



# Fresh Wind of God

What once was hailed as a thriving railroad community is now best known as the resting place for the beloved missionary to China, Charlotte Digges "Lottie" Moon. Lottie Moon is buried in Crewe Cemetery, in Crewe, VA in Nottoway County.

The Norfolk and Western Railway (N&W) pre-planned and built the town of Crewe in 1888. The town was named for the large railroad town of Crewe, England. Norfolk & Western designed the town, first and foremost, to support the operations of the railroad as a divisional halfway point between the cities of Norfolk and Roanoke. In the 1950s, the railroad repair facilities diminished in importance as the switch to diesel-electric locomotives required less labor and equipment.

Like many Southern Baptist churches across the Commonwealth, **Crewe Baptist Church** flourished for more than 100 years while serving God and the community. But like the decline in railroading and other labor-intensive industries, the glory days of this rural church seemed to be over.

However, a fresh wind of God has been blowing once again through Crewe Baptist Church due to its focus on the Gospel! Many people have recently professed Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior and have publicly followed His example of water baptism through immersion.

Angel was raised Catholic in Mexico. For the past few years, he has been living in Crewe with his wife, a longtime member of Crewe Baptist Church. Angel and his daughter met several times with Pastor Dallas Smith. After confirming their faith in Christ, Angel and his daughter attended discipleship classes and were baptized together on August 21, 2022. They were one of three families who stepped into the baptismal waters that day to the applause of the congregation and the heavenly hosts.

At the end of the baptismal service, all candidates were welcomed into Crewe Baptist Church's membership by unanimous acclamation. As the baptized individuals were being presented to the church, one of the men said, "I knew becoming a Christian was going to be thrilling...but I never thought I would be baptized with an 'Angel.'" ■