

# The REMINDER

Growing UPWARD  
worshipping and praising

Growing INWARD  
becoming more like Christ

Growing OUTWARD  
sharing the good news



JANUARY 2023





**Children sing Christmas carols to Evans and Mary Jane Holland. Children in the youth and children's ministries divided into groups to go caroling to some of our covenant partners.**

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*Please submit news briefs or announcements by the 21st of the month to Kim Brauss at [kbrauss@florencefirst.org](mailto:kbrauss@florencefirst.org).*

*To be added to the mailing list call the church office at 843-662-2583.*

# MOMENT FOR MISSION: Gray Scott

My name is Gray Scott. I am the daughter of Lyllian and Munford Scott, and sister to Beth Player (Whit) and John Scott (Ashley).

I was excited to share with the joint Sunday school classes in December what God has done in my life and where He is leading me. Here are



some highlights:

- As a young child, around 8 years old, I felt a deep conviction that I was supposed to go and share Jesus in a foreign land.
- I got a taste of cross-cultural ministry when I was a teenager through mission trips with First Pres, Florence, to Kentucky, Mexico, Jamaica and Ireland. Later in my adult life I went to Haiti as well as worked with

Young Life International in Costa Rica and Youth With A Mission in Israel, Turkey & Germany.

• In August 2021, I began the application process with The Antioch Partners (TAP), a missions sending organization, and in January 2022 was invited to join them. TAP assesses, trains, sends and supports those called to long-term (more than 2 years), cross-cultural engagement. I am being sent to Barcelona, Spain to work with Arab Ministries in Spain (AMS).

• Arab Ministries in Spain works with the Arab migrant community in and around Barcelona; meeting their practical, psychological and social needs. Through relationships developed at their community centers, I will be the hands and feet of Jesus so they can encounter Him.

• I recently completed my one month pre-field training and am hoping to leave in March 2023.

The Antioch Partners has set my budget, and I am responsible for raising \$6,000 per month. Will you prayerfully consider supporting me? If you have any questions or would like to know more, please feel free to contact me: [lgrayscott@gmail.com](mailto:lgrayscott@gmail.com).

## WAYS TO GIVE

- [www.theantiochpartners.org/giving](http://www.theantiochpartners.org/giving)
- Personal Check: Please make checks payable to "The Antioch Partners" and note "Gray Scott Support" on the memo line. Please mail checks to our financial office:

The Antioch Partners  
7132 Portland Ave, Suite 136  
Richfield, MN 55423

• e-Giving: If you would like to make recurring contributions directly from your bank account, download and complete the Electronic Giving Request form found on The Antioch Partners' website [www.theantiochpartners.org/giving/](http://www.theantiochpartners.org/giving/).

• Online Giving: Go to [www.theantiochpartners.org](http://www.theantiochpartners.org). Click "Give" in the top, right corner. Then click "Donate Online Now."

Important Note: In the "Select Fund" section under "My preference for my donation is" select "Partner support for Partner not listed for security reasons". Under "Type Partner name" type "Scott, Gray."

# Mary & Joseph

Dear Church Family,

Christmas Day has passed, but the Christmas Season goes on until “Epiphany” when we remember the visit of the Magi to Jesus as they gave Him their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. So, it is appropriate to linger in Matthew’s Christmas narrative a little longer. Mary has had so much conceived in her life from the Holy Spirit (1:21). She gave birth to Jesus, and she has changed. Through it all, her openness to the Lord is astounding.

Joseph would rightly be a bit confused as well at all that is going on. Being betrothed to a pregnant virgin would cause no small wonder. There does not seem to be any hardness of heart with Joseph, nor does he seem to miss the mark – yet there is the memorable verse of an angel appearing to Joseph in a dream and after he “woke up,” he obeyed (1:24). We sense an internal change has occurred in his awakening.

Being “open” and “awake” fits so well with the start of a New Year. One of the blessings of a New Year is that it inherently brings a new beginning. The calendar changes; we start writing “2023;” it is inescapable that a new chapter has begun. It is hard not to step back, take stock of our life, and wonder what God is doing in us with each passing year.

So, how is your life in the Lord going today? Are you closer to Jesus than you were a year ago? Are you able to take out a pen and paper and write down how the Lord has worked in you this past year? What has He taught you? How have you changed?

What do you need to take your next step?

Are you in a place like Mary? Where you have nothing but openness to what the Holy Spirit wants to do in you, and you have a sense of amazement of what the Lord is about to do. Or do you identify with Joseph? Perhaps nothing seems “wrong,” but the New Year gives the opportunity to ask ourselves, “Is there something I need to wake up to?”

Here are three questions to ponder:

- What do the rhythms of worship look like in my life? Practically speaking, do I live as though Sunday is optional? How much joy do I take in it? (See Hebrews 10:24-25.)
- Have I asked someone to disciple me? Someone in whom I see the love of Jesus? How many people know me well enough that they could really speak deeply into my life, and help me see what God is doing in me? Questions like these gives us all pause. ... If I have not asked someone to disciple me, may I be bold enough to ask today.
- What would it look like in my life if I lived generously? Do I have a heart of generosity? Thinking more broadly than simply money, how am I sowing into the Kingdom of God? Do I value my own capacity for “small” acts of love, knowing they are part of the Kingdom, or am I my own worst critic?

This New Year – even January – holds opportunities. There will be small groups that we can join on Wednesday nights. This is a special time to connect and reflect. Please call the church to sign up, 843-662-2583. We will study the Lord’s Prayer together. Where are you this Christmas Season as we take stock for the New Year? We have a New Beginning. May we respond like Mary and Joseph: open and awake.

Peace,



# Prepare for God's future

**This kind can only come out by PRAYER.  
(Mark 9:29)**

It looked like a “mission impossible.” A desperate father had brought his son, who had suffered from epileptic type seizures that threatened his life, to be healed. The disciples had tried but their efforts had been futile. So now this father seeks Jesus as a last resort and a final hope. Acknowledging his lack of faith, this father pleads with Jesus. And Jesus heals the father's son. While the father is eternally grateful, the disciples are perplexed. “Why couldn't we do this?” they asked Jesus. His response can be summarized by one word — PRAYER.

When it comes to prayer two primary questions come to mind.

#1 What role does prayer play in your life? Be honest. For many of us we approach prayer like brussell sprouts, “It may be good for us and I need to do more of it but I just don't have an appetite for prayer.”

#2 Why don't we pray more frequently? Maybe the reason that we don't pray is because we've never connected how God chooses to work through prayer AND we've never understood the priority which God places upon prayer. Or maybe, we've just never taken time to learn how to pray.

I'm not sure what 2023 will bring for you. But I'm sure that this year will not unfold like we think it should! I pray God's “best” for you but there will be times during this year when you will be brought to your knees!

That's not pessimism, that's realism. That's life.

I think of December 1939, when King George VI addressed the British people. As a part of his speech he quoted from a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins, “And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year; Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. And he replied, ‘Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.’”

Little did King George VI realize when he addressed the nation, that in the new year Great Britain would be under horrific bombing from Germany and he would face a life and death battle with cancer.

Let me repeat — I don't know what this year will bring for you and me. But I know how we can best prepare for God's future. PRAY ... PRAY ... PRAY.

I challenge you to join with me on Wednesday evening, January 18, as we begin to focus on prayer by looking at the Lord's Prayer TOGETHER. On seven consecutive Wednesday nights, we will be part of a large group AND a small group learning more about prayer. And encouraging one another to PRAY as Jesus prayed.

My encouragement to you is that in 2023, we will discover prayer not as a “last resort” ... but prayer as a FIRST RESPONSE.

Love in Christ Jesus,  
Bill

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## Lord, Teach Us to Pray

Each Wednesday evening, starting on January 18 and ending on February 22, you are encouraged to join us for dinner and then, participate in a study of the Lord's Prayer. This study will consist of a brief explanation of a specific part of the Lord's Prayer and then, you will be a part of a small group of 6-8 people who will discuss the passage AND get to know one another a bit better. Why are we focusing on this passage and this format?

*No. 1 Prayer is vital to a vibrant life with the Lord.  
No. 2 Relationships are a critical component to healthy living and growing in our faith together.*

Let me “push” you to start your new year by accepting this challenge and opportunity. We need you sign up in advance to participate. You can contact Kim Brauss at the church office, 843-662-2583 or [kbrauss@flor-encefirst.org](mailto:kbrauss@flor-encefirst.org) to sign up.

# Recognizing God's love

The Advent and Christmas season were particularly meaningful to me this year. Darryl's Advent Devotional booklet provided new insights into the familiar stories of Christmas and helped me stay focused in the midst of a very busy time. I hope that each of you experienced the peace, hope, and joy that comes from the recognition of the love that God has for us. As we move in to 2023, we are reminded:

"This is love: **not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.** Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (1 John 4:10-11)

## Christmas Eve Benevolence Offering

At our 2022 Christmas Eve services, FPC contributed more than \$11,000 that will be used throughout 2023 to aid with food, housing and utilities to Florence County residents who come to us seeking help meeting the basic needs of life. If you were unable to attend the Christmas Eve service, you can still donate to this offering. You may donate on **REALM** or by visiting the church website and clicking the **ONLINE GIVING** link on the home page. You will be given an opportunity to "Select a Fund/Account," choose "*Christmas Benevolence Offering*" and enter the amount you'd like to contribute. As always you can mail a check or place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday morning. Make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church and indicate "Christmas Benevolence" on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity during the Christmas season and throughout the year.

## 2023 Stewardship Campaign Update

To date, 143 covenant partners have pledged \$1,080,030.00 in support of our 2023 Ministry Action Plan. These pledges are important because it helps the church staff and leadership as they plan for the various programs, activities, and ministry opportunities. While we emphasize stewardship annually, the fact remains that **GENEROSITY** is and should be a lifestyle for all believers. There is still time for you to make a commitment to contribute to the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church in 2023. You may make a pledge in one of the following ways. Pledges can be made on-line by visiting the church website, [www.florencefirst.org](http://www.florencefirst.org). Click on the "Online Giving" link at the

top of the page. This will take you to a page where you can complete a secure and confidential pledge form. Another online option is the **REALM** app. From your mobile device, simply log-in to **REALM** and, select the "Giving" icon. Select "Pledge" at the top of the screen and follow the prompts. As always, pledge cards are available in the church business office. Thank you for your continued generosity as we look forward to what God will do in and through First Presbyterian Church in the coming year!

## 2022 Contribution Statements

All covenant partners and others who have made financial contributions to support the ministries of First Presbyterian Church during 2022 will receive a contribution statement summarizing your annual giving for 2022. The IRS requires that we provide this information *no later* than January 31. **Contribution statements from 2022 will be mailed on or around January 15.** Thank you for your continued financial support of First Presbyterian Church.

Your continued faithful financial support of the ministries of First Presbyterian Church enables us to provide programs and opportunities to our covenant partners, our guests, and the city of Florence. It also allows us to support missionaries serving around the world. As we move through the coming year, I will be providing regular updates about our giving trends and the financial needs of our church. Thank you for your faithfulness!



# Winter *Mid* *Gathering*

## You're Invited, Ladies

Come fellowship with the women of  
First Presbyterian Church at our January Gathering

**Monday, January 31, 2023**

5:30 p.m. Fellowship Time in the CLC

6:00 p.m. Soup and Sandwich Supper

6:30 p.m. Local Missions Spotlight

6:50 p.m. Anxious Bible Study — Anxious Esther video

For childcare, RSVP to [khickey@florencefirst.org](mailto:khickey@florencefirst.org) by Jan. 24.

The aim of Women in Ministry is to strengthen our relationships  
with God and with each other. Through prayer, Bible study, and fellowship,  
let us be nurtured and empowered to be His light  
to our families, our church, and to this world.

**“He makes the whole body fit together perfectly.  
As each part does its own special work,  
it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body  
is healthy and growing and full of love.”  
(Ephesians 4:16 NLT)**

# Presbyterian Community party



Women in Ministry provided a Christmas celebration December 14 at the Presbyterian Community — the first since 2019 — during which the Ladies' Ensemble sang. Circle members provided delectable refreshments for the event that over 30 residents attended. Members of each circle attended and visited with the residents, and Dr. Darryl Evans closed the celebration in prayer. Ann Rodgers Chandler led the beautiful music program, and Genia Tyson led an interactive handbell caroling.

## Women in Ministry Monthly Groups

In December, we covered Days 1 and 2 of Session Four of the Anxious Bible Study.

For January Circle time, we will finish up Session Four (Days 3, 4, and 5)-Anxious Moses.

If you would like to join a Circle as part of the new year, we would love to have you! We will be finishing up the session on Anxious Moses~Jesus is our strength

in the fight against anxiety. Our Bible verse for this session is:

"But Moses said to the people, 'Don't be afraid. Stand firm and see the Lord's Salvation that he will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians you see today, you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you must be quiet.'"

Exodus 14: 13-14

Bread and Fish	January 14	9 a.m.	Room 100
Joyful Hearts	January 10	10 a.m.	Room 100
Prayer Warriors	January 10	6:30 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
SonFlowers	January 10	10 a.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Soul Sisters	January 10	noon	Price Classroom
Serenity	January 10	3 p.m.	Lawson-Rain Chapel
Women of Grace	January 9	6:30 p.m.	3002 Japonica Lane
Sunday (New)	January 8	4:30 p.m.	FPC Church Parlor





# Church News

## Keenagers' luncheon to feature state senator

Keenagers' luncheon will be at noon on Tuesday, January 3. Lunch will be chicken tetrazzini, salad, garlic bread and dessert prepared by George Beshere. Speaker will be Sen. Mike Reichenbach. Cost for lunch is \$6. All those 55 and older are invited to join us for good food and good fellowship.

## First Connections classes to be held

Anyone interested in learning more about joining First Presbyterian Church, there will be meetings on January 15 and 22. Please let the church office know if you're interested in attending, (843) 662-2583.

## Link your VIC card to the CDC

Help earn money for our Child Development Center when you use your VIC card at Harris Teeter. The program gives schools a chance to earn funds when you link your VIC card and shop Harris Teeter brands. Visit <https://tie.harristeeter.com/together-in-education> to link our school.

— Submit news briefs to Kim Brauss, [kbrauss@florence-first.org](mailto:kbrauss@florence-first.org) or call 843-662-2583.



Patrick Morgan speaks to Boy Scouts about his time in the U.S. Naval Academy.

## Boy Scouts hear from one of their own

Patrick Morgan, son of Kara and Hunter Morgan, recently spoke with our Scouts about his past 4 years at the U.S. Naval Academy. Patrick also explained the application process to be accepted into a U.S. military academy.

Patrick enjoyed many adventures while a youth in our scouting ministry including backpacking in Yosemite's high Sierras, Wyoming's Wind River Wilderness, the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in North Carolina and the Mount Rogers wilderness area in Virginia. Patrick also went on our Scout trip to Canada's Algonquin national park in 2013 and paddled 50 miles on the beautiful park lakes. Congratulations to Patrick! He will be graduating this spring and has been accepted into the Navy Seals program.





# Best foot forward



Onto bigger and better in 2023 at the CDC. Putting our best foot forward for a great year of learning fun! Happy New Year!

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 1**

10:00 AM Combined Worship Service

**MONDAY, JANUARY 2**

*Church office and CDC closed*

2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel

5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC

6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room

6:45 PM Girls Basketball Practice: CLC

7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH

12:00 PM Keenagers: JFH

5:00 PM 8U Team A Basketball Practice

6:00 PM 8U Team B Basketball Practice: CLC

7:00 PM 10U Basketball Practice: CLC

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4**

5:00 PM Bible Moderators Meeting

5:30 PM Youth Group

6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

6:00 PM WiM Coordinating Team: LR

7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5**

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202

7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops

1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8**

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship

10:00 AM Confirmand Breakfast: JFH

10:00 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Traditional Worship

4:30 PM WiM Sunday Afternoon: Parlor

5:00 PM Christmas Tree Bonfire

6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC

7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

**MONDAY, JANUARY 9**

12:30 PM Worship Unit: Lawson-Rain Chapel

2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel

5:30 PM Enabling Unit: Women's Only

5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC

6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room

6:30 PM WiM Women of Grace

6:45 PM Girls Basketball Practice: CLC

7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 10**

7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00 AM WiM Joyful Hearts: Room 100

10:00 AM WiM Sonflowers: LR

10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH

12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC

12:00 PM WiM Soul Sisters: Price Classroom

2:00 PM Fellowship Unit

3:00 PM WiM Serenity: LR

5:00 PM Basketball Practices

6:30 PM WiM Prayer Warriors: LR

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11**

8:00 AM Veterans Breakfast Meeting

12:15 PM Outreach Unit Meeting: Pilgrim

5:30 PM Youth Group

6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 12**

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202

7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops

12:30 PM Discipleship Unit

1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202

6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 13**

4:00 PM Resurrection Restoration Dinner

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 14**

6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission: HopeHealth

9:00 AM WiM Bread & Fish: Room 100



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 4:00 PM Engaging God's Word: CLC, JFH
- 6:00 PM Basketball Practices

**MONDAY, JANUARY 16 MLK JR. DAY**

*Church office and CDC closed*

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room
- 6:45 PM Girls Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 17**

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 5:00 PM Basketball Practices

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18**

- 2:00 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Children's Ministry Team
- 5:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner, Programs
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 19**

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202
- 6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 3:30 PM Presbyterian Kids
- 4:00 PM Engaging God's Word: CLC, JFH
- 5:00 PM Youth Small Groups
- 6:00 PM Basketball Practices

**MONDAY, JANUARY 23**

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room
- 6:45 PM Girls Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 24**

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 5:00 PM 8U Team A Basketball Practice
- 6:00 PM 8U Team B Basketball Practice: CLC
- 6:30 PM Session: JFH
- 7:00 PM 10U Basketball Practice: CLC

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25**

- 2:00 PM Ladies' Ensemble Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner, Programs
- 6:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 26**

- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: Room 202
- 7:00 AM Youth: F.E. Pops
- 1:00 PM Bible Study: Zoom, Room 202
- 6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29**

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship
- 4:00 PM Engaging God's Word: CLC, JFH
- 5:00 PM Youth: Life Skills
- 6:00 PM 14U Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:30 PM 17U Basketball Practice: CLC

**MONDAY, JANUARY 30**

- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts: Scouts Room
- 6:45 PM Girls Basketball Practice: CLC
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31**

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 10:45 AM CDC Music: JFH
- 12:00 PM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 5:30 PM WIM Mid-Winter Gathering: CLC



# Remember in Prayer

## Extended Care

**Lowman Home**  
Mac King

**The Manor**  
Frank Ellington  
Joyce Floyd  
Julie Hughes  
Marie Jordan  
Maria Whitehead

**Presbyterian Community**  
Ann Cash  
Clariann Kellam

## Memorials

Ila McCoy  
Anna Vassy

## Honorariums

Jane Ames  
Ann Rodgers Chandler

## Households

FLOCK 1: Stuart and Susan Snow  
FLOCK 2: Rhett, Eliza, Tommy Spencer  
FLOCK 3: Will, Erin, Emily and Natalie Patton  
FLOCK 4: Farrell Godwin  
FLOCK 5: Stephen, Alison, Guy, Henley and Huck Thompson  
FLOCK 6: Jacob, Hailey, Poppy, Michael and Artie Mikulecky  
FLOCK 7: Nigel and Shannon Watt  
FLOCK 8: Brad, Holly, Mary Lachlan, William, Isla and Bradford Campbell

## Flowers in the Sanctuary

January 1: Communion  
January 8: Mary Jane Holland  
January 15: Mary Allyson Emerson  
January 22: OPEN  
January 29: Maymie Lou Spearman

## Sympathy

Zip and Patti Vassy, loss of their daughter, Anna

Lord, Hear  
Our Prayer



## Sick & Recovering

Aubrey Crawford

## Elders

Jack Hofler  
Jeremy Williams

## Deacons

Elizabeth McLean  
David Spivey

## Missions

Gray Scott  
Burn Care International

## Women in Ministry

Alexis Morris  
Peggy Swearingen

## Teachers

Rob Hall  
Steve Grady

## Staff

Darryl Evans  
Bill Cain

Do you have a friend or relative you would like to honor? Sign up to place memorial flowers in the Sanctuary. Please contact Genia Tyson ([genia\\_tyson@hotmail.com](mailto:genia_tyson@hotmail.com) or 843-992-8904) or Melba Whitesides (992-4267). Please leave your name, number, and date you wish to reserve.

# January BIRTHDAYS

## JANUARY 2

Bill Duncan  
Jude Emert  
Meg Lewis  
Mike Morgan

## JANUARY 3

Joyce Fincannon  
Tom Lewis  
Allison McElveen

## JANUARY 4

Joe Carter  
Larry Grubb  
Ravyn Miles

## JANUARY 5

Wallace Lane  
Grady Moore  
Mike Watts

## JANUARY 6

Beah Carter  
Grace Singletary  
Samuel Jennings Stokes

## JANUARY 7

Bryce Christian  
Shep Jackson

## JANUARY 8

Bryan Spearman

## JANUARY 9

Russell James  
Lylli Player  
Rhett Spencer III

## JANUARY 11

Joe Eason

## JANUARY 12

Brown Johnson  
Katon Sanderson  
Murray Sanderson  
Hanna Shin  
Ginger Sullivan  
Donnie Wheeler

## JANUARY 13

David Crockett  
Vic Rockhill

## JANUARY 15

Stephanie Rawlinson

## JANUARY 16

Joe McLean

## JANUARY 17

Butch Carroll  
Hannah Lane  
Jayce Newton  
Rachel Odom

## JANUARY 18

Josh Osterhout  
Charlotte Pennstrom  
Whitney Suggs  
Zack Turner

## JANUARY 19

Caitlin Bray  
Scott Collins  
Gracelyn Elmendorf  
Will Evans  
Dorothy Harris

## JANUARY 20

Emily Carter  
Susie Miles  
Lucy Moore

## JANUARY 22

Leigh Copeland

## JANUARY 23

Neal Fulmore  
Kathy Hayes  
Mills Nunn  
Jay Pearson  
Munford Scott  
Ed Turner

## JANUARY 24

Tommy Walker  
Richie Wilhoit

## JANUARY 25

Brad Campbell  
Judy Fuller  
Jess Nance

## JANUARY 26

Jake Lewis  
Karen McBride

## JANUARY 27

Claire Goodstein  
Linda Lawson  
Joe McLean

## JANUARY 28

Christa Godwin

## JANUARY 29

Weaver Whitehead

## JANUARY 30

Sims Bratton  
Letty Hall  
Susanna Lake  
Lori Stokes

## JANUARY 31

Houlton Losah  
Eliza Spencer  
Alva Whitehead



FELLOWSHIP HALL | 5:30 PM | STARTING JANUARY 18

### **ELECTIVES | 6:15 PM**

**ADULT ELECTIVE:** Adults are encouraged to join us for dinner and then participate in a study of the Lord's Prayer. This study will consist of a brief explanation of a specific part of the Lord's Prayer and then you will be a part of a small group of 6-8 people who will discuss the passage AND get to know one another a bit better. To register for the class, call the church office, 843-662-2583, or email Kim Brauss, [kbrauss@florencefirst.org](mailto:kbrauss@florencefirst.org).

### **JANUARY DINNERS**

January 18: Spaghetti and Salad

January 25: Chili and Baked Potatoes

\$5 a Person | \$20 Family Maximum



## BASKETBALL GAMES SCHEDULE

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

6 p.m. Central B-8U v First Pres B-8U

8 p.m. Ebenezer-14U v First Pres-14U

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

6 p.m. First Pres Girls v Ebenezer Girls

9 p.m. First Pres-17U v Central B-17U

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

9 a.m. First Pres A-8U v FBT-8U

1 p.m. Calvary-10U v First Pres-10U

### MONDAY, JANUARY 9

6 p.m. First Pres B-8U v Calvary 8U

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

6 p.m. Lake Swamp v First Pres A-8U

8 p.m. Calvary-14U v First Pres-14U

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

11 a.m. Ebenezer B-8U v First Pres A-8U

1 p.m. First Pres-10U v Central b-10U

3 p.m. T3-Calvary 10U v First Pres Girls

### MONDAY, JANUARY 16

6 p.m. First Pres Girls v Ebenezer Girls

9 p.m. Central A-17U v First Pres-17U

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

8 p.m. First Pres-14U v FBT-14U

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

1 p.m. Lake Swamp 10U v First Pres-10U

### MONDAY, JANUARY 23

6 p.m. FBT-8U v First Pres B-8U

8 p.m. Central-14U v First Pres-14U

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 26

8 p.m. First Pres-14U v Ebenezer-14U

9 p.m. First Pres-17U v Palmetto Street-17U

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

1 p.m. First Pres-10U v Central A-10U

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

6 p.m. Ebenezer Girls v First Pres Girls

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

2 p.m. Ebenezer 10U v First Pres-10U

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

7 p.m. First Pres Girls v Ebenezer Girls

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

1 p.m. First Pres-10U v Calvary-10U

2 p.m. T2-Central A 10U v First Pres Girls



Church League Basketball season is underway. Games are held at Ebenezer Baptist Church for those who'd like to come support our athletes. Pictures above are from our girls team scrimmaging our 10U boys in the CLC. The boys won, 19-15.



# Christmas Caroling



Although it was cold and rainy, 27 children, youth and adults came together to spread Christmas cheer as we visited 15 houses. When a couple of the children were asked, "What was your favorite part about caroling?" Their response: "Seeing the smiles on people's faces!" To God be the Glory! A huge thank you to everyone who participated in this wonderful ministry.

# Children's Ministry



## Mark Your Calendars!

Confirmation Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall  
Mentor, Confirmands and Parents  
Session 1 "Getting Acquainted"  
Sunday, January 8, 2023  
10 a.m.

## Wednesday Night Supper Resumes Jan. 18

We are looking forward with great excitement to our Wednesday nights children's programs. All 3K – fifth-grade children are invited to join us as we study the Lord's Prayer. The new schedule is as follows:

### 3K – 5K Schedule

5:30 – 6 p.m. Dinner  
6 – 6:30 p.m. Playground/Games  
6:30 – 6:50 p.m. Preschool Music  
6:50 – 7:15 p.m. Preschool Class Lesson

### First- through Fifth-grade Schedule

5:30 – 6 p.m. Dinner  
6 – 6:20 p.m. Children's Choir  
6:20 – 7:15 p.m. Class

## Presbyterian Kids (PKs)

Beginning Sunday, January 22, a new ministry program called Presbyterian Kids (PKs) will kick-off for third-through fifth-grade children. All third – fifth-graders are invited to join Mrs. Kelly and friends on the fourth Sunday of each month from 3:30 to 5 p.m. During our time together will enjoy Bible stories, games, snacks, crafts, building relationships and much more. We will meet on the following Sundays:

- Sunday, January 22 – Meet in the Lounge above the CLC
- Sunday, February 26 – Meet in the CLC
- Sunday, March 26 – Meet in the CLC
- Sunday, April 23 – Meet in the CLC

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Kelly Hickey at (843) 662-2583.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH UPDATED VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Children's Church meets in the Children's Chapel for *Children in Worship*. This amazing program held after the Message for Young Disciples is for children ages 3K-5K. It is designed to teach children about worship and allow children to experience Bible stories while learning in their own special worship center.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>ASSITANT/HELPER</u>
January 8	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Kelly Hickey Kelly Hickey	Kathryn Scott Cathy Lee
January 15	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Kelly Hickey Kelly Hickey	Amy Dozier Emily Lake
January 22	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Kelly Hickey Kelly Hickey	Haley Brown Beth Brown
January 29	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Kelly Hickey Kelly Hickey	Christie Henderson Caroline Toniolo



# *Living Nativity*



Many people braved the cold to attend this year's presentation of the Living Nativity. The two nights included the story of Jesus' birth being portrayed by our fifth- and sixth-graders and singing by our Angel Choir. The presentation also included dozens of unseen volunteers who handled the details from transforming our children into angels and Wiseman (no small task) to handling the sound and lighting. A special thank you goes to each, and every one of you.



# New Year kicks off with bonfire, potluck

December was busy! The youth kicked off the month with a Christmas Party & Lock In. We finished up our small group lessons on The Chosen - Season 2. We made Christmas ornaments, gingerbread houses, enjoyed a cookie swap, met for lunch, coffee, and helped with a Church service project.

We are looking forward to the new year. Our first event will be a Christmas tree bonfire on Sunday, January 8. If you have a live tree, please save it for us. We also will travel to Blowing Rock, N.C., for our Ski Trip in February. Please see below for more details on both events.

A special thank you to the Reames, McBrides & Packards for hosting us in their homes for the Christmas party. You helped make our night so fun!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Churchwide Christmas Tree Bonfire** (January 8) 5 – 7 p.m. Location will be Kelly and Jamie Hickey's property, 2794 South Hill Road. You can drop off your trees at the church by Friday, January 6, (beside the shed near the offices) or bring them the day of event. Dinner will be potluck so please bring a dish to share! Bring your own chair. Restroom are not on property. In event of rain, the event is canceled. RSVP by Friday, January 6.

**Sunday School** (January 8, 15, 22 & 29) 10 – 10:50 a.m. Light breakfast served.

**Wednesday Night Youth Group** (January 4, 11, 18 & 25) 5:45 – 7:30 p.m. Dinner provided.

**Coffee at F.E. Pops** (January 5, 12, 19 & 26) 7 a.m.

**Small Groups** (January 22) 5 – 7 p.m. Dinner provided. All groups meet at the church, except Junior & Senior girls will meet at Amy Williams house (510 Pine St.).

**Life Skills** (January 29) 5 – 7 p.m. Dinner provided.

## SAVE THE DATES!

**Super Bowl Party** (February 12) Location TBD. We will meet at 6 p.m. & end when the game is over. Please bring a friend & a dish to share.



**Ski Trip** (February 17 – 20) Leave at 1 p.m. for Blowing Rock, NC – We will go to Sugar Mountain & Beech Mountain. Cost for anyone who will Ski & Snowboard will be \$350. If you choose to ice skate, snowshoe or tube, the cost will be \$250. If there are multiple siblings or friends that join us, each will get \$25 off their trip. Please sign up and pay by January 15.



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#### CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

Assistant Pastor

Director of Music/Organist

Praise Team Leader

Director of Youth Ministry

Children's Ministry Director

Child Development Center Director

CDC Assistant Director/Church Nursery Coordinator

Church Administrator

Financial Assistant

Communications Assistant

Lead Custodian

Housekeeping

Custodian

Dr. Darryl Evans

Dr. Bill Cain

Mrs. Ann Rodgers Chandler

Mr. Vic Rockhill

Ms. Christina "Taiter" Garrett

Mrs. Kelly Hickey

Mrs. Beth Hepler

Mrs. Shurrie Marks

Rev. Don Hebert

Mrs. Gwen DuRant

Ms. Kimberly Brauss

Mr. Leroy Williams

Ms. Wanda LaSane

Mr. Neal Fulmore

