

# CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



## THE VALLEY ECHO

December 5, 2022

Please mail all correspondence to: P.O. Box 30954, Raleigh, NC 27622

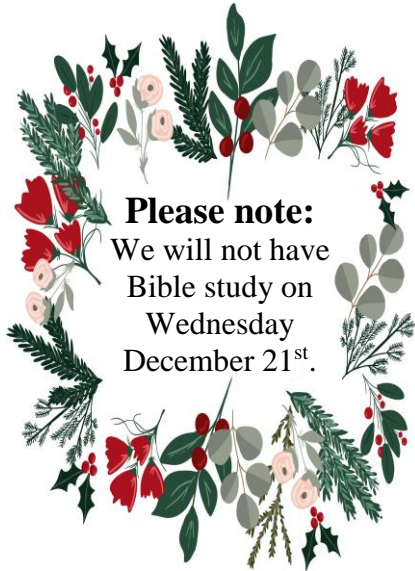
Church location: 4408 Lead Mine Rd Raleigh, NC 27612 Phone: (919) 781-5345

Email: [cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:cvbc@crabtreevalleybaptist.org) Website: [www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org](http://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org)

Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm (closed on Friday)

### PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Johnny's office hours this week will be Sat, December 10, 9:00am till noon.



#### Please note:

We will not have Bible study on Wednesday December 21<sup>st</sup>.

### —STAYING— CONNECTED

If you're unable to attend our Worship services, you can watch the weekly Virtual Worship Service on Sundays at 11am.

<https://www.crabtreevalleybaptist.org>

#### Church office information:

##### Interim Pastor •

Rev. Johnny Richards

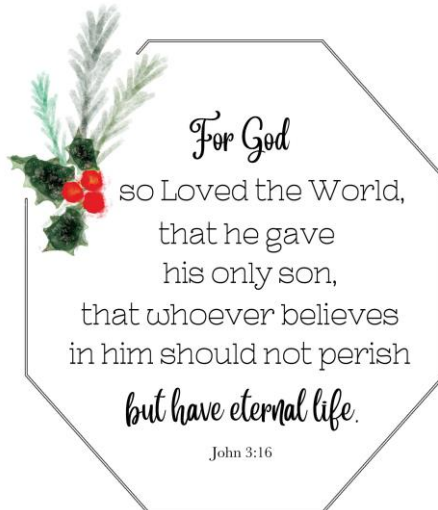
Music Director • Risa Poniros

Secretary • Peggy Utley

Youth Director • Anna Clark

Website updates/maintenance

[webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)



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

### From the Pastor's Heart...

Well, here we are. We started on June 6th with the letter "A" and the word **abide**.

Twenty-six weeks later we come to the letter "Z" and the word for this week is the word **zoetic**. As Christians, one way we can allow others to see Christ in us is by having a zoetic, or living relationship with God. The word zoetic simply means "*pertaining to life; living or vital*". There really is no way we can have a growing relationship with Christ, or show Christ to others through our actions and words if we do not have a living relationship with Him.

To see this, we can read in Ephesians 2:4-5 where Paul writes to the church in Ephesus; "*But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.*" There is the phrase we are looking at for today. We are alive in Christ. We were not always alive in Christ. In fact, Paul said we were dead in our transgressions. Before Christ, we were living in our own desires of fulfilling our own wants. We were dead. We had no hope, which we talked about was so important last week. But now, because of Christ, not only do we have hope, but we have life. We have a life in Christ. He lives within us and gives us that life. It is a life that Christ wants us to live to the fullest, through Him.

I think it is the "living life abundantly" that seems to be so hard to do. It's hard because it is hard to define. The world would say that living the abundant life is about living a complete life, but what does that mean? Does it mean always being happy? That's not possible. Does it mean living life where everything works out for us? Again, this is impossible. So what does it mean to have the "abundant life" that Jesus said He came to earth to give? I like what Rev. Robert Jacobs says about having abundant life. He says "*Abundant living is a life that is filled with the things that are good for us. A life of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, compassion, humility, enthusiasm, confidence, honesty, a relationship with God. Abundant life is full of those **things money can't buy and all come from God**, who is the giver of all good things.*" Did you catch it? The abundant life does not come from things around us, it comes from living with and in Christ. When we live in Christ, He can give us abundant living. He gives us a zoetic life.

Ok, you may think I am stretching this zoetic life thing. Maybe so. However, I don't want you to miss the important part of this article. Christ wants you to have life, and have it in a way that helps us grow in Him and cause others to want to have life in Christ. Not only during the Christmas season, but all year long! Until next week...

Peace and Blessings,  
Johnny

## Weekly Church Calendar

### EACH SUNDAY

9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service  
2:00-5:00pm Point Church (Filipino)

### EACH WEDNESDAY

9:00am-12:00pm Hope Pantry is open  
6:30pm Children and Youth Mission groups  
6:30pm Bible study & Prayer meeting

### EACH THURSDAY

7:30pm Gamblers Anonymous

### SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY

6:30pm Tarheel Toastmasters



### ***SHARE THE SONSHINE***

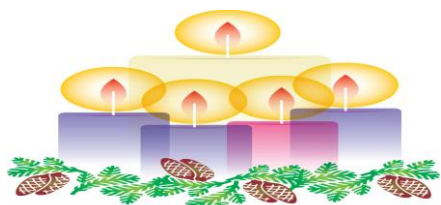
#### **Person of the Week for Dec 4-10**

Betsy Shaw - Room 219  
Sunrise of Raleigh  
4801 Edwards Mill Rd.  
Raleigh, NC 27612

**Deacon for this week:** 12/4 Barbara Goodson

**Deacon for next week:** 12/11 Jean Glosson

**Properties for December:** David Jenkins



### ***Christmas Eve***

To me there is no better reason to worship than the Christmas season. I love the worship opportunities we have to focus on advent and to prepare for celebrating Christ's birth. One special service we will enjoy is our **Christmas Eve service on December 24th at 5:00pm** in our sanctuary. This will be a time of meditation, singing, communion and concluding with candle light. I hope you and your family will plan to worship with us during this special time. --Pastor Johnny



We express a special thanks to all those who worked so hard to make our sanctuary so beautiful. It is always helpful to focus on Christ's birth as we see the decorations of the season. Thank you so much!

## Prayer Concerns:

### HOME

Frances Viano  
Sandi Robinson  
Walt Switzer  
Jane Williams  
Jetta Lewis  
Marci Phelps – (friend of Jean Glosson)

### REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Anne Barden – Oak Hill Asst Living in Angier  
Betsy Shaw – Sunrise of Raleigh on Edwards Mill Rd.  
Catherine Mullins – Sunrise of Cary

### OTHER:

Sonshine Person of the Week  
The Price family – Missionaries in Wales



### **Lottie Moon and CBF Global Missions offerings**

Lottie Moon goal is \$500 – rec'd to date: \$70.00  
Global Missions goal is \$500 – rec'd to date: \$70.00

*Make checks payable to CVBC – note LM or  
Global on your check and/or envelope.*

**We will collect this offering through Sun, Dec 25.**

The Deacons invite you to show your appreciation of our church staff. This year's **Staff Love Offering** will include Pastor Johnny; videographers, Elizabeth Best and Yilong Wang; Treasurer, Liz Mills; Secretary, Peggy Utley; Director of Music, Risa Poniro; Pianist, Cheryl Walker; and our Youth Director, Anna Clark. *Please mark your check or envelope "Love offering."* **This offering needs to be received by Wed, Dec 21 as these gifts are given out at the Christmas Eve service.** Rec'd to date: \$420.00

**All 2022 contributions need to be received by Dec 25.**



### **Messages for December**

December 11th: The Search for Joy  
(John 15:1-17)

December 18th: The Power of the Gift of Love  
(Acts 3:1-10)

December 24th: A Service of Pondering  
(Matthew 1:18-25)

December 25th: The Pleasant Surprises of Christmas  
(Luke 2:1-20)