#### The Mood of Christmas by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost. To heal the broken. To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among the people, To make music in the heart.







- 2. Will Fussell 5. Fred Burroughs 9- Megan Strickland
- 15. Annie Johnson **Diane Knowles 10.** Mike Teachey 29- Mary Browder







**ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS** Sunday, January 7

During worship on Sunday, January 7, the session will ordain and install Ruling Elders in the Class of 2026. These elders have completed a time of officer training and been examined by the session. They are responding to God's call through the voice of our congregation to serve as our spiritual leaders in worship, ministry, outreach, nurture, and stewardship.

To be ordained and installed: Kevin Johnson and Royal Johnson To be installed: Nell Sloan



Session

### **OUR SESSION FOR 2024**

Robert H. Lapp, Moderator

Class of 2024 Joyce Ange Danielle Sills Curt Simpson

Class of 2025 Sandy Cobb **Debbie Price** Blake Wallace

Class of 2026 Kevin Johnson **Roval Johnson** Nell Sloan

Please keep the members of our session in your prayers as they lead us in ministry and the discernment of God's will for our church.



#### Dear WPC family,

As we move into the new year, we welcome to the session. Nell Sloan, Kevin Johnson, and Royal Johnson who will be ordained and/or installed on Sunday, January 7. They'll serve with Curt Simpson, Joyce Ange, Sandy Cobb, Danielle Sills, Debbie Price, Blake Wallace, and Hope Turnbull, clerk of season. We also extend our gratitude to Hayes Ludlum, Greg Maready, and Kelli Norris who are rotating off of the session for their faithful service.

This year will be a busy year! We will begin the call process for an installed pastor by forming a team to do an in depth mission study. This will help us discern who we are, who our neighbors are, and why we are here.

Once the mission study is done, the congregation will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee who will prepare our Mission Discernment Profile (MDP) and then will begin receiving Personal Discernment Profiles (PDP) and having conversations with potential candidates. Once a candidate has been selected and the presbytery has approved, there will be a congregational meeting to elect the next pastor.

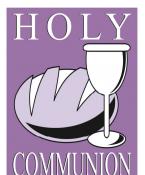
In the meantime, we can all prepare for this new year together by continuing the vital mission and ministry of this church.

Maybe the much loved story, THE RABBI'S GIFT, will give us some inspiration. A decaying monastery had fallen on hard times. A Rabbi from a nearby town occasionally used a little hut on the property for a retreat. The Abbot visited the Rabbi one day to get his thoughts on how to save his monastery. The Rabbi offered this advice, "The only thing I can tell you is that the Messiah is among you."

That made all the difference in the world! As the monks contemplated what this might mean, they began to treat each other with extraordinary respect on the off chance that one of them might indeed be the Messiah and in turn, each monk began to treat himself with extraordinary respect. People who visited sensed the extraordinary spirit of love that now filled the monastery. After a while, people began to join, and once again the monastery became a bright light in the community and a vibrant center of spirituality.

May we let our light shine by seeing the Messiah in each other and ourselves, and treating one another accordingly!

Faithfully, Pastor Robb



#### **Home Communion**

On Sunday, January 7, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We would also like to share the sacrament with those members who, for whatever reason, cannot regularly participate in our worship services. If you would like to receive communion in your home, please contact Robert Lapp at <u>interimpastor@wallacepresbyterian.com</u> or at 910 285-2808. This is one of the ways we endeavor to care for all of our members.



#### JANUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

DATE	ELDER	PREACHER
January 7	Hope Turnbull	Robb Lapp
January 14	TBA	Robb Lapp
January 21	TBA	Robb Lapp
January 28	Joyce Ange	Robb Lapp

# Thank you for **your hard work** and **dedication!**

We thank Hayes Ludlum (Outreach), Greg Maready (Building & Grounds), and Kelli Norris (Outreach), members of the session's Class of 2023, who have rotated off active service on the session. They have been faithful leaders for our congregation for the past three years. Thanks!



We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Dan McLaughlin on the death of his wife, and Karla Casteen and Debbie Price and their families on the death of their mother Eva McLaughlin, on December 18, 2023.



### FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN/ BACKPACK MINISTRY OFFERING SUNDAY, JANUARY 28



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



**Pastor Led Bible Study** will resume on Wednesday, January 10, at 10 am in room 304. Together we will examine the lectionary text for the following Sunday's sermon. We look forward to you joining us. The scripture for each week is listed below:

January 10: John 1:43-51 January 17: Mark 1:14-20 January 24: NO BIBLE STUDY January 31: Mark 1:29-39



## January 2024

January /	
January 14	
January 21	
January 28	

Mark 1:4-11 John 1:43-51 Mark 1:14-20 Mark 1:21-28

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



# JANUARY

Fred Burroughs, Head Bill & Susan Walters Greg Maready

USH ERS

#### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

**OPENING CHURCH BUILDING** January 1-15: Charley Farrior January 16-31: Curt Simpson

01/14: Danielle Sills & Hope Turnbull

01/28: Tonya & Michael Patram

01/07: Joyce Ange & Courtenay Thompson

01/21: Christy Johnson & Payton Westbrook

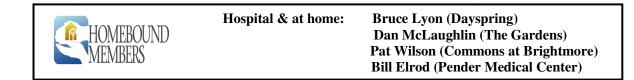
01/07: Danielle Sills 01/14: Sara Matthews 01/21: Ellie Newton 01/28: Katie Price

#### CHURCH NEWS .... For Your Information

\* We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship on Sunday, January 7. All are welcome at the table.

\* **The session** will meet on Tuesday, January 16 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 pastor.

\* We will receive our monthly (school year) Feed Our Hungry Children/Backpack Ministry offering during worship on Sunday, January 28.





THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Sunday January 7, 2024

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during worship on Sunday, January 7. All are welcome at the table!

# January 2024

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



December 2023						January 2024									February 2024							
5	м	т	w	т	F	5		5	м	т	w	т	F	5		s	м	т	w	т	F	s
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31			1.7			1																

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Church Diffee Closed Parce & Secretary on Vacando New Year's De 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes 11:00 AM Worship in person/live- stream/Rev. Cynthia Williams, Preacher	1 New Year's Day		3 10:00 AM No Bible Study 5:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir Practice	4	5	6
<ul> <li>7</li> <li>10:00 AM Sunday School Classes</li> <li>11:00 AM Worship/Ordination &amp; In- stallation of Elders/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper</li> </ul>	8	9	10 10:00 AM Bible study, Room 304 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir Practice	11	12	13
14 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes 11:00 AM Worship	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	<ul> <li>16</li> <li>5:30 PM PW Coordinating Team Meet- ing, Blue Room</li> <li>7:00 PM Session Meeting, Room 304</li> </ul>	17 10:00 AM Bible study, Room 304 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir Practice	18	19	20
21 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes 11:00 AM Worship	22	23	24 = 10:00 AM No Bible study = 6:00 PM Handbells = 7:00 PM Choir Practice	25	26	27
28 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes 11:00 AM Worship/Feed Our Hungry Children Backpack Ministry Offering	29	30	31 10:00 AM Bible study, Room 304 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir Practice	Tirst Day of Black History Month	2	3