

January 2014 Newsletter  
Vol. 2 No. 1



## *Promise Baptist Church*

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*John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."*

***A Word From Our Pastor . . .** As we close 2013 and begin 2014, let's think about our spiritual report card for this past year. There are questions we could ask ourselves to get honest results.*

- ....(1) Am I closer to the Lord Jesus today than I was this time a year ago? Yes or No*
- ....(2) Am I praying more than I did last year this time? Yes or No*
- ....(3) Am I more faithful to God's house and the things of God than I was a year ago?  
Yes or No*
- ....(4) Do I witness for Jesus more or less than I did a year ago? Yes or No*
- ....(5) I feel I have grown more mature in the Lord spiritually in 2013 than I did in 2012  
and have a desire to mature even more in 2014. Yes or No*
- ....(6) I am excited when I think of what God is doing with me and my church family?  
Yes or No*
- ....(7) To be honest, I am in a routine that I just can't seem to break. Yes or No*

*How did your Report Card read? If you had more "yes" answers than "no", congratulations! If there were some no and some yes answers, needs improvement! In all probability, the answer to #7 would be a "yes". If so, let's break the routine in 2014.*

*One may ask . . . how do I start to break the routine?*

- ....(1) Remember where you once was with the Lord. How, at one time, it was exciting to be a child of God. Remember where you were when God found you. Remember what God has brought you out of.*
- ....(2) Repent of being cold and uncaring. Change your mind about Jesus. Change the path you are on.*
- ....(3) Rebuild on the Solid Rock of Jesus. On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand!*

*Happy New Year!*

*The Preacher*

**Deadline for submission of any information into the Church Newsletter is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. Please be mindful of this date if you want to be included. Thank you for your considerations and attention to our efforts to be thorough and timely.**

**Meet Your Staff ...** This month, you are going to be introduced to Mrs. Denise James. I know you are thinking, "well, we know her". There maybe some things you do not know about her. She started worshipping at Promise Baptist Church August 2012. Her dear friend, Gail Parrish had invited her multiple times, but she declined. After sitting and hearing the Word of God preached from the pulpit by Pastor Hedrick, she knew she had found her church home.

Mrs. Denise is the assistant Sunday School teacher in the Seniors for the Saviour Class, ages 15 and up, alongside, Mrs. Annette Hedrick. A short time after attending PBC, the pastor approached her about reviving the Senior Saints Program, which she did excitedly. And since that time, other than for health reasons, the Seniors have had an evening of fellowship and meal once per month, and are interested in taking more field trips like the one they took to Mount Airy this past summer.

Since she makes no bones about enjoying cooking, when Crisis Ministry asked us to help them out by feeding the Adult Shelter once a month, the pastor did not hesitate to ask Mrs. Denise to add the organization of this ministry to the list of things she does at the church.

Outside of her church life, and her grandchildren, her first love is making quilts. She is in "heaven on earth" when she is teaching a novice the art of quilting. Of course, she and Bobby spend lots of time with their grandchildren, spoiling them as grandparents do so well. They both love the beach and mountains, yet get to spend little time in either place because of Bobby's business (golf cars).

Mrs. Denise puts together our monthly newsletter, trying to keep the church members informed, challenging their Bible knowledge, and attempting some Church humor all at the same time.

There is another part to this equation . . . Brother Bobby! He decided to follow her and attend church at PBC and has eagerly joined in the church family and does whatever he can for the Lord. It appears they make a good team working for the Lord at PBC!

Both joined Promise last May . . . and made Promise Baptist Church their home. They have two sons, Brent and Jesse; seven grandchildren, Elizabeth, Destiny, CheyAnne, Chandler, Jesse Clay, Cody and Rhiley . . . and one great-grandson, Lucas.

Bobby and Denise have been married 42, soon to be 43 years! They met right out of high school.

Mrs. Denise has many scriptures in the Bible that she treasures; however, she says her very favorites are Romans 5: 8-10. *"But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."*

*Their prayer is that God will continue to use them in His service while attending Promise Baptist Church.*

## NOTICE!

Since the publication of last month's newsletter, we have seen members of our church and loved ones go on to be with the Lord. Let us CELEBRATE their lives!

Mrs. Carol Whitman (DOD: 12/17/2013)  
Mr. Paul Snider (DOD: 12/23/2013)  
Mr. Chad Kirkendall (DOD: 12/22/2013)  
Mr. Jimmy Wayne Hill (DOD: 12/20/2013)  
Mr. Wade Everhart (DOD: 12/13/2013)  
Mr. Billy Rayfield (DOD: 11/30/2013)

There may be others that are not on this list, we will CELEBRATE their lives as well. Continue to pray for their families.

## INDEPENDENT BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP MEETING:

When: January 6, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Where: True Gospel Baptist Church  
4720 NC 704  
Madison, N. C. 27025

Please make plans to attend and bring a friend. If you need directions to the church, contact Dr. J. Fred Barton at 336-983-9684.

1 Chronicles 20: 25 "For thou, O my God, hast told thy servant that thou wilt build him an house; therefore thy servant hath found *in his heart* to pray before thee."

**Dear Church Family:** Just a reminder that we should take the time before we leave our church building to pick up around ourselves; scraps of paper, used tissue, candy wrappers, etc. Please show your house of worship the respect it deserves. Taking a quick look around and pick up will make all the difference. Thank you.

## Happy Birthday!

05 January Gary Pollock

"How Old Are You? How Old Are You? How Old Are You? How Old Are You? How Old Are You?"

## Anniversaries!

12 Jan. J. C. & Cynthia Myers

Congratulations on 29 years of wedded bliss!

## January 2014 Calendar of Events

This month you will only find those things that are outside our normal worship service schedule listed. This will take up less space and may possibly be less confusing. We would appreciate your feedback. Thank you.

<i>Normal Schedule:</i>	<i>Sundays</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School</i>
		11:00 a.m.	<i>Morning Worship Hour</i>
		6:00 p.m.	<i>Evening Worship Hour</i>
	<i>Tuesdays</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Visitation</i>
		7:30 p.m.	<i>A. A. Meeting</i>
	<i>Wednesdays</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Midweek Bible Study and Prayer Meeting</i>
		7:00 p.m.	<i>Youth Meeting</i>
	<i>Saturdays</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Meeting</i>

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<i>Sat. Jan. 4</i>	2:00 p.m.	<i>Nursing Home Ministry – Libertywood</i> <i>Bro. Brian Christian</i>
<i>Mon. Jan. 13 – 17</i>		<i>Revival Meeting: Faith Baptist Church</i> <i>Archdale, North Carolina</i> <i>Bro. Don Collins will be the guest speaker</i> <i>Sister Doris Jones will be a guest singer on Friday</i>
<i>Thurs. Jan. 16</i>	6:45 p.m.	<i>Senior Saints Fellowship &amp; Dinner</i>
<i>Sat. Jan. 25</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Nursing Home Ministry – Graybrier Nursing Home</i> <i>Bro. John Dickens</i>
<i>Mon. Jan. 27</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>Crisis Ministry – Lexington, N. C.</i>

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### Do Loved Ones Speak to Us from Heaven?

Jesus, through His blessed Holy Spirit, is the only One who speaks to us from Heaven. Loved ones whose souls have gone into the presence of the Lord through death are also bound physically in the grave. One day their bodies will be joined with Christ in the air.

Our culture today is caught up with the spirit world and fascinated by angels. But Christians are to have fellowship only with people living on earth and with the Lord Jesus Christ who is alive. And He speaks to us through the inspiration of His holy Scriptures, through prayer, and through His Spirit who comforts, convicts, guides and teaches.

In popular television shows – that even Christians are watching – characters claim to beckon spirits from the dead and commune with the spirit world. The Bible clearly says, "There shall not be found among you any one that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch. Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord; and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee." (Deut. 18: 10-12).

Occult practices are as old as Scripture. King Saul sought a sorcerer and asked that she bring the prophet Samuel to speak to him (1 Samuel 28). But the Bible tells us to avoid those who claim to talk to the dead. "And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards, to go a whoring after them. I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people." (Leviticus 20:6). We see in Scripture that Samuel actually did appear to Saul, but it wasn't because of the powers of the sorcerer: God brought about the appearance of Samuel to rebuke Saul for disobeying God. It is doubtful that people who seek to talk to the dead do so for the purpose of being rebuked; rather they want some type of mystic experience. You can have no greater experience than to hear from the Spirit of the triune God.

On Easter morning the angel asked the women who went to Jesus' tomb, "And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the "living among the dead?" (Luke 24:5). My friend, always seek the Lord and listen for His voice from Heaven, for He faithfully hears your groanings and your praise.

"The Heaven Answer Book", by Billy Graham

### *A Bible Brain Teaser . . .*

There are names of 16 books of the Bible mentioned in the paragraph below. See how many you can find. (A preacher found 15 books in 20 minutes, but it took him three weeks to find the 16<sup>th</sup> one). Good Luck!

*"I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others, it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help find them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph."*

\*\*\*The Seniors for the Saviours Sunday School Class have already had this challenge . . . so they can't help you!!!!!!

Submitted for the newsletter by Mary Pollock

### December Bible Trivia:

What Roman official was visited by an angel who told him God had heard his prayers? Answer: Cornelius (Acts 10:1-8)

Correctly answered by: Mary Pollock

### Name This Woman of the Bible

She was one of the first missionaries and a leader of the early church. Along with her husband, she risked her life for the Apostle Paul. She was a Roman whose spiritual maturity and understanding of the faith helped her build up the early church.

Who was she?

### *Crisis Ministry:*

*Next date: Jan. 27, 2014*

*Time: 6:30 p.m.*

*See Bulletin Board for Menu and Volunteer Sign Up Sheet*

### **Missionaries the Month**

The Kirkmans  
Missionaries to the State of Utah  
c/o New Grace Baptist Missions  
P. O. Box 270  
Kannapolis, N. C. 28082-0270

### **Senior Saints Fellowship & Dinner**

Our next SSF&D will be January 16, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. Bro. David Hedrick will bring our devotional study. Please RSVP by way of the Sign Up Sheet posted on the Bulletin Board if you plan on attending.

If you don't attend YOU WILL MISS SOMETHING SPECIAL!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Poinsettias were placed in the church during the month of December in loving memory of:**

**Mr. & Mrs. John James  
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Beam  
Mrs. Carol Whitman**