

The New Year Brings New Blessings

I know I am not alone when I think about how it can already be 2012. I know this past year has brought many good days and not so good days in our lives. Many of us have experienced the highest of highs and the lowest of lows. However, we know that the Lord has seen us through them all. He has promised that He will never leave us nor forsake us and we can claim that promise from now until eternity.

Personally, I think back on this 2011 and I am thankful for so many things. I am particularly thankful for the Lord calling us here to Cherry Ridge. I will look back on this year as one of the greatest in my life and you all have been a large part of that.

We, as a church, are thankful for two people who will no longer be serving on our staff this year: James Mardis and Donna Goodman. James and his wife, Nicole, have done an incredible job with our youth and children for these last two years. Only the Lord knows how many lives have been touched because of these willing servants of Christ.

Donna Goodman, who, as we all have seen, is a wonderfully talented music leader, will be missed greatly. It has been a joy to have her as she has led our choir and our worship on Sundays. She will continue to be a blessing to our church as she will still serve as our secretary. Please let these folks know how much you appreciate them.

There are exciting days ahead

in the life of our church. I am pleased to announce that we have called a new staff member, Zach Anderson, who will serve as our Family Life Minister. He and his wife, Kristin, are excited about coming to Cherry Ridge and serving here. Zach will be working with our youth and children and serving all areas of our multi-ministry building. They will be with us some time in the month of January. Please make them feel welcome as they make this transition to Cherry Ridge.

One thing that I am most looking forward to this year will be a men's conference that we will have on Friday and Saturday, May 4-5. This men's conference will be something that you do not want to miss. We will have Dr. James Merritt here leading us. Dr. Merritt serves as Senior Pastor of Cross Pointe Church in Duluth, GA. He is also a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Please go to his website and learn more about him at www.touchinglives.org. The burden of his heart is for men to become better husbands, fathers, and leaders in their church and community. The cost of the conference will be \$35 and that will include: the conference, Friday night meal, and Saturday morning breakfast. We need all the men of Cherry Ridge in attendance. This will also be a great opportunity for outreach so invite any lost or unchurched friend or family member. This will be an amazing weekend. I ask you to please begin to pray about this.

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To begin the New Year, on Sunday mornings, I'll be preaching a series of messages on the Ten Commandments and on Sunday evenings we will be going through the Sermon on the Mount. I am eager to preach on both of these great texts. These are among some of the most familiar passages in the Bible so I pray you will be blessed as we go through them together.

I am looking forward to this New Year with great anticipation of what God will do. I believe that our greatest days lie ahead of us and I am blessed to be a part of what the Lord is doing here. It is a joy to be your pastor!

From the Heart of James

I'm sitting here trying to find the words. I keep looking at this blank screen and wondering how to begin this. The last two years have seen a lot of changes in my life and the life of my family. CRBC has also seen a lot of changes. I think of this verse "*God has said, 'I will never leave you; I will never abandon you'*" Hebrews 13:5 and He hasn't.

When we sat in that Youth/Children Committee meeting two years ago, I never imagined God was opening that door for me. I thought that I would lead the Youth on Wednesday nights, thinking that I would not have an excuse to stay home on Wednesdays. Little did I know that it would open another door for me to become Interim-Youth/Children's leader. The last two years have been awesome for me. I told the youth that we would walk this journey together and I think that we did. If nothing else came out of those years, it put me further along in my walk with God. I hope that the youth learned and ex-

perienced half of what I have. All those trips we made, to St. Jude's, Centrifuge, Y.E.C. and those lock-ins, when I discovered that I'm too old to stay up all night. Then just those class times when we shared some of our feelings, fears, joys and sorrows with each other. I tried to tell them that I know what they are going thru, but the world is changing so fast, and not for the good either. It's tough being a kid these days, when the world doesn't let them be kids for long.

I can't write this without thanking all the parents and members who have opened their homes, wallets and hearts for the youth and children. Without the support of the CRBC family, nothing would have been done. There are a few special people in the church that get a big "THANK YOU," and y'all know who you are. One person that I will name is my wife, Nicole; without her I could not have pulled this off. She made the journey easier.

Now a new chapter has

begun. We have a new Pastor and next month we'll have a new Family Life Minister. These two young men, I believe were sent from God. I ask that we pray and support Bro. Kyle and Bro. Zach. Pray for their wives and ministries. We have a unique opportunity to experience how God intends to use these two. Their youth and energy, plus their love of God, will inspire the rest of CRBC and surrounding community. God said "*I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, 'They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.'*" Jeremiah 29:11. I truly believe that if we put God in charge and let Him lead, great things are in store for CRBC.

Again I can't express how much serving CRBC the last two years has meant to me and my family. I told the youth that it's not like I'm leavening, I'll still be here doing anything that I can. I love y'all and wish everyone a Happy New Year; I think that it's going to be a great one for us at CRBC.

James

Help Wanted!

Cherry Ridge Baptist Church is currently looking to employ an additional nursery worker for the Sunday evening activities. If you are interested, please call the church office. This will be a paid position.

We are also seeking to enlist more volunteers to help in the nursery during the Sunday evening activities. Please contact Tabatha if you can help.

LAYMAN'S 10
COMMANDMENTS

3. FRIENDSHIP IS
LIKE A BOOK. IT
TAKES A FEW
SECONDS TO
BURN, BUT IT TAKES
YEARS TO WRITE.





JANUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Happy New Year!	2 Office Closed	3 Quilting	4 Prayer Meeting	5 Directory Pictures	6 Directory Pictures	7 Directory Pictures
8 3:00 Finance 4:00 Deacon's	9	10 Quilting Directory Pictures	11 Directory Pictures Supper & Business Meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17 Quilting	18 Prayer Meeting	19	20	21
22	23 7:00 Visitation	24 Quilting	25 Prayer Meeting	26	27	28
29	30 6:30 Angels at Emily's	31 Quilting				

Sympathy

The church family wishes to express Christian sympathy to :

Katherine, Mike & Steve Tubbs in the loss of her niece and their cousin Cindy Driggers.

Mavis Lowery in the loss of her son-in-law, Layne Hefner

Floyd Tubbs in the loss of his sister Elvie Porter

Elizabeth McWilliams in the loss of her son Duane Ray.

Lottie Moon
Goal
\$10,000
Received to date
\$10,256.00

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REV. KYLE PETERS,
PASTOR
ZACH ANDERSON
YOUTH/FAMILY LIFE DIRECTOR

Thank You

Thank you notes have been received this month from:

Dorothy McWilliams and the Ray Family

Nora Ray

James & Karen Nall

Beth Allen

Charles & Ninette Reynolds

Katherine Tubbs & Family

Jean Curtis

Donna Goodman

The Porter Family

Delphia Hoff

Franklin Graham (Samaritan's Purse)

Bob & Dorothy Driggers

Memorials in December

Multi-Ministry Building Fund

In Memory of **Duane Ray** by the Ladies 3 Sunday School Class.

Lottie Moon

In honor of **Cindy Driggers** by Sherman & Jan Thompson

In memory of **Burt Moreland** by James & Margaret Cummins

In memory of **Myrna Cummins** by James & Margaret Cummins

In honor of **Martha Colvin** by the Ladies 4 Sunday School Class

In honor of the **Ladies 3 Sunday School Teachers** by the Ladies 3 Sunday School Class

In memory of **Cindy Driggers** by Jerry & Shirley Goodman

TV & Library Ministries

In memory of **Robert & Elizabeth May** by Delphia Hoff

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www.cherryridgebaptist.com
