



WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 West Main Street • Wallace, North Carolina 28466

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 21, 2025

11:00 A.M

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome

Elder Sandy Cobb

(During this time the friendship pads are passed to be signed.)

Prelude

“What Child Is This” with *arranged by* Mary McDonald

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

*This, this is Christ, the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary.*

Announcements

Choral Call to Worship

“Come Emmanuel”

James Chepponis

Come, come Emmanuel. Come Emmanuel.

Lighting the Candle of Love – Hayes and Hollis Skidmore

*Hymn #143

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Robert H. Lapp

Great God, as we behold the birth of Jesus, we confess that we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory. Yet, we struggle to join in the song of the angels. We overlook the good news of great joy which is for all the people. Tell us again that the Savior is born, that we are forgiven, and that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon

The angel tells Joseph that the child forming in Mary's womb is to be named Jesus, “For he will save the people from their sins.”

From his birth through his resurrection, from age to age, Jesus is about salvation.

This is the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri

“Glory Be to the Father”

Hymn #581

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

Children’s Sermon

*Hymn 145

“What Child Is This”

GREENSLEEVES

*Unison Prayer for Illumination

Elder Sandy Cobb

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear and be who you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-10

Anthem

“With Open Hearts”

Pepper Choplin

*With open hearts, we are waiting. With open hearts, now we pray.
In our quietness, we are calling, “Lord, come to us.”
Emmanuel, O come, Emmanuel, and quench our thirsty souls.
Emmanuel, O come, Emmanuel, and make our spirits whole.
Our prayer is the same as the meaning of Your name, “God be with us.”
Lord, come and touch our open hearts ‘til our open hearts are full.
To the wounded hearts, come and heal them.
Let the grieving hearts be consoled.
With open hearts, we are calling, “Lord, come to us today.”
With open hearts, we wait for you.*

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

“God In The Flesh”

Rev. Robert H. Lapp

A Time for Silent Reflection

Prayers of the People with the Lord’s Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE SESSION

Class of 2025

Sandy Cobb
Debbie Price
Blake Wallace

Class of 2026

Kevin Johnson
Royal Johnson
Nell Sloan

Class of 2027

Karla Casteen
Geneva Maready
Devan Riley

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Interim Pastor

Rev. Robert (Robb) Lapp
interimpastor@wallacepresbyterian.com

Secretary

Cheryl Brinkley
cheryl@wallacepresbyterian.com

Treasurer

Wayne Casteen

Clerk of Session

Hope Turnbull



Vision

At Wallace Presbyterian Church, we envision a community where faith, friendship, and service intertwine to embody God's love and grace. We strive to create a nurturing environment and develop ministries where individuals of all ages can grow spiritually, form meaningful relationships, and actively participate in acts of compassion and service, both locally and beyond.

Mission

To carry on Christ's mission today by enriching the lives of our church and community, nurturing the faith of children and youth, fostering meaningful relationships across all ages, and serving through dedicated outreach and support.

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Birth-Kindergarten.....Ellie Newton, Kelli Norris, Danielle Sills, Sara Matthews
First-Third Grade.....Jennifer Johnson & Bailey Riley
Fourth-Sixth Grade.....Kristin Cottle & Casey Hall
Seventh-Ninth Grade.....Mary Laine Rouse & Lindsay Skidmore
The Adult Class.....Glenn Price & Curt Simpson

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Sandy Cobb, Moderator
Christy Johnson, Vice-Moderator
Carol Steen, Treasurer
Joyce Ange, Secretary
Brenda Long, Advent

Harriet Farris, Debbie Price, Sanctuary Flowers
Susan Walters, Ann Carter, Candace Knowles, Bereavement





DECEMBER



12/21: Ellie & Michael Newton
12/28: Harriet & Windsor Farrior

Charley Farrior, Head
Joyce Ange Hayes Ludlum
David Long

OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

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

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12/21: Danielle Sills
12/28: Emily/Miller Ludlum



4th Sunday of Advent, December 21:

Light the Candle of **Love** and light candles to remember our grief and sorrows on the longest night of the year, and receive **The Christmas Joy Offering**.

Christmas Eve, December 24:

Light the **Christ Candle** and celebrate the birth of Christ with our Candlelight Communion Service.

1st Sunday of Christmas, December 28:

Sing the carols and hear J. B. Phillips' story, The Visited Planet

Epiphany of the Lord, January 4:

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper as we remember the manifestation of the Lord to the magi and to the whole world. Susan Carone, Kristin Cottle, and Dwight Hall will be ordained and installed as elders. Epiphany Star Words will be offered for your reflection in the New Year.



Reality of Money Returns to Duplin County High Schools

The Reality of Money - Duplin County Schools and the State Employees Credit Union will again offer the Reality of Money seminars for all high school juniors to help them learn about making real world choices about money. It takes about 30 volunteers for each session. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Below are the dates and links to sign up.

Wallace Rose Hill: January 21, 2026 -

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844AAA829AAFF2-60764156-wallace>

North Duplin/Duplin Early College: January 22, 2026 -

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844AAA829AAFF2-60764270-north>

East Duplin: January 26, 2026 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844AAA829AAFF2-60763776-east>

James Kenan: January 27, 2026 - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844AAA829AAFF2-60763994-james>

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 21



Fourth SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 am Choir Practice
- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School Class
- 10:00 am Sunday School Classes
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time
- 11:00 am Worship/Christmas Joy Offering
- 5:00 pm Cub Scout Pack 35
- Church Office Closed
- 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service
- MERRY CHRISTMAS! Church Office Closed
- Pastor & Secretary on Vacation

Wednesday, December 24

Thursday, December 25

Monday-Thursday, December 29-January 1

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **We receive** our Christmas Joy Offering this morning during worship. This Offering is one of the special offerings of the PC (USA) and 50% of our gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. 50% of our gifts provide assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial need. Thank you in advance for your generous support of past, present, and future church leaders.
- **St. Nicholas Project** - We will deliver gifts to all four of our St. Nicholas families on Monday, December 22, from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. Please arrive at the church no later than 9:00 AM. We will load the gifts into vehicles and then travel together to each family's home.
- **Epiphany Star Words** are a spiritual practice, where individuals receive a single "guiding word" for the New Year. These words, associated with the star that led the Magi, will be made available at the church on Sunday, January 4. They are meant to offer a theme for prayer, reflection, and spiritual guidance throughout the year.
- **Membership** - Those interested in joining WPC, please contact Robert Lapp. There will be a new member orientation on Sunday, January 11 at 9:45 am in the pastor's study, the session will receive new members at 10:30 am, and those who are joining the church will be welcomed in the worship service at 11:00 am.
- **The 2026 Offering Envelopes** are here. You can pick them up at the back of sanctuary. They are in numerical order. If you can't remember your number, look for your name on the list.

Stewardship – In response to the gospel of Jesus Christ, we offer our gifts to God. Thank you for your generosity to the mission and ministry of WPC.



Merry Christmas