

The Crabtree Methodist Charge

R. J. Hahn, Pastor
ALL CHURCHES
SUNDAY—
Charge-wide Service at the Crabtree Church, 7:30 p.m. A Christmas Program will be presented.

Charge-wide Official Board Meeting, 8:30 p.m. Crabtree.
CRABTREE
SUNDAY—
Church school, 10:00 a.m. John Kirkpatrick, Supt.

Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m. Sermon subject: "A Baby Makes All The Difference."
DAVIS CHAPEL
SUNDAY—
Church School, 10:00 a.m. O. L. Yates, Supt.

FINCHER'S CHAPEL
SUNDAY—
Church school, 10 a.m. Woodrow Plemmons, Supt.

Methodist Youth Fellowship, 7:00 p.m. Oder Ray, Counselor.
MONDAY—
Christmas Program, 7:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY—
Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m.
MT. ZION

SUNDAY—
Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m. Sermon subject: "A Baby Makes All The Difference."
Church School, 10:45 a.m. Herschel Rogers, Supt.

A Christless Christmas is pretty much like a counterfeit dollar. Help to Keep Christ in Christmas by being in church this Christmas Sunday.

Grace Church In The Mountains

EPISCOPAL
The Rev. James Y. Perry, Jr.
Rector
Telephone GL 6-5036

SUNDAY—
9:30 a.m.—Church school and family worship.
10:45 a.m.—Nursery through church service.

11 a.m.—Litany and sermon by Mr. Perry.
12:00 Noon—Coffee Hour. Visitors welcome. Parish House.
5:00 p.m.—Confirmation and Carol Service.

5:45 p.m.—Church School Christmas Party.
MONDAY—
11:30 p.m.—Christmas Eve Holy Communion service.

WEDNESDAY—
3:15 p.m.—Junior choir practice.
7:00 p.m.—Choir practice.
THURSDAY—
8:00 p.m.—Local AA Chapter meeting. Parish House.

The Hazelwood Presbyterian Church

117 East Main Street
"Holding forth the word of truth."
Rev. W. H. Marquis, Pastor
SUNDAY—
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School, Frank Warthington, Supt.

11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship. Sermon: "The Christmas Message."
6:15 p.m.—Youth Fellowship meetings.
7:30 p.m.—Evening Worship Service. The "Joy Gift" program. A pageant of "The Christmas Story."
MONDAY—
11:15 p.m.—"Midnight Candle-lighting Service" to conclude at 12:05 a.m. The public is invited to this Christmas Eve worship service.

Nursery
Our clean, well equipped and competently staffed nursery is open during all the regular worship services of this church. Bring your pre-school-age children and leave them in our nursery as you worship with us.

You are invited to worship in Hazelwood's friendly Presbyterian Church. Come and enjoy our warm fellowship and good music.

Central Methodist Church

CLYDE, N. C.
The Rev. Clyde L. Collins, Pastor
THURSDAY, December 20:
7:00—Methodist Youth Fellowship Christmas party, in the Fellowship Hall of the church. All young people 15 years of age and older are invited to attend.
SUNDAY—
The Nursery is available for pre-school children each Sunday morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and each Sunday evening from 7:30 to 8:30.

Hearing aids are available for those who need them.
9:45 a.m.—Sunday school Roland Leatherwood, Supt.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Worship—Sermon: "Gifts From The Wise Men."

6:30 p.m.—Intermediate. Senior and Adult Fellowships.
7:30 p.m.—"The Holy Birth"—a pantomime of the birth of Christ. At this service a special offering for the cause of missions will be received.

MONDAY—
6:30—Christmas carolling.
WEDNESDAY—
7:00 p.m.—Prayer service.
8:00 p.m.—Choir practice.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend our services during the Christmas season.

Sunday School Lesson

The Word Became Flesh

JOHN THE BAPTIST FORETELLS THE COMING OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SAVIOR

Scripture—John 1:1-18; Luke 2:1-20.

By NEWMAN CAMPBELL
THE FIRST part of today's lesson may not be made quite clear to the younger members of a Sunday school, but the older ones may be led to see that John the Baptist came to prophesy the coming of Christ, and to explain Him as the bringer of light to the world, and to discuss the words of St. John the Apostle.

"The beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
"The same was in the beginning with God."
"All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made."
"In Him was life; and the life was the light of men, and the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not."
"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through Him might believe."
John the Baptist was not the

place where prophets had foretold that the Messiah would be born, lived a carpenter by the name of Joseph whose wife was Mary.

The two made the toilsome journey to the "city of David," the line from which Joseph came, to pay their tax. The inn was full, and the only place they could find to spend the night was a stable, a crude place. There, in that humble place, Mary gave birth to a beautiful Baby Boy, and "she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger."

Now there were shepherds in fields that night keeping watch over their sheep. Suddenly a great light shone upon them, coming from heaven, and it frightened them. "And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them."
"And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

MEMORY VERSE
"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."—Luke 2:11.

Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light—Jesus, who was the true Light, "which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by Him, and the world knew Him not. He came unto His own, and His own received Him not."
There is enough material in those words of St. John's to give material for questions and discussion with the older young people, and for the teacher.

The lovely Christmas story of the birth of Christ, is always one of the joys of the season. St. Luke is the only one who tells of the annunciation, Mary's visit after it to her cousin Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist, and the circumstances of John's birth, childhood and emergence from the wilderness to proclaim the coming of Christ.

Caesar Augustus, the Roman emperor, declared a tax to be collected in the city of one's lineage. Now at the town of Nazareth, 90 miles north of Bethlehem, the

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." They would know the Babe because they would find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Then a heavenly host was with the angel praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men."
Isn't it sad that after all these centuries since our Lord was on earth, there should still be no peace? That man is still warring on earth, and the whole world, so much larger than the one known in Jesus' time, should still be in a state of turmoil and suffering?
When the angels went away, the shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem, where they found the Heavenly Babe, and knelt in worship. Then they told everyone they met about the wonders they had witnessed, and all wondered. The shepherds returned to their flocks, glorifying and "praising God for all the things they had heard and seen."

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Boy—I can hardly wait! I've got my stocking hung by the chimney with plenty of care, and Christmas morning it'll be bursting full of all sorts of good things. There'll be a candy cane sticking out of the top . . . there always is . . . and a walnut stuffed way down in the tip of the toe.

And then . . . the tree! I don't think there's a prettier sight on earth than a Christmas tree. And all those presents underneath it, wrapped up in bright colors and tied with ribbons.

Then Mom and Dad and my sister Ellen and I will get dressed, and we'll go to Church. That's one of the best parts of Christmas. For Mom and Dad always say that Christmas is the celebration of Christ's birthday. I love the music in our Church at Christmas—"Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and all the other carols. When I hear them, I feel all filled up with joy, and I know why our minister says that Christmas is the happiest day of the whole year.

Boy—I can hardly wait! And I just hope that your Christmas is going to be as merry as ours!

THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake (2) For his children's sake, (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Matthew	2	18-25
Monday	Matthew	2	1-12
Tuesday	Matthew	2	13-23
Wednesday	Matthew	3	1-7
Thursday	Matthew	9	1-7
Friday	Isaiah	11	1-9
Saturday	Isaiah	60	1-5

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