



THE CHURCH VOICE

A Publication of Shallotte Presbyterian Church



Vol. 36

November, 2024 No. 11

'You received without payment; give without payment.' – Matthew 10:8

Jesus' words remind us how we are recipients of a free grace given to us by God through faith. The promise of salvation is a free gift from the Almighty that cannot be earned or purchased. The disciples of Jesus Christ are called to imitate this pattern of unconditional grace in our lives and our relationships, knowing that Christian faith is not based upon scarcity, rather, it is about abundance. It involves sharing the same overflowing grace, mercy, and love that we have already received.

The "maintenance of divine worship" is listed among the six "Great Ends of the Church" – a necessary quality of life together in the faith community. This requires discipline because of the many other obligations that are constantly making demands upon our time and resources – an unexpected bill, an accident, a new opportunity, etc. There are a million legitimate reasons why we should NOT be generous with our time or talent. Still, if something is important to us, then we must make time; we must discover the means of maintaining it through our nurture and support.

Stewardship is the means by which we claim ownership of life within Christ's church. Great things happen when we assume responsibility for something greater than ourselves. Moments like these may be relatively rare in life, but the church possesses such blessings in abundance. So, when you consider your support for the church for the coming year, don't give until it hurts; simply do what you're already doing. However, if you ever feel the need to do more, there will always be ample opportunity to return thanks to God through the visible witness of the church.

Grace is essential to life in community. Grace binds us together as the people of God. Grace gives our lives direction, meaning and purpose. But maintaining these bonds requires commitment. We should never weary in doing what is right, for we live in a world hungry for righteousness. Still, there are immeasurable rewards to be gained, as life in community provides an avenue by which we may give and receive the same grace with which we have been so richly blessed.

Please join us **Sunday, November 10** for **Consecration Sunday**, where we will take a moment to give thanks to God for the generosity and grace of our congregation members who sustain the ministry and mission of this church. As part of this celebration, we'll be treated to a message by **Rev. Dr. Ed McLeod**, the recently retired Head Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC. The 2025 pledge cards that have been received will be blessed during the offering, and after the service, we'll gather in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy a fellowship lunch catered by Jerome's. ***(Please do not forget to RSVP with the church office before November 6 if you are planning on joining us for lunch!)***

Thank you for everything that you do to support Shallotte Presbyterian Church!

Grace & Peace,

George

Looking Ahead for Worship

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 3, 2024

8:30 am Worship

11:00am Worship

Psalm 146; Ruth 1:1-18; Mark 12:28-34



25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 10th, 2024

ONE Worship 10:00am

Guest Preacher



26th Sunday after Pentecost

November 17, 2024

8:30am Worship

11:00am Worship

Psalm 16; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-25

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

November 24, 2024

8:30am Worship

11:00am Worship

Psalm 132; 1-18; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

Thanksgiving Beach Service

November 28, 2024

9:00am Beach Worship

11:00am Indoor Worship

Psalm 126; 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Ocean Isle Beach,
at the Driftwood Dr. Access
Meet YOU at the Cross



Volunteers are needed to help with shoebox collection in the Fellowship Hall.

Please contact the church office or Sarah Braddock if you can help

November 18 10am-1pm

November 21 10am-12pm

November 24 12pm-4pm

November 19 10am-12pm

November 22 12pm-2pm

November 25 9am-11am

November 20 3pm-5pm

November 23 10pm-12pm

November 26 9am-3pm

Shallotte Presbyterian Church
Rev. George Chapman III, Pastor

The Session (Elders)

Class of 2024

Betsy Braddock

David Martin

Scott Taylor

Rich Winslow

Class of 2025

Kitty Green

Sarah Henry

Rusty Russ

Linda Stackhouse

Class of 2026

John Cardwell

Kim Smithwick

Steve Wingfield

Lynne Young

Kitty Green, Clerk of Session

The Board of Deacons

Class of 2024

Sarah Braddock

Deb Claxton

Audrey Lee

Mabel Winslow

Class of 2025

Barbara English

Carol Kauffman

Brenda Lewis

Rosalee Rockafellow

Class of 2026

Lurae Albert

Leslie Claiborne

Tobin Henry

Susan Lehmann

Deb Claxton, Moderator Audrey Lee, Clerk of Deacons



Sunday Worship Services

Services are offered at the church at
8:30am and 11:00am

Thanksgiving Beach Service

November 28, 2024

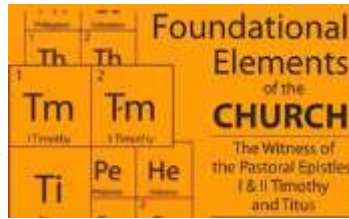
9:00am Beach Services are held at
Ocean Isle Beach, at the Driftwood
Dr. Access

**The 11am service is streamed live on our
Facebook page and on our
YouTube channel.**

The **Nursery** is available during Sunday
School and 11am service.

Fall Bible Study

Collectively referred to as “The Pastoral Epistles”, the letters of First Timothy, Second Timothy, and Titus rest a critical juncture in the history of the Christian faith, between the Apostolic Age and the establishment of the institutional church. While the beliefs of the church in it’s formative years centered upon the *Parousia*, or the Second Coming of Christ, in the Pastoral Epistles, we witness the formation of practical infrastructure designed to assist the church in it’s mission for centuries to come. As the Good News continues to expand into new lands and cultures, the challenges that this emerging church faces increase as well, both externally and internally. For the modern reader, the story of the church undergoing radical transformation and change can perhaps offer insight into current challenges faced by the believers of our time and place.



Meeting: **Wednesday, November 6th, 6:00pm**
Tuesday, November 12th, 6:00pm
Tuesday, November 19th, 6:00pm
Tuesday, December 10th, 6:00pm
Tuesday, December 17th, 6:00pm



Ushers and Greeters are needed for November and December dates that are still available. Call the church office if you are able to assist in a date.



Greeters, Ushers & - November 2024 - Can you Volunteer?

Date	Greeters 11am	Ushers 11am
11/3	Linda Stackhouse	Eric & Susan Lehmann
11/10	Carol Kauffman & Kitty Green	Steve Wingfield
11/17	Kim Smithwick & Carolyn Voorheis	
11/24		Betsy Braddock



New Members

Shallotte Presbyterian Church celebrate the following new members of 2024 after the 11:00 service on **Sunday, November 3.**

Brownie & Jeannie McLeod
Rich & Lori Wilson
Mac & Martha Warner
John Mills
Bruce & Jacqui Berringer
Ken & Dale Krause
Bob & Lois King
Mary Payton Pendergrass
Tim & Ruth Owens
Billy & Connie Payne
Joanne Prettyman
Rich Giannola



ADVENT WORKSHOP



The Christian Education Committee invites YOU to attend our Advent Workshop on **December 1st at 4:00pm in the afternoon.**

Come and enjoy
 FELLOWSHIP, CHRISTMAS MUSIC
 WITH PAUL,
 COOKIES AND PUNCH, and
 MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH FOR
 YOUR HOME

We will provide everything you need to make your wreath!

Please call the church office to reserve your space so that we are sure to have ample supplies.

What a wonderful way to kick off the season of Advent!



Celebration Circle Update

Celebration Circle is off to a great start this year. Forty members were in attendance for the monthly meeting on Wednesday October 9, 2024. Debbie Wingfield opened the meeting with the lighting of the Christ Candle and prayer.

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Margaret Causey led the Bible Study: Lesson 2 Land Justice from Let Justice Roll Down, God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation, by Patricia K. Tull. Margaret opened the study by describing the picture in our study book depicting trees and their importance to our environment. Land disputes have been ongoing since biblical days through "divinely ordered conquests and laws of Jubilee..." We know we are custodians, but God owns the land, and we were created to oversee its care. Our ancestors took land from indigenous people, our original sin. Wars over land continue today, for example, Russia and Israel. In our own county land is being overdeveloped and misused. We closed with prayer, teach us ways to repair and share the land in justice for all. Amen.

Beth Spoon talked about the Mission of the Month of October- BEMC's Warm Homes, Warm Hearts utility assistance program. BEMC programs assist seniors and families in need of help with their electric bill to avoid disconnection, keeping them warm in winter and cool in the summer. This campaign has raised nearly \$816,000 since 2008. BEMC matches donations up to \$50,000 so contributions work twice as hard and 100% of donations go to those in need. Funds are distributed through BFA and the Columbus County Department of Aging.

Beth also reported on other news from the Mission Committee. SPC will serve at the Lords Food Pantry in October. Packing is on Friday, October 25th and distribution on Saturday, October 26th. Volunteers are always needed. Contact Sandy Lacy to volunteer. Deb Claxton has asked for 40 tags for the Angel Tree this year. PORCH food collection boxes are in the Narthex and church office. Please consider bringing 1-2 cans of food when you come to church on Sunday mornings. The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be at SPC on October 28.

In other news from Celebration Circle, Sarah Henry is the new point of contact for "Sunshine Friends." The circle is looking for someone to attend Mission Committee meetings and report back to the group as Beth Spoon will be moving in the near future. There will be a reception for the new Community Counseling Center director following the 11:00 worship on October 27. Sarah Cook is the captain of SPC's Crop Walk team, so see her to sign up for this year's walk to be held on November 3rd.

Next month Celebration Circle will have the annual Thank Offering program in conjunction with the monthly meeting. Louise Durham and Pat McClure will host the event. A five-dollar donation is requested to cover the cost of the light lunch. Please join us for the food, fellowship, and fun!

SMALL GROUP DEVOTIONS FOR ADVENT



Advent is the season in our church during which we are waiting on the arrival of our King. During this season we are busy – perhaps too busy making preparations – decorating, cooking, shopping, wrapping, and on and on. Perhaps we all need to find time to step away from the "busyness" of the season to prepare our hearts for the greatest gift of all!

You are invited to join a SMALL GROUP during the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas for a weekly devotional time. We will be using a book by Jill Duffield (senior pastor at First Presbyterian church in Greensboro, NC), ADVENT IN PLAIN SIGHT. Her approach in this book is to take "ordinary objects that appear in the biblical narratives of messianic prophecy and incarnation... Prompting readers to see the near kingdom of heaven on earth and to ponder what that divine proximity enables and asks them to do and be."

We will be in the process of determining dates, times and locations for these groups in the next few weeks, so keep your eye on the weekly announcements for more information. It is our hope that this opportunity to come together during the weeks before Christmas will offer you a time for fellowship and spiritual enrichment as you prepare for God's great gift to us!



Beautiful poinsettias will again grace our sanctuary during the Christmas season. If you would like to purchase one in Honor or Memory of a Loved One, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the church with your payment prior to November 30.

The flowers will be on display on display on December 10th and 17th . You may pick your up following the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.



MISSION AND BENEVOLENCE: SPOTLIGHT ON MISSION



Save the Date for Sunday afternoon, November 3rd and walk to fight hunger again. The SPC team has proudly supported the CROP Hunger Walk which is celebrating it's 35th anniversary in Shallotte. Your co-team captains are Sarah Cook and Deb Claxton. They'll be encouraging you to walk and gather supporters or to support the SPC team or individuals who will walk.



CALLING ALL SPC ANGELS

YES--- it's that time of the year to bring joy and happiness to our neighbors here in Brunswick County. Shallotte Presbyterian Church will again be participating with the Brunswick Family Assistance collecting donations for the ANGEL TREE. In 2023 with the help of Angels from the community, 1772 low-income children and seniors had a gift on Christmas morning. This year SPC has requested 40 tags for our Angel Tree which you will find in the narthex during the first week of November.

Please consider looking at the tags and select one or more to fulfill their wishes and place a smile on your face and the recipient. When you select your tag, sign your name to the list that you will find under the tree. Return your unwrapped donations and the tag by the first week in December and no later than Wednesday December 4th so that they can be delivered to BFA for their distribution.

THANK YOU SPC ANGELS

Important Reminders: Food Pantry

Sunday is November 10. If you wish to make a monetary donation, you may drop it off at the church or mail your check to the church office. The pantry is in need of one lb bags of rice or canned green beans.

Thanks for your support.

Can You Help??

The Lords Food Pantry, a ministry of the South Brunswick Interchurch Council (SBIC), is working to provide a complete Thanksgiving Dinner Box to 220 area families this season. For \$20, you will help to provide:

One 12-14 pound turkey or ham
Two 14.5 oz. cans of corn
Two 14.5 oz. cans of turkey gravy
One box of stuffing
One 9-inch pumpkin pie

Two 14.5 oz. cans of green beans
One 14.5 oz. cranberry sauce
One 29 oz. can of sweet potatoes
One dozen dinner rolls

Contact: Your SBIC Representative if you have any questions. Checks should be made payable to SBIC with **Thanksgiving Dinner Box** in the memo line.

Mail check to:

SBIC, P. O. Box 1461, Shallotte, NC 28459 or put in the offering plate at church.





If you have placed a name on the list below and it needs to be removed, please call or email the Church Office, 910-754-6929, church@atmc.net



Please Pray for the Individuals Below and Their Families

Pat Bell, Bella Black, Cynthia Boland, Olivia Carelock, Pat Dobbins, Kimmie Durham, Nancy Elwell, Frances Farmer, Charles Greene, Nancy & Bob Gorman, Michelle & Charles Griffin, Charlotte Guker, Rosemary Hall, Carole Harris, Richard Hilton, Christian Huffman, Mary Mac Holcombe, Lantz & Peggy Lackey, Josh Long, Bob Mayhew, Ann & Bill McPhaul, Chip & Jackie Montague, George & Barbara Montague, Maximus & Hendrix Montague, Laura Morrison, Sharon Nault, Pat O'Neil, Chuck Partridge, Anita Payne, Rick Payne, Lee Rockafellow, Harry Simpson, Joe Simpson, Kaitlyn Smith, Donna Sullivan, Cindy Wilson, Bill Young, Lou & Shirley Zimmerman.

A Note from the Stewardship/Finance Committee

The following is a brief summary of our giving and related expenditures of the Operating Fund for the 9 months ended September 30, 2024 with comparative amounts for 2023 and 2022.

	<u>2024 Actual</u>	<u>2023 Actual</u>	<u>2022 Actual</u>
Pledges & Other Offerings received	<u>\$308,207.54</u>	<u>\$308,742.40</u>	<u>\$295,281.61</u>
Expenditures:			
Staff Ministry	145,391.37	136,780.40	134,217.49
Local Program Ministry	14,292.41	11,152.83	8,351.03
Property and Grounds	86,387.66	119,394.51	82,158.73
Administration	15,980.42	15,297.19	16,027.96
General / Session	259.40	147.66	186.61
Missions and Benevolences	<u>44,523.66</u>	<u>43,995.19</u>	<u>41,051.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>306,834.92</u>	<u>326,767.78</u>	<u>281,992.82</u>
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>\$ 1,372.62</u>	<u>(\$ 13,288.84)</u>	<u>\$ 13,288.84</u>

A thought to consider....

“As it happens, giving is to your benefit. It doesn’t make you a saint or martyr to give.
In giving you are simply reflecting God’s image – he who gave everything.”



We partner with Brunswick Family Assistance, social services organizations, and food pantries in the area. We will gladly accept donations of warm, gently used adult and children’s coats at the church. We thank you for your consideration in helping warm our neighbors in need throughout Shallotte and surrounding communities. There will be a box on the OFFICE side of the church.

The Bridge Club is looking for substitute players. And what a fun group this is!! This group plays two table “Party Bridge” and they always have a great dessert. So if you are looking for a fun afternoon with wonderful friends, they meet at the church on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 12:30pm. For more information please call Sarah Braddock 404-310-0470

Recently, the SPC Session approved the purchase of magnetic name tags for each member of the congregation. If you would like one, please let the church office know. Once we have enough names, we place another order, for the more name tags we order, the less expensive they become. Please note: While there is no cost to members, there is a \$12 replacement fee if one's tag is lost. If you have a pacemaker or defibrillator, please check with your doctor before wearing one. Contact the church office if you have any questions.



*Thank
You*

To our Shallotte Presbyterian Church Family,

Thank you all so much for the beautiful memorial service & Celebration of Mom's Life!

George & Christina - Thank you for your patience with me in my calls, emails and "pop-ins" to ask a million questions and for putting together a beautiful service and program to honor her life! Paul- thank you for working with me on the music accepting my suggestions and fitting in the songs that were meaningful to mom's life in just the right places! Randy- I never even had a chance to speak to you. Thank you for playing so beautifully. It was a real tribute to mom! To the Women of Shallotte Presbyterian who arranged for the lovely reception, thank you! Everything was set-up beautifully, the food was delicious, the pictures of Mom were laid out perfectly, and you all were such gracious hostesses that Mom would have delighted in! To the Parishioners who attended & who have prayed -there are not enough words to thank you for these YEARS of support.

May God Bless you all,

Marie Harrison's Family



"BIG EVENT"
MARK YOUR CALENDARS
Consecration Sunday
November 10, 2024
10:00 am Service

CATERED LUNCH by JEROMES

The Stewardship and Finance Committee asked that you attend worship on **Sunday, November 10 at 10:00 am** to hear an important message from our guest speaker Rev. Dr. Ed McLeod. At the end of the service, we ask that you prayerfully consider how much God has blessed you, enriched your lives, and provided for our church's mission through your financial commitment by completing an estimate of giving card. Pledges for 2025 will be placed in the basket at the communion table and then blessed for their mission in the coming year. Afterwards, All are invited to attend a wonderful meal in the fellowship hall to celebrate our love for Jesus Christ. Please call the church to RSVP so we know how many to plan for.



Operation Christmas Child Collection
Will be here soon and it's time to start packing! There are empty shoeboxes available in the Narthex. Our church will serve as a drop-off location for our region again this year. Please contact Sarah or the church office if you would like to volunteer during National Collection Week, which will run from **November 18th-25th**. Thank you

Thank you for supporting the Community Counseling Center! Over \$2,100 Raised!

Yolanda Keith, new executive director for the Community Counseling Center, joined us for worship on 10/27. She thanked SPC for its faithful support of the center and its mission. She also highlighted the continued need to provide affordable counseling and mental health services in our community.

Yolanda expressed gratitude for such a warm welcome for her and her mother. She also appreciated the interest so many showed in the work of the Counseling Center.

A special thanks to all of the Circle members who provided food and beverages for the reception after church, and who helped set up and clean up. Thank you also to everyone who attended the reception and who contributed to the love offering for the Counseling Center. We raised \$2,129.00. 100% will support the great work that they do!

Shallotte Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

P. O. Box 3256

Shallotte, NC 28459

Phone: 910-754-6929

E-mail: church@atmc.net

www.shallottechurch.org

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Shallotte, NC

Permit #140

ADDRESS RETURN REQUESTED

November, 2024



Scan with your Smartphone to Access
our NEW Online Giving Web Portal!



www.facebook.com/shallottepresbyterian



REMINDER VICKI A. BLOUNT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline is
February 14, 2025

Any deserving member of Shallotte Presbyterian Church who is trying to further his/her education, whether currently enrolled in a 4-year college, a community college, trade school, or a graduating High School Senior is eligible to apply.

Applications are available in the church office or by email request to erskine.blount@gmail.com.

*Students with existing scholarships must reapply.

Erskine Blount, Project Chair



Getting Closer

Each Sunday, SPC streams the 11a.m. worship service on Facebook and YouTube. This helps our shut-ins to continue to be part of our community, lets our members watch the service when traveling and helps the church to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. But the view from the upstairs camera gives the impression that the church is nearly empty because most folks are sitting on the back rows.

We are encouraging folks to sit closer to the front of the sanctuary. You can see better, hear the choir's beautiful music and have plenty of room. While habits are hard to change, why not try a different pew near the front. We are a lively and growing congregation, and that's the image we want to portray on-line.

