



# The Messenger

P.O. Box 1088 / 6930 Cold Harbor Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111

The Rev. Dr. Stephen W. Starzer, Pastor  
The Rev. Mike Watson, Associate Pastor

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## December 2023



Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! Don't be alarmed! I still have my faculties about me. I do know this is the December

newsletter and not the January one. But for the Christian Church, our new year begins with the first Sunday of Advent. The Christian calendar begins with the unfolding of the background that shaped the coming of the Messiah as the Babe of Bethlehem.

Every year we enter into the month of December and we find ourselves fully bombarded with Christmas. Please don't get me wrong! I love everything about Christmas: the family time, the music, the favorite Christmas movies, the exchanging of presents - I love it all. But I find it so easy to get wrapped up with the outside influences as each of them seems to proclaim that they have the ultimate answer to having a perfect Christmas!

What I long for is time to ponder what is the fullest, deepest, and truest meaning of Christmas. I know it isn't in surprising Debby with a brand new Mercedes Benz or BMW on Christmas morning! (For one thing, she would disown me for making a purchase like that!) I know it isn't in having the biggest, prettiest Christmas tree.

What I long for is understanding, at one and the same time, the simplicity of a baby born in the most challenging environment and the

complexity of God with us. How is it that God chooses to love us when we have been so universally unlovable? How is it that God can show his absolute power in emptying himself and becoming a vulnerable baby?

These questions and so many more echo through my heart and mind throughout this season of Advent. Maybe, just maybe, that is why the Church gave us this season to ponder before we hear the good news: Immanuel!

Will you join me in these ponderings? Will you make an extra effort to attend worship? Will you join us in our advent study on the Names of the Messiah? Will you use the devotionals which we have made available to study and to grow? Will you join me in trying to silence the outside cacophony in order to listen to the Holy Spirit speak to us?

I pray you will.

In Christ's love,

## Member News

Our sympathy goes out to Rev. Fred McCall on the death of his wife, Sheryl who passed away on November 15th. A service was held at Covenant Woods for her on Wednesday, November 29. Please keep Fred in your prayers.

**Caroline Carneal's** son, **Bremner, Chuck Chelette,** Kaylyn McGhee's grandmother, Joyce York, **Gerry Miller's** great niece, **Charles Moore,** **Darlene Shegogue's** mother, **Zelma Curtis, Barbara vanSteenburgh's** sister Linda, cousin Cee Cee, niece Kim, **Cory Walter,** **Tony Underdown, Billy Walls, Herta Wenninger, Ed Wolfgang's** brother, Gary, and all those who serve as missionaries abroad and those who serve our nation.



Please remember our homebound members who are unable to get to church: **Ann Barlow, John Crowe, Reggie Crump, Nita Dunkum, Dot Gammon, Ruth Harpster, Eva Ladd, Laverne Longest, Carolyn Moore, Nancy Norment, Joyce Nuckols, Virginia**

**Phipps, Charles & Betty Ransone, Helen Rigsby, Larry Rigsby, Faye Sandridge, Louise Setchel, Barry Snedker, Tony Underdown, Billy Walls and Jack Ward.**

(Please update Pastor Steve or Pastor Mike in the church office as often as possible if you wish to keep your name or your loved one's name on this list.)

thank you

Dear friends,

Just a note to thank Angela Blue and her assistants for all they did to bring to a successful conclusion the printing and distribution of Fairfield's 2023 pictorial directory. This directory

was greatly needed and is, I am sure, most appreciated by all. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

A Grateful Fairfield Member

Dear Members of Fairfield Presbyterian Church,  
On behalf of the Special Olympics Pickleball team and our dedicated athletes, I wanted to extend our heartfelt gratitude to you and your congregation for generously allowing us to use your facilities for our practices August - October, 2023.

Your support has made a significant impact on our team's development and overall experience. The use of your facilities has been invaluable to us. It provided a safe and welcoming environment for our athletes to hone their skills, build friendships, and prepare for competitions.

Your generosity has not only allowed us to enhance our abilities but it also created a sense of community and togetherness that goes beyond the sport itself. The warmth and hospitality we've received from Patty Gulliver and Terri Joyce has been truly heartwarming and we are blessed to have had the opportunity to share these moments with them. Once again, thank you for your unwavering support!

Lynn Dillon

Dear Pastor Steve & Church Family,

We watched online the beautiful service last Sunday in paying off the church mortgage. It was so uplifting! Pastor David Wright delivered a most enriching sermon, and though he was no longer at Fairfield when we started coming, we are grateful to now have had the pleasure of one of his sermons - and a feeling that we have gotten to know him!

It was wonderful seeing all our pastors, as well as "New Beginnings" contribution to this special occasion - and all of our choirs and the "Bell Choir" were amazing! It was clear to see much hard work and talent and effort went into the beautiful selection of music and the heartwarming performances, and we loved the children's "Joy Choir." It also was very special that many "First Responders" were present!

*Thanks to all of you, and especially to our Lord, for making this such a memorable and blessed celebration filled with love and joy!*

*Congratulations!*

*In Christ, Willye and Charlie Fishburne*

*The Men of the Church would like to thank everyone that gave us food and monetary gifts to help us spread a little cheer at this time of the year. It was greatly appreciated.*

*We will also be spreading more cheer this Christmas by assisting families.*

*Billy Putze*

*Thank you all for another successful Fall-O-Ween Festival! We were so excited to have "Elite Treats and Eats" (owned by New Beginnings Member, Donna Williams) stop by and provide us with ice cream! It was a HOT day and the ice cream hit the spot! Lots of decorated trunks, face painting, pumpkin decorating, hayrides, petting zoo and so much more! Big thanks to ALL of the volunteers who donated goods, donated their time and donated their talents to make this event possible each year! Over 200 people were able to enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Fairfield Presbyterian Church!*

*Angela Blue*

## Thanksgiving Bags Bless Cold Harbor Neighbors

Our Fairfield community provided food to fill 16 bags for struggling families who have children that attend Cold Harbor Elementary School. In addition, Kroger gift cards were given to the families to buy perishable items for their Thanksgiving dinner.

The school counselor oversees the program and was delighted with your donations and was grateful for your generosity in giving help to these truly needy families.

When you remember how it felt to enjoy your special Thanksgiving feast, know that your contribution of food or funds brought even more

joy to neighbors in need this Thanksgiving! Thank you for sharing the love of Jesus through the gift of food!

Anne Young

## Special Dates

- First Sunday of Advent, *December 3*
- Second Sunday of Advent, *December 10*
- Third Sunday of Advent, *December 17*
- First day of Winter, *December 21*
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, *December 24*
- Christmas Eve, *December 24*
- Christmas Day, *December 25*
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, *December 31*



Terri Helfrich	December 5
Noah Clark	December 7
Dana Franklin	December 7
Terri Joyce	December 7
Bruce Watson	December 7
Sheri Wodwaski	December 8
Matthew Leigh	December 9
Jim France	December 11
Madeleine Letourneau	December 11
Heather Brady	December 12
Allen Boyle	December 16
Donna Hohman	December 16
Larry Rigsby	December 17
Ayron Young	December 17
Darlene Shegogue	December 18
Matthew Trexler	December 18
Carson Street	December 19
Amanda Ciejek	December 20
Herb Coulter	December 20
Sara Gaston	December 20
Eric Spott	December 21
Reggie Crump	December 22
Lucas Settle	December 22
Angela Schwartz	December 24
Su Ling Trexler	December 24

Laverne Longest  
 Norm Ballmer  
 Karen Couch  
 Phyllis Kerns  
 Jack Mitchell  
 Chris Sorensen  
 Rusty Hale  
 Pam Wells

December 26  
 December 29  
 December 29  
 December 29  
 December 29  
 December 29  
 December 30  
 December 31



Ryan & Emily Westphal  
 Courtney & Randy Street  
 Jerry & Sheree Duggan  
 Chad & Lindley Starzer

December 10  
 December 15  
 December 24  
 December 31

## All Church Night

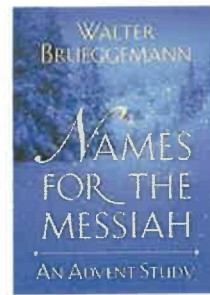
December 10th

The date of All-Church Sunday for the month of December has been changed from December 3 to December 10, since the Mechanicsville Christmas Parade is December 3 and we have a number of people from Fairfield's congregation who will be participating in the parade. The schedule will remain the same:

Starting at 4:30pm:

- Youth Group and Children's JOY Choir (Parents who children participate in either of these groups are encouraged to attend Adult Bible Study!)
- Adult Advent Bible Study, 4:30pm
- All Church Dinner, 5:30pm

A nursery will be provided.



## Advent Bible Study!

For our Advent Bible Study, we will be exploring the book "Names for the Messiah", by Walter Brueggemann. The study is based on Isaiah 9:6, which says, "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder. And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Our pastors, seminary intern, and others will be helping to lead each session. Please join us for our study on the following Sundays: December 3, 10, 17 at 4:30pm, in the Open Door classroom. We will also be meeting for the 4<sup>th</sup> session which will include food and fellowship on December 22, in a home setting. Please join us for this study, as we focus on this very important season in the life of the church. Books will be available in the Narthex as well as the Family Center's Welcome Center. Please consider making a \$10 donation for your book.



## Advent meanings

During Advent, which begins this year on December 3, many churches and families use wreaths to symbolize watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches. Colors for the candles vary with some traditions using **blue** (for hope and creation) and others preferring **purple** (for royalty, humility or penitence.) The four candles that each represent a week in Advent also signify hope, peace, joy and love. (The third candle is often **pink**.) In the center is the white Christ candle, representing Jesus as the light of the world. That candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The round, **green** Advent wreath has special meaning of its own. It symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God, who sent his only Son to earth to die in our place.



# *Advent & Christmas Events at Fairfield*

## **December 2**

- ★ No Room at the Inn  
Church of the Redeemer  
10:00am - 8:00pm

## **December 3**

- ★ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent - Hope
- ★ Sermon: (Mike) Wonderful Counselor
- ★ No Room at the Inn  
Church of the Redeemer  
9:00am - 1:00pm
- ★ Advent Bible Study  
4:30pm, Room # 20

## **December 8-9**

- ★ Camp Hanover Christmas  
6:00-9:00pm  
<https://www.camphanover.org>

## **December 10**

- ★ 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent - Peace
- ★ Sermon: (Steve) Mighty God
- ★ All Church Night, 4:30-6:30pm
- ★ Advent Bible Study, 4:30pm

## **December 12**

- ★ The Men of the Church will meet at Cracker Barrel Restaurant  
7:00am
- ★ The Joyful Readers Circle will meet for their Christmas dinner in the Heritage Hall, 6:30pm
- ★ Session will meet at 7:00pm in the Open Door Class.

## **December 16**

- ★ Santa's Workshop for kids,  
5:00-7:00pm in the Heritage Hall.

## **December 17**

- ★ Third Sunday of Advent - Joy
- ★ Sermon: (Steve) Everlasting Father
- ★ Advent Bible Study, 4:30pm

## **December 21**

- ★ First Day of Winter
- ★ Blue Christmas Service, 7:00pm

## **December 24**

- ★ Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love
- ★ Sermon: (Mike) Prince of Peace  
9:00am & 11:00am

## **Christmas Eve Worship**

- ★ We offer three services.  
Please invite your family & friends!
- ★ 5:30pm - Family Worship Service  
All ages are welcome to worship in this family friendly service.
- ★ 7:30pm - Candlelight Worship Service  
In the hush of the evening, all gather in the light of Christ's birth.
- ★ 11:00pm - Candlelight Worship Service  
For those who enjoy the late night Christmas Eve service.

## **December 25**

- ★ Christmas Day! Merry Christmas!  
Church Office Closed

## **December 26-29**

- ★ Church Office closed

## **December 31**

- ★ First Sunday of Christmas

## **January 1**

- ★ Happy New Year!
- ★ Church Office closed



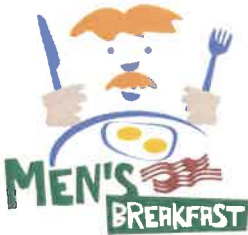


**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** As the holidays are upon us and life gets really busy, the Prayer Shawl Ministry continues to work to provide comfort

to those in need. We prayerfully crochet and knit prayer shawls and lap robes and joyfully make baby blankets. If you would like to be part of this ministry, join us on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is Wednesday, December 6 at 10:00am in the Barlow Parlor.

Anna Barrowclough



Join us on **Tuesday, December 12** starting at 7:00am at Cracker Barrel Restaurant on Bell Creek Road for our monthly Men of the Church Breakfast! It is a great time of fellowship and a good way to fulfill the mission

statement of the church: **As a Christian community, together we BELONG to God, GROW in Christ and SERVE led by the Spirit.** We encourage any and all men of the church to join us. Bring a friend!

Call or email Billy Putze (804-510-8719) or [billyputze@comcast.net](mailto:billyputze@comcast.net) with any questions about the men of the church activities. You never have to reserve a seat, we will always have one open for you.

Service in Christ,  
Billy Putze

### The Joyful Readers

will meet again on **Tuesday, December 12**, 6:30pm in the Heritage Hall for their annual Christmas dinner. We hope all the ladies can join us. Please call Sue Putze if you plan to attend. Thank you!



## How to be an ANGEL for local families this Christmas

The Mission Committee is planning to support several struggling families who have children attending Cold Harbor Elementary School, helping them to have a wonderful Christmas this year.

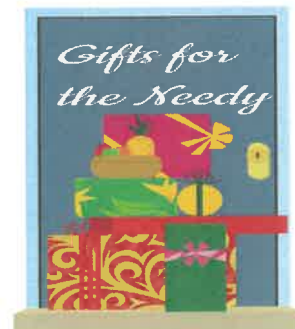
The school counselor will select the families, ask the parents about their children's basic needs and wishes and give the Mission Committee their lists. The committee members will purchase the items and deliver them to the school. The counselor will then deliver the gifts to the families.

To become an **Angel**, send your financial contribution to Fairfield Church or place a check in the offering plate, writing **Angel Tree Project** on the memo line. When you contribute, know that you are bringing great joy to little ones and making Christmas very special for these local families.

Thank you for being an



The Mission Committee





## Deacon Highlights:

- John Daugherty and his crew did a wonderful job providing our congregation with a wonderful lunch for our big celebration in November.
- Wray Palmore always has coffee and goodies available during the 9:00am service.
- Boxes for the homeless have been placed in the narthex for the winter months. If you wish to donate new or gently used blankets, gloves, or hats, Dale Woodfin or Cindy Cattoi will make sure they get to the right people.
- At home communion will continue in January for our homebound members who wish to receive it.
- The card ministry continues. Some of our homebound members appreciate just a short call to check in and share church news.
- Many thanks to our Deacons and our congregation who use their special gifts whatever they may be to serve others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Angela Schwartz



As fall turns to winter, our homeless population often suffers due to the cold. Please prayerfully consider Giving the Gift of Warmth to those less fortunate by providing your gently used blankets and gloves. You can support this very worthy cause by placing your contribution in the box located in the narthex from November through January.



## Blue Christmas Service

On the "longest night of the year," a few days before our Christmas celebration, we will gather at the church for a service of healing and remembrance. Thursday, December 21, at 7:00pm in the sanctuary. If you're feeling burdened by a measure of grief, anxiety, or anything causing some degree of weight this holiday season, consider joining us in song, prayer, and meditation, as we lean upon God's promises and God's presence, our light in the darkest nights.

## Library News

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

As we enter into this holiday season of giving, let us never forget that God gave us the gift of salvation and eternal life.

In the midst of our busy holiday activities take time to relax and enjoy some inspirational Christmas reading from your church libraries. In the adult library you will find Love Finds You in Bethlehem, No Room At The End and A Sweethaven Christmas. For our young people, in the children's library, you will find Christmas Angels, The Littlest Angel and The Twelve Days of Christmas.

In this Christmas season as we begin to exchange gifts with our friends and family remember that God gave us each and everyone the greatest gift ever given. Christmas peace and joy to you and to those you love.

Merry Christmas!

Elizabeth Covington



## *Mortgage Burning Celebration*

What a great day of celebration we had on November 12<sup>th</sup>! The worship attendance exceeded our expectations and we were absolutely delighted to welcome old friends returning and new friends who wanted to commend us on a job well done. Our former Pastor, Dr. Dave Wright did an outstanding job in bringing the message. What a good reminder that this is a commencement - it is a time for us to look ahead to see where God is leading us in the future. The mortgage may be done but we are not! We have a calling to answer as we look toward the years that lie before us.

One of the ways that we immediately showed our commitment to moving forward was in the loose offering challenge. Because of your generosity in giving \$2,545 in loose offerings that morning, the anonymous benefactors quintupled that to \$12,725 which will certainly help us to end 2023 on a strong note and hopefully give us a good start on 2024!

Our thanks go out to more people than we could possibly list here! The musicians for their gifts shared to God's glory, the kitchen crew for feeding so many people so wonderfully well, the facilities people for all of the setup and break down, the floral folks who made the tables attractive, our Pastors for designing a day that flowed so well, and so many others who played important roles in making the day the special occasion that it was! Thank you one and all!



## *Youth Confirmation 2024*

Starting in January of next year, we will offer a confirmation class for our youth in grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Confirmation is a wonderful opportunity for youth to learn more about themselves, their faith, and the church. In late-Spring, they will also have a chance to create their own statement of faith and deepen their promises to this faith community. The class will take place on Sunday mornings, during the 10am Sunday School hour, along with other days/activities that may arise. Please prayerfully consider encouraging your high school student to join us for this class and contact Pastor Mike with your intention to join. More information will be coming soon.



### Santa's Workshop

Saturday, December 16th  
5-7:00 Pm

Kids will make and wrap their own gifts at various craft stations!

PLUS PIZZA, COOKIE DECORATING, FACE PAINTING AND HOT COCOA

Fairfield Presbyterian Church  
6930 Cold Harbor Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
Heritage Hall

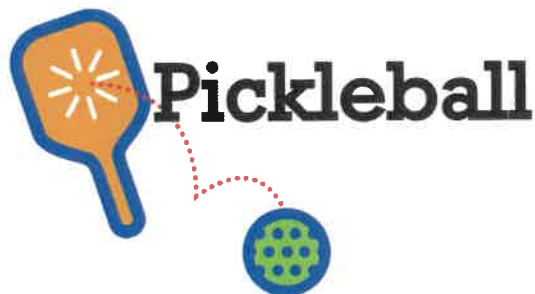






### 9:00am Nursery

Dec. 3	Barbara vanSteenburgh & McKenna Blue
Dec. 10	Marge Wantz & Angela Schwartz
Dec. 17	Linda Daugherty & Nikki Glass
Dec. 24	Anne Young & Angela Blue
Dec. 31	Barbara vanSteenburgh & McKenna Blue



Pickleball continues here at Fairfield! Everyone is invited to join us - young and old! Here is the schedule for games. All games are played in the Family Center.

Monday 5:30-7:30pm - Fairfield members only  
 Tuesday 12:00-2:00pm - Open to everyone  
 Wednesday 5:30-7:30pm - Open to everyone  
 Thursday 12:00-2:00pm - Open to everyone

Come join us! If you don't have your own equipment - no worries. We have paddles available for you to use.

## New AED

A member of the Fairfield Church family has donated the money for us to purchase a second Automatic Defibrillator for the Family Center! With the increased activity in the Family Center and the distance between it and the Heritage Hall where the original AED is located, one of our members stepped up to the plate to make it possible to have a second one in an accessible location without having to give up the first with its proximity to the sanctuary. We pray it never has to be used but we are grateful to God and our donors to have it available, just in case! Always remember two things with the AEDs: 1) you can do no harm with them! They are foolproof with their electronics. 2) always call 9-1-1 immediately to get the paramedics here as quickly as possible!



### What's Missing?

When shopping for gifts became too difficult, an elderly man decided to just send checks to relatives.

In his Christmas cards, mailed early, he wrote, "Buy your own present!"

After the holidays, the man noticed he'd received few cards in return. Puzzled, he went into his study, intending to write a few relatives to ask what had happened. As he cleared his cluttered desk, the horrified man found the answer. Under a stack of papers were the checks he'd forgotten to enclose with his cards!

The lesson? Don't be in such a hurry to give gifts that you inadvertently leave out what's most important. Without the message of Jesus and his birth, the earthly trappings of Christmas are empty indeed.



Our church has been gifted an Emergency Overdose Kit. It will be installed in the hallway next to the Defibrillator unit.

Fairfield Church welcomes many people and groups each week and providing an emergency overdose kit is one way we make our church a safe and welcoming campus. Simple instructions for use are in the red box on the wall. A new red sign marks the location. Anyone can quickly read the instructions and administer the nasal spray. First Responders can also utilize the kit if needed. Make yourself familiar with its location in case of an emergency.

The Cleveland Clinic says "An opioid overdose is a medical emergency. People experiencing an opioid overdose need naloxone (commonly known by the brand name Narcan®). Naloxone can reverse the effects

of an overdose if it's given to the person quickly. The person will still need medical attention after the administration of naloxone. Always call 911, asap."

"If someone shows signs of an overdose - slow or shallow breaths; slow pulse (heartbeat); extremely pale, cold, or clammy skin; blue lips or fingernails; or vomiting - giving them Narcan can help. And if they are unresponsive or unconscious, and there are signs of an overdose, they need Narcan immediately." [My.ClevelandClinic.org](http://My.ClevelandClinic.org)

Making our church a safe and welcoming place to experience God's love and grace means that our campus is well equipped and accessible not only to our members but the community at large. The kit was donated by Keith and Debbie Curran.

## *Ponderings at the end of a day - or year*

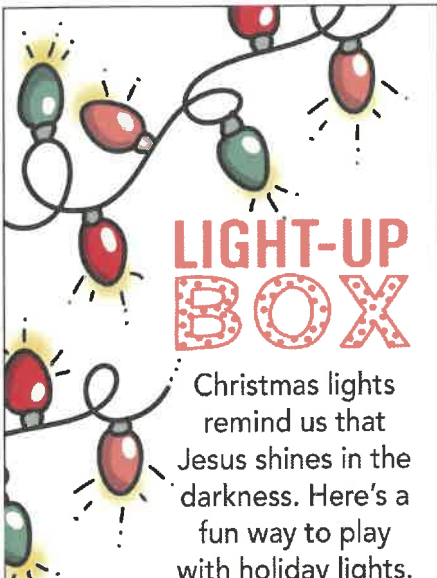
Dutch Catholic priest and theologian Henri Nouwen found it useful to reflect on several questions at the end of the day: "Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing?" Pondering such questions may prove valuable at the end of a year as well: "How did I contribute to peace in the world this past year? Did I bring smiles to other's faces? Did I offer words of healing?" Nouwen continued, and we can too: "Did I let go of my anger and resentment? Did I forgive? Did I love?"

Many of us set New Year's resolutions for self-improvement, asking "What are my goals? How can I better myself, my weight, my worklife balance, my habits?" But Nouwen said of his self-inquiry: "These are the real questions. I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits, here in this world and in the life to come." His resolution was to share God's love with others. With God's help, it can be ours as well, for each new day and each new year.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 9:00am – 9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am – 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am – 1:30pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am – 12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary)	<b>27</b> 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm – 8:00pm AA Group (#29)	<b>28</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm New Beginnings Play Practice (FC)	<b>29</b> 5:30pm – 7:00pm Girl Scout Troop 557 (#20) 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	<b>30</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm – 9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen) 12:30pm – 1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
<b>3</b> <b>Advent</b> First Sunday of Advent 9:00am – 9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am – 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am – 1:30pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am – 12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 12:30pm Worship Team (#20) 2:00pm – 8:00pm Hanover Towne Garden Club (HH) 4:30pm – 5:30pm Advent Bible Study (#20)	<b>4</b> 8:00am – 4:00pm Classical Conversations Tutor Meeting 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm – 8:00pm AA Group (#29)	<b>5</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm – 9:00pm Classical Conversations Mom's Night (HH) 6:30pm New Beginnings Play Practice (FC) 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting (#20)	<b>6</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	<b>7</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm – 9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 12:30pm – 1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 4:30pm – 9:00pm Miracles on Monday (Heritage Hall)
<b>10</b> Second Sunday of Advent 9:00am – 9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am – 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am – 1:00pm New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am – 12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 4:30pm Advent Bible Study (#20) 4:30pm – 5:30pm ALL CHURCH NIGHT!	<b>11</b> 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm – 8:00pm AA Group (#29)	<b>12</b> 7:00am – 8:00am Men's Breakfast (Cracker Barrel) 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm Joyful Readers Circle (Heritage Hall) 7:00pm Session Meeting (#20)	<b>13</b> 5:30pm – 7:00pm Girl Scout Troop 557 (#20) 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	<b>14</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm – 9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 12:30pm – 1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14) 5:00pm – 7:00pm Santa's Workshop (#20 & HH)
<b>17</b> Third Sunday of Advent 9:00am – 9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am – 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am – 12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 4:30pm Advent Bible Study (#20)	<b>18</b> 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm – 8:00pm AA Group (#29)	<b>19</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC)	<b>20</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	<b>21</b> <b>First Day of Winter</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm – 9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary) 7:00pm Blue Christmas Service (sanctuary)	<b>22</b> Advent Bible Study & Meal	<b>23</b> 12:30pm – 1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
<b>24</b> Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve 9:00am – 9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am – 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am – 12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 5:30pm – 6:30pm Children's Christmas Eve Service 7:30pm – 8:30pm Christmas Eve Service 11:00pm – 12:00am Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> Church Office Closed	<b>26</b> Church Office Closed 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC)	<b>27</b> Church Office Closed 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	<b>28</b> Church Office Closed 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm – 9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center)	<b>29</b> Church Office Closed	<b>30</b> 12:30pm – 1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)
<b>31</b> 9:00am – 9:45am Contemporary Worship Service (Family Center) 9:45am – 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am New Beginnings Church Worship (Family Center) 11:00am – 12:00pm Traditional Worship (sanctuary) 6:30pm – 7:30pm New Beginnings New Year's Eve Service (FC)	<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> New Year's Day - Church Office Closed 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 6:00pm – 8:00pm AA Group (#29)	<b>2</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm Deacon's Meeting (Heritage Hall)	<b>3</b> 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry (Barlow Parlor) 5:30pm – 7:30pm Pickleball (FC) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Fairfield Ringers (sanctuary) 8:00pm Praise Band Practice (FC)	<b>4</b> 12:00pm – 2:00pm Pickleball (FC) 6:30pm – 9:30pm C.A.P. (Family Center) 7:00pm – 8:00pm Adult Choir Practice (sanctuary)	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Communion Set-Up (Small Kitchen) <b>Epiphany</b> 12:30pm – 1:30pm NBC Choir Practice (#14)



# Under-aged Thinking

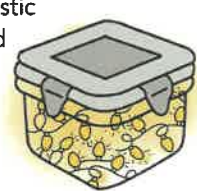


## LIGHT-UP BOX

Christmas lights remind us that Jesus shines in the darkness. Here's a fun way to play with holiday lights.

**What you need:**

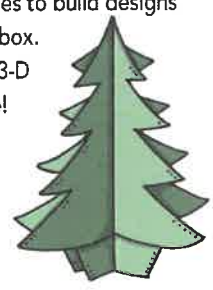

- A strand of Christmas lights
- A large clear plastic container and lid
- Green tissue paper
- Colorful beads



**What you do:**

1. Plug in the lights and place them in the container.
2. Put on the lid. (If the lid isn't transparent, flip the box over.)
3. Play with your light box, using these ideas as starters:
  - Cut tissue paper into triangles and arrange them in a tree shape. Decorate the tree with colorful beads.
  - Use the light box for tracing. Place a picture on it, with a clean sheet of paper on top. Then trace the drawing.
  - Use magnet tiles to build designs atop the light box.

Try building a 3-D Christmas tree!

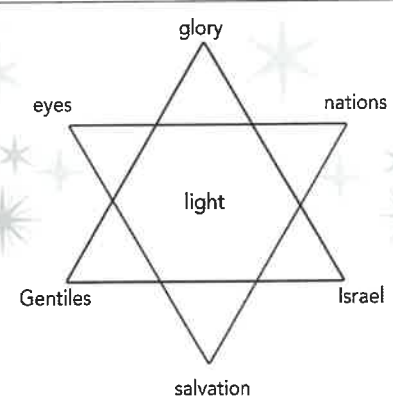



## PUZZLE

### SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

*Directions: Using the star key, write the words in the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.*



"For my \_\_\_\_\_ have seen your \_\_\_\_\_, which you have prepared in the sight of all \_\_\_\_\_: a \_\_\_\_\_ for revelation to the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of your people \_\_\_\_\_."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

Answers: eyes, salvation, nations, light, Gentiles, glory, Israel

?

?

?

Bible Quiz

?

?

Elizabeth, an older relative of Mary the mother of Jesus, was miraculously pregnant at the same time as Mary. What was the name of Elizabeth's husband?

A. Aaron  
B. Zechariah  
C. Joseph  
D. Simeon

Answer: B (See Luke 1:5, 39-41.)

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Associate Pastor . . . . .	Rev. Mike Watson
Minister In Residence . . . . .	Rev. Dr. Keith Curran
Minister in Residence . . . . .	Rev. Fred McCall
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Administrative Assistant . . . . .	Donna Carson
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Choir Director . . . . .	Celeste Underdown
Organist . . . . .	Dave Starzer
Praise Band Leader . . . . .	Matt Wenninger
Custodian . . . . .	John Longest



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