



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  
Karla Casteen  
Wayne Casteen  
Vera Simpson*

**Merry Christmas**



## **Birthdays in December**

 Happy Birthday to You! 



- 1- Vera Simpson
- 2- Joe Tillman  
Cameron Lee  
Christy Johnson
- 3- Chason Johnson
- 4- 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
- 20- Windsor Farrior  
Katherine L. Hall
- 21- Jim Sills
- 23- Sandra DiDomenico
- 28- Garrett Bullard
- 30- Lori Newkirk  
Bud Newkirk
- 31- Lane Philip Rouse



# **NEWSLETTER**

**WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



Dr. Philip K. Gladden, Minister

DECEMBER 2021

Cheryl Brinkley, Editor



## **Worship Opportunities During Advent and Christmas**

- Thursday, December 2, 12:00 noon: Community Advent Service
- Sunday, December 5: 11:00 am: Morning worship in person & live stream
- Thursday, December 9, 12:00 noon: Community Advent Service
- Sunday, December 12, 11:00 am: Children's Christmas Pageant
- Thursday, December 16, 12:00 noon: Community Advent Service
- Sunday, December 19: 11:00 am: Morning worship in person & live stream
- Friday, December 24, 7:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service





Dear Friends,

I recently purchased a copy of *The Jefferson Bible* from the Smithsonian Institution. This Bible was compiled by Thomas Jefferson while he was President. It contains clippings from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John that Jefferson himself cut from Greek, Latin, French, and English language Bibles. Jefferson entitled his book “*The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth Extracted textually from the Gospels in Greek, Latin, French & English.*” True to his Enlightenment ideals and devotion to human reason, Jefferson excluded all stories of the miraculous that could not be supported through reason.

Jefferson’s original idea was to write “*The Philosophy of Jesus,*” but eventually expanded his work to include biographical information about Jesus that he deemed reliable. Jefferson’s “*Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*” begins with what we call the Christmas story in Luke 2. However, he skips from Luke 2:1-7 (the story about Joseph and Mary traveling to Bethlehem) to Luke 2:21 (the story of Jesus getting circumcised in the temple eight days later). Jefferson cut the following stories from Luke 2: the angel’s announcement to the shepherds; Simeon’s song of blessing and thanksgiving in the temple; Anna’s praise of God in the temple when she saw Jesus; and Luke 2:49-50, when the twelve-year-old Jesus asks his parents, “*Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?*” Jefferson ended his entire “*Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*” with this compilation of two verses: “*There laid they Jesus and rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.*”

Our Christmas celebration would be sadly lacking if I were to preach on Christmas Eve from Thomas Jefferson’s “*The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth.*” If I did, we might all be inspired by the life and sayings of a great teacher who died a noble death. However, history (past and contemporary) is full of great and inspiring teachers and leaders who died noble deaths for their causes. What we need to hear again this Christmas is the angel’s message to the shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night: “*Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*” The angel’s opening words — “*Do not be afraid*” — are a typical



## WORSHIP LEADERS FOR DECEMBER

DATE	ELDER	PREACHER
December 5	Lindsay Skidmore	Philip Gladden
December 12	Childrens’ Christmas Pageant	
December 19	Sam Rose	Philip Gladden
December 24	Wayne Casteen	Philip Gladden
December 26	Dan Robinson	Bill Costin (Gideon Speaker)



**We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service on Friday, December 24. You are also invited to join us online.**



**Kenn, Courtenay, Trace, Bear, Parker, and Elle Thompson** by transfer from the Wrightsville United Methodist Church, Wrightsville Beach, NC.  
**Glenn and Debbie Price** by transfer from the Suburban Christian Church in Virginia Beach, VA.  
**George, Christine, Hope, Harry, and Paul Chronis** by transfer from the First Presbyterian Church, Honolulu, HI.  
**Phil Brice** by reaffirmation of faith. **Welcome!**



- \* **We will host Community Advent Worship Services** on Thursdays, December 2, 9, & 16 at 12 noon in the sanctuary. See the article in this newsletter for more information.
- \* **The Children's Christmas Pageant** with handbells will be during worship on Sunday, December 12.
- \* **Our newly elected Ruling Elders** will participate in Elder Training on Sunday, December 12 from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- \* **The session** will meet on Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 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.
- \* **Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service** will be Friday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- \* **The Church Office** will be closed on Monday, December 27 and Tuesday December 27 for the Christmas holiday.
- \* **Philip Gladden** will be on vacation Sunday, December 26 – Friday, December 31. **Cheryl Brinkley** will be on vacation Thursday, December 2 and Friday, December 3; and Friday, December 24—Friday, December 31. In an emergency, please contact Clerk of Session Hope Turnbull (284-2813). Merry Christmas!



## DECEMBER



12/05: Harriet & Windsor Farrior	Joyce Ange	Charley Farrior
12/12: Mary S. Blackwell & Pam Teachey	Hayes Ludlum	
12/19: Emily & Hayes Ludlum		
12/26: Mary Laine & Jason Rouse		

### OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

December 1-15: Hayes Ludlum  
December 16-30: Dave Long



**Hospital & at home:**  
**Cathy Wells (Pender Memorial)**  
**Judy Robinson (home)**

**Verlie Wells (The Gardens)**  
**Bruce Lyon (Dayspring)**  
**Dan & Eva McLaughlin (The Gardens)**

*greeting when divine messengers meet humans. In these troubling and challenging days, we need to hear the angel's message, "Do not be afraid!"*

*"Do not be afraid!" A Savior who is the Messiah, the Lord has been given to us! "Do not be afraid!" She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. "Do not be afraid!" They shall name him Emmanuel, which means, God is with us. "Do not be afraid!" And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.*

*Of course, Thomas Jefferson did not include the risen Jesus's final words to his disciples in Matthew 28: "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." But that is exactly what Emmanuel means — God is with us! And that is reason not to be afraid this Christmas.*

*Merry Christmas,*

*Phil*



**FINAL DEPOSIT FOR 2021  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30**



Church Treasurer Wayne Casteen will make the final 2021 deposit on Thursday, December 30. Contributions must be deposited by that date to be credited to your 2021 giving statement. You may contribute in these ways: offering plate in worship; mail a check to P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466; put your contribution in the mail slot of the front door of the church office; or donate online at our church website at [www.wallacepresbyterian.com](http://www.wallacepresbyterian.com). Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!





**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING**  
**Sunday, December 19**

We will receive our traditional and annual Christmas Joy Offering on Sunday, December 19. You may contribute in the offering plate, by mailing a contribution to the church (P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466), by putting a contribution in the mail slot of the church office door, or donating online at our church's website ([www.wallacepresbyterian.com](http://www.wallacepresbyterian.com)).

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. For more information, visit [www.specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy/](http://www.specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy/).



**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 your bulletin and put it in the offering plate on your way out of church on Sunday, December 5. Those watching online can call the church office and give Cheryl the information. A list with the names of those honored will be in the Bulletin on December 12 and December 19. Price: \$40  
Thank you!

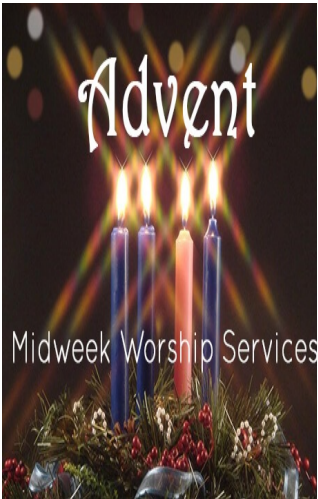


We extend our Christian love and sympathy to:  
Denny and Dona Lanier on the death of their son, Hill, on November 5.  
Dana Myrick on the death of her husband, Gerald, on November 18.



On Sunday, December 12, the children and youth of our church will lead us in worship. With music by the Attie Carr Carlton Handbell Choir, and special characters played by Susie Gaus and Glenn Price, we will hear the story of “Mary, Joseph, and the Baby” as told by the animals in the stable at the first Christmas. The older youth will lead us in lighting the candles and reading scriptures as we worship on the third Sunday in Advent.

The children will be rehearsing during Sunday School and during Children’s Church to get ready for our offering on December 12. We hope you will join us for worship that day when, for the first time in two long years, we’ll hear children’s voices singing Christmas music as the Nativity scene unfolds.



**COMMUNITY ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES**  
**THURSDAYS, 12:00 NOON IN THE SANCTUARY**  
**(No luncheons will be served.)**

DATE	SPEAKER	MUSIC
Thursday, December 2	Martha Highsmith	Devan Riley
Thursday, December 9	Susan Carter	
Thursday, December 16	A Program of Advent & Christmas Music by Karla Casteen and Vera Simpson	



## QUARTERLY P.A.T.H. OFFERING Presbyterian Answer to Hunger Sunday, December 5, 2021



We will receive our quarterly (March, June, September, December) P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) offering during worship on Sunday, December 5. This offering supports the Hunger Program of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina which provides funding for feeding programs for children in Haiti and Malawi. The Hunger Program also awards grants to congregational food ministries such as our Helping Hands Food Pantry.

You may contribute in the offering plate, by mailing a contribution to the church (P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466), by putting a contribution in the mail slot of the church office door, or donating online at our church's website ([www.wallacepresbyterian.com](http://www.wallacepresbyterian.com)).



## SERMONS IN DECEMBER

The sermons during Advent and on Christmas Eve will be based on the following scripture verses. These readings are provided so you can read and pray about the sermon texts as part of your preparation for worship. Please keep the minister and our congregation in your prayers as we read, hear, and proclaim God's Word during this holy season.

Sunday, December 5  
Sunday, December 12  
Sunday, December 19  
Friday, December 24

Luke 3:1-18  
Children's Pageant  
Luke 1:39-56  
Luke 2:1-20

# ST. NICHOLAS PROJECT



For many years the St. Nicholas Project has been a mission of Wallace Presbyterian Church. The Outreach Ministry Team has received families from our community for this year. St. Nicholas Project family and gift information will be emailed to church members. Information on how to sign up to purchase a gift for the families will be in the email. We will have an online shopping list as well as a tree in the fellowship hall with tags. You can choose which option works best for you. There won't be any duplication of items. We're hoping to have this up and running by December 5, 2021.

Thank you for participating in this wonderful ministry and sharing the love of Christ with others. Thank you for your support of our Outreach Committee.

### To participate by buying a gift:

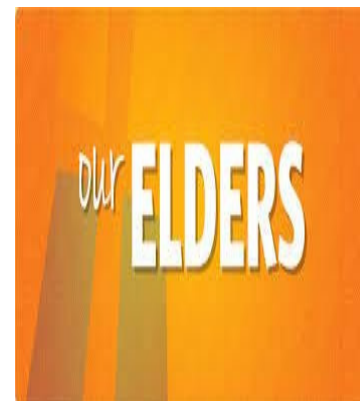
- Follow the instructions in the email from the church or pick up a tag off of the tree in fellowship hall and/or sign up to purchase a specific gift
- Wrap the gift
- Label the wrapped gift with the **family # and person it is for.**
- Bring the wrapped and labeled gift to the church during church office hours.
- **Deadline to bring gifts to the church- Thursday, December 19.**

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

- Please send a donation designated for "St. Nicholas Fund".

We will distribute the gifts to the families on **Wednesday, December 22.**

If you would like to help with distributing, we will be at church between 2:00 and 3:30 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We would appreciate your help!



## ELDER TRAINING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 2:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Congratulations to Joyce Ange, Danielle Sills, and Curt Simpson who were elected as Ruling Elder in the session's Class of 2024. They will participate in elder training on Sunday, December 12 from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. in preparation for their ordination and/or installation early in January 2022. Please keep Joyce, Danielle, and Curt in your prayers.



# December 2021

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



November 2021							December 2021							January 2022						
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	5	6			1	2	3	4								1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		5	6	7	8	9	10	11						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		12	13	14	15	16	17	18						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		19	20	21	22	23	24	25						
28	29	30						26	27	28	29	30	31							

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Minister on Vacation First Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person & ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream) Lighting the Advent Wreath,	29 ■ 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	30 ■ 7:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304	1 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304) ■ 6:00 PM Handbell Practice ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	2 Church Secretary on Vacation ■ 12:00 PM Community Advent Service/Sanctuary	3	4
5 2nd Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person & Zoom, Room 304 ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream)/P.A.T. H. Offering	6 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #1: Room 304 ■ 7:00 PM No Zoom Bible Study	7 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #3: Fellowship Hall ■ 7:00 PM Circle #4: Fellowship Hall	8 ■ 10:00 AM No Bible Study ■ 6:00 PM Handbell Practice ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	9 ■ 12:00 PM Community Advent Service/Sanctuary	10	11
12 3rd Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person & Zoom, Room 304 ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Handbells/Children's Program ■ 2:00 PM Elder Training in Room 304	13 ■ 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	14	15 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304) ■ 6:00 PM Handbell Practice ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	16 ■ 12:00 PM Community Advent Service/Sanctuary	17	18
19 4th Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person & Zoom, Room 304 ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Christmas Joy Offering	20 ■ 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	21 ■ 7:00 PM Session Meeting, Zoom	22 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304) ■ 6:00 PM Handbell Practice ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	23	24 Church Secretary on Vacation Christmas Eve ■ 7:00 PM Candlelight Communion Service	25 Christmas Day
26 Church Secretary on Vacation Minister on Vacation No Alternativ...School Class ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School ■ 11:00 AM Worship/Gideon speaker, Bill Costin ■ 11:00 AM Feed Our Hungry Children/Backpack Ministry	27 ■ 7:00 PM No Zoom Bible Study	28	29 ■ 10:00 AM No Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304) ■ 6:00 PM No Handbell Practice ■ 7:00 PM No Choir Practice	30	31	1