The Link - December 2026

The AP Corner

Our Church's Values: TRUTH

As 2026 draws to a close, and with the holiday season upon us, this month's AP Corner examines the third of our newly stated values, Truth. It states:

> **TRUTH - We believe, embrace, stand on, declare,**
> **and seek to obey the Bible, God's written word.**

By embracing truth as a core value, we are seeking to reflect and perpetuate that which we celebrate this month — the incarnation of Jesus Himself: "….grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17). In other words, Jesus came to perfectly reveal to us the grace of God (our 2nd value, discussed last month), but not just a nebulous, unfocused, feel-good, anything-goes kind of grace. His delivery of grace to mankind is tempered by and conditioned upon truth. Gods truth as revealed in Scripture clarifies for us the nature of God, the Gospel, good and evil, right and wrong, discipleship, worship, prayer, the church, heaven and hell, the Kingdom of God and all the information we need for life and godliness. The world we live in is in desperate need of truth - millions grope in darkness, and the church is intended to be the light that shows them the way of truth.

As our confession of faith, the Baptist faith and message, states,, we believe that:

> *The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired*
> *and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is*
> *a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has*
> *God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth,*
> *without any mixture of error, for its matter.*
> *Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and*
> *trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God*
> *judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the*
> *end of the world, the true center of Christian union,*
> *and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All*
> *Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself*
> *the focus of divine revelation.*

However, just declaring this as a church has very limited benefit unless we, the people of God, fall in love with His Word, read it, study it, rightly interpret it, reflect upon it, memorize it, obey it, and apply it to our lives. Would you consider making a fresh commitment as a New Year approaches to embrace His Word as never before, reading it daily, hearing it preached at least weekly, and obeying the truth you find within it? This is the way to true progress and blessing in your spiritual journey, and also the way for us to reflect His truth and bring His Kingdom in this realm.

Joyful Sounds

As we enter into the Christmas season, people look forward to so many different things. In our worship services, we shift into Christmas carols and sing many of our favorites. Many of us have sung them for years. Have you ever taken the time to sit down and read through the Christmas carols in our hymnals? Have you ever researched the stories behind the Christmas carols? Though the history of the carols vary, they all come back to one common theme of Jesus' birth. From the very beginning of Jesus' birth, the response was music. The angels sang "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14). So this season as you are singing at church or in your car, take a minute, slow down, and listen to the words. -Leah

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Trunk or Treat: Sharing Smiles and Spreading the Truth

October 31st was a wonderful time of fellowship, fun, and outreach as our church hosted its annual Trunk or Treat! With at least 16 trunks participating, the event was filled with excitement, creativity, and opportunities to connect with families in our community.

We were blessed to welcome children and families for an evening of treats, smiles, and fellowship. Events like these give us a special opportunity to open our doors, build relationships, and let our community know that our church is here for them.

But our Trunk or Treat was about more than candy and costumes. It was also an opportunity to share the love of Jesus and spread the truth of God's Word. Along with the treats, we handed out flyers about our church to help families learn more about our congregation and the ministries we offer. We also distributed flyers titled **"Don't Be Tricked, Here's the Truth,"** reminding people that even in a season filled with tricks and treats, the truth of God's Word remains important.

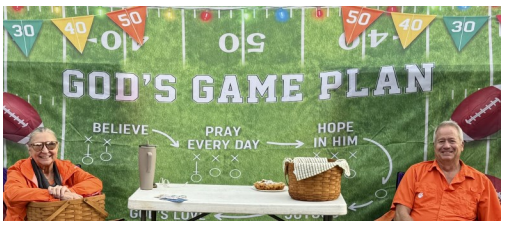
We are thankful for everyone who helped make this event possible, from those who decorated trunks and handed out candy to those who welcomed families and shared information about our church. Every act of service helped make the evening special and gave us another opportunity to be a light in our community.

As we look back on this event, we are reminded that outreach doesn't always have to happen within the walls of the church. Sometimes, it begins with a smile, a piece of candy, a friendly conversation, or a simple invitation. We pray that the seeds planted through this event will take root in the hearts of those we encountered and encourage more families to come and worship with us.

Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, and helped spread the word about our church. May we continue to find ways to share God's love, serve our neighbors, and boldly proclaim His truth.

We may have handed out candy, but our greatest desire is to share the sweetness of God's love and the truth of His Word!

Some of our Trunks - No Tricks!















Intercessory Prayer List

Our military
Betty Ann Cone
Kent Perry
Kathleen Gibson
M/M Verley Metts
Susan Carvalho
Judy Adamick
Yvonne Christenbury
Sarah Schwarz
Opal Lybrand
Bill Gibbs
Dallas Cone IV
John Galenta
Gatlin Padgett
Dave Fields
Robert & Pam Dunbar
The people of Ukraine
Wendel Duncan
Pauline Berry
Rudy Stoddard
Debbie Fallaw
Karen Hendrix
Darlena Mixon
Jody Daly
Michel Rodgers
James Campbell
Dana Berry
Dale Bagwell
Buddy Bostian
Cort Proctor
Avery Galineau
Lance Gilliland

Upcoming Events

Dec 6: WMU Celebration @ Saluda Nursing Cntr 2 pm
Dec 13: WMU Movie Night & Stocking Stuffing 3:00 pm
Dec 15: Good News Club Christmas Party @ RS-M
Dec 16: Fruit baskets filled after Wednesday night meal
Dec 18: Christmas Caroling
Dec 20: Christmas Cantata 6:00 pm
Dec 23: **NO** Wednesday night meal or activities
Dec 24: Christmas Eve Service w/Communion 4:00 pm
Dec 30: **NO** Wednesday night meal or activities
Jan 10: Council on Ministries meeting 4:00 pm
Jan 12—Feb 16: Good News Club @ RS-M
Jan 25: Quarterly Business Meeting

Wednesday Night Fellowship

6:00—6:30 pm Meal
6:30 - 7 pm Devotion w/Pastor Dean / Children's Activities
7:00 pm Adult Choir practice

Ridge Ramblers

The Ridge Ramblers had a very successful turnout for our Thanksgiving luncheon on November 12th.

Phillip Mixson prepared our menu of turkey and dressing roll-ups with chicken gravy, sweet potato casserole, corn, green beans, rolls, cherry fluff salad and homemade cranberry sauce. Desserts were prepared by members of the Ramblers. Everything was so delicious and very little was left over.

We had a prayer of blessing by Pastor Dean and everyone was eager to get started.

Thanks to all for attending. We are making plans for our December outing and hope all will enjoy the plans being made.



Ramblers enjoying fellowship and a delicious meal





Church Minutes 11-15-26

On November 15, 2026 Moderator Brian Derrick called the meeting to order. He recognized Tanya Butts, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, who presented the proposed 2027 budget. The motion did not need a second coming from a committee. The Moderator asked for any discussion and there was none. Kyle Richards made a motion to vote by show of hands and the motion was seconded by Jerry McGee. The motion to vote by show of hands passed unanimously. The Moderator then called for a vote by show of hands for approval of the budget. The motion passed unanimously. The Moderator closed the meeting.
Converse Bomar Cone, Church Clerk

WMU - Titus 2 News - Bible Study & Craft

At our October event we learned to make Heritage Quilt Ornaments adorned with tassels and pine boughs. In November we learned to make Heirloom Lace Ornaments and Create a Family Christmas Tree with ornaments to remember Weddings, Births, and Passings. Both the quilted and lace ornaments are beautiful and worthy to pass to the next generation. Our devotionals were "What is Your Heritage" on what kind of legacy does God want us to leave behind and "Know Your Past" on our Biblical family tree and origins. All in attendance had great talks and fellowship. Thank you all. Join us December 13 for a Vintage Christmas Movie, "Small One"!

December

Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 Eddie Webb
5 Buddy Bostian
5 M/M Curtis Johnson
8 Mary Price
10 James Crouch
12 McKenzie Wannamaker
14 Ann Yeargin
14 Andrew Rutland
14 Jonathan Fulmer
15 Mae-Ann Webb-Romito
16 R/M Bobby Jackson
17 Linda Lange
18 Debbie Hall
18 Ken Fulmer
20 Kathy Jackson
22 Robert Dunbar
24 Kyle Richards
25 Jody Addy
26 Sally Yon Harrison
27 Halleck Butts
31 Shannon Griffith
31 M/M Trenton Cromer
31 M/M Lakelan Rutland

	Deacon of the Week
December 6	Kyle Richards
December 13	Chan Corley
December 20	Will Boatwright
December 27	Tim Crouch
	Nursery
December 6	Derrick girls
December 13	The Webbs
December 20	Jill & Corbin Yon
December 27	Lydia & Kevin Yon
	Children's Church
December 6	Lydia & Kevin Yon
December 13	Shannon & Brian DuBose
December 20	Lynda McGee & Diedra Derrick
December 27	The Webbs
	Flower Calendar
December 6	Christmas Decorations
December 13	Christmas Decorations
December 20	Christmas Decorations
December 27	M/M Gary Griffith

	Children's Sermon
December 6	Brian Derrick
December 13	Kyle Richards
December 20	Lydia Yon
December 27	Mildred Webb
	Church Greeters
December 6	Joanne Crouch
December 13	Judy Taylor
December 20	Billy & Miriam Rodgers
December 27	David Sawyer, McKenzie & Drayton
	Safety Team Duty
December 6	Tim Crouch
December 13	Dray Wannamaker
December 20	Brian DuBose
December 27	Will Boatwright

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