

*"I Have Called You Friends." John 15:15*

New Hope Friends Church  
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Goldsboro, NC 27534

Non-profit Org.  
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Permit No. 53

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## *Newsletter:*

**December**

Letter from the Pastor:

**Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! - Psalm 98:1**

There are many things that we can love about the Christmas season: the lights, the food, the presents, the decorations. But there is one thing that gets me in the Christmas spirit more than anything else: Christmas music. There is nothing like putting on some Christmas music, pulling out all of the Christmas decorations and plunging into the holiday spirit. Christmas is a time when we hear and sing many different songs, from songs about animated snowmen to green grinchies to flying reindeer, there is no end to the many imaginative things we hear this time of year.

Although I love singing about a "White Christmas," what I really love to do is sing the Christmas carols that talk about a baby born in Bethlehem, songs about the advent of Jesus. Whether He is "Away in a Manger" or born on a "Silent Night," I love hearing these songs we sing every year. But something hit me as I was thinking about these popular songs: do we really know what exactly it is we are singing? Because I believe that Christmas carols, while sung every year, are some of the most misunderstood songs. It is quite a shame because these songs are filled with rich theology, praising God for the marvelous things He has done. Because of the beauty of Christmas music and the message they contain, we are going to take time during the Advent season to explore some popular Christmas hymns in a brand new sermon series entitled: Christmas Carols. Please join us this Christmas season as we seek to sing an old song in a new way so that we may glorify God for the awesome things He has done!

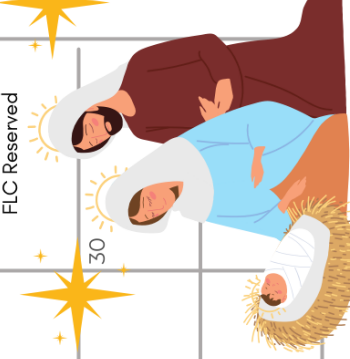
## *Save the Date:*

**Come join us for Breakfast with Santa on December 2nd at 9AM. We will have arts and crafts for the kids, as well as, a photo opportunity with Santa. Registration will begin in November. Look for more information in the November bulletins.**





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 The Well - Progressive Christmas Dinner 6PM	2 Breakfast with Santa 9AM
3 Worship 10:30AM	4 Choir Practice 7PM	5 Outreach 11:30AM Ministry & Counsel 7PM	6 Youth Group 6PM-8PM Prayer Meeting 6:30PM	7 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8AM	8	9
10 Worship 10:30AM	11 Choir Practice 7PM	12 Monthly Meeting 7PM	13 Youth Group 6PM-8PM	14 Singles Seniors Luncheon 12PM The Well Evening 6:30PM	15	16
17 Worship 10:30AM	18 Choir Practice 7PM	19	20 Youth Group 6PM-8PM Prayer Meeting 6:30PM	21 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8AM	22	23 FLC Reserved
24 Worship 10:30AM Christmas Eve Service 7PM	25 MERRY Christmas	26	27	28	29	30
31 Worship 10:30AM						



I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.” You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: ‘I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.’” Selah  
-Psalms 89:1-4

# Celebrating Milestones

## Happy Birthday



### Birthdays:

- 1st Everly Dawson
- 2nd Noelle Hicks
- 5th Jeva Jones
- 7th Brodie Carter
- 8th Rodney Pittman
- 11th Erin Meinecke
- 12th Larry Kearney
- 13th Mary Lou Garner, Jim Webber
- 14th Ruby Boyette, Jamie Gardner
- 16th Craig Smith, Jack Worrell, Hannah Brown
- 17th Denise Batson
- 24th Virgil Edwards
- 25th Kristen Pittman, Timmy Walker
- 27th Paula Deaver
- 29th Tracy Case
- 30th Cindy Ayres
- 31st Elizabeth Boyette, Peggy Adams

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

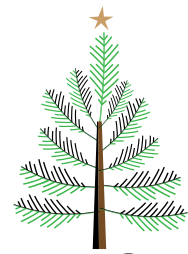
### Anniversaries:

- 9th Cole & Kelly Dawson
- 15th Ervin & Jeva Jones
- 17th Jim & Bonnie Best
- 27th Kevin & Erin Meinecke



**December Connect Team:**  
Craig Smith, Todd Williams, Bobby Trivette, Richard Pate

# Announcements



Christmas Eve Service  
Sunday, Dec. 24th at 7PM:

We are excited to be together again this year for our annual Christmas Eve worship service. We hope you will join us as we celebrate the coming of our Savior.



Thank you to Pam Edwards and Elroy Farms for the beautiful tree adorning our worship area. We always appreciate the lovely gift you give to your church family each year.



Order your poinsettias through December 3rd. Ordering forms have been placed by the offering plates and in the back of the pews. The cost this year will be \$25. Completed forms can be placed in the offering plates with designated payment. They can be taken home starting December 24th.