

# CRABTREE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH



## THE VALLEY ECHO

December 4, 2023

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)



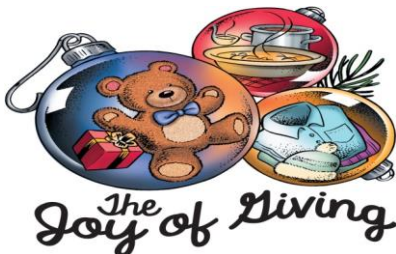
### CHRISTMAS CANTATA

*Make plans to join us as the  
CVBC choir, along with some  
special guests, present*

#### **“Gather at the Manger”**

**Sun, Dec 10 at 4:00pm**

Refreshments and fellowship to follow. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby to help with refreshments, please bring all items ‘ready to serve’. We have mini-posters available for you to pick up, use these to invite your family and friends!



#### **Angel Tree**

This year we are collecting gifts for 2 families that recently stayed at the Welcome House. Please take an angel, buy and wrap the gift, placing the angel on top. For clothes or shoes, please ask the store for a gift receipt and include it with the wrapped gift in case it does not fit and needs to be returned. **Gifts are due by Dec. 20.**



#### **A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR**

The Advent candle for this coming Sunday is the Peace Candle. In our world today, both outward and inward peace seems to be a greater challenge than ever. The strife in the Middle East, the long battles that never cease in Ukraine, and the soaring rates of mental illness, anxiety and stress that tempt us all.

Is peace possible any more?

The angels proclaimed "peace on earth." Inner peace begins and ends with your relationship to your Heavenly

Father. God's word says, "You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is focused on you because he trusts in you." (Isaiah 26:3) Personalize that as you read these words and say out loud--"God will keep ME in perfect peace...."It is a choice as to what you focus on. One of the great gifts of Advent is that it invites us to focus on gifts that God is longing to give us.

There is also the challenge of peace, not just within, but without. "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God" (Matthew 5:) Who do you need to call or write a note to reconcile some old hurt or division? Maybe it is even within your own family or place of work or neighbor? For me it begins in prayer. The more I pray for a person the wonderful result is that I start seeing that person the way God sees them.

To make the most of this Advent season, join me in praying the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: "Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Anad where there is sadness, only joy.

Peace be yours, Bill

Don't forget to invite someone to the Christmas Cantata this coming Sunday at 4 p.m.



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

#### **Church office information:**

**Pastor • Dr. Bill Slater Music Director • Risa Poniro**  
**Secretary • Peggy Utley Youth Director • Anna Clark**  
**Website updates/maintenance [webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org](mailto:webmaster@crabtreevalleybaptist.org)**

## 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 and Prayer meeting

### EACH THURSDAY

7:30pm Gamblers Anonymous

### SECOND & FOURTH TUESDAY

6:30pm Tarheel Toastmasters

### MONTHLY

Young Hearts Fellowship

## Prayer Concerns:

### HOME:

Freda Poniros  
Jim Weaver  
Margaret Martinez  
Faye Hayes (on-going health concerns)  
Frances Viano  
Walt Switzer

### REHAB & CARE FACILITIES:

Anne Barden – Oak Hill Asst Living in Angier  
Catherine Mullins – Sunrise of Cary  
Betsy Shaw – Group Home/Assisted Living: Val's Place  
Sandi Robinson – Hillside Rehab in Wake Forest

### OTHER:

Sonshine Person of the Week



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

*Share the Sonshine is an outreach ministry. We can all be a part of this ministry by praying for these individuals, sending cards, making phone calls or a visit.*

### **Person of the Week for December 3-9**

Betsy Shaw  
4910 Morehead Dr.  
Raleigh, NC 27614



Our **Christmas Card Mailbox** is in the lobby and ready for members to use for exchanging Christmas cards with other church members. Cards are filed alphabetically by last name. Please mail your cards to those members who are unable to attend regularly or are in Rehab/Care facilities. Cards that are not picked up will not be mailed out. In lieu of postage, please make donations to the Lottie Moon and/or to the CBF Global Missions offering.

**Properties for December:** David Jenkins



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

Lottie Moon goal is \$500

Global Missions goal is \$500

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

**We will collect this offering through Sun, Dec 24.**

The Deacons invite you to show your appreciation of our church staff (we have several paid and volunteer staff) by contributing to the **Staff Love Offering**. Please mark your check or envelope "Love offering." **This offering needs to be received by Wed, Dec 20 as these gifts are given out at the Christmas Eve service.**

**All 2023 contributions need to be received by Sun, Dec 24.**



### **Holiday Schedule**

**Sunday, December 10 at 4:00pm**

Cantata and Reception

**Sunday, December 24 at 5:00pm**

Christmas Eve Service

**Monday, Dec 25 and Tuesday, Dec 26**

Office closed for Christmas

**Wednesday, Dec 27**

Hope Pantry open

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### **Please note:**

There will not be a newsletter published the week of December 25.