

Knowing God
Growing in relationship
to Him
Going into the world in
His name and with his
message
Showing others how
they can do the same.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

As you read this newsletter, we're in a time of transition. The busyness and excitement of this Christmas season has just begun to settle. Maybe you spent it busily going from here to there. As you slow to a more introspective place in your mind and heart, be reminded that Jesus is the great gift of Christmas and that time in His presence is greater than that of any friend or family, as great as those may be. Maybe you spent it quietly or even alone. Perhaps He used that time to remind you that His children are never more surrounded with His vital, living presence than when alone, quietly before Him. Maybe for you, it has been a time of trial or grief. Be reminded that He is El Rio, the God who sees you (Gen. 16:13). Also, we will soon transition from one year to the next (or, already have, depending on when you read this). As we do, may we seek to walk more closely with, and in a manner worthy of, the God who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

For His Glory: Pastor Brandon

YOUTH NEWS

The Student Ministry is looking forward to a great new year with the potential for much growth in relation to God. We appreciate the prayers and support of our church family and are very thankful that those prayers and that support will not cease. We are truly blessed to have such an amazing family of believers surrounding us, and we cannot take such a blessing for granted.

There are already plans on the calendar for the new year, with more in the planning stages. Please remember that there will be a meeting for all parents/guardians of our youth on Wednesday, January 10th in the Youth Room. This will be held during the evening meal time, please feel free to bring



IotlaKids Christmas Program

December 17, 2023

LMCO

The Iotla Baptist Church goal for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering was \$5,500 and we reached and exceeded it. As of December 31st we have collected \$7,187.

FANTASTIC!

IDENTITY THEFT SEMINAR

The JOY Group is sponsoring a seminar on Identity Theft on Friday, January 19th. The seminar will be held in Fellowship Hall from 10:30 to 11:30 AM. This is a topic about which we all need to learn more. Everyone is invited to attend. The JOY Group hopes to see you there!

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His loving kindness is everlasting.

1 Chronicles 16:34

food to the youth room to help prepare our group for the upcoming year.

I pray that the Lord blesses us all this year through a closer relationship with Him.

Trevor M Trammel, Student Pastor



Let's Celebrate

Anniversaries

◆ Kenny & Annie Seay 1/08

Birthdays

◆ Chris Dills 01/08

◆ Kirsey Apel Franks 01/09

◆ Lauren Shuler 01/10

◆ Hannah Trammel 01/10

◆ Olivia Hedden 01/12

◆ Denise Tippet 01/12

◆ Maggie Buchanan 01/13

◆ Emma Lovett 01/15

◆ Wayne Lynch 01/15

◆ Joanie Jenkins 01/19

◆ Kelli Tippet 01/20

◆ Sue Smith 01/23

◆ John Bode Sprinkle 01/25

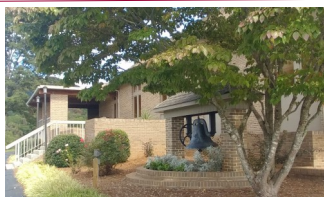
◆ Nolan DeWitt 01/31

◆ Gavin Rowland 01/31

◆ Spencer Rowland 01/31



Iotla Baptist Church
1537 Iotla Church Road
Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 828-524-7167
iotlabaptist@dnnet.net



JOY Group

The JOY Group assisted in spreading Christmas Cheer. They decorated 16 "mini" Christmas trees and took them to Grandview and to shut-ins. They also put together 23 "Christmas Cheer" baskets and stockings for shut-ins. They were on the road a lot in December making all their deliveries and spreading "Christmas Cheer".



Christmas Committee Report for 2023

On behalf of the Christmas committee I want to offer a sincere thank you, what a wonderful church family we have! Because of your generosity this year, we were able to touch the lives of 21 individuals. Ranging in age from 1 - 100! We were able to provide clothing, household items, boxes of groceries, gift cards, personal items, visits and so much more!

2- families of 3 - grandparents and grandchild

2 - elderly males, clients that Joey Gibson follows. Thank you Joey for delivering the gifts and groceries!

1 female and 4 males through the Department on Aging

3 high school students age 16, 16 and 18

1 family who had just acquired 3 boys (ages 10,11 and 13) through the foster program and who had a 1 year old of their own.

1 family of 3 with extra needs this season

6 female and 3 males at Grandview Manor - personal care items (lotion, soaps, socks)

9 female and 2 male shut-ins in our church family

To God be the Glory for the GREAT THINGS HE has done!

I personally want to thank all the members of the committee for your service. I am so blessed to have a wonderful committee. Valerie Norton, Sandy Breedlove, Wanda Ledford, Lisa SanGregory, Beverly Penland, Carmen Penland and Melissa Leatherman

Tammy Dills - Committee Chair

PRAYER LIST

Church Members

Mildred Asby
 Hugh & Gaye Blaine
 Raleigh Buchanan
 Mary Jo Campbell
 Edna Huggart
 Charlie Leatherman
 Emma Lovett
 Kason Lynch
 David Pangle
 Joyce, Richie and Family
 Barbara Wilson
 Janis Wilson

Family and Friends

Colson Bates
 Scott Benton
 Danny Cook
 Marcia Crawford
 Chris Dove
 Tony Free
 Fred & Pam Goldsmith
 Chelsea Heaton
 Johnny & Caralee Henson
 Carson Ilhardt
 Stanley Jacobs
 Dina Jones
 Mildred McSwain
 Bill O'Connor
 Linda Parker
 Richard & Bea Perry
 Carson Rowland
 JoAnn Runyon
 Sonya Shook
 June Sorrells
 Mary Stockton
 Morris Stockton
 Linda Straufe
 Welch Family
 Bruce Wilson, Jr.
 Ann Wood



A PHOTO REVIEW OF 2023