



Newsletter

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9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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From the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

Our recent, and highly unusual December snow storm has gotten me to remembering an incident from a long time ago – December 1980 to be exact! I was a first year graduate student living in New York City in a dorm room the size of a thimble. John Lennon had just been killed thirty blocks away, and first semester exams were looming. The later it got in December, the closer the exams, the greater the pressure, the greater the cares of the world. Truly, the coming of the Messiah seemed like a long shot that year.

I kept my shoulder to the grindstone, but a small notice in the *New York Times* caught my eye – the Sunday afternoon before Christmas there would be a service of Evening Prayer with Advent music in the magnificent sanctuary of St. Thomas church on Fifth Avenue, a few doors down from Rockefeller Center. The choir of St. Thomas is world famous, and their concerts could be pricey, but this was a worship service so it would be free. I decided to study hard all weekend and give myself this one holiday treat.

When Sunday afternoon came I bundled up and headed to the subway. Two transfers and forty-five minutes later I got off the train and headed up the stairs. The subway station for the D train lies deep underground below St. Thomas church, and the entrance is practically at its front door. As I emerged onto Fifth Avenue, my senses were bombarded one after another. First the crowds – Fifth Avenue on the Sunday before Christmas just like the song says: “city sidewalks, busy sidewalks, dressed in holiday style”. Then, sure enough, the bells. Deep and resonant, they were pealing from the church tower to announce the afternoon service. But most of all, while I had been underground it had started to snow (a very big deal for a kid fresh in from Mecklenburg County!) Hard to believe at first, but there they were, soft, gentle flakes almost suspended in the gathering dusk.

The Christmas spirit snuck up on me that year, all for the price of a subway token. But it does come every year, and my chilly, snowy reminder is a good lesson for all of us: the merriest part of Christmas – the first Christmas and every subsequent one – is the part that comes as a gift, unexpected, unannounced, and full of grace and truth.

A very Merry Christmas to us all,

Elliott

Offerings & Attendance



Offerings:

December 9 -
December 16 - \$9,304.00

S/S Attendance:

December 9 -
December 16 - 58

Worship Attendance:

December 9 -
December 16- 128



Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Prayer Concerns:

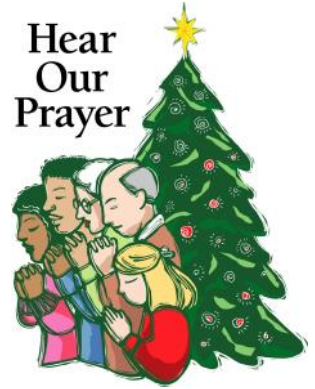
- Please continue to pray for the Johnston family as they make some difficult family decisions (Hoyt, Jean, Melanie, Suzette, Wesley & Eric) Hoyt will be home for a day this week to get an assessment. The family is searching for a memory care facility for Jean.
- Billie Raborn is home from rehab.
- Margie Caudill had successful back surgery on Friday but is very weak and remains in the hospital to gain strength.
- Ken Smith is scheduled to come home from rehab on Monday.
- Rodney Vane, Barbara Ullem's brother, is in the hospital and needs prayer.

Prayer Concerns (cont'd):

- Clifford Sisk, Oscar Sisk's brother, is in the hospital in Florida with a brain bleed. He is improving, but still needs prayers.
- Lori Powell, Christy Corder's sister-in-law, was moved to rehab. She is continuing to make progress and should be home by Christmas.
- The Peeler Family is in need of prayer.
- Tammy Page, a recent visitor has recently lost family members and needs prayers.

Keep in Your Prayers:

- Hoyt & Jean Johnston
- Mary Frances Lail
- Flora Mae Love
- Bob & Marie Love
- Caregivers



Service Assignments

December Count Team:

Team Leaders: Peggy Harrington & Linda Riggins

Team: Bob Rudisill, Joy Tyler,
Larry Ramsey & Tim Sudderth

December Ushers:

Team Leaders: TBD

Team: TBD

December Greeters:

Narthex: Toni Torrence & Danny McClure

East Wing: David Padgett

West Wing: Barbara Ullem

Prayer Team:

12/23 Tim & Celia Gray

12/30 Janie Scott & Amy McGee

Nursery - Crib Room:

12/23 Rachel Wingate

12/30 Marsha Cathey

Nursery - Toddler Room:

12/23 Grady Cathey

12/30 Jan McClure

Visitation Schedule

Visiting Teams for December

Emily Adkins & Angie Ross
Joyce & Leslie Joy
Barbara Ullem & Teresa Painter
Grady & Karen Cathey
Frances Lyerly & Jane McArver
Judy Smith, Susan Kenley & Toni Torrence

Cards

All Teams

Special Friends to be Visited:

Mike Johnson
Allen Wingate (& Laura)
Jean Johnston
Richard Rumble
Flora Mae Love
Rennie Auten & Mary Frances Lail

Bryce & Anne Moore, Bob & Marie Love
Bertha Ellis, Stella Whitlock, Roger McNeill



Happy Birthday to Those Celebrating in January!



Worship Recognition of January Birthdays will be on January 13th.

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. Thank you! ~Kim

January 2

Jeremy Chapman
Mark Muller

January 4

Debbie McCord

January 5

Eric Cathey
Todd Joy
Mary Frances Lail

January 6

Susan Gustafson
Vickie Joy
Jon Kenley

January 8

Bob Love

January 11

Phillip McCord

January 13

Todd Miller
Tucker Torrence

January 16

Tim Boysworth

January 17

Brian Gross

January 18

Joyce Joy
Jessica Kincaid
Kaitlyn Revalee

January 19

Tori Caudill

January 24

Cameron Fortier

January 25

Eddie McArver
Toni Torrence

January 26

Savannah Reel

January 27

Scott Brenner

January 30

Ken Smith

January 31

Stephanie Sudderth



*The Women of Paw Creek Presbyterian Church
Invite You to Attend the
29th Ecumenical Luncheon*

*Saturday, February 16, 2019
Registration from 10:30 - 11:00
Salad Luncheon from 11:00 - 12:30*

*Guest Speaker: Hannah Martin
Guest Soloist: Megan Tuttle*

*Paw Creek Presbyterian Church
7400 Mt. Holly Road
Charlotte, NC 28214*

*Please bring a salad, s1, & a canned
good for a local food pantry.*

*We hope you can join us in fellowship, prayer,
and a celebration of women on
this special day.*

*For additional information contact:
knoturner@gmail.com*



Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed for Christmas and New Years
December 24th - January 2nd
 The Bulletin deadline for Sunday, Dec. 23rd and Dec. 30th will be
 Wednesday, Dec. 19th at noon. There will not be a Newsletter for
 January 2nd. The Newsletter will start back on Wednesday, Jan.
 16th, with the usual deadline on Monday, Jan. 14th at noon.
 Thank you ~Kim

Pastoral Schedule

Elliott and his family will be on vacation between Christmas and
 New Years. Our preacher on Sunday, Dec. 30th will be the Rev.
 Edward B. Newberry. If pastoral needs arise during this week,
 please be sure to contact any member of the church session.



Combined Sunday School / Breakfast

On Sunday, **December 30** we will have breakfast in the CFC
 from 9:00-9:45 followed by a 5th Sunday combined adult
 Sunday school class. We will review 7 spiritual practices and
 make resolutions for the New Year. Youth are also invited to
 attend.

Thank you, Fellowship and Christian Ed. Com.



NURSERY
Volunteers

Nursery Help Needed

If you are interested in being the **2019 NURSERY**
COORDINATOR, please contact Joy Tyler 704-399-8040 or the
 church office.

The Christian Education Committee is also seeking two caregivers
 for the nursery and toddler rooms during the Sunday School hours
 9:45 - 10:45. Please prayerfully consider serving in this capacity.
 Please contact Jan Chapman or Barbara Ullem if you can serve at
 least one Sunday a month.



Youth and Child Protection Policy

The session has adopted a new Youth and Child Protection
 Policy to be included as part of the Manual of Operations. The
 policy states: "Paw Creek Presbyterian Church embraces a
 theological, moral and legal responsibility to provide a safe
 environment for children and youth, and support for those
 who work with them - both staff members and volunteers." In
 the coming weeks, the Youth and Child Protection task force
 that developed this policy will be contacting staff and
 volunteers who have previously undergone a background check
 for work with our children to distribute copies of the new
 policy and answer questions. More formal training will be
 arranged in the new year. If you would like to receive a copy of
 the new policy, or a copy of the complete Manual of
 Operations, please feel free to contact Kim Whittington in the
 church office.



Bible Study



Happy Hearts Senior Group

Bible Study

Schedule for Bible Study
(Wed. 10am & Thur. 5:30pm)

December 19/20	Christmas Break
December 26/27	Christmas Break
January 2/3	Luke 2: 22-38
January 9/10	Luke 3: 15-22
January 16/17	I Corinthians 12: 1-11
January 23/24	Luke 4: 14-21
January 30/31	I Corinthians 13

Happy Hearts Meeting

Wednesday, January 9th in the CFC

11:30AM Pot-Luck Lunch

Program to be announced



LOAVES & FISHES

Groceries for Neighbors in Need

Loaves & Fishes

Ever notice those BIG Cardboard Boxes in the narthex? They are always available to make food donations for Loaves & Fishes. This Holiday season, items in greatest need are:



- Canned meats
- Canned fruit
- Canned pastas
- Cereal
- Powdered milk
- 100% fruit juice



Prayer Garden

Get your Prayer Garden Paver Orders in now!

Great Christmas Present idea! Also, Birthdays, Graduations, Weddings, Babies, Mother's/Father's Day & Anniversaries. Wonderful way to celebrate a loved one & family with a beautiful memory that will last forever.

Order forms in the narthex, church office and website.



**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-

Ann Cashion (704) 301-0126

Know someone Who Needs a Visit?

Please contact the Church Office or Rev. Hipp (704) 392-0329



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23
ADVENT IV**

"WAITING WITH JOY"
LUKE 1: 39-56

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE - 7:00PM**

LUKE 2: 1-20

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30
GUEST PREACHER**

REV. ED NEWBERRY
"NOW PROCLAIM MESSIAH'S BIRTH"
PSALM 148 & LUKE 2:8-20

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

"BEHOLD THE MESSIAH"
LUKE 2: 22-38

Church Calendar

Each Week...

Sunday

9:45am Sunday School
11:00am Worship Service

Monday - Thursday

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

Monday—Friday

11:30am Senior Lunch Program

Monday

5:30pm Monday Study Group
7:00pm Girl Scouts

Tuesday

6:30am Men's Bible Study
9:00am Cardio Fitness
5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom
7:00pm Boy Scouts

Wednesday

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Youth & Children
7:00pm Cub Scouts

Thursday

9:00am Cardio Fitness
5:30pm Adult Bible Study
6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice

Future Happenings...

Wednesday, December 19

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline for 12/23 & 12/30
6:00pm Youth & Children
*Newsletter

Thursday, December 20

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Monday, December 24

Church Office Closed
7:00pm Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 25

Church Office Closed Merry Christmas!

Wednesday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Friday, December 28

Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 30

11:00am Rev. Ed Newberry

Monday, December 31

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 1

Church Office Closed Happy New Year!

Wednesday, January 2

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Youth & Children

Thursday, January 3

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Sunday, January 6

11:00am Lord's Supper / 10¢ Hunger

Monday, January 7

5:30pm Mon. Study Group @ Childress Home

Tuesday, January 8

9:30am PW Circle Fellowship & Bible Study
5:30pm Book Club @ Heirloom
7:00pm PW Circle Bible Study & Dessert

Wednesday, January 9

10:00am Adult Bible Study
12:00pm Bulletin Deadline
6:00pm Youth & Children

Thursday, January 10

5:30pm Adult Bible Study

Sunday, January 13

11:00am Celebration Recognitions