

What a way to end the year, and catapult us into a new year! We enjoyed three wonderful evenings as part of Church Renewal Nights, and it was a wonderful way to begin Thanksgiving week! Our Thanksgiving Eve service was a wonderful time of reflection and thanksgiving, and then on the Sunday following Thanksgiving Day we took up a Harvest offering that was incredibly generous, and I believe reflected the level of gratitude we are feeling for God's blessing of our congregation!

The following Sunday began Advent season, and then our children led us on the second Sunday of Advent, and that service was such a blessing as well. Through all of Advent, our choir led us with suites of song and narrative which made the theme of each Sunday come alive in our hearts and imaginations!

On the third Sunday of Advent we tried a new event: Christmas Treats! It was a huge success, with over 150 showing up for the sharing of our favorite Christmas desserts and some wonderful music led by Jeremy Cauble and APB, along with a special nostalgic reading by Hutch!

Thank you to all who have led us so faithfully in our worship times and fellowship times! And even as I mention the worship times, I am reminded of the services that had a mission focus led by our WMU, and also by Stacy Hollingsworth of The Esther Project Shop. There were also mission projects conducted by our youth and deacons during this season, as well as by the whole church with our Operation Christmas Child project and Toy Store! YES! It's been a very busy season, but a GREAT season of giving, worship and fellowship! That's what College Park is all about... On to a New Year!!

> Blessings & Peace, *Ramon*

THE WORSHIP OF GOD		Our Mission "A people gathered in Christ; nurtured in His Spirit; and sent in
January 7, 2024 11:00 a.m. Music led by the Sanctuary Choir Baptism & Lord's Supper	January 14, 2024 11:00 a.m. Music led by the Sanctuary Choir Deacon Ordination & Installation	His name." Church Conference: Wednesday, January 24th 7:00 pm Smith Hall
January 21, 2024 11:00 a.m. Music led by the Sanctuary Choir So You Want a Revolution? Mark 1:14-20 Ramon Smith	January 28, 2024 11:00 a.m. Music led by the Sanctuary Choir His Authority Mark 1:21-28 Ramon Smith	Happy New Year

JANUARY I, 2024

VOLUME 72, NUMBER I

A NOTE FROM MARY

The mind of a man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. Proverbs 16:9

If you had asked me a year ago what 2023 was going to look like, my prediction would have looked completely different than this year has looked. If you'd asked me six months ago what Advent was going to look like, I would have gotten it wrong. If you asked me last week what this week was going to look like, I would have been wrong as well. I am a planner, always have been. However, I have learned over the years that my plans have no power over the larger world. Circumstances do not bend to my will or my to-do list. Life happens in the most unexpected and sometimes downright impertinent ways.



will meet on Monday, January 29th at 7 pm in the Garden Lobby

This month's book is: *Coal River* by Ellen Marie Wiseman

I have called this year the year of crazy, and it has been. But God has shown up in every bit of it, except for in the times I didn't let Him in. He has been good in the midst of it. And I've learned a lot (maybe the hard way!). And I know He'll continue to show up this year as well. Prayers that I'll pay attention to His voice in the new year.



Wednesday Night Dinner Plans for January:

Our menu for Wednesday night dinners in January is listed below. Don't forget that the cost is \$7.00 per person. We appreciate your willingness to assist with covering the cost of the meals so that we may continue to provide this opportunity to spend time together with delicious food and warm fellowship.

- 1/3: country style steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, Tom's Tasty Treat
- 1/10: fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, pintos, rolls, lemon bars
- 1/17: eggs, bacon, gravy, biscuits
- 1/24: cheeseburgers, tater tots
- 1/31: baked chicken, roasted potatoes, salad, rolls

CRISIS CON†ROL MINISTRY

Gift for January

~ canned stews ~ (beef stew, Brunswick, chili, etc.)

Items collected in December:

- 1 bag of flour
- 1 bag of sugar
- 46 cans of vegetables

Whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you do for me." Matthew 25:40

IN THE HOSPITAL

Our prayers and support are offered to the following individuals who are part of our church family who are, or have been in the hospital during the last month:

Marla Andrews Bill Baker Beverly Hamblen Jim Hamblen Camilla Hewitt Bernie Rea

Notes of appreciation have been received from:

Richard Blackwell Family Nell Lawson Stephanie Phillips Mary Lee Swaim

A World From Wil

Happy New Year!! A new adventure awaits us! The Lord has prepared us for this new time, a new season. I look forward to how the Lord will use our ministry in 2024. This month we will be filling backpacks for our backpack ministry on Thursday, January 18th @11:30 am. This time will replace College Parkers for the month of January. We will resume regular College Parkers in February.

We realize that many times weather has us changing plans and moving dates. We will keep an eye on the weather and let you know if it needs to change. If you have not updated your email, please call Teresa, and give us your new email. If it hasn't changed there is nothing to do.

22 Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23 In Loving Memory In Loving Memory of of Richard Blackwell Janice Farmer October 4, 1947 December 6, 1931 to to December 8, 2023 December 25, 2023 Member of College Park Member of College Park since since February 1973 September 1961

Inclement Weather Policy:

In the event of inclement or severe weather, church services or other events might be canceled or delayed. Even when services or other events are held in inclement weather, each person should use his/her own discretion in trying to get to church.

How do you know when there is a cancellation?

When there is a cancellation of services/events due to inclement weather, the change will be announced in an adequate amount of time before the service/event is originally scheduled.

Announcement formats include:

- * our church website, www.collegepark.ws
- our social media accounts, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (@CollegeParkWS)
- Local television stations (WFMY 2, WXII 12, and ABC 45 (look for College Park Baptist Church Winston Salem, since there is also a College Park Baptist Church in Greensboro)

Youth, College Students & Recreation

FAMILY GAME NIGHT January 7th at 6:00 pm



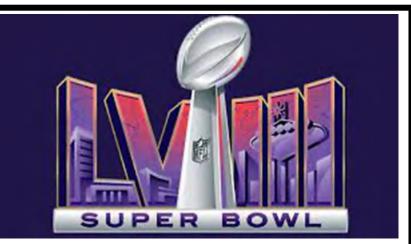
YOUTH PARENT MEAL and Information Session

Sunday, January 21st at 6:00 pm

Parents of youth are invited to attend a meeting where we will enjoy dinner and have information shared.

Bring your calendars so you can be ready to sign up to help chaperone upcoming trips.





Superbowl Party on Sunday, February 11th @ 6:00 pm Please bring a tailgating dish to share.



SAVE THE DATES

June 16-21	Mission Trip	(completed 6th graders are welcome)
July 7-12	Youth Camp	(incoming 6th graders are welcome)
Oct 18-20	Fall Retreat	

🗯 January Creation Kids' News 🖄

Happy New Year, dear friends! Our kids will be delving into God's Word as we begin the new year. Author Wendy Speakes writes, "We feast on the Word of God to understand the love of God, shown in the flesh-and-blood person of God, that we might find our way back to God." We have to read His Word to know the One who is the Word, so I invite you to join us! "O taste and see that the Lord our God is good! How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him." Psalm 34:8



Blessings of peace & joy, Leigh Ann

🕸 🕸 Thank you! 🕸 🕸

I want to thank you for the encouragement and countless acts of kindness that you have so graciously shared with me! It is a joy to be surrounded by our church family - where the Spirit of God is alive and actively working through each of you! I feel so blessed to serve alongside this faithful body of believers! Thanks be to God!



Backpack Ministry

The College Park Backpack Ministry makes it possible for many children to have the nutritious food they need when they are away from school. This month, we will be collecting canned vegetables. You can place these food items in the box outside of Smith Hall. You can also make monetary donations to this worthwhile program. Please see Stephanie Phillips if you have any questions. She has such a heart for feeding these children and can share ways that you can help too.



School Supplies

You helped the children of Speas and Old Town Schools begin the school year with much needed quality school supplies. We would like to brighten their second semester by refreshing their resources. You can help by bringing in new crayons, pencils, paper, and other school supplies and place them in the box outside of Smith Hall.



Kids at the Park Our kids' regular schedule will resume on Wednesday, January 3rd!

Wednesday Evenings at The Park 6:00: Dinner 6:30-7:30: Kids' Missions and Music

Sundays at The Park

9:00: Re:Creation Worship Service 9:45: Sunday School Small Groups 11:00: Traditional Worship Service 4:30-5:00: Kids' Praise Band Practice 5:00- 6:00: Children's Discipleship



What marvelous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it—we're called children of God! That's who we really are. ~1 John 3:1 (MSG)

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:



We are beginning to collect items each month for our 2024 Operation Christmas Child shoe box event.

January's donation focus is: hats, gloves, scarves

This month we ask that you donate items from the list above and place them in the box that is located in the hallway outside Smith Hall. Thank you for your willingness to donate to this meaningful missions project.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION ... PART 5:

FOOD PANTRY AND BLESSINGS BOX

Are you aware of the Food Pantry and Blessings Box that we have at College Park? This is a wonderful opportunity for the church to provide food, toiletries, baby supplies, etc. for people in the community who need food or basic caregiving items for everyday life. Thank you to those who have provided either items or monetary donations in the past to help fund this meaningful mission project. The expressions on their faces as they choose an item that their child will love to eat or being able to get toothpaste and toothbrushes or dish and laundry detergent will warm your heart.

The Food Pantry Room is located on the lower level close to the old fellowship hall. The Blessings Box is at the edge of the parking lot next to Wake Drive.

We have a couple of families per week that contact us about the possibility of choosing items from the shelves in the Food Pantry Room. And close to Thanksgiving and Christmas, the need is always greater. In addition, we have the Blessings Box which is filled up several times each week by an office volunteer.

Below is a sample of some of the items needed: Breakfast foods (cereal, pop tarts, oatmeal) Canned fruit, meat, soup Diapers and baby care Dishwashing detergent

Feminine hygiene products General hygiene and toiletries products Jelly Laundry detergent

Pasta and sauces Peanut butter Rice Shampoo



FOOD PANTRY AND BLESSINGS BOX ITEM OF THE MONTH:

Starting in January, we will have an item of the month focus for the Food Pantry and Blessings Box. You may drop these off in the box in the hallway outside of Smith Hall.

The item for January will be: breakfast items (oatmeal, cereal, fruit, granola bars, etc.)

You are always welcome to bring other nonperishable or toiletry and baby care items. We are grateful for any donation you can make to help these families in need!

COLLEGE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

1701 Polo Road Winston-Salem, NC 27106 Phone 336-768-5870 Web Site: www.collegepark.ws Ramon E. Smith, Senior Pastor Mary Keltner, Associate Pastor of Music & Education Matt Wilson, Associate Pastor of Youth, College, & Recreation Leigh Ann Pernell, Minister to Children Wil Worley, Minister to Senior Adults and Communications Specialist Charles D. Edwards, Pastor Emeritus

GIVING OPPORTUNITY:

Make a difference in the ministries of College Park Baptist Church.

- Scan the QR Code to the right with your camera on your cell phone.
- Text 73256 with COLLEGEPARK, space, a dollar sign (\$), and amount (i.e., COLLEGEPARK \$900)
- Place your cash or check in an envelope and leave in the:
- * Offering plate * Treasure chest * Giving center in the main hallway
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (check age requirements)
- Stock
- Include College Park in your estate

Contact Grace in the church office if you have any questions (336.768.5870 ext. 671) or grace@collegepark.ws.

