



THE MESSENGER

of Quaker Gap Baptist Church - King, NC



Volume 25, Issue 12

DECEMBER 2023

A Word From *Pastor Jack...*

A STAR WILL COME

Mention the name, Balaam, to Bible trivia specialists and they will remember him as a wicked prophet with a talking donkey. Somewhere in between the time his donkey chastised him, and he enticed the people of Israel into idolatry – Balaam spoke for the Lord. Balaam, who was from Moab, was hired by his king to speak curses against Israel. Instead of curses, Balaam, led by the Lord God of Israel, could do nothing but speak blessings. One of the blessings Balaam spoke under the inspiration of the Lord, was...

"I see him, but not now; behold him, but not near.

A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel." -Numbers 24:17

Balaam predicts a conquering king to rise from Israel. He says this king will come "not now" and "not near" but at a future time. The context indicates this as an end-times prophecy. This future king of Israel is called "a star" describing his glory and "a scepter" denoting his authority.

If this prophecy was spoken in isolation, it might predict any of the future kings of Israel. But it's not an isolated prophecy. In the book of Genesis, Jacob blesses his sons. He says of Judah,

*"The scepter will not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until he to whom it belongs shall come*

and the obedience of the nations shall be his." – Genesis 49:10

It's hard not to compare Jacob's prophecy with Balaam's prophecy. They both speak of a future conquering ruler. They both figuratively mention his scepter.

After the birth of Jesus, magi came from the East looking for the King of the Jews. What was it that led them to Jerusalem and ultimately to the home of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus? Matthew tells us...

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."
-Matthew 2:1-2

They came looking for the Messiah because of a star. They met Jesus and were convinced, as they departed, that they had seen the true star. While Jesus never held the scepter of Israel during his first advent, Scripture promises he will one day wield the scepter of Israel and the entire earth.

When we worship Jesus at Christmastime and every day, we worship the true star of Bethlehem. We worship the King of kings and Lord of lords before whom every knee shall bow. I pray you will bow your life to him now, willingly. The newborn King. Our Savior and Lord. Merry Christmas to you and yours.





**We welcome the following new members
into the fellowship of our church:**

Mike Humphrey	by	Profession of Faith & Baptism
Jo Humphrey	by	Transfer of Letter
Alyssa Davis	by	Profession of Faith & Baptism
Jonathan Rose	by	Profession of Faith & Baptism
Annabeth Rose	by	Profession of Faith & Baptism

Upcoming Sermons



*Dec. 3	Silent Night "Glories Stream from Heaven Afar"	Galatians 4:4-5
Dec. 10	Noel: Born is the King!	Adult Choir
Dec. 17	Radiant Beams from Thy Holy Face	John 1:14-18
Dec. 24	With the Dawn of Redeeming Grace	Ephesians 1:7-10
Dec. 31	"Turn the Page"	Philippians 3:12-13

* We will be Observing **The Lord's Supper** on **Dec. 3rd**

Noel Born Is the King!

You will not find the word Noel anywhere in Scripture, but we sing it at Christmastime each year. It simply means "Christmas." It is from an old French word believed to be derived from the Latin word for the Nativity, or the birth of Christ. Although this word has no biblical origin, the concept certainly does. Luke 2:7 says, "Then she [Mary] gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them" (CSB). This newborn King was what prophets had been waiting for and what many rulers had feared. Though the chorus of "The First Noel" uses the phrase "Born is the King of Israel," we know that Jesus-Born to Mary, wrapped in rags, and laid in a manger-became the King of kings and Lord of lords when He later sacrificed Himself so that we could live with Him forever in heaven. This Noel, join the Adult Choir during our Sunday morning worship service as we present **Noel Born Is the King!** on **December 10th at 10:30 AM**. Hope to see you there!

Quaker Gap Baptist Church Financial Summary

January 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023

General Fund	Actual	Budget	Variance
Church Offering	\$260,565	\$ 258,631	\$ 1,934
Special Purpose Funds	\$ 30,220		
Total Receipts	\$290,785		
Expenses	\$270,667	\$ 258,631	\$ 12,036
Receipts Over Expenses	\$ 20,118		

Checking/MM/CD Account Balances as of October 31, 2023

General Fund	\$275,364
Building Fund	\$169,029
Cemetery Fund	\$ 27,862
Building Fund Expenses	\$ 0
Cemetery Fund Expenses	\$ 550



- 1 Benji Hill
- Katelyn Jones
- 3 Jeffery Fuchs
- Brenda Mozingo
- 4 Jacob Moser
- Jacob Welker
- Samuel Wood
- 5 Alex Kervin
- 8 April Moser
- 9 Harrison Lee
- 10 Jesse Covington
- George Kreeger
- Joy Lee
- 14 Lindsay Decker
- Tiffany Hanes
- David Nelson
- April Ragan
- 15 Ryan Shore
- 17 Neil Bowman
- Terry Bowman
- Joel O'Neal (4 yrs. old)
- 18 Steve Sheek
- Jill Snyder
- 19 Cindi Dalton
- Beverly Marsh
- 20 Debbie Reece
- Robbie Scoville
- 22 Evelyn Bradford
- Debbie Layne
- 23 Gabriel Gibson
- 24 Alta Alley
- 25 Mavis George
- 26 Mark Dodson
- 27 Bradley Bowman
- Darshan Hartgrove
- Brett Reece
- 28 Tony Dalton
- Willow Lampky
- Sullivan Lineberry (5 yrs. old)
- Carolyn T. Tedder
- 29 Elizabeth Lampky
- Natalie Sells
- Erica Veach
- 30 Wayne Hayden
- 31 Bennie Weavil

James' Lagniappe

(lan-yap, n. a little something extra)



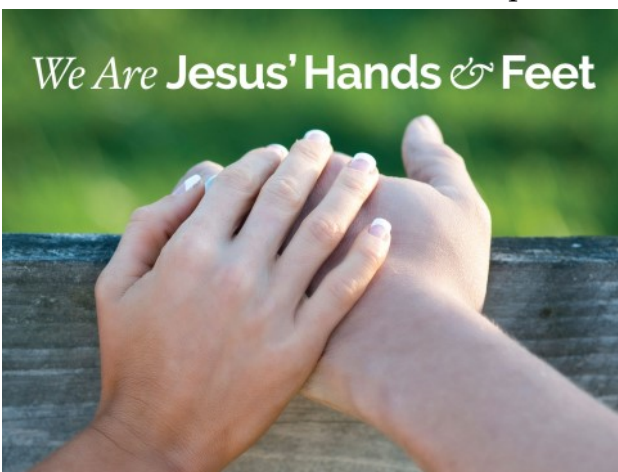
Lord, Help Us Be Your Servants

Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

Luke 1:38

"I am the Lord's servant." That's how Mary responded to the angel Gabriel upon being told that she had found favor with God and would conceive and give birth to a son. She did not doubt, though she did question how it could happen upon which Gabriel shared with her that "the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you." There was nothing extraordinary about Mary though she did know God and the Old Testament scriptures. In faith, Mary responded, and her needs were met by her cousin Elizabeth who encouraged her and by her soon to be husband, Joseph, who obeyed the Holy Spirit and did not abandon her. Even up to and beyond the death of her Son on the cross, Mary was provided for. She trusted God for the details and the Holy Spirit guided other followers of Christ to meet her needs.

This past year several men from the church gathered at PB Clark's for Bible study and breakfast, every Tuesday except July 4th week when the restaurant closed to give the owners and staff a much-needed break. (They likely needed a break from us!) Meeting on Tuesday mornings meant getting up a little bit earlier, but rich dividends were paid in hot coffee, a delicious breakfast, golden nuggets of wisdom from the Word, and a warm fellowship of Godly men sharing wisdom, humor, and life experiences. The numbers varied each week and sometimes we had youth to join us before heading off to school. Sometimes we had to add extra tables and chairs to accommodate everyone and sometimes we had to lean in close to hear what Pastor Jack had to say because we were competing with another men's Bible study group who could get just as loud as our group, if not louder. But there was one thing that was always consistent from week to week. When needs were shared, needs were met! Week after week concerns, requests, burdens, and praises were shared from the hearts of those



who know the One who guides and directs them. And then miraculously God used whoever was available to meet those needs collectively and individually. But it's not only in that Tuesday morning group; it's also throughout the fellowship of our church family. I'm grateful that when needs are shared the church responds. I see and hear about it being lived out on a weekly and sometimes daily basis. There are probably notes in this issue of the Messenger thanking the church family for needs being met. The Holy Spirit is encouraging each of us to meet the needs of our family around us. Lord, help me to be your servant every day!


Soli Deo gloria, (Glory to God alone)

James

James Byrd

YOU ARE INVITED TO


the
Greatest Journey



GAPKIDS CHRISTMAS
program

QUAKER GAP BAPTIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 17
AT 6:00 PM

**SOUP & DESSERT
TO FOLLOW**



GapKids Christmas Mission Baked Goods Silent Auction

The GapKids will be holding their annual Christmas Missions Baked Goods Silent Auction on Sunday, **December 17th from 10 AM—1 PM**. We had some WONDERFUL items last year, and are hoping to have the same this year! Sign up sheets are in the vestibules at both ends of the church. We would be blessed for any and all to sign up to donate a baked good!



"Thank You!"

I wanted to express how grateful I am for the ramp that the Baptist Men's group built for me in June prior to my hip surgery. It has been a true blessing. I'm sure this is heard often at Quaker Gap because of the many outreach ministries that the church is involved in, but I wanted to reassure them it is truly heartfelt and so very helpful to me. The Men's Ministry at Quaker Gap are truly a testament to God's work in this community and surrounding areas.

*With Gratitude,
Deborah Rogers*



Thank you for your donations to King Outreach Ministry. Last month we collected 5 bottles of body wash, 11 tubes of toothpaste, 9 toothbrushes, 6 toboggans, and 13 food items.

We will continue to collect donations for KOM. Our collections are personal care products (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc.) feminine sanitary products, baby diapers, and toddler diaper pull-ups.

Donations may be left outside the front entrance of the fellowship hall and educational building on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Please remember that this is an ongoing ministry.

Worship Schedule

Sunday

9:15 AM	Prayer Group
9:30 AM	Sunday School
10:30 AM	Worship Service
	Children's Church

Wednesday

7-8:00 PM	Adult Bible Study
	Choir Practice
	Salteens Youth Group
	Gap Kids
8:15 PM	Worship Band Practice

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Rev. Dr. Jack Darida, Senior Pastor
Tyler Van Meter, Minister of Youth








Rev. James Byrd, Minister of Music
April Ragan, Administrative Assistant

Quaker Gap Baptist Church Activities



December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:15 AM Prayer Group 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Children's Church	4	5  6:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ PB Clarks, King 7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting - Adult 1 Class	6 6:00 PM Eat In Meal—FH 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Choir Practice - Sanct. Salteens Youth - Annex Gap Kids 8:15 PM Worship Band Practice- Sanct.	7 12:00 NOON Bulletin Deadline 6:30 PM Ladies  Dinner in Fellowship Hall	8	9
10 8:00 AM Men & Boys' Breakfast 9:15 AM Prayer Group 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Adult Christmas Cantata Children's Church	11	12  6:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ PB Clarks, King	13  5:30 PM Drive-Thru / Eat in Meal - FH 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Choir Practice - Sanct. Salteens Youth - Annex Gap Kids 8:15 PM Worship Band	14 12:00 NOON Bulletin Deadline	15	16 9 AM – 2:00 PM Gap-Kids Outing & Rehearsal
17 9:15 AM Prayer Group 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Children's Church 10 AM – 2 PM GapKids Baked Goods Silent Auction 6:00 PM Children's Christmas Program Followed by Soup & Sandwich Fellowship	18  Deadline for January Newsletter Submissions	19  6:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ PB Clarks, King	20 NO MEAL 7:00 PM Adult Bible Study Choir Practice - Sanct. Salteens Youth - Annex Gap Kids 8:15 PM Worship Band Practice - Sanct.	21 12:00 NOON Bulletin Deadline	22	23
24 9:15 AM Prayer Group 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	25  Christmas Day Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27 12:00 NOON Bulletin Deadline NO MEAL SERVICE OR ACTIVITIES	28	29	30
31 9:15 AM Prayer Group 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service Children's Church						

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Visit Us on the Web: www.quakergap.info



Return Service Requested



Christmas

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DEC. 10	ADULT CHRISTMAS CANTATA 10:30 AM
DEC. 16	GAPKIDS OUTING/REHEARSAL 9A-2P
DEC. 17	CHILDREN'S PROGRAM 6:00 PM
DEC. 20	CHRISTMAS CAROLING 6:00 PM
DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE 10:30 AM
DEC. 24	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 5:00 PM