

CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER — DECEMBER 2013



We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally and plenary inspired Word of God. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible, and God-breathed and, therefore, are the final authority for faith and life.

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Christmas is here, ready or not. I would like to take this time to remind everyone that this holiday is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ; God's Son who made it possible that man could have peace in heaven with a holy God. This peace also should extend into the Christians heart and mind and we should be free from the anxiety of the world around us. Now I said that knowing that most of us (me included) will experience a lot of anxiety because of family, money and time constraints over the next month. So let's get a center point before we all have a stroke or lose our testimony. Take family first, everyone has family members who we disagree with or maybe just don't get along with (because we had a disagreement in the past). I would like to point out that we are to forgive, and Paul also commands us as much as possible to live peaceable with all men, he also commands us to overcome evil with good. Now all this sounds easy and super holy but we all know that these things are difficult because we too are sinners. So a piece of advice from a big sinner, you know the ones you have a hard time with and when you are going to see them, spend time in prayer for this person and asking God to give you strength before that day, if possible give several days to pray for them. If there is something that needs to be forgiven ask them to forgive you, sometimes we just don't act like Christians, so tell them you are sorry for the way you have acted. I can hear someone right now saying, "you just

don't know...." And you are right but God does and again we are to overcome evil with good not meet it with more evil. In that same passage in Romans 12 God says through Paul, "give place for vengeance, vengeance is mine says the Lord." God will take care of His children but you and I do not know how He is using the situations in our lives to bring about His will.

We all get twisted over people being politically correct and changing the name of Christmas to Holiday, now let me say that I believe that we should enjoy Christmas and what we say that we celebrate this time of year our savior's birth. But at the same time we need to think about the fact that our savior was born so He could go to a cross so we could be forgiven don't you think we should be able to forgive others as well. Regardless of anyone else we should be on our best behavior and we should be reminded of how we have been forgiving and be willing to do the same.

I am going to meddle for just a minute on finances. A very good piece of advice is. Do not spend money you do not have just so Junior can have the latest doodad or so you can buy everyone something. I have been there, you feel obligated to buy everyone something or I have found that special something I cannot live without, I am going to put it on the credit card and I will pay it off as soon as the bill comes, two years later I am still paying for it and that great sale was devoured by the interest rate and I could not tell you where to find that special something or what it was.

Let us rejoice in the birth of Christ and live this Christmas season with less stress.

Cedar Grove Baptist Church
3012 Old Hwy 49 • PO Box 2943 • Asheboro, NC
27204 (336) 626-0551

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

Cedar Grove Baptist Church has a Benevolence Fund. Monies from this fund are dispersed discreetly to families within the church who have special needs. While we should take a special offering at the end of the Morning Service each second Sunday, we sometimes forget. However, you can make a contribution at any time by designating "Benevolence Fund" on your offering envelope.



ANNIVERSARIES

Bobby & Barbara Jones	December 12
Jacob & Kristy Whitehead	December 28
Mike & Donna Auman	December 29
Jack & Lynn Caviness	December 30



Jackson Owens

SCHEDULED EVENTS

December 01	Dinner provided by the Montagnards 3:00PM
December 07	Christmas Dinner, 6:00PM
December 07	Dirty Santa after dinner bring \$5.00 gift for adult Children's gifts provided
December 15	Children's Christmas Play lite snacks to follow 6:00PM
December 20	Christmas Caroling
December is Lottie Moon Missions Offering	



BIRTHDAYS

Matthew Leonard	December 13
Ryan Owens	December 15
Cora Maness	December 16
Tanner Franklin	December 16
David Coble	December 20
Huel Kinney	December 24
Lynn Caviness	December 26
Mike Auman	December 29
Marlene Albright	December 31
Leland Bingham	January 01
Denise Brewer	January 04
Lori Owens	January 04

Visit the Cedar Grove Baptist Church website
<http://www.cedargrovebaptistchurch.net>

MONTAGNARD ORDINATION COUNCIL @ CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH



For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! Romans 10:13-15



YOUTH SUNDAY

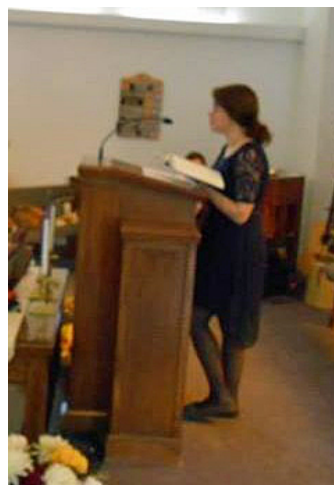
@ CEDAR GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH



Welcome



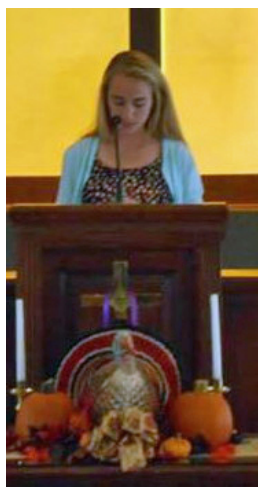
Announcements



Leading the Music



The Offering



Mission Moment



Special Music



Delivering the Message

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

The psalmist once confessed, “It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes” (Psalm 119:71). William Chatterton Dix concurred with that testimony. He was born in Bristol, England, and grew up to become manager of Maritime Insurance Company in Glasgow. But as a young man, he was struck with a near-fatal illness and spent months in bed. A severe depression set in, but he emerged from it as a hymn writer. He’s the author of two famous Christmas carols—“As with Gladness Men of Old” and “What Child Is This?”—which some scholars believe Dix wrote on the same day while on his sickbed.

What Child is this who, laid to rest
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,
Come peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever.

Luke 1:32-33



THE BIRTHDAY OF A KING

Here’s another Christmas favorite. Both the words and the music were written by a Brooklyn-born composer with a big heart for disabled children. William Harold Neidlinger was widely respected in the upper echelons of the music world as a church organist and conductor, but he also specialized in child psychology. He became well-known for his music books for kindergarteners; better known for the New Jersey school he founded for mentally handicapped children; and best known for his children’s Christmas Carol “The Birthday of a King.” Neidlinger passed away during the Christmas season, on December 5, 1924.

In the little village of Bethlehem,
There lay a Child one day;
And the sky was bright with a holy light
O’er the place where Jesus lay.

’Twas a humble birthplace, but O how much
God gave to us that day,
From the manger bed what a path has led,
What a perfect, holy way.

*Alleluia! O how the angels sang.
Alleluia! How it rang!
And the sky was bright with a holy light
’Twas the birthday of a King.*

*Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?
For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.*

Matthew 2:2



ERITREAN CHRISTIAN DIES IN PRISON

Posted on Oct 30, 2013 | by John Evans

ERITREA (BP) — A Christian woman perished from pneumonia in an Eritrean prison after facing harsh conditions and denial of medical treatment — all because she would not renounce her faith.

Open Doors, an organization supporting the global persecuted church, reported this week that Wehazit Berhane Debesai is the 25th known Christian to have died in prison in Eritrea. According to the report, the exact date of death of the woman in her 30s is unknown. Eritrean authorities arrested her a year ago. They held her near the Ethiopian border for being involved in Christian activities outside the Orthodox, Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran church groups.

Debesai's death came as government forces arrested 70 Christians who met for prayer in the capital of Asmara, according to Open Doors. It is the third time the pastor who led the prayer event has been thrown in prison for his faith. This latest development brings the total number of Christians arrested this year in Eritrea to nearly 300. Local Christians call it the government's most serious campaign against the church so far.

In what may be a separate event, according to conflicting reports, government secu-

rity forces arrested 185 Christians praying together in a suburb to the north of Asmara. According to Release International, a United Kingdom-based group serving the persecuted church, most of those arrests involved women.

“Our Eritrean partners say church leaders fear this mass arrest could herald a new clampdown on Christians and a wave of further detentions,” Paul Robinson, chief executive of Release International, told the UK-based charity Cross Rhythms.

The Christians were believed to have gathered to pray for the country's refugee crisis. The United Nations reports thousands of Eritreans try to flee every month despite an alleged “shoot-to-kill” policy by security forces against anyone attempting to escape.

“The arrest has alarmed underground church leaders, who fear that this may be a sign of things to come,” Robinson said.

According to International Christian Concern, an organization supporting persecuted believers, Eritrea is one of the world's worst persecutors of Christians. More than 2,000 Christians are believed to have been imprisoned for their faith.

THE CRY OF LIFE

And she brought forth her firstborn son. Luke 2:7

Life and especially history are full of all kinds of cries. There have been cries of anguish and joy, cries of victory and defeat. And yet there is probably no cry that is as touching, as tender, and as timely as the fragile first cry of a newborn babe.

If you are a parent, you know the delirious joy—indeed, relief—that came when your own babies shattered the delivery room air with their first cry. Why does a child's cry, something that normally brings concern to a parent, produce joy when it is first heard? Because it's a sign of *life*. The tension in the delivery room waiting on on that first cry is not unlike the tension in all of creation that first Christmas Eve. When the cold silence of a Bethlehem night was broken by Jesus' first cry, it meant more than just life. It meant eternal life—spiritual life! No longer would mankind live in fear of death. Life itself had been born in Bethlehem.

History's most famous cry was that of a tiny Babe, born in a manger. Celebrate that cry of life this Christmas season. Even today, it echoes in your heart if you know Jesus Christ as a Savior.

David Jeremiah, *Sanctuary: Finding Moments of Refuge in the Presence of God* (Nashville, TN: Integrity Publishers, 2002).

Exported from [Logos Bible Software](#), 2:47 PM November 27, 2013.