



November Newsletter 2024

Dear Family and Friends,

As many of you may know, the older we get the less effectively our bodies work. For some of us that might refer to our legs and arms, for others it may be our heart or other organs, for others it may refer to our minds and our memories.

In fact, several people mentioned to me recently, how their houses were full of little notes all over the place in order to help them remember the things they plan to do.

Others use things like a written calendar or a date book or even an app on their cell phone. I, myself, count on more than one of these options as well as others.

Whatever the mode we use, we all need reminding from time to time and we all need to be reminded about the things that are important to us.

As we enter into the month of November, just knowing that it is November, ought to remind us of several things as well.

First of all, it is the month of the year that we are reminded that the holiday season is not far away. Of course, the decorations in the stores should do this already.

Also, however, November reminds us that this is the time to be thankful. We are reminded to be thankful not only in our thoughts but also in our actions.

Again, it is easy to forget things and even though we know we are called to be thankful; we do at times forget. How blessed we are that we have reminders and how blessed we are that we have the opportunity to be thankful and give thanks with our thought and even with our actions.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor John

The Presby

November 2024

**Wytheville Presbyterian
Church**

285 Church Street

Wytheville, VA 24382

Phone: (276)228-4715

Email:

wpchurch@embarqmail.com

wythevillepresbyterianchurch.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. - Noon

Rev. Dr. John Langham, Pastor

April DiYorio, Clerk of Session

Becky Absher, Music Director

Tammy Jackson, Office Mgr.

Wendy Morrison, Bookkeeper

Session Digest:

The Session met for its Stated meeting on October 20, 2024, in the Session Room.

Pastoral Concerns:

Ron Blevins, Joanne Cannoy, Tony Cannoy, Vaughn Cassell, Shirley Cavender, Renee Crockett, Sid Crockett, Colleen Dunford, Chimer Durham, Wysor Gearhart, Marion Griffin, Pastor John Langham, Scott Madden, Steve Moore, Bill and Susan Pollard, Dorothy Repass, The family of Michael Weller, The family of Ann Williams.

Motions approved by the Session:

- To allow the Kiwanis Club of Wytheville use of Hatcher Hall from 5:00pm – 9:00pm on Monday, December 16, 2024.
- To accept the written Finance Reports for August and September 2024.
- To approve starting a meal train for members of the congregation in need and to use the website www.mealtrain.com to do the scheduling.

Review of Calendar of Events for November:

- 3 – Daylight Savings Time Ends*
- 5 – Election Day*
- 10 – Commitment Sunday*
- 11– Veterans Day*
- 14 – Abingdon Presbytery Meeting @ WPC*
- 17 – Stated Session Meeting*
- 17 – Community Veterans Day Service @ WPC (4pm)*
- 17 – Cove Service*
- 28 - Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)*

* * * * *

All Saints Day:

Pastor John and members of the WPC Worship Committee are proud to announce the development and implementation of an All Saints Day Service. The first annual **All Saints Day Service** will be celebrated on **Sunday, November 10th during the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.** All Saints Sunday is a unique opportunity to remember those members of the church who have died in the past year, and to celebrate the lives of these faithful servants who have been transferred to the Church Triumphant. During the service, a candle will be lit to remember each loved one, and their name will be read as we give thanks to God for their faithful witness. The initial service on November 10, 2024, will be an abbreviated amendment to future services, and will include the names of all those who have passed from November 2023 until the present. Please don't miss this very special service.

* * * * *

Commitment Sunday:

Commitment Sunday will be observed on Sunday, November 10th. Please prayerfully consider your pledge for 2025. Please remember to bring your pink Pledge Card on Sunday November 10th.

* * * * *

Special Church Service:

Wytheville Presbyterian Church will host a Veterans/Thanksgiving Community service in our sanctuary on **Sunday, November 17 at 4 pm**. There will be congregational singing as well as music provided by area choirs. Donations will go to the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post as well as the American Legion posts in Wytheville and Rural Retreat. Please join us for this special event.

* * * * *

Sunday School News:

The Don Wysor Sunday School Class continues its study of Romans each Sunday Morning. We will conclude Part #1 of the study on November 24th. Then starting on December 1st, we will observe the Advent Season with a video series led by Evangelist and Writer Max Lucado. The Series is titled "God Came Near" and will continue for 6 weeks. Following the New Year, we will return to Romans Part #2. If you haven't attended Sunday School in a while, give this class a try. We meet each Sunday at 9:45 a.m., in the *primary* Sunday School Room (across from the Choir Room). It is most fulfilling. Jim Gearhart

* * * * *

Stewardship Message:

RESPONDING TO WHAT WE BELIEVE

Each November our Congregation is asked to make a pledge for the work of the Church in the following year. Our Wytheville Presbyterian Church celebrated its 200th Anniversary just one year ago. Since its founding, Wytheville Presbyterian has served the Wytheville and surrounding area, and we have been a welcoming place for family, friends, visitors, neighbors, and those needing our help. We have each been blessed by our Church through its Ministers, leaders, teachers, caregivers, and fellow members. Together we have been taught, encouraged, and loved.

On November 10th, we will celebrate "Commitment Sunday". The 2025 Annual Budget will be based primarily on the pledges received. This commitment is vital for the continuing work the Lord has entrusted in our hands. Funding our staff and maintaining our building are hard costs that must be covered. Serving each other and the needs beyond our walls are what our Lord calls us to do. As our congregation has diminished in numbers and inflation makes everything cost more, we each must take a hard look at our contribution for next year.

Please prayerfully consider your pledge for God's work in 2025.

God Bless our Church!

Your Stewardship Committee

* * * * *

Life Line Screening:

Have You Taken Control of Your Health Today?

Life Line Screening will be here at Wytheville Presbyterian Church on **Friday, November 8, 2024** offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these health screenings today.

There is no time like the present to take action!

Three Ways To Register:

Call toll-free: 1-888-814-0466 **promo code HSCA001**

Online: <https://www.lsa.social/hzca>

Text: The word **circle** to **216-279-1607**

* * * * *

Christmas Festivity:

Mark your calendar! December 12th Christmas **potluck dinner** along with a **special music** program! **Santa's coming!!** More details to follow!

* * * * *



5 Cents a Meal:

Please remember the **5 cents a meal offering on Sunday, November 17th**. You may bring it to the church or mail it in with your pledge. A basket will be placed in the narthex for your convenience. Please make a separate check. Many thanks for your giving.

* * * * *



Cove Service:

The Cove Service will be held on **Sunday evening, November 17th, at 7:30 p.m.** Please invite friends, and join us for this inspirational service, hymn sing, and fellowship. Hope to see you there!

* * * * *



Newsletter & Office Information:

Please submit information for the December Newsletter to the church office by **Thursday, November 14th**. Your help is greatly appreciated.

* * * * *

Hope Packs:



Hope Packs is a weekend program that provides food for children who are dealing with food insecurity. Packs are prepared on Wednesday afternoons and delivered to **15** area schools in Wythe and Bland counties. Last year Hope Packs provided **32,000 packs** to our local children to ensure no one would have to experience hunger during the weekends. Wytheville Presbyterian Church joins other area churches and various organizations to prepare about 850 packs each week. ***Our designated week is the 4th Wednesday of each month, at Open Door Community, located at 680 West Main Street, Wytheville.*** Would you please donate approximately 1 hour of your time each month to help hundreds of children avoid hunger. WPC will be preparing HOPE Packs for November on **Wednesday, November 20th, beginning at 5:00 p.m.** **Please join us in our efforts to make sure none of our children are forced to struggle through even one day without food.**

* * * * *

Monthly Meetings:

Monday, November 4 th :	Circle 1, 11:00 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall (Combined)
Monday, November 4 th	Circle 3, 11:00 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall (Combined)
Tuesday, November 12 th :	Finance Committee, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 17 th :	Session Meeting, following morning Worship Service
Tuesday, November 19 th :	Worship Committee, 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, November 19 th :	Church Growth Committee, 4:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

* * * * *

Circle 1 and Circle 3:

The **Circle 1 and Circle 3** Presbyterian Women will combine their monthly meeting on November 4th, at 11:00 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. We will have the Thank Offering Service and Lesson 3. Please remember to bring a bag lunch.

* * * * *

Mission Project:

Thanks, By Giving

For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in.

Matthew 25:35

Over 30 years ago, a mission was begun to reach out to the people of Wythe County by feeding those in need on Thanksgiving Day. Sunny Hills Church is now heading up that mission. Last year, over 800 people were fed Thanksgiving Dinner with most of those meals being delivered directly to their door by volunteers. The food was prepared by volunteers from our community.

People receiving meals included but were not limited to:

- The homeless
- The disabled
- First responders working in our community
- The elderly
- Children
- Those in hospice care

We pray that you will help us continue this mission, either by a monetary contribution, or by volunteering your time. Please contact me to do either or send donations to:

Sunny Hills Church
2973 N. 4th St.
Wytheville, VA 24382

Katie Dinger
797 Hogback Rd.
Wytheville, VA 24382
(276) 613-1899

Mission Committee Project:

The Mission Committee will be collecting trash on Lone Ash Road on **Thursday, November 7th**. We will **meet at WPC at 8:30 a.m.** All are welcome, and encouraged to join in this Semi-Annual project to serve and improve our community.

* * * * *

Mission Committee News:

Our Church responded quickly and generously to the call from Abingdon Presbytery to assist our neighbors in need because of Hurricane Helene. We provided 10 Utility Buckets filled with necessary items to tackle cleaning up following flooding, and we provided numerous Hygiene kits, cases of water, and financial assistance. Abingdon Presbytery continues to receive all donations as this will be an on-going need in our surrounding communities for a long time. As a reminder, you can make a financial donation to Abingdon Presbytery by putting cash in an envelope marked “Helene Disaster Relief” or by writing a check to Wytheville Presbyterian Church and writing “Helene Disaster Relief” on the memo line. Donations can be put in the collection plate on Sundays or delivered to the Church Office. Please continue to pray.

This year our Christmas Angel Tree will be on display in the Sanctuary for easy access for everyone. We are already receiving wish lists from our four families and ten children, ages 5 months to 16 years. One of our families has been severely impacted by flooding caused by Hurricane Helene. It is a “Gift” for us to help these families experience a joyful Christmas. Watch for more information to follow in the Church Bulletin.

Mission Co-Worker Support:

SHARON KANDEL - ETHIOPIA, SUDAN, SOUTH SUDAN

REV. CHERYL BARNES - MALAWI, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE

REV. ELMARIE PARKER AND REV. SCOTT PARKER – IRAQ, SYRIA, LEBANON

* * * * *

NOVEMBER

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship	4 Circle 1 and Circle 3 will meet at 11:00 a.m.	5 Happy Birthday! Ron Smiley	6 Happy Birthday! Kayla Lavallee	7 Mission Committee Trash Collection	8 LIFELINE SCREENING	9 Happy Birthday! Bill Smith
10 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship <u>Commitment Sunday</u> <u>All Saints Day Service</u>	11 Happy Birthday! Kym Dunford	12	13	14 Happy Birthday! Linda Rice	15	16
17 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship Special Service 4:00 pm 5-Cents-A-Meal Cove Service 7:30 pm	18 Happy Birthday! Marsha Boone Sam Crockett	19 Worship Comm10am Church Growth 4pm Fellowship Hall	20 Hope Packs Assembly 5pm	21 Happy Birthday! Ethan Lavallee	22	23
24 9: 45 Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship	25	26 Happy Birthday! Debbie Larson	27 Happy Birthday! Letty Nance	28	29	30