



# Hope Valley

BAPTIST CHURCH

Loving, Serving and Reaching out in Christ's name.

## *Illuminator*

VOLUME 46 NO. 25

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### UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

#### January 2

Second Sunday after Christmas

Scripture: Luke 2:41-52

Title: ***Words Have Meanings Redux***

#### January 9

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Scripture: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Title: ***Baptized in Water***

#### January 16

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Title: ***One and the Same Spirit***

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Benjamin J. Wines  
Senior Pastor

Rev. Amy Herring  
Minister to Children & Families

Kathryn Bunch  
Director of Music Ministries

Barbara Rowley  
Organist

Sean Timmons  
Youth Ministry Intern

Robin Wimberley  
Administrative Assistant

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Brothers and sisters,

Here we are at the end of the year—and what a year it has been! There have been ups and downs, twists and turns, things expected and plenty of things unexpected! But for this week's issue of *The Illuminator*, I wanted to take some time and just talk about some of the many things we've done together as a church family.

In the year 2021—or at least in my eight months here—we have been incredibly dedicated to reaching out and helping our neighbors. We have collected all kinds of non-perishable foods to take over to our neighbors in McDougald Terrace, maintaining that ministry throughout the summer, and staving off hunger for dozens of kids when schools were not able to. We have collected food for the Yates Food Pantry, feeding people all over Durham. We have collected money for the Global Missions Offering. We adopted a family for Christmas this year and provided that family with *three cars full* of presents. We collected school supplies for teachers and provided them with gift cards to purchase more supplies for the children at Parkwood Elementary.

In the year 2021, we have been able to bring back wonderful moments of worship and of fellowship. We've been able to worship God together as a church family, celebrating special moments within the church calendar. We have spent time in fellowship with one another drinking lemonade and eating cookies during the warmer months. We just got through with a month of special services in which we hung the greens, ordained deacons, cried out to God in lament, sang the story of the Gospel, and welcomed the Christ Child once again. We've found ways, even in the midst of a global pandemic, to worship God in fullness and in truth.

In the year 2021, we've taken in several refugees, giving them a safe place to stay and find their footing here in America. We've built relationships with them and with other churches who also want to help refugees. We've had our first big public event since the pandemic began, with nearly two-hundred people coming to our Trunk-or-Treat. We've built a relationship with CBF Field Personnel in Kentucky and helped provide Christmas presents for children and teens in one of the poorest counties in our country.

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**PRAYER CONCERNS**  
**(new additions/updates in bold)**

**Sympathy is extended to Wayne Webster & family in the death of his mother, Lois McDougald.**

Tornado Victims  
Valle De Esperanza Iglesia Bautista  
COVID-19 Pandemic

**Church family with Health Concerns:**

Irene Barnes - heart issues  
Karen Bolton - recovery from surgery  
Joan Burke  
**Rachel Dossett - endocarditis**  
Phyllis Edwards - surgery recovery  
Heidi Hall - spinal muscular atrophy (daughter of Sandra & Rick Hall)

Woody Harton - recovering from fall  
Kaye Jenkins - recovery from knee surgery  
Bonnie Lyon - recovery from fall  
Linda Marshall  
Nancy Michal - health concerns  
Brenda Morton - recovery from fall  
Keith Packer - dialysis  
Frank Pokorny - recovery from surgeries  
Carol Rigsbee  
Barbara Sanders - family members  
Faye Shelton - blood cancer  
Mary Summerlin - recovery from shoulder surgery  
Jerry Tew - Parkinson's  
Carolyn Tippett - leukemia  
Emmett Ward - hurt right hip

**Expectant Families:**

Kaylee & Daniel Kuzbary (daughter of Leigh Bigger)  
Hannah & Chase Thompson (daughter of Julie & Dave Stoops)

**Senior Living Centers:**

Family Care Home: Fadine Harris - under Hospice care  
Durham Regent: Marcella Jerdon  
Emerald Pond: Lee Schevill, Sam & Pat Beasley  
Universal Health Care: Marie Thompson

**HVBC friends and family:**

Candy Arnold - brain tumor, chemo (niece of Carol Atkins)  
Phil Atkins (friend of Carl & Carol Atkins)  
Britt Bentley - waiting for heart and kidney transplant (son of Susan Bentley)  
Rebecca Bidy - seizures (daughter-in-law of Peggy Bidy)  
Jimmy Bolick - recovery from stroke (uncle of Amy Herring)  
Hayley Brady - blood clots in lungs (sister of Ginger Rose)  
**Nancy Byrd - health concerns (sister of Linda Hall)**  
Ruby Chumney - heart & lung problems (mother of the Dossett's neighbor)  
Ray Clayton - at memory care facility (brother of Linda Kyles)  
Joan Cozart - brain tumor (friend of Joan Burke)  
Fulton de La Morton - back issues (friend of Dossett's)  
Betty Ann Dickerson - feet & leg problems (friend of Carol Atkins)  
Carolyn Draper - COVID (friend of Susan Bentley)  
JaQuavion Ervin - young boy in foster care with no family (from Scott Rose)  
Amy Eubanks - back problems (former member)  
Grayson Evans - health issues (grandson of Ron & Gail Templeton)  
Paul Fain - stomach cancer (friend of Steve & Karen Bolton)  
Hazel Graham - COVID  
Greg - blood clots (son-in-law of Linda Marshall)

**PRAYER CONCERNS (continued)**

Phyllis Griffiths - lupus (sister-in-law of Terry & Betty Griffiths)  
Jackie Harris - dementia (aunt of Julie Stoops, sister of Tommie Calhoun)  
Ann Hayes - cancer treatments, recovery from fall (sister of Julie Hayes)  
David Hayes - pacemaker (brother of Julie Hayes)  
Alphus & Sherri Herndon - he has cancer & she has Alzheimer's (cousin of Brenda Morton & Irene Barnes)  
Tom Jackson - health problems (former interim Pastor)  
Dana Kelly - heart issues (father of Don Kelly)  
Mike Layne - heart attack & surgery (family member of the Dossett's)  
Paul Lemay - cancer (uncle of Kevin Simone)  
Lindsey - anorexia (friend of Jonathan Herring)  
Bill & Nadine Loftis - he has cancer (friends of the Bowen's)  
Doris Lynch - health issues (stepmother of Rick Lynch)  
Junior Martin - cancer (friend of Joan Burke)  
Judah Mathis - one year old with kidney & bladder problems (great grandson of HVBC first pastor, Bill Pearson)  
Mark May - autoimmune disease (nephew of Linda Kyles)  
Lauren Minotti - recovery from surgery (granddaughter of Barbara Sanders)  
Hallie Moore (friend of Sean Timmons)  
Faye Myers - grandchild of Laverne Ellis' neighbor  
Eddie Netzlof - cancer (friend of Scott Rose)  
Hazel Norman - recovery from back surgery (friend of the Dossett's)  
Juliet Atieno Otieno - 15-year-old with Lupus (friend of Scott Rose)  
John Pierce (grandson of Carl & Carol Atkins)  
Sheri Raspberry - cancer (sister-in-law of Michelle Hunt)  
Weston Raspberry - health issues, lost of sight in eye (nephew of Michelle Hunt)  
Payton & Brittany Rigsbee - both have health concerns (granddaughters of Carol Rigsbee)  
Ashley Robbins - cancer (granddaughter of Brenda Morton)  
Bill Roberson (friend of Scott Rose)  
Joe Rollins - recovery from fall (cousin of Carol Atkins)  
Robbie Sanders - kidney stones (son of Barbara Sanders)  
Andy Sikes - health issues (grandson of Dawn Sikes, former member)  
Susan Smileowicz - COVID & stroke (friend of Steve & Karen Bolton); daughter, Amy also has COVID  
Charlotte Soltes (mother of Jessie Lynch)  
Karen Stewart - stem cell procedure (friend of Cindy Horton)  
Adam Stoops - Hodgkins Lymphoma (nephew of Dave Stoops)  
Irene Taylor - heart & bladder issues (mother of Rachel Dossett)  
Matthew Taylor - salvation & direction (request by the Dossetts)  
Heath Tuttle - 13-year-old with cancer (friend of Linda Ward)  
Elaine & Tom vanDalen - health concerns (sister & brother-in-law of Karen Bolton)  
Clifton Walker - COVID (friend of Linda Kyles)  
Jeff Webb - brain tumor (friend of Scott Rose)  
Tommy Wilson - heart issues (brother of Linda Ward)  
Yvonne - cancer (sister of Barbara Sanders' neighbor)

**Military Service Personnel:**

Amos (son of Hector Corchado)  
Chris Buchanan (nephew of Barbara Rowley)  
Clayton Davis (grandson of Linda Marshall)  
Travis Hayes (nephew of Ginger Hayes)  
Blake Smith (son-in-law of John & Mary Myers)

**Around Our World:**

Leena Lavanya - missionary with ServeTrust working in India; Pastor Koteswarao & Chowtu Palem Church (our partner church in India)

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And of course, I can only say that “we” did all this because on May 1 of this year, I officially began my time as your Senior Pastor. After months of emails, phone calls, interviews, a Bible Study, and a trial sermon, we agreed to partner together in ministry. I’m excited about all the things we’ve managed to do together so far and I look forward to the coming year as we continue to figure out what God would have us do for our community. The opportunities to serve God are endless and I look forward to making the most of those opportunities with you all in the future. My prayer for us all, as we move into 2022, is that we will continue to seek God and God’s will. As long as we do that, we will be able to honestly say that we have remained faithful to the call God has placed on all our lives.

Grace and peace to you all,  
Pastor Ben



On **Sunday, February 13**, we will be joining with churches around our country to help hungry people through the **Souper Bowl of Caring** emphasis.

More than 25 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

*“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”*

Coinciding with the day of a fairly significant football game during which many people will snack and eat more than plenty, this emphasis invites us to bring canned goods and some loose change to church to support hunger ministries and those who don’t have enough to eat. **Bring canned goods into the worship service, and we will collect them as part of worship.** Also, there will be children & youth at the doors at the end of the service to collect money you might be willing to donate. All food and money collected will go to support the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. You can also write a check for this event. Please denote that this is for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

**Also, if you have a wagon that we could use on February 13, please let Robin know.**



I wanted to write a quick note here about the next three Sundays—January 2, 9, and 16. Due to the rise of the Omicron variant and the increased travel that has happened over the last two weeks, the Regathering Team and I felt it best to go virtual for the next few weeks. That means that we will livestream our 11:00 am worship services on our church’s website January 2, 9, and 16. Sunday School classes will not meet at the church. Your Sunday School teachers will be in touch with you about what Sunday School will look like for these three weeks.

We felt we ought to do this as a proactive step to make sure that we do not unintentionally spread Covid within our congregation. Many of us have traveled and been around groups of people we’re not normally around very much. We hope that no one in our congregation has picked up Covid. We hope that we can come back to in-person services on the 23<sup>rd</sup> with no problems. But we think it is best, in the interest of safety, to take some time for folks to stay home, see if they show symptoms, and, if they do, get the treatment they need.

Again, I’m hoping to see all of you in person on January 23<sup>rd</sup>! Until then, remember that a church is not a building—it’s a group of people coming together to worship God.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Ben

### Mission Offering

Our goal for Global Missions Offering this Christmas season is **\$3,500**. You may support missions and missionaries around the world by giving to the CBF Global Missions Offering or the SBC Lottie Moon Offering. Please designate on your check or offering envelope your preference.

Here is what we have received as of 12/28/21:

CBF Global Missions Offering — \$2,486

SBC Lottie Moon Offering — \$445

**Total — \$2,931**



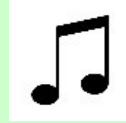
- 1—Cameron Packer
- 4—Ginger Hayes
- 10—Joe Story
- 12—Fadine Harris
- 18—Bradford Rose
- 20—Bridgette Ngeve
- 22—Ty Stevenson & Emma Stoops
- 30—Johnny Bush

# 2021

## YEAR IN REVIEW

We are planning for our updated Year in Review to focus on how Hope Valley Baptist Church managed to show God's love to our community during 2021. If you have pictures you want to share, please text to Rhonda Welfare (919-599-7367) or mail or drop off original photos at the church. Photos will be returned. Any photos that were taken at a church activity are fine, even if they show only your family. We may not be able to use all the photos submitted, but we will include as many as possible.

Submitting photographs will assume permission is granted to use in print or web-based publications or streaming. People in the photographs will not be identified by name without requesting individual permission.



## MUSIC NOTES



A big shout out to the musicians of HVBC for all of their hard work and for sharing their musical gifts with us during the pandemic. Through crazy rehearsal schedules, learning musical parts from audio files made from my piano at home and sent via email, taping services on Friday evenings for months, singing with individual microphones as our A/V team so capably live-streamed the services, and finally learning an entire body of music for multiple Advent and Christmas services, the musicians have shown their amazing talent and dedication. THANK YOU ALL!

And now we begin a new year full of hope for a normalcy that may or may not happen. We will, of course, "Carry on and Sing, Play instruments, Livestream, and Praise God!"

Thanks be to God.  
Kathryn

## Important Notice from the Deacons

In the pre-COVID era, each member or family of Hope Valley Baptist Church had their very own deacon, a person to share concerns with and generally keep in touch with what was going on in the church. We are revitalizing that program, starting January 1, 2022. We have divided the families listed in the current church directory into groups of six or seven, with a deacon assigned to each group.

In the next few weeks, you should receive a letter from your deacon, introducing himself or herself. After that, your deacon will try to set up a meeting, phone call, or whatever form of contact you feel most comfortable with to get to know you a little better.

We look forward to returning to one more aspect of "the old normal." We hope you will feel a little more connected to the church as a result and will enjoy your relationship with your deacon. We would also love to hear from you about this endeavor over the coming months.

In Christ,  
Mike Bunch, Deacon Chair