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**SOUTH RIVER**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

2659 South Chipley Ford Rd.  
Statesville, NC 28625-8712

[SouthRiverBaptist.com](http://SouthRiverBaptist.com)

Periodical

# DECEMBER 2023

## OUR CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Chris Thompson, Senior Pastor  
 Rev. Chris Pauley, Worship Pastor  
 Rev. Scott Townsell, Pastor for Student Discipleship  
 Rev. Tony Craver, Church Administrator  
 David Thompson, Interim Pastor for Children  
 Linda Cornett, Ministry Assistant  
 Carole Ireland, Financial Secretary

## EACH SUNDAY

704-876-1520	8:15 AM	Morning Worship
704-880-3625	9:30 AM	Sunday School
980-829-3163	10:45 AM	Morning Worship
704-397-6965	4:30 PM	Worship Choir
980-759-4115	5:45 PM	GROW Classes
704-876-1520	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
704-876-1520		

*South River Currents (USPS 019433) is published monthly by South River Baptist Church, 2659 S. Chipley Ford Road, Statesville NC 28625. Periodical Postage Paid at Statesville, NC 28677.*

**SOUTH RIVER**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

Volume 24, Number 4

**CURRENTS**

December 2023

**JODY MCBRAYER**  
STORIES AND SONGS

FROM CANA'S VOICE

& AVALON

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP CONCERT**  
Sunday, December 10th 7 pm  
South River Baptist Choir & Instrumentalists

**SOUTH RIVER**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

2659 S. Chipley Ford Rd - Statesville  
See [www.southriverbaptist.com](http://www.southriverbaptist.com) for more details  
Free concert with offering collected

[WWW.JODYMCBRAYER.INFO](http://WWW.JODYMCBRAYER.INFO)

[SouthRiverBaptist.com](http://SouthRiverBaptist.com)

2659 S. Chipley Ford Road, Statesville NC 28625 | Phone (704) 876-1520

## FROM THE PASTOR

South River Church Family,

I am excited to see my monthly calendar page flip over to the month of December. The celebration of Easter and Christmas are two incredible times of worship for the church. We gather to worship God who made Himself known in Jesus to redeem us from our sins and deliver us from this current evil age.

The South River adult choir joins Jody McBrayer on Sunday evening, December 10th. I encourage you to invite family and friends to this worship event. Pastor Pauley and the choir have been preparing for a great evening of praise and celebration of the Lord Jesus.

Our annual Christmas Candlelight Service will be on December 17th. We will celebrate the birth of our Savior and the living hope that we find through faith in Him. Invite your family to join us that evening as we prepare our hearts for Christmas day.

My family and I want to express our gratitude to you all for the love and joy you have shared with us this year. We are blessed to serve together with you and consider it a privilege to be a part of this great church family. We wish you all a very blessed Christmas.

Blessings,  
Pastor Chris

## PRE-SCHOOL

### 1ST SUNDAY

#### 8:15 AM

Melanie Townsell  
Molly Townsell  
Sherri Oliver

#### 10:45 AM Worship

April Thompson  
Tonda Lowman  
Sara Beth Thompson  
6:00 PM Worship  
Patsy Burnette  
Cricket Barnette

### 2ND SUNDAY

#### 8:15 AM Worship

Summer Poole  
Taylor Hedrick

#### 10:45 AM Worship

Donna Lyons  
Alissa Coulombe  
Brenna Pence  
6:00 PM Worship  
Mary Jo Frye  
Amelia Fox

### 3RD SUNDAY

#### 8:15 AM Worship

Terry Aiken  
Salem Grace Lyles

#### 10:45 AM Worship

Kim Mersfelder  
Abigail Kilcoyne  
Kaitlyn Lyon  
6:00 PM Worship  
Robin Stewart  
Tamantha Stewart

### 4TH SUNDAY

#### 8:15 AM Worship

No Service

#### 10:45 AM Worship

Makayla Maffucci  
Heather VanArsdale

#### 6:00 PM Worship

No Service

### 5TH SUNDAY

#### 8:15 AM Worship

Bonnie Hamilton  
Addison Carter

#### 10:45 AM Worship

Liz Deal  
Donna Williams  
6:00 PM Worship  
No Service

### 1ST WEDNESDAY

Elizabeth Griffin  
Anita Long

### 2ND WEDNESDAY

Tara Beatty  
Brenda Runkle

### 3RD WEDNESDAY

No Service

### 4TH WEDNESDAY

No Service

## GREETERS

### DECEMBER 3RD

8:00 - Martha McCoy - FD  
Carol Sipes - SP  
10:30 - Jenna Sherrill - FD  
Kimberly Shoemaker - SP

### DECEMBER 10TH

8:00 - Maggie Baumberger - FD  
Brenda Runkle - SP  
10:30 - Kimberly Shoemaker - FD  
Riley Elliott - SP

### DECEMBER 17TH

8:00 - Cindy Holloway - FD  
Sandra Boan - SP  
10:30 - Bonnie Williams - FD  
Jenna Sherrill - SP

### DECEMBER 24TH

8:00 - No Service  
10:30 - Riley Elliott - FD  
Bridget Merritt - SP

### DECEMBER 31ST

8:00 - Sandra Boan - FD  
Brenda Runkle - SP  
10:30 - Mary Kirkpatrick - FD  
Bridget Merritt - SP

## GRIEFSHARE MINISTRY

### GRIEFSHARE

New GriefShare classes start in February.  
Please contact Steve Jenkins  
@ (980) 263-4134 for information.



## WELCOME

By Baptism  
Steven & Michele Graham 145 Pratt Ln. Statesville, NC 28625 S-704-682-2599  
M- 704-682-2481

## 2022/2023 MINISTRY BUDGET

YTD BUDGET GOALS	\$ 259,230.27
YTD BUDGET RECEIPTS	\$ 226,714.73
TOTAL GIVING TO DATE	\$ 226,714.73

## RIPPLE KIDZ MINISTRY

Dear South River Baptist Church Families,

Happy December! We hope this newsletter finds you well and filled with the joy and anticipation of the Christmas season. As we approach this special time of year, we're excited to share the latest updates and activities from our Ripple Kidz Children's Ministry.

Journey Through the Nativity: December 3, 6, and 13

This month, we are embarking on a special journey with your children through the heart of the Christmas story. On December 3rd, 6th, and 13th, parents are invited to drop off their children at the FLC Multipurpose Room for our Nativity Nights.

What to Expect on Nativity Nights

On these nights we will journey through the nativity story in a hands-on and interactive way. From creative storytelling and interactive games to crafts that bring the story to life, each night will unfold a different aspect of the miraculous birth of Jesus Christ. In these three nights, we will cover the following:

Section 1: The Annunciation to Mary December 3

(Luke 1:26-38): This section describes the angel Gabriel appearing to Mary and announcing that she will conceive a child by the Holy Spirit.

Section 2: The Birth of Jesus December 6

(Luke 2:1-7): This section recounts the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus in a manger because there was no room in the inn.

Section 3: The Visit of the Magi December 13

(Matthew 2:1-12): This section describes the visit of the Magi (wise men) who followed a star to find the baby Jesus and present Him with gifts.

A Special Request for Parents

As we anticipate these Nativity Nights, we encourage you to actively participate in preparing your hearts and those of your children for the celebration of Jesus' birth. This December, consider reading one chapter from the Book of Luke each day with your children. Luke contains 25 chapters, making it a perfect fit for the days leading up to Christmas.

Grace and Peace to you,  
David Thompson, Interim Pastor for Children

# DEEP & WIDE STUDENT MINISTRY

## Growing through the Holidays....

With December knocking at our doors, we will be taking a break from our normal Grow curriculum at church but that doesn't mean we should stop growing as a believer. The scriptures remind us often of the need to grow in Knowledge, Understanding and Wisdom of His Word and who He is. Colossians 1:9-10 states, "For this reason we also, from the day we heard about you, have not ceased praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may live worthily of the Lord and please him in all respects—bearing fruit in every good deed, growing in the knowledge of God,..." We are to continue in our growth every day that God blesses us with. So here are a few ways to continue your growth until we begin Grow on January 14th; open God's Word daily, go to South River's YouTube channel or Grow or Die Podcast and listen each day to the Advent reading we did last year using the book "The Things Concerning Himself" by Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters, use the Meat Tenderizer card we handed out earlier this year and use the material provided to aid in your growth. The bottom line is that we as believers need to understand if you're not GROWING you're DYING! Let's GROW..

Pastor Scott Townsell,  
Student & Parent Discipleship



# BIRTHDAYS

## DECEMBER

- |    |  |    |   |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1  | Alyssa Levan<br>John Waugh                                       | 15 | Larry Campbell  |
| 2  | Emilee Lippard<br>Donna Lyons<br>Skylar McClure<br>Samantha Wall | 16 | Hinton Coley<br>Steven Pope                                       |
| 4  | Mary Jo Frye<br>Daphne Jensen<br>Salem Grace Lyles<br>Sheri Pope | 17 | Abigail Kilcoyne  |
| 5  | Adaline Hance<br>Jason Wenzel                                    | 18 | Sandra Ketchem<br>Kayla Wallace                                   |
| 6  | Ann Gettys<br>Sherwin Johnson<br>Haley Williams                  | 19 | Christie Hance<br>Isaiah Jenkins<br>Amanda Pauley<br>Olivia Cagle |
| 7  | Chaya Nichols  | 20 | Amelia Fox<br>Chris Pauley  |
| 8  | Gavin Barnette<br>Beth Weibley<br>Mary Zittle                    | 22 | Makenna Terwilliger<br>Alton Cook<br>Emery Gallina                |
| 9  | Blake Dishmond<br>Matthew Johnson                                | 24 | Lynn Johnson<br>Cody Stewart                                      |
| 10 | Joel Kilcoyne<br>Eli Pope  | 25 | Kinnan Johnson  |
| 11 | Justin Lindly<br>Gail Marinelli                                  | 28 | Brian Cook<br>Shannon Hedrick                                     |
| 12 | Steve Dixon<br>Daniel Fisher                                     | 29 | Alexis Johnson  |
| 13 | Crystal Barnes<br>Brenda Clement<br>David Snyder                 | 31 | Bryce Goodman<br>Rhonda Keever                                    |
| 14 | Canaan Levan<br>Beverly Carter<br>Wayne Hill<br>Darlene Jones    |    |   |

# ANNIVERSARIES

## DECEMBER

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 2  | Chris & Bonnie Hamilton   |
| 15 | Steven & Michele Graham   |
| 23 | Don & Janet Johnson   |
| 27 | Kevin & April Johnson<br>Jerry & Anita Long<br>Greg & Deborah Templeton |

## Wednesday Evening Meal Menus

5:30 - 6:45 pm Family Life Center

**Dec. 6 Taco Soup with chips**

**Dec. 13 Baked Chicken Tenderloins, Mashed Potatoes  
Creamed Corn**

**Meals will resume in January**

## CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



## Mark Your Calendars

December 24th - 10:45 am Worship ONLY  
December 31st - Regular AM Schedule; No PM Worship

## RIVER WORSHIP MINISTRY

### RIVER WORSHIP CHOIR

3rd AM Let Hope Arise  
10th AM Choir w Jody McBrayer  
17th AM King Forever  
24th AM No Choir  
31st AM Sing To the Lord

PM Shepherd Savior King  
PM Concert w Jody McBrayer  
PM Candlelight Service  
PM No Service  
PM No Service

### SPECIAL MUSIC

3rd AM Pastor Pauley  
10th AM Jody McBrayer  
17th AM The Olds Family  
24th AM Wynston Lyles  
31st AM Sherwin Johnson

PM Jimmy Williams  
PM Concert w Jody McBrayer  
PM Candlelight Service  
PM NO Service  
PM No Service

## Christmas Basket Delivery to Shut-Ins Wednesday, December 13 starting 1:00 pm



Baskets will be available in the Missions Hallway. You may sign in with your name and what delivery you're taking. Each basket will have name, address, and phone number of shut-in.

If you want to sign up beforehand, help with basket assembly, or be assigned a visit, call Pastor Pauley @ 704-880-3625.



**Young At Heart Trip to Ft. Mill, SC**  
**NarroWay Productions Dinner & Show**

**Thursday, December 14, 2023**

**Leave church by 4:00 pm (show starts @ 6:30)**

**Total Cost per ticket will be \$40.95 (no tax)**

**Sign up in SS class or hallway to register your interest.**  
**We will take payments by check to the church or cash.**

**You can also call Pastor Pauley (704-880-3625)**  
**or Amanda (252-450-5790) with questions.**

YOU'RE  
*invited*  
**Ladies Christmas**  
**Fellowship**  
Date:- December 7, 2023  
Time: 6:30-8:30  
Location: Tara Beatty's Home  
580 Ingram Rd. Statesville  
*Please signup at the table in the hallway*

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*We are excited for a fun Christmas evening together!*

*Please bring a wrapped ornament (\$10 max) for us to play a little Christmas exchange game.*

www.CreativeCertificates.com

## HEADWATERS ACADEMY



HEADWATERS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
**PATRIOTS**

January is a great time to start Headwaters

We still have openings in most classes 2023-24 School Year.

We offer 3 day and 5 day Pre-K & K (7:45 am to 11:30 am) and K through 10th grades.

We will add a grade each year. See details online @ [headwaters-academy.com](https://headwaters-academy.com)

**Please call if you would like additional information or a tour.**

New students should use this link > <https://headwaters-academy.com/register-new/>

**Volunteers needed for kitchen, cleanup, teacher assistants, tutors, library, recess monitoring. Scan to apply or contact Kim Williams for more details**

**at 704-881-1459** [kim@southriverbaptist.com](mailto:kim@southriverbaptist.com); <https://headwaters-academy.com/volunteer/>

If you are available for all or part of the day from 7:45-2:15 Mon – Fri, please fill out a volunteer form and let me know of your interest. One or two days/week will go far to help this ministry of South River.

**We are doing a Whole Pork Butt Fundraiser for December. Please call the office to order 704-876-1520.**

**Deadline to order is Dec 8th. Pickup time is between 3pm and 5:30pm on Dec 15th in the back of FLC.**

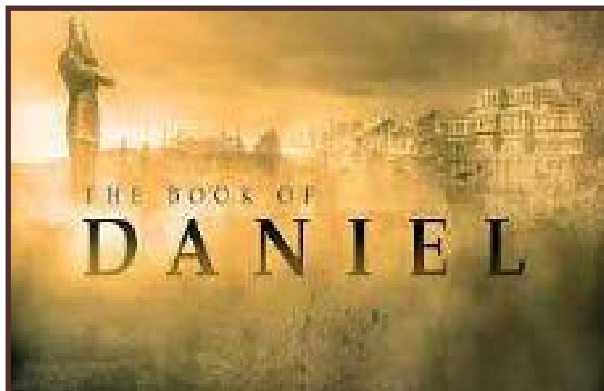
Other ways you can help support Headwaters: Download the Box Tops app and select Headwaters Christian Academy in Statesville, NC as your school then scan your grocery receipts.

RaiseRight is another way to support Headwaters buy purchasing gift cards that you would normally buy in stores.

You can use this link to get started > <https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=SM4GPS3BTGJ5>



## DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY



**Message Series**

**with**

**Pastor Chris**

**Wednesdays  
@ 7:00 pm**

## ADULT GROW CLASSES



**2024 Spring Adult GROW Schedule  
Sessions start - January 14**

**Sundays @ 6 PM**

The Great Disappearance (31 Ways to Be Rapture Ready) - Fred Bradburn

Way of the Master by Ray Comfort  
(Study in Evangelism) - Eric Davidson

**Wednesdays @ 7 PM**

Ladies' Bible Study  
Become a Woman Whose God Is Enough  
by Cynthia Healed - Janet Johnson

Men's Bible Study  
The Mortification of Sin by John Owen -  
Jerry Long



# 2023

# december

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						9:30 am Instrumental Rehearsal 3:30 pm Student Dinner
			5:30 pm Wednesday Night Meal 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting	6:30 pm Ladies Christmas Fellowship (Tara Beatty Home)	5:30 pm Students - Movie @ The Barn	8:00 pm Men's Bible Study (FLC #4) 5:30 pm Choir & instrumental Rehearsal w Dinner after
8:15 & 10:45 am Worship with Choir & Jody McBrayer 7:00 pm Christmas Worship Concert with Choir/Instrumentalists and Jody McBrayer		5:15 pm Young Adults (Samaritan's Purse)	HCA Chapel 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Meal Shut-in Christmas Basket Delivery 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting	4:00 pm Young At Heart (NarroWay Theater)		
Lord's Supper - AM 6:00 pm Candlelight Service	HCA Christmas Break - Jan. 1st	3:00 pm Senior Adult Food Boxes	No Wednesday PM Activities			
10:45 am One Worship Service No Sunday School/No PM	Church Offices Closed - 26th		No Wednesday PM Activities			
8:15 am Worship/Sunday School/ 10:45 am Worship NO PM Worship						