

### Sunday, November 7, 2021

Daylight Saving Time ends in 2021 at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 7, marking the *time* when clocks "fall back" and we gain an extra hour of sleep.



### **Birthdays in November**





- 1- Parks Blair
- 2- Dottie Obenour
- 3- Wayne Casteen
- 5- Art Raymond Cameron Blue
- 8- Scott Robinson
- 9- Haylee Parks Hayden Parks
- 10- Matt Maready
- 11- Reese Blue Amelia White Leah White

- 12- Ginny Blackney
- 13- Jonah Grey Merritt
- 15- Georgia Longest
- 16- William Monroe Blackwell
- 21- Gary Zibelin
- 24- Pat Simpson
- 25- Ryan Sloan
- 26- Lou Brinkley
- 28- Eva McLaughlin
- 29- Fran Kohne Bill Butler David Long





Dr. Philip K. Gladden, Minister

**NOVEMBER 2021** 

**Cheryl Brinkley, Editor** 



#### Congregational Meeting Sunday, November 7 12 Noon

The session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, November 7 following worship (around 12 noon) for the following purposes:

- 1. To hear a report from the 2021 Nominating Committee about nominees for three ruling elders to the session's Class of 2024. Nominees are Joyce Ange, Danielle Sills, and Curt Simpson;
  - 2. To elect three ruling elders to the session's Class of 2024;
  - 3. To present the 2022 budget as information;
  - 4. To act on recommended changes in the minister's terms of call; and
  - 5. To hold the annual meeting of the corporation.

You will be able to participate in the meeting in person in the sanctuary and via Zoom. A Zoom link for the meeting will be emailed to the congregation the week before.



Dear Friends,

Three years ago, I preached at the Community Thanksgiving Service at First Baptist Church. Two months after Hurricane Florence devastated our county, we gathered to give thanks to God. My sermon title was "Give Thanks Anyway." That title was inspired by Martina McBride's song, "Anyway." The chorus says, "God is great, but sometimes life ain't good. When I pray, it doesn't always turn out like I think it should. But I do it anyway, I do it anyway." In the conclusion to my sermon, I said, "Give thanks anyway is not meant to be a throw-away line or a toothless, meaningless platitude. Give thanks anyway is an honest admission that God is great, but sometimes life ain't good. Give thanks anyway is a reminder not to neglect God, either when we've got it so bad we wonder where God is and what God is doing, or when we've got it so good we start thinking we've achieved it all on our own, and of course, we deserve it."

For the second year in a row, Thanksgiving arrives in the midst of a global pandemic that continues to wreak havoc everywhere. The ripple effects of the virus actually feel more like a tsunami. No one of us is untouched by the suffering and sorrow and challenges and changes that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought. In light of that, how can we give thanks anyway?

I especially like the song "Now Thank We All Our God," which we will sing in worship on November 7. It naturally lends itself to be used at Thanksgiving. The song is even more meaningful because of the story behind it. The hymn's author, Pastor Martin Rinkart, originally wrote it for his children to sing around the dinner table, to remind them of God's goodness even during difficult times. Here is how The One Year Book of Hymns describes those times: "Like so many other great hymns, it was forged in the crucible of the Thirty Years' War. Martin Rinkart was the only pastor in the walled city of Eilenberg. Many refugees fled there, hoping the walls would protect them, only to see the city overrun by Swedes, Austrians, and Swedes again. In the crowded conditions, hunger and plague were chronic problems. In 1637 Rinkart conducted funerals for five thousand residents — including his wife. So when he prays, 'Guide us when perplexed,' he is not talking about minor inconveniences."

In this Thanksgiving season, when we are perplexed by so many things, we can give thanks anyway, not as an afterthought or in resignation or as nothing more than a ritual, but as an act of faith and trust that God is

#### **ACTIONS OF THE SESSION**

At the Tuesday, October 19 stated session meeting, the elders and minister:

- \* conducted the meeting as a worship service;
- \* prayed for members of the congregation and community and asked for God's guidance during the meeting;
- \* met with the Church Rolls Review Committee to consider their preliminary report;
- \* approved a request from the minister to use vacation time Tuesday-Wednesday, November 23-24 and Sunday-Friday, December 26-31;
- \* approved the minutes of the September 21, 2021 session meeting;
- \* approved a plan for resuming choir rehearsals and singing in worship beginning in November:
- \* approved the 2022 budget;
- \* prayed the Lord's Prayer together to end the meeting.





#### **NOVEMBER 2021**

DATE

November 7 November 14 November 21 November 28 **TEXT** 

Mark 12:38-44 Mark 13:1-13 Revelation 1:4b-8 First Sunday of Advent Luke 21:25-36

The sermon texts are provided so you can read them and pray about them before worship. Please keep our congregation and minister in your prayers as we read and hear God's Word during the month of November.



# Annual Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance Sunday, November 21

Children's Hope Alliance is the combination of Barium Springs and Grandfather Home for Children joining forces to serve children and families throughout North Carolina. They work hard to provide hope, health, and healing for generations. Their comprehensive services and programs are designed to give hope to North Carolina's children by providing a safe home, healing their hurt, and encouraging a healthy start.

For more information, visit www.childrenshopealliance.org.





# FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN/BACKPACK MINISTRY OFFERING Sunday, November 28

We will receive our monthly Feed Our Hungry Children/Backpack Ministry Offering on Sunday, November 28. This offering provides school lunches and weekend food for students in Duplin County Public Schools. Thank you for your generous and faithful support.

From July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, these schools were served: Rose Hill - Magnolia Elementary/Middle, Wallace Elementary/Middle, Chinquapin Elementary/Middle, Beulaville Elementary/Middle, and Wallace-Rose Hill High. The ministry is currently providing around 130 bags of food per week. Contributions have been received from individuals and eleven churches. Thank you for your generous and faithful contributions.

great, even when life ain't good. Here are the words to "Now Thank We All Our God" to inspire your thanksgiving.

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices; who, from our mother's arms, hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven, to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given: the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore, the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Blessings, and be safe,







# MINISTER ON CONTINUING EDUCATION LEAVE Sunday afternoon, November 14 - Friday, November 19

Philip Gladden will be on continuing education Sunday afternoon, November 14 - Friday, November 19 at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA to attend a seminar "Art of Transitional Ministry." This continuing education event is for pastors and church leaders interested in interim ministry and/or congregations in transition, and will provide the basics for understanding interim ministry and transitional ministry.

Please contact the church office (285-2808) or Clerk of Session Hope Turnbull (910-284-2813) in an emergency.



Congratulations to Grayson and Ashton Casteen on the birth of their son, Evan Thomas on October 25. He weighed in at 6 lbs., 9 oz. and 19.25" long. Wayne and Karla Casteen are the proud grandparents. Dan and Eva McLaughlin are the proud great-grandparents.



Congratulations to Will and Shelli Fussell on the birth of their daughter, Brinkley Mae on October 23. She weighed in at 8 lbs. 7 oz and 21" long. Jay and Joey are the proud grandparents.



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

We will celebrate the
Sacrament of Baptism
with
Harris Graham Cottle,
son of Bradley and Kristin Cottle,
on Sunday, November 21



#### **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

The session recommends and encourages everyone who attends worship in-person to wear a mask regardless of your vaccination status. We also ask that worshipers continue to be mindful of social distancing. As we have suggested throughout the pandemic, if you are not feeling well or suspect that you might be sick, please stay home and worship via our live-stream broadcast. Finally, if you have not been vaccinated, we encourage you to take the vaccine shots for your own health and safety as well as for the health and safety of your fellow church members and our community as a whole.



#### **NOVEMBER**



11/07: Geneva Maready & Nell Sloan

11/14: Kristin & Bradley Cottle 11/21: Danielle & James Sills

11/28: Lindsay & Stanley Skidmore

Dan Robinson Freddy Hall John Ludlum

#### **OPENING CHURCH BUILDING**

November 1-15: Jim Simpson November 16-30: Greg Maready



#### CHURCH NEWS . . .

- \* **We will** have a Congregational Meeting after worship on Sunday, November 7. See front page of this newsletter for details.
- \* **We will** celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with Harris Graham Cottle during worship on Sunday, November 21.
- \* Philip Gladden will be on Continuing Education leave Sunday afternoon, November 14
- Friday, November 19 and on vacation Tuesday, November 23 Saturday, November 27. Please contact the church office (285-2808) or Clerk of Session Hope Turnbull (910-284-2813) in an emergency.
- \* **The church office** will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 25-26 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.



Hospital & at Home: Cathy Wells (Pender Memorial Rehab) Judy Robinson (home) Dan & Eva McLaughlin (The Gardens) Verlie Wells (The Gardens) Bruce Lyon (Dayspring)



#### THE ATTIE CARLTON HANDBELL CHOIR TO PLAY IN WORSHIP

The Attie Carlton Handbell Choir will play two songs in worship on Sunday, November 7: "Come Just As You Are" by Joseph Sabolic, arranged by Bill Ingram and "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" by William M. Runyan, arranged by Lloyd Larson.

The members of the handbell choir are: Director Karla Casteen; Emily Saunders; Geneva Maready; Sharon Robison; Linda Burroughs; Ann Carter; LuAnn Rivenbark; Tut Hall; Philip Gladden; Mary Ayres; Debbie Price; and Wayne Casteen.



The Chancel Choir will return to in-person rehearsals on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m., beginning on November 3. Beginning with worship on Sunday, November 7, the choir members will sit together in the choir loft and lead the congregation in singing hymns. They will follow our church's mask protocols. As we continue to track COVID-19 trends, Director Karla Casteen is hopeful the choir will be able to provide special music for worship during the Advent and Christmas seasons for the first time since 2019. As Karla shared with the session, "Our small, volunteer choir is anxious to begin our work together again."



#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

From the Presbyterian Mission Agency:

"Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. In its historical origins, the season of Advent was patterned after the season of Lent, a six-week period of penitence and preparation for Easter. Similarly, the four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ's return.

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 96)

In Advent we expectantly wait for the One who has already come. We anticipate the promised justice of God's new world, yet we praise God who raised the "righteous branch" to rule with justice and righteousness. We hope for the restoration of the afflicted, the tormented, and the grieving, yet we delight that healing has come in Christ. We long for the beating of swords into plowshares, yet we rejoice that the Prince of Peace has appeared. We yearn for the barren deserts of our inner cities to flourish, yet we laud the desert Rose that has bloomed. We dream of the land where lions and lambs live in harmony, yet we acclaim the child born to lead us into the promised land.



Due to ongoing concerns
associated
with the COVID-19 pandemic,
there will not be a
Community Thanksgiving Service
again this year at
First Baptist Church in Wallace.

## November 2021

**////** Home

WPC Calendar

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October 2021

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

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November 2021

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28 29 30

December 2021

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Reformation Sunday	All Saints' Day	2	2 10:00 AM Zoom and In- Person Bible Study (Room 304) 6:00 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	4	5	6
9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person & Zoom, Room 304 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship (in-per- son and live-stream)	= 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<ul> <li>9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person &amp; Zoom, Room 304</li> <li>10:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream)</li> </ul>	= 10:30 AM Circle #1: Room 304 = 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	= 10:30 AM Circle #3: Room 304 = 7:00 PM Circle #4: Fellow- ship Hall	<ul> <li>10:00 AM Bible Study,</li> <li>Zoom and In-Person (Room 304)</li> <li>6:00 PM Handbell Practice</li> <li>7:00 PM Choir Practice</li> </ul>			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<ul> <li>9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person &amp; Zoom, Room 304</li> <li>10:00 AM Sunday School</li> <li>11:00 AM Worship (in-person and live-stream)</li> </ul>	Minister on Continuing Education Leave					
	= 7:00 PM No Zoom Bible Study	= 7:00 PM Session Meeting, Zoom	= 10:00 AM No Bible Study = 6:00 PM Handbell Practice = 7:00 PM Choir Practice			
9:30 AM Alternative Sunday School Class, in person & Zoom, Room 304 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship (in per- son & Live Stream) Baptism, Children's Hop Alliance Thanksgiving Offering	22		24	25	26	27
	7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	Minister on Vacation				
			= 10:00 AM No Bible Study	Church Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving!	Church Office Closed	
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
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,	= 7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	7:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304	= 10:00 AM Bible Study, Zoom and In-Person (Room 304)	2	3	4
			= 6:00 PM Handbell Practice = 7:00 PM Choir Practice			