

*"The Lord gave the word;
great was the company of
those that published it."
Psalm 68:11*

Tabernacle Times



The Tabernacle Family Wishes You A Very Merry Christmas & A Prosperous New Year!

"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift" 2 Corinthians 9:15

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Tabernacle Baptist Church of Virginia Beach, VA

November-December, 2009

A Word From The Pastor - Dr. James W. Baker

So many memories flood my mind as Christmas approaches. We did our best as young parents to teach our girls that Christmas is all about the giving not the getting. Christ gave His only Son, and we are to follow the example in giving. One of our traditions as the girls grew up was to visit a live nativity scene on Christmas Eve. In the cold Ohio winters, we bundled up, and many times stood outside for a long period of time. We smelled the live animals; we looked at the baby in the manger; and we listened to the "angels" sing. What a glorious sight! Each Christmas morning before one gift is opened, we read the Christmas story. It is a precious reminder of what God gave to us! Reach out this Christmas season to someone less fortunate than you—someone who needs the gospel. Your kind word, your invitation to church, or a tract shared could mean the difference in someone's life, and your heart will be blessed!

Thanksgiving at TBCM was quieter than usual as we took the year off from the Thanksgiving Feast. With so many germs and several students getting the flu, we decided the time off would be the best remedy. We do have much to be thankful for, however. God continues to bring offerings in to meet the needs of this ministry, and we are pressing toward the mission goal of \$140,000. Our prayer is that we will be in good stead as spring rolls around. Let's continue to be faithful and trust God for the rest.

Our church auditorium is decorated with beautiful Christmas decorations that enhance our worship this time of year. Our annual Christmas Candlelight Service will be Wednesday evening, December 23 at 7:00 pm. Volunteer your family to sing, to play an instrument, or to recite a Christmas story or poem to the delight of all. This service has been one of the highlights of the holiday season. Come be with us!

May the Lord bless you this Christmas—Merry Christmas to each one of you, and may your new year be bright as we await the Lord's coming to take us home!



MISSIONS AND MISSIONARIES

Dr. Carl D. Bieber, Missions Coordinator

On Sunday evening, Dec. 6th, the TBC family was reminded again of what can result when a true burden of the heart is immersed in prayer. Brother Jack Hunt and his wife Jonnie of Mission Aeroservice were with us. Bro. Jack told how God had provided a complete forty-eight acre airfield equipped with a lighted runway, hangar, tractor and mower. All of this and more came to Faith Baptist Church in New Bern, N.C. It did not just

happen, and it was not so called "good luck." It was an answer to one and a half years of consistent prayer and faith believing that God would provide.

There is much more to the story, but you get the picture. God had provided so Mission Aeroservice could be established to meet the needs of missionaries with planes all around the world. Planes from both home and foreign missions are serviced. Pilots are trained, licensed, and refreshed. My mind races around the world as I write. I think of those who depend on us as prayer warriors for them, that their needs would be met. It could be that a "bush pilot" will fly in and deliver the much needed supplies or evacuate a sick child. Don't you love to hear just how God has provided? It was a great joy to hear Bro. Hunt tell how God has worked and used Mission Aeroservice to equip pilots and planes and keeps them on the field.

We do live in a big world and we have a lot of exciting tools at our disposal. None are as effective as prayer. The technology available to us is for use at home and often on foreign fields. None of these great inventions supersedes a prayer sent heavenward. Neither the Hunt family nor the church had the money to buy the field, but God owned the field and the state transferred the title for \$10.00. What a deal it was! That is true, but it was first a prayer of faith.

I feel I have rambled some with this article, but I know where I am going. I am going to ask for more fervent prayer and for hands that will dig deeper and give more to missions. I am asking of you, "dear reader" and me to be a better rope holder for those on the field wherever they are located.

A wonderful American outreach is the Durham Rescue Mission. Brother Ernie Mills is the Director. It is a "by faith" mission work. They touch hundreds of lives and many are saved. They will have tremendous needs to be met through the Christmas Season. This might reach you after the big Christmas Dinner. An offering would still be in order for those in need.

In the city of Accra, in Ghana, West Africa, there is a Missionary, Dr. Isaac Obeng. He has purchased one and two thirds of an acre of land. The land is paid for, but he must begin to build in 2010 or lose the land. Now, I ask you, would God provide money for the land and not the church? It does not sound like the God of the Bible. Maybe God would use you to help Him build a church in Ghana. Remember neither the size of the land, forty eight acres or one and two-thirds, nor the cost of the building is an issue for God. God provided for the land through faithful prayer. This is the capitol city, and land is both expensive and scarce. God is able!

Just today I heard a radio preacher say, "You can't put shoes on the feet of everyone around the world, but you can put shoes on your neighbor's feet. You can't feed everyone in the world, but you can feed your neighbor." Let's take care of our neighbors in Durham and Ghana. Let us know at TBC if you want to help. May each of us do more for the GLORY OF GOD.

Auditorium S.S. Class & The OWLS-TBC Senior Adults

Dr. Edward G. Caughill, Seniors Ministry Director

AUDITORIUM CLASS—Dr. Yoho and I alternated Sundays as usual and during November and December we have been continuing our study of Baptist History and the book of Hebrews. History again proved we are not Protestant as from the first century we have held and practiced the apostolic doctrine long before the Reformation. Baptist have always believed and taught the sole authority of the Word of God.

We studied the doctrine and practices as a result of the Reformation and noted the following errors among others: Episcopacy of church government, Baptismal Regeneration, State Church Relationship, and the practice of persecuting others of different faiths.

Consideration to the founding of new denominations from the Reformation to the 20th century is included in our study. Also special attention is given to the title of derision of Anabaptist with taking note of some Baptist martyrs.

A highlight of the period was having Missionary Jack Hunt. He told of his Missionary ministry and God's leadership bringing it into existence some thirty years ago and how God is using it to help many missionaries of Baptist Missions. He also presented a great message from the Word of God.

The OWLS report is located on page 2



YOUTH IN ACTION!

Andrew P. Hoyle, Youth/Assistant Pastor

What busy months November and December always seem to be! On November 7, our teens had the opportunity to reach out in service through a "pack attack" where we prepared approximately 100 boxes filled with goodies, a handwritten note, and a Gospel tract to go to service members overseas. Thanks to everyone who donated supplies to fill our boxes. These "pack attack" care packages were mailed to Erik Whitling for distribution to fellow soldiers during his deployment.

While packing boxes, we once again had opportunity to collate Bible studies for one of our local missionaries, Gene Sayre. Brother Sayre is a chaplain with the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry and ministers to those incarcerated at the Hampton Roads Regional Jail. The Bible studies we collated will go to inmates, providing them with the opportunity of coming to know Christ as Savior and learn about Him through the Word of God. Our prayer is that God will use our efforts and these Bible studies in a great way. Thank you so much, Brother Sayre, for allowing us to serve!

Special thanks as well to the Wordens for opening up their home for the November SNAC and the Phillips for hosting our annual Christmas party SNAC. Thanks as well to all our hosts for the Progressive Dinner on Nov. 21. Thank you Phillips, Hills, Landreths, and McGarys. It was an evening "stuffed" with excitement.

Registrations are already in for next summer's trip to the WILDS the week of June 21-26. If you know someone who would like to go but has not signed up yet, time is of the essence. Register by Feb. 1 and save \$10. Also, if you would like to help some of our young people earn their way to camp or donate money, see Pastor Hoyle for a list of young people who could use the financial help.

In closing, don't forget to pray for the youth of today – they are the leaders of tomorrow.

This is the DECEMBER 2009 ISSUE. WRITE US! If you have enjoyed reading this paper, please drop us a line and let us hear from you. Thanks to all who have written! We appreciate hearing from you! If you have any church or Sunday school news, please let us know! **THIS IS THE SIXTH ISSUE OF SIX FOR THE YEAR 2009!** Please consider giving a donation to defray the production cost of the *Tabernacle Times*. Thank you!

Up-Coming Events!



January Churchwide Visitation: 4, 11, & 18—7 PM (Monday)
Won by One Door-to-Door Visitation: 9 & 23—9:30 AM (Saturday)
February Churchwide Visitation: 1, 8, & 22—7 PM (Monday)
Won by One Door-to-Door Visitation: 6 & 20—9:30 AM (Saturday)

PLEASE NOTICE: If you have misplaced your monthly calendar, you can find the calendar for the church and schools activities on our web page: www.tabernacle-vb.org under Events.

Volunteers Needed: Would you like to be a volunteer?
Contact the church office: 424-4673

Are YOU attending Sunday School? If you are not attending a Sunday School Class, there are many opportunities here at Tabernacle to find just the class that suits you — all the way from the nursery through adults.

Tabernacle Baptist Bible College & Seminary

Kenneth F. Sheets, Dean

Call: 424-4673, ext. 317 or 308; E-mail: college@tabernacle-vb.org



Dr. Walter Yoho
Professor/Author

November 8 was Gideons' 300 Sunday at TBC. The Bible College and Seminary are seeking 300 people who will join us by giving \$300.00 a year (5.77 a week) in order to help TBBCS continue to train laborers for the harvest.

The college and seminary students took their final exams during the third week of December.

The spring semester starts Monday, January 11. We have great students – and we are grateful for them. We are excited about the new students who will be joining them.

At TBBCS we deeply realize that man's endless search for wisdom (Job 28) ends in a little town called Bethlehem. It was altogether fitting and proper that wise men opened their treasures (Matt. 2:11) before the One in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom (Col. 2:3). At the beginning of the life of our Lord upon this earth wise men from the east came to His cradle, as it were, and said: "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" (Matt. 2:2); at the end of His life Greeks (who were famed for their wisdom) came from the west to His cross, as it were, and said: "sir, we would see Jesus" (Jn. 12:21). "Wise men sought Him then – wise men seek Him still." Truly, "the Father seeketh such to worship Him."

ABOUT FACES—IN THE NEWS



On December 5th, the OWLS Group made fourteen Fruit Baskets and distributed them to the TBC Shut-ins. Pictured left to right (1st Row): Anita Jones (Helper), Kaye Zigefoose, Grace Phillips, Lillian Jones, & Barbara MacDonald; 2nd Row: Art Zigefoose, Nick & Sharon Salmone, Ed & Alice Caughill, & Dotty Bieber. Thanks to all who donated funds to buy the fruit and other items. Also thanks to David Jones for picking up the fruit. Twelve of the baskets were delivered on that Saturday, the other two were delivered on Sunday and Monday.

THE OWLS REPORT: On November 24th, some of the OWLS attended the Praise Service and then went to eat at the Piccadilly; December 5th—Ate out at the IHOP and then made Fruit Baskets for the Shut-ins; 10th-some of the OWLS attended the play "Little Women" held at Regent; and, of course, the Christmas Party at the Melvin & Eva Phelps on the 19th.

COMING EVENTS IN THE PLANNING: Our annual Birthday Party will be held the 4th Sunday in January.

Please invite other OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Saints) who have not been attending to our Sunday School Class!

Please continue to pray for our Shut-ins (a list can be found in the Wednesday Night Prayer Bulletin), plus Lucy Jordan.

The Ladies' Sunday School Class



The ladies' Sunday school class participated in decorating for Christmas in our lovely sanctuary the weekend of Thanksgiving. We so appreciate the Christmas music beginning early--the decorations contribute to that mood of worship!

We are studying "Secrets of a Happy Heart" by Debi Pryde.

Wow, what a rollercoaster ride of wonderful Bible truth and how to apply it! We are taking our time with this study so we can hide it in our hearts! Love, Mary M.

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Only the NEWS received at the Publications Office has been reported. Thanks to those who helped! Psalm 68:11.

The next articles are due February 3 2009. If you have church or Sunday School news that would be of interest to our church family and friends, please submit to Mrs. D. Bieber before this date!

Tabernacle Baptist Academy

Mr. Curtis R. Tomlin, Administrator

E-mail: academy@tabernacle-vb.org



Basketball season has begun, and we will be hurriedly rushed into 2010. Our days are filled with the busyness of lesson plans, grades, meetings, and most importantly, touching young people's lives for Christ.

The focus for our staff this month has been on how to handle trials that come into our lives. Trials are there to meet our needs. They are our pathway back to God. They prove our sincerity. What is often hard to understand is that trials prepare us for spiritual growth as well as purification purposes! As Christians, we can truly rejoice that we can "Rejoice in the Lord." These trials will teach us to personify Christ and point others to God. Once we have learned this, God's power will be displayed in our lives. We will begin to discuss how to respond to trials.

Preparations have begun for the special evening for our alumni, former faculty and present staff on July 24th. The alumni committee is gathering addresses together. So, get yours in to ctomlin@tabernacle-vb.org. **Mac and Beth (Cook) Lynch** will be presenting a special sacred concert that evening.

Mid-term exams are coming soon, and the students are evading this if at all possible. Some things do not change with time. Our annual SPIRIT WEEK will be here the end of January. We look forward to a week of special dress up and spirit links.

TBA is thankful to the Lord for the blessings He has sent our way. Someone recently gave the academy a lump sum of money—definitely something we were not expecting. God certainly knows what we have need of even before we do.

It has been exciting to see the funds come in for the seniors in preparation for their missions' trip to the Philippines in June. May God bless us in the last five months of the 2009-2010 academic year.

Enroll Today! Call: 757-424-4697, ext.339

Visitation and Outreach
Drs. Ray and Sherrill Fulayter



It is exciting to see how many of our people are going on Won by One evangelization of our neighborhood. God will give the increase. We are sowing the seed and inviting people to come. This is our Jerusalem and God can use even this to reach out to other areas with the Gospel.

We have had the privilege of seeing some recently come to know Christ personally through our counseling efforts. These individuals are growing. Pray that God will use these decisions to build the work He has prepared for them and for us, as He would lead some of them into our ministry.

Our Sunday School class finished our study on Heaven and we are studying through the Book of Proverbs at this time. Come join us.

NOVEMBER 2009 REPORT--1: Baptist History Sunday; 7: Teen Activity-"Pack Attack"; 8: Gideon's 300 Sunday; 8: 7:15 PM-Baby Boy Shower: Frances Figueroa; 12-13: TBA-Teachers' Convention; 12-14: Storm came through the area!; 7:15 PM-Teen SNAC; 21: 9Youth Activity-Progressive Dinner; 24: 11 AM-TBA/TBBCS Praise Service; OWLS Thanksgiving Time Luncheon at the Piccadilly; 7 PM-Mid-week service-All met in Auditorium; 26-27: THANKSGIVING break; 29: Churchwide Soup and Sandwich Fellowship after the evening service; 30: B-ball, JV, Var., 4:30 PM, (A), Southside;

DECEMBER 2009 REPORT--4: B-ball, Girls, Var., 5:00 PM, (H) Sweethaven; 10 AM-The OWLS fourteen Christmas Baskets made and delivered; 5:30 PM-All Staff Christmas Party 6: Pizza Luncheon-Young Married Couples Class, 6 PM-Holiday Testimony Service for our missionaries; 7: B-ball, (H), 4:00 PM, First Baptist; 8: B-ball, JV, Girls, Var., 4:00 PM, (A) Bethel; 10: 7:15 PM-The fourteen OWLS went to see "Little Women" Play; 11: 7 PM-TBACademy Christmas Program; 12: 9 AM-Noon-Cantata Rehearsal; 13: 6 PM-Cantata "1777-A Colonial Christmas"; 7:15 PM-Teen SNAC; 14: B-ball, JV, Girls, Var., 4:00 PM, (A) Bethel; 14-17: TBBCS Finals; 15: B-ball, JV, Girls, Var., 4:00 PM, (H) Gateway; 16: College Class, Coach Cook, and the Career Class, Jim Boorujy sang Christmas Carols at the Autumn Care Nursing Home; 18: TBA & TBBCS out for Christmas Vacation at 3:00 PM; 19: 5 PM-The OWLS at Phelps; 21: The First Day of Winter; 21-Jan.: TBA (1/4) & TBBCS (1/11) Christmas Break; 23: 7 PM-Candlelight Service, all meet in Auditorium; 24: Offices closed at Noon; 25: CHRISTMAS; 27: 6 PM-The Lord's Supper; 30: 7 PM-All Meet in Auditorium; 8:15 PM-Teen Activity; 31: Offices closed.

Congratulations: Miss Merrill MacAllister—who graduated recently from Bob Jones University with a degree in Elementary Education!

Check out our WEB SITE: www.tabernacle-vb.org

You can get our full schedule of activities from the calendars under Events on the Web Site! Also, look for Pastor Baker's Sunday morning Sermons (Video) on the Web!



VIRGINIA BEACH - Harold Lee Linkous, 79, went to be with the Lord, Oct. 24, 2009, in Norfolk. A native of Mercer County, West Virginia, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Shirley Ann Linkous; a daughter, Carolyn Harris; and three sons; and one sister. Harold was a U.S. Marine veteran, and he retired as a driver from the Coca Cola Bottling Company. He was many years a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Virginia Beach, Virginia Association of the Blind, Blind Tidewater Bowler's Association, and the Visually Impaired Group of Virginia Beach. Surviving are his wife, Jean Linkous; three daughters, Linda Putnam husband John, Fredia Wright husband Jeffrey, and Sue West Gregory; four sons, Harold Wayne Linkous, Larry West, and Leon West and Charles West.; more than 50 grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Willie Roy Linkous of Bluefield, W.Va., and James Linkous of Lancaster, Calif.