



The Presby

December 2017

Wytheville Presbyterian Church
285 Church Street
Wytheville, VA 24382
Phone: (276)228-4715
Fax: (276)228-6830
Email:
wpchurch@embargmail.com

wythevillepresbyterianchurch.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 2:00pm

Wendy Morrison, Office Mgr.
Brad Simpson, Pastor
Becky Absher, Music Director
Beth Pulliam, Clerk of Session



From the Pastor

The following description of the Advent season will be helpful as, together, our congregation joins for worship, mission, and fellowship during this celebrative time of the year:

The word 'Advent' means 'coming' or 'arrival.' The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than simply marking a 2000 year old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate.

During the Advent season, let us prepare our hearts for the Good News of Christmas Day as we respond prayerfully to these words of prophecy in Isaiah 2:1-3, words that invite us to come together recommitting ourselves to God's way,

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.

With faith in Christ, let us recommit ourselves to the ministry of our congregation as we come together for **worship**. Remember that, during Advent, there will be special worship services on Sunday, December 3 (Lord's Supper), December 17 (Christmas Cove Church service at 7:30 PM), and December 24 (Christmas Eve – 11:00 AM and 11:00 PM). Let us recommit ourselves as we come together for **mission**. Remember that, during Advent, everyone is invited to participate in the Angel Tree ministry as we provide support for our local families in need. Also, there is a Mission lunch on Sunday, December 3, after the worship service for the support of the Santa's Shop program. Let us recommit ourselves to coming together for **fellowship**. We'll be together for the Sixty Plus Christmas Lunch on Tuesday, December 5, at 11:30 AM, the Christmas Extravaganza on Friday, December 8, at 6:00 PM, and our annual Christmas program on Wednesday, December 19, at 6:30 PM. Let us recommit ourselves to coming together for **education** as we grow in faith at Sunday School each week and for other opportunities of study, including our Presbyterian Women's Circles and Presbyterian Men's Prayer group each Friday morning at Shoney's.

I hope that all of you have an Advent and Christmas season full of joy, peace, and hope!!!!

Peace and Grace, Brad

Session Digest:

The Session met on Sunday, November 26, 2017, for a Stated Session Meeting. Committee reports were received and discussed.

Pastoral Concerns: Ron Blevins, Beulah Bing, Pastor Bing, Joann Cannoy, Ethan Challgren, June Crockett, Hayden Cundiff, Steven Ford, Nonia Gamble, Mary Gearhart, Kay Gilmer, Jim Gleaves, Carola Hider, Herley Hudson, Art Inman, Maxine Manuel, Kathy McAllister, Fran Rochelle, Ernest Williams, Sr., Louella Williams, Millie Wilson and Mary Jane Wysor.

Motions approved by the Session:

1. To accept the Church Financial Report as presented.
2. To receive the Faith Stories of the Elders-Elect and approve their installation on December 10, 2017
3. Beth Pulliam to continue serving as Clerk of the Session for 2018.
4. To receive the report from November 4, 2017, Abingdon Presbytery Meeting, as presented.
5. To accept with appreciation to Zella Dillon, Wendy Morrison, and Dick Martel, the receipt of and approval of, the audit report.

Next stated Session meeting is December 10, 2017. Elder in Charge for December is Stan Martin, Hatcher Hall Door is Jerry Morrison.

Peace and Joy,

Beth Pulliam, Clerk

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Downtown Christmas Celebration:

The festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 1 with music in the park, carriage rides and at 6:00 p.m. the lighting of the Christmas tree, festival of trees. They continue on Saturday, December 2 with Carolers on Main Street

(volunteers needed) from 11 – 5, carriage rides, story time with Mrs. Wilson, a holiday bazaar and many more activities. The Christmas Parade begins at 6:00 p.m. For an entire list of events please visit the following website:

<http://downtownwytheville.com/category/events/christmas-celebration/>

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Presbyterian Women:

The PW Circle 1 will meet on Monday, December 4 at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and Circle 3 will meet on at 7:00 p.m. in the Jones Parlor.

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60+ Christmas Luncheon:

Everyone is invited to come to the Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, December 5 at 11:30 p.m. \$5.00 gift cards will be received for the Children’s Home. Reservations are needed by Friday, December 1, and can be made by calling Scottie Kegley at 228-5166.

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Cove Services

The Cove Christmas Service will be held on Sunday, December 17, at 7:30 p.m. We hope you will be able to attend and bring family and friends with you.

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Special Offerings:

We will receive the Joy Gift Offering on Sunday, December 24. Thank you!

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 **Santa Shop Luncheon:**

A luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 3 immediately following the worship service in Hatcher Hall. Baked spaghetti, salad, bread, desserts and drinks will be served. Donations will be accepted for Santa Shop through the Mission Committee and checks can be written to Wytheville Presbyterian Church, memo DSS.

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*It's just a short time until
Christmas. You won't want to miss
the celebration*

At the

12th Annual Christmas extravaganza

Wytheville Presbyterian Church

Friday Evening, December 8, 2017

6:00 p.m. – Appetizers

6:30 p.m. – Dinner

*Enjoy an evening of great food,
outstanding entertainment and
fine company of your friends*

To host a table, call Linda DiYorio at 228-4981

To make reservations for dinner call Bebe Martel at
228-5063 – Reservations must be made by Dec. 6th

\$12 per person (you can bring your check the evening of
dinner)

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Angel Tree:

The angel tree gifts are due back on
Sunday, December 10.

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Seasons of Stewardship

Excerpts from an article in the July
Presbyterian Outlook Magazine seemed
appropriate for our December Newsletter.

“What might it look like if we experienced
“seasons of stewardship” instead of a
“stewardship season”? Seasons of
stewardship would happen throughout the
entire year much like the seasons of our

planet where one season prepares us for
the next and we reap the harvest in one
season of the seeds that were planted and
nurtured in previous seasons. Our
liturgical church year is also a succession
of seasons that begin with the birth of the
Christ Child and lead us through Christ’s
ministry to the death and resurrection and
finally culminates with Christ the King
Sunday.”

“Stewardship should be a part of
everything we do throughout the seasons
of our ministries. It is not an eight-week
program that helps us put together a
working budget for the coming year. It is
a Spiritual Discipline and a way of living
that helps us to manage what God has
entrusted to us and to teach others the
true joy of giving as a response to God’s
generosity. We are called to be good
stewards of all that we have: stewards of
time, stewards of gifts, stewards of
resources, stewards of relationships,
stewards of ministry, stewards of the
knowledge of God, stewards of the people
in our community of faith, stewards of the
mysteries of God.”

Let us each resolve in 2018 to serve our
Lord as we are able, and to be his hands
and feet in our Church, our Community,
and our World.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from Your Stewardship Committee –
Shirley Cavender, Judy Crouse, Jim
Gearhart, Gail Kendrick, Ethan Lavalley,
and Bill Pollard

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Winter Jubilee:


An Agape Food Pantry Fund Raiser and
Appalachian-style Holiday Concert,
Thursday, December 7, 7:00 – 8:30 at the
Bolling Wilson Hotel, \$20 a ticket. Sam
Gleaves, Tyler Hughes, Hasee Ciaccio and
Emily Mann to perform!

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WCC Concerts:

Band at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 5
GWHS auditorium and Choir at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 7, at St. Paul UMC.

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1 5 - 8 Music in the Park 6:00 Christmas Tree Lighting in the Park	2  11 - 5 Carolers needed 6:00 Christmas Parade
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i>	11:00 Circle 1 6:30 Finance 7:00 Circle 3	11:30 60+ Christmas Luncheon 7:00 WCC Band Concert	5:15 Choir practice 6:30 Potluck supper 7:15 Bible Study 7:00 Bell Choir	7:00 WCC Choir Concert - St. Paul Methodist	6:00 Christmas Extravaganza Mary Ellen Canipe		
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship Elder Ord./ Installation 1:30 Session Meeting <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	Kat McCoy		5:15 Choir practice 6:30 Potluck supper 7:15 Bible Study Debbie Fore	7:00 Bell Choir April DiYorio	Jerry Morrison		
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:30 Cove Service <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	Maetta Crewe Nathan Pollard		5:15 Choir practice 6:30 Potluck supper 7:15 Bible Study	7:00 Bell Choir		Hunter McCoy	
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 7:00 Christmas Eve 5 cents a meal <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	Ken Cottrell	Office Closed					
11:00 Worship Vaughn Cassell A.J. McCoy							