



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 Simpson*

Merry Christmas



Birthdays in December

Happy Birthday to You!



- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1- Vera Coombs | 14- Emily Sue Lee |
| 2- Joe Tillman | Michael Teachey |
| Cameron Lee | 17- Tommy Newkirk |
| Christy Johnson | 19- Georgette Thompson |
| 3- Chason Johnson | 20- Windsor Farrior |
| 4- Colby Phaneuf | 21- Jim Sills |
| Lauren Parks | 22- Eliza Roberts |
| Rick Batchelor | 23- Tim Peppe |
| 6- Anna Kathryn Feeley | Sandra DiDomenico |
| Corey McNamara | 28- Garrett Bullard |
| 11- Mark Henderson | 30- Lori Newkirk |
| 13- Jackson Gladden | Bud Newkirk |
| | 31- Lane Philip Rouse |

December NEWSLETTER

WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Philip K. Gladden, Minister

DECEMBER 2018

Cheryl Brinkley, Editor

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR CHRISTMAS EVE

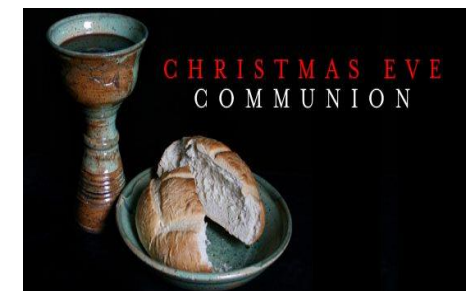
CANDLELIGHT

COMMUNION

JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL SERVICE



MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2018
7:00 P.M.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I saw this graffiti on FaceBook in November: “It’s way too early for Christmas music – anonymous, 75 B.C.” When you start hearing Christmas music in department stores at the first of November, by the time Christmas rolls around near the end of December, it might seem like you’ve been hearing it for seventy-five years!

One of the challenges of planning worship during Advent is deciding which hymns to sing. I recently read an article that laid out two extreme options: start singing all of the Christmas carols on the first Sunday in Advent, even if that Sunday is still in November OR put off singing any Christmas carols until the Christmas Eve service and the couple of Sundays between Christmas Day and Epiphany on January 6.

The article did identify a third approach: begin Advent with Advent hymns, then mix in more and more Christmas carols as the Sundays of Advent progress. That’s the process I use. It’s not hard to distinguish between the two types of hymns. Advent hymns typically sound more melancholy, while Christmas carols tend to sound more upbeat and joyful. Maybe that’s why folks prefer to

sing Christmas carols throughout Advent.

However, if we ignore the music of Advent, we miss a big part of the Advent message. The Advent tunes nicely complement the Advent lyrics, which are primarily based on Old Testament themes of longing, hope, anticipation, and waiting for deliverance.

Advent helps us remember the “first Advent (coming)” of Jesus at Christmas. Advent also points us forward to the “second Advent” of Christ. Just as God’s people expectantly waited for a deliverer, so we expectantly wait for Christ’s return, which will herald God’s completion of his purposes for all of creation.

In the meantime, we live in the in-between time. In a sense, every day all year round is like Advent: remembering and giving thanks for Jesus coming among us in the flesh and anticipating with hope his glorious return. In the meantime, we are called to live faithful lives, serving God and our neighbors.

Don’t worry! We’ll sing plenty of Christmas carols in December. But, when we do sing Advent hymns in worship, I encourage you to pay attention to the words and their meaning for your life and mine in this in-between time.

May you have a blessed Advent and a very Merry Christmas!



In Christ,

Phil

ACTIONS OF THE SESSION

At the November 20, 2018 meeting of the session, the elders and minister:

- * were led in an opening devotion and prayer by Elder Geneva Maready;
- * conducted the meeting as a worship service;
- * read from God’s Word in Revelation 1:1-8, discussed a reading about “Jesus is Lord” from the Presbyterian Mission Agency, and shared what it means to claim Jesus as King of our lives;
- * heard a report from Music Director Karla Casteen about needed organ repairs and approved the necessary repairs;
- * heard a report from Youth Ministry Leader Zach Casteen;
- * approve the minutes of the October 16, 2018 stated session meeting and the November 11, 2018 congregational meeting;
- * approved requests from the Alternative Sunday School Class and the Working Class for new studies (Advent; the Gospel of Mark and The Jesus I Never Knew, respectively);
- * heard a report from the Hurricane Florence Flood Relief Committee;
- * approved a 2019 budget of \$325,711;
- * approved appealing to the congregation for an offering of \$650 to complete the purchase of Greek and Hebrew grammar books for students at Justo Mwale Theological University in Lusaka, Zambia;
- * approved plans for Advent plays and a catered congregational dinner for Sunday evening, December 16;
- * shared pastoral care concerns;
- * approved a motion to adjourn;
- * were led in a closing prayer by Elder Clay Blue.



WORSHIP LEADERS FOR DECEMBER

DATE	ELDER	PREACHER
December 2	Michael Teachey	Philip Gladden
December 9	Clay Blue	Philip Gladden
December 16	Christy Johnson	Philip Gladden
December 23	Curt Simpson	Philip Gladden
December 24	Curt Simpson	Philip Gladden
December 30	Linda Burroughs	Philip Gladden

CENTERPOINT

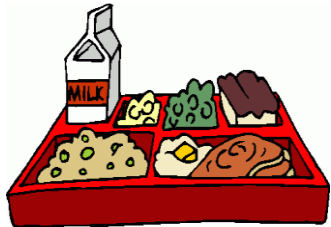
Our lives are hectic and complex, especially during the holidays. Demands and expectations of everyday life create a certain amount of stress, but when an unexpected event or tragedy occurs, our stress levels increase dramatically.

In order to cope, we must first recognize stress, and then find ways to reduce or manage it. There are numerous signs and signals we get when we are overly stressed. Not paying attention to the symptoms can result in serious damage to ourselves both physically and emotionally and to our relationships.

Tense muscles, clenched teeth, sexual difficulties, insomnia, headaches, stomach aches, and fatigue are some of the physiological indicators of stress. Certain behaviors can also be indications of non-controlled stress. They can include under- or over-eating, increased smoking and alcohol consumption, prescription and nonprescription drug use or abuse, pacing, emotional outburst, excessive absences or tardiness. Procrastination and lack of ability to concentrate may also be stress related.

A healthy lifestyle is important in managing stress, there are times when proper diet, rest and exercise are not enough. Sometimes major life changes are required to gain control of the stress. Can your stress level be managed with some simple adjustments? Or do you need to make major changes for your life in order?

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



**FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN/BACKPACK MINISTRY OFFERING
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23**

An extension of the Duplin Christian Outreach Ministries



12/02: Susan & Ellie Carone
12/09: Ellie Newton & Mary Stewart Blackwell
12/16: Casey Hall & Emily Ludlum
12/23: Georgette & Kennedy Thompson
12/30: Noel, Cameron & Reese Blue

01/07: Geneva Maready & Curt Simpson
01/13: Lydia Woodard & Andrea Casteen
01/20: Danielle & Elizabeth Sills
01/27: Harriet & Charley Farrior

YOUTH WORSHIP LEADERS

12/02: Cameron & Reese Blue
12/09: Madelyn Coombs & Ellie Carone
12/16: Henry & Piper Moore
12/23: Ayden & Camryn Fussell
12/30: William Powell & Garrett Bullard

CHURCH NEWS . . . For Your Information

- * **Presbyterian Men** will have their Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 4 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 6, 13, and 20 at 12:05 p.m. in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall.
- * **The session** will meet on Tuesday, December 18 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 Monday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m.
- * **The church office** will be closed on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 25 & 26 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Cheryl Brinkley, church secretary, will be on vacation Monday, December 24, and Thursday-Friday, December 27 & 28.



Hospital & at home:
Cathy Wells (Fayetteville)
Judy Robinson (home)

Verlie Wells (Rosemary)
June Blalock (Rosemary)

Merry Christmas



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Sunday, December 16 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 seasons, 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.



Advent Wreaths

If you would like to purchase an Advent Wreath in honor of, or in memory of a friend or loved one, fill out the envelope provided in back of the pew and put it in the offering plate on Sunday, December 2. A list with the names of those honored will be in the Bulletin each Sunday through the month of December. Thank you!



We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Monday, 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.

The Return of Sheepdog and Friends

Sunday, December 16

5:00 p.m.

The Sanctuary



Join Shobal the Sheepdog and his friends – Reuben, Simeon, Eshban, Onam, Jotham, Elishama, Joseph and Mary, the Three Wisemen, the angels, and Geshan – to hear the Good News of the Christmas story as you've never heard it before! David Johnson's world famous (okay, Duplin County famous – well, Wallace Presbyterian Church famous) stage plays are back for an encore performance – Watching the Flock; The Bethlehem Inn; and So What!

The evening entertainment will include a catered dinner from Billy's Pork and Beef. The cost is \$5 per plate. You may pay ahead of time or put your money in the basket on your table during the meal. Dinner reservations are due by Sunday, December 9. Please make your reservation by:

- ** calling Cheryl at the church office at 285-2808
- ** emailing Cheryl at cheryl@wallacepresbyterian.com
- ** emailing Dr. Phil at drphil@wallacepresbyterian.com
- ** filling out the form below and placing it in the offering plate

Catered dinner Reservation

Due December 9, 2018

Name _____ Number of plates _____

Amount \$ _____



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

Sunday, December 2

We will receive our quarterly P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) offering during worship on Sunday, December 2. 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!

Presbyterian Men



Tuesday, December 4

6:30 p.m.

Rose Hill Restaurant

Books for Zambia



Dr. Phil with Justo Mwale Theological University students holding their Greek grammar books which we provided last year.

We have the opportunity to buy Greek and Hebrew grammar books for students at the Justo Mwale Theological University in Lusaka, Zambia. When Dr. Phil was at the school in September, the students told him how thrilled they were to receive the books we bought last year.

The total cost of the books is \$801. We have approximately \$150 in the Zambia Book Fund already. We need \$650 to complete the order. Offering envelopes for this purpose are in the pew racks. You may make your check payable to Wallace Presbyterian Church and mark "Zambia Books."





COMMUNITY ADVENT SERVICES

Wallace Presbyterian Church

Worship Service: 12:05 P.M.

Luncheon: 12:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, December 6, 2018

Speaker.....Rev. Carey Carlberg
Special Music.....Zach Casteen
Organist.....Vera Simpson

THURSDAY, December 13, 2018

Special Program of Christmas Music.....Karla Casteen and Vera Simpson

THURSDAY, December 20, 2018

Speaker.....Allison Cavanaugh
Special Music.....Carol Carr
Organist.....Vera Simpson



Christmas Music 2018

December 9, 2018, 4:00 pm- Wallace United Methodist Church Handbell and Chancel Choir will present the Christmas Musical **"Almost There"**

December 9, 2018, 5:00 pm- Wallace First Baptist Church will present a Mini Christmas Concert followed by a play entitled **"Casting Call."**

December 20, 2018, 6:00 pm- Wallace First Baptist Church will present a Carols & Candlelight Service.

December 24, 2017- Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services

11:00 am - Wallace United Methodist Church

5:00 pm - Wallace First Baptist Church

7:00 pm - Wallace Presbyterian Church



Serving God By Serving Others

November was a great month for our youth program. We traveled to Wilmington and played laser tag at battle house, and the PYC High School Retreat was held at Camp Kirkwood! A shout out goes to all of the youth that attended those events!

December is shaping up to be a busy month as well. Our youth will take turns reading scripture and lighting the Advent candles beside our Elders throughout the Christmas season. Be sure to attend worship and hear them each Sunday morning during worship! On December 9, the youth will fellowship together with a progressive dinner. Thank you to all the adult volunteers that are working to make it happen!

If you'd like to help out with the youth and become an ambassador for the children of our church, please contact me at zach@wallacepresbyterian.com!

Yours in Christ!

Zach Casteen





CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, December 2
Immediately following Worship

The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 2, immediately following worship for the following purposes:

- 1) to re-elect a Nominating Committee (due to a mistake at the November 11 congregational meeting). Representing: Session — Susan Walters and Joe Tillman; Presbyterian Women — Patsy Ludlum and Carol Steen; Sunday School — Danielle Sills and Mary Laine Rouse; Youth — Ellie Carone and Madelyn Coombs; Ex-officio — Philip Gladden.
- 2) to receive as information from the Stewardship & Finance Committee the 2019 budget that was approved by the session on November 20;
- 3) to hold the annual meeting of the corporation.

All active members of the Wallace Presbyterian Church are encouraged to attend and are eligible to vote.



5th Sunday Building Offering Sunday, December 30, 2018

To underwrite the costs of maintaining our physical plant so we can continue to offer meaningful ministries, worship, mission, outreach, and fellowship. Thank You!



Lighting the Advent and Christ Candles

In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

During worship on the four Sundays of Advent and on Christmas Eve, the elders assisting in worship and members of our Youth Fellowship Group will lead our congregation in the lighting of the four Advent candles and the Christ candle.

December 2: HOPE
Michael Teachey
Mary Lila Blackburn

December 9: PEACE
Clay Blue
William Powell

December 16: JOY
Christy Johnson
Garrett Bullard

December 23: JOY
Curt Simpson
Elizabeth Sills

December 24: CHRIST CANDLE
Curt Simpson
Ellie Carone



December 2018

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



November 2018

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

December 2018

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

January 2019

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 Christ the King Sunday ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Feed Our Hungry Children Offering	26	27	28 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	29	30	1
2 1st Sunday of Advent: Hope ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/P.A.T.H. Offering ■ 12:00 PM Congregational Meeting	3 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #1: Office Building	4 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #3: Blue Room ■ 6:30 PM Presbyterian Men Christmas Dinner: RH Restaurant ■ 7:00 PM Circle #4: Emily Lee	5 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	6 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	7	8
9 2nd Sunday of Advent: Peace ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship ■ 4:30 PM Youth Progressive Dinner	10	11	12 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	13 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	14	15
16 3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Christ- mas Joy Offering ■ 5:00 PM Advent Plays & Dinner	17 ■ 6:15 PM Presbyterians Din- ing Together: Golden City	18 ■ 6:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304	19 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	20 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	21	22
23 4th Sunday of Advent: Love ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Feed Hungry Children Backpack Offering	24 Church secretary on vacation Christmas Eve ■ 7:00 PM Candlelight Com- munion Worship Service	25 Church office closed Merry Christmas!	26 Minister & Secretary on Vacation	27	28	29
30 ■ 9:40 AM Opening Assembly ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/5th Sunday Offering	31 Minister & Secretary on Vacation	1	2 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Church Office Building ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:30 PM Choir Practice	3	4	5