

WELCOME VISITORS

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet. We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

SUNDAY		ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	
Bible Study	10:00 AM	Morning Worship	32
Worship	11:00 AM	Evening Worship	10
Evening	6:00 PM	Wednesday	14
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM	Contribution	\$718.00
Fellowship Meal	12:30 PM		
(Every 1 st Sunday)			
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM		
Last Sunday of every month)			

Visit our website at www.brunswickcoc.com

Rick Massey, Minister

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TO OUR FRIENDS:

MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 7, 2014

Have You Stopped Believing in God?
by Steve Ridgell

Have you stopped believing in God? Maybe you quit when he did not hear your prayers. That is what I hear sometimes. It happens after marriages break up, or businesses fail, or children die. It is what people think when life seems so unfair. Or when the hurt and pain seem too much to endure. And you prayed. You begged God for relief. You asked him for a different outcome. And he did not hear you. At least that is what it felt like to you.

So why are you reading this? Maybe deep down you wish you could believe. Perhaps you are hoping someone somewhere can provide the answers you so desperately want and need. But it is hard to see God through the pain. So you blame God, resent God, even hate God. But there is still that part of you that wishes He was true. You long to believe there is someone bigger than yourself; someone who can make sense of this broken world.

I do not have any easy answers. But I can tell you that you are not alone. I can tell you that those of us who still believe have to wrestle with why things do not happen the way we ask. And I can share with you some ideas that have helped us keep clinging to our faith in God.

1. We cannot understand God. Trying to explain God is a futile exercise for any of us. He is the Creator, we are the creation. Even were God to explain things to me, I would not understand. Which comforts me in an odd way. I have to believe that God understands what is unfathomable to me.

2. God knows best. He acts, he allows, he prevents, he causes, he does act. And all of these are for the good of his kingdom. He knows what is best. And if he does not, if all the pain in this world is random and pointless... then can anyone face life with any sense of peace or purpose?

Continued...

"...The Churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

Continued...
 3. It will all be better someday. That is one reason we Christians keep believing. A better life waits for us after this world. That is the hope we have.
 I cannot tell you why God answers us the way he does. But I do believe he loves us, does what is best, and is preparing us for a better life that never ends.
 Heartlight.org.



We will have our fellowship meal today following the worship service. During this time, we will recognize the ones with birthdays and anniversaries in December. Everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a delicious meal with us.



Birthdays In December

David Wilson	1st
Elaine Massey	23rd
Bill Bartlow	24th

Anniversaries in December

John & Carolyn Bowling	27th
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SEA NOTES CHORAL SOCIETY
 SEASON OF LOVE

The Sea Notes will have their last concert of the year today at 3:00pm at the NC Baptist Assembly, Hatch Auditorium, Caswell Beach/Oak Island. This is probably the best entertainment you will find in North Carolina that's free. However, they will accept donations.

God's Plan for Man
Hear God's Word
 Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
Believe in Jesus
 Jn. 8:24
Repent of Sins
 Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10
Confess Jesus' Name
 Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Mt. 16:15-16
Be Baptized
 Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38, 41; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4
Live Faithful until Death
 Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

The Bible study topic for Wednesday night: A Study of the Book of Romans
Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.



As some of you know, Alayna Bradshaw, John and Belinda Lloyd's granddaughter, was baptized by John last Saturday, November 29th.

Luke 15:10
 In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Opportunities to Serve

Welcome	Today	12/14/14
Song Leader	Dick Phillips	John Bowling
Opening Prayer	Willie Gore	Dick Phillips
Communion	Ed Williams	Albert Sturdivant
	*John Bowling	*Willie Gore
	Lynn Means	Lynn Means
	Josiah Garner	Bill Bartlow
Scripture Reading	John Lloyd	Josiah Garner
Speaker	Rick Massey	Rick Massey
Closing Prayer	Albert Sturdivant	John Lloyd
Evening	Devotion	Willie Gore
Nursery	Gloria Coldwell	Leila Gore

The Nursery will be open to receive children under the age of 3 years following the Communion.

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

Health
 Matthew Lewis

Traveling
 Gloria Coldwell Lloyd Family

The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.

For those that wish to donate to Jael Garner's trip to Peru this Summer, just go to :
 gofundme.com, type her name in the search area and it will send you to her page. Then click on her picture for more information.


Ladies Bible Study
 The ladies bible study will be held Tuesday, at 10:30 am in the fellowship room. Our study is about " God's Promises". Our time together will include prayer and songs of praise. You are welcome to join us.

Labor of Love

We will have our Labor of Love meeting at Duffers Restaurant on Caswell Beach this Saturday, December 13, at 12:00. All the ladies are invited.

