

**“Comfort, yes, comfort My people!” Says your God.**

**“Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended. That her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”**

**The voice of one crying in the wilderness:**

**“Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together;**  
**for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it.”**

Isaiah 40: 1-5

## GRBC Calendar & Announcements

*We kindly request that you turn off all cell phones, pagers and watch alarms before the services. Please make use of our well-staffed nursery for children who may become fussy or talkative.*

### Today

**Morning Prayer Meeting** - A prayer meeting to seek God's presence for the day's services is held each Sunday morning at 9:00 in the College/Career classroom.

**Lunch Today for College Students** - All Elon students and any other college/career folk are invited to lunch today following the morning service.

**Mebane MESSIAH, 3:00 pm** – The Mebane Community Choir will present portions of Handel's MESSIAH today at the Mebane Presbyterian Church. Several of our singers are participating, including Beth Allen and Liza Hawkins who are soloists. *Note: There will be no reception this year. The fellowship building is undergoing renovations.*

**Adult Chorus Practice Tonight** - This is an “extra” practice for any who would like to come.

**Fall Pastoral Visitation Schedule** - If it has been more than a year since your last visit, please refer to the list posted on the bulletin board to sign up for a visit.

**Church Directories** are available in the office for members and regular attendees. Two per family, please.

**\*\*\*\*Operation “Christmas Child” trip, 12/12 – Remember to sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to make the trip to Charlotte to help pack the shoe box gifts for needy children all over the world. Departure is at 11:00 am and the arrival back in Mebane is 9:00 pm. \*\*\* Sign up today!**

### December

**Men’s Prayer Meeting, 12/9, 6:15 am**

**Moms’ Coffee Connection, 12/12, 10:00 am**  
**7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Christmas Party, 12/13, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm** – Plans are being made for this time of fellowship for the Jr. High Group. Further details are coming soon!

**High School/College Christmas Party, 12/13, (evening)** - This time of fellowship is planned at the home of Gerald and Martha Jones. Details are coming soon, but please reserve the date!

**Adult Chorus Practice, 12/14, 3:30 pm in the Auditorium**

**Children’s Chorus Practice, 12/14** following evening worship in the Auditorium, (K-4 thru 8<sup>th</sup> graders who wish to participate.

**Christmas Concert and Dessert Fellowship, 12/19, 7:15 pm** - The Adult Chorus will present, *“Go, Tell It”,* Friday evening, December 19, 7:15. The children’s group will precede the adult chorus by singing 3 songs. Plan to bring your families/visitors and a dessert to share for the time of fellowship following the musical presentation.

**Young Adult’s “End of Year” Conference, 12/27-29** – Brochures are available in the SS foyer.

**Hawfields Service, 12/28, 3:00 pm**

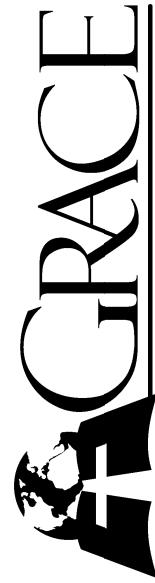
**\*\*\*\*Prayer Meeting date changes for December/Tuesday, 12/23 & 12/30 – Tuesday, December 23,**  
we will have our regular prayer meeting and Tuesday, December 30, heads of families will have opportunity to share testimonies of “thanks.” \*\*\*

### Opportunities to Donate Items

**Collections are still underway thru today, 12/7, for the Alamance Community Services “Toiletry” Drive for Senior Citizens. The Samaritan’s Purse, “Operation Christmas Child” deadline is Dec. 10.**

**Visit the new GRBC blog, “Shepherds’ Pie” at: <http://blog.grbc.net> or go to [grbc.net](http://grbc.net) and click the “Blog” button. You’ll also find a “Subscribe” option on the main blog page that will keep you informed when new entries are posted.**

**We warmly welcome our visitors today and ask that you sign our Guest Register located in the foyer.**  
**We hope to greet you in a more personal way following the services.**



REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

P O Box 221, 939 South Third Street  
Mebane, North Carolina 27302  
(919) 563-9249

Website: [www.grbc.net](http://www.grbc.net)

Our Weekly Services

Sunday School .....	9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship .....	10:55 am
Sunday Evening Worship .....	5:30 pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting .....	7:15 pm

## The Lord's Day

December 7, 2008

## Pastoral Prayer

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

Scripture Reading

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Hymn

Hymn of Preparation

1. In Christ alone, my hope if found; He is my light, my strength, my song:  
This Cornerstone, this Solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled and strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All—here in the love of Christ I stand.
2. In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe!  
This gift of Love and Righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid — here in the death of Christ I live.
3. There in the ground His body lay, Light of the World by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grace He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine — bought with the precious blood of Christ.
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death — this is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home — here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Words and Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend  
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Sermon

Pastor Gary Hendrix

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## Evening Worship

Call to Worship

Hymn of Praise

Scripture Reading

# 154 "As With Gladness  
Men of Old"

Habakkuk 2

Pastor Stu Johnston

# 147 "O Come, O Come  
Emmanuel"

Pastor Stu Johnston

## Offertory Hymn

- "I Have a Shelter"  
(*piano introduction*)
1. I have a shelter in the storm, when troubles pour upon me.  
Though fears are rising like a flood, my soul can rest securely.

O Jesus, I will hide in You, my place of peace and solace.  
No trial is deeper than your love that comforts all my sorrows. (*piano interlude*)

2. I have a shelter in the storm, when all my sins accuse me.  
Though justice charges me with guilt, Your grace will not refuse me.

O Jesus, I will hide in You, who bore my condemnation.

I find my refuge in Your wounds, for there I find salvation. (*piano interlude*)

3. I have a shelter in the storm, when constant winds would break me.  
For in my weakness I have learned Your strength will not forsake me.

O Jesus, I will hide in You, the One who bears my burdens.  
With faithful hands that cannot fail, You'll bring me home to heaven.

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## Hymn of Preparation

## "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

(music printed)

Pastor Andy Dunkerton

Sermon