



the messenger

a river of hope in a thirsty land

January 2025

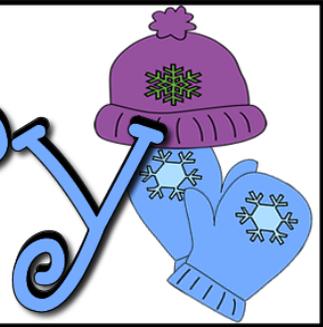
A watercolor-style illustration of a winter scene. The background is a deep blue, with white snowflakes scattered throughout. Pine branches with green needles and small white snow-covered berries are visible. The text is written in a dark blue, cursive font.

*He spreads the snow
like wool and scatters
the frost like ashes.*

~ Psalm 147:16



January



Children's Church

AWANA in January

- January 8th Backwards Night sdrawkcaB thgiN
- January 15 AWANA
- January 22 AWANA & Build a Car Night (T&T) plus DESSERTS with DAD for all clubs
- January 29 AWANA & Tune Up Night (T&T)



February 2nd Grand Prix Night
4 pm weigh in in the Worship Center for all church family

CHILDREN'S CHURCH resumes on January 19th with TEN HUT kids will be in the book of Joshua studying lessons on courage and following God. C4 is for kids K-4th grades and is a dynamic, worship service with Bible stories and application in small groups.



K! Ready



K! Ready Winter kits will be available in January for our Preschool Parents, training dates TBA.

Coming in 2025!

- * **AWANA:** Returns **Jan 8th** and TNT club begins getting ready for **Grand Prix!** (The whole church is invited **February 2nd** to the Big Race!)
- * **K! Ready** Winter training in January
- * **C4:** We begin studying the book of Joshua and every other month the Beatitudes for Children's Church starting **January 19th**
- * **Precept Kids!** John part 3 for kids 3rd - 6th grade plus parents TBA
- * **Cumberland Springs Bible Day Camp** sign ups this spring for our 4/5/6th graders. Camp dates are July 7th - 11th 2025
- * **Bike Rodeo** Summer kick off May 21st
- * **Wednesday nights this Summer:** Christ in the Feasts for K-6th grades Learn how each OT feast is a foreshadow of the coming of Jesus
- * **VBS! Samuel: Search for a King** June 15-19th 6-8:45 pm

Samuel: Search for a King June 15- 19th 2025

Join us in the Old West Town of Shiloh where covered wagons, cowboys, and the pony express collide with biblical Israel to give us the story of US Marshall Samuel, God's judge, prophet and priest who leads the nation of Israel in their search for a King.

Student Ministry

Life

Wednesdays
@ 6:15 pm

Life

I have been thinking about newness a lot recently. That probably isn't much of a surprise. I have a lot of new things going on in my life. New home, new job, new puppy, new life patterns, just to name a few. Not to mention the start of the new year, and with it, new goals and expectations. The thing about newness is that it can often be frightening. Change brings worries of what is to come and fears about what might go wrong. Newness and change, like the new year, never stop coming. December always turns to January, and our lives never truly stay the same for long, especially when considering eternity. Because of the never-ending coming of newness, it can be easy to become overwhelmed by it. Even good changes can bring fear.

As we all enter into the new year, whether you are starting a new job and life in a new place like me, starting a new class, sport, or club, watching your family grow, or any other moment of change that comes into our busy lives, remember this truth: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8. Whatever newness comes our way, Jesus remains our perfect, wonderful, and loving Savior.

I am so excited that I have the privilege to come and serve as the Student Pastor at Candies Creek. It will bring new things for all of us, but as long as we prayerfully keep Christ at the center of our vision, I know the newness we will experience will be for his glory. This month, the students will be focusing on that prayerful exercise as we look to practice what it means to pray together as a church. We will be looking at the book of Acts and observing how the early church came together in prayer despite all the newness that was happening around them at the time. Please pray for the students and adult leaders to come together as one body and earnestly seek God in prayer.

Grace and peace

Jed Cole



CCA epistola



"We often do not spend time in God's Word, not because it is too difficult to read or we lack the intelligence to understand, but because it is work."

Upcoming Dates

January 3 - Teacher In-Service

January 6 - Spring Semester Begins

January 6th -31st
Detergent Fundraiser

January 10 - Fall Semester Report Cards

January 20 - MLK Day (No School)

January 25 - Daddy Daughter Dance

Truth & Transformation

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. John 17:17 (ESV)

Similar to many Americans; the end of December came with some reflection over the past year and consideration of starting a new year with resolutions, plans, goals, or hopes. Our fast-paced, what is next culture does not encourage people to look backward with prolonged serious thought. Many are onto the next thing. Our culture has an insatiable appetite for what is new or next, and often, we fail to live in the moment. How can 2025 be different? How can you reflect on the past, live in the moment, and consider what lies ahead while being transformed in the process? Abide in God's word.

One of the marks of a disciple is someone who abides in God's word. Abiding in God's word means remaining faithful to Jesus's teachings. How do you remain faithful? You regularly read or listen to God's word and apply it to your life day by day. Over time, you will grow in your understanding of truth and establish yourself in living by biblical principles.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 (ESV)

We often do not spend time in God's word, not because it is too difficult to read or we lack the intelligence to understand, but because it is work. To be truthful, we are often lazy, lack passion, and are blind to the needs of our souls.

This coming year, commit to work and exercise personal discipline by following a Bible reading plan. If you lack the desire to spend time reading God's word, ask the Lord to help you have an appetite to read to know Him better. Ask Him to help you to see the benefits of time spent in His word for your soul.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Psalm 34:8 (ESV)

Transformation takes work, discipline, and time, but our instant gratification culture tells us we should have what we want now or at a minimum, within the expected two days of Amazon Prime shipping. Spiritual development and transformation are lifelong processes day by day, month by month, year by year. Psalm 19:7-8 tells us His word will transform because it is perfect, reviving the soul; sure, making wise the simple; right, rejoicing the heart; pure, enlightening the eyes.

As you follow a Bible reading plan this year, there are three simple steps: read the scriptures, reflect upon the scriptures, and respond to the truth.

Abiding,
Pastor Dave



Dear Kingdom Citizens,

I praise King Jesus for showing us (1) what He has done, forgiven sin, and (2) who He is, God with us. I also praise King Jesus that God (1) restores souls and (2) enlightens eyes. 2024 was a year where we had opportunity to rehearse, apply and share the gospel. Don't forget we are also starting off 2025 with an **Evangelism Training** on Saturday, January 4th in the StuB from 10-12. 2025 will be a year where we continue to learn more about being the church. Christy Johns and I are kicking off 2025 offering the **One Another Care Course**, for the 2nd time, beginning January 5th upstairs in the old Education Building (left at the top of the stairs and the last room on the left, E-201/203).

Pastor Jed Cole is beginning the work that God has called him to do among us in this new year. Please take time to read his article! Please pray for our (plural) time together... his time with me, his time with you, his time with us! I know this is more of an inauguration than a farewell, but Paul's farewell to the elders of the church at Ephesus gives great insight into pastoral work! **Acts 20:28** says, "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." And a few sentences earlier **Acts 20:24** says, "But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God."

Thank you for your prayers for our family. Thank you for your **partnership** in ministry. We have both moved into our new home and entrusted our leadership of our daughter Jenna to Ben Vest! We are both tired and excited! Heather has begun to self-administer a weekly shot on Thursdays that is for her heart. It is has been accompanied by some difficult side effects. Please continue to pray for us as we settle into our new home and Heather's body receives this medicine.

Living as part of the body of Christ,
Pastor Stan

Giving All

*“For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind,
the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all...”
1 Timothy 2:5-6*

Oh Lord God, You alone are Good. You are Truth. You are Light. You are Love. You are Life. Cause our eyes to see, our ears to hear, our minds to grasp, our hearts to love, our lives to point others to You. Because You gave Your all—Your life—for us, move us, in this new year and beyond, to live in such a way that we joyfully surrender our lives in giving all for You: loving others as You love us, and loosening our grip on material wealth so that we generously give to the work of missions—reaching the lost and sharing the Gospel. Revive Your church; restore to us a love for and obedience to Your Word, and make us faithful in prayer. We know, Lord, that righteousness belongs to You alone, so we ask for Your continued grace and mercy not because of our righteous acts or worthiness, but because of who You are and based on Your abundant compassion.

“...if You kept an account of iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, so that You may be revered. I wait for the Lord; I wait and put my hope in His Word. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning... Put your hope in the Lord. For there is faithful love with the Lord, and with Him is redemption in abundance.” Psalm 130

Thank You, Father, that when the cares of this world start to weigh us down and the ways of this world try to beat us down, we can turn to You in confident trust that You are with us through every season of life, empowering us to rise above worldly things if we, in repentance, receive Your gracious gift of forgiveness and walk according to the Truth of Your Word. In giving Your All, You give us strength to stand and boldness to walk according to Your plan and purpose for our lives.

“This is the confidence we have before Him: If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears whatever we ask, we know that we have what we have asked of Him.” 1 John 5:14-15

Equip us, Oh Lord, to walk in truth and to walk in love, loving others as You love us and giving our hearts wholly to You in steadfast faith and obedience to Your Word.

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8

“Immanuel...God with us.” Matthew 1:23



Student Ministry



Welcome!

Jed & Madison Cole
To the CCBC Family

Evangelism Training

Saturday, Jan 4th -
10 am - 12 pm/StuB



See Jamie Work, Jake Beard,
Pastor Stan or Shawn Williams

Precept Bible Studies offered in January

Revelation part 1 - Wed. nights & Thurs. mornings -
Starts Jan 8th & 9th

Rev. Part 2 would follow immediately after.
(month of May off)

Sermon on the Mount is on delay-tentatively starts Feb. 27th

Evening class is open to both
Ladies & Gentlemen

-Text Amy Martin 331-8822 to order books



One Another Care Course **2025**

January 5th - June 29
Sundays - 5:45 - 7:30 pm-ish

For high school seniors to senior adults

In person meetings, plus digital content for those nights you miss
See Stan Gibson or Christy Johns for more information or to sign up

(Childcare is provided but please RSVP)

PRAISE THE LORD!

Given in Dec.*	\$125,668.34
Dec. Expenses*	\$73,728.28
2024 Given*	\$908,072.72
2024 Expenses*	\$883,725.17
Lottie Moon Offering*	\$23,677.00

* Totals are as of 12/31 & subject to change

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

*Providing financial support to missionaries
as they share the gospel overseas.*

Through January - CCBC Goal: \$40,000

Shoebox Ministry

The Shoebox Sisters will kick off the 2025 shoebox season on Friday, January 10th! This will be an informational and planning meeting to set a calendar and goals for the upcoming year. All women are encouraged to join the fellowship and see what is happening. There are a few things to know about the shoebox ministry at Candies Creek:

1. There are many different tasks that need to be accomplished every other week during the year. Some ladies have the resources for shopping. Others are challenged by keeping our inventory up to date. Many have the hand dexterity to create gifts, while still others sew. We need them all!
2. If you pack your own shoeboxes, January is a great time to gather winter items that might be on sale such as hats, gloves and small winter-themed stuffed toys. If you don't pack your own shoeboxes, buy up these items and donate them to the Shoebox Ministry.
3. The meetings are every other Friday from 9:30 to 11 am. Bring a friend. We meet above the church offices. We'd love to have you join us...the fellowship is precious.

Finally, a huge thank you to Candies Creek Baptist Church for once again providing the resources for shipping all 1,650 shoeboxes overseas.



SUNDAYS

Early Worship Service.....8:00 am
 Community Groups.....9:15-10:15 am
 Late Worship Service10:00 am
 One Another Care Course.....5:45 pm
 Adult Choir.....6:00 pm

WEDNESDAYS

AWANA.....6:00 -7:30 pm
 Life 122 (StuB).....6:15 pm
 Prayer Meeting (WC).....6:00 pm
 Rev. 1 Precept Bible Study.....6:00 pm

THURSDAYS

Men's Prayer Meeting6:30 am
 Rev. 1 Precept Bible Study.....9:00 am
 Praise Team Practice.....6:30 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 No Evening Gatherings	2	3	4 Evangelism Training 10 am-12 pm/StuB
5 One Another Care Course Begins/5:45 pm	6	7	8 Rev. 1 Precept Bible Study Begins/6:00 pm	9 Revelation Part. 1 Ladies Precept Bible Study Begins/9:00 am	10	11 Multi-Language Community Outreach 10am-12pm
12 Deacon Ordination Ben Vest/4:00 pm	13	14 Ladies WOW Planning Mtg./5:30 pm Cleveland Emergency Shelter Meal Night 5:30 pm-Soul Seekers-4B	15	16	17	18
19 C4 Children's Church Returns!/8 & 10:30 am MDT Mtg. 4:30 pm Students CONNECT Night / TBA	20	21	22 	23	24	25
26 Members Business Mtg. 4:30 pm/WC	27	28	29	30	31	

"Come now, let's settle this," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow." Isaiah 1:18-19



CANDIES CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
294 OLD EUREKA RD.
CHARLESTON, TN 37310

Stan Gibson, Lead Pastor
Sammy Parris, Worship Pastor
Jed Cole, Student Pastor
Christy Johns, Preschool & Children's Director



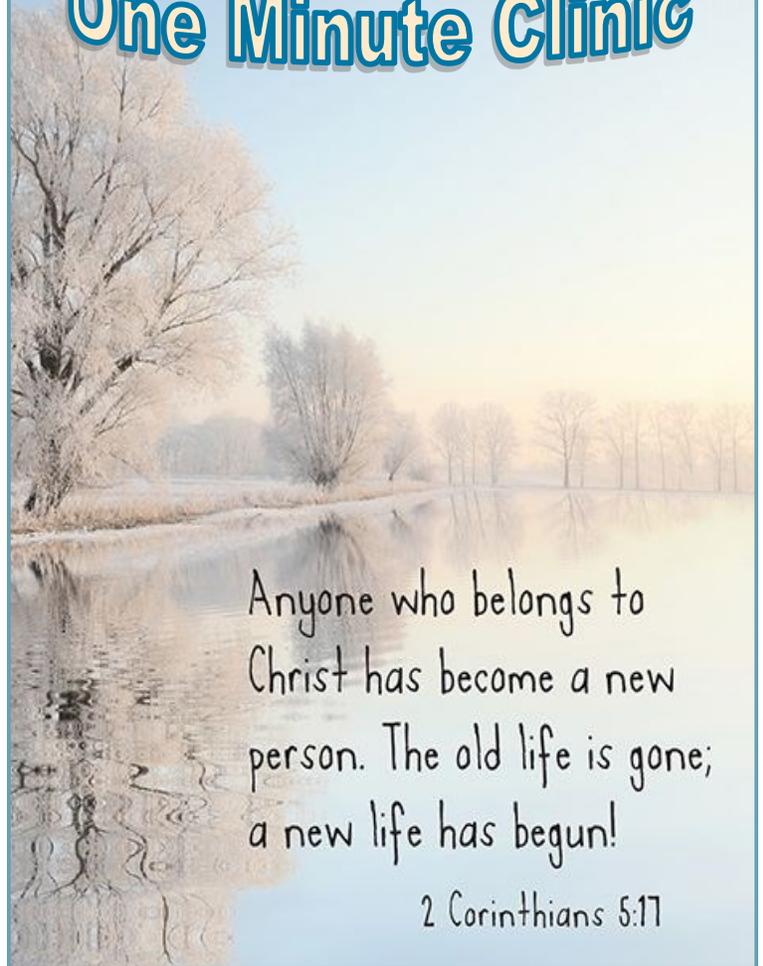
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



1st	Brooke Plank
5th	Ken Catoe
6th	Jenna Laseter, Elizabeth Moseley
7th	April Burnette
13th	Jack Maddux
14th	Josh Jolley
16th	Kim Cody, Rhonda Jolley, Connie Dilliard
18th	Keaira Edington, Cynthia Brenizer
19th	Asher Gluckner, Jackie Stanley
20th	Sharon Simmons
21st	Charles Missinne, Ezra Loudermilk, Kathy Smith
22th	Jake Blackburn, Paul Gates
23rd	Natalie Olmstead, Jackie Coleman
24th	Adaya Gluckner, Taylor Brashier, Elaine Rice
25th	Graham Seavey
26th	Mary Louise Graham, Samuel Elmer
27th	Mead Vest
29th	Robin Parsons, Matthew Flowers
30th	Addyson Jolley, Eddy Moses



One Minute Clinic



Anyone who belongs to
 Christ has become a new
 person. The old life is gone;
 a new life has begun!

2 Corinthians 5:17