



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 | 17- Tommy Newkirk |
| 2- Joe Tillman | 20- Windsor Farrior |
| Cameron Lee | Katherine L. Hall |
| Christy Johnson | 21- Jim Sills |
| 3- Chason Johnson | 23- Sandra DiDomenico |
| 4- Rick Batchelor | 28- Garrett Bullard |
| 6- Corey McNamara | 30- Lori Newkirk |
| 13- Jackson Gladden | Bud Newkirk |
| 14- Emily Sue Lee | 31- Lane Philip Rouse |



Beginning at our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, we will resume passing the trays of bread and cups in the pews.



NEWSLETTER

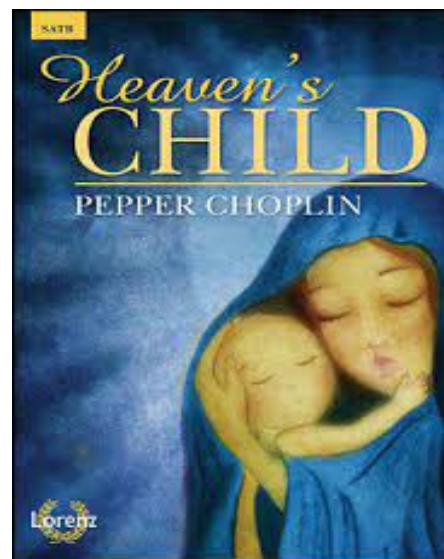
WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



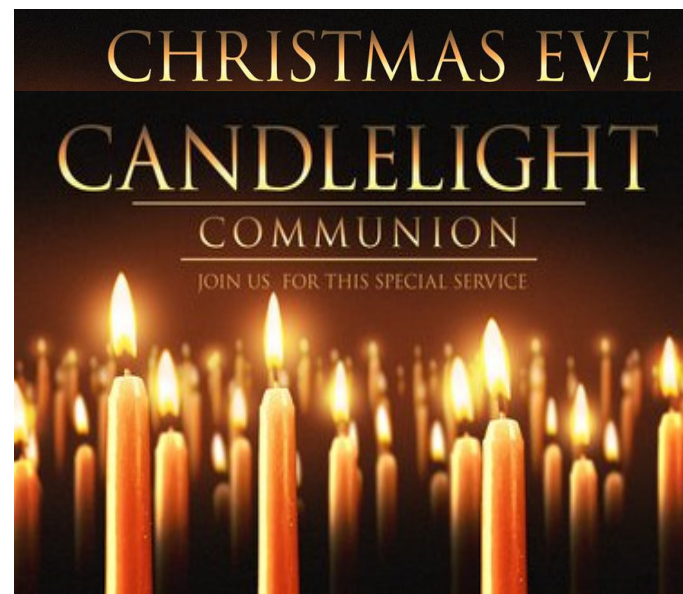
Dr. Philip K. Gladden, Minister

DECEMBER 2022

Cheryl Brinkley, Editor



**Chancel Choir
Christmas Cantata**
Sunday, December 18
“Heaven’s Child”
by
Pepper Choplin



We will celebrate the
Sacrament of the
Lord’s Supper
on Christmas Eve,
Saturday,
December 24
at 7:00 p.m.
All are welcome at
the table.



FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

During sermon preparation one week a few years back, I discovered a blog written by Jan Richardson, an artist, writer, and ordained minister in the United Methodist Church. You might be blessed if you read her writings at www.paintedprayerbook.com. Her blog “explores the intersections of writing, art, and faith, and a few other things besides.” You might also enjoy looking at her artwork at www.janrichardson.com.

December arrives this year on the fifth day of the first week of Advent. While Christmas preparations start well before Thanksgiving and intensify when the calendar turns to December, we would do well to pause and take in the meaning of the Advent season. Advent is a season of preparation, but not in the sense of decorating the house, wrapping presents, and baking Christmas treats. Instead, Advent focuses on waiting in anticipation, both looking back to Christ’s birth and ahead to Christ’s promised return.

Here is how Jan Richardson describes the importance of Advent: “The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before ... What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you. And you begin to grasp what it was you missed, like Moses in the cleft of the rock, watching God’s back fade in the distance. So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder. There will be time enough for running. For rushing. For worrying. For pushing. For now, stay. Wait. Something is on the horizon.”

*Many of the Advent scripture lessons come from the prophet Isaiah, especially Isaiah 40:3, “A voice cries out: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’” This Advent promise of the Lord’s return necessarily includes God’s people preparing ourselves for the Lord’s coming. Here is a poem by Jan Richardson from her book *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*. It is called “Blessing the Way.”*

*With every step
you take,
this blessing rises up
to meet you.
It has been waiting
long ages for you.*

*Look close
and you can see
the layers of it,*



At the Tuesday, November 15, 2022 session meeting, the elders and minister:

- * conducted the meeting as a worship service;
- * were led in an opening devotion and prayer by Elder Curt Simpson;
- * read God’s Word in Deuteronomy 6:10-25 and Psalm 118 and gave thanks to God for what God has done for our church;
- * approved minister’s request to use remaining vacation days as needed through December 31, 2022;
- * approved minutes from the October 25, 2022 stated session meeting;
- * heard a progress report from the 2022 Nominating Committee;
- * heard an update on plans for Advent worship services and sanctuary decorating from the Worship & Music Ministry Team;
- * affirmed the Christian Education Ministry Team’s plan to use “Big God. Big Questions,” for the Confirmation 2023 curriculum;
- * heard a report from the Outreach Ministry Team about the November 7, 2022 River Landing food drive for the Helping Hands Food Pantry;
- * worked on the 2023 budget;
- * called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 4, 2022 immediately following worship for the following purposes: (1) hear a report from the Nominating Committee; (2) elect three Ruling Elders to the Class of 2025; (3) act on proposed changes in the minister’s terms of call; and (4) hold the annual meeting of the corporation;
- * were led in a closing prayer by Elder Curt Simpson.



DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Monday, December 5 and Wednesday, December 7	No Bible Study
Monday, December 12 and Wednesday, December 14	No Bible Study
Monday, December 19, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. via Zoom	Luke 2:1-20
Wednesday, December 21, 10:00 - 11:0 a.m., Room 304 & via Zoom	Luke 2:1-20
Monday, December 28 and Wednesday, December 30	No Bible Study



- * **We will receive** our quarterly P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger Offering) on Sunday, December 4.
- * **The session** has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 4 immediately following worship. See the article in this newsletter for more information.
- * **Advent worship services** will be at 12:05 pm on Thursdays, December 1, 8, & 15, with lunch provided in the Fellowship Hall following worship.
- * **Our youth will be visiting Cinderella Farms** (419 Northeast Road Wallace, NC) on Sunday, December 11, for lunch, a hayride, hot chocolate, s'mores, and a devotion. We will meet there directly after church and should be done around 2:00pm. Please text Emily Ludlum (910-296-4039) with a head count if you would like to attend.
- * **We will receive** the annual Christmas Joy Offering during worship on Sunday, December 18. See the article in this newsletter for more information.
- * **The session** will meet on Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 304. If you have any concerns or business 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 worship on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome at the table. We will resume passing the trays of bread and cups in the pews.
- * **The church office** will be closed the week after Christmas and re-open on Tuesday, January 3.
- * **Philip Gladden** will be on vacation Monday - Friday, December 26-30. Please contact Clerk of Session Hope Turnbull (910-284-2813) in an emergency.
- * **Church Secretary Cheryl Brinkley** will be on vacation Monday - Monday, December 26 - January 2.

*how it has been fashioned
by those who walked
this road before you,
how it has been created
of nothing but
their determination
and their dreaming,*

*how it has taken
its form from
an ancient hope
that drew them forward
and made a way for them
when no way could
be seen.*

*Look closer
and you will see
this blessing
is not finished,
that you are part
of the path
it is preparing,*

*that you are how
this blessing means
to be a voice
within the wilderness
and a welcome
for the way.*

May you have a blessed Advent season and a very merry Christmas!

In Christ,

Phil



*Christmas Eve
Communion*



DECEMBER



12/04: Tonya & Michael Patram
12/11: Casey & Clayton Hall
12/18: Joyce Ange & Hope Turnbull
12/25: No Nursery

Joyce Ange Charley Farrisor
Hayes Ludlum

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12/04: Sara Matthews
**12/11: Christmas Program/
No Children's Church**
12/18: Tonya Patram
12/25: No Children's Church

OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

December 1-15: Hayes Ludlum
December 16-31: Dave Long



Hospital & at home:
Bruce Lyon (Dayspring)
Judy Robinson (home)

Dan & Eva McLaughlin (The Gardens)



**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING
Sunday, December 18**

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God’s gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

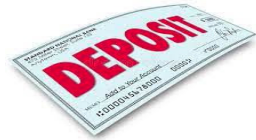
God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well. This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for communities of color, and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need.

For more information about the Christmas Joy Offering, visit.

www.specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy/.



**FINAL DEPOSIT FOR 2022
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30**



Church Treasurer Wayne Casteen will make the final 2022 deposit on Friday, December 30. Contributions must be deposited by that date to be credited to your 2022 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. Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!

**PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD DURING ADVENT
AND AT CHRISTMAS**

DATE	SERMON TEXT
December 4	Matthew 3:1-12
December 11	Children’s Christmas Program
December 18	Choir Cantata: “Heaven’s Child”
December 24	Luke 2:1-20



Sunday, December 11

On Sunday, December 11, the children and youth of our church will lead us in worship along with special characters played by Hannah Floyd and Greg Maready. We will hear the Christmas Story as seen by the stars of Bethlehem.

The children will be rehearsing during Sunday School and during Children’s Church to get ready for our program on December 11. We hope you will join us for worship that day as we hear and watch through music and performances, the Christmas Story unfold.



**Community Advent Worship Services and Luncheons
Sponsored by the Worship & Music Ministry Team
and the Presbyterian Women
Worship Service: 12:05 P.M.
Luncheon: 12:30 P.M.**

Thursday, December 1, 2022:

Speaker.....Rev. Chris Jarman, Pastor, Poston Baptist Church
Special Music.....Bill Palmer, trumpet
Organist.....Karla Casteen

Thursday, December 8, 2022

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

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Speaker.....Chief Jimmy Crayton, Wallace Police Department
Special Music.....Marisol Snell, soprano
Organist.....Karla Casteen



QUARTERLY P.A.T.H. OFFERING Presbyterian Answer to Hunger Sunday, December 4, 2022



We will receive our quarterly (March, June, September, and December) P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) offering on Sunday, December 4. This offering supports the Hunger Program of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina and provides funding for children's feeding programs in Haiti and Malawi. The Hunger Program also provides grants for church food pantries such as our Helping Hands Food Pantry.



At the December 4, 2022 congregational meeting, the 2022 Nominating Committee will nominate these three members to be elected to serve as Ruling Elders in the session's Class of 2025.



Sandy Cobb

Sandy was born and raised in Duplin County, is a graduate of James Sprint Technical Institute and UNCW, and a 23-year Air Voice Veteran. She and her husband, Ray, have two sons and a daughter. They joined Wallace Presbyterian Church on October 27, 2013.



Blake Wallace

Blake will soon retire after a 30-year career in law enforcement, the last 20 of which he has served as Sheriff of Duplin County. Blake is married to Leah Stephenson Wallace. They have two sons, Wells and Joe. Blake is the son of Wallace Presbyterian Church members Joe and Judy Wallace. Blake and Leah joined WPC on December 2, 2007.



Debbie Price

Debbie is the daughter of Carl Uzzell, a former WPC pastor, and WPC member Eva McLaughlin. Debbie is a graduate of Wallace-Rose Hill High School and UNC-Chapel Hill. She is a retired educator with 23 years as a 4/5/6 teacher and 10 years in administration. Debbie and her husband, Glenn, have a son and a daughter. They joined WPC on November 7, 2021.

ST. NICHOLAS PROJECT



For many years the St. Nicholas Project has been a mission of Wallace Presbyterian Church. The Outreach Committee has received families from our community for this year. St. Nicholas Project family and gift information will be available on the tree in the fellowship hall. Thank you for participating in this wonderful ministry and sharing the love of Christ with others.

To participate by ***selecting a tag*** and ***buying a gift***:

- Select and remove labeled ornament tags from the tree.
- Purchase the gift
- **Wrap the gift**
- Label the wrapped gift with the tag you selected
- Place **wrapped and labeled gifts** on the table in front of the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall
- **Deadline to bring gifts to the church- Sunday, December 18.**

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 18.**
- **Join us to deliver the gifts a few days before Christmas.** The date and time will be announced.

Watch the church bulletins for more information about the St. Nicholas Project. We would appreciate your help! Thank you!



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW WORSHIP**

The session has called a congregational meeting for Sunday, December 4 immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report from the 2022 Nominating Committee, elect three Ruling Elders to the Class of 2025, act on proposed changes in the minister's terms of call, and hold the annual meeting of the corporation.

December 2022



November 2022

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 2022

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 2023

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				

- Holidays in United States
- WPC Calendar
- drphil@wallacepresbyterian.com
- cheryl@wallacepresbyterian.com
- cheryl@wallacepresbyterian.com ■ Home

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 1st Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, Room 304 & Zoom ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes ■ 11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream) Feed Our Hungry Children Backpack Offering	28 ■ 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	29	30 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304) ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	1 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon ■ 1:15 PM Meeting of the Commission on Ministry, Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, Room 304	2	3
4 2nd Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, Room 304 & Zoom ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes ■ 11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream) P.A.T.H. Offering ■ 12:00 PM Congregational Meeting	5 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #1: Room 304 ■ 7:00 PM No Monday Night Bible Study	6 ■ 10:30 AM Circle #3: Fellowship Hall ■ 7:00 PM Circle#4: Fellowship Hall	7 ■ 10:00 AM No Wednesday Morning Bible Study ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	8 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	9	10 ■ 10:00 AM Wallace Christmas Parade
11 3rd Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, Room 304 & Zoom ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes ■ 11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream) Children's Christmas Program ■ 12:00 PM Children's Fellowship Trip to Cinderella Farm	12 ■ 7:00 PM No Monday Night Bible Study	13	14 ■ 10:00 AM No Wednesday Morning Bible Study ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	15 ■ 12:05 PM Advent Worship & Luncheon	16	17
18 4th Sunday of Advent ■ 9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, Room 304 & Zoom ■ 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes ■ 11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream) Choir Cantata, "Heaven's Child"/Christmas Joy Offering	19 ■ 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	20 ■ 7:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304	21 ■ 10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304) ■ 6:00 PM Handbells ■ 7:00 PM Choir Practice	22	23	24 Christmas Eve ■ 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship Service
25 Christmas Day ■ 10:00 AM Informal Worship with Carols & Scriptures	26 Church Office Closed Minister & Church Secretary on Vacation Christmas Day (substitute)	27 Church Office Closed...ation of Christmas	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve