

The Lifeline

St. Giles Presbyterian Church

Volume 4, Number 1

December 2008/January 2009

She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

— Luke 2:7

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Committed to glorifying God by reaching out in service to one another and the world as a beacon of the hope and salvation of Christ.

Slow Me Down

[Editor's Note: The following poem comes to us courtesy of Marie Mildram. Marie received it from the Rev. William Heinrich, pastor of the First Church of Squantum (UCC) in Quincy, Massachusetts; many sources credit American author Wilfred A. Peterson. As we journey through the holiday season, the theme seems particularly relevant.]

Slow me down, Lord:

Ease the pounding of my heart
By the quieting of my mind.
Steady my hurried pace

With the vision
Of the eternal reach of time.

Break the tension
of my nerves
and muscles
with the soothing music
of the singing streams
that live in my memory.
Help me to know the magic restorative
power of sleep.
Teach me the art
of taking minute vacations ...
of slowing down to look at a flower,
to chat with a friend,

to pet a dog,
to read a few lines from a good book.
Remind me each day of the fable
of the hare
and the tortoise
that I may know
that the race is not always to the swift,
that there is more to life
than
increasing
its
speed.
Let me look upward
into the branches
of the towering trees and know:
that they will grow tall because
they grow slowly
and well.

Slow me down, Lord,
and inspire me to send my roots
deep into the soil
of life's enduring values,
that I may grow toward the stars
of my greater destiny.

Amen.

December at Triune

St. Giles will be providing a December meal for the Triune Mercy Center. Let's make their Christmas and ours a little brighter. Mark your calendar now for Sunday, Dec. 21, at 3:30. We'll meet in the kitchen at Triune. Triune is easy to find – at the corner of Rutherford and Stone Avenue – and the kitchen is just inside the Stone Avenue side door. Triune is experiencing an increase in need for food pantry items. Also, warm clothes or blankets are especially appreciated during these cold days and nights. And a donation is most useful as it allows flexibility to meet current needs. Thanks so much for your regular and enthusiastic support. Please let Tom Henderson or Brian Barron know if you can help on Dec. 21. Donations may be brought to the church or we will pick them up.

Wednesday Nite Celebrations

We had a wonderful fall season of Wednesday Nite Celebrations, and the Christian Education Committee would like to thank all of you who helped set up, take down, lead, and participate in our programs each week.

We send a special thank you to the Membership Committee, who coordinated the clean-up, Tom Engel, owner

of Tom's Barbeque, who catered our dinners, and a very special thank you to Tom Burrows, who faithfully set up the room every week!

Make plans now to join us Jan. 21 as we resume our Wednesday Nite gatherings. Come celebrate God and enjoy the fellowship of our church family as we share a dinner and enjoy an intergenerational program.

Advent Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Come Learn About God's Great Love

9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

ADVENT is a season of hope—a time of “active waiting” for the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas.

ADVENT is a time of joyful expectation of God's promise of a Savior and hope for Jesus to come again.

Join us on Sunday mornings during Advent, as we study the Bible and come to know God and His greatness and goodness in a variety of different ways. The Holy Spirit and our Lord Jesus Christ are studied and glorified through our lessons.

In the preschool building, we provide nursery care for children 2 years of age and younger. Our 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds join together for class time as they learn that they are cherished children of God and that Jesus loves them.

The elementary children (grades one through five) meet upstairs in the Taylor Education Building. Using the workshop rotation model of Sunday School, our children learn about God's great love through drama, storytelling, art, and computer software.



for you!

Our middle school youth meet downstairs in the Taylor Education Building. Grades 6-8 join together for this year's study of *Professing Our Faith*, a denominational curriculum that explores what we as Presbyterians believe.

Grades 9-12 meet in the youth room off of the gym, and continue their spiritual journey by studying Scripture and examining Christian values.

Six different adult Sunday school classes are offered each Sunday and are located downstairs in the Taylor Education Building.

Feel free to “drop in” and check out our classes. There is a place

SUNDAY SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

December 21
9:15-10:15 a.m.

Join us Sunday morning, December 21, during the Sunday school hour for fellowship, refreshments, and carol singing. We'll meet in the youth building for this joyful time together. All Sunday school classes, friends, and visitors are invited. Infant care for children 2 years of age and under will be provided in the church nursery.

Holiday Parties at Place of Hope

“Holiday Warmth” (formerly known as Sweatshirt Party) will be on Friday, Dec. 12. We'd love for new groups to collect men's coats sizes 1X and 2X, hats and gloves rather than sweatshirts, since many church groups already collect them for United Ministries. Please wrap or bag your gift and indicate the size and gender on the outside of the package.

The Goodie Party will be on Tuesday, Dec. 23. We need goodies – individual-size, wrapped servings of cookies, candy and baked treats. All goodies need to be packaged for individual servings. Drop-off runs now through Dec. 22.

Any donations you have may be placed in the United Ministries box in the Narthex, and they will be delivered. If you have any questions, contact Judy Patterson at 979-6641.

Social Security Spousal Benefits

Social Security provides benefits for persons who have worked and earned credits towards retirement. Individuals may also be eligible for Social Security benefits based on a spouse's earnings record. If an individual applies for spousal benefits when the individual reaches his or her own full retirement age, then the individual is eligible for a benefit equal to 50 percent of the worker's benefit. If the individual applies for spousal benefits earlier than his or her own full retirement age, then the benefit percentage on the worker's record is permanently reduced.

Both spouses may receive spousal benefits on each other's record. For example, take a couple in which the wife is the lower-earning spouse, and the husband is two years older; full retirement age for both is 65. The husband's benefit will be considerably higher if he delays receiving benefits on his own record until he reaches age 70; likewise, the wife's spousal benefits on his record will be higher if he delays until age 70. The wife can elect to take benefits on her own work record at her full retirement age of 65, when her husband is age 67. At the same time, the husband can start taking benefits based on the wife's work record. He will receive benefits valued at 50 percent of the wife's benefit. He will delay receipt of benefits on his own work record, receiving delayed retirement credits, and will receive a higher benefit when he does start receiving benefits on his own work record. In our exam-

ple, if the wife's benefit on her own record is \$800 per month, then the husband would receive \$400 per month in spousal benefits.

When the husband reaches age 70, he applies for Social Security based on his own work record and receives \$2,000 per month. Because his own benefits are higher than his spousal benefit, he will no longer receive the spousal benefit. The wife can apply for additional benefits based on the husband's work record. She will receive her own benefit of \$800 per month first, then spousal benefits of \$200 per month to bring her total benefit amount to the spousal benefit limit of \$1,000 per month (50 percent of the husband's benefit). If the husband dies first, then the wife's survivor's benefit will increase to \$1,200 per month; combined with her own benefit, she will receive \$2,000 per month (the amount her husband received while he was alive).

What are the advantages of this approach? First, in our example, the husband will receive \$400 per month for the three years until he reaches age 70, or up to \$14,400. Second, by delaying the receipt of his own benefit until age 70, he will receive a larger benefit. Third, this same delay will result in the wife receiving a larger survivor's benefit at the husband's death.

—Excerpted by permission from *Oast & Hook News*.

Celebration Rock

For 20 years, my friend the Rev. Jeff Kellam produced an innovative radio program called Celebration Rock. Ordained as "Minister of Electronic Media" in 1968 by the Hanover Presbytery in Richmond, Virginia, Jeff had a vision, shared by a handful of movers and shakers in Richmond, of producing a rock-and-roll radio show for teens mixing in Christian reflections between cuts of Loggins and Messina and the Beatles. The Sunday morning show was a success, enjoyed limited syndication around the country, and "reached" lots of folk, mainly teens and young adults—including those who either weren't going to church or weren't getting anything out of it. Not incidentally, the program also reached folk well outside its original target audience, namely men and women in state prisons and long haul truckers. In Jeff's baritone all demographics found a winsome voice of reason, of love, and of hope.

It was through Celebration Rock (beginning as "Showcase") that I met Jeff, made important connections between my college media studies and a budding sense of call to the seminary, and got more deeply involved in social ministry in Richmond. I also started listening to music differently; I contemplated Rush and R.E.M. through the eyes of faith. And *that*, of course, changed

the way I looked at everything.

I wrote some scripts for Jeff—programs reflecting on the music of James Taylor and Dan Fogelberg—and was nurtured by Jeff's theologizing about vocation (Jimmy Buffet's "It's My Job" and Harry Chapin's "Mister Tanner"), our call to be stewards of the environment (Crosby, Stills & Nash's "To the Last Whale"), and our invitation to make some noise about our faith despite the risks (Peter, Paul and Mary's "If I Had A Hammer"). Soon, I was co-teaching senior high Sunday School with Jeff at Bon Air Presbyterian Church on Richmond's Southside and coordinating the radio ministry of another downtown church.

Jeff remains a friend and mentor.

Twenty years after Celebrate Rock ran its course, and forty after the first program, Jeff began a blog reflecting back on his work in what was at the time a remarkably unique calling. Read his musings at <http://celebrationrock.wordpress.com/>, or do an internet search of "Celebration Rock."

Now in the first months of his retirement, I anticipate Jeff has lots of entries to post. Happy reading.

—Matt Matthews

Musical Notes

Advent means a time of waiting, waiting for the Promised One. Join us as we celebrate *Advent* through music and the reading of God's Word.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
O come, O come, Thou Lord of Might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save And give them victory o'er the grave.
O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.
O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Each name of God embodies and represents some part of the glory of the Unseen One. In this old Latin carol the writer employs a number of names to help us see the Unseen One. Each of the lyrical appellations reflects a piece of His glory, describing for us the character and nature of Jesus. They paint a portrait of his accomplishments, authority and power. Emmanuel—God with us. What image does that bring to mind? Imagine the Creator of the universe choosing to take on human flesh and walk among us. The Lord of Might—the awesome God who could not even be approached in ancient days, coming to draw us into His arms. Rod of Jesse — the meek, compassionate Son of God triumphs over the enemy, conquers death, and becomes a banner of life for the people. Dayspring—the Light pierces the gloom, shattering the darkness and bringing hope to those in despair. Key of David—the King opens wide the door to life and leads his subjects through to freedom. When we comprehend the rich meaning of the titles in this song, it is transformed from a simple Christmas carol into a powerful vehicle of praise and a heartfelt prayer of anticipation.

The Lord himself will choose the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child!
She will give birth to a son And will call Him Immanuel—"God is with us" (*Isaiah 7:14*)
For a child is born to us, a Son is given to us. And the government will rest
on His shoulders. These will be His royal titles: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (*Isaiah 9:6*)
Because of God's tender mercy, the light from heaven is about to break
upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
and to guide us to the path of peace. (*Luke 1:78-79*)

May this be our prayer: Come now, Unseen One. Reveal to me the wonder of your character, the splendor of your nature, and the greatness of your name. I want to know You.

Please note opportunities for Worship at St. Giles, and invite your friends and neighbors to be part of the "Celebration."
December 5 - Coffee House - Our own St. Giles folks will present the program. Come, enjoy and be a part.

December 7 - 10:30 worship service- Erin Knight, harpist, (granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tarleton), will be presenting special music during our worship service.

December 14 - Our Sunshine Choir will present "The Mystery of the Manger" during our 10:30 worship service. Come and enjoy as our children show the "prophesies and promises" of God's word.

December 21 - We celebrate Advent through "Lessons and Carols," a time when we hear God's Word read and enjoy singing the carols. Our "ReSounding Praise" Bell Choir will be playing.

December 24 - 5:30 & 9:00 We celebrate the day before Christmas as we look forward to the birth of the Christ-child.

Please note the practice dates and times for December and January.

ReSounding Praise Bell Choir - Tuesday 6:30-7:15, Dec. 2, 9, 23 and Jan. 13, 20, 27

Sunshine Choir - Wednesday 5:00-5:40, Dec. 3, 10 and Jan. 21, 28

Cherub Choir - Wednesday 5:45 - 6:05, Dec. 3, 10 and Jan. 21, 28

Chancel Choir - Wednesday 7:15 - 8:30, Dec. 3, 10, 17 and Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28

A word of thanks to each adult, child and young person for being a part of the music program at St. Giles. We have had a great Fall with eight in Cherub Choir, 17 in Sunshine Choir and nine in hand bells. To each parent, a special thank-you for having your child at practice so they will be prepared and be a part of their choir.

Good Christian people, rejoice, With heart and soul and voice;
Jesus Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

During the closing of 2008 and the beginning of 2009, may each of us rejoice and celebrate the goodness of God. No matter what we encounter, may we choose to look at Jesus and "see joy." Lord, help us to realize that You alone are our delight, You are our all in all. Wishing each one a very *Merry Christmas and a Happy, Joyous, Christ-filled New Year.* I would also like to say a great big "THANK YOU" for allowing me to serve as your Music Director at St. Giles.

Love you all, Charlene

Coping with Life, Death and Grief

[Editor's Note: Following is the final part of an interview with Thomas Lynch that first aired on the PBS program "Frontline." Titled "The Undertaking," the interview explores the depths of life, death, funerals and grief. The first two portions of the interview appeared in October and November issues of Lifeline.]

And you have mentioned the range of feelings and emotions at a funeral. ...

I've always been touched by the fact that there seems to be as much laughter as weeping at the big life events. At weddings people are forever weeping at what is supposed to be a joyous event. We're celebrating love, huh? And yet someone's weeping because of the changed life that we're seeing before us. A daughter is no longer the daughter only or the son no longer the son only. So everything is weakened; weakened and tightened at the same time.

So we weep and we laugh, we laugh and we sing, and we try to work our way around this changed reality in much the same way a death in the family articulates this changed reality. And we laugh sometimes at all those good memories and all those silly things the person said and all those wise things that that person said and all their foibles.

I do find this recent push for every funeral to be a celebration of life as, in a way, a kind of a cruel joke on people who are in acute grief. So I like the word "funeral" for what we're doing here, because it doesn't require me to feel this way or that. It gives me room to do either, all along this sort of emotional register.

There's been a sort of national conversation about funerals over the years. What is your sense of what's driven and shaped that conversation, and what, if anything, has been missing from that public view of it all?

I think it's always been the case that funerals in general, and funeral directors in particular, provide an easy target for cartooning, because there is so much about what we do that can be held up for ridicule. It's an easy target; it always is — you know, the Digger O'Dell [the "friendly undertaker" character in the 1950s television series *Life of Riley*]. And particularly when you see the transaction which involves this rather impressive life-or-death event with the rather mundane mercantility of it all. There is a fee. We do have a charge for our caskets. Money is involved. So it's easy enough. And I'm, along with the next guy, as interested in those cartoons as everyone else is. But when the entire conversation circles around and around about how much it's going to cost or how can you prevent this charge, I just find it silly after a while.

Whether someone comes into the funeral home insisting on the least expensive or the most expensive, I see in both cases an effort to assign value to cost, and I just think in my own experience it's never had much to do with it. It just doesn't work out that way. People will say, "I'd like

something simple and inexpensive," and I want to say, "Well, over here we have simplicity; over here we have cheap." It's not always the same thing, and for everyone it's different.

But maybe with the fact that 75 million baby boomers are working their way up to the bar of mortality now, it's dawning on them that this could happen to them. Maybe because it's happening to their parents or their siblings and some of their friends now, suddenly I see the cultural conversation changing from "how much?" to "how come?" from "what are we going to buy?" to "what are we going to do?" And I find that latter conversation much more compelling and much more difficult, because it's not as easy as dollars and cents. The till doesn't ring as precisely, and what works and where the values are require more discernment.

So I'm interested in it. I see my sons now working through this, and their generation. And the components of a funeral sometimes change. For some people it's not the open casket and the three-day wake and the roses and the limousines and the *Panis Angelicus*. For more and more people it's a trip to the crematory and some variation on the wake where people pay different types of witness. So it's interesting times we live in that way.

And are you a cremation or a burial man? I know it won't matter, it will be others, but do you see yourself as the fire or the earth, or ~?

I've come to admire the earth, the wind and the fire. I really don't care. I've really come to the point where I can see in a fire all that release; I can see the Holy Spirit in it, you know. But I have graves at Oak Grove; I have graves in West Clare [County, Ireland]. I really think my people will know what to do when the time comes, and these are details I won't have to worry about.

How different is confronting death without faith?

I think of disbelief as a faith of its own kind. I was watching [author and cultural commentator] Christopher Hitchens the other day. He had a new book out about God not being great. There are days I can get behind that theory and have. But then I can read the work of Barbara Brown Taylor or St. Paul or C.S. Lewis, and I think, how would you get by without it? On any given day, it's up for grabs.

But I don't know of anybody who has come in here entirely angry at the prospect of God who has done well with this type of thing, with deaths in the family.

But you've seen people come in that are agnostics or ~

But even people who do not believe or claim no religiosity

(Continued on page 6)

Coping — continued

(Continued from page 5)

or no particular faith, they are not without some text, some book they regard as, if not holy, it is the handle they're trying to hold onto to get through this.

Will you care after your death if they take care of you in death as you did your dad? Will that matter?

Whether or not my family is involved with the care of my body, that's their business. I'll be the dead guy, and the dead say nothing. This is a sign to me that they don't care, that heaven is not having to worry about these things, so I'm determined not to worry about them either.

But, you know, we used to say to my father, who directed a fair few funerals, "What do you want done with you when you're dead?" and he'd say, "Well, you'll know what to do." I think mine will know what to do, too, not because I've said, "Do this or that," but because they have seen life as I have seen it, and they sort of know me and I know them. And so they'll know what to do.

And yet you write that beautiful essay "Tract" in your book, *The Undertaking*, which is in some way a map, isn't it?

Well, read it closely, and what I've written is that as long as they deal with it, I don't care what they do. I do not care but that they do it honorably. That they do it for themselves I think is very important. So yeah, I enjoyed

writing that piece. And I do think that while the dead don't care, the dead matter. The dead matter to the living. And at least so far as my experience is concerned, the living who bear those burdens honorably are better off for it.

Bearing witness one way or another, that's a key ingredient.

Well, it's showing up and just being there is worth an awful lot. There's this wonderful essay that was written — I have it framed in the hallway there; the woman's name, I think, is Sullivan who wrote it. She talks about how in her life the difference was not between doing good and evil. It was just doing the next right thing.

I needed to read that piece because I'm disinclined — when someone's sick, when someone's out of sorts, when someone's dead — I'm disinclined to be around that. I mean, it's uncomfortable, and I don't know what to say any more than the next guy, and I don't do strawberry rhubarb pie. But I find that if you just show up, if you just walk in the door, people think you're a hero. And I have found that, whether I'm walking in the door with a stretcher and one of my own to help carry their dead out, or if I'm going to the hospital to visit a sick relative or friend, or if I show up for a funeral at another place, you know, at a distance, they thank you for that.

Reprinted by permission.

The Economy in Greenville

[Editor's Note: Reprinted with permission from the newsletter of the Triune Mercy Center. Deb Richardson-Moore is the Center's pastor.]

On Wednesday mornings, we see a different crowd than the largely homeless population we serve on week-ends. That's the day we distribute groceries, and many people with homes come in for a box that includes cooking oil, flour, sugar, spaghetti sauce, juice, cereal, etc. They can also shop in our (free) clothes closet while they're here.

Our policy is to take the first 50 people, and a household can get food once a month. For three years, we saw 35, 40, maybe 45 people during a three-hour stretch from 9 AM to noon. A handful of times, we reached 50 and asked latecomers to return the following week.

That was right up until four weeks ago. All of a sudden people began lining up before 7:30 AM. We reached 50 people by 9:30.

We didn't think the downturn in the economy would

surface so quickly or so dramatically. And of course, there's no way to tell whether we're seeing genuine need or panic.

But the fact is, we are seeing new people, desperate people, at a frightening rate. We are studying the way we do things, because we don't want to discriminate against the frail and elderly who are unable to stand in the early-morning cold.

We will, no doubt, struggle to gain equilibrium over the next few months. But I wanted to let our generous supporters know that we are facing a new and scary situation this fall and winter.

Financial donations are our first choice, followed by food and winter coats. Thank you for all you do to help our hurting people.

Blessings,
Deb Richardson-Moore

December 2008/January 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 10 Staff 6-Admin. Meeting 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	3 9:30-Preschool Music 11-Stephen Ministry 5-Sunshine Choir 5:45-Cherub Choir 6:30-Chamber Singers at John Knox 7:15 Chancel Choir	4 9:30-Preschool Music	5 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 7-Coffee House 8-AA	6 1-Daisy Scouts
7 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship 3 Wolves 4:30 CE Committee 6 Youth Groups 6:30 Service for Wholeness	8 9:30 Pre-school Chapel 7 Bear Cubs	9 9:30 Preschool Chapel 10 Staff 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	10 9:30-Preschool Music 10-Prayer Group 5-Sunshine Choir 5:45-Cherub Choir 7:15 Chancel Choir	11 9:30-Preschool Music	12 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 8-AA	13
14 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship 2-Membership Com. 4:30 Session Meeting 7 Nativity	15 7 Cub Pack Mtg.	16 10 Staff 6:30 Brownies No Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	17 9:30-Preschool Music 11-Stephen Ministry 7:15 Chancel Choir	18 9:30-Preschool Music 7-PW Coordinating Team	19 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 9:30-Preschool Christmas Prog. 8-AA	20 1-Daisy Scouts
21 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship-Lessons & Carols 6 Youth Groups	22 7 Bear Cubs No School	23 10-Staff 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA No School	24 Christmas Eve 5:30 & 9-Services No School	25 Christmas Day No School	26 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 8-AA No School	27
28 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship-College Sunday 6 NO Youth Groups	29	30 10 Staff 6:30 Brownies No Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	31 Youth New Year's Eve Party	1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed/No School	2 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 8-AA No School	3 1-Daisy Scouts
4 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship-Elder Ordination & Installation 3-Wolves Den 4-CE Committee 5-Calendar Planning 6-Worship Comm. 6 Youth Groups	5	6 10-Staff 6-Administration Mtg. 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	7 9:30-Preschool Music 11-Stephen Ministry 7:15 Chancel Choir	8 9:30-Preschool Music	9 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 8-AA	10
11 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship 2-Membership Comm. 3- LRP Comm. 3-Wolves Den 4:30-Session Meeting	12 9:30 Preschool Chapel 7 Bear Cubs	13 9:30 Preschool Chapel 10 Staff 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	14 9:30-Preschool Music 10-Prayer Group 7:15 Chancel Choir	15 7-PW Coordinating Team Meeting	16 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 8-AA	17 1-Daisy Scouts
18 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship 12-Confirmation Lunch meeting	19MLK Birthday Church Office Closed No School	20 10-Staff 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	21 9:30-Preschool Music 11-Stephen Ministry 5-Sunshine Choir 5:45-Cherub Choir 5:45-Wednesday Nite Celebrations 7:15 Chancel Choir	22 9:30-Preschool Music	23 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 5-Confirmation Weekend Retreat 8-AA	24 7-Coffee House
25 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship-Thornwell Sunday	26 9:30 Pre-school Chapel 7 Bear Cubs	27 9:30 Preschool Chapel 10 Staff 6:30 Brownies 6:30 Handbells 7-Boy Scouts 8-AA	28 10-Prayer Group 5:45-Cherub Choir 5:45-Wednesday Nite Celebrations 7:15 Chancel Choir	29	30 6:30 a.m.-Men's Bible Study 8-AA	31 1-Daisy Scouts

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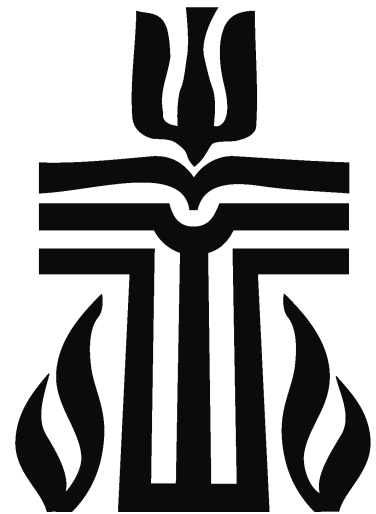
December Birthdays

1 Paul Peacock
2 Candy Carlson
3 Anthony Sparks
5 Ed Picklesimer
6 Laura Hunter
7 Thomas Greinke
7 Adrienne Davis
8 Marie Mildram
8 Bob Billings
10 Ralph Jeffery
11 Anita McLeod
13 George Bauserman
14 Eddie Hunter
16 Joanna Chandler
16 Al Carithers
18 Bonnie Morrison
20 Wimberly Smith
21 Mike Faulconer
22 Joseph Matthews
24 Jeannine Preston
24 Rick Davis
24 Maria Stewart
25 Mike White
28 Ron Lesley
29 Pete Rogers
30 Carolyn Pearce

January Birthdays

1 Marie Kellough
1 Stewart Robinson

2 Mark Taylor
5 Jacob Greinke
5 Shannon Greinke
7 Anna Shealy
9 Evelyn Templeton
9 Lori Robinson
10 J.J. Martin
12 Daniel Carey
12 David Looney
13 Andrew Barron
14 Bill Stewart
15 Gordon Thruston
15 Ralph Hardeman
17 Carol Hoffmann
17 Betsy Shew
18 Leslie Burgess
18 Greyson Thomas
21 Sammie Nott
22 Stephen Sparks
23 Sherry Hutchison
23 Lacy Kornfeld
24 Joe Gaspard
24 Earl Goad
24 Mark Roper
24 Peter Annin
26 Dollie Walton
26 Curtis Rogers
28 Don Crouch
31 Brenda Russell



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The Congregation, Ministers
Matt Matthews, Pastor
Laurie Snyder, Christian Educator
Charlene Means, Music Director
Wanda Allison, Office Administrator
Cassie Boyd, Organist