



# The Williams Bell

Williams Memorial Presbyterian Church  
4700 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, NC 28216-2845

Vol. 56

*November/December 2018*

No.11/12

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A couple of months ago, Mrs. Billie McConnell gifted me with the latest version of the Book of Common Worship. Her son, Dr. William McConnell, who directed the choir and led worship during September's Homecoming Service, contributed greatly to its creation. Contained in its 1200 pages are prayers, litanies, prayers, special services, which have been an essential part of Christian worship for two thousand years. I relied heavily on this book as I prepared for and delivered the funeral services for beloved Presbyterian saints, Doris Goodwin and Minnie Hamilton. I am also using it to prepare the order of worship for Reformation Sunday, Thanksgiving, and the Season of Advent. With each season of the church year there is a brief preface and explanation. The Season of Advent is not different.

'Advent' means coming or arrival...The season of Advent begins with an emphasis on final things (eschatology). We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establishment of God's justice and the return of the Prince of Peace (Book of Common Worship, p. 163).

This year Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup> marks the beginning of Advent which runs through December 24<sup>th</sup> and ends at sundown with the beginning of Christmas Eve. Each Sunday of Advent has a distinctive scriptural theme: Christ's coming in final victory (First Sunday), John the Baptist (Second and Third Sundays), and the events immediately preceding the birth of Jesus Christ (Fourth Sunday). Christmas does not begin until the evening of Christmas Eve and continues until the Day of Epiphany (January 6), which we know as the twelve days of Christmas. In most Christian traditions, nativity scenes do not include the baby Jesus until Christmas Eve. Because Epiphany marks the coming of the Wise Men, those figures are not included in nativity scenes until then. Our anticipation of Christmas is what Advent is all about.

Each Sunday of Advent we light candles as different aspects of our understanding of Christ. On the first Sunday we light a purple or blue candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. On the second Sunday of Advent we light the first and second blue or purple candles as a symbol of Christ the Way. On the third Sunday of Advent we light the first and second candles and a purple, blue, or rose candle as a symbol of Christ our Joy. And, on the fourth Sunday of Advent we light the first, second, and third candles and a purple or blue candle as a symbol of Christ the Prince of Peace.

The season of Advent proclaims the comings of the Christ – whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate. Long ago the Church instituted the Season of Advent to call the community of faith to prepare for these comings; historically, the season was marked by fasts for preparation. In this way, Advent is like Lent. One of the ways in which we prepare during this season is to take care of those in need.

Our hope during this Advent season and indeed throughout the Christmas season and through the whole year is that all of humanity will be saved. We know that salvation was given as a gift to us (the greatest Christmas gift of all) through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Because we are called to share our knowledge of the gift of salvation with all of humanity, we can do no less than have hope that all will accept the truth of that gift which is sacrificial love for others over self.

Rev. John Nelson Pope

**Children's Hope Alliance** is the combination of Barium Springs and Grandfather Home for Children joining forces to serve children and families throughout North Carolina. This organization provides a safe, healing journey for hurting children and families,

This Christmas Season we will be supporting these children with donations of  
**pajamas, underwear, and socks**

The need is for kids 12 to 18 years of age, so they need adult sizes.

Pajamas and underwear - Men and Women's Sizes S - M - L - XL - 2X

Men's Socks - Any style – Black      Women's Socks- Any style - Any color

A donation box will be in the Narthex for anyone that would like to contribute any of these items  
If you have questions or prefer someone else shop for you please see Amy Auten.

We will conclude our collections on Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Fun and Fellowship** The holidays are upon us and it's a very busy time of year. So mark your calendars now and join us for our November and December Fun & Fellowship gatherings!

**November 13** - We will meet in the church Fellowship Hall at 12 Noon. Lunch will be provided.

**December 11** - We will enjoy a lunch buffet at Julia's Talley House in Troutman. Address is 305 North Main Street. Plan to be there at 11:30. Price of the buffet is \$9.40 plus tip.

**Annual Advent Lunch** will be held following worship on December 9th. Chicken will be provided, please bring a side and/or dessert.

**Williams Bell Deadlines** Our goal is to make the Bell available on the last Sunday of the month. In order to make that deadline please provide Nov/Dec Bell submissions by December 23rd.

## November Birthdays



Nov 6 *Fred Hunter*  
Nov 8 *Will Craig*

Nov 21 *Debra Usher*  
Nov 29 *Ted Auten*

## December Birthdays



Dec 10 *Jean Fidler*  
Dec 12 *Mary Penninger*  
Dec 14 *Susie Dunn*  
Dec 15 *Sally Leatherwood*

Dec 16 *Sarah Craig*  
Dec 18 *Diane Sosa*  
Dec 19 *Gary Jordan*  
Dec 19 *Tim Setzer*  
Dec 21 *Bette Burris*

### Room number change for Mary Penninger:

Mary Penninger      6101 Clarke Creek Pkwy C202      Charlotte, NC 28269

**Fellowship Hall Reservations** – Remember to use the office desk calendar or email [wmpcsecretary1885@yahoo.com](mailto:wmpcsecretary1885@yahoo.com) to reserve the fellowship hall during the holiday season (or any time)

**Last Fish Fry for 2018** - The Trinity United Methodist Men will sponsor their last Fish Fry for 2018 on Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 4:00pm. They will serve Catfish, Flounder, Shrimp with fries, homemade slaw and hushpuppies all for \$10.00 a plate. And of course, those yummy desserts for just \$1.00 a slice.

### Thank You

So good to see everyone at the homecoming – great to get to chat with everyone a bit. The food was great as always and everything looked beautiful.

Homecomings are always wonderful!

Lydia Pope

**Fall Bazaar** - Trinity United Methodist Church will host a Fall Bazaar on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am – 1:00pm. There will be vendors with many items to sell as well as baked goods, crafts etc.

**Christmas in Paw Creek** – Saturday November 17<sup>th</sup> 8am-2pm, Paw Creek Presbyterian Church.  
Arts & Craft Fair including Breakfast and BBQ.

**Memorials Received:**

In Memory of Lemuel and Ruth Reynolds  
Dawn and Ernest Glover

In Memory of Wilbur & Doris Goodwin  
Donna Seaford

In Memory of Doris Goodwin  
Fred & Betty Brown  
Charles E Davis Jr.  
Laura Stroupe  
Jane Setzer  
Barbara Reid  
Bert & Susan Webb

In Memory of Minnie Hamilton  
Laura Stroupe  
Betty M Brown  
Jane Setzer  
Robert & Jane Taylor  
Sherwood & Kathleen Smith  
Gail Murchison  
Robert & Patricia Ashley  
Cyrus & Malinda Gray  
Martha Strickland  
Charlotte & Richard Dunn

**In the event of an emergency or a phone tree request** please contact  
Pastor John, Cell 941.704.0561 or [john-nelson.pope@montreat.edu](mailto:john-nelson.pope@montreat.edu)

**Volunteers & Helpers for 2018**

**USHERS**

November: Marilyn Earnhardt, Alex Leatherwood      December: Ty Leatherwood, Jon Leatherwood

**COLLECTION TABULATORS**

November: Bobbie Reid, Lisa Fisher      December: Don Fisher, Mark Auten

**COMMUNION SERVERS**

November: Fred Hunter      December: Jon Leatherwood

**Prayer Request for:**

**Members and Friends...***Florence Alexander, Roy Baker, Hunter Davis, Andy Hassell, Dot Hoover, Janet Hubbard, Virgil Hubbard, Diane Keever, Don Parker, Nancy Skipper, James Watson, and Rev. Phillip Williams.*

**Members in the extended community ...** *Mary Penninger (The Laurels), Lydia Pope.*

**Those in military service**

US Army –*Sam Caldwell, Justin Jackson*      US Army Reserve – *Benjamin Glover*  
US Army National Guard – *Cody Baker*      US Coast Guard – *Matthew Baker*

**Addresses of loved ones in the military:**

*SPC Samuel Caldwell; 4006 West Lane Ave, Tampa, Fla 33616*  
*Justin Jackson CMR-415 Box 7854 APO-AE-09114*

**Christmas Poinsettias**

Williams Memorial Presbyterian Church is offering poinsettias for purchase to be placed in the Sanctuary during Christmas. The flowers can be dedicated in honor or in memory of someone if you choose. The poinsettias are \$8.00 each.

Orders Due by December 9th. To place an order please use the below form and return with the payment to Williams Memorial Presbyterian Church 4700 Beatties Ford Road Charlotte, NC 28216.

Make checks payable to Williams Memorial Presbyterian Church and write *poinsettia* on the memo line.

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## November/December 2018

Phone 704 392-8816

E-mail [wmpcsecretary1885@yahoo.com](mailto:wmpcsecretary1885@yahoo.com)

Sunday Schedule

10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

### **Church Staff**

*John-Nelson Pope – Pastor*

*Billie McConnell – Music Director*

*Ted Auten – Custodian*

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*Amy Auten – Editor Secretary*

*Wendy Leatherwood – Financial Secretary*