



## Office Information

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## From the Pastor..

Dear Friends,

If you were able to join us for the Installation service earlier this month, I'm sure you cannot forget our guests from Smallwood Presbyterian Church. The choir sang with gospel fervor, Pastor Darryl Gaston kept posing people for group photos, and many other friends were in attendance. As I said that day, Smallwood is the "home church" in our neighborhood that allowed Nell and me to be part of the family when I was an itinerant interim pastor, and we know that they will always welcome us with open arms.

As part of the Smallwood family, we have come to cherish one of their best annual traditions. On Thanksgiving Day they gather early in the morning to begin laying out the biggest meal you can imagine - turkey AND ham, beau coups of vegetables, and more pies than you can count. Then around 11:00 they open the doors and people start streaming in. Church members, certainly, and friends of the congregation who come every year. But also neighbors who otherwise would not have a Thanksgiving dinner to go to. They bring their families, and some go home and send more folks back. Our friend Joe is the master chef, and his feast is never-to-be-forgotten.

Since Joe and the ladies have the food under control, my job the last couple of years has been to stand out on the corner in front of the church, calling out to everyone who comes along West Trade Street - by foot, car, bike or anything else. "Free Thanksgiving meal! Everyone welcome!" People stop, do a double take, then begin to smile - and most of them come in to serve a plate. As I stood there the first year, I noticed a couple of guys coming up the hill from the little store a few blocks away. They both carried paper bags with what had to be beer bottles sticking out of the top. I hesitated for a second, and turned to one of the elders standing near by. "Is it ok to invite them?" I whispered. She answered "Of course! That's what we're here for."

Well, that just made my day. What better example of the spirit of Thanksgiving can you get? Thanking God by serving his children, whoever they are. This is the day when everyone deserves turkey and all the fixings. Everyone. Thanks be to God!

Thanksgiving blessings, Elliott



## Session Report



The Church Session held its monthly stated meeting on November 19 after worship. As reported last month, the session continues to examine the need for highly effective communications with and within the church family. In this month's discussion, several ideas stood out: good communication requires trust; too much information can actually hurt effective communication (by making it hard to emphasize what is most important); there needs to be a "gate keeper" who can provide focus and direction. For the coming months, we will experiment with asking Elliott to fill that roll, especially with oral announcements during the worship service. In other actions, session voted to accept Evie Landrau's resignation as Youth Director (see the report of the Administration Committee in this week's newsletter). Youth programs will continue on their regular schedule with volunteer support as we begin to plan for new leadership going forward. Also, session was delighted to delete the word "interim" and confirm Kim Whittington as the church's permanent Administrative Assistant; and session issued an invitation to the Presbytery of Charlotte to host its stated meeting on Saturday, February 10. As that date approaches, there will be plenty of opportunities for volunteers to help make the meeting a success. New officers for the class of 2020 are participating in training and will be examined before the end of the year, with the service of Ordination/Installation scheduled for January 7. There will be no stated session meeting in December; the next stated meeting will be January 21, 2018.

### Offerings & Attendance



#### Offerings:

November 12 - \$5,376.00  
November 19 - \$11,802.05

#### S/S Attendance:

November 12 - 76  
November 19 - 70

#### Worship Attendance:

November 12 - 151  
November 19 - 124

## *Prayer Concerns & Celebrations*

**Prayer Concerns:**

- Mary Margaret Riggins, John Riggins' mother, passed away on Nov. 10th. Please keep the family in prayer.
- Harry Kelly, Joyce Joy's brother, passed away Nov. 17th. Please keep the family in prayer.
- Bubba Bumgardner, son of Mark & Kim Bumgardner passed away Nov. 14th. Please keep the family in prayer.
- Rod Sapp, Larry Ramsey's friend, passed away this week.
- The Weaver family needs prayers, their grandson passed away recently.
- Flora Mae Love had hip surgery, is in rehab at Royal Park, and is doing better.

**Celebrations:**

- Hoyt & Jean Johnston celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on November 14th!!
- McKinna Ashland Prestwood was born Nov. 16th to Judith and Dave Prestwood! Proud grandparents are Gerri Ann & Clint Shaw, and proud great-grandparents are Judy & Jerry Smith.

**Keep in Your Prayers:**

- Hoyt & Jean Johnston
- Mary Frances Lail
- Flora Mae Love
- Dave Reames
- Marlene Thames
- Sue Love
- Caregivers



## *Service Assignments*

**Count Team:**

**Team Leaders:** Peggy Harrington & Linda Riggins  
**Team:** Teresa Painter, Larry Ramsey, Bob Rudisill & Joy Tyler

**Ushers:**

**Team Leaders:** Frances Lyerly  
**Team:** Gloria Caldwell, Rachel Wingate, Kay Searce & Edgar Peeden

**Greeters:**

**Narthex:** Virginia Staton & Ken Scott  
**East Wing:** TBD  
**West Wing:** Barbara Ullem

**Prayer Team:**

**11/26** Tim & Celia Gray  
**12/03** Debbie Taylor & Karen Cathey

**CD Delivery (Mondays):**

**11/27** Linda Riggins  
**12/04** Donna & Gene Hall

**Nursery - Crib Room:**

**11/26** Joyce Joy  
**12/03** Ashley Kenley

**Nursery - Toddler Room:**

**11/26** Peggy Harrington  
**12/03** Jon Kenley & Grady Cathey

## *Visitation Schedule*

**Visiting Teams for November**

Linda Riggins & Ann Cashion  
 Susan Kenley & Toni Torrence  
 Donna & Gene Hall  
 Joyce & Leslie Joy  
 Virginia Oates & Harold Staton  
 Barbara Ullem & Teresa Painter  
 Emily Adkins & Angie Ross  
 Grady & Karen Cathey  
 Frances Lyerly & Jane McArver  
 Margaret White & Judy Smith

**Special Friends to be Visited:**

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

**Cards**

All Teams  
  
 All Teams

Bryce & Anne Moore, Anne Glasscock, Bob & Marie Love, Sue Love

Bertha Ellis, Mary Margaret Riggins, Marlene Thames, Ralph & Harriet Underwood, Stella Whitlock



## Happy Birthday to Those Celebrating in December!



If we don't have your birthday listed, please let us know. You may call the office at 704-392-0329 or email your information to [office@pawcreekpc.org](mailto:office@pawcreekpc.org). Thank you! ~Kim

<b><u>December 3</u></b> Josh Watson	<b><u>December 12</u></b> Miriam Childress	<b><u>December 23</u></b> Alicia Miller
<b><u>December 4</u></b> Cody Joy	<b><u>December 14</u></b> John Tauscher	<b><u>December 24</u></b> Flora Mae Love Gerri Ann Shaw
<b><u>December 5</u></b> Christy Corder Tim Gray	<b><u>December 16</u></b> Peggy Harrington Judy Smith	<b><u>December 27</u></b> Andrew Caldwell Gloria Caldwell
<b><u>December 7</u></b> Roy Helms	<b><u>December 18</u></b> David Padgett	<b><u>December 28</u></b> Ocsar Sisk
<b><u>December 9</u></b> Mike (Pea Dad) Caudill Ralph Underwood	<b><u>December 20</u></b> Craig Sharpe	<b><u>December 30</u></b> Steele Blankenship
<b><u>December 10</u></b> Jimmy Torrence	<b><u>December 21</u></b> Ashley Kenley	<b><u>December 31</u></b> Beth Mathews
<b><u>December 11</u></b> Sherry Blevins	<b><u>December 22</u></b> Vicki Ramsey Jeff Smith Cayleigh Tyler	



*Room in the Inn*

Room in the Inn starts back **December 5th!** We are gearing up for another successful year serving our neighbors. Karen Cathey has handed the reins over to me. I would like to have a point of contact for these areas: meals, overnight supervisors, transportation and laundry. Jon Kenley has graciously volunteered to be the point of contact for the transportation. If you are interested in the other roles, please let me know.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask! Please feel free to forward to any group you may be involved in that would like to help.

Thank you!  
Stephanie Sudderth  
704-877-8499



### Opportunity Board for Seek, Serve, Praise, Love...Christ

We had more than half of the opportunity tags for veteran prayers to be picked up, and that is significant as we had around 175 tags! However, we have a few more that have not been picked up. Each tag contains the name of a church veteran and/or armed forces base or Naval ship. We are asking that you take a tag and pray for the group for next few weeks or more in honor of our veterans who have given much in service to this country.

The Congregation Care thanks you for your devotion and commitment!





## New Bible Study Series

### Weekly Bible Study

Identical discussion classes will meet on Wednesdays at 10:00am and Thursdays at 5:30pm. Each week we will study the Scripture reading for the following Sunday in worship.

Everyone is welcome to come give it a try. We will be delighted to have you!

#### Schedule for Bible Study

November 8/9	Matthew 25:1-13
November 15/16	Matthew 25:14-30
November 22/23	Thanksgiving Break
November 29-30	Mark 13:24-37
December 6/7	Mark 1:1-8
December 13/14	Luke 1:26-38



### Churchwide Christmas party

The Churchwide Christmas Party will be **December 3rd** from 12-2 in the CFC. There will be crafts, cookie decorating, and a surprise guest! Please plan to bring your favorite soup for lunch. We will be doing a chili cook off. If you are interested in participating, please sign up. If you do not want to do chili, please still bring your favorite soup for lunch.

We also need about 10 cakes for the cake walk. We will have 5 activity tables for you to decorate a Christmas cookie, make an ornament, write a letter to Santa and/or make a holiday fun mask. If you would be willing to assist as one of these table please sign up as well. Please see Beth Joy to sign up or for any questions.



### Young Adult Class

#### Young Adult Upcoming Events

- Nov. 24th, Fun Outing to Escape Room - Reserve your spot! \$25 / meet at the church at 2:00 to go escape "The Mansion" RSVP by noon Nov. 22nd to Victoria Krebs (704) 421-4909 vkrebs@yahoo.com
- Dec. 2nd, 4:00 - Faith & Fellowship
- Dec. 17th, 6:00pm - Christmas Party; RSVP to Victoria for location.



### Over 55 Appreciation Luncheon

When: Sunday, **December 17, 2017**  
 Time: Immediately Following Worship  
 Where: CFC  
 Please RSVP no later than December 14, 2017

If you are 55 or older, please join us at the Appreciation Luncheon sponsored by PCPC Youth in your honor to show our appreciation for the encouragement, leadership, support, and wisdom that you have shared.

Please RSVP by calling the Church Office @ 704-392-0329



#### Interested in playing BUNCO in 2018?

Once we see if there is enough interest we will schedule the 1st game night sometime in January.

Contact Amy McGee [amyskmcgee@gmail.com](mailto:amyskmcgee@gmail.com) 704-578-3908 cell if interested.

*Administration Committee Update*

"I hope everyone is well. Evie Landrau has decided to resign her position as Directory of Youth Ministries at Paw Creek. We thank her for her service to the youth of this church, and we wish her well in future endeavors. Evie is a special person, and she will be missed."

Ken Scott, Chair of Administration



*Hanging of the Greens*

We will be hanging the greens this coming Sunday, **November 26th** after service. All are invited to participate in decorating the Sanctuary!



To help raise money for the playground upgrade we are selling brick pavers. The brick pavers will be incorporated in a prayer garden to improve the look of the entrance to the church.

Each brick paver cost **\$40**

Perfect gift for that hard to buy for special person in your life to celebrate their birthday, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduation, Anniversary, etc. Wording examples are family names, bible verses, sayings, in honor and in memory of loved ones, to celebrate baptisms, groups, classes, etc.

Order forms are available in the Narthex and the Church Office. This is also part of our Church Beautification project.



*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*

We will be accepting donations for the Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) Gifts of the Heart kits: Clean up buckets, hygiene kits, and school kits. Clean up buckets will be donated to the CDRT of Charlotte, hygiene kits and school kits will be shipped to the one of the locations listed on the website.

Details are at the link below:  
<http://pda.pcusa.org/page/kits/>

Local projects and details for online giving thru the Charlotte presbytery are at the link below:  
<http://www.presbyofcharlotte.org/program-areas/council/cdrt/>

Please contact Tim Sudderth with questions. (704-877-8498)

*Visit the Holy Land in the Spring*

Friends, prior to coming Paw Creek, I had been invited to participate in a trip to Israel with members of Trinity and Doby's Bridge Presbyterian Churches. We will travel **April 23 - May 2, 2018** and see important sites in Galilee and Jerusalem (the areas where Jesus spent most of his life). I will offering lectures and discussions throughout the trip to help tour members place the sites and history within the larger Biblical story. There are still some spots available, and we would be delighted to have interested folks from Paw Creek join us. The cost will be \$3,798 round-trip from Charlotte, double occupancy. If you want more information, please check with me for a flyer.

Elliott



**Paw Creek  
Presbyterian Church**

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

*Seek* ..... Matthew 6:33  
*Serve* ..... 1 Samuel 12:24  
*Praise* ..... Psalm 111:1  
*Love Christ!* ..... 1 John 4:12

*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.

Hipp (704) 392-0329



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

**THANKSGIVING DAY**

"BIRDS AND FLOWERS"  
MATTHEW 6:25-33

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

"ETERNAL LIFE BEGINS NOW"  
MATTHEW 25:31-46

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**

"FLOATING ON THE CLOUDS"  
MARK 13:24-37

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10**

"THE MESSENGER"  
MARK 1:1-8

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17**

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - MORNING**

"THE LORD IS WITH YOU"  
LUKE 1:26-38

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - EVENING**

THE CHRISTMAS STORY  
LUKE 2:1-20

*Church Calendar*

**Each Week...**

**Sunday**

9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Service  
12:15pm Children's Choir Practice

**Monday - Thursday**

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

**Monday—Friday**

11:30am Senior Lunch Program

**Monday**

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 MS/HS Youth Group  
6:00pm Children Connecting w/Christ (CCC)  
7:00pm Cub Scouts

**Thursday**

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

**Future Happenings...**

**Wednesday, November 22**

12:00pm Bulletin Deadline  
6:00pm \*\*No Youth / CCC

**Thursday, November 23**

8:00am Thanksgiving Day Service / Breakfast  
\*\*Church Office Closed - Happy Thanksgiving!!

**Tuesday, November 28**

7:00pm Stitches for Missions - Parlor

**Wednesday, November 29**

10:00am Adult Bible Study  
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline  
6:00pm Youth / CCC

**Thursday, November 30**

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

**Friday, December 1**

6:00pm Session/Staff Christmas Dinner

**Saturday, December 2**

4:00pm Young Adult Class Faith & Fellowship

**Sunday, December 3**

11:00am Lord's Supper / 10¢ Hunger  
12:00pm Church Christmas Party

**Monday, December 4**

12:00pm Newsletter Deadline

**Tuesday, December 5**

10:00am PW Grow & Go Circle  
7:15pm PW Life Seekers Circle

**Wednesday, December 6**

10:00am Adult Bible Study  
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline  
6:00pm Youth / CCC

**Thursday, December 7**

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

**Wednesday, December 13**

10:00am Adult Bible Study  
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline  
6:00pm Youth / CCC

**Thursday, December 14**

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

**Saturday, December 16**

8:00am Men's Breakfast @Circle G

**Sunday, December 17**

11:00am Christmas Cantata  
12:30pm Over 55 Appreciation Luncheon