

# PRAYER LIST

**PAUL ALLEN**, recovery/rehab at home  
**CHELSEA AYCOCK**, age 24; cancer recovery;  
friend of Lara King; girl-friend of Renée  
Cumberland's cousin  
**CHERYL BARRON**, Stan Raley's sister  
**ANN BOWLING**, friend of Kitty Dooley & Linda  
Collie – Golden Living Center, Hwy 39 North  
**TED BRWON**, Sherri Clopton's dad, home rehab  
**DWIGHT CALLENS**, surgery recovery at home  
**ODELL GURLEY**, Jeremy's (Elizabeth Fair Gurley)  
granddad; lung cancer treatment  
**CHRIS HATCHER**, brother-in-law of Paul Guy  
**BETTY JOHNSON**, home-bound  
**JORDAN KINDLE**, 14yr old boy at Clarkdale; at St  
Jude undergoing chemo for cancer tumors;  
friends of Rob & Doris Warren family; UPDATE:  
more tumors found; continuing treatment  
**NAN LEGGETT**, Brookhaven, MS area; friend of  
Mike/Renée Cumberland, who suffers from a  
hereditary debilitating muscular syndrome  
**MIKE McCRRARY**, Josh McCrary's dad  
**BETSY PARNELL**, friend of Cindy Harper –  
chemo/radiation for cancer  
**RHIANNA POMROY**, surgery – Dec 23rd  
**REATHA RAINER**, in dementia facility;  
% Adrian Rainer  
5310 Tara AVE  
Northport AL 35473  
**MRS GENE RALEY**, Stan's mom – health issues  
**STAN RALEY**  
**ALETHA RAY**, Moriah McCrary's mom  
**AL ST. CLAIR**  
**THELMA TALBERT**, Shirley Raley's mom, is at  
North Pointe for rehab following stroke  
Room 306  
North Pointe Health & Rehabilitation  
211 Windmill DR – Meridian, MS 39305  
**ROB WARREN**  
**EUGENE WHITE**  
**VELMA "DUCK" YATES**  
**MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES**  
**CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE**

# ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

December 5: Linda Collie

NOTE: If you are new to our family, or have changes to  
your info, please see Renée Cumberland.

## Upcoming Holidays Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 10am  
Worship Service only

## Adult Christmas Party

This year's party is set for Tuesday,  
December 6<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be dining  
and playing Dirty Santa at Red Lobster  
located on the South Frontage Road,  
Meridian. Festivities to  
begin at 6:30 p.m.



Those wishing to join in  
the fun, whether or not you  
decide to participate in the  
Dirty Santa game, please  
sign up on the flyer on the  
foyer table, or contact  
Renée and she will add you  
to the list. Please indicate  
the number attending in your party so we  
can give a total to Red Lobster a week  
before the party. If you do plan to participate  
in the Dirty Santa game, please keep in mind  
the gift price, which remains at \$20.

*You should call Red Lobster to verify  
the types of payment they accept.*

# A 'Christmas' Quiz

At this time of the year, more will be said about the birth of Jesus than at any other time of the year. Yet, each year I can't help but be a bit disturbed by all the biblical ignorance and inaccuracies associated with the birth of our Savior. When it comes to one of the most fundamental tenants of Christianity, the incarnation of Jesus, and one of the most pivotal historical events that ever occurred, I find that many cannot discern between fact and fiction. As fundamental as the birth of Jesus is, people do not really know the account of his birth as well as they might think.

Doubt me? Then give the following brief "True/False" quiz a shot and see how well you do?

- True or False The Bible says the angel Gabriel appeared to Joseph to inform him that Mary was with child.
- True or False The Bible says that three wise men came to to the manger to worship and give gifts to Jesus.
- True or False The Bible says that an unknown number of wise men came to the manger to worship Jesus.
- True or False The Bible says a bright star appeared in the sky and led the shepherds to the manger.
- True or False The Bible says a bright star appeared in the sky and led the wise men to the manger.
- True or False The Bible says the shepherds and the wise men were present on the night of Jesus' birth.
- True or False The Bible says an innkeeper told Mary and Joseph that there was no room in the inn, thus Jesus was born in a manger.

Okay, so how did you do? Did anyone get them all right? Did you get a passing grade? Well, if you answered any of the questions with a "True," you were mistaken. Every statement is false for one reason or another. Open your Bible and check it for yourself.

What I have discovered through the years is that it is surprisingly easy for us to believe as fact, what is in reality, fiction. Furthermore, this "fiction" is sometimes propagated by religion. How many church lawns and "Christmas" re-enactments will portray a nativity scene which inaccurately portrays the biblical account? Churches that decried the inaccuracies in the movie "Noah" and the "Bible Series" on television may very well do their part in perpetuating biblical inaccuracies this December.

But now here's the point of my article: If we can be misinformed about something as fundamental as the birth of Jesus, what's to make us think we cannot be misled regarding other religious matters?

Friends, make sure your faith is not based on what others have told you is true, but rather make sure your faith is based on what you know to be true from your own personal study. Let the "fiction" you see perpetuated on church lawns and in church pageants this holiday season be a reminder and a warning to you to do your own Bible study, and to never be content with what others say.

"Prove all things; Hold fast what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

*Steve Higginbotham  
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