



211 South Pearl St  
201 South Pearl St  
PO Box 215  
Princeton, NC 27569-0215

Church Phone 919-936-2793  
Office Phone: 919-936-4001  
fax: 919-936-9937

Email: [princetonbaptist@embarqmail.com](mailto:princetonbaptist@embarqmail.com)  
On the Web: [www.connect2pbc.com](http://www.connect2pbc.com)

We are connecting with God,  
connecting with others and  
connecting others with God!

# The PBC Messenger

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others and connecting others with God!



December 2017

## Making A Way For Jesus

Thanksgiving is behind us and Christmas is fast approaching. There will be so many holiday activities in the coming weeks that will fill our lives with busyness. If we are not very careful the busyness of the days will overwhelm the holiness of the days. This happens often at Christmas. Jesus gets completely lost in the craziness of the parties, the giving and receiving, the family gatherings and other activities of the season. That leads to the question: Is it even possible in our present day and culture to celebrate Christmas and include Jesus?

John the Baptist cried out in the wilderness, *Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all people will see God's salvation.* (Luke 3:4-6)

How do these words of John the Baptist help us get ready for Jesus arrival? Let's take a look at the Luke passage and see how we can apply that to our Christmas this year.

The word "wilderness" generally speaks, not only of a desert place, but also a place that is uncontrolled, dangerous, and frightening.

The word "way" doesn't mean a road. Rather, it refers to a path of life. It is the direction one takes through life in one's choices and opportunities. It's the direction we choose to travel through life. If you use this metaphor for the "way" one travels through life, you can easily imagine the peaks and valleys of life, and the struggles, we face as we journey through life.

Taking what we learn from John the Baptist's words and applying them to life today, we can easily translate his wording into the lifestyles of the busy and exhausted. For that typically describes what many of us become during this holiday season. We can relate to the fear and dread of being lost in a wilderness type of situation. Our fear can cause us to wonder what will try to destroy us next, what obstacle will hinder us, or what fears will we have to face. Have you ever dreaded going to a family gathering? Yes, fear can be a part of our Christmas.

The question is: What is it that John the Baptist is telling us to do? To prepare the way, making his paths straight. Have you ever watched a road grader level out a roadway in preparation for pavement? Have you ever seen a bulldozer moving dirt around to bring order to the chaos of a vacant lot? What road graders and bulldozers could we use in our own lives this Christmas season?

Following are a few we can try:

**Absolutely unbounded forgiveness** (You know, the kind of forgiveness we received from God because of Jesus.)

**Proactive, unfailing love** (Again, the kind you and I received from Jesus)

Sometimes this has to be "tough love," going beyond what people think they want to what they really need.

**Celebrate the successes of others** - Build them up

**Empathize with those who are struggling**

**Realize that our relationships are the most precious gifts that God has given us**

**Rejoice that God sent Jesus to us** - to bring hope, love, peace and joy.

I am confident that we would be amazed at how putting these attitudes and actions in place in our lives will smooth the path, making the way for Jesus to be present in our lives and our families this Christmas season.

The Conclusion of...

STAND

A Study In Daniel

December Pulpit

December 3

The End of History, Daniel 12

December 10

Children's Christmas/Baby Dedication

December 17

Three Questions for Christmas

December 24

Light In The Darkness, Isaiah 60

December 31

RJ Smith

Christmas Trip to



Tuesday, December 7 - at 2 PM



Gaylon Pope and Sweetwater

will be our entertainment

\$47/Person

Bus departs at 12:15 PM

December Calendar2017

Weekly Events			
	<b>Sunday</b>		<b>Wednesday</b>
9:45am	Sunday School	10:00am	Morning Bible Study
10:55am	Worship	6:30pm	AWANA
10:55am	Children's Church	6:30pm	Youth Bible Study
		6:45pm	College Bible
		8:00pm	Choir


Happy Birthday

Church Events for December

December 2017	
Lottie Moon Offering & Week of Prayer	3-10
Prison Ministry - 6:00 PM	4
Deacon's Meeting - 7:00 PM	10
Children's Christmas Program 11:00 AM	10
LLL'S Luncheon - 12:00 PM	12
Church Office Closed/Christmas Holidays	22-26
NO C.A.R.E. Ministry	25
NO BAPTIST WOMEN	26
Church Office Closed/New Years Holiday	Jan 1

December Birthdays	
1	Hattie Dougherty
2	Lane Dougherty, Quinn Dougherty, Kathlyn Hewett
4	Margaret Bullock, Judy Boyette, Zoey Phillips
5	Walton Mozingo
9	Barbara Williamson
10	Maegan H Coates, Bryan Howell
11	Lauri Hinton, Kaylee Rose, Mirinda Phillips
11	Jerry Oliver, Doug White
12	Katelin Gronendyke
13	Connie Pittman
17	Kevin Dougherty, Guy Langston
19	Brittany C Haddock
22	Debbie Batten
23	Eddie Pearce
24	Peyton Gardner
25	Zachary Hinton
29	Samantha Crews
30	Amanda Godwin, Gary Wiggs
31	Jim Lassiter

Deacons Meeting



Sunday December 10, 2017

5:00 PM

Tithes and Offerings

November, 2017

General Fund MTD — \$22,653.56

Monthly Requirement — \$23,100.00

OPERATION

Christmas Child

Samaritan's Purse

the power of

a single gift

Praise the Lord!

We met our goal of 100 boxes.

112 BOXES





## A CUP OF Christmas

Sunday, December 3, 2017 — 9:00 — 9:30 AM

In the Fellowship Hall

Enjoy Coffee, Cocoa and Apple Cider Bar - Danishes and Cookies

Each family will receive a Cup of Christmas ornament as we kick off the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

### LLL's Luncheon (Living Long and Loving it!) December at NOON!!

Special program planned with Ray Hillard and his group playing and singing all of your favorite Christmas music. Please come and as we always do at Christmas bring your favorite to share. The main dish will be provided by the group in charge. Lets have a good time together and get in the Christmas spirit as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ!

## FPU Returns to PBC January 2018

**FINANCIAL** *Peace*  
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# PRINCETON BAPTIST Youth

WHO NEEDS  
CHRISTMAS?



Hey parents! We're starting a new series with your students for the month of December called "Who needs Christmas." But seriously, who needs Christmas? Well, your students will soon find out. In this series, we'll discover just how important the Christmas story really is—for all of us.

**Teens**

**Meet Each**

**Wednesday**

**6:45 - 8:00 PM**

**Sunday**

**9:45 - 10:45 AM**

WHY I  
BELIEVE

A Twelve Session Study from Chip Ingram

Join the College age class on Wednesdays at 6:45 PM as they go through a study by Chip Ingram called "Why I Believe"





# Women's Bible Study

## The Armor of God

BY PRISCILLA SHIRER



Sunday, January 28, 2018

5:00 PM

Facilitated by Lauri Hinton

Meets in Room #201 (Messenger's Sunday School Room)

### C.A.R.E. Ministry

The CARE Team meets January 22, 2018 at 5:00 PM. Join us if you can pray, help deliver meals, clean up after dinner or make follow up visits. Please notify the team if you know of any needs they can meet or anyone who needs encouragement to join our church family. We need drivers to deliver meals on the second & fourth Monday nights.

**We need someone to prepare meals for CARE Ministry.**  
If you can help, please contact Pastor Dwayne

### C.A.R.E. Team Report

**November 27, 2017**

<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Meals Delivered</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Visits</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Cards Sent</b>	<b>28</b>

**Prayers for all requests**

### December Nursery Schedule Sunday School & Worship

Nursery Volunteers	
3	Lauren Fail
10	Kayla Walker
17	Kathy O'Mara
24	OPEN
31	Megan Lee

### Rotating Nursery Schedule

Karen Pearson & Kim Wellons  
Joyce Dudley & Jean Starling



## WELCOME TO THE CLATTERBUCKS

January 7, 2018 PBC will welcome Trevor Clatterbuck, his wife Mary Ann and their son Caleb as Trevor joins the church staff. He will serve as Associate Pastor of Worship.

We are excited to welcome the Clatterbucks to PBC and look forward to the ministry they bring to us. Please keep them in your prayers as they coordinate their efforts, with the Lord's help, to move to Princeton.

## A Baby Changes Everything

The PBC Women's Ministry is sponsoring a Fundraiser for In His Hands Pregnancy Support Center

Please save your extra change to place in the Huge Baby Bottle

We will be collecting during the month of December

Your change could help save the life of an unborn baby



### December 31 & January 2018 Flower Schedule

- 31 - Ron Jones in memory of parents, Raymond and Dean Jones
- 7 - Marion and Cedessel Glover in memory of deceased family members
- 14 - Tony and Duane Haddock in loving memory of Jean Wright and Marvin Haddock
- 21 - Ray Autry Jr. in memory of his father, Ray Autry Sr.
- 28 - Pat Howell in memory of Ken Howell, Esther Sasser and deceased loved ones