

BIBLE BAPTIST TABERNACLE

(The Digital Edition)



e-News and Notes

January 11, 2026

FROM THE PASTOR

May God bless each of us today as we try to serve our Lord faithfully. We are grieved that we are not more godly, more perfect in our life. We do have a perfect Lord who so loves each of us, gave His life for us, and suffered beyond words just for us.

Mom and I, Stephen, Rebekah and her family, and our grandsons and their families in Greensboro and Winston-Salem have all had this "BUG." Churches here and there have shut down services due to so much sickness. This comes through nearly every winter, but we do not like it. Mom and I went to the doctor and tested negative for both flu and Covid.

God is pleased with the special days planned by Brother Tony. Let's HELP him, and that is HELPING GOD. We have so much talent and potential on our pews, but I fear it is slipping away while we sleep.

Work for the night is coming when men work no more.

Pastor Bobby Helms (September 6, 1967–January 8, 2026)

Brother Bobby Helms was called to Heaven this week after a few months of suffering with liver cancer. He was a soulwinner and a Christian gentleman. He started Bright Spot Baptist Church and won many folks to God, by God's grace. He was a dear friend to many folks in the county, and the hurt is deep at our loss and Heaven's gain. He never said a word about the difficult trials he went through in his life. Please pray for his wife, children, and the church. The funeral will be Saturday, January 24, at 1 pm at Bright Spot.

Brother Eddie and Pat Zimmerman

Brother Eddie and Sister Pat plan to celebrate their 67th anniversary here on January 25. They have celebrated many anniversaries here with us. The pastor had only been saved one month when he attended their wedding at Sheets Memorial Baptist Church. He was 20, and she was 19 years old. The church was filled, and our pastor remembers weeping. Only God knows why. He had just been saved and had such a tender heart. He pastored 13 years in Rockingham and 37 years in Bristol, Tennessee. Pat had a church preschool in Rockingham for many years and one in Bristol for a while. They are such a sweet couple.

Youth Night

We will have a special Youth Service on Sunday night, January 18, with refreshments following the service for the youth and their families. We will also have a gift for each teen who attends. This will be a youth-led service. Please support this night by inviting others and praying for our youth as they are the next church.

Humble Lady Called Our Pastor

Mrs. Edith (Branch) Dickens called the pastor Thursday. She is a poor, humble, 94-year-old lady who still lives alone. The pastor has not seen her in nearly 60 years. He and his wife stayed in a Best Western in Lexington 5-8 years ago and talked to the maintenance man in the hallway. The pastor found out his last name was "Branch." He remembered a man named Andrew Branch who was in Central Prison, so he asked the man if he knew him. Andrew Branch was this man's dad. Many of you have heard the pastor tell how this family called him while he was at Marsh-Win and asked him to visit Andrew in Central Prison, but he was unable to go due to his work schedule. Andrew was killed shortly after by a random shot by a guard on the wall. He was the only prisoner killed in that prison riot. The pastor preached on a Friday night in Andrew and Edith's home from the book of Daniel. He would not stay home, but Edith and the three children were there. Edith was saved and is still in church at 94 years old. She was so humble while working at Hoover Chair Company in 1965. She still lives in the same mill house in Lexington where the pastor and his pastor visited 60 years ago. WHAT A MIGHTY GOD WE SERVE! HEAVEN WILL SURELY BE WORTH IT ALL!

Ladies' Bible Study

The ladies will meet for their monthly Bible study This Thursday, January 15, at 7 pm, at the home of Mary Jo Sumner. We will continue our study on the life of David and will be in II Samuel 19. Please join us, if possible.

Ladies' Corner

Proverbs 13:12 says, "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when desire cometh it is a tree of life." Waiting for something for a prolonged period in life can cause deep disappointment and weariness, especially in our prayer lives. However, when God does answer our prayer, it feels like a swelling in our souls, and it brings us joy and restores us. What do you do while you wait on that prayer request? You should keep reading, keep praying, and rest. Being discouraged is very hard on our bodies physically. We do not have any motivation or energy. Then physical symptoms such as chronic pain, headaches, and sleeplessness start. Our spiritual, emotional, and physical body work together. If one part is down, it can affect all the other parts. When people went to Queen Elizabeth of England with their problems, she would listen and then always say, "CARRY ON!" You may feel hopeless today and feel as if you want to quit, but CARRY ON.

College Students

We have reached the last days of our PCC, BJU, UNCC, and other college students being home for the holidays. It has been wonderful to have them, and although some may be here one more week, we will say goodbye to some this morning. Some of you took some of these students out to lunch, perhaps gave them some spending money, or just loved on them while they were home. Thanks so much for doing this. They will always remember those who remembered them while they were away. Perhaps God will bring many back to join those who tarried by the stuff here and will become the future backbone of this ministry! God can do so much more for BBT, but in the years to come, it will be through those who are coming behind us.

TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

Special Services

Please remember the special services we have planned to help us compel people to come to hear the Word of God. If you have more ideas for special services, please give them to one of the men.

Youth Night (led by youth)

January 18

Don't Break My Heart Sunday

February 15

Ladies' Winter Party

The ladies' winter party has been postponed for a few weeks due to so much sickness among our people. We will give you a new date soon.

TCS Athletics

The TCS ball teams played games away and at home last week. This coming week, they will play at home Tuesday and then face our friends from Rockwell on Friday. Come out to support them. They will appreciate you for it.

TCS Gymnastics

The gym was buzzing with activity yesterday afternoon as over 30 young people came for our first gymnastics meeting. Brother John and Amanda Minter agreed to help teach some basic gymnastics skills to our students. We were excited to see the number of young people who were interested in this activity.

Upcoming Events

January 18 am pm Brother Tim Griffin Youth Night

January 25 pm Brother Eddie Zimmerman (67th anniversary)

February 28 Whispering Pines Ladies' 10 am – 1 pm Meeting (Hartsville)

March 7 10 am Hillcrest Baptist Church Ladies' Meeting (Mrs. Charity Howard will be one of the speakers.) Register at hillcrestbaptistmonroe.com

Prayer List
Pastor & Mrs. Leonard
Bible Baptist Tabernacle
Larry & Lucy Langston
Elaine Baucom
Beverly DeWeese
Taylor & Titus Boyce
Tommy & Lorraine Mangum
Terry & Susan Helms

THE UNSAVED
Judy Pressley
Sam McCaskill
Jacob Maye
Judy Rae Harbin
Sam Caudle
Curtis Ciampo
Eddie & Pat Zimmerman

Gary & Helen Howard
Ken & Michelle Harbin
Joe Morgan
Tommy Munroe
Arnold & Janice Jackson
Bettina Decker
Dawn Creech
John and Tammy Kelly

Jay & Becky Shannon
Barbara Hayes
Kay Jordan
John Hawkins
Trish Williams
Our Elderly
Mary Jo Sumner
Ronnie Morton

Birthdays

January 11 Abigail Leonard

January 12 Ryan Ratliff
Jim Sullivan

January 15 Tracy Rodriguez

Nursery

January 11 am Crystal Harpe

pm Sharon Mangum

Toddler Church

January 11 am Laura Burnette

pm Wren Richardson

pm Phebe Royal