

From Pastor Gary...

As we approach December 25th, may we all stop and try to comprehend what God has done for each of us. The greatest gift ever known to man was granted unto us when Jesus came into this world. He grew into a man and was vet fully God and was without sin. His life eventually led him to his divine appointment, being nailed to a cross for your sins and my sins. The Word of God tells us that he paid the debt for all of our sins, a debt that none of us could pay. It was the power of his holy blood that has covered a multitude of sin. Paul tells us in Colossians 2:13--15 "And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quicken together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses: blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."

You see, when I see the baby in the manger, I am reminded of why he came. I hope all of us will ponder on this wonderful gift that we have been given. May all of us praise his holy name and thank him for what he has done for each of us. I wish all of our folks at Balfour a Merry Christmas. Pastor Gary

EXTENSION MEMBERS – PRAYER LIST Nursing Homes

Carolyn Barnes (Clapps) Brenda Williams(Brookstone Haven)

Live at Home

Kat Church	Linda Cockerham	Betty Dyer
Faye Dunning	Evelyn Fagg	Juanita Moody
Uzina Morris	Shirleen Cockman	

MISSIONS

CUOC Item: The month of January is "TBA ".

Bonnie D. Mission Group: Tuesday, January 8th, at 11:00am in the fellowship hall.

BALFOUR MEN

All men of Balfour Baptist Church are welcome to come enjoy breakfast and enjoy a wonderful time of food & fellowship, Wednesday, January 9th, at 8:30am at the 42 Diner. Contact Pastor Gary for more information.

From Pastor Mark...

Happy new year! I pray that you have had a great and blessed 2018 and you're looking forward to a bright and prosperous new year? I can't wait to see what God has in store for us here at Balfour this new year, how He's going to Bless and use us to help grow HIS Kingdom by spreading the Good News of His Son Jesus Christ! Wanda and I want to THANK all of You for the wonderful Christmas cards and prayers that you have sent and prayed for us. I love for you to keep PRAYING for us and the Church as God continues to grow us and His Kingdom through us along with you. May we all pray together that WE can make a difference for His Kingdom here at Balfour Baptist Church in reaching the lost and seeing people added to His Kingdom every week! My prayer is that we are doing the great commission that Christ had given to His Church, Matt. 28:19-"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit." May God's Blessings be poured out on You and your family and the family of Balfour Baptist Church this New Year! Blessings, Pastor Mark

LADIES OF BALFOUR

We still have room for several to attend the Coast Women's conference at Fort Caswell!

We will leave at 9:00 AM on Friday, February 22^{nd} from the church and return Sunday, February 24^{th} around 4pm. The cost is \$170.00 per person which includes everything but supper Friday night. We usually all contribute and have a wonderful meal together in the house we have reserved. The house sleeps 20. A wonderful porch and room to spread out! If you haven't been please check it out, ask someone who has attended or just sign up! We have so much fun and are filled with the Holy Spirit as we learn, talk, pray, sing, worship, eat and relax! Please contact Bobbie Frazier – 336-953-4151 - for more information and to pay. We need to have the total of \$170.00 by February 1st.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Youth every Wednesday night in annex

(6pm-7:30pm) (for 6th-12th grade students) For more information contact Jennifer Moore.

AWANA Ministries every Wednesday 6:15pm For more information contact Pastor Mark Wilburn.

PRAYER POCKET NOTES.....

A new year, but not a new God! He is the same and will continue to be the same. He never changes. A miracle that we can continue to embrace and a miracle that we must not forget. On Christmas we are reminded that God continued to reveal His Son, but not to those we might expect... It was not expected our King would be born in a stable. It was not expected that the first to be given the news of His birth were shepherds. It was not expected that He would rise out of a meager life and die and live again, for us! A miracle that never changes. There are many things we miss because we overlook the miracles of the day...What miracle you overlooked today? Pray to see the miracles and joys of God in our everyday lives. If you do not have a Prayer Pocket and would like one, please contact Bobbie Frazier at 336-953-4151 or prayerpockets@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Office Closed:</u> Tuesday, January 1st, for New Year's Day.

<u>De-decorate the Church:</u> We will be taking down Christmas Decorations at the Church on New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1^{st} (*a*) 11:00am.

Deacons Meeting: Wednesday, January 2^{nd} , at 7:45pm in the church office.

James Bible Study: Thursdays, January 3rd, & 10th, at 8:30am at home of Janet Rich.

<u>Mercy's Well in Concert:</u> Sunday, January 6th, at 6:30pm. Come and worship as we praise our Lord in songs.

<u>Personnel Committee Meeting</u>: Thursday, January 10th, at 6:00pm in the church office.

Finance Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 16th, at 7:45pm in the church office.

Newsletter Deadline: Monday, January 21st,

<u>Monthly Business Meeting:</u> Sunday, January 27th, during the PM Service.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Sabrina Dunn 2840 WOW Road Randleman, NC 27317 Tony & Sue Whitley 1065 Cable Creek Road Asheboro, NC 27205

SMPATHY

The Balfour Church Family extends a heartfelt sympathy to **Bill & Jane Bridges** in the loss of their granddaughter, Lily Beth Bridges and to **Steve Lyle**, in the loss of his mother, Merrill Lyles.

MEMORIALS

Donations have been given in memory of Mark Smith by Roger & Brenda Pritchard for the general fund and by Lyndon & Ann Beane for missions. Thanks for the kindness shown us by the people at Balfour Baptist Church. We appreciate the prayers, phone calls and cards during Bobby's illness. Also, the floral spray was beautiful. God bless you, Virginia Coley **Dear Balfour Baptist Church Family,** Thank you for all the prayers, memorials, love and kindness during the recent loss of our precious Lily Beth Bridges. We are grateful for the time God allowed us with her.

We are truly thankful! The Bridges Family

Dear Church Family, On behalf of my mom and dad, we would like to thank our church family for the continued thoughts and prayers, cards and visits over the last several months. Dad continues to improve and doctors are pleased with the continued progress. Mom is adjusting to not being at home. She has made a new friend which has helped. We pray that the transition for mom will continue to be less stressful for her. I must say, she will often say she should be at church and misses her church family. We are grateful for so many things including our many friends at Balfour that God has so richly blessed us with. God's blessing to each and everyone, The Ingold's, Leonard, Lou and Robin Ingold-Nalley

Balfour Baptist Church, Thank you for opening your doors to us to help us remember our Uncle John. We appreciate your kindness. Thank you, The Family of John McNeil (Misty Bunting's uncle)

HONORARIUMS

Donations have been given in honor of **Johnny Auman** by David Dunker for the general fund.

Donations have been given in honor of Lounette Ingold, Cindy Miller and Becky Brown by the Faith Sunday School Class for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Donations have been given in honor of **Bonnie Davenport** by Roger & Brenda Pritchard for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Billy & Carolyn Strider in the birth of their first great-grandchild, Harper Mae Melton. She was born December 6, 2018 and weighed 7lbs 13ozs Parents are Josh and Brittany Melton of Delaware, Ohio.

Congratulations to Kenny & Jennifer Miller in the birth of a son, Camden Noah Miller. He was born November 20, 2018 weighing 6 lbs. 15.5 ozs. Grandparents are Bobby & Cindy Miller and big sister is Kenadie Miller.

Congratulations to Marisa Davenport and Brent Smith who were married on November 17, 2018. Marisa is the daughter of John & Sarah Davenport and the granddaughter of Bonnie Davenport.

FINANCIAL CASH REPORT

Monthly Business Meeting: Sunday, December 30th,, during the PM Service. The November financial reports will be reviewed. Copies of the Financial Cash Reports for business meetings are available in the welcome center and on the front pew.

BALFOUR BAPTIST CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Church Phone: 336-672-0074 Church Fax: 336-672-0031 Church email: office@balfourchurch.com

Church Address

1642 N. Fayetteville Street Asheboro, NC 27203 Website: <u>www.balfourchurch.com</u>

Ministerial Staff

<u>Pastor</u>	
Rev. Gary Mason	<u>pastor@balfourchurch.com</u>
Phone Number	336-240-6202

Minister/Director of Children & Preschool

Rev. Mark Wilburn	children@balfourchurch.com
Phone Number	336-953-6733

Youth Director Jennifer Moore

e <u>youth@balfourchurch.com</u>

Music Staff

<u>Music Director</u> Donna A. Purkerson <u>music@balfourchurch.com</u>

Organist Frances M. Spivey <u>Pianist</u> Sally L. Barnes

<u>Nursery Ministries Director</u> Kim Scruggs <u>Support Staff</u>

 Digital Media Coordinador

 Harold Ayers
 media@balfourchurch.com

Church Administrative Assistant

Patricia H. Spencer secretary@balfourchurch.com

Normal office hours are 8:00am to 3:30pm Monday -Friday with a 30 minute lunch taken sometime between 12 & 1.