



News at Paw Creek

Office Information

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7400 Mt. Holly Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28214

Hours:
Monday thru Thursday
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Telephone:
(704) 392-0329

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(704) 392-4625

Email:
office@pawcreekpc.org

From the Pastor...

Dear Paw Creek Presbyterian Church,

Merry Christmas to you. The birth of Christ is highly celebrated throughout the Christian community at this time of year. It should be. The birth of Christ, God becoming flesh is a really big deal. We have all heard the Christmas story. Mary and Joseph travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem in order to be counted in the consensus. When they arrive there is no room in the inn. Mary goes into labor and the only place to give birth is in a stable with smelly animals and the only clothing, swaddling or binding cloths. The bed for our Savior, a trough. But I want us to appreciate how special and difficult this was for the mother of the Christ child. Again, you know the story, but do you appreciate how special this story really is?

In the year of our Lord 1990, I traveled from Maryland to Los Angeles, California with my husband and two young sons to attend my youngest sister's wedding. We traveled by air. I had a comfortable seat, food services, a bathroom, if needed and the ability to lay back and rest if I desired. When we arrived, we were picked up in a car and taken to my oldest sisters house where other family had also gathered. We were going to be there for only a few days. I was Vera's matron of honor. Did I mention I was also pregnant? Yep...nearly eight months. My doctor would not let me stay for even a week because this was my third child, and they had a tendency to come early by about a week and they came quickly. He did not want me to be away from home for too long. But we traveled there and back safely and my daughter Rosalynn was born six weeks later. So why did I tell you that story? To really appreciate what Mary endured to give birth to Jesus.

From Nazareth to Bethlehem is about 70 miles. Over mountainous terrain you could add another twenty miles. Mary traveled by donkey back, not an airline. She was nine months pregnant with her first child. Her husband led the donkey by foot over some pretty rough and ragged terrain. That journey took about a week to make. Think about the toll this had on Mary. With constant bathroom breaks and needs to rest, to get off that donkey to walk a bit only to climb back upon its back to continue the journey. She is ready to give birth at any time and then they finally arrive in Bethlehem. I am certain she looked forward to a bed to rest upon, an opportunity to have a hot meal perhaps, to be away from that animal. Then they find there are no rooms available and Mary goes into labor. The only place available? A stable? More animals? No comfortable bed? Exactly. A very tired Mary and Joseph arrive to register for the consensus, and the only place to rest was a stable among cows and lambs and sheep and maybe a camel or two. And it is there that she lays on straw and gives birth to a King, the Savior of the world, the Messiah, anointed by God to be our salvation. Christ was born after a long strenuous journey, under very humble conditions, and became the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. What a gift to Mary. What a gift to us all. If never there was a reason to celebrate, this one was and is. What a metaphor for life right? We may have a tough journey, and the road to salvation may not always be smooth flying, but the gift of salvation is well worth it all.

Merry Christmas to you all.
Rev. Veronica Cannon

Offerings & Attendance



Offerings:

December 11 - \$4,781.71
December 18 - \$14,300.00

S/S Attendance:

December 11 - 70
December 18 - 75

Worship Attendance:

December 11 - 119
December 18 - 180

Please remember, this Sunday is worship only, there will be no Sunday school classes or session meeting.

The church office will be closed on Monday December 26th for Christmas and again on Monday, January 2nd for New Years Day.

Kim will be on Vacation Tuesday December 27th through Tuesday, January 3rd. If you need anything in the bulletin for January 1st, please submit it by this Wednesday at noon. The Office will still be open during this time. Thank you!!

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
~Kim



Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Prayer Concerns:

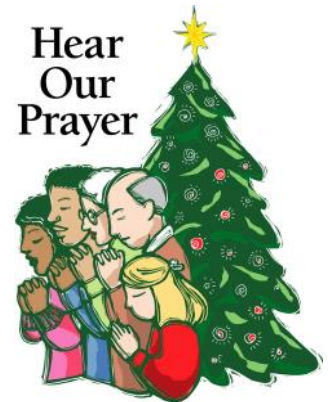
- Virginia McGranahan - Continued prayers
- Margaret White - Continued prayers
- Gene Hall's mother
- Beth Joy's Grandmother, Ida Wallace, has cancer.
- Ashley Kenley's dad, Carl McCollough - health issues
- Lisa & Kaitlyn Revalee - prayer
- Tommy Miller (not ours) - prayer

Keep in Your Prayers:

- Hoyt & Jean Johnston
- Mary Frances Lail
- Flora Mae Love
- Diane Pegram
- Dave Reames
- Marlene Thames
- The Pastor Nominating Committee

Celebrations:

- Virginia McGranahan & Margaret White were both back in Church this past week!
- Thelma Tomlinson has a new Great-Grandson - Bailey Reid Newton
- Thank You to the Youth & Workers for a successful 55 and Over Appreciation Luncheon this past Sunday!



Service Assignments

12/25 - Ushers:

Team Captains: Beth Joy
Ushers: Church Youth

1/1 - Count Team:

Team Leaders: Danny McClure
Team: Eddie Chapman, Beth & Kevin Joy,

Prayer Team:

12/25 Tim & Celia Gray
1/1 Debbie Taylor & Karen Cathey

CD Delivery (Mondays):

12/26 TBD
1/2 Donna & Gene Hall

12/25 - Greeters:

Narthex: Tim Sudderth & Danny McClure

East Wing: Teresa Painter
West Wing: Vickie Joy

Nursery - Crib Room:

12/25 Leslie Joy
1/1 Kay Searce

Nursery - Toddler Room:

12/25 Bailie Joy
1/1 Judy Pinkston

12/25 - Count Team:

Team Leaders: Peggy Harrington & Linda Riggins
Team: Bob Rudisill, Larry Ramsey, Karen Sisk, & Robin Wodarski

Visitation Teams for December:

Visiting Teams:

Frances Lyerly & Jane McArver
 Joyce & Leslie Joy
 Ken & Vernie Smith
 Peggy Harrington & Marsha Cathey
 Barbara Ullem & Teresa Painter
 Gene & Donna Hall
 Linda Riggins & Ann Cashion

Special Friends to be Visited:

Diane Pegram
 Mike Johnson
 Richard Rumble & Joe Troutman
 Rennie Auten
 Bill Faust & Jean Johnston
 Sue Love & Dave Reames
 Allen Wingate (& Laura)
 & Mary Frances Lail

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)



The Pastor Nominating Committee is hard at work. Please continue to pray for wisdom and discernment for the PNC:

Grady Cathey, Gene Hall, Sarah Kendrick, Victoria Krebs, Eddie McArver, Gerri Ann Shaw, and Debbie Taylor

Children's Choir

Children's Choir rehearsals will resume on Jan. 8th.



Need a Ride?

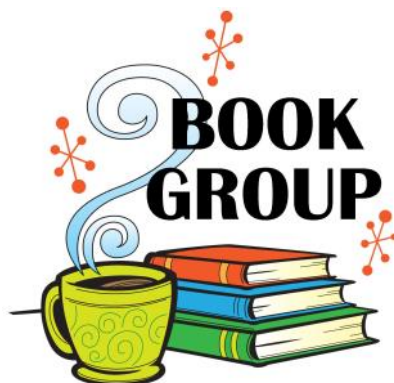
People to call if you need a ride:
 Ann Cashion (704)966-1004
 Donna Hall (704)399-6483
 Jim Meier (704)756-9218
 Anne Miller (704)392-2989

If you are willing to be on this list, please call Ann Cashion or email: acatlake@gmail.com



Happy Birthday to Those Celebrating in January!

<u>January 1</u> Rudy Cannon	<u>January 8</u> Bob Love	<u>January 17</u> Brian Gross	<u>January 26</u> Savannah Reel
<u>January 2</u> Jeremy Chapman Mark Muller	<u>January 11</u> Phillip McCord	<u>January 18</u> Joyce Joy Jessica Kincaid Kaitlyn Revalee	<u>January 27</u> Scott Brenner
<u>January 4</u> Debbie McCord	<u>January 13</u> Todd Miller Gideon Skidmore Tucker Torrence	<u>January 19</u> Tori Caudill	<u>January 30</u> Ken Smith
<u>January 5</u> Eric Cathey Todd Joy Mary Frances Lail	<u>January 15</u> Lauren Bray	<u>January 24</u> Bill Faust Cameron Fortier	<u>January 31</u> Stephanie Sudderth
<u>January 6</u> Susan Gustafson Vickie Joy Jon Kenley	<u>January 16</u> Tim Boysworth	<u>January 25</u> Eddie McArver Toni Torrence	



New Year, New Adventures... Come Join Our Book Group!

We will begin discussing Nadia Bolz-Weber’s book “Accidental Saints” beginning **Tuesday, January 3**. We meet in the back room (so as not to interfere with the diners) at Heirloom Restaurant (8470 Bellhaven Boulevard) each Tuesday beginning **at 5:30 p.m.**, and we usually stay for an hour or more. All are welcome any time – come join us for a visit with Nadia. Hope to see you there!

--Karen Cathey, Peggy Harrington, Beth Mathews, Amy McGee, and Debbie Taylor



Thank you for the many calls and cards during James' recent illness. He is improving but awaits further testing. Thanks again for caring but most of all for your prayers!

~Carolyn Summerlin



2016 Pledges

Please review your Pledges for 2016. If you have any questions on where you are in your giving for the year, please call the church office @ 704-392-0329.

Upcoming Youth Events

December 21st

No Youth Group

December 28th

•6:00pm Youth Group



Don't Miss this Exciting Series for women by Sharon Greer, that promises to answer the age old question of **Destiny & Purpose.**

<p>Women's Empowerment Series 2017 <u>Why doing the W.O.R.K.™ is more Satisfying than a warm Goopy Desert!</u></p> <p>If you are woman who: ·Has experienced life's harsh setbacks, ·Feeling unfulfilled or, ·Struggling to find your fit in this world?</p> <p>Then you are in the right place at just the right time!</p> <p>Don't miss this life changing series . . . Register at https://doingthework.eventbrite.com Cost: \$15/class or discounted rate with full series Call Sharon at 704-840-5685</p>	<p>Classes Offered</p> <p>Session 1: Your Key to Success: Do the W.O.R.K.™ Session 2: Stinking-Thinking Smackdown Session 3: The Art of Personal Power Session 4: Shaking off the LABELS of defeat! Session 5: The Ultimate Roadmap to Truth Session 6: Mirror-Mirror on the Wall: Journey to Self-Acceptance Session 7: Thriving through Life's Lessons Session 8: The Potency of Forgiveness Session 9: The Secret to Walking in Destiny & Purpose</p> <p>Dates: Every 2nd & 4th Mon. nights from January 9, 2017 – May 8, 2017 Time: 6:30–8:00 p.m. Location: Paw Creek Presbyterian Church 7400 Mount Holly Road Charlotte, NC 28214</p>
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(This will be held in the Session room.)

MERRY CHRISTMAS!





Paw Creek Presbyterian Church

P.O. BOX 64
Paw Creek, NC 28130-0064

Joining with our neighbors to meet the needs of those in our community as we walk together in Christ.

Lord, we thank you for...

Have a Prayer Request? To put someone on our prayer chain, obtain permission from the person or family involved, then call:
Judy Smith (704) 392-2892
-or-
Kay Scarce (704) 825-4446

Know someone Who Needs a Visit?
Please contact the Church Office or Rev. Cannon (704) 392-0329



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
"TELL THE STORY"
LUKE 2:1-14

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25
"THE LIVING WORD"
JOHN 1:1-04

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
"OUT OF EGYPT"
MATTHEW 2:13-23

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8
"TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS"
MATTHEW 3:13-17

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
"THE LAMB OF GOD"
JOHN 1:29-42

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
"CHANGE YOUR LIFE. GOD'S KINGDOM IS HERE"
MATTHEW 4:12-23
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
"REJOICE AND BE GLAD; YOU ARE BLESSED"
MATTHEW 5:1-12

Church Calendar

Each Week...

Sunday

9:30am Session Meeting
9:45am Sunday School
10:55am Worship Service

Monday - Thursday

9:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours

Monday—Friday

11:30am Senior Lunch Program

Monday

6:30pm Youth Praise Band Rehearsal
7:00pm Girl Scouts

Tuesday

6:30am Men's Bible Study
9:00am Cardio Fitness
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday

12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Children Connecting with Christ
6:00pm MS/HS Youth Group
7:00pm Cub Scouts

Thursday

9:00am Cardio Fitness
6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice

Future Happenings...

Wednesday, December 21

12:00pm *Bulletin Deadline for 12/25 & 1/1*
6:00pm Youth Group

Saturday, December 24

8:00pm Candlelight /Communion Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 25

No Sunday School Classes
11:00am Christmas Morning Service

Monday, December 26

Church Office Closed - Merry Christmas!

Tuesday, December 27

7:00pm Stitches for Missions

Wednesday, December 28

6:00pm Youth Group

Sunday, January 1

11:00am Ten Cents a Meal Offering/Communion/Youth Taizé

Monday, January 2

Church Office Closed - Happy New Year!

Tuesday, January 3

9:30am PW Fellowship
10:00am PW Bible Study
12:00 pm Newsletter Deadline
7:15pm PW Bible Study & Dessert

Wednesday, January 4

12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Youth Group

Monday, January 9

7:00pm Christian Ed Committee Mtg.

Wednesday, January 11

12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Youth Group

Sunday, January 15

12:45pm Long Session Mtg.

Monday, January 16

12:00pm Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, January 18

12:00pm Bulletin deadline
6:00pm Youth Group

Saturday, January 21

8:00am Men's Breakfast @ Circle G