

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016

DEACONS: Mary Anne Croom & Yates Parrish
BUS DRIVER: David McCall (482-8667)
BUS RIDER: Mary Anne Croom
CHILDREN'S SERMON: David Brooks
CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Julie Privott
AUDIO OPERATOR: Gary Swanner
VIDEO OPERATOR: Susie Swanner
OUTREACH COMMITTEE: Jenny Williams



CBF Offering for Global Missions and Mary's Tree

Pray for the work of our Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries as they share the good news through word and deed. Support these missionaries financially by giving to the Offering for Global Missions. So far our church has given \$5,210.00 toward our goal of \$8,000. For every \$500 given, a world globe ornament will be placed upon *Mary's Tree*—our Chrismon Tree in the fellowship hall that is named in loving memory of our long-time organist and assistant music director, Mary Smith.

Church Basketball practice has begun! On Thursdays, December 22 & 29, and January 5, the following schedule will be followed for practice:

- 5:30-6:00pm K-grade 2 co-ed
- 6:00-7:00pm boys grades 3-5 & 3-6 girls
- 7:00-8:00pm boys grades 6-8
- 8:00-9:00pm 9-12 boys

Girls grades 7-12 will practice on Sunday afternoons.

WMU Angel Tree

This year we are asking for help for the local Edenton-Chowan Food Pantry. As part of a co-op, the food pantry has more "purchasing power" than we do as individuals. They can get much more food for the dollar than we can. **\$1** will buy \$4 worth of food; **\$10** will feed 1 food-insecure family for a month; **\$25** will buy 50 meals; **\$50** will support 1 child in the summer nutrition program; **\$100** will feed 10 food-insecure families for a month.

Take an angel with a tag from the tree in the narthex.. Leave your donation in the office. *Keep the angel* and take it home as a reminder throughout the year to keep the food pantry in your prayers and give when you have the opportunity.

The Informer (USPS 386-370)
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White Christmas Offering this Sunday

As part of our Bicentennial celebration, we're bringing back a ministry that was once a regular part of our outreach to our community at Christmas. Everyone can participate by bringing non-perishable food items wrapped in white wrapping or tissue paper to the 11:00am worship service this Sunday, December 18. As we sing familiar Christmas carols, we will bring these food offerings forward and place them around our Communion table, asking God to bless the food and use it to nourish the lives of several families in our community who are in need of food assistance. You can also give donations of cash and Food Lion gift cards that will be used to purchase frozen and refrigerated foods for these families.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Morning

Our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion service will be at 6:00pm in our sanctuary. An instrumental prelude will begin at 5:40pm. Special music in the service will be provided by our Adult, Handbell and Children's Choirs.

With Christmas falling on a Sunday this year, we will not have Sunday School on December 25, and our worship will be moved up to 10:30am.

THE INFORMER

Edenton Baptist Church

Edenton, North Carolina 27932

A Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Congregation

David B. Brooks
Pastor

Patrick I. Cardwell
Associate Pastor

Michael W. Morgan
Director of Music

Jackie P. Copeland
Organist/Assistant Music Director

Janet C. Skinner
Church Administrator

Lorraine B. Bass
Financial Secretary

Sherry S. Dowd
Preschool Coordinator

VOL. XXXIV

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016

NO. 48

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

❄️ **White Christmas Offering** ❄️



Sermon: "What's in a Name?"

Matthew 1:18-25

Wednesday, December 21

No Children's Activities

5:30pm - Supper (pork loin)

6:00pm - Handbell Practice

6:30pm - Church Conference

7:30pm - Adult Choir Practice

LECTIONARY READINGS

December 18, 2016
4th Sunday of Advent
 Isaiah 7:10-16
 Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19
 Romans 1:1-7
 Matthew 1:18-25



December 25, 2016
Christmas Day
 Isaiah 9:2-7
 Psalm 96
 Titus 2:11-14
 Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

Birthdays

Sunday, December 18

Lynn Chesson
 Mike Covington
 David Cross
 Morgan Ellis

Monday, December 19

Andrew Cox
 Freddie Ferguson
 Louis Francis
 Emma Parrish
 Jed Record
 Dot White

Tuesday, December 20

Linda Boyle
 Holden Fuller
 Linda Potts
 Lisha Sparks

Wednesday, December 21

Wendell Copeland

Thursday, December 22

Miriam Hughes
 Janet Skinner

Saturday, December 24

Gene Nixon
 Donna Polous
 Doris Toppin

Anniversaries

Sunday, December 18

M/M Douglas Tritt

Monday, December 19

M/M Tommy Bass

Saturday, December 24

M/M Gene Nixon

In Memoriam

Mrs. Esther Brabble
 1923-2016

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Sunday, December 18

9:45-Sunday School
 10:45-Pastor/Deacon Prayer
 11:00-Morning Worship

Wednesday, December 21

5:30-Supper (pork loin)
 6:00-Handbells
 6:30-Church Conference
 7:30-Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, December 22

Basketball Practice
 5:30-Coed K-grade 2
 6:00-Boys grades 3-5 &
 Girls 3-6
 7:00-Boys grades 6-8
 8:00-Boys grades 9-12



Your 2017 offering envelopes are available for pick-up in the back hallway. Since most people have been assigned a new number, it is important not to use them until January.

FROM THE PASTOR

Unless you've been out of the country, you know that the John A. Holmes High School Aces football team is headed to the 2A state championship game this Saturday evening at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem. To say the least, this is a **BIG DEAL** for our little town and county. The Aces won numerous state championships in decades gone by, but this is the first time they have made it this far since 1969. Led by head coach Paul Hoggard and assistant coach (and EBC member) Wes Mattera, this year's team has been a delight to know and for which to cheer. And nothing was more exciting for the team and for Edenton than the send-off that happened last Friday at 12:15pm as three charter busses loaded with the team, the band, cheerleaders, and fans were escorted out of Edenton by our local police and sheriff's departments to head to the East Regional Championship game against South Columbus High School. Students from our elementary and middle schools came to town to line the streets with high school students to cheer for our Aces as they were leaving. Local residents and business owners came out to offer their best wishes. And when the game started that night at 7:30pm in Tabor City, 250 miles south of Edenton, the visitors' stands were packed with Aces fans. It was truly remarkable, and it reminded me of why I love living in a small town like Edenton.

I know that not everyone is a sports fan, and some of you may be rolling your eyes at all the fuss that is made over a football team. But even if you have no interest in sports, certainly you can appreciate the impact that this experience has had on the student-athletes who are on the team and who have been under the influence of coaches and teachers who care about them and want them to succeed on the field, in the classroom, and in life ahead. Within the membership of our church are numerous teachers and coaches who, in one way or another, have had a direct influence on every member of the Aces team as those players have grown up learning in our schools and playing ball together. In addition, our church has graciously provided meals for the team, space to practice in our activity center on rainy days, devotionals led by our pastors, and a devoted fan base that wants the players to learn and grow and succeed. We have been a Christ-like witness to the Aces' coaches and players.

The Aces have one more game to conclude an incredible season. The kickoff is at 7:05pm against the Reidsville High School Rams. Let's hope our Aces win it all! Whatever the outcome of Saturday's game may be, however, Edenton Baptist can know that we have had a key role in the team's success and in the development of our players' lives. And that is something we can all celebrate. GO ACES!

David

Bicentennial Gifts

As you shop for Christmas, remember all the wonderful items for sale in the church office. The new history book by Dr. Jesse Croom is available for \$30. Beautiful prints of the church come in two sizes, for \$10 & \$20. A commemorative Christmas ornament sells for \$20. Lastly, we have a \$2 bumper sticker that has the dome surrounded by "Serving God since 1817 Edenton Baptist Church".

HOSPITAL REPORT (12/14)

Vidant Medical Center

Linda Rinehart Green
 Robert Halsey

Chowan Hospital

Mary Elizabeth Dail

SHUT-IN OF THE WEEK

Mrs. Evelyn Swanner
 Primetime, PO Box 987
 Edenton, NC 27932

WEEKLY REPORT (12/11)

Offering

Amount Received.....\$13,712.00

Other Monies Received

Wed. Night Supper.....271.00
 Memorials.....285.00
 Food Pantry.....841.00
 Deacon Dinner.....690.00
 Reimbursements.....1,094.00
 Poinsettias.....370.00
 Global Missions.....1,765.00
 TOTAL.....5,316.00

Attendance

Sunday School.....113
 Chowan River Nursing.....43
 SS TOTAL.....156
 Worship TOTAL.....272

Support and Encouragement

One of the greatest things I have discovered that abounds in our church is the fact that we support and encourage one another in different ways for a variety of needs. One of the ways that I can use your support and encouragement now is in the ways that I am choosing to better care for my body and physical health. For most of my life, I have been physically inactive, indulging in unhealthy habits that led me to a doctor's appointment where "diabetes," "early-onset hypertension," and "liver damage" were all phrases used. Since mid-July, I have been taking greater steps (quite literally!) to improve my health. This isn't in any way intended to tout my weight loss or to look down my nose at anyone else. Rather, I want you to understand why it is that I may not eat at Wednesday night dinners or Sunday morning breakfasts. It's nothing personal, and has no implications on the cooks at EBC. Believe me, nothing would make me happier than to indulge in fried chicken and mashed potatoes or fresh sausage and grits. But at this point in my life, I am choosing not to, and hope you can understand and appreciate that decision. Thanks for your support and encouragement in this endeavor!

-Patrick