

Piney Grove Baptist Church
278 Piney Grove Road
Mount Airy, NC 27030

PERIODICAL

THE GROVE is published monthly by the Piney Grove Baptist Church, 278 Piney Grove Road, Mount Airy, NC.
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Volume XX, Issue 12, December 2025

Church Conference

On Wednesday, December 3, 2025, our monthly church conference will be held at 7:15 PM. The church conference will include reports from committees, councils, ministry teams, and other leaders deemed appropriate by the Church Council, which sets the agenda for the church conference. If any member would like to share a report from a ministry team, Sunday school class, council, or committee, please contact Moderator Jean Ingram.

Deacon's Meeting

The deacons will meet on Monday, December 8, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

Ladies Gathering

There will be a Ladies Gathering on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall. We will enjoy a Dirty Santa gift exchange. If you would like to participate, please bring a small gift. Light refreshments will be served. Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun!

Condolence

Our love, prayers, and Christian sympathy are extended to Kathy Brintle and family on the death of her aunt, Mary Lucille Easter, affectionately known as Aunt Lou.

Contributions

To the Cemetery Fund

- In memory of Johnny Wayne Atkins by Senior Adults Sunday School Class*
- In memory of Johnny Wayne Atkins by Jerry and Carolyn Sawyers*
- In memory of Johnny Wayne Atkins by Terry and Nellie Thomas*
- In memory of Johnny Wayne Atkins by Fred and Norma Miller*
- In memory of Johnny Wayne Atkins by Patti Brame*
- In memory of Johnny Wayne Atkins by Clark and Harlene Atkins*

Dobson Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 2:00 PM

Half Mile of Holiday Cheer Downtown Mount Airy

Thursday, December 4, 2025, at 6:00 PM



Special Notice

All information for the January newsletter must be submitted by Tuesday, December 23, 2025.

Church Staff

Rev. Eddie Lowe, Senior Pastor
 Paul Danley, Minister of Worship
 Scottie Isaacs, Ministry Assistant
 Dawn Marion, Pianist
 Bobby Post, Sound Technician
 Jaxson Danley and JonLucas Danley,
 Audio-Visual Technicians
 278 Piney Grove Road
 Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030
 (336)356-4196
 www.pgbcmountairy.org

December Birthdays

- December 2**
Ruth Ann Lattimore
- December 6**
Sue Smith
- December 8**
Glenda Atkins
- December 11**
Van Lankford
- December 13**
Ruth Dollyhigh
Randy Bledsoe
Lily O'Neal
Bethany Moran
- December 15**
Jon Lattimore
Chris Fallaw
- December 17**
Max Oakley
- December 20**
Katie O'Neal
- December 21**
Larry Danley
Ava Brown
- December 22**
Lynn Hayden
Donnie Marion
- December 23**
Tobi York
- December 26**
Haley Hagwood
Newman
- December 27**
Rhett Fallaw
- December 30**
Nancy Watson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The Grove

Growing in Christ Together

Piney Grove Baptist Church
 278 Piney Grove Road
 Mount Airy, North Carolina 27030

Monthly Newsletter

December 2025

Volume XX, Issue 12

Merry Christmas

for Unto Us
a Child is Born



Christmas Cantata

Join us on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at the 11:00 AM worship service as the Piney Grove Sanctuary Choir presents this year's Christmas cantata.



"Bethlehem Morning" tells the miraculous story of Christmas through traditional carols and Christmas favorites, but it also reminds us that the story of God's love did not stop there. 1 John 4:10 says, "This is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." Jesus came for us when He was born in Bethlehem, and it was for us He went to Calvary. Songs include: "Joy in Bethlehem! Medley," "Children, Go Where I Send Thee," "Bethlehem Manger Medley," and many more!

Dates to Remember

- December 3**
Church Conference
- December 4**
Half Mile of Holiday Cheer Downtown Mount Airy
- December 6**
Dobson Christmas Parade
- December 7**
Worship Service with Guest Musicians The Catawba Valley Brass Quintet
Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
- December 8**
Deacon's Meeting
- December 9**
Ladies Gathering
- December 10**
Final Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
- December 14**
Worship Service with Christmas Cantata ("Bethlehem Morning")
- December 17**
Church-Wide Christmas Caroling
- December 24**
No Evening Services
- December 25**
Christmas Day
- December 28**
Communion
- December 31**
No Evening Services

**December's Guide to
Worship and Study**

Wednesday, December 3
Midweek at Piney Grove

Sunday, December 7
Worship Service with
Guest Musicians The Catawba
Valley Brass Quintet

Wednesday, December 10
Midweek at Piney Grove

Sunday, December 14
Worship Service with
Christmas Cantata
("Bethlehem Morning")

Wednesday, December 17
Church-wide Christmas
Caroling

Sunday, December 21
Worship Service

Wednesday, December 24
No Evening Services

Sunday, December 28
Worship Service
and Communion

Wednesday, December 31
No Evening Services

2025 – 2026

Through November 23, 2025

10/26/25 Offering	\$3,037.00	
11/02/25 Offering	\$2,930.00	
11/09/25 Offering	\$4,164.00	
11/16/25 Offering	\$ 870.00	
11/23/25 Offering	\$2,506.00	
Total	\$13,507.00	
Budget:	\$205,156.00	
YTD Goal:	\$47,580.00	
Budget	This Period	YTD
\$47,581.00	\$13,507.00	\$55,616.88
Over/(Under)	(\$6,318.00)	\$8,035.88



Worship Service
videos can be
viewed on
YouTube

Missions

Backpack Ministry

We will be collecting backpack items for White Plains Elementary School during the month of December. Please place your items in the gray tub in the narthex. For more information, please contact Brenda Davis.



"The Grove's Helping Hand"

"The Grove's Helping Hand" is a ministry that gives a helping hand to struggling families who run out of groceries before their paycheck arrives. It is also a ministry to those who have been in the hospital and just do not have the strength to tackle the grocery store yet. Perhaps we could give a helping hand to some elderly person who cannot get out at all. The food closet is located in the rear of the chapel. A wagon for donations is located in the narthex.

December Needs

Fruit, Soups, Cereals, Oatmeal, and Macaroni and Cheese

Midweek at Piney Grove

Midweek Fellowship Meal

5:30 PM on Wednesday nights, December 3 and 10, 2025

Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Adult Bible Study

These groups will meet on Wednesday nights, December 3 and 10, 2025, at 6:30 PM.

Special Mission Opportunity This Christmas

We will be collecting new tennis shoes and socks for children at Rockford Elementary School. Many of these students are in need of something as simple – yet as important – as a good pair of shoes and warm socks this winter. What a blessing it is for us to share God's love in such a practical way! Over the next couple of weeks, as you are out shopping, keep an eye out for great deals on kids' shoes and socks. Every pair you give will make a difference, bringing comfort, confidence, and a smile to a child who needs it most.

Children's Ministry Christmas Post Office

Beginning Sunday, November 30, 2025, our Christmas Post Office will officially open for the season. Christmas cards may be delivered for 25 cents each through Sunday, December 21, 2025. All proceeds will go to *Give A Kid A Christmas*. Just leave your cards and money in the large, red, velvet box in the narthex. Everyone should check their file folders for delivered mail each week. Your participation makes a difference and reminds local children that they are seen, valued, and loved. Let us give generously and help make Christmas bright for families in our community.

Worship Service with Guest Musicians

The Catawba Valley Brass Quintet
Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 11:00 AM



From the Pastor

Unlikely Messengers



"You can be a shepherd..." For many of us, those words mark our earliest memory of participating in a church Christmas play. The beloved "shepherd costume" was usually nothing more than a bathrobe and a cloth tied around our head. Simple, humble, and memorable. Interestingly, the Gospel writer Luke is the only one to include the shepherds in the Christmas narrative. As history recalls the wonderful night that the shepherds were included in God's plan, it would seem a mystery today why the class and job of "shepherd" was looked down on. An internet search reveals a turning point in the social standing of the shepherd, and more precise would be a scripture found in Genesis 46:34. Here we read of Joseph, who had risen to great status in Egypt, and upon his family's arrival, we read of Joseph telling his brothers to tell the Egyptians that cattle was their means of livelihood. In verse 34, we see the last words "for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians." Suddenly we see a profession amongst the Israelites that was noble being detested by the people of Egypt. But why? One must understand the Egyptian culture was that of farming and not of sheep or cattle. No farmer wanted sheep foraging in his crop of wheat or cattle drinking from his irrigation source, and so Joseph and all his people were given an area in Egypt called Goshen. It would be from Goshen that the Jews would be led of Moses from bondage many years later. "An abomination" were the words used for the role of shepherd from that time and later it is documented that "shepherds were deprived of all civil rights." They could not fulfil judicial rules or be admitted in court as witnesses. "A role and class nobody came to want." Even David, as the youngest brother, was confined to keeping the sheep, and was scornfully reminded of that from his brothers upon his arrival to battle Goliath. With all this said, we see the blessing and beauty of God's plan when he used the "least" to proclaim His arrival. 1 Corinthians 1:27 reads, "...and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty." God has a plan and position for us all! We that are born again can certainly be "unlikely messengers!"

Church-Wide Christmas Caroling



Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Meet at the Church at 6:30 PM
There will be refreshments in the fellowship hall following our caroling.



Communion Service



Sunday, December 28, 2025, at 11:00 AM
"And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.""
Luke 22:19

American Red Cross Blood Drive Update

On Sunday afternoon, November 23, 2025, Piney Grove had the honor of hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive. We are thrilled to share that 30 donors registered, and 26 units of blood were collected, exceeding our goal of 20. Each unit represents a potential life saved, and we are deeply grateful to all who took the time to give.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who made this event possible. We especially want to recognize Tammy Johnson for her excellent coordination, and Katherine Fleming, Beth Gordon, and Sam Gordon for graciously hosting the event. A special shout-out also goes to Beth Gordon, Linda Johnson-Marion, and Carolyn Sawyers for generously providing food and drinks that kept our donors and volunteers refreshed and energized.

Thank you once again to all who gave, served, and supported. Your kindness and generosity truly make a difference!

PRAYER LIST

Nursing home and long-term care
Jim Hamblen
Sandra Draughn

Home or hospital
Dean Branch
Hilda Huff
Lonzo McHone
Banner Combs
Michael Stephens
Susan Johnson
Kay Simpson
Greg Bullins
Clint Harris
Tommy & Bonnie Haymore

Walter & Shirley Brown
Monroe & Louise Bowman
Wayne & Katie Draughn
Donna & Bill Gingrich
Eileen Newman
Jordon Tucker
Joseph Smith
Glenda Atkins
Jayne McMillian
Kayce Boyd
Eddie Draughn
Mary McMillian
Gil Branch
Karen Moser
Ruth McHone
Donna Tucker
Wanda Smith
Audrey Wright
Randy Bledsoe
Thuy Hoai ("Andrew")
Linda Johnson-Marion
Rusty York
Nancy Watson
Chris Cooke
Mary Smith
Amelia Wilmoth
Nick Gribbon

Military

MM2 Lammon, Andrew
514 Gladly Road
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
e-mail:
Andrew.lammon@cvn
71.navy.mil

Please contact Scottie Isaacs to add or remove names from our prayer list.

Phone (336)356-4196