



# The Chapel Chatter

Plank Chapel United Methodist Church  
P. O. Box 507, 3047 Bobbitt Road  
Kittrell, North Carolina 27544  
(252) 492-1919  
See our website: [www.PlankChapel.org](http://www.PlankChapel.org)  
December 2008

## *From the Pastor's Heart...*

The Seniors' Circle recently hosted a speaker on Identity Theft. We learned tips on protecting our identities from those who intend to harm us and our good names. It is sad to think our society has evolved this way.

Hum...Are there people and organizations in our world who want to steal our "Christian" identity? Right now, our country (and even the world) is suffering from an economic crisis. Sadly, many people have been encouraged to buy, buy, buy – to the point of getting in debt over their heads.

Is this all in the name to establishing their "identity?" Our media always runs ads to tell you to buy their products to make your life better. People are urged to buy certain items to boost their "status." Advertisers want us to desire (perhaps even "lust") their products. Why? To make their companies more successful. They would love for everyone to "identify" with their products – to be like them, so they

make money. All this to impress whom?

For the Christian, this presents a dilemma...do we give in and purchase the things that the world values so that we "fit in" versus guarding our Christian identity?

We are confronted with these choices 365 (or 366) days per year. Yet the next few weeks will offer us the temptation to get carried away with our spending.

As we seek to "identify" with Christ, may our spending be done wisely so that He will be impressed with the things that we value and that identify who (rather "Whose") we are.

Mickey and I wish each of you a blessed and joyous Christmas season.



*and Happy New Year!*  
Christmas Blessings,  
Pastor Carol & Mickey

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## Worship Committee

Christmas is coming soon! Invite your friends and neighbors to share our special services. The Children and Youth Christmas Programs will be December 14 at 6:00pm. We will conclude our Toy Drive that evening. Also, please remember to bring finger foods. The choir will give the gift of a Christmas Cantata on December 21.

We will celebrate on December 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm with a Candlelight Communion Service. January 4 will be a Celebration of the Love Feast. Plan now for the United Methodist Women's service of Prayer and Self-denial on January 25 and the Men's Service on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Special services are wonderful times to share with family and friends. Invite others to join us!



**CHOIR REHEARSALS**  
The choir will meet on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm. Join the choir!



Bell practice sessions will be held December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 pm. They will play December 21<sup>st</sup>. Anyone interested in playing bells, feel free to come!

Donald Rose McGhee



...Now known as...**CHAOS!**

which stands for "**Christ Has All Our Solutions.**" We are having our regular meetings on Sundays after worship on December 21 and January 18. On December 7, we will meet at 6:00 pm. We hope you will join us for our Christmas Toy Shop Story on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to everyone who helped with our recent fundraisers! We enjoyed Pilgrimage with 6104 in attendance from 281 churches. Youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join. Stay tuned - Come and bring a friend! **Share some Christ-centered CHAOS!**



**Thank You!**

*For all the dedication and hard work with recent events, the UM Men's BBQ, Youth Fundraiser, bereavement meals, Children's Practices and Meals, Pilgrimage, misc. repairs, etc....*

*We Thank You!*



**Historical Trivia**

No Report

Hilma Smith



*Remember others in prayer...*

**\*\*\*\*\*Safe Sanctuaries\*\*\***

**SAFE SANCTUARIES – Please pick up your family copy of our Safe Sanctuaries Policy soon. We need you to sign the back copy and turn it in. Thank you!**



**Church-wide**

**Christmas Pancake Breakfast  
Pancake Breakfast on December  
21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30 am. Blueberry! Pecan!  
And even Chocolate Chip! Thank  
you for supporting the UM Men!**



***Seniors' Circle***

The Seniors' Circle had a wonderful time at their November meeting and learned a lot about preventing Identity Theft. The next meeting of the Seniors' Circle will be on Wednesday, on December 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am for their Christmas Celebration. Invite a friend!



**Stay tuned for upcoming news...**

**ACTS**



**ACTS continues to minister to the needs of our community. ACTS is in need of financial donations due to increased needs in our area. Please consider making a special gift to help this vital ministry. Support ACTS!**



The UMW will have ongoing support for Zeb Vance Elementary for school supplies. They especially need Kleenex and paper towels. Place items in the box in the fellowship hall.

Our regular meetings will be December 14 and January 18 at 3:00 pm. We will have our Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Service on January 25<sup>th</sup>. The UMW gives their pledges directly to Missions and decided to ask members to contribute at least \$20.00 to support our local group needs. Come join in mission and ministry with sisters in Christ!



***Kerr Lake Ministries, Inc.***

**Plans are being made for next year camp!**



### **Age-Level Ministries:**

**We have several fun-filled Christian activities coming up. Here are a few highlights:**

**Children's Christmas Practice**  
*(On 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays –  
Have lunch after worship –  
then plan & practice until 2:00 pm.)*



**Christmas Caroling**  
**Meet at 1:00 pm to prepare  
Goody Bags then to Caroling**

**Christmas Program by  
Children & Youth  
Dec. 14 – 6:00 pm**

*(Everyone brings finger-foods for  
fellowship afterwards)*

*We will be collecting new toys to give to  
needy children as part of our ministry  
and Christmas celebration.*

**Community Caroling  
December 21 – 3:30 pm  
Downtown**

The Ministers' Community Partnership is sponsoring a Community-wide Old Fashioned Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, from 3:30 – 5:00 pm in the area between the Embassy Square and the Police Department.

**Plan now and invite your friends!**



After much discernment, we have arrived at a proposed Mission's Statement for our church. The Administrative Council has given approval and urges everyone to embrace it. Notice that it spells "DISCIPLES," as we are called to "make disciples of Jesus Christ" in Matthew 28:16-20.

**Discipling  
In  
Serving  
Christ -  
Inspiring  
People to  
Live by the  
Example of the  
Savior.**

Stay tuned for coming missions opportunities!

**Have you invited  
someone to know  
Christ lately?**



## December Special Services

*December 14 – 6:00 pm  
Children and Youth Service*

*December 21 – 11:00 am  
Christmas Cantata*



*Christmas Eve  
Communion December 24 – 8:00 pm  
Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Communion Service*

**Make Christmas Eve a special time of spiritual renewal. Invite your family and friends to share worship and Holy Communion on Christmas Eve at 8:00 pm. Luminaries will light our walkway in honor of Christ, the Light of the world.**

**Movie Go-ers Special! - Marketplace Cinema & Vance County Community Foundation are teaming up to feed Vance County!**

From Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>, you need to simply bring a non-perishable canned or boxed food item to concessions and you will receive \$1.00 off any combo (Best Buy, Big Time, Kiddie Combo or the Manager's Monthly Combo Special). Limit one discount per order! The food items will be donated to ACTS, and possibly to Lifeline depending on quantity collected. This is a great way to help feed the hungry of our community, please help! They are in desperate need of canned meats!



## December Opportunities:

- 1 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 2 –
- 3 – 7:30 pm Choir
- 4 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 5 –
- 6 – 6:00 pm Steak Dinner - RSVP
- 7 – Sunday School & Worship  
6:00 pm – CHAOS Meet 'n' Eat  
& Children's Christmas Practice
- 8 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 9 –
- 10 – 10:00 am Seniors' Circle  
7:30 pm Choir
- 11 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 12 –
- 13 – 1:00 pm Christmas Caroling & Bags
- 14 – Sunday School & Worship  
3:00 pm UM Women  
6:00 pm Children & Youth  
Christmas Program (finger foods)
- 15 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 16 –
- 17 – 7:30 pm Choir
- 18 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 19 –
- 20 –
- 21 – 8:30 am Pancake Breakfast  
Sunday School & Worship (Cantata)  
Noon – CHAOS Meet 'n' Eat  
3:30 pm MCP Caroling
- 22 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 23 –
- 24 – 8:00 pm Candlelight Communion  
Service
- 25 – Happy Birthday Jesus!
- 26 –
- 27 –
- 28 – Sunday School & Worship
- 29 – 6:00 pm Aerobics
- 30 –
- 31 - 7:30 pm Choir (verify?)

† **In His Service this Month:**

**Flowers:**

Dec 7 – Frances Brown & Poinsettias  
Dec 14 – Poinsettias  
Dec 21 – Poinsettias  
Dec 28 – Jacque Jones

**Acolytes:**

TBA

**Greeters:**

Dec 7 – Jamie & Lorraine Abbott  
Dec 14 – Bob & Olivia Kemp  
Dec 21 – William & Fran Leake  
Dec 28 – Faye Woodlief & Jane Owen

**Outreach:**

Dec 7 – Joe & Susan Sears  
Dec 14 – John & Jeanette Rogers  
Dec 21 - Pat Edwards & D. R. McGhee  
Dec 28 -Judy Wilson & Faye Woodlief

**Lay Readers:**

Dec 7 – Kay Deans  
Dec 14 – Donald Rose McGhee  
Dec 21 – Pat Edwards  
Dec 28 – Patricia Fuller

**December Ushers**

Thomas Beckham, Todd Wilson  
Ben Brown, Mac Wilson

**December Altar Guild:**

Faye Woodlief, Beverly Newman

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***Memorial Gifts Information...***

***In Memory of Charles R. Leake:***

*M. D. Anderson Cancer Center  
P. O. Box 4486  
Houston, Texas 77210*

***In Memory of Ruth Ritchey:***

*St. Cloud Presbyterian Church  
P. O Box 701334, 909 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Cloud, Florida 34769*

*or*

*Cornerstone Hospice  
3062 Michigan Avenue  
Kissimmee, Florida 34744*

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***Coming January 11<sup>th</sup> ...  
Durham District  
Leadership Workshops***

***2:30-4:30 pm***

***Mount Sylvan UMC***

***5731 N. Roxboro Rd***

***Durham***

***(Can Choose 2)***

***Best Practices in Finance***

***Best Practices Trustees***

***Lay Shepherding Teams***

***Partners in Ministry (Lay Leaders)***

***It Worked for Us: Practical Ideas***

***Healthy Congregations: Your MAP***

***Better Ministry with the SPRC***

***Local Church and Appointive Process***

