



# Red Clay Creek

Presbyterian Church

## ***This Week at the Creek***

*December 9, 2018*

### **A Word from the Pastor**

In our exploration last Sunday of a passage from I Thessalonians, we noted that already our lives and our world are different because of what God has done in Jesus Christ; and yet, even so we still experience pain and loss. While the cross and resurrection assure us that nothing will separate us from God's love, not even death itself, nonetheless we experience grief, sometimes find dreams frustrated, and have our goals and hopes tarnished. I suggested this past Sunday that in this in-between time we are called to live as if the "not yet" of God's kingdom is "already"—loving all, caring for creation, engaging ourselves in activities that would nurture our faith and strengthen our hope.

Sometimes in this in-between time it feels as if we are wandering in the wilderness and the path toward the future seems clouded by fog. Sometimes in this in-between time, we find ourselves longing for the familiar

when things have changed and craving stability when the sands beneath our feet are shifting unexpectedly. In this wilderness, we sometimes can't even get a clear glimpse of what tomorrow will bring. But as the Gospel of Luke tells us, it was in the wilderness that God spoke to John the Baptist and into which John was called to preach. While the wildernesses can be uncomfortable and frightening, it is sometimes precisely there that we become most open to encountering God, in which we are best able to discern God's calling, and where we may actually discover new hope and find the roots of our faith growing deeper. While wilderness times in our lives are not necessarily easy, they are filled with God's possibilities. The key for us is to keep our hearts receptive and our eyes open.

*Randy*

### **'Tis the Season!**

Need teacher gifts? Hostess gifts? Faith, Hope and Love Quilters has the solution to your problem! We have many lovely handmade items under \$10. We also have larger gift items available. How about a cozy quilt for someone on your gift list? You may find a lovely table runner for your Christmas dinner table. Your support is a win-win for you and for Red Clay because 100% of your purchase goes directly to the Home Committee. Look for our table during Coffee Hour today or during the Advent dinner.

#### **INTERIM PASTOR**

Rev. Dr. Randall T. Clayton  
randy@rccpc.org

#### **TRANSITIONAL PASTOR for PASTORAL CARE**

Rev. Emily Schwenker  
emily@rccpc.org

#### **STAFF**

Jeffrey Miller  
*Director of Music & Organist/Pianist*  
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Barbara-Jo Vanderkraats  
*Director of Outreach Music*  
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Shelley Haines  
*Director of Christian Education*  
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Jane Putscher  
*Finance Associate*  
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Julie Reeder  
*Office Manager*  
julie@rccpc.org

Kelley Norton  
*Administrative Assistant*  
kelley@rccpc.org

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

*Monday–Friday* 9:00 am–3:00 pm

#### **FINANCE OFFICE HOURS:**

*Monday:* 9:00 am -12:00 pm  
*Thursday:* 12:00 pm -2:00 pm

#### **GUESTS**

If you are a guest at Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church and would like to receive more information, please contact the Church Office at 302-998-0434 or by email at [office@rccpc.org](mailto:office@rccpc.org).

## Personal Safety Pres.

The Wellness Committee is very pleased to bring, Jason Baxley, a sergeant with the Delaware State Police to share his presentation, "Personal Safety - It's the Mindset/Part 2". He is passionate about empowering others to have the confidence to defend themselves. He believes the one underlying thing that gets people through an encounter is "Mindset." **Join us next Sunday, December 16th at 9:30 am on Fellowship Hall.**

*Next week's  
Cornerstone  
Worship:  
The Youth are  
making Chili and  
cornbread.*

## Cornerstone Worship

Join us next Sunday, December 16th for Cornerstone, our contemporary worship & music service. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall followed by worship at 6pm. Children, youth and adults of all ages are welcome. If you plan to attend the meal at 5:30 pm, please RSVP to the church office or sign-up online at [rccpc.org](http://rccpc.org) and click on the sign-up page link in the right hand corner.

## Advent Dinner - December 14th, 6:00 pm

On Friday, December 14th, join your church family for a night of holiday fun, food, and our traditional carol sing as we celebrate the Advent Season. This is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas.

To rsvp, please stop by the table in Founders Hall or visit [rccpc.org](http://rccpc.org) and click on the sign-up link in the upper right hand corner to register and sign up for a covered dish. Due to food allergies, please label all dishes with ingredients. If you are unable to bring food, a \$5 donation is requested.

*Noonday Christmas  
Concert takes place  
at 12 noon  
TODAY!*



*Don't forget to pick up an Advent Devotional on your way out of worship today!*

## Thank You!

The Christmas decorations in the sanctuary this year are dedicated to those who bring joy to our lives through music. One of the best things about the Christmas season is the music. Here at Red Clay we have many talented men and women who share their musical gifts with us. Each wreath reminds us of a carol we will probably hear this year; each note on the tree represents a person who prefers to sing along, hum along or just listen and enjoy.

Christmas blessings and thanks to Jeffrey and our choirs, soloists, bell ringers and other instrumental musicians.

Thank you also to my team who put it all together this year: Dave Aument, Karen Caldas, Amy Cziraky, Anne Hawley, Dave Howarth, Bonnie Hudson, Judi VanderWerff and Phil Worrell.

Peace on earth to all,  
*Peggy Germain*

## Christmas Fun for All!

Join us in Founders Hall at 11:30 am next Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> for some intergenerational Christmas fun! Let's make some memories!! Children will be decorating cookies and visiting with Santa Claus. There will be special music. We invite ALL to come and make your own ornament.

We could use some volunteers and some donations of needed items. If you are willing and able to donate please stop by the table in Founders Hall and see Shelley.

# Christmas Eve & End-of-Year Services

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On Christmas Eve, we invite you to join us for one of our three services.

Our 5:00 pm service is an informal, child-friendly service that includes the Christmas pageant.

Our 8:00 pm service is a candlelight service with special music. Childcare is available.

Our 11:00 pm service is also a candlelight service with special music. Communion will be served.

On Sunday, December 30th, we will have one worship service. We will worship at 10:30 am. There will be no Sunday School on that day.



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*Today is the last day to order Poinsettias for Christmas Eve.*

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## Lessons & Carols

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This very special service of readings from the Bible and music inspired by the readings has become an important part of the church year to Christians all over the world. We hope that you can join us for this service on Sunday, December 23 at either 8.30 or 10.30 am.

*Tuesdays Together luncheon is this Tuesday at noon. Reach & Rejoice Choir will lead us in a sing-a-long.*

## Pictorial Directory

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It's time for us to update our photo directory and you are invited to be a part of it. Our last directory was printed in 2012. We will be doing all photography here at Red Clay near Founders Hall. Stop by the table in the narthex or Founders Hall today to sign up or for more information OR to sign-up online visit [rccpc.org/sign-ups](http://rccpc.org/sign-ups) and click on the Lifetouch link. Questions? Contact Shirley Tielleman at 302-738-0737.

## What's Happening in Sunday School?

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### **Pre-K/Kindergarten (Room 303):**

*Birthday Bash!* Today's Bible story focus is: Not everyone knew Jesus is God's son. Jesus Born in a stable. *Luke 2:1-7.*

### **1st-5th Grade (Room 202/204):**

*Undercover Christmas. Service Project for Friendship House.* Today's Bible story is: Someone Like You. (Gabriel appears to Mary). *Luke 1:26-56*

*Life app: Compassion—Caring enough to do something about someone's else's need.*

### **Looking ahead: (1st–5th)**

December 16: following Sunday school, cookie decorating and ornament making and a Special Visitor in Founder's Hall.

December 23: Third Grade and up will enjoy the Lessons and Carols Service.

December 24: To be part of the Christmas Eve pageant for the 5:00pm service, meet in Fellowship Hall for costumes at 4:30pm.

December 30: No Sunday school.

### **Middle School (Room 114):**

Jesus of Nazareth

### **Looking ahead: (Middle School)**

Sunday, Dec. 16: Christmas Story Quiz and prizes (study up in Matthew 1:18-chapter 2 and Luke 1-2) followed by helping with the party in Founder's Hall.

No Sunday school December 23 and 30.

**SESSION:**

*Moderator:*  
Rev. Randy Clayton

*Clerk of Session:*  
Sandy Sarjeant

**Class of 2019**

Ken Comegys  
John Gast  
Pat Gioffre  
Mike Hawley  
Anne Hawley  
Marcia Kelly  
John McNamara  
Stu Ross

**Class of 2020**

Dave Aument  
Suzanne Courter-Jann  
Nancy James  
Sandy Sarjeant  
Curt Tompkins

**Class of 2021**

Joan English  
Kim Eppheimer  
Donna Reilly  
John Schubel  
Debbie Williams

**DEACONS**

*Moderator:* Sue Gleason

**Class of 2019**

Bob Borchardt  
Pat Clark  
Darlyn Green-Kocher  
Judy Hahn  
Chris Long  
Sally Rada  
Vicki Smith  
Jayne Townsend

**Class of 2020**

Sue Anderson  
Lee Ann Comegys  
Jean Derickson  
Sue Gleason  
Valerie Kratunis  
Pei-Yi Lo  
LaRetha Osborn  
Elaine Ramsey  
Sue Welsh

**Class of 2021**

Amy Jones  
Susan Kissell  
Pam Meyer  
Jane Moore  
Ann Riblett  
Shirley Tielleman

# Lord, in Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayers

**MEMBERS**

George Price  
Ruby Hayden  
Ron Bagdon  
Cal Williams  
Gail Derickson  
Ruth Richards  
Bob Biss  
Pat Faatz  
Melissa Spencer  
Anne Cain  
Eddie Mowczan  
Jon Cottrell  
Cindy Senft  
Vicki Smith & family

**MEMBERS** (continued)

Betty Cunningham  
Charles Tulloch  
Edith Trimble  
Betty Lacey  
Kathrine Page  
*Linda Drew*

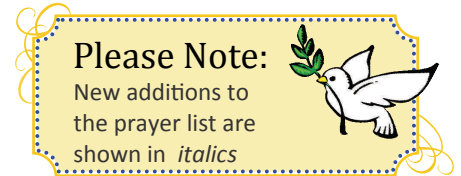


**SERVICE ABROAD**

Latin American Missionaries  
Damian Wampler  
Lilian Solt  
Dean Hunter  
Femi  
Ryan Beattie

**FRIENDS & FAMILY**

*Linda Watson (friend of Ann Thomas)*  
*Joan & Bill Gould (sister of Karen Beare)*  
Charlotte Vordemberge (requested by Todd & Karen Vordemberge)  
Gabe Vasquez (requested by Susan Welsh)  
Family of Blake Dilorio  
Donna Curtis (friend of Marcia Kelly)  
Joe (brother of Christine Fischer)  
Lisa (niece of Christine Fischer)  
Bobbie Lee Sewell (cousin of Jennie Banco)  
Alfred Leoncavallo (cousin of Al DeLuca)  
John Scott (brother of Nancy Ross)  
Bob Foley (brother of Peggy Germain)  
Mary Forrest (friend of Carolyn Falasca)  
Elmer June & family (father of Valerie Kratunis)  
Dan Pugliese (son-in-law of Joyce & Roger McClellan)  
Dawn Harris (daughter-in-law of Carolyn Harris)



**Please Note:**  
New additions to  
the prayer list are  
shown in *italics*



## Calendar Highlights

December 9 Last day to order Christmas Poinsettias  
December 9 Noonday Concert  
December 11 Tuesdays Together & Reach & Rejoice Choir  
December 14 Advent Dinner  
December 16 Wellness Presentation  
December 16 Ornament Making & more  
December 16 Cornerstone  
December 23 Lessons & Carols Services  
December 30 One Service at 10:30 am

## Chancel Flower Available Dates:

Interested in purchasing Chancel flowers? Order forms are available in the narthex, founders hall, and at [rccpc.org](http://rccpc.org). The cost is \$45.00.

*Order forms for 2019 have been placed in the Narthex, Founders Hall and on our website.*