

Here, we work together to follow Christ in joyfully serving our neighbors as compassionate, connected, contributing, everyday disciples.

December 03, 2023

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Message: Mark 13:24-37

Scripture: Keep Awake!

Elder Greeters	Mac Winget & Bruce Doane
Deacon Ushers	Tom Burns, Becky Faircloth, Fred Willis, Kelly Andrus, Clinton Corbett
Coffee and Bagel Hosts	Randall and Tiffany Brunson
Counters	Barbara Burns & Donna Moody
Signers	Bill Harraman & Pam Horack

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEK: are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Kinsley Byrum's 14th birthday on December 8 by Kelly and Beau Byrum.



The pink rose is given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the birth of Spencer Grace Stangry on November 23 by her grandparents, Theron and Charlotte Stangry. Spencer's parents are Darryl and Kristin Stangry.

Last Week's Worship:

Inhouse	Children	Nursery	Online	Total
214	26	7	239	453

Odds and Ends

George and Betty Davis would like to thank everyone for the phone calls, cards, and prayers during George's stay in the hospital and rehab. Having their church family stay in touch meant so much and helped them get through this difficult time.

Pleasant Hill Preschool is inviting you to attend their Christmas program performed by the toddlers to four year olds on

Tuesday, December 19

Toddlers and Twos: 9:30 a.m.

Threes and Fours: 10:45 a.m.

Door of Hope Mission

We are currently putting together a team for the Door of Hope in South Africa for May 15 to June 1st, 2024. This includes a trip to Kruger National Game Reserve. The size of the team is limited. If you are interested, please contact Dexter Greene, 704-575-0474

Lost & Found – Don't forget to check the church office for lost or forgotten items. Our collection is growing.

SPECIAL LETTER FROM LOAVES AND FISHES.

SEE PAGE 7 OR CLICK HERE.

Cookbooks

Cookbooks From Old
Steele Creek Church —
will be on sale this Sunday and future Sundays. Becky Neely and
Betty Davis will be in the sanctuary lobby selling books. The cost will be
\$10.00 per book. The proceeds will go towards the 10 Cents-a-Meal fund that will help feed people.



Children,

It is time to have your own spot in the newsletter. I need your help for this section to grow. Submit your art, favorite Bible verse, a picture, joke, etc.

I put a secret treat on the church Website last week. Did you find it?

**if you clicked on the Thanksgiving message above the newsletter link, it gobbled.

Kids.

Have your art and cartoons featured here —> Submit to address above or bring drawings to the church office and you can get them back quickly.



Calendar and Events

2 December, Saturday	6 December, Wednesday
9 am—Decorating Campus for Christmas	6:30 pm — Praise Team Rehearsal
3 December, Sunday	07:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal
First Sunday of Advent and Communion	7 December, Thursday
09:00 am—Children's Choir Rehearsal	10 am—Beyond the Word
09:30 am - Sunday School, Donuts and Coffee	07 pm—Handbell Rehearsal
10:30 am - Worship	07:30 pm— Tech Team
05:00 pm – Youth Group Sunday Evening	9 December, Saturday
4 December, Monday	9:00 am—Children's Rehearsal
2 pm — Intercessory Prayer Team	10 December, Sunday
6 pm—Admin & Personnel Ministry	Second Sunday in Advent
6:30 pm—Morgan Group Gathering	9 am—Children's Choir Rehearsal
5 December, Tuesday	12pm— Deacon's Meeting
6:45 pm—Christian Growth: Youth Team	5:00 pm—Youth Group

This Sunday is the
First Sunday of
Advent. We will be
taking Communion, lighting our
first Advent candle,
and celebrating
the season with an
exceptional high
school choir. Come
out and listen to
the Palisades High
School Chamber
Choir.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 3

With Communion, birthday party, and special music, it will be a full day.

We will have special music provided by the Palisades High School choir.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JESUS

The preschoolers through 5th graders will be celebrating the birth of Jesus on Dec. 3rd also, with a birthday party during Sunday school in the multipurpose room. There will be cupcakes, juice, crafts, singing and story time.

Christmas Luncheon, December 8 at 11:00 a.m. the co-ed group known as the Crafts Fellowship will meet in the small dining room. Be sure to wear your UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER and join the fun!

<u>Second Sunday of Advent</u>, <u>December 10</u> We will enjoy a wonderful arrangement by the children's choir.

Christmas Luncheon, December 12

at 11:30 a.m. for the Women's Fellowship Circle. The luncheon will be at John's Restaurant off Westinghouse Road.

Third Sunday of Advent, December

17 Toys are due for the West Blvd. Toy Drive. New, unwrapped toys will be collected for boys and girls ages 3 — 15.

If you would prefer to donate money, make checks payable to "West Blvd Ministry" and they'll do the shopping for you.

Third Sunday of Advent, December

17 The adult music program will present a collection of music for your enjoyment.

There is also a church wide luncheon after the service in the multipurpose room. In order to prepare, **WE NEED A HEADCOUNT!!**You must reserve your spot by any of the following methods

- 1) call the office
- 2) Complete the slip that will be in the bulletin.
- 3) Sign-up on line through Church Center starting December 11.

Santa is expected to make an appearance during lunch, so you don't want to miss it!

Afterwards, there is caroling to select houses, cookies and cocoa.

Music Notes





SOUND BITES MUSIC TEAMS FUN DAY! JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM Rated PG · Run Time: 1h 38m YOU KNOW? Saturday, December 2, 2023 · 12:20 pm George Friderick Handel wrote his famous oratorio RESERVE TIX AT Fandango com 'Messiah' in only 24 days! This live-action Christmas musical adventure for the entire family weaves classic Christmas melodies with humor, faith, and new songs in a retelling of the greatest story ever told, the story of Mary, Joseph, and the birth of Jesus. RESERVE TICKETS THROUGH FANDANGO.COM KAARIN AND DON ARE IN SEATS D5 & D6 • 'Messiah' runs about 2 hours and 20 minutes Ayrsley Grand Cinema 9110 Kings Parade Blvd. in length, so that means Handel composed Charlotte, NC 28273 about 45 minutes of music per week. He 980.297.7540 finished it on September 14th, 1741. KAARIN@STEELECREEKCHURCH.ORG POPCOR

<u>MINISTRIES</u>

You may request to join the following ministries anytime.



Barry Small is looking to get a group of persons to go to the National Cemetery in Salisbury, NC to put out wreaths on our Veteran's graves with *Wreaths Across America* for Christmas. I'm sure you have seen pictures of the cemeteries with the Christmas wreaths on the white head stones. We will leave church at **Saturday, December 16** at 10:00am and return around 4:00 pm. We will use the bus if we have enough volunteers and drive other vehicles if needed. Please bring a snack and drink.



CHRISTIAN GROWTH MINISTRY

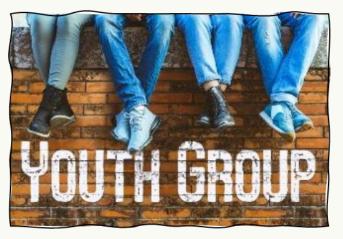
IS ANNOUNCING:

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS ARE AVAILABLE.

Advent devotionals have arrived for the different age groups in our church. They are ready for pick-up Sunday morning.

The children's is a two-part piece that includes a booklet and a Christmas tree poster to punch out and build.

The youth (middle and high school) have available a single advent booklet titled It's About Time, while the adults Advent devotional book is titled A Season of Peace. The latter book says it is for seniors on the cover, but it is for all our adults. Grab your Advent devotional from the lobby.



The Youth Group is asking for help with meals for 2024.

Please sign—up below through Sign-Up Genius. The link is below. Steele Creek Presbyterian Church at Pleasant Hill: Youth Group Meals (signupgenius.com)





Rev. Jeff Pinkston Steele Creek Presbyterian Church at Pleasant Hill 15000 York Road Charlotte, NC 28278

Hi Jeff.

You are a true hunger hero! Thank you for your 2023 gift-in-kind donation to Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays of 2696.65 pounds of 660 lbs. Mixed Groceries and 385 lbs. Poultry (50 Turkeys!). We truly appreciate your kindness and generosity.

At Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays, we have seen a significant increase in the number of people we are serving – donations are down while demand is up. To keep up with demand, we have spent an all-time high on food purchases while serving over 99,000 neighbors from January through September of 2023!

We are eternally grateful for your commitment to help provide nutrition security for all. Our work would not be possible without your generosity and partnership. Your gift will go far in allowing us to live our mission of nourishing our neighbors with food and compassion.

From our staff, board, volunteers, and clients, we thank you for your support.

In partnership

Martha Cochrane

Community Engagement Coordinator

IRS Tax Information - Please retain this receipt for your tax records. Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. Federal ID #56-1398498. Your donation is acknowledged as a direct contribution. No goods or services were exchanged with Loaves & Fishes.

We received the above letter from Loaves and Fishes last week. For your ease of reading, it is transcribed below.

Hi Jeff:

You are a true hunger hero! Thank you for our 2023 gift-in-kind donation to Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays of 2696.65 pounds "dollars [sic]" of "and [sic]" 660 lbs. Mixed Groceries and 385 lbs. Poultry (50 Turkeys!). We truly appreciate your kindness and generosity.

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From our staff, board, volunteers, and clients, we thank you for your support.

In partnership,

Martha Cochrane Community Engagement Coordinator

Prayer Concerns

Praise

Jason Sims, a nephew of Gloria Smith, was released from the hospital. Jason has been in the hospital since the first week of September, and it's a real praise that he's at home.

Condolences

 To Kyle Little, family members and friends of Alec Little who passed away last week.

Special, Congregational, and Community Concerns

- Prayer for the country of Ukraine and its people.
- Prayer for the country of Israel and its people.
- For Christians who are persecuted around the world.
- For youth in all circumstances who are facing bullying.
- ♦ Agape Dental Ministry
- Kairos Prison Ministry: For the inmates and those serving in the ministry, that they would know Jesus as their savior.
- Pray for the current foster parents and pray that more foster parents come forward. There is a drastic shortage and such a strong need.
- Please pray for the organization Fostering the Family and the following children that are looking to be adopted:
- ♦ Mario—pray for his adoption to

- be completed in December. Mario has being in foster care for three years.
- Laila—pray for permanency with the family she is with and an adoption. Laila has been in foster care for four years.
- ◆ Jenifire—a child waiting for adoption—foster parent undecided about whether she can do ◆ it, but another family would be thrilled to adopt her. Jenifire has been in foster care for four years.
- Princeton, Desiyah, Destiny –
 parents rights were terminated
 and adoption prospects are
 scarce for the girls. Need permanency soon. They have been in
 foster care for four years.
- Brittany—has a court case this month. Parents may lose their * parental rights so permanence can happen. Brittany has been in foster care for 18 months.

Ongoing Illness

- Cooper Freeman III has kidney disease and diabetes. Please pray for healing for the issues he's experiencing with his feet.
- Andy Griffith as he struggles with Cystic Fibrosis.
- Darrell Bonapart is a veteran, member of the American Legion, and friend of Bill Harraman. His wife has now been diagnosed with congestive heart failure, diabetes, nerve damage, and high blood pressure. He appreciates our prayers.
- Daniel Morris, agriend of Bruce Doane's diagnosed with We-

gener's disease. There is no cure for this disease and will require lifetime treatment. Please pray also for his wife and two children.

General Health Concerns

- Danny Martin is in Presbytery Hospital with heart issues.
- Prayer for George and Betty Davis as George is experiencing some health concerns.
- Anne Marie Moore's father, Kevin, is doing better but has a long recovery ahead of him.
- Please pray for Katharine Freeman.
- Paul Brenner, Gail Brenner's nephew, has been diagnosed with kidney disease that may require dialysis.
- Pat McCorkle was released from the hospital to return to Lake Wylie Assisted Living.
- Fred Willis asks for prayers for Jim Medlock who is experiencing health issues and awaiting test results.

Cancer

◆ Teresa Hartman, neighbor and friend of Angie White, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 neck cancer. Please pray for both Teresa and her husband Scott as they deal with this overwhelming situation.

- Fletcher Wilson, father of Ashley Rawls, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer. Ashley's prayer request is that his body responds to the chemo and radiation treatments and stop the spread of cancer and heal him.
- Ruth McGaha had surgery and is home resting comfortably.
- Johnny Bethea, cousin of Anne Moore has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He's undergoing chemo treatment.
- Margaret Renward, a family member of Deb & Paul O'Connor has been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic, lung and liver cancer.
- Donna Garrison is doing well after her surgery and is continuing to heal.
- Dan Baird, Kate Lemond's coworker's father, is now having more energy and will have another scan in September.
- Jim Conner, Becky Ennis' father, is coming to the end of his chemo treatment.
- Diana Hunter is doing well after her last round of chemo.
 They are looking at her entering a clinical trial.
- Larry Aaron, co-worker of Kate Lemond, asks for prayer for healing, a treatment plan, and understanding of the situation.
- Dave Prouty, a friend of the Morgan's, who is battling cancer. Please also pray for his wife and eleven-year-old twins.

Homebound

- ♦ Joan Brown
- ♦ Linda Clark
- ♦ Joyce Carpenter
- Dot Earp
- Katharine Freeman
- Louise Freeman
- Joe Furr
- Elaine Kotraba
- Danny Martin
- Hannah Mauer
- Sarah Middleton
- Margaret Niell
- ♦ Forest Nunnally
- Gerry Roberts
- Mike Spratt
- Margaret Wert
- Wayne Whitesides
- ♦ Lois Yandle

Students

- ♦ Sarah DeBerry
- ♦ Kelly Ferguson
- ♦ Clay Ferguson
- ♦ Donald Horack
- ♦ Connor McAliley
- Melinda Moore
- ♦ Ben Shanti
- Regan Snyder
- ♦ Andrew Tanner
- ♦ Charlie Warnke

Military

**When we have someone serving outside of the U.S., we remember them, by lighting a candle, until they return. Please be in prayer for them.

- **Brian Cox, US Air Force,
 Jordan
- Olivia Hommes, US Air Force Academy, Colorado
- Bradley Lauerman, US Navy, Virginia
- **Lexie Simerly, US Army, South Korea
- Will Warsaw, US Navy, Virginia

If you would like to add or remove a church member who is in college or the military from the prayer list, please reach out to tiffany@steelecreekchurch.org and/or Betty Small.