



**NAME TAGS** – Be sure to wear your name tags along with your mask. It can be difficult to recognize someone with their mask on.

**MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN CHURCH** - As you attend indoor functions at the church including Worship, please wear a mask (Elementary age and older) to help protect those who are more vulnerable to the virus.

**VIRTUAL SERVICE** – Please be sure to comment when you are watching our virtual service. This is how we are taking attendance and we want you to be counted. And remember, we are open on Sundays for worship if you are comfortable joining with us, using the precautions we have in place.



## **SCRIPTURE FOR December 5**

**Scripture: Philemon 1:3-11**

**Sermon Title: The Good that We May Do for Christ**

**THE WHITE POINSETTIAS THIS SUNDAY** – are given to the glory of God by Marjorie Smith in memory of Clyde Weaver, Paul Smith, Lucille & Fred Brown.

**THE PINK ROSE ON THE COMMUNION TABLE** – is in celebration of the birth of Shiloh Morgan Miller, born on November 29 to Matt & Caroline Miller. Her big brother is Ezra Miller and her very happy grandparents are Jeff & Miriam Pinkston.

**TITHES** – Please call the church office if you would like to drop off your tithe to ensure a staff member will be available to let you in the building.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP** – is available on Sunday, in a limited number, on the two stands just inside the lobby doors. You will also find the QR code in the lobby on the tables beside the main doors to the Sanctuary on Sunday morning, and it is available, every Friday on our web page (under Worship), by scanning the QR code below.



**AVAILABLE EVERY SUNDAY** – fresh hot coffee, assorted glazed donuts, and sliced bagels with sides of cream cheese will be available before Sunday School and Church outside of the sanctuary. This will provide time to fellowship with friends and to welcome visitors to our church! Please remember drinks with lids are allowed in the sanctuary, but no food in the sanctuary. Donations are appreciated.



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** – are available again this year and the cost for each one is \$17.00. Order slips are available in the lobby of the sanctuary and the Admin office. You may place your slip in the offering plate, or you can bring it to the church. All slips must be turned in by December 10, along with your payment. There will be a limited number of 30 available.

**THE FULLNESS OF TIME** – Advent devotions booklet is available in the sanctuary lobby and the Admin lobby. If you are unable to pick up a copy, please call the office and one will be mailed to you.

**ANGEL TREE** - The youth will be sponsoring the angel tree again this year to raise funds for summer mission trips and conferences. For \$5.00 you can place an angel on the tree in honor or memory of a family member or friend. A complete list of all the angels on the tree will be published on December 19. Beginning November 28, order forms and angel ornaments will be available in the lobby to purchase and place on the tree.

**A ROOF ABOVE (RITI)** - Just a gentle reminder that the date to have all items in for the Woman's shelter is Sunday, Dec 5. We are most grateful for such a positive response toward this ministry. Thank you for your generosity. Grace Saylor and Mary Hammond

**ON DECEMBER 12** - following worship, the congregation is invited to attend a church fellowship luncheon of turkey, green beans, rice, and gravy.

We are asking that you bring a desert to share. We look forward to this time of celebration and fellowship in this Christmas season.

**Registration is required by Friday, December 3, through the link below, if you plan on attending.**

<https://onrealm.org/SteeleCreekChurch/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZWMzODhjODctN2EyYi00ZGFhLTg4YTAAtYWRIMzAxNTBmY2Rm>

**CIRCLE LADIES** - There will be a time change for our meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>. We will start at 10:30 a.m. We will be sharing a meal after the lesson which will be from Jersey Mike's. If you were not in attendance at the November meeting and can join us, please call Betty (704-588-3221) or Becky (704-614-2080) and let them know your meal preference (Ham or Turkey). We would love to see you then!



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2021 CONFIRMATION CLASS!** We are so excited to welcome the following into full membership of the church on November 21-Kinsley Byrum, Liam Cathey, Brady Farnham, Rowan Haston, Tatum Haston, and Alli Salmon. Thank you to Becky Neely for helping to lead this great group! - Lorie Lewis

## **CHURCH ATTENDANCE NOVEMBER 28**

**Inhouse – 150**

**Facebook & YouTube - 299**

**Total – 449**

**ASHE COUNTY UPDATE** – Again this year, we will not be able to give the Christmas Party in Ashe County because the people up there do not believe in shots (COVID). I have talked with Allen (who is in charge of White Oak Community Center) only to find out that he and several of his neighbors are sick with COVID.

We will continue collecting clothing and household goods with the hope of taking a truck up this spring. Thank you for caring!

Merry Christmas,  
Marion Briggs

**DINNERS FOR EIGHT** - Although we had a small group for Dinners for Eight this Fall; it was very successful. The fellowship and meal that we shared at each gathering has been so meaningful. We are planning to start back in the Spring and hope a lot of you will want to join us. We will start in February and run through May, once a month.

We need to have everyone interested in participating register no later than Monday, January 10 to ensure timely notification is made to the groups. Anyone signing up after that date will be placed on a substitute list to fill in when someone cannot make their assigned dinner. To sign up or get more information, you can contact Betty Small at [ncbesmall@gmail.com](mailto:ncbesmall@gmail.com) or 704-579-1842, providing your name(s), phone number, residence address and your email address as part of the email. Or you may contact the church office and provide the information to Jamey.

**I WOULD LIKE TO THANK** - everyone for their cards, phone calls, etc., during my current back surgery and recovery. My back is doing well, but since I had a mild stroke, I have a ways to go yet, but I am doing well. Linda Clark



## Advent/Christmas Season 2021

### Sunday, December 5 - Second Sunday in Advent

- Advent **devotional books and candles** to refresh your advent wreath at home will be available outside the sanctuary.
- Opportunities to purchase a **poinsettia** and/or an angel for the **angel tree** (youth fundraising project) in honor or memory of a family member or friend will be available.

### Sunday, December 12 - Third Sunday in Advent

- The **Children's Choir and Youth** will present *Christmas is Jesus* at our 10:30 a.m. worship service.
- **Church fellowship luncheon** - There will be turkey, string beans, rice, and gravy along with drinks provided. Please bring a desert to share. **The deadline to make a reservation is Friday, December 3rd.** We look forward to this time of celebration and fellowship in this Christmas season.

### Sunday, December 19 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

- **Birthday Party for Jesus** - 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose room. Toddlers-5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited for crafts, story time and birthday cake!
- Our **choirs** will present **Christmas Music** at our 10:30 a.m. worship service.

### Friday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- 5:30 p.m. -**Love Feast**. We will gather in the sanctuary for traditional Christmas hymns, sharing of cookies, cider, and candle lighting.

## Sunday, December 26-1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

- Sunday School classes will not meet
- We will celebrate communion at our 10:30 worship service.



**SYMBOLS OF THE CHRISMON TREE** - We hope you are enjoying the beautiful Chrismon tree in the sanctuary this Advent Season. Chrismons were first developed in 1957 by Frances Kipps Spencer of Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia. Throughout the years the practice has grown throughout the United States and all denominations. The word "Chrismon" is a combination of the words "Christ" and "monogram", making these ornaments "symbols of Christ." Chrismons are gold and white representing majesty and purity. There are many symbols used, but here are some of the ones that are on our tree. Feel free to take a closer look after a worship service!

- **Chi Rho** ( $\chi\rho$ )-this is a monogram of the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ-Chi (X) and Rho (P).
- **Crown**-represents Jesus as our King of Kings.
- **Fish**-this is a popular symbol of Christianity today. It was a secret symbol used by the early persecuted Christians to signify their belief in Jesus.
- **Dove**-the dove is widely recognized as a symbol of purity and innocence. The dove also stands for the Holy Spirit and is a reminder of the presence of God during the baptism of Jesus.
- **Alpha and Omega** ( $\alpha\omega$ )-these are the first and last letter of the Greek alphabet representing that Christ is the beginning and the End, the first and the last.

- **Triangle**-the triangle represents the trinity of Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
- **Three circles intertwining**-these circles symbolize the eternal quality of the Trinity since the circle has not apparent beginning or ending.
- **Circle and Triangle**-another way to combine the symbols of eternity with the trinity.
- **Star**-the star represents the star of Jacob that led the wise men to Bethlehem. It can also remind us that Jesus is the light of the world.
- **Anchor Cross**-the cross that looks like an anchor on the bottom, reminds us that Jesus is the anchor of our faith.
- **Celtic Cross**-this cross with a circle at the top, reminds us of eternal life.
- **Latin Cross**-this traditional cross represents the kind of cross on which Jesus was crucified.
- **HIS**-these are the first three letters for the word “Jesus” in Greek.
- **Butterfly**-the butterfly is a symbol of Christ’s resurrection and eternal life.
- **Shepherd’s Crook**-the shepherd’s crook reminds us of the shepherds who were the first to hear the news of the birth of Jesus and can also remind us that Jesus is the Good Shepherd.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO** - Charlie & Dot Earp on their celebration of their 77<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on November 25!



A prayer for every day: "God put in my path those who can help me to grow stronger in my faith or those that I can serve in your name."



**Sunday, December 5**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

09:00 am Children's Choir Rehearsal  
09:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship  
02:00 pm GS Troop 3693  
05:00 pm Youth Group  
05:30 pm Small Group  
08:00 pm AA Meeting

**Monday, December 6**

06:30 pm GS Troop 2009  
07:00 pm Worship Committee Mtg.

**Tuesday, December 7**

12:00 pm Staff Meeting  
06:45 pm Christian Education Mtg.

**Wednesday, December 8**

06:30 pm Worship Team Rehearsal  
07:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice  
08:00 am AA Meeting

**Thursday, December 9**

09:30 am Preschool Council Meeting  
05:45 pm GS Troop 7012  
06:30 pm Congregational Care Mtg.  
07:00 pm Handbell practice  
07:30 pm Tech Team Teleconference

**Friday, December 10**

10:00 am Crafters Tea

**Saturday, December 11**

09:30 am ASC Culture Block Clay  
10:00 am Children's Choir Dress Rehearsal

**Sunday, December 12**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

09:00 am Children's Choir Rehearsal  
09:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship/Children's Choir  
11:30 am Deaconate Mtg.  
11:45 am Church Christmas Lunch  
11:45 am BASIC Training  
05:00 pm Youth Group  
08:00 pm AA Meeting



## DECEMBER



Bogdan Irimies	1	Mike Spratt	14
Jenn Michel	1	PFC Gabriel White	14
Wayne Whiteside	2	Erin Whitaker	15
Cindi Craddock	3	Price Gwynn	16
Keegan Norcom	3	Theron Freeman	17
Susan Brown	4	George Davis	20
Andy Donato	4	Anne Preslar	21
Kate Rogers	4	Tatum Haston	21
Wesley Warsaw	6	Tyler Beach	22
Ryan Donato	6	Kevin Horack	25
Toni McCall	7	Jeff Lemond	26
Kinsley Byrum	8	Forrest Nunnally	27
Spencer Beck	8	Beau Byrum	28
Matt Miller	8	Elizabeth Brasch	28
Parker McCall	10	Robin McDowell	29
Marjorie Smith	12	Margaret Niell	30
Alli Salmon	12	Jay Stock	30
Jana Cathey	12	Sandi Lauerman	31
Barbara Burns	13	Peyton Snyder	31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Marguerite Aycoth

Joan Brown

Joy Burton

Betty Byrum

Joyce Carpenter

Frances Currie

Charlie Earp

Dot Earp

Lenora Fincher

Katharine Freeman

Louise Freeman

Joe Furr

Price Gwynn

Hannah Mauer

John McKay

Margaret Niell

Ann Preslar

Marilyn Price

Gerry Roberts

Marjorie Smith

Margaret Wert

Wayne Whiteside

Lois Yandle



**PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR:**

George Thrower – has been put on the list to receive a kidney and is waiting for the phone to ring!

Richard Meeks – throat cancer and is being treated at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston until after the first of the year. He says prayers are helping and the tumor is shrinking – friend of Marcia Henderson.

Melinda Moore – GI trouble, undergoing tests

Chickie Miller - surgery on November 30th related to cancer

Barbara Roberts - continuing declining health - mother of Carla Burns.

Linda Clark – recovering at home

Jeannie Purvis – Cancer – Wife of Mike Purvis

**Please pray for our Members of the Armed Forces**

Brian Cox – US Air Force, South Korea  
Olivia Hommes – US Air Force Academy, Colorado  
Lexie Simerly – US Army – Fort Carson, Colorado  
Will Warsaw – US Navy, Japan  
Gabe White – US Army – Fort Wainwright, Alaska



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12 -3- 2021