



Books For Zambia

Thanks to your generosity and ongoing support of the work of Dustin and Sherri Ellington in Lusaka, Zambia, fifteen ministerial students at the Justo Mwale Theological University will receive personal copies of Greek and Hebrew grammars and dictionaries. The books were ordered and shipped the week of November 27, in time for the students to use them in January. Thank you!



Birthdays in December

Happy Birthday to You!



- 1- Vera Coombs
- 2- Joe Tillman
Cameron Lee
Christy Johnson
- 3- Chason Johnson
- 4- Colby Phaneuf
Lauren Parks
Rick Batchelor
- 6- Anna Kathryn Feeley
Corey McNamara
- 11- Mark Henderson
- 13- Jackson Gladden

- 14- Emily Sue Lee
Michael Teachey
- 17- Tommy Newkirk
- 19- Georgette Thompson
- 20- Windsor Farrior
- 21- Jim Sills
- 22- Eliza Roberts
- 23- Tim Peppe
Sandra DiDomenico
- 28- Garrett Bullard
- 30- Lori Newkirk
Bud Newkirk
- 31- Lane Philip Rouse

December NEWSLETTER

WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Philip K. Gladden, Minister

DECEMBER 2017

Cheryl Brinkley, Editor

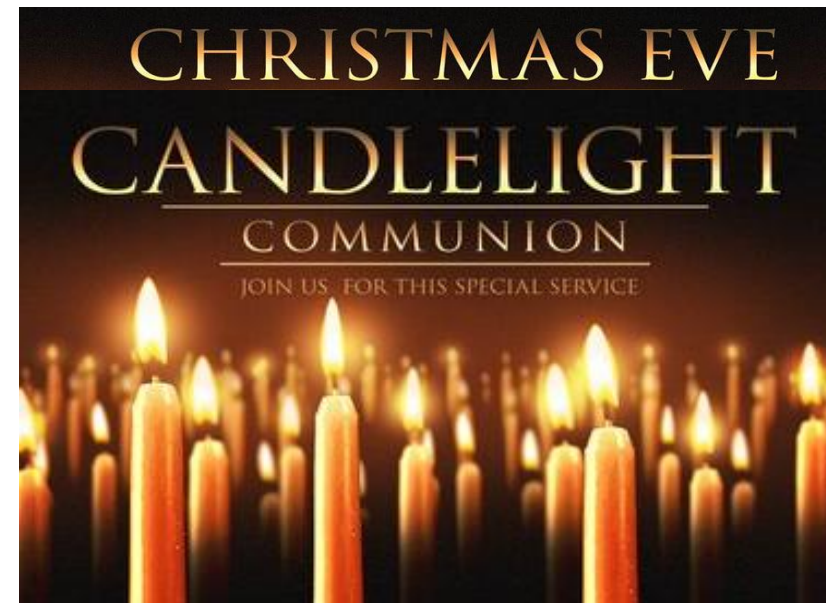
YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

CHRISTMAS EVE

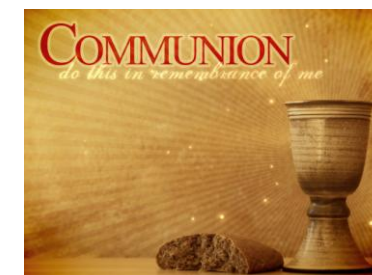
CANDLELIGHT

COMMUNION

JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL SERVICE



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017
7:00 P.M.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

At our November 26 hymn sing, Karla called our attention to the "Theological Vision Statement" in the back of our hymnal, Glory to God. The opening sentences of that statement confirm, "Collections of hymns, psalms, and spiritual songs give voice to the church's core beliefs and theological convictions. Their texts are 'compact theology. . .'" Karla said how much she likes that phrase, "compact theology," and I agree.

One thing I miss at Christmas now is receiving our yearly letter from one of our seminary professors, Dr. John Leith. Dr. Leith had the reputation of being kind of cranky and crusty. He was known as an eminent Reformed theologian. But Dr. Leith had a pastor's heart and a great love for the people in Christ's church. I looked forward to getting his Christmas letter because he always wrote about his favorite Christmas carols and hymns. This esteemed theologian shared the Christmas message through the words of the Christmas carols his mother sang to him when he was a child.

Over the years, many people have said to me, "Well, I'm no theologian, but . . ." My response has always been, "Do you think about God? Do you have a relationship with God? Then you're a theologian!" Reading theology can seem daunting, but our Christmas hymns are wonderful

examples of compact theology. John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." We can dissect the meaning of that theological statement, but most of the time such good news simply moves us to express our joy, admiration, and gratitude for God's great gift of Christmas.

This Christmas, why not read some theology? As you prepare for worship or have your daily devotion or sit in the pew before a worship service, look at the words of some of your favorite Christmas carols and think about the good news they proclaim and the mystery they reveal. When you join your fellow believers in the carols in worship during Advent and Christmas, consider the "compact theology" of the songs that tell about a child in a manger, shepherds in the field, a star in the east, wise men traveling from afar, and a silent, holy night. Each carol, in its own way, is sharing the good news of Christmas: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16)

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

In Christ,

Phil



We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 pm. All who put their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and have been baptized in his name are welcome at the table.



WORSHIP LEADERS FOR DECEMBER

DATE	ELDER	PREACHER
December 3	Nick Baker	Philip Gladden
December 10	Susan Walters	Chancel Choir
December 17	Jim Sills	Children & Youth
December 24 a.m.	Geneva Maready	Philip Gladden
December 24 p.m.	Wayne Casteen	Philip Gladden
December 31	George Francis	Philip Gladden



Congratulations to Jenna Leigh Carriker and Alexander Doerr on their marriage on Thursday, December 8, 2017

CENTERPOINT

My 7-year-old granddaughter has become a whiz at playing the card game “Uno.” It is a delight to play with her. A problem arises, however, if she sees that she is beginning to lose. She impulsively invents a new rule that benefits her, and she insists it is a valid rule.

We smile at the ingenious ways children wriggle out of unpleasantness. It’s not so amusing when we adults avoid facing life challenges and dilemmas. We try to invent a new rule. We embellish the truth. We find a self-serving shortcut. We accidentally-on-purpose forget a commitment. We don’t want to lose.

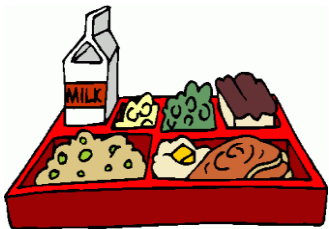
It is hard for us to confront our difficulties head on. We do what we can to avoid hurdles. It seems easier to sidestep problems than it is to tackle them. We try to pass off responsibilities to others instead of plunging into them. We may postpone facing our concerns instead of coming to grips with them.

Yet, all that is necessary is to focus on one problem at a time and explore how to resolve it.

If you find yourself making up new rules that are only making your life more difficult, give the Center a call. Exploring more about yourself is not only satisfying but also fruitful.

Call the Center at 910-452-7370. “Like” Community Counseling Center on Facebook. Visit at www.wantcounseling.com

Jonathan R. Kelley, Counselor



FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN/BACKPACK MINISTRY OFFERING

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

An extension of the Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries



- 12/03: Gina & Sarah Pearl Farrior
- 12/10: Susan & Ellie Carone
- 12/17: Georgia & Nate Farrior
- 12/24: Joell & J Parker
- 12/31: Andrea Casteen & Nettie Batchelor

- 01/07: Madelyn Coombs & Hope Turnbull
- 01/14: Ann Carter & Gerri Hanson
- 01/21: Freddy & Rhonda Hall
- 01/28: Lindsay & Stanley Skidmore

YOUTH WORSHIP LEADERS

- 12/03: Cameron & Reese Blue
- 12/10: Madelyn & Robert Coombs
- 12/17: Sarah Pearl Farrior & Ellie Carone
- 12/24: Garrett Bullard & Hill Lanier
- 12/31: Lydia & Kennedy Thompson

Freddy Hall, Leader

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| J Parker | Clay Blue |
| Wayne Casteen | Roger Coombs |
| Dave Wells | |



GREETERS

- 12/03: Leon & Jewel Wells
- 12/10: Cindy Barrow & Effie Mobley
- 12/17: Joey & Rita Brinkley
- 12/24: Charley & Harriet Farrior
- 12/31: Bill & Susan Walters

OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

- December 1-15: Roger Coombs
- December 16-31: Dave Long

CHURCH NEWS . . .For Your Information

- * **Basic Bible 101 (Everything You’ve Always Wanted to Know About the Bible but Were Afraid to Ask!)** begins on Monday, January 8 (7:00 - 8:30 p.m.) and Tuesday, January 9 (10:00 - 11:30 a.m.) in Room 304, across from the Music Room. Bring your Bible and your questions! Session 1: What is the Bible?
- * **Presbyterian Men** will have their Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rose Hill Restaurant in Rose Hill.
- * **The congregation** is encouraged to invite friends and neighbors to join us for Advent worship and lunch on Thursdays, December 7, 14, and 21 at 12:05 pm, in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.
- * **Elders-elect to the session’s Class of 2020** will participate in a time of elder training on Sunday, December 10 (2:00 - 8:00 p.m.) in preparation for ordination and installation.
- * The session will meet on Tuesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 304. If you have any business or concerns for the session to consider, please speak to one of the elders or the minister.
- * **We will celebrate** the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper during our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m.
- * **The church office** will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, December 25 & 26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. The minister and secretary will be on vacation Wednesday- Friday, December 27-29.



- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hospital & at home: | Verlie Wells (Rosemary) |
| Cathy Wells (Fayetteville) | June Blalock (Rosemary) |
| Judy Robinson (home) | Kelsea Webster (home) |

ST. NICHOLAS PROJECT



For many years the St. Nicholas Project has been an important mission of Wallace Presbyterian Church. The Outreach Committee has received families for this year. St. Nicholas Project family and gift information is located on the bulletin board in the church fellowship hall.

Christmas is a time of sharing. May we continue to share Christ's love with others as we have been so richly blessed. Thank you for supporting this wonderful ministry of our church.

If you would like to participate in this project by buying a gift:

- * Select and remove a labeled ornament tag or tags from the tree on the bulletin board.
- * Wrap the gift and tape the labeled ornament tag on the wrapped gift.
- * Place wrapped and labeled gifts in the box beneath the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.
- * Bring gifts to the church by December 17.

If you would like to make a donation to the St. Nicholas Fund:

- Please place a check, designated for "St. Nicholas Fund", in the offering plate.
- Please bring gifts to the church or make donations by Sunday, December 17.

Please join us to deliver the gifts a few days before Christmas. The date and time will be announced.



A GREAT BIG "THANK YOU" to the congregation and Youth Groups for your Operation Christmas Child donations. We packed 59 shoeboxes for OCC! Thank you for giving so generously to this program sponsored by Samaritans Purse. This will enable 59 children to have a Christmas. Thank you for sharing in this ministry.

Merry Christmas



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Sunday, December 17 during worship

Receiving the annual Christmas Joy Offering is a long-standing and important tradition in our congregation. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

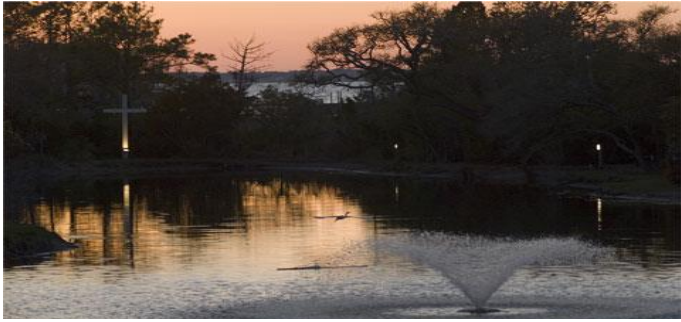
For more information about the Christmas Joy Offering, visit www.specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy.

YEAR-END
GIVING

Year-End Giving Deadline For 2017 Tax Purposes

Sunday, December 24

Wayne Casteen, Church Treasurer, requests that all 2017 contributions be submitted by December 24 if you wish to have them credited in 2017. Thank you for your generous financial support of the Wallace Presbyterian Church!



SAVE THE DATE!
February 2-4, 2018
2018 SOUND
RETREAT!!
“A Letter of Christ”

Join us February 2-4, 2018, at the beautiful Trinity Center, on Bogue Sound, Outer Banks, N.C. Great Leaders, Delicious food, Rest & Relaxation, Spiritual renewal, Fellowship & Fun, Worship, All ages welcome!

The upcoming Retreat has great news, all Youth attending the Retreat will be **FREE!**



Rachel Whaley Doll

2018 Retreat Leaders

Spiritual Leader,
Rachel Whaley Doll

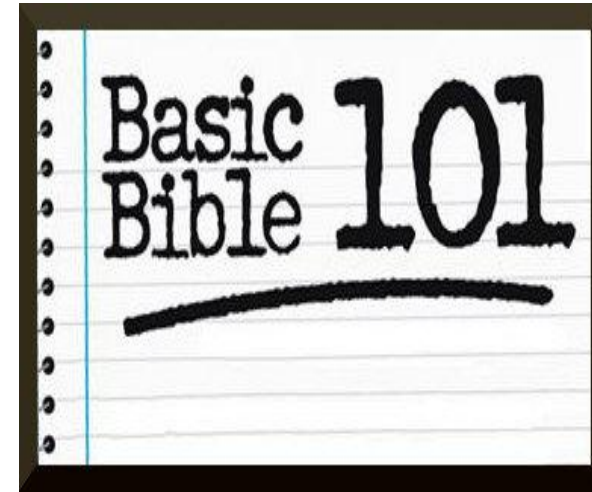
Youth Ministry Leader
Zach Casteen



Zach Casteen

Additional our spiritual leader for the adult program will be led by Rachel Whaley Doll, Director of Christian Education, Winter Park Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, NC. We will also have an exciting youth program for our school age kids, led by Zachary Casteen, Youth Ministry Leader, Wallace Presbyterian Church. It will be a stimulating and exciting time! Watch the church's bulletin board and website <http://wallacepresbyterian.com> for more information on our Sound Retreat!

God Bless!
 Louis DiDomenico
 Sound Retreat Chairperson



BEGINNING DATES RE-SCHEDULED

New Start Dates

Monday, January 8 (7:00 - 8:30 p.m.)
and Tuesday, January 9
(10:00 - 11:30 a.m.)
Room 304 (across from the Music Room)

Bring your Bible and your questions!

Session 1: What is the Bible?



P.A.T.H. OFFERING
Presbyterian Answer to Hunger

Sunday, December 3

We will receive our quarterly P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) offering during worship on Sunday, December 3. This offering supports the Hunger Program of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. The Hunger Program supplies funding for feeding programs for children in Haiti and Malawi and grants for congregational food ministries within our presbytery, including our own Helping Hands Food Pantry. Thank you for your generous contributions!



Congratulations to Michael and Ellie Wells Newton on the birth of their son, Jack Taylor Newton, on October 22. (9 lbs. 13 Oz., 22.5 inches). Proud grandparents are Dave and Gloria Wells. Proud great-grandmother is Verlie Wells.



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS!

Congratulations and thank you to Michael Teachey, Dan Robinson, Christy Johnson, Dottie Obenour, and Clay Blue who were elected on November 12 as Ruling Elders in the session's Class of 2020. These elders-elect will participate in elder training on Sunday, December 10 in preparation for examination by the session and ordination and installation for service beginning on January 1.

Thank you to Ruling Elders Wayne Casteen, Vera Coombs, George Francis, Brenda Long, and Jim Sills who complete three years of active service in the session's Class of 2017.



COMMUNITY ADVENT SERVICES

Wallace Presbyterian Church

Worship Service: 12:05 P.M.

Luncheon: 12:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, December 7, 2017

Speaker.....Hope Smith
Special Music.....Arnie Young
Organist.....Vera Coombs

THURSDAY, December 14, 2017

Speaker.....Jason Rouse
Special Music.....Joell Parker
Organist.....Vera Coombs

THURSDAY, December 21, 2017

Special Program of Christmas Music Karla Casteen, Vera Coombs and Randy Bittner



Christmas Music 2017

December 10, 2017, 11:00 am- Wallace Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir will present the Gospel Christmas Celebration **"Joy!"** composed and arranged by Joel Raney.

December 10, 2017, 4:00 pm- Wallace United Methodist Church Handbell and Chancel Choir will present the Christmas Musical **"Expectation."**

December 10, 2017, 5:00 pm- Wallace First Baptist Church will present a Musical and Drama entitled **"Finding Joy"** by Laura Manning Turner.

December 24, 2017- Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services

11:00 am - Wallace United Methodist Church

4:30 pm - Wallace First Baptist Church

7:00 pm - Wallace Presbyterian Church



Members of the prayer shawl ministry team of Wallace Presbyterian Church presented **30 prayer shawls to Dayspring of Wallace.** The staff was impressed and appreciated the work of our ministry. We are so thankful for our members who spend their days crocheting love into each shawl that they make. The recipient's will be wrapped in comfort and love.





We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Sunday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. All who put their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and have been baptized in his name are welcome at the table.



Our November meets were a lot of fun! We helped package and sort Operation Christmas Child Boxes, had a blast at the Port City Escape room, and our Sr. Highs had a great weekend at Kirkwood at a Presbytery Youth Retreat.

December is looking up to be an awesome month as well! Here's what we have in store.
Dec 3 – Pebbles & PYT – Parents Survival Night! Christmas Play rehearsal, Cookie baking, Polar Express Movie! 3pm – 8pm
Dec 10 – PYT will meet at church 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Dec 17 – Pebbles & PYT - Christmas play during worship – No youth after church
Dec 31 – PYT - NYE Pickle Drop in Mt. Olive – 4pm – 8pm
The Pebbles will rehearse the Christmas play on the 3rd in the afternoon, and during Sunday School each Sunday, with the performance on the 17th.
Be on the lookout for an updated youth schedule to be released soon. We will be adding and changing several dates in the coming months.
As always, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or would like to help with the youth of our church, please contact me, Zach Casteen at Zach@WallacePresbyterian.com

Presbyterian Men



Tuesday, December 5

7:00 p.m.

Rose Hill Restaurant



Merry Christmas

**From Our House
To Your House...
The staff at
Wallace Presbyterian
Church
Wish you a Very
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year!**

*Phil Gladden
Cheryl Brinkley
Zach Casteen
Karla Casteen
Wayne Casteen
Vera Coombs*

December 2017

- Home
- WPC Calendar
- cheryl@wallacepresbyterian.com
- lee@wallacepresbyterian.com
- cheryl@wallacepresbyterian.com



November 2017							December 2017							January 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1	2							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		3	4	5	6	7	8	9		7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		10	11	12	13	14	15	16		14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		17	18	19	20	21	22	23		21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30				24	25	26	27	28	29	30		28	29	30	31	
								31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship	27	28 ■ 6:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304	29 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	30	1	2
3 1st Sunday Of Advent ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/P.A.T.H. Offering ■ 3:00 PM Pebbles & PYT	4 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #1: Church Office Building	5 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #3: Sandy Cobb ■ 7:00 PM Circle #4: Emily Lee ■ 7:00 PM Presbyterian Men Christmas Dinner-Rose Hill Restaurant	6 ■ 10:00 AM No Bible Study ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	7 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	8	9
10 2nd Sunday of Advent ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Choir Cantata ■ 2:00 PM Elder Training, ■ 5:30 PM PYT	11	12	13 ■ 10:00 AM No Bible Study ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	14 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	15	16
17 3rd Sunday of Advent ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Pebbles & PYT Christmas Play ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Children's Play/ Christmas Joy	18 ■ 6:15 PM Presbyterians Dining Together-Mad Boar	19 ■ 6:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304	20 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	21 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 4th Sunday of Advent ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Feed ■ 7:00 PM Candlelight Com-	25 Church Office Closed Merry Christmas!	26 Church Office Closed	27 Minister & Secretary on Vacation	28	29	30
31 ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship ■ 4:00 PM PYT-NYE Pickle Drop, Mt. Olive	1	2	3 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	4	5	6