

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all



the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him. (Genesis 12:1-4a)

I wonder what Abram thought of his life, just before God called him. He was a man in his seventies, married but without children, which was the one great sadness of his life. Still, he and his wife lived among their relatives, so they weren't entirely alone, and they were probably fairly well off. Surely the rest of his life would be predictable—the same old thing until the day he died.

And then God spoke to him. He said, "Leave home and go where I send you. Leave your relatives, your house, the city, and the ways that you know. Take Me instead. I will do something amazing with you. And because of you, and your family, all the nations of the earth will be blessed."

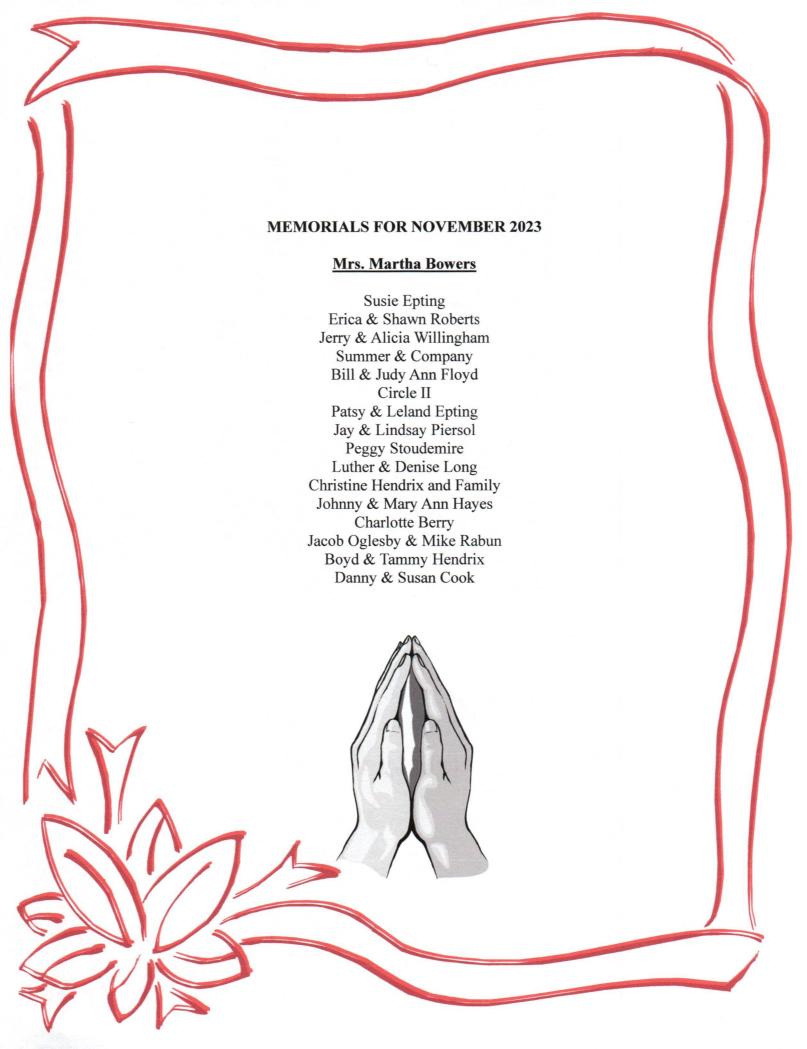
Abram's plans were gone, just like that. From then on, Abram would never know from one year to the next where he would live or what would happen to him there. But he knew God's unshakeable promise: "In your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed" (Acts 3:25b).

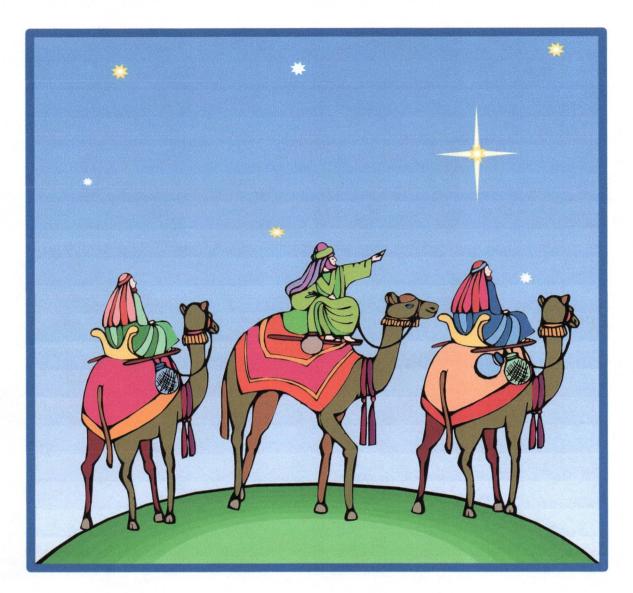
Jesus would come from Abram's family. And God would bless all people through Jesus' birth, suffering, death, and resurrection. This was God's plan—to draw all the families of the world into His own family, through Jesus our Savior.

THE PRAYER: Father, thank You for planning to make me Your child through Jesus. Amen.

- Special Prayers Please continue to keep the family of Mrs. Martha Bowers in your prayers as they morn the loss of a loving Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother. Mrs. Martha will be greatly missed.
- Christmas Eve Service December 24th at 6:00 p.m. with Holy Communion. Please plan to attend.
- Committee Year End Reports All Committee Chairpersons are asked to have their year end reports ready by December 24th. These need to be turned into Mary Willingham for inclusion in the 2024 yearbook. Thank you.
- **2024 Flower Calendar** is in the Narthex. Please consider signing up to place Altar flowers in the church one Sunday in 2024.
- Committee Treasures Please prepare your books for review/audit for the Audit Committee.

 Please have them ready as early as you can in January. They will need to be audited before the reports can be published in the yearbook.
- Winter Coat Drive Donations needed to help families in need. Drop off is Reuben Elementary. You may also bring them to the church and they will be delivered with the Backpacks.
- **Drive-Thru Nativity** The Drive-Thru Nativity will be December 16th, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is an endeavor that involves our entire congregation. Please prayerfully consider accepting a role or volunteering your time in making this outreach successful. There will be a trial set up on December 10th at 3:00 p.m. Even if you cannot help on the 16th, your assistance with backdrops, props, lighting, electrical cords, etc. would be much appreciated. This will make the preparations on the 16th run more smoothly.
- Christmas Caroling We will be Christmas Caroling on December 13th. If you would like to join us in this wonderful fellowship of the season please contact someone on the Worship & Music Committee. Supper will be served at the church afterwards.
- Reuben Backpack Food Program The SOW Committee will again be sponsoring at-need students at Reuben Elementary School during the 2023-2024 year with the Reuben Backpack Food Program. Distribution of the packed bags will begin September 8th. If you would like to assist with delivering the food bags to Reuben please let Anna Bedenbaugh know. Through letters from families, as well as messages of appreciation from the school administration, this program has made a difference. Your monetary donations help support the children of the community.
- Manna House Food pantry is accepting monetary donations which can be sent to Manna House, c/o Sue J. Mitchell, 2210 Timber Lane, Newberry, SC 29108. Food supplies are currently low. Nonperishable food items are being accepted as well as dish and laundry detergent. There is a basket in our Narthex that you my put your donations in and the SOW Committee will take them to Manna House for you. For info call (803) 321-2155.





A Drive - Thru Nativity In Nine Living Scenes

A re-enactment of the Christmas Story Silverstreet Lutheran Church Saturday, December 6th 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

No Rain Date



Circle II

Dec 13th

3:00 pm

Circle IV

Dec 15th

7:00 pm

Christmas

Special

Hostess Jan Piersol

Christmas Special



WELCA would like to invite & encourage all women of the church to join a circle.

This is a wonderful outreach program.

SERVING GOD IN DECEMBER 2023

If a conflict arises and you cannot serve on the appointed date, please find a replacement. Each person and Their duty is vitally important to the worship service of the church. Thank you. *Head Usher ** Greeter

Communion Steward

Offering Tabulators

Ushers

Jay P	iersol	* $\overline{Dec 3^{rd} Au}$	Dec 3 rd Austin Willingham 24 th Kim Crone (Christmas Eve)		Mike Willingham April Bryant		
Bryan	n West						
Jerry	Willin	gham					
Alicie	a Willin	ngham Locking of	Locking of the Church				
		Mike Willin					
*****	*****	*********	*****	******	*******		
		Lay Reader		Altar Flowers			
Dec	3	Shannon Bowers		Jan & George Piersol			
	10	Katherine Cook		Helen & Dalton Shealy			
	17	Cayce Lybrand		April & Terry Bryant Johnny & Mary Ann Hayes			
	24	Nancy Ruff (Christmas Eve)					
	31	Jan Piersol		Mike & Mary Willingham			
*****	*****	*********	*****	*****	********		
		Acolyte		Crucifer			
Dec	3	Paisley West		Mary Grace Bryant			
	10	Paisley West		Mary Grace Bryant			
	17	Samantha West		Mary Grace Bryant			
	24	Samantha West (Christmas I	Eve)	Sarah Bryant (Christmas Eve)			
	31	Samantha West		Sarah Bryant			
*****	*****	*********	*****	*****	********		
		Happy Birthday to th	e follow	ing			
Dec	2	Bryce Willingham	12	Terry Crone			
	4	Paula Gable	15	Sarah Bryan	nt .		
	5	Casey Lybrand	16	Holly Hill			
	6	John Harold Piersol	27	Lindsay Pier	rsol		
	7	Loxie Hazel	29	Mary Grace			
*****	*****	**************************************					
		Happy Anniversary to	не зоно	wing			
Dec	9	Josh & Kimberly Piersol					
	11	Anne & Al Shealy					
	26	Mary Ann & Johnny Haye	S				

Anyone missing? Please let us know. We want to recognize everyone! Also if you see an error, please call the Mary Willingham (803) 944-9191. Thank you.

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
9 am Choir 10 am Sun Sch 11am Worship/ Communion	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 8:30 am Council 9 am Choir 10 am Sun Sch 11amWorship	11	12	3 pm WELCA Grp II Christmas Special 5pm Christmas Caroling	14	7:00 pm 15 WELCA Grp IV& LMM Christmas Special	16 6:00 to 8:00 pm Drive-Thru Nativity
17 9 am Choir 10 am Sun Sch 11 am Worship	18	19	20	21	22	23
9 am Choir 24 10 am Sun Sch 11am Worship 6 pm Christmas Eve Service		26	27	28	29	30
31 9 am Choir 10 am Sun Sch 11 am Worship)