

December 2010 Issue



at
First Assembly
glance

First Assembly
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Albemarle, NC 28002

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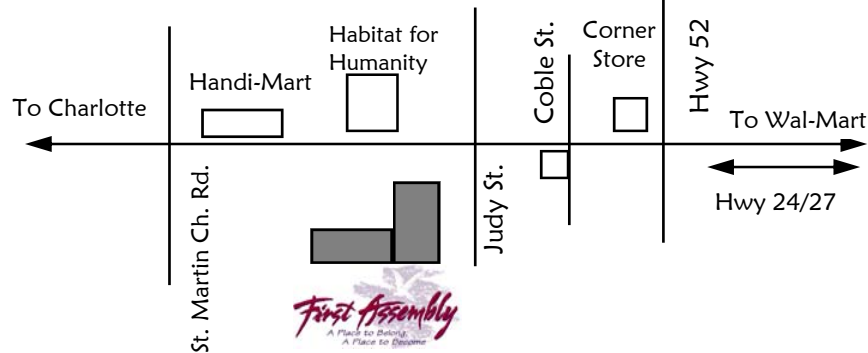
Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bob Gruver ~ Senior Pastor
Rev. George Mullen ~ Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Harry Jones ~ Children's Ministries Pastor
Rev. Matt Miller ~ Youth Pastor

Church Office

Hours:
Monday ~ Thursday
9 AM – 5 PM
Friday 9 AM - 1 PM
Phone:
(704) 983-3719
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(704) 982-7276

www.albemarlefirst.org



December 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday 9am: Adult, Youth & Children Sunday School 10am: Adult Worship Children's Church	Sunday 6pm: Worship Service FUSION MS Bible School - Youth Room	Monday 7pm: Men's Prayer Meeting Visitation Ministry Tuesday 6:30pm: HS Bible Study @ Ryan & Mary Story's	1 7pm: Small Group	2 10am Connect365 WM 1 Hour With HIM Sanctuary 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	3	4
5 Communion BP Checks 6PM Children's Christmas Presentation	6 "Home Sweet Home" Society - 10am "A Crafty Christmas" Kitchen/Rm 99 Kid's Band Practice 5:30pm - 7pm	7 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home Dance Team Christmas Party 6:30pm - 8:30pm 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	8 7pm: Bible Study	9 10am Connect365 WM 1 Hour With HIM Sanctuary 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	10 CFC - Room 102	11 FUSION Christmas Party @ Concord Mills Christmas Party Ages 3 - Kindergarten @ Extreme Play, Concord 10am - Noon CFC Christmas Party @ Shiloh Church, Troy 6:30pm
12 6PM Children's Christmas Presentation Cast Party - CC	13 Kid's Band Practice 5:30pm - 7pm 7pm: Stephen Ministry	14 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7PM Connect365 WM's Christmas Party @ Char Gruver's 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	15 7pm: Small Group	16 10am: Connect365 WM - 1Hr With HIM Sanctuary Senior Saints Christmas Potluck Dinner - Noon Rms 101/102 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	17 CFC - Room 102	18 Children's Christmas Party - 1st Grade - 6th Grade @ Family Sport Center - Stanfield 11am - 2pm
19 Nursing Home Ministry @ Forrest Oaks 6PM: Christmas Social Youth Room	20 Kid's Band Practice 5:30pm - 7pm	21 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	22 7pm: Bible Study	23 10am: Connect365 WM - 1Hr With HIM Sanctuary 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed 6PM Christmas Eve Service & Communion	25 Christmas Day Happy Birthday Jesus
26 Nursing Home Ministry @ Britthaven No PM Service	27 Office Closed Kid's Band Practice 5:30pm - 7pm 7pm: Stephen Ministry	28 1pm: Ladies Intercessory Prayer @ Bea Cox's Home 7pm: Rooms 100-102 Victorious Overcomers	29 7PM Small Group Fellowship	30 10am: Connect365 WM - 1Hr With HIM Sanctuary 8pm-9:15pm: Adult Band Practice	31	Wednesday 5pm - 7pm: Girls Dance Team Practice (Sanctuary) 7pm: Fusion Children's Ministries

at

First glance

December, 2010

Christmas Night. . .

Max Lucado writes, a number of years ago, about Christmas Night. And as each of us prepare for Christmas Day, take a moment and think about Christmas night when you are just thinking back over the day...

"It's Christmas night. The house is quiet. Even the crackle is gone from the fireplace. Warm coals issue a lighthouse glow in the darkened den. Stockings hang empty on the mantle. The tree stands naked in the corner. Christmas cards, tinsel, and memories remind Christmas night of Christmas day.

It's Christmas night. In a few hours the cleanup will begin - lights will come down, trees will be thrown out. Size 36 will be exchanged for size 40, eggnog will be on sale for half-price. Soon life will be normal again. December's generosity will become January's payments and the magic will begin to fade. But for the moment, the magic is still in the air. Maybe that's why I'm still awake. I want to savor the spirit just a bit more. I want to pray that those who beheld Him today will look for Him next August. And I can't help but linger on one fanciful thought: **if He can do so much with such timid prayers lamely offered in December, how much more could He do if we thought of Him every day?"**

As I pondered his question, I thought how wonderful it would be if each of us gave ourselves this wonderful gift of love - communion with our Lord; a time everyday to love Him and be loved by Him. I wonder what He wants to say to us this Christmas? Maybe you might open His gift early...Mark 11:24 AMP "For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you, and you will get it."

**First Assembly...
a place to belong
a place to become**

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Bob and Char

FUSION FACTS Firestorm Ministries

Merry Christmas! This Christmas season look back on the year and thank God for all His marvelous blessings. Big or small, God has done many things this year worth thanking Him over and over for! Erica and I are extremely blessed and have much to be thankful for in our "little man" Liam. We thank Jesus for the miracle of life and the opportunity to be parents!

In November FUSION experienced a great move of God! With Youth Convention and the end of our Holy Spirit series, we had a blast experiencing God in worship and diving into His Word. God is definitely moving in a way that is absolutely amazing. I love watching it.

Tis' the season for Christmas Parties, and if you are like me, you have your fair share of them. FUSION is no different. This month our FUSION Christmas Party is on the 11th from 2pm-7pm. I look forward to seeing your student there! We are going to Concord Mills Mall so make sure you student has money for dinner! We are going to have a blast. We will also have a New Year's Eve Party Lock-in, starting at 6pm New Year's Eve and ending New Year's Day at 10am. We hope your student can come, the cost is just \$15.

Amidst all the parties, shopping, family get-togethers, shopping, baking, and shopping it can be real easy to forget the reason for the season, Jesus. So this CHRISTmas don't leave out Christ! Invite Him to the parties and get-togethers, and you can even dare to take Him shopping with you (you'll need Him to keep it together when you try to find parking spots at the mall!).

Have a blessed Christmas,
Pastor Matt



Merry Christmas from the children's ministries. This is a year that will be remembered forever. I am so grateful how God has blessed the children of this Church. There is a hunger so deep in the kids that I wish I could explain it. They have a thirst for Him that only He can quench. There is such a desire for depth in their worship, that only He can bring.

This year we saw God fill kids hearts, it is like a well bubbling over the top. Kids are witnessing for the Lord, they are being filled with the Holy Spirit, being set free to worship a living God, dancing in the spirit. Folks, the kids have been set free. Hallelujah!

I can only imagine how excited the Father is to see people freely worship Him. My Christmas prayer for our kids is that the Father will take us deeper into His presence. I know He will because that is His desire for each of us, to draw closer to Him. Please pray for us that we hear the Father's voice, and that we touch another heart for Him.

Sunday, December 5th @ 6pm the children's choir will present to us the Christmas Musical - "Back to the Manger". The children have worked very hard and are so excited to share with you this wonderful reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. We will have a Children's Christmas presentation cast party on Sunday, December 12th @ 6pm in the Children's Church.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Harry

Connect365 Women's Ministry

One Hour With Him
Thursdays, December 2nd - 30th @ 10am
In Sanctuary

Home Sweet Home Society
Monday, December 6th, 10am
"A Crafty Christmas"
Make Homemade Ornaments

Connect365 Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 14th
7pm @ Char Gruver's
438 Lindsey Lane, Oakboro

Senior Saints

Christmas Potluck Dinner
Thursday, December 16th @ Noon
Rooms 101/102

Mark Your Calendar

~ Saturday, December 4th - Children's Choir Christmas Presentation Dress Rehearsal - 9am - 2pm in Sanctuary

~ Saturday, December 4th - Greeter Christmas Party - 6pm in Rooms 101/102

~ Sunday, December 5th - Children's Choir Christmas Presentation - 6pm

~ Tuesday, December 7th - Dance Team Christmas Party - 6:30pm - 8:30pm

~ Saturday, December 11th - Children's Christmas Party For Ages 3 Through Kindergarten @ Extreme Play In Concord - 10am - Noon

~ Saturday, December 11th - FUSION Christmas Party & Man Hunt @ Concord Mills Mall - 2pm - 7pm

~ Sunday, December 12th - Children's Christmas Presentation Cast Party 6pm in Children's Church

~ Saturday, December 18th - Children's Christmas Party For 1st Grade - 6th Grade @ Family Sports Center In Stanfield - 11am - 2pm

~ Sunday, December 19th - Christmas Social @ 6pm - Youth Room

~ Friday, December 24th - Office Closed Christmas Eve Service @ 6pm

~ Sunday, December 26th - No Evening Service

~ Monday, December 27th - Office Closed

Couples For Christ

Victorious Overcomers - Tuesdays,
December 7th - 28th @ 7pm - 100/102

CFC Small Group - Friday,
December 10th @ 7pm - 101/102

Old Fashion Christmas Party
Saturday, December 11th @ 6:30pm
Shiloh Church - Troy, NC