food and fellowship afterwards. Christmas Program is Dec. 20 @ 6pm presented by church members. WMU is collecting money and toys for the Salvation Army to create a store for parents to choose gifts for their "Angel Tree" children. Funds are also being collected to donate to Surry Medical Ministry for cleaning supplies. Fruit Baskets will be made and delivered to community shut-in on Dec.5. Sunday Services are now being streamed live on Facebook each Sunday. Wed. night Bible Study continues on "The Work of the Holy Spirit".

Jessup Grove baptized one youth. Baptist men helped install a well for a family in the community. The Baptist women made chicken pies to sell to raise money to fund their projects and also filled 480 food bags for the school backpack program. Collecting money for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. Participated in filling Thanksgiving meal bags for Pilot Mountain Outreach.

Ladonia had one person baptized at the pond. Will continue w/inside Sunday worship service @ 10am w/a children's church during that hour. Oct. was a month full of activity. Pastor appreciation, old fashioned day, and a very successful Trunk or Treat Chicken Stew social w/many youngsters & visitors in attendance. What a joy it was to see so many children running around the church grounds! Put together backpacks for the Appalachian Outreach Program and collected food for the Medical Ministries. WMU ladies met in observance of the Baptist Women's Day of Prayer & donated to Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, w/their next meeting planned for Nov. 17 @ 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Pauls Creek is continuing to offer worship in two different ways inside the church and outside in the parking lot on the radio. Celebrated our 80th Anniversary, Homecoming and Pastor and Family Appreciation Day w/ special singing by the Harvest Time Singers. All social distancing was recognized during this event. Had drive thru Trunk or Treat. Held Fall Revival. Sunday night revival was a cow bell service w/Brother Ashley Horton, Brother Jerry King, and Brother Dennie Hawks bringing the messages. Mon., Pastor Johnny Easter, Tue., Pastor Israel Easter, and Wed., Pastor Tim Burton brought the messages w/special singing each night. Held Christmas Dinner @ Dean and Karen Rippey's house in Nov. due to the social distancing. Had a campfire, roasted hot dogs, had chicken stew and had some delicious desserts. Held Thanksgiving Eve service on. Youth Sunday was held on 11/29 w/special singing from the youth choir. Nov. 29 held Candlelight service @ 6pm. Church held drive thru Christmas Service on December 5.

Pinnacle View continued Sunday Morning worship services in our fellowship hall while practicing safe social distancing and also began Sunday evening services. Collected 13 Backpacks for the Appalachian Outreach ministry. Took up an offering to go toward the Children's Homes of NC, Gathered 20 Bags of food for Thanksgiving Meals to help Pilot Mtn. Outreach. Collected many shoeboxes as well as stuffer items to go to Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Hosted a special Song Service featuring "The Bledsoes".

Siloam had 2 new members to join our congregation. Elected new Deacon, Ritchie Day, to serve a 3 year term. Brotherhood held a wood cutting day for our associational office. YWOM had a successful nut sale that will assist w/community projects. Thanks to all for your hard work and participation in our Brotherhood and YOM/WOM projects. Veterans were recognized for Veterans Day. We appreciate all Veteran's and their service to our country. Old Fashion day was held. Had a drive-through pinto bean/ hot dog luncheon for all to enjoy. Community meals continue to be served the first Wed. night of each month. Continues to hold services on Wed. night and Sunday mornings. While social distancing, we have opened our doors for inside service but do continue to follow CDC guidelines of wearing mask to protect our members safety. We also continue to have our fellowship hall open and also continue our radio broadcast for those who feel more comfortable sitting in their car. We invite all to listen to our services on our Facebook page if you cannot attend in person.

Slate Mountain is continuing to have drive-in services. Collected food for Yokefellow Ministries. Baptist Women met and elected officers for next year. Had Pastor Appreciation Day. Provided snacks for Surgical Waiting Area of Northern Regional Hospital.

Surry Baptist Association Financial Contributions October 2020

	2020 Budget Receipts To Date	Designated & Other Receipts
Albion	\$500.00	\$125.00
Antioch	\$5,189.20	\$0.00
Bannertown	\$12,004.75	\$500.00
Blues Grove	\$1,000.00	\$1,050.00
Calvary	\$1,250.00	\$375.00
Cedar Lane	\$0.00	\$0.00
Central View	\$1,403.43	\$50.00
Christian Community	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community	\$2,500.00	\$625.00
Copeland	\$1,061.45	\$0.00
Cornerstone	\$1,478.27	\$25.00
Cross Roads	\$1,000.00	\$1,360.00
Dobson, First	\$1,500.00	\$800.00
Dover	\$1,000.00	\$170.00
Fairview	\$8,000.00	\$1,155.00
Faith	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fancy Gap	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$6,190.00	\$1,595.00
Flippin Memorial	\$2,400.00	\$600.00
Fuente de Vida	\$0.00	\$0.00
Gum Orchard	\$0.00	\$0.00
Haymore Memorial	\$833.32	\$40.00
Highland Park	\$7,875.00	\$307.69
Hills Grove	\$600.00	\$0.00
Holly Springs	\$1,250.00	\$0.00
Indian Grove	\$600.00	\$0.00
Ivy Green	\$2,077.90	\$130.00
Jessup Grove	\$3,250.00	\$175.00
Ladonia	\$800.00	\$250.00
Little Richmond	\$1,899.71	\$0.00
Mount Carmel	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Mount Zion	\$850.00	\$35.00
Mountain Park	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Mountain View	\$1,161.49	\$0.00
New Bethel	\$100.00	\$0.00
New Hope	\$800.00	\$15.00
New Life	\$305.84	\$50.00
New Venture	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oak Grove	\$500.00	\$0.00
Oak Ridge	\$2,788.00	\$50.00
Pauls Creek	\$900.00	\$50.00
Pinnacle View	\$3,000.00	\$40.00
Pleasant View	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rock Hill	\$3,700.00	\$60.00
Rockford	\$500.00	\$5.00
Salem	\$2,125.00	\$900.00
Salem Fork	\$5,400.00	\$0.00
Shoals	\$0.00	\$25.00
Siloam	\$1,500.00	\$445.00
Simmons Grove	\$4,000.00	\$1,250.00
Slate Mountain	\$1,497.00	\$0.00
Sparta, First	\$4,000.00	\$260.00
Sulphur Springs	\$1,650.00	\$25.00
Turkey Ford	\$1,500.00	\$850.00
Union Cross	\$500.00	\$10.00
Victory	\$1,200.00	\$1,096.88
Welcome	\$450.00	\$15.00
Westfield	\$7,964.42	\$5.00
Westview	\$500.00	\$0.00
Woodland	\$1,000.00	\$520.00
Woodville	\$2,400.00	\$350.00
Other	\$0.00	\$22,912.68
TOTALS	\$122,954.78	\$40,302.25

*Designated & Other Receipts are additional monies given for specific SBA ministries (such as Surry Christian Counseling Center, Handyman Ministry, etc.) as well as General Funds.

Church News continued from inside

Sulphur Springs donated food for backpack program for Nov. to local school. Filled 80 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Had fellowship w/a Souper Sat. @ member's campsite. Provided Thanksgiving meal boxes to shut in's and several families in community. **Welcome** is still having Sunday School inside church @ 10am and Worship Service @ 11am. Finished the study on the Beatitudes. Finished the study on "Baptist Faith and Message". Started a new study on "The Forward Movement of God's Plan". Started Fall Harvest to replenish our food pantry w/non perishable food. Members bringing in non perishable food to feed our wheelbarrow. Started a new study on the book of Ephesians, "Sealed by the Spirit".

2020 Appalachian Christmas Outreach Update

Jo and I would like to thank all who were involved in the Appalachian Christmas outreach, a ministry of NC Baptists on Missions.

Surry Baptist Association collected over 1,320 backpacks, including 514 backpacks for Flat Rock and Copeland Elementary Schools to be delivered in December. We will not be able to interact with the children this year because of COVID 19. but what a special blessing this still is with the year we have had. 828 backpacks were taken to Shelby, NC. Most of those will be taken to Pennsylvania distribution centers to be delivered on November 16.

Jo and I wish we could give each of you a hug for showing Christ's love to so many children this Christmas. Only the Lord knows how many will come to know Jesus because of your love. Your support reveals what can be accomplished when we work together. Whatever part you had in making the backpack ministry a success is much appreciated.

Early next year we will put together plan for 2021.

God bless each of you and we hope you and your family have a blessed Christmas.

Terry and Jo Hardy



Surry Christian Counseling Center

It has been an unusual year to say the least for the Surry Christian Counseling Center. Since the end of March, as result of Covid-19, we had to suspended having the aide of our valuable counseling volunteers. I want to say the work you have done has not been forgotten and has been greatly missed. Hopefully as a New Year dawns, it will not be much longer before your smiling faces and helpful ways will be a welcome sight at the counseling center. Do know you are missed and I wish each of you a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely, John Shuler

Reminder: Church news is due by the 15th of each month.

**SBA Office will be closed
Dec. 23, 2020 - Jan. 3, 2021**

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SBA Office Hours

Monday-Thursday.....8:30am-4:30pm
Friday.....8:30am-1:00pm