



Advent Light

Dear Church Family,

I love the Advent wreath in our church and in many of our homes. I love that circle of evergreen and the four candles we light until at last we get to light the candle in the center of it all, the Christ candle. When all the leaves are falling and the earth seems to be dying, we adorn this never-ending circle with greenery that bears witness to the eternity of life.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:15

I love that the Christian year starts in darkness and waiting, a moment to imagine what it would be like if Christ were not... and then one candle is lit, the candle of hope, and our expectant waiting begins again. Suddenly, there is no more darkness, for even though the darkness is vast, when one light is lit, the darkness cannot consume it.



Hope grows into peace, and then joy, and then love. Then on Christmas Eve, we hear the story again about how the One who is in the center of it all, humbled himself and was born among us. And from his light a multitude of lights are lit.

In my mind's eye, I see your face illuminated by a candle you hold in your hand, bearing that light into the world. And I pray that this will be for you a season of growing light and renewed hope.

Let us begin again, my friends, in memory and in hope, lighting candles in the darkness, trusting that he who has come is coming again, and that our joy will be complete in the light of his love.

Abiding in hope, peace, joy, and love, I am your pastor and friend,

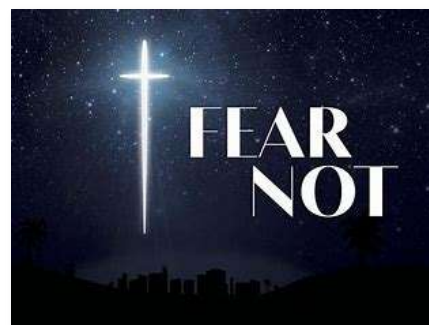
Caroline



Sermon Series for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany: Do Not Be Afraid, Be...

God sent an angel to Joseph with this message, "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 1:20)

This year, the lectionary offers us readings mostly from the gospel of Matthew. That means that we have the opportunity to view the coming Christ through the eyes of Joseph. How did Joseph respond to this strange good news? Why is Joseph God's choice to be Jesus' earthly father? How is Joseph's parenting reflected in the life and ministry of Jesus? What can we learn from Joseph as we welcome Christ anew this Christmas? When the Spirit is at work, let us be like Joseph and give heed to the angel. Let us not be afraid, let us be...



December 4: Repentant

Second Sunday in Advent

Communion

- † Isaiah 11:1-10
- † Matthew 3:1-12

December 11: Jubilant

Third Sunday in Advent

- † Isaiah 35:1-10
- † Matthew 11:2-11

December 18: Obedient

Fourth Sunday in Advent

- † Isaiah 7:10-16
- † Matthew 1:18-25

December 24: Awed

Christmas Eve

- † Isaiah 9:2-7
- † Luke 2:1-20

December 25: Enlightened

Christmas Day

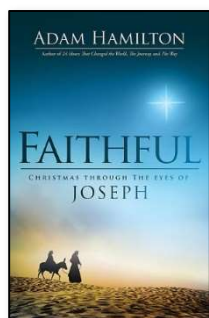
- † Isaiah 52:7-10
- † John 1:1-14

January 1: Led

Sunday before Epiphany

- † Isaiah 63:7-9
- † Matthew 2:1-24

Seeing Christmas from a New Perspective



During Advent, our Sunday morning study disciples gather at 9:00 A.M. to imagine what it is to experience Jesus' birth from a new perspective via our study, *Faithful: Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*, written by Adam Hamilton.

We began this journey on the first Sunday of Advent by considering "A Carpenter Named Joseph"—what did God have in mind when He hand-picked a humble carpenter in Nazareth to be the foster Dad/stepfather for His only earthly Son? And how do we detect Joseph's influence on the young Jesus, as revealed by Rabbi Jesus' later words and actions?

Over the remaining Sundays before Christmas, we'll consider "Whose Child is This?", "Raising a Child Not Your Own," "The Journey to Bethlehem," and finally "The Rest of the Story."

It's never too late to jump into our informal studies! Come to the choir room at 9:00 A.M. prepared to seek wisdom and find fellowship. You can order a copy of the student guide from your favorite online bookseller.

Nativity is Focus of Children's Church School

In October and November, the children learned about the seven days of creation in their Sunday school sessions. They made a picture to take home each week so they could recreate this banner at home. Their original banner is displayed in their classroom. To see photos of their magnum opus, check out pages 15-16.

During the next three Sundays, our children will participate in an Advent study, "Teaching Through the Nativity." Our children are learning about Advent symbols and Chrismon symbols (more on page 6). For these object lessons, we will use our Fisher Price Nativity set, donated a few years ago by our beloved "Miss Lynn" Bornemann.

If your children miss a week at church or live out of town, they can do the lessons at home with their own Nativity set. The lessons are from this resource: <https://ministry-to-children.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Nativity-Bible-Lessons-for-Advent.pdf>



And if you want to teach your children more about these Christian traditions, here is a website with lots of information: <https://www.whychristmas.com/customs/chrismons>

Just a reminder to families, there will be **no Sunday School or childcare on December 25 and January 1**; however, there *will* be family-friendly worship!

Advent is a Hands-On Experience



You don't have to be a kid to enjoy arts 'n' crafts activities. The smiling faces at our Wednesday night supper and Advent workshop are evidence of that (see more photos on page 19).



Fear not! Even if you missed the Advent Workshop last month, several do-it-yourself crafts are still available for you to enjoy when you have—or need—a quiet moment. You'll find them in the Branches Sunday School class on the second floor of the office wing. One of our artists-in-residence has graciously provided instructions and materials.

Westminster Happenings

Sunday December 4	<p>Sunday School Meet at 9:00 A.M. in the choir room. Continue exploring our Advent study with Beth Hammond.</p> <p>Don't be Afraid, Be...Repentant <i>Second Sunday of Advent/Communion</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming. Hear John the Baptist call us to a change of mind and behavior.</p> <p>Toddler Learning Center Q&A Learn about this exciting new mission in the choir room after worship. Members of the TLC Task Force will be available to answer questions.</p> <p>Together Time: Lander University Singers Concert Convene in the auditorium lobby on Lander campus at 3:45 P.M. Soak in the seasonal sounds—member Maggie Raborn is in the chorus.</p>
Wednesday December 7	<p>Toddler Learning Center Welcome Reception Celebrate this great new relationship in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 P.M. Members of the Community Initiatives staff and board will join us.</p>
Saturday December 10	<p>Caroling, Caroling, Now We Go! Come to the Fellowship Hall by 3:00 P.M. Lift up your voice with Christmas joy for our Wellington Green friends.</p>
Sunday December 11	<p>Sunday School Gather at 9:00 A.M. in the choir room. See Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph, led by Tina Corley.</p> <p>Be Jubilant <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming. Focus on joy as you anticipate Christ's coming to earth.</p> <p>Session Meeting Meet in the parlor at 11:30 A.M. Conduct the work of the church with the Holy Spirit's guidance.</p>
Sunday December 18	<p>Sunday School Join the conversation at 9:00 A.M. in the choir room. Wrap up our Advent study of Joseph, with Claire Kuhl.</p> <p>Be Obedient <i>Fourth Sunday in Advent</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming. Learn lessons of obedience from Mary and Joseph.</p>

Westminster Happenings, *continued*

Sunday December 18, <i>continued</i>	Sunday Sustenance with Chef Rob & Friends Feast in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Bring little ones up for a Sunday sing-along, led by Denise Waldrep.
Wednesday December 21	Longest Night Worship Worship at 5:30 P.M. in person or via live streaming. Embrace the turning point where light once again conquers darkness.
Saturday December 24	Christmas Eve Family Worship Worship at 5:30 P.M. in person or via live streaming. Gather with the Holy Family and the shepherds to welcome the King!
Sunday December 25	Christmas Morning Brunch Assemble in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 A.M. Greet each other with joy and gladness at the birth of our King! Be Enlightened <i>Christmas Day</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming. Bask in the Light of Life—Christ Jesus, Our Emmanuel!
Monday December 26	<i>Church office is closed for the holiday</i>
Sunday January 1, 2023	Be Led <i>New Year's Day</i> Worship at 10:00 A.M. in person or via live streaming. Start the new year right by worshipping Christ the Savior. Traditional New Year's Day Lunch Gather in the Fellowship Hall at 11:30 A.M. Store up some Southern-style good luck with a traditional lunch of ham, black-eyed peas, greens, cornbread, and sparkling cider. Yum!
Monday January 2	<i>Church office is closed for the holiday</i>

“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:20-21

Not Just Any Old Tree

When our hard-working “greens team” adorns our church for worship during Advent and Christmas, one of their biggest challenges is raising and decorating that spectacular tree at the front of the sanctuary. Our eyes are so accustomed to seeing decorated trees in secular settings, it’s easy to forget that this is *not* just any old holiday tree—it is a Chrismon Tree!

As with a traditional Christmas tree, the evergreen itself symbolizes for Christians the eternal life Jesus Christ provides; however, the Chrismon tree is decorated only with clear lights and ornaments made from white and gold material, the liturgical colors of the Christmas season.

Those special ornaments are called Chrismons. The word *Chrismon* is derived from the phrase “**Christ’s monogram.**” Every ornament features a symbol that represents one of the many names of Christ, along with ancient icons for some part of Christ’s ministry. See page 20 to explore some typical designs.



Chrismons were first introduced in 1957 when Frances Kipps Spencer, a Lutheran in Danville, Virginia, wanted decorations that were appropriate for her church’s Christmas tree. The Chrismon craze soon took over, and not just in Lutheran circles. Throughout the following two decades, the making of Chrismons was often a churchwide event in mainline denominations.



Thanks to some super sleuthing by Nancy Dozier, we know part of the story of where our glittering, glowing Chrismons originated. When Westminster decided to have our very own Chrismon tree, the youth and the ladies of the church took on the challenge of crafting enough ornaments to cover a towering fir.

The youth of the day (1980s) took it on as a group project. They can take pride in knowing that the many large Styrofoam Chrismons they made are still sparkling today.

The rest of the handiwork is attributed to a number of women who devoted their time and talent to the effort. Long-time members will recognize some of the names, including Pat Poole and Beth Armstrong.

Thanks to the loving generosity of these saints, we still enjoy the magnificence of Christ’s monograms on our very own tree from Advent through Epiphany!

Your Grateful Response: Stewardship Update

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Your response on November 13th, Dedication Sunday, was joyous and generous—proof positive that God provides *for* His people *through* His people!



Based on commitment letters received thus far, you have pledged more than 90% of the Asking Budget. Your Session is working now to translate the Asking Budget estimates into an actual balanced budget plan for 2023. Their commitment to you is to be good stewards of the resources with which we are blessed, always keeping the Great Commission and the Greatest Commandments at the forefront of their decision-making.



Sincere thanks also for the many responses regarding how you plan to “serve the Lord with gladness” through volunteering your time and talent. Committee Chairs are already reaching out in response to help you get engaged in the areas that interest you.

Like Paul, your Pastor and your Session say, with fervent prayers and appreciation, “Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God!” (Philippians 1:3)

Stewardship Snapshot

The Stewardship Snapshot is a regular report from the Session to the *Westminster Times* newsletter. Please note that because of the newsletter publication schedule vs. timing of month-end close, these reports will typically be about six weeks behind.



October 2022

	October Actual	Monthly Budget	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
Total Income	\$11,154	\$15,574	\$136,641	\$157,242
Total Expenses	\$18,626	\$18,315	\$186,691	\$182,618
Net Gain/Loss	—\$7,472		—\$50,050	

We experienced close to an \$8k operating loss for the month. Contributions were about \$5k below the monthly budget. We paid our full year "Fair Share Giving" to Trinity Presbytery in the amount of \$2.2k. Please remember that, for your tax-deductible contributions to apply to your 2022 income tax, the church office must receive your donation no later than noon on Friday, December 30th.

Please direct any questions about church financial matters to our treasurer, Len Bornemann, or any member of the Business Affairs Committee.

“Behold, I Will Do a New Thing!”

By now, you have probably heard the great news—Westminster’s children’s wing will once again resound with the laughter and learning of little ones every weekday! This is the happy result of a new relationship we’ve formed with Community Initiatives, Inc., a nonprofit organization based in the Matthews area. An email from Pastor Caroline was sent to you on November 22 with lots of details about this exciting new development.



How, you may ask, did a nonprofit in the Matthews area become connected with Westminster, and vice versa? The answer is a great story of how God creates relationships among His people to do bigger things together than they could ever do apart!

It was during Leadership Greenwood that Pastor Caroline first met Teresa Goodman, Executive Director of Community Initiatives (CI). In sharing CI’s future vision, she painted a vivid picture of a childcare center that would serve children in their area *and* assist their families by freeing up parents for work or school participation.



They had the plan, they had the clients, they had transportation, they had grant money! In fact, they had everything they needed... **except** for a suitable space that met DSS and DHEC requirements for use by children. Something that Westminster not only has, but has been longing to put back into use!

After the presentation, Caroline made a beeline to Teresa with the seeds of an amazing plan. The rest is history!

When your Session learned about the proposal, they formed a TLC Task Force, made up of David Hammond, Building & Grounds; Tina Corley, Education & Nurture; Arthur Gillespie, Missions & Outreach; Claire Kuhl, Business Affairs; and Caroline Dennis, Moderator.

This team invested many hours in research and conversation internally and with Community Initiatives to craft a plan that is a “win” for all concerned. The result is a formal lease arrangement that benefits all parties and protects Westminster in regard to maintaining fiscal health and limiting potential risk.

For more information about the details of the plan, refer to the email attachments from that November 22 email, contact any member of the Task Force, and especially drop by the upcoming Q&A Session and Celebration events (details above right).

TLC Q&A Session with the Task Force

Sunday, December 4th @ 11:15 A.M.

In the Choir Room

Celebration with CI Representatives

Wednesday, December 7th @ 5:30 P.M.

In the Fellowship Hall

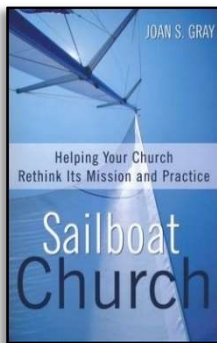
Let’s rejoice together and celebrate this amazing new thing that God is doing through us!

Reaching the Unchurched: Project Regeneration Update

Until January, most of our energies are appropriately focused on Advent and our preparations for the arrival of the Christ Child.

Even so, progress continues toward our Project Regeneration endeavor.

First, Treasurer Len Bornemann has been in touch with the financial analyst provided by the Presbyterian Foundation, Paul Grier. Len completed a lengthy standard questionnaire about our fiscal health and chatted with Grier about our rather unique situation. For example, we are completely debt-free, something about which few congregations can boast. And we have strong stewardship from our small but vibrant church family.



Second, everyone is urged to pick up a copy of *Sailboat Church*, by Joan Gray. The books are provided for us by the Presbyterian Foundation at no cost. This book is both challenging and exciting. Gray posits that churches should be

sailboats, powered by the breath of the Holy Spirit rather than *rowboats*, depending on the limited vision and energy of its members. She notes that sailboat churches:

- Are a divine-human partnership
- Prioritize nurturing our relationship with Jesus Christ
- Live by prayer
- Are shaped and guided by interaction with Scripture
- Require spiritual leaders
- Take spiritual realities and resources seriously
- Live to sail!

Copies are available in the narthex and also in the church office. Get yours soon!

Christmas Presence

By Joyce Alexander

Anticipation builds

Amid shopping and baking,
Cards and caroling,
Packages and decorations;

Anticipation builds

Amid friends and family,
Feasts and festivals,
Memories and laughter;

Anticipation builds

Amid the music,
Amid the glitter,
Amid the sparkle;

The best gift of all

Is the presence of love,
Given, received, shared.

Honor the Sabbath Day and Keep It Holy

The fourth Commandment reminds us that Sunday isn't just another day. God set

it aside as a reminder
that we need time to
rest, reflect, and refresh.



Put aside work and
worries—even church
work. Resist the

temptation to raise issues with the pastor, office manager, or elders immediately before and after worship. Instead, join with them in preparing heart and mind for worship, and afterward, to contemplating what God is saying to you through the sermon, worship experience, and fellowship.

Remember that the Session and staff are available all the rest of the week, and they are eager to hear from you in person, via email, or through comments put into the Suggestion Box in the narthex.

Home-Grown Holiday Fun

- Laura Margaret Fennell is playing a lead role in Frozen Junior at Greenwood Community Theatre this month. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit GreenwoodCommunityTheater.com.
- **December 1-3:** Elizabeth Watkins and Sally Kauffmann are performing at the Connie Maxwell Live Nativity.
- **December 4:** Hymns and Hops sing-along at 6:00 P.M. at Good Times Brewing.
- **December 11:** Lucia Horowitz sings with the Greenwood Festival Chorale in their Christmas Concert, *Revelry: A Night of Holiday Magic*. Concert is at 5:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian Church. Tickets may be purchased from Lucia.
- **December 12:** Palmetto Girls Sing! (directed by Laura Margaret's mother, Amy) presents their Winter Concert at First Presbyterian Church at 6:00 P.M. Tickets may be purchased at encoreticketing.com.

Expand Your Perspective

This year is very special, because we are united by a devotional book, "Christmas Through the Eyes of Westminster," daily reflections written by our members and friends. Many thanks to all our contributors! Our view is expanded, our fellowship strengthened, and our faith deepened. You can request a copy from the church office.



Coming in January

Whether you are new to Westminster or have been Presbyterian forever, you can benefit from our upcoming study, *Presbyterian 101*. In this class, you will learn about Presbyterian history and beliefs, and the way we are living those out here at Westminster. Look for more information to come.



Great Hymns of Our Faith: "Joy to the World"

Excerpted from The One Year Book of Hymns, by Brown, Norton, Peterson, & Peterson



When is a Christmas carol *not* a Christmas carol? When it doesn't focus on the birth of Christ, perhaps?

Take this one, for instance. Isaac Watts based the text on the last half of Psalm 98, which celebrates the coming of the Lord to judge the world in righteousness. The psalmist calls on all creation to sing and shout for joy at His coming.

There is nothing in the psalm or in Watts's paraphrase that specifically mentions the *birth* of Christ, just the Lord's coming in judgement.

So should we stop singing this at Christmas? Not at all! This hymn celebrates God's involvement with His people—and this work of God began at the stable in Bethlehem. At Christmas, we need bifocal vision. We need to look back and praise God for the glorious gift of His Son, Jesus. But we should also look forward to Christ's return, when God will bring a righteous conclusion to all things. Then we will begin to fully enjoy the "wonders of His love" for all eternity.

Greenwood Place Update

Submitted by Fred Murphy, Executive Director

Last month we listed four of the Standards under which the Clubhouse functions. The following Standards deal with the Clubhouse and the space it occupies.



GREENWOOD PLACE



12. The Clubhouse has its own identity, including its own name, mailing address and telephone number.

13. The Clubhouse is located in its own physical space. It is separate from any mental health center or institutional setting, and impermeable to other programs. The Clubhouse is designed to facilitate the work-ordered day and at the same time be attractive, adequate in size, and convey a sense of respect and dignity.

14. All Clubhouse space is member- and staff-accessible. There are no staff-only or member-only spaces.

Greenwood Place celebrated its sixth anniversary on October 13th. The Clubhouse had its first work-ordered day on October 13, 2016. We want to thank everyone who has worked to help Greenwood Place continue its mission, and we recognize all of our members who have worked to support the clubhouse.

For the month of October, Greenwood Place averaged 8 individuals coming daily. In all, we have around 18 members who are active in the Clubhouse. Because of conflicts in schedules, we postponed our October Social. The Social for November will be a shopping trip to Walmart and then lunch at Chick-fil-A.



We had a very successful Thanksgiving meal. The Clubhouse tries to be open on holidays for our members to have a place to come and celebrate the day. We are fortunate to have received a donation Federation of three turkeys from the Turkey Wildlife to help with our Thanksgiving celebration.

The Clubhouse is already beginning to plan on our Christmas Party. We have decided to have our party and Christmas lunch on

Thursday, December 22nd.

Thanks always to our Westminster friends for your continued support and prayers.

You are cordially invited to join us for our Christmas Party—the more, the merrier!



Dealing with a Blue Christmas

For many people, Christmas and the season leading up to it is full of mixed emotions. There is the joy and expectation, wonder and hope that linger from childhood. But there is also weight of responsibility, fear of the unknown, and grief over losses of one kind or another.



Sometimes Christmas celebrations leave little room for the “less bright” emotions of fear, anxiety, anger, and sadness. It is good to know that there is someone with a keen view into our hearts and that there is a place where we can share this part of our hearts.

Many churches and even secular groups of friends celebrate a “Blue Christmas” or “Longest Night” service where people are invited to bring these blue emotions and the hard things going on in the world, and rest in the comfort and promises of the One who put these words into the prophet’s mouth, “Comfort, comfort my people.”

Usually such a service falls on or near the shortest day of the year and the longest night, December 21. What is wonderful about this night is that it is a turning point. The point where the darkness is the greatest, is the point at which the light begins to grow. We are a people of hope who know that the dawn is coming. In the meantime, we hold one another’s grief as surely as we share one another’s joy.

If you are experiencing any of these blue emotions, please know that you do not do it alone. Please reach out to your pastor or another friend. You do not have to put on a happy face just because it is Christmas. Who knows, perhaps sharing your feelings with a friend will make a way for the joy to break through again. And perhaps you will give them a chance to share the blue feelings they have been experiencing.

Finally, be encouraged to check on folks you know who are isolated or who have experienced a particular loss this year. Give them the gift of your time and your listening ear. Often, we need a receptacle for our disappointments, memories, and delayed hopes, so that there might be space for a little joy. We can be that receptacle for one another.



If you personally need support or know someone who does, beyond the care of a friend or pastor, reach out to professional hotlines and resources including, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Helpline can be reached Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m., ET. Call 1-800-950-NAMI (6264), text "HelpLine" to 62640, or email us at helpline@nami.org.

Tips for Avoiding the Holiday Blues

Excerpted from mayoclinic.org

The holiday season often brings unwelcome guests—stress and depression. And it's no wonder. The holidays often present a dizzying array of demands—cooking meals, shopping, baking, cleaning and entertaining, to name just a few. You may also feel stressed, sad or anxious because your holiday plans may look different as the COVID-19 pandemic rolls on. But with some practical tips, you can minimize the stress that accompanies the holidays. Try to prevent stress and depression in the first place, especially if the holidays have taken an emotional toll on you in the past.



1. **Acknowledge your feelings.** If someone close to you has recently died or you can't be with loved ones for other reasons, realize that it's normal to feel sadness and grief. It's OK to take time to cry or express your feelings. You can't force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.
2. **Reach out.** If you feel lonely or isolated, seek out community, religious or other social events or communities. It also may help to talk to a friend or family member about your concerns. Try reaching out with a text, a call or a video chat. Volunteering your time or doing something to help others also is a good way to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.



3. **Be realistic.** The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year. As families change and grow, traditions and rituals often change as well. Choose a few to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones.
4. **Set aside differences.** Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all of your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate time for discussion. And be understanding if others get upset or distressed when something goes awry. Chances are they're feeling the effects of holiday stress and depression, too.
5. **Stick to a budget.** Before you do your gift and food shopping, decide how much money you can afford to spend. Then stick to your budget. Don't try to buy happiness with an avalanche of gifts.

Don't let the holidays become something you dread. Instead, take steps to prevent the stress and depression that can descend during the holidays.

Learn to recognize your holiday triggers, such as financial pressures or personal demands, so you can combat them before they lead to a meltdown. With a little planning and some positive thinking, you can find peace and joy during the holidays.

Let Us Pray...



For Those in Our Church

We share one another's joys and concerns:

- John & Mishie Bacot
- Mary Corley
- Mac & Holly Hubbard
- Kelli Lott & daughters
Savanah and Gabby
- Laine Horowitz
- Abigail Mossman
- Meg Templin Smith,
niece of M. A. Wilson
- Ed Watkins
- Gail & Glen Yonce,
and Georgianna
- Our pastor and her
family, staff, elders,
and elders-elect

We pray daily for our prayer partners and their special concerns. We pray for our sister churches: New Faith, Ware Shoals, First Presbyterian, Abbeville Presbyterian, and others.

We pray for the ministries of our church, especially:

- Presbyterian Communities of SC
- Prison Ministry
- Thornwell Home
- Presbyterian College
- Greenwood Place
- NAMI
- Pathway House
- Food Bank of Greenwood
- Meg's House
- Beyond Abuse
- Greater Greenwood United Ministries
- Camp Fellowship
- Community Initiatives



For Those in Our Hearts

We pray for these members of our wider community:

- Betsey Blimline
- Chris Brown
- Lib Colough
- Nancy Cooper
- Dean & Albert Fadden
- David Gillespie
- Lois Grice
- Beverly Grier
- Stephanie & Eve Horton
- Joan Herin
- Michael Knight
- Corrie Manis
- Terence Reese
- Trae Steelmon
- Dave Watson
- Abigail
- Candy
- Diana
- Geri
- JK



For the World

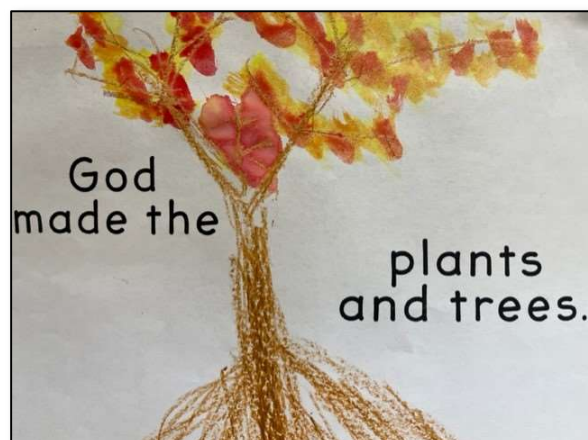
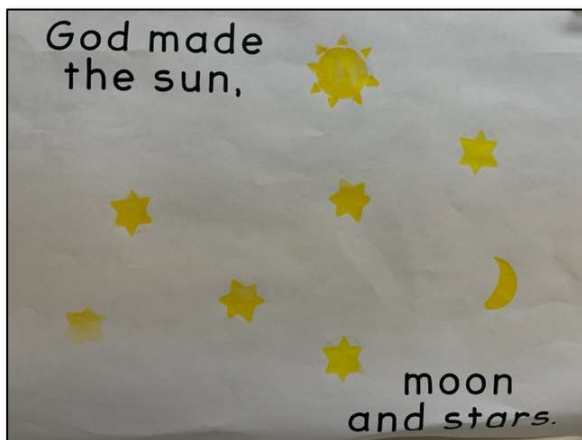
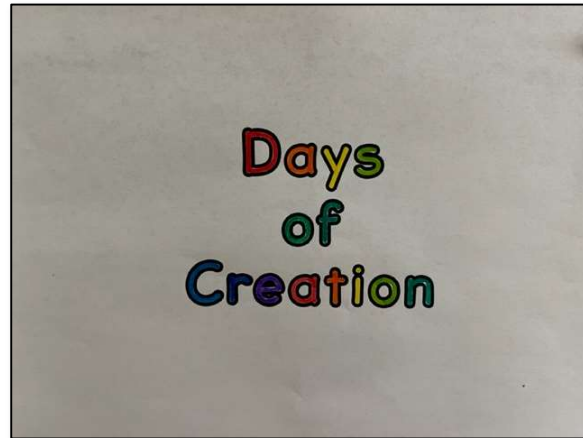
We pray for all our neighbors everywhere who we are called to love as we love ourselves:

- For true peace on earth, good will toward all of humanity
- For wise leadership at every level in our community, country, and world
- For courage to fight for justice and mercy for all who are oppressed at home and abroad
- For those living with mental, emotional, and/or physical illnesses
- For all who experience exclusion, or who struggle to meet basic needs
- For those whose lives and well-being are at risk because of war or natural disasters
- For justice and mercy to prevail throughout the world—*thy* will be done
- For unity among Christians in every congregation, country, and corner of the world
- For those serving in the American armed services, especially those in harm's way
- For our enemies, that their hearts may be transformed by your love and truth

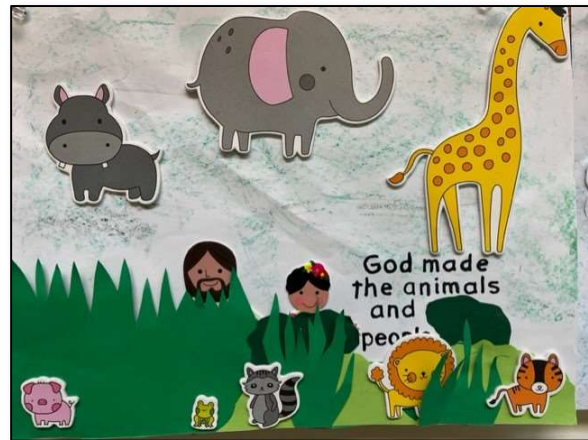
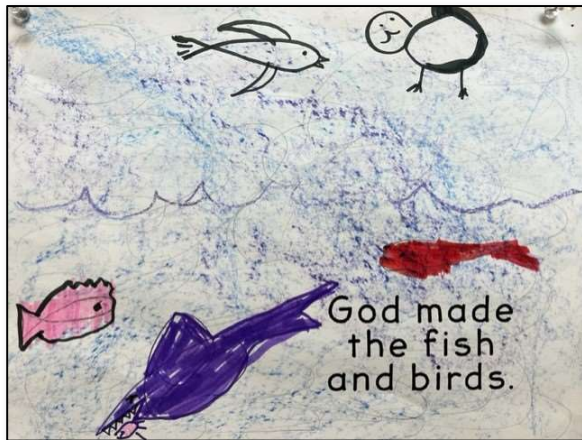
"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective"
James 5:16

And God Saw That It Was Good...

During October and November Sunday school lessons, the children learned about the seven days of creation. They made a picture to take home each week so they could recreate this banner at home. Their original banner is displayed in their classroom.



Creation—a Might Act of God!



Westminster at Worship and Play



Music Makers Making Music



Dr. Keith Jameson and Rev. Robert Colbert prepare the troops for community Thanksgiving.



Caroling capped the evening after getting the decorations into place.

Caution: Elves at Work!



Serve
the Lord
with
gladness



Can You Find These Chrismons on the Westminster Tree?



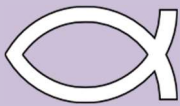
The Irish or Celtic Cross is a normal cross with a circle in the middle to symbolize eternity.



The Jerusalem Cross was worn by the crusaders going to Jerusalem, in the Middle Ages. It can symbolize the Four Gospels in the Bible, the spread of the Gospel to the four corners of the earth or the five wounds of Jesus when he died on the cross.



The Anchor Cross reminds Christians that Jesus is the anchor of their faith.



The Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The letters, from the Greek word for fish (ichthus), stand for Jesus (I), Christ (X), God (Q), Son (Y), Savior (S). Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen.



The Chi-Rho looks like a 'P' with an 'X' on top of it. These two letters are the first two letters of the Greek word 'Christos' which means Christ.



The Triquetra is made of three loops making a triangle representing the three parts of the Trinity.



The Shell is a symbol for baptism. It reminds Christians of the water that they are baptized in.



The Keys are a symbol for the Church in all the world. Jesus told his friend Peter that "I will give you keys to heaven", so this means that Christians have to tell other people about Jesus.



The Angel reminds Christians of the angels who told the shepherds about the birth of Jesus. It also represents the second coming of Jesus, which will start with an Angel blowing a trumpet.



The Lamb is a symbol for Jesus who is sometimes called 'The Lamb of God'.