A HOUSE OF PRAYER
FOR ALL PEOPLE

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SCIPC Newsletter

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A Beautiful Sanctuary

The sanctuary bedecked with Christmas decorations Sunday before Christmas. A former wedding planner, Bea Pierce, once said that if there was ever a church built for weddings, it was this one. Likewise, when it is decorated for Christmas, it is a beautiful sight to behold. We are fortunate to have this building that God has so graciously blessed us with.



Dave & Ninette Cox

Fred & Grace Ely

Alec & Tammy Harrison

Dick & Sara Hart

Hazel Neddo

David & Marcia Jones

Our Prayer Supported Missionaries
Mark & Candy Garrett
Reginald Lisemby

Anniversaries

January 15—Cindy & Dale Poole

February 16—Jason & Jennifer Welch

February 18—Robert and Marlene Patterson

March 6—Mike and Barbara Metzger

March 25—Phil and Melinda Evaul

Nursery Schedule

February 7—Shari Dvorak and Raymond Weaver February 14—Melinda Evaul and Mark or Mo Davis February 21—Curtis Coulter and Charlotte Blake February 28—Don and Colleen Fehn

Birthdays

January 21—Kathy Shelley

January 24—Jeff Davis

January 28—Sarah Hart

January 29—Daniel Hart & Barbara Metzger

January 30—Laura Hubbard & Amanda Writesman

February 1—Sandy Weaver

February 3—Allison Coulter

February 6—Cindy Poole

February 11—Jordan Hubbard

February 19—Elijah Coulter

March 2—Peggy Evaul

March 3—Liz Davis

March 14—Liz Reed

March 18—Curtis Coulter & Tammy Harrison

March 23—Carey Jackson

March 26—Brian Evaul

March 29—Guen Evaul



Top: We could not get all the band members in this picture. The church orchestra continues to grow as we had three trumpets, three trombones, one clarinet, a harmonica, two violins, one viola, a flute, an accordion, one guitar, piano, and keyboard for a total of 16 instruments playing Silent Night. Not pictured in this photograph was Glenn Starnes on harmonica, Jim Shelley on guitar, Paul Patterson on trumpet, Hannah Patterson on violin and Karin Traylor on keyboard. At right: Myriam and sister Chris.



Phil's Corner—Phil Evau

Here is some of the vitally important (I speak with tongue in cheek) stuff I've been fretting about over the last couple of weeks –not necessarily in the order of importance:

*Getting my computer de-bugged. I had it in for a tune-up, and someone apparently hacked into my email account. Did you get a fishy email from "me"?

*Wondering whether the Carolina Panthers could beat the Denver Broncos. I guess not.

*Hoping that UNC could win a basketball game against a quality opponent. It looks dubious.

*Tending to Melinda while she recovers from surgery. She's improving daily, thank you.

*Eradicating rats out of our cellar, attic and closets. I'll invent a new, more appropriate word: 'eraticating.' Get it?
*Following the Presidential primary races with some measure of disgust. I'm trying to figure out which candidate is the least evil. Which one will do us the least harm?

Fortunately during the last few weeks we haven't had to deal with car repairs. No breakdowns this month, Yay!

Look at my pitiful list. There's nothing very "spiritual" there. It's all pretty much mundane, every-day, ordinary stuff. But, let's face it, that's what life is made of. Most of our attention and energies are devoted to these routine chores. That's the cost of being part of society.

The Heavenly Father knows all that. He knows all about our worries, frets and chores. I don't believe He's offended that those things aren't "spiritual." In fact, He says in 1 Cor 10:31, "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do [fill in that blank with the items from your own list], do all to the glory of God."

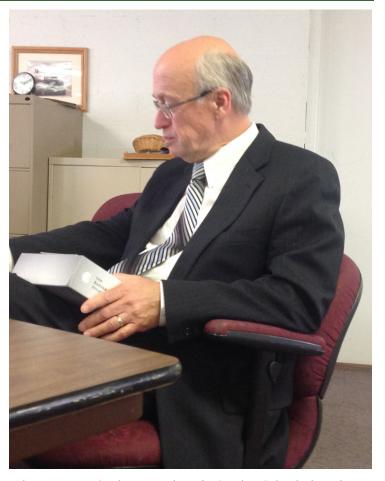
The challenge of addressing my list with the light of the glory of God shining on it reminds me of the parable of the soils in Mark 4. The worries of life, if not dealt with in His sunlight, will choke you out like thorns and briars in your garden.

I would like to share with you two familiar passages the Lord has brought to my mind these days. Maybe they'll help you keep your own lists in proper perspective.

"Your Heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Matt 6:32-34)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your paths." (Prov 3:5-6)

Think on these things while you tackle your lists.



Above: Roger Coulter, seen here in Sunday School class, is an H&R Block certified tax preparer. During tax season Roger files hundreds of tax returns for people in the area. He does this in addition to his day job and taking care of Chris. Remember Roger in your prayers during this time.



The Sale Creek Christmas Program





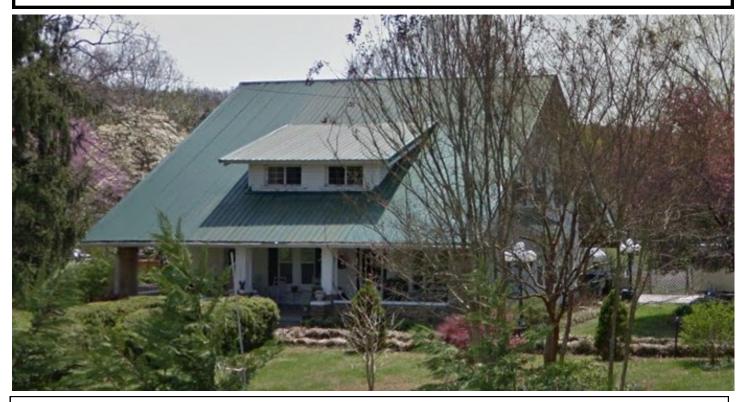
At right: the choir performed a number during the program.

Above: Roger sang and led everyone in singing White Christmas. Right: The Brown Family performed on harp and piano and sang. Left: Jack Traylor played a a solo on the accordion.





The House at 212 Patterson Road



This house at 212 Patterson Road was once used for services by our church for worship services, as a residence, as an extension of the school next door, and was also used for doctor's offices for Doctors C.E. Downey, Burke Priddy, J. McClure Richard.

The house at 212 Patterson Road across the road from Sale Creek High School has had a storied past. It has passed through a number of hands of people from different walks of life.

Although I do not have a date as to who built the house or when it was built, I know several of the people who owned the house. A map that I have seen from 1890 shows that the house at that time was used as doctor's offices for Dr. Burke Priddy and Dr. C.E. Downey. The house continued with their practices until 1906 when Dr. Downey died unexpectedly from being kicked in the stomach by a horse that he was shoeing. The blow caused hemorrhaging which could not be controlled.

Dr. Priddy continued his practice there until 1914 when he died from small pox that he caught from a patient. Priddy did not believe in vaccinations, and he paid the supreme price for it.

Between 1900 and 1905 (no date known for sure), Dr. J. McClure Richard came to Sale Creek as the company doctor for the Sale Creek Coal and Coke Company. Dr. Richard remained in the employment of the coal company until it folded in 1913. By that time he was married to Miss Tyda Gray who is the great aunt of Betty Ray and Mary Gray. Tyda was a teacher at the Bethlehem Academy at Bakewell, which had been built around 1890. The couple had at least two sons of which one, Jack Richard, was alive up until a few years ago and was the source of my information about Dr. Richard. Dr. Richard was also responsible for drawing up the original plans for the church in 1925.

He later sold that office to the church for use as a manse in September of 1926. Records show the buying and selling of that house and the house next door to the church on Highway 27 a couple of times.

To regress for just a moment, at some point very early in the 1900s, the big house was used for worship services for the Presbyterians who at that time were a congregation without a home. Prior to that the church had used the big two-story school house on the lower part of the current school campus. Some records show that our congregation moved to the current Baptist church building between 1906 and 1908. That building had been the Welsh Union Church of the Welsh families who came here as coal miners in 1868. The church at that time was known as the Welsh Union Presbyterian. The church met in unified services with the Baptists. The Baptist and the Presbyterian ministers alternated preaching week by week. Our church built the present building in 1925 and conducted the first church service on January 3, 1926.

Dr. Richard moved away from Sale Creek and out of the big white house, relocating to Red Bank where he completed his career.

At that point the house passed into the occupancy of L.D. Phillips and his wife, Mary. They had five children, four boys and a girl. L.D. Phillips served as pastor of our church at that time. He was pastor until November of 1937 when he died suddenly. His death came six days before the death of Elder Ed Downey. The Phillips family had suffered another tragedy in August of that year when their twin sons died in childbirth. The Phillips family retained possession and ownership of the house until the late 1960s when Mary retired from teaching and moved to Chattanooga.

Church News and Prayer Requests

Marlene Patterson continues to improve and was able to go out to eat with the Patterson family at the Olive Garden recently. The occasion was Robert and Marlene's 60th wedding anniversary. Marlene suffered a stroke several months ago. Be sure to keep her and the rest of the family in your prayers. Congratulations to Robert and Marlene on their 60th.

Chris Coulter was taken to the hospital this week with severe back pains and numbness and coldness in her legs. On Thursday evening she was taken into surgery to relieve pain caused by some vertebrae that have closed up on some nerves. More surgery will be needed in several weeks. The whole family needs continued prayer as Chris recovers from the surgery and looks forward to the next.

Bill Lovett continues his fight against very serious cancer in his kidneys and lungs. He and his entire family can use your prayers.

Jack Traylor asked to make a special announcement a couple of weeks ago. After announcements Jack came to the pulpit and announced that C.J. Meyers is going to have a baby later this year. We congratulate C.J. and Tim on their upcoming baby event, and Jack and Karin who will be honorary grandparents which has them excited as well.

Melinda Evaul had surgery recently and is back in church again. The church has been praying for her quick recovery. In the several months we have been blessed with new couples coming into the church. We are all very thankful that the Lord has sent these people to our fellowship. The Lord is blessing the church in a real way as we welcome these people into our church.

Barbara Metzger has had a painful dry socket this past week. She has been going to the dentist each day as they have been packing her tooth and trying to get it to heal. Keep Barbara in your prayers.

Raymond reported Wednesday night that his pickup truck finally sold. He is very happy about completing that sale. He also requests continued prayer for Nathan in prison.

On Sunday January 31 we had our regular soup, salad, dessert, and finger food fellowship followed by some music. These are some great times of fellowship, and we would encourage everyone to come and take part in the fun.

The Christmas program this year was bigger than it has ever been. There were 16 instruments playing Silent Night. The program has gotten so popular that the fellowship hall can no longer hold everyone. This year there were over 80 people present which strained the capacity of the hall to seat everyone. Therefore, next Christmas the program will move to the sanctuary. We would also like to add more instruments to the orchestra. If you have an instrument, we encourage you to come and join us each Sunday afternoon at 4:00 as we learn songs and play our music.

The annual congregational meeting was held after church on February 7. Elders George Blake and Jim Dvorak were reelected to their positions as elder. The church's budget was discussed and approved by the congregation. Special note was made of the fact that the church had some major expenses last year; however, we were within only \$750.00 of break even. Please continue to give to the church's ministry as you are led and as God blesses you.

One of the items discussed and approved was a wedding policy which the church had been encouraged and recommended to pass in order to protect itself from legal action if the subject ever arose. That amendment was passed.

Myriam Herron's sister Chris visited during Christmas. She and Walter were in our services a couple of times during that time. It is always good to see Chris and Walter.

Phil was loading his car in preparation of leaving for North Carolina to visit his mother when he wrenched his back. Because of the severity of the pain, he was forced to remain at home. He is improving now but still is not 100%.

Helen Athens, sister of Alyne and Bill List and aunt of Barbara Metzger, is not doing well, and the family is concerned about her. Helen is 106 years old and is still able to take care of herself. We need to remember Helen in our prayers. She was a long-time member of the church until she and her husband Ed moved to Florida many years ago.

Kathy and Jim Shelley have been traveling a lot lately with Shelley Photography. They are getting into a very busy time of year for their business. Pray for them that God will grant strength and travelling mercies on the road.

Evelyn Buske, friend of Phil Harper, was in the hospital recently. Phil informed us a couple of weeks ago that she was improving. Keep Evelyn in your prayers as well.

Kathy Shelley makes many of the cover pictures for the church bulletins and does a very good job. Sister Elaine Jackson provides background information on different hymn writers, including some that she has known personally or indirectly.

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