

# The Westfield Wire

December 2007

Westfield Baptist Church

Volume 2 Number 12

One definition of Advent is “the coming of Christ.” Another is “the period beginning four Sundays before Christmas, observed in commemoration of the coming of Christ into the world.” Have you ever thought that we seem to confuse Advent and holiday preparations? We’re so busy during those four weeks prior to Christmas making lists, shopping, planning travel, attending parties, planning menus, cooking and baking that we seldom take time to reflect on what Advent really is.

Let’s look at Advent through the candles of the Advent wreath and what they represent—**hope, peace, joy and love.**

Are you are hoping for a particular present this year, or that what you have chosen to give another will be just what they want? Maybe you hope to visit with friends and family this Christmas or take the kids or grandkids to see Santa Claus. Perhaps you’re hoping for a year-end bonus at work. During Advent, let’s think about hope as Jesus, our Savior and Messiah, our Redeemer and King.



Peace on earth—that’s what God has promised. The Jews were expecting immediate peace when they heard that Jesus was the promised Messiah. Some of us would like to see immediate peace on earth—the end of war, famine, violence, hatred, racism, and evil. If this were to happen, we would experience joy!

The truth of the matter is, our world does not have peace. Many don’t have joy. But as Christians our joy comes not from peace on earth, but from the hope we have that peace will come. God promised it and we can believe it. For God so loved the world, that He gave his only son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

So this Advent season, try to focus not on preparing for Christmas, but on preparing for Christ—our hope, peace, joy and love.

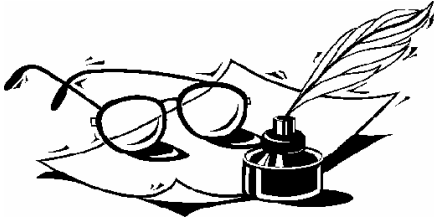
**Happy Advent - Merry Christmas!**

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## Vision Statement

To share Christ with all by leading and nurturing through a Ministry of love, fellowship, Bible study, prayer, worship, praise and proclamation of the Gospel; to seek God’s guidance as we respond to needs and serve as missionaries to our community and beyond.



### *from the Pastor's Pen*

**I**t's Christmas time!! Do you hear the bells ringing, smell the goodies baking, see the snow falling, taste the turkey basting, and feel the warmth of the cider as it runs through your body? That is how many people will describe Christmas if you ask them. Now don't get me wrong, those are wonderful images of Christmas. I love this time of year, but could there be other images to consider?

For example, can you sense the restless animals stirring? Can you hear the cows mooing, the pigs oinking, the donkeys whinnying, and the sheep baa-baaing? Can you smell the well used straw? Can you taste the slop in the trough? Do you feel the bitter cold from sleeping in a stable? Do you see the magnificent star in the clear sky? Can you imagine the anticipation of a mother and the birth of her first child? These are the images that should turn our hearts and minds to Christmas.

These images reveal the true meaning of Christmas. Christmas is not only the time to be with family, exchange presents, and eat and drink to our hearts desire. Christmas is the time for us to meditate on Christ's sacrifice to leave his home in glory and be born to this world as a baby-dependent on humanity to care for him. Christmas is a time to remember to tell God, "Thank you God for sending your son, Jesus, to teach us and save us."



So this Christmas season, let us remember to thank God for all of the gifts and blessings he has given us this year! As the Psalmist David wrote, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

My family and I invite you and your families to join us at our home again this year for the second annual *Christmas at the Dawson's* on Friday, December 21 between 4:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. I pray you have a wonderful holiday season.

Love in Christ,

*Chris*

# USHERS

THIS MONTH

Charlie Carpenter  
Jennifer Carr  
Abe Elmore  
D. Jackson  
Lu Murphy

## Deacon of the Week

- Dec 2** Lawrence Campbell, 910-894-8853
- Dec 9** Charlie Carpenter, 892-7029
- Dec 16** Nonie Roberson, 892-5087
- Dec 23** Joe Carr, 892-0940
- Dec 30** Carolyn Jackson, 891-5955 (w)

## CHILDREN'S



### Sermon

- December 2**  
Susan Murray
- December 9**  
Joe Carr
- December 16**  
Trent Carpenter
- December 23**  
Ed Taylor
- December 30**  
Gail Quick

## Kids Time

- Dec 5** *Paul's Gentle Words*  
Joyce Ballard, Jane Marks, Jim Marks, Michelle Dawson (dinner)
- Dec 12** *The Greatest Love Ever*  
Joyce Ballard, Sylvia Campbell, Michelle Dawson (dinner)
- Dec 19** *Jesus Brings Great Joy!*  
Joyce Ballard, Midge Carpenter (dinner), Jennifer Carr, Joe Carr
- Dec 26** *No Kids Time* (Christmas)

Dinner will be served each week.

Here's an opportunity for anyone that loves babies & toddlers:



### NURSERY WORKERS

Sign-up on the bulletin board downstairs in the education wing if you can help!

## Secret Pals

Please sign up on the bulletin board downstairs in the education wing if you would like to participate in the Secret Pals program for 2008. More information will be sent to you. See Carolyn Brewington if you have questions.



# December 2007 *Christ is Born!*

Westfield Baptist Church

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Marsha Bass
- 2 Red Gardner
- 5 Violet Jackson
- 7 Nancy Rose
- 12 Lawrence Campbell
- 12 Mary Dozier
- 12 Sallie Parham
- 16 Bill Jackson, Jr.
- 17 Chris & Michelle Dawson
- 18 Michael Murphy
- 23 Nonie Roberson
- 25 Abe & Jackie Elmore
- 25 D & Violet Jackson
- 25 Nina Sumner
- 30 Michael & Lutie Murphy
- 31 Milton Murray

**Week of Prayer for International & Global Missions  
December 2 - 9**

1

Staff Breakfast  
9:30 a.m.

2 Christmas Store  
Sr. Citizens Village  
2 p.m.



3



6:30 p.m.

4

5

6

Choir Cantata  
Sr. Citizens Village  
7 p.m.

7

8

9 WBC Post Office Opens  
Choir Cantata  
10:30 a.m.

10

11



9:45 a.m.

12

13

14



15

Choir Party at the  
Autry's  
6 p.m.

16

Caroling & Meal  
(Soup, Sandwiches & Dessert)  
6 p.m.

17

18

19



6:30 p.m.

20

21

Christmas at the  
Dawson's  
4:30-9 p.m.

22

23

24

Christmas Eve Service &  
Communion  
6 p.m.

25

Office  
Closed



26

No evening activities

27

28

29

30

31



### Weekly Schedule of Services

	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
9:15 a.m.	Bible Study	6:00 p.m. Kids Time
10:30 a.m.	Morning Worship	6:30 p.m. Prayer, Bible Study & Visitation
5:00 p.m.	Adult Choir Practice	
6:00 p.m.	Youth Connection	



*Our members who have lost loved ones recently.*

- ♦ *Charlie Carpenter*
- ♦ *Helen Currin*
- ♦ *Dorothy Murray*
- ♦ *Milton Murray*



**Beginning Sunday, January 6**

Beth Moore's  
*Beloved Disciple: The Life and Ministry of John*

Led by Red Lambeth

We look forward to seeing you every Sunday at 6 p.m.!

Thanks Ms. Nonie for teaching us to pray! The study on prayer will conclude around December 9.

There will be no youth on Sunday, December 23 or 30. The Youth will participate in churchwide caroling on Sunday, December 16.



- ♦ Everyone is invited to help with the Senior Citizens Village Christmas Store on Sunday, December 2 at 2 p.m. Items for the store are needed as well as wrapping supplies and people to wrap.
- ♦ The women held a successful Prayer Retreat on Saturday, November 17, with over 20 women attending.
- ♦ The WOM Night Group will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 3 at Midge Carpenter's. Please bring a salad to share for dinner. Secret pals will exchange gifts and reveal their identities!
- ♦ The Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany sends thanks for the phone cards purchased for wounded soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and their families.

### 2007 Record of Our Giving

(as of November 25, 2007)

YTD Budget Requirements \$ 146,875.00  
YTD General Fund Offerings 141,378.56  
Difference (\$ 5,496.44)

## Christmas Post Office



**The Westfield Post Office will open Sunday, December 9. The rate for cards is \$.25 and for packages, \$.50. Money collected will go towards missions.**



### Mary Alice Campbell

Britthaven of Harnett  
604 Lucas Road  
Room 400

### O.W. "Bill" Godwin, Jr.

1505 Lakeshore Drive, Dunn  
892-7347

### Verona Singleton

211 Pine View Drive, Erwin  
897-7858

### Annie Mae West

Britthaven of Harnett  
604 Lucas Road  
Room 107



Seventeen Westfield members served on the Operation Christmas Child Mission Team in Charlotte November 23-24. Over 300 boxes were delivered from WBC, to be distributed in Zambia and Peru! The 2008 trip will be November 27-29. Contact Carolyn Brewington if you think you would like to serve next year. She is making hotel reservations, which can be canceled, but need to be secured now.



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Dunn, NC28334

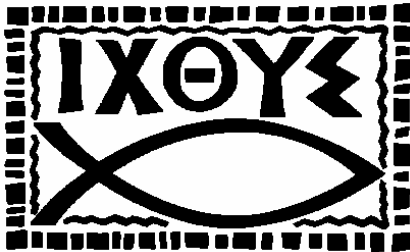
**Return Service Requested**

**Westfield Baptist Church**  
700 North Ashe Avenue  
Dunn, North Carolina 28334  
www.westfieldbaptist.org

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Fax: 910-892-4399  
E-Mail: Westfield@surrealnet.net

### Westfield Staff

**Pastor** Chris Dawson  
chrismichelle390@embarqmail.com  
home: 892-3190  
cell: 814-7345



**Minister of Music** Victor Quick  
**Secretary** Barbara Harden  
**Organist** Joyce Ballard  
**Pianist** Brad Gardner

### January

- 6** Communion
- 8** WOM morning group, 9:45 a.m.
- 13** Baptist Men's Day
- 13** Deacons' Meeting, 6:15 p.m.
- 16** Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 20** Church Council, 6:15 p.m.
- 21** WOM night group, 7 p.m.
- 23** Baptist Men's Breakfast, 8:15 a.m.



### February

- 6** Ash Wednesday
- 10** Deacons' Meeting, 6:15 p.m.
- 12** WOM morning group, 9:45 a.m.
- 18** WOM night group, 7 p.m.
- 20** Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 24** Men's Breakfast, 8:15 a.m.