



Burlington
Christian
Church

Connecting people to Jesus and each other



The December Issue

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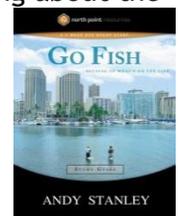
MERGE

(a word from our Minister)

The Ultimate MERGE... WOW... there are a lot of things in this world that come together. Think about it.... lanes on the highway, ingredients to your favorite pie, a man and woman in marriage, and so much more. But the Ultimate Merge?? that can only explain one thing... The Merge you experience in Jesus! That little baby lying in that little manger on that cold, cold night in Bethlehem brought about the most intense - the deepest - the Greatest - the most important, spiritual, eternal, life changing Merge you will ever need, want, or experience in this life or the one to come. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who blesses us beyond what we can hope or think. The Merge of all Merges!!

'Wednesday-Night Connection'

WN-Connection @ 7pm - What a great time we are having every Wednesday Night here at BCC!!! Our kids are having a great time growing in their faith - our Teens are growing and learning about the love of Jesus - our amazing worship team shares together and prepares to lead worship & our adults are moving into a new focus for the fall. Adults continue to study through the GO FISH series - Its really good!!



Come and grow with us!!

As we wrap up this 2017 year I must say it has been great. As a church we are moving out into the streets and bringing the gospel with us. Beyond These Walls - Where Jesus is... has not just become a theme or a cool idea - It has become our purpose and hearts' desire. To GO into all the world for the Lord Jesus. To get involved in the community through the schools, recreation sports leagues, giving gifts to needs, providing turkeys to friends, cookies to fire departments, food supplies to people around the world, Wee Care love, shoebox gifts to children in foreign lands - sending support to missionaries and making plans to go in the name of Jesus... God is moving us up and out of our pews and into the streets where He can use us to do amazing things for the Kingdom. 'Good Friends' - 'This Means War' & 'Blessed-we are' - these focus points are designed to move us out - beyond these walls.... Let's GO...

Wee Care Brunch Service Project

Thursday, Dec.21st at 11:30 here at BCC - Come and help us serve pancakes & sausage to our guests from across the street. It will be a great time to love on some little people and serve the neighborhood...

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KIDS Ministry

December Calendar

- ✿ December 3rd – 7pm Dessert Theatre
Making Memories at the Manger
All kids need to be at the church by 6:15pm
Costumes have been put together!
Dress Rehearsal is December 2nd at 5pm
- ✿ December 10th – Christmas Craft Day! We will be making gifts for the kids to give to special people in their lives.
- ✿ December 17th – Christmas Party/Movie
- ✿ December 24th – Happy Birthday Jesus Party!
- ✿ December 31st – Family Sunday



Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday Night @ 7pm December 23
Come for a night of worship & praise as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus. It will be a quiet candlelight time for you and your family to enjoy as we remember the reason we celebrate.



BCC All Church Christmas Party

Dec. 8th @ 6:30pm here at BCC - Come and bring your family for the fun and food as we celebrate Jesus together in fellowship. The church will provide the meat – please bring a side dish or dessert. It's going to be a lot of fun... Come and join in the fun!!

DECEMBER MISSIONS NEWS

Perspective is everything as we think about giving and our blessings. This week we got a receipt from Puerto Rico Christian School, where we sent \$1000 to help rebuild the Principal's home and where only 46% of electricity has been restored months after the Hurricane. Contractors are leaving over contract disputes instead of arriving to solve the problem. Please pray for this island and your brothers in Christ there.



Patrick Cline said that Heather's eye is about 60% healed from a chemical burn but still requires an eye patch. Please continue to pray for her.

Campus Christian Fellowship at ECU asking for prayer for growth and effective ministry. They could also use help with leaking roof and dormer repair, removal of a large tree, new security system, and HVAC units.

Waypoint Church Partners is sponsoring the International Mission Convention in 2021 in Richmond, VA. At the 2015 Convention they sponsored, they also presented checks to help 7 churches, which have now multiplied to 14. One of those churches, in Togo, was started by one of Dick Hostetter's students from Ghana. They hope to raise \$500,000 for the convention and to see 21 new churches planted around the world.



IDES has sent their Gift Catalog. If you are interested in buying a Bible, Goat, Blanket, Bike, or other item for someone in need, please see Steve Dailey.

We plan to help families in need at Wee Care this year. Stay tuned as we learn what needs we can meet.

Scarlet Hope is trying to raise \$30,000 between now and year-end to expand their Career Development Fund to give 5 women in the sex industry an alternative to supporting themselves. If you have questions see Steve, John, or Trish.

BCC READING TEAM



It's not too late to join the team! It's easy and the blessings are endless... (just see Hope Konzelman)

NEW MEMBERS as of 11/5/17

News for Seniors

- ♥ Mark your calendar for the Senior trip to the Billy Graham Museum on December 5th. More information to come....
- ♥ 2018 Seniors Calendar hot off the press!! There is a copy posted on the bulletin board, with extra copies in the rack. See Dan if you have questions.



Worship Note

By David Florence

As I sit here and watch “The Grinch who stole Christmas” with my children, I am reminded that Christmas always brings out the best in our hearts, the best in our spirits. I believe that this is because for most of us, it is a season of giving. Most of us know the verse. Acts 20:35, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” This is counter to our society. If I am being honest, one of my own love languages is gifts and the thoughtfulness that goes into them, but this teaching of Jesus goes much deeper than just giving a box of candy or a gift card to someone at a certain time of year. We often omit the rest of this passage of Scripture. It is more blessed to give than to receive, but what exactly are we giving? Something that our own hearts and minds devised, or what God intended for us to give? In Acts 20, Paul’s missionary journeys are described and he tells the elders at Ephesus how to shepherd the flock, and look after the sheep, and then in verse 35 he says these words: “I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.” The words in the middle of that passage just hit me in the center of my chest. **“You must support the weak.”** Do we simply try to give gifts to those we love, or do we honestly and earnestly seek out the weak, to help them, to shepherd and mentor them towards a relationship with Jesus, and then to disciple them as they walk with Jesus? We have the greatest gift within us. Its cost was the very life of Jesus, and He willingly paid that price, so that He Himself could support the weak. We are the weak, because in ourselves, without Him, we do not have the ability to save ourselves. God knew the cost when He allowed Jesus to come to earth, they both did, yet He still came. He chose that it is better to give than to receive, and He gave His all. We are commanded in Scripture to live with Christ as our example, and His example is giving the ultimate gift – His life – in order to restore a right relationship between us and God the Father. My challenge to myself and to all of us this Christmas season and throughout the year is to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and give of our resources to support the weak, to be about our Father’s business. Supporting the weak, defending the widow and the fatherless, doing what Jesus has shown us to do. I want to leave you with this passage of Scripture because it is Jesus’ best description in Scripture of giving. Matthew 25:34-40 says, “Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’” “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’”

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 9:30a Small Groups 10:30a BCC Family Sunday Worship	27	28 11a Women in Early Church Study 6p Karate	29 7p WN-Connection 7p Youth Group	30	1 6:30p Men at River	2 5p Christmas Dress Rehearsal
3 9:30a Small Groups 10:30a Worship 7p Christmas Program	4	5 Seniors to Billy Graham Museum 11a Women in Early Church Study 6p Karate	6 7p WN-Connection Eddie Boggs 7p Youth Group	7	8 9a Elders Meet 6:30p All-church Christmas Party	9
10 9:30a Small Groups 10:30a BCC Worship 3p Elders 4:30p Leadership	11	12 11a Women in Early Church Study 6p Karate	13 6:30p Meal 7p WN-Connection 7p Youth Group	14	15	16 Operation Christmas Child – Boone, NC
17 9:30a Small Groups 10:30a BCC Worship	18	19 11a Women in Early Church Study 6p Karate	20 7p WN-Connection 7p Youth Group	21 11:30a WeeCare Brunch	22	23 7p Christmas Eve Eve Worship
24 Christmas Eve 9:30a Small Groups 10:30a BCC Worship	25 Christmas Day	26 11a Women in Early Church Study NO Karate	27 NO WN-Connection	28	29	30