

Little River Baptist Association

Amistad Cristiana
Anderson Creek
Angier

Anthem Church
Antioch

Baptist Chapel
Baptist Grove

Broadway
Buies Creek First

Calvary
Chalybeate Springs

Coats
Connect

Crestview
Crossroads

Duncan
Dunn First

Dunn Second
Erwin First

Faith
Fellowship

Flatwoods
Friendship

Gourd Springs
Harmony

Hillmon Grove
Holly Springs

Intentional Love
Kennebec

Life in Christ Christian Center
LifePoint Community

Lillington
Macedonia

Memorial
Narrow Trail Cowboy Church

Neill's Creek
New Hope

North Clinton Avenue
Oak Grove

Overhills Community
Piney Grove Chapel

Pleasant Memory
The Lakes Community Church

The Point Church
Rawls

Redemption Hill
South Erwin

Spout Springs
Swann Station

Vessels Mission
The Gathering

Trinity
Westfield

Martin H. Dupree, Director of Missions
Missy Murry, Missions/Ministries Coordinator
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-5pm

December 2019

Are You Ready for Christ to Come ?

Advent means **“to come”** and what we traditionally celebrate is the season leading up to Christ's birth at Christmas! We celebrate God's incarnation at Christmas – God becoming flesh in the person of Jesus Christ. (John 1) Advent, looks back upon Christ's coming in celebration while at the same time looking forward in eager anticipation to the coming of Christ's kingdom when he returns for his people. In this light, the Advent hymn **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”** perfectly represents the church's cry during the Advent season.

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice!*

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Advent wreath of evergreens, symbolizes everlasting life in the midst of winter and death. The circle reminds us of God's unending love and the eternal life He makes possible. Advent candles are often in the evergreen wreath. Advent is the last 4 Sundays leading up to Christmas Eve.

December 1 – HOPE (or Promise)	Purple Candle
December 8 – PREPARATION (waiting or prophecy)	Purple Candle
December 15 – JOY (peace)	Rose or Red Candle
December 22 – LOVE (adoration)	Purple Candle
December 24 – BIRTH of CHRIST	White Candle

Here is a sample prayer to use during the season to focus your heart and mind for the birth of Jesus Christ.

An Advent Prayer for The Lord to Come

*This Advent, Lord, come to the manger of my heart.
Fill me with Your presence from the very start.
As I prepare for the holidays and gifts to be given,
Remind me of the gift You gave when You sent Your Son from Heaven.
The first Christmas gift, it was the greatest gift ever.
You came as a baby born in a manger.
Wrapped like the gifts I find under my tree,
Waiting to be opened, to reveal Your love to me.
Restore to me the wonder that came with Jesus' birth,
When He left the riches of Heaven and wrapped Himself in rags of earth.
Immanuel, God with us, Your presence came that night.
And angels announced, "Into your darkness, God brings His Light."
"Do not be afraid," they said, to shepherds in the field.
Speak to my heart today, Lord, and help me to yield.
Make me like those shepherd boys, obedient to Your call.
Setting distractions and worries aside, to You I surrender them all.
Surround me with Your presence, Lord, I long to hear Your voice.
Clear my mind of countless concerns and all the holiday noise.
Slow me down this Christmas, let me not be in a rush.
In the midst of parties and planning, I want to feel Your hush.
This Christmas, Jesus, come to the manger of my heart.
Invade my soul like Bethlehem, bringing peace to every part.
Dwell within and around me, as I unwrap Your presence each day.
Keep me close to You, Lord. It's in Your wonderful Name I pray.*

~Renee Swope, "The Manger of My Heart" from [Proverbs 31](#) Ministries

Special Christmas Services in LRBA Churches

Church	Date	Time	Event
Angier Baptist 155 S. Hickory St., Angier	Dec. 8	6:00 PM	Kids Christmas Program
	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Adult Cantata
	Dec. 24	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Communion Candlelight Service
Antioch Baptist 6670 Old US Hwy. 421, Mamers	Dec. 14, 15	7:00 PM	Adult Christmas Cantata, ' <i>Christmas In the Air</i> '
	Dec. 24	6:30 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Baptist Grove Baptist 6140 Christian Light Rd. Fuquay-Varina	Dec. 24	5:30 PM	Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
Chalybeate Springs 238 Chalybeate Rd., FV	Dec. 8	10:30 AM	Choir Christmas Program
		6:30 PM	The Allen Family in Concert
Coats Baptist 554 N. McKinley St. Coats	Dec. 8	6:00 PM	Joyful Ringers
	Dec. 15	6:00 PM	<i>Christmas at Coats</i>
	Dec. 24	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service
Dunn First Baptist 309 W. Broad St. Dunn	Dec. 1	6:30 PM	Hanging of the Greens
	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Adult Cantata ' <i>Joy Has Dawned</i> '
	Dec. 15	6:30 PM	Children Christmas Musical ' <i>The Glory of Christmas</i> '
Gourd Springs Baptist 4575 Ray Road. Spring Lake	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Christmas Celebration
Hillmon Grove Baptist 384 Hillmon Grove Rd. Cameron	Dec. 20	7:00 PM	'Bethlehem's Child' Cantata Presentation
	Dec. 22	11:00 AM	
	Dec. 24	6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Holly Springs BAPT.Ch. 385 Holly Springs Church Rd Broadway	Dec. 8	4:30-6:00 PM	AWANA Meeting with Santa
	Dec. 14	6:00-9:00 PM	'One Starry Night' Children's Event
	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Choir Cantata, ' <i>All is Well</i> '
Kennebec Baptist 9808 Kennebec Church Rd. Angier	Dec. 15	6:00 PM	Children's Christmas Play
	Dec. 22	6:00 PM	Adult Christmas Musical
	Dec. 24	5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Lillington Baptist 210 W. Lofton St., Lillington	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Christmas Cantata, ' <i>Song of Joy</i> '
	Dec. 16	6:00-7 PM 7:00 PM	Live Nativity (walk-up or drive-by) Christmas Cantata, ' <i>Song of Joy</i> '
Memorial Baptist 271 Leslie Campbell Ave. Buies Creek	Dec. 8	7:00 PM	Children's Christmas Program
	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Chancel Choir Cantata
	Dec. 22	11:00 AM	Fireside at Memorial
	Dec. 24	5:30 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Neill's Creek Baptist 4200 Neill's Crk Rd., Angier	Dec. 1	6:00 PM	Hanging of The Greens
	Dec. 15	6:00 PM	Adult Christmas Cantata
	Dec. 18	5:30 PM	Community Christmas Caroling
	Dec. 24	9:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Church	Date	Time	Event
Overhills Community BC 948 Overhills Rd., Linden	Dec.16	6:00 PM	Children & Adult Choirs
Piney Grove Chapel BC 4440-A Piney Grove Rd, Angier	Dec. 8	6:00 PM	Christmas Play- 'C.A.K.E. (Christmas Acts of Kindness Experiment)'
	Dec. 15	8:30 AM, 11 AM	Christmas Cantata
South Erwin Baptist 144 Old Cut-Off Rd., Erwin	Dec. 15	11:00 AM	Christmas Choir Celebration
	Dec. 18	7:00 PM	Candlelight Communion
	Dec. 22	11:00 AM	Children's Christmas Play

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LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS
OFFERING®

National Goal: \$165 million
Supporting: 3,678 Missionaries

Lottie Moon, the namesake of the International Missions Offering, was much like today's missionaries; she was hard-working, deep-loving Southern Baptist who labored tirelessly so that her people group could know Jesus Christ as Savior. Today, your giving enables missionaries to be sent to make disciples and multiply churches among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God.



LRBA Ministers' & Spouses'
Christmas Dinner

December 5th, 6:30pm

Lillington Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
Please contact the LRBA Office ASAP if you would like to attend and have not signed up for this FREE EVENT.
It will be a great time!



A Special Thanks!

Thank you to all that contributed Shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse, Appalachian Backpacks, lotions for the Women's Prison and Christmas cards to the Men's Prison.

TAX HELP



Ministers' Conference

Tax & Retirement Planning
January 14th at 10 AM
LRBA Office



Associational Council/Executive Committee Meeting

January 27th, 6:30 PM ,LRBA Office



VBS 2020 Preview Event

January 10-11
Ridgecrest Conference Center
Ridgecrest, NC
Register today to secure spots for your entire team.
Lifeway.com/vbspreviewevents

Please be in prayer for our LRBA churches seeking new pastors: Westfield Baptist, Pleasant Memory Baptist, Overhills Community Church.

Pray for missionaries: K & K—Asia; M in M; J & J—C Asia; Greenes—MA; Dias family—Africa; R—N Africa; M—Middle East.



December—Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Month

- 5 Ministers & Spouses Christmas Dinner, 6:30PM, LBC
- 24-31 LRBA Office Closed
- 25 Christmas Day
- 30 Application Deadline for 2020 Student Summer Ministries
- 31 New Year's Eve

January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 8 Senior Adult Planning Meeting, LRBA Office, 2pm
- 14 WMU Associational Leadership Team Meeting, 6:30pm
- 14 Pastors' Conf/Tax & Retirement w/Davis Blount. 10am @ LRBA
- 19 Sanctity of Life Sunday
- 26 Baptist Men's Day
- 27 Assoc Council/Executive Comm. Meeting, LRBA, 6:30 pm

February

- 10-16 WMU/Heck-Jones Offering & Week of Prayer
- 11 WMU Pastors' Appreciation Banquet at TBD, 6:30pm
- 11 Pastors' Conf/Discipleship Making Strategies, 10am @ LRBA
- 15 Children's Ministry Day
- 19 Senior Adult Group Planning
- 25 Disciple Making Conf at Green St. Bapt. Church, High Point

Birthdays

December		January	
3 Ed Beddingfield	Memorial	5 Charisse Gainey	Life in Christ Christian Center
3 Sharon McLaurin	Duncan	9 Timmy Blair	Piney Grove Chapel
3 Ken Dalton	Crossroads	11 Renee Pearce	Baptist Grove
4 Cathy Keever	Dunn First	16 Kim Monk	The Gathering
5 Danny Jarmon	Macdeonia	22 James Harrelson	Narrow Trail Cowboy Ch.
5 Patsy Parsons	Harmony	22 Angela Dupree	
6 Len Keever	Dunn First	23 Kathelleen Davis	Crestview
12 Sean Bass	Redemption Hill	31 Robbie O'Quinn	Calvary
17 Scott Yow	Holly Springs		
19 Crystal Yow	Holly Springs		
19 Marty Dupree	LRBA		
22 Jane O'Quinn	Calvary		

Ministry Anniversaries

December		3 Larry Pittman	Broadway '10
14 Kevin Darnell	Intentional Love '13	3 Nathan Redinger	LifePoint '10
28 James Taylor	Fellowship '86	6 Joe Monk	The Gathering ,13
January		15 Alex Smith	Baptist Chapel '06
1 Clay Burgess	Connect ' 02	19 William Cox	Dunn Second '05
1 Danny Jarmon	Macedonia '85	<i>'The True Meaning of Christmas'</i> Go to: www.MartyDupree.org click on "Resources"	
1 Drew Poplin	Trinity '19		

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**Articles need to be received by
 the fifteenth of each month.**

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