

December 2025



### **It's A Wonderful Life**

Tis' the season when we get to enjoy the many wonderful movies with a Christmas theme. My favorite is "It's a Wonderful Life". This heartwarming story of self-sacrifice for the good of others always brings a tear to my eyes. The contrast of the selfish, greedy, and dishonest Mr. Potter and the selfless, giving, and kind George Bailey is filled with illusions to the conflict between good and evil. In the end, good wins and we come to understand that a man is truly rich if he has friends.

This Christmas reminds me of how blessed I have been these past 15 years to have such a wonderful collection of friends who have become family here at Northside Baptist Church. God has been especially good to put you in our lives. We have been blessed by your prayers, supported by your encouragement, and loved far more than we ever could deserve. We are very rich indeed!

Our prayers are for your every success as you write the next exciting chapter in God's story in the life and work of the Northside Baptist Church family. Scripture tells us that God will withhold no good thing from His children who love and obey Him. Good days are ahead. Walk forward with faith, with joy, and with love. Enter 2026 with confidence that God is already there waiting for you and is already working all things to your good!

To God be the Glory!

**Pastor Jeff**



## December

BIRTHDAYS

6<sup>th</sup> Carter Allen  
 11<sup>th</sup> Erin Allen, Kathy White  
 13<sup>th</sup> Ashley Martin  
 15<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Campbell,  
 18<sup>th</sup> Peggy Hall  
 19<sup>th</sup> Alex Breeding,  
 20<sup>th</sup> Patricia McDevitt,  
 Karen Westbrook  
 21<sup>st</sup> Dale Northington  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Joy Tanner  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Brandon Kelly  
 26<sup>th</sup> Skip Martin  
 28<sup>th</sup> Marianne Butler,  
 Jean-Meredith Harrill  
 29<sup>th</sup> Carolyn Jones

**Healing Quilts** meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Thursday each month at 10:00am.

Next meeting is January 8, 2026.  
 No meetings in December 2025.

## Important Dates and INFORMATION

Sit & Get Fit Monday & Thursday @ 9:30am – Fellowship Hall

Men's Bible Study Tuesdays @ 8:00am – Fellowship Hall

Women's Bible Study Tuesdays @ 10:00am – Acts Classroom

### Wednesday Nights in December

Choir Rehearsal @ 7:00pm

**Fellowship Dinner & Bible Study return 01/07/2026)**

Healing Quilts – No Meetings in December

Missions Team – 12/3/25 @ 4:30pm – Conference Room

Fellowship Dinner – 12/3/25 @ 5:30pm – Fellowship Hall

Annual Business Meeting – 12/3/25 @ 6:15pm – Fellowship Hall

**JOY** Senior Trip – 12/5/25, 10:30am-5:30pm

Appell SS Class Party – 12/6/25, 1-4:00pm – Fellowship Hall

Choir Rehearsal – 12/7/25, 12:30-2:00pm

Joy Lunch – 12/9/25 @ 11:00am – Fellowship Hall

Naomi Circle – 12/9/25 @ 6:30pm – Fellowship Hall

Family Christmas Dinner – 12/12/25 @ 5:30pm – Fellowship Hall

Deacon Team – 12/14/25 @ 8:00am – Conference Room

Painting Class – 12/16/25, 1-3:00pm – Fellowship Hall

Cantata Rehearsal – 12/20/25 @ 9:00am – Fellowship Hall

Christmas Cantata – 12/21/25 @ 7:00pm - Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Service – 12/24/25 @ 5:00pm – Sanctuary

Harbour Square – 12/28/25 @ 11:30am

Bunco – 12/28/25, 3-5:30pm – Fellowship Hall

**Office Closed – 12/24/2025 through 1/5/2026**

**Merry Christmas**

**Happy New Year**

**Newsletter Articles for January due by 12/17/25**

## NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION

Beginning December 1st,  
 Read one chapter of  
 The Book of Luke in the Bible  
 each evening.

There are 24 chapters.  
 On Christmas Eve you will have read  
 an entire account of Jesus's Life  
 and wake up Christmas Morning  
 Knowing WHO and WHY  
 We Celebrate!!



## ~ Mission Moments ~

**First Responders** – Planning a visit to Laurel Meadows Fire House with homeschoolers. (kids on Mission!) Date TBD.

**MCEF** – collecting canned meats, graham crackers, beets, Mayonnaise, ketchup.

**Healing Quilts** – resumed meeting twice a month. Working on quilts.

**Naomi Circle** - Met 11/17/2025. Continuing ministries include: praying for missionaries, card ministry (youth and others we love), and feminine products for MCEF. December Project – Christmas gifts for children of two needy families and their mothers. Wrapping Party and Dinner Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will also send gift cards to college kids.

**CARITAS** - (30 meals for the ladies' facility) Thanks to Gloria Harrison for coordinating this ministry. Delivery made October 30<sup>th</sup>. Homeschoolers decorated bags for this project. (kids on Mission!)

**Harbour Square** - Desiree Lytton heads this ministry. Deliveries last Sunday of each month. Missions Team applied for a grant from the Watson Offering Funds to support this ministry.

**Kroger** – 52 households participating. Encourage others to sign up. Instructions for signing up located in Common Grounds. Check for last quarter was \$172.83.

**Church Hill (River City Faith Network)** – Beverly Sweeney and Lunette Rice attend Bible Study, and report needs to this team. Items from the Warming Tree will be shared with this ministry.

**Moments of Hope** – continuing to collect single pup tents, sleeping bags, blankets, coats, underwear, socks, flashlights, and batteries for the homeless. The Director picks up items on a regular basis.

**Bloom (PRC).** - We will provide baby bottle banks once a quarter to be filled with cash/checks to donate to this ministry. Next collection planned for January on "Sanctity of Life" Sunday.

**Operation Christmas Child** – Thank you for participating in this worldwide nondenominational ministry. We exceeded our number of boxes from last year!

**Misc.** – 1. We are collecting tabs from cans to donate to Ronald MacDonald House. They use them to pay the electric bill.

2. **Warming Tree** is up and ready to receive hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and socks of all sizes. These are shared with MCEF, Moments of Hope, and The River City Faith Network.



### **Donations Needed:**

**Canned Meats**  
**Graham Crackers**  
**Beets**  
**Mayonnaise**  
**Ketchup**

## **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an annual offering collected by Southern Baptists to support international missions. The offering was officially named in 1918 by the Woman's Missionary Union in honor of the missionary to China who urged churches to start it and give sacrificially. We will collect through the month of December. Our goal for 2025 is \$2,500.00.





### **Oh What Fun. . .**

As I close out my last month of service before retirement, I just want to give thanks to all of my church family for the love, the laughter, the support, and the prayers as we have enjoyed our time together. We had such fun with our exercise program, Bible studies, painting classes, Bunco, and trips. We have eaten together, worshiped together, and we were there for each other in the good times and in bad.

Those on one of our trips to Lancaster will long remember Charlie Payne and Pastor Jeff cutting up with the waitress as we ate and closed the place down. We laughed so hard, our sides hurt. Charlie's arm hurt too as the waitress gave him a gentle punch in the arm for teasing her so. We will always remember how love can be found at any age, and we all celebrated with Robert and Sharon Gibson as they got married this past month at the end of a worship service to the absolute delight of all!

Oh, the fun we had together. While Jeff and I look forward to welcoming our second grandchild and helping out with his care, we find it hard to leave our family here. We love you so and have been so blessed with your loving care for us. It is such a blessing to retire with our last congregation to be family.

Our prayers continue for you as you continue in the fun we enjoyed. We will be watching you from afar, praying for your success, and cheering you on as you continue to love others as Jesus loves!

Love,  
*Debbie Scott*  
*Director of Senior Adult Ministries*



# Holy Rollers

## Bunco Bunch

No Skill, No Strategy  
Just Fun & Snacks!

December 28<sup>th</sup> 3-5:30pm



DECEMBER 5, 2025

Depart: 10:30am  
Please arrive by 10:15am

## Sit & Get Fit

Chair Exercise for Senior Saints

Monday & Thursday  
9:30am – 10:30am



## Painting Class

December 16<sup>th</sup>

1-3:00pm



## JOY Lunch

December 9<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am

Be Happy No Matter What

Guest Speaker: Joy Baughan

Reservations Due by Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Email: [coffee4debbie@gmail.com](mailto:coffee4debbie@gmail.com)

Call: 804-746-4952



from the Church Staff  
Pastor Jeff, Amy, Debbie,  
Eric, Lauren, Crys,  
Stephanie, Jennifer, JoAnn

## Important Year-End Financial Information

- **2025 End-of-Year Contributions**

In order for contributions to be included on your 2025 contribution statement, they must **either**:

**arrive in the church office** no later than noon on Thursday, December 18th;

**or, be placed in the offering plates** on or before Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.

Offerings received after December 28<sup>th</sup> may count towards 2026 contributions.

**Please note that the church office will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

- **2025 Contribution Statements**

Your 2025 year-end contribution statements will be mailed mid-January 2026.

- **2026 Offering Envelopes**

- 2026 boxed envelope sets will be available for pick up in the main hallway beginning December 7th.
- Beginning in January, please discard any unused 2025 envelopes, and only use ones from your new set.
- If you do not find a set of envelopes on the hallway table, but would like to have one, please call Lauren in the church office at 746-4952, or e-mail her at lmodlin7600@gmail.com.

**Thank you!**

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

ANNUAL CHURCH  
**BUSINESS**  
MEETING

December 3rd  
6:15pm



Returns January 7, 2026  
Dinner @ 5:30pm  
(\$5.00/per person)  
Bible Study @ 6:15pm



December 12th  
5:30pm

**\*\*See Amy Hunter for details\*\***



Dec. 7 "A Strange Way to Save the World"

Matthew 1:18-25 (NLT)

Dec. 14 "I Want to Hear the Angels Sing"

Luke 2:8-15 (NLT)

Dec. 21 "Mary Was the First One to Carry the Gospel"

Luke 2:16-19 (NLT)

Dec. 24 "Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child"

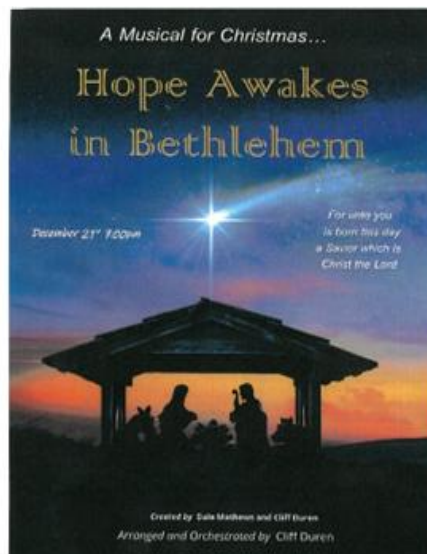
John 1:10-14 (NLT)

Dec. 28 "Soon, Yes, Very Soon We Are Going to See the King"

Matthew 2:1-12 (NLT)



*Eric Schlaud*



Special Choir Rehearsal

December 7<sup>th</sup>

12:30 - 2:00pm

Cantata Rehearsal

December 20<sup>th</sup>

9:00 – 11:00am

Cantata  
Hope Awakes in Bethlehem

December 21<sup>st</sup>

7:00pm



## Help NBC Shine Online!

Have you ever checked the reviews of a restaurant or hotel before visiting? How about prior to purchasing something on Amazon? Now, more than ever, people are relying on Google reviews to help make decisions about almost anything. Google reviews are one of the most powerful ways for new families and community members to find us. When people search for a local church, strong positive reviews help our ministry stand out and reassure them that this is a welcoming place to belong.

Think about your review as a personal testimony about Northside Baptist. In your review, you can include things like: what you love about NBC; how NBC has supported you, your family, or your community; what you enjoy about the worship, programs, or outreach, or why you think others may want to visit.

Writing a review is easy. Open Google and search for Northside Baptist Church. When you see our church listed, click on the link or the stars to open up a side panel. Click reviews and then select the number of stars and type your review. Don't forget to click post when you're done. Scan the QR code for a short tutorial.

