



Pastor Tom Dendy

PASTOR'S ARTICLE

By Pastor Tom

Philippians 1:3-6 *3 I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.*

November 2016 marks the anniversary of my ministry's beginning with you at Celebration back November of 2011. I am so very grateful for our first five years together in mission and ministry and I am looking forward to sharing many more years together as we seek to be faithful to our ongoing calling in Jesus Christ. Truly, God has begun a good work here at Celebration and will continue bringing it toward completion in Jesus Christ as we share our lives and our love in service to God and neighbor.

Once again I am offering you a Thirty Days of Thanks-Giving Challenge during November. I encourage each of us to devote time each day in November focusing on people and circumstances for which we are thankful. Perhaps it will motivate you to write an email or send a card or make a phone call to share special thanks with someone(s) you are especially grateful for in your life that may or may not even know that they have helped you or impacted your life for the good. I promise that the more you focus on thanks-giving the more blessed you yourself will feel as you acknowledge the many, many ways that God, through people and circumstances in your life, has blessed you and is blessing you still! We are blessed to be a blessing. So, I hope you will embrace the Thirty Days of Thanks-Giving Challenge during November!!!

With love and thanks!

Pastor Tom

(The Pastor's article is continued on page 9.)

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Thanksgiving is
not a day on the calendar.

It's a lifestyle!

SESSION UPDATE

By Nancy Torcivia

Holy Communion will be served on Sunday, November 6, 2016

The next Stated Session Meeting is Sunday, November 20 at 12:15 PM.

The Session had a Called meeting on October 10 and a Stated meeting on October 17 and took these actions:

The Elders Elect have been invited to attend Session meetings as part of their training, and they were welcomed to the fold.

A Blue Christmas service for those feeling a sense of sadness or loss during the Christmas season will be held on Tuesday, November 29, at 6:00 p.m. All Are Welcome!

The church hosted a blood drive with the American Red Cross on October 24 at CPC. It was well attended by church members and folks from the community. 23 units of blood were collected.

Our workday with Habitat for Humanity was moved due to the storm to Friday, October 28. We helped paint a home at Hope's Crossing. Volunteers were asked to bring water and a bag lunch.

Elder Ken Krenzer will be teaching the Adult Sunday School class at 9:15 a.m. starting an Advent Study on Sunday, November 20. Books will be available to participants for a nominal fee.

Hospitality supports the First Wednesday Fellowship suppers, and various events by providing food and beverages. Join us for the next First Wednesday Fellowship potluck on November 2 at 5:30 p.m.. We will have a guest speaker who has worked on the mission field in Syria. The potluck food for the evening will be your favorite "Tail Gate" dishes. Come share!

The Youth Group is selling coupons for Belk Charity Days after church.

We are collecting **Sneakers for Santa** now through Sunday, December 11. The sneakers should be new for children, youth or adults. All will be donated to the Salvation Army along with the socks we collected earlier this year.

The Personnel Committee reported all staff evaluations are nearly complete. The Session approved an immediate salary increase for the church secretary.

The Session approved a request from Jennifer Hammond and Laurice Ann Ward to use our church facilities for their wedding on October 12, 2016.

The church survived Hurricane Matthew. Thanks to Pastor Tom for putting out sand bags around the doors, and Joe Alexander for checking facilities during the storm. Two pieces of sheet metal blew off of the steeple base, but were found on site and will be reattached soon. Church telephone lines were disrupted, but have been repaired.

Pastor Tom requested Horry County Storm Water Management to have the County's drainage ditch at the back of our property cleared of debris. Unfortunately, with all of the storm damage the County is dealing with, it may be some time before the work is completed. To establish better drainage on our property, we need the County's drainage ditch cleared.

The Technology committee reported that the **Automated Church Systems** software was updated to a cloud-based system called *Realm*. The program will give us enhanced abilities to run custom reports and

send out emails to groups within the congregation.

Payroll for Church and Preschool staff was outsourced to a payroll processor allowing staff to receive direct deposits starting November.

A meeting with the Administrative Commission of New Harmony Presbytery has been set. They meet with the Session each year to talk about our church life and Presbytery's support of Celebration. 2017 will be our last year of financial support. This meeting is a time to share the accomplishments of the church and our dreams for the future.

Pastor Tom will attend The SC Presbyteries Ministers & Educators Retreat November 14-16 at Montreat led by The Rev. Carol Howard Merritt. This will fulfill his required annual continuing education for 2016.

The newly expanded Preschool Board met and is in the process of doing an analysis of our tuition rates and compensation rates for our teachers.

SOS Healthcare sent us several volunteers with autism from their job-coaching program to assist with weeding our flower beds. The weather didn't cooperate, but the team plans to return and do more work.

The Session finished final discussion of The Sailboat Church during generative time discussions.

Please continue to pray for Pastor Tom and the Session as we approach the busy holiday season. Your love and compassion for one another really inspires us! God bless you all.

THE NEXT
BREAKFAST
BUDDIES
WILL BE ON
NOVEMBER 18 AT
FAMOUS
TOASTERY



BREAKFAST BUDDIES

By Pat Teal

Fun, Fun, Fun, and lots of laughter at our Breakfast Buddies at the Olympic Flame Thanks to Judy Leonard, for being our hostess. We had some new buddies, Fran, the Youngbloods, and Beth, who also joined in the fun. So happy to have them in our group.

Carol Butler brought up some information about a family who lost everything in the flood in which children were involved. A collection of \$270.00 was taken up to give to this family. We have such wonderful people, who are so caring. Giving them 5 stars.

Our next Breakfast will be November 18, 9:00 am, at Famous Toastery in Carolina Forest.

Please sign up in front of the Narthex. Bring a friend, neighbor, or relatives and have some fun!



FINANCE AND ENDOWMENT

By Jan Coulter

Thank you to all of you who have turned in your Stewardship Estimate of Giving Card for 2017. If you haven't turned yours in yet, there's still time. We are now working on our budget for 2017 and we need your help to know what our income is expected to be.

It's End-of-Year Financial Planning time again. As you

review your finances for 2016 and make plans or adjustments for 2017, please consider including our Endowment Fund in your plans.

If you have stocks that have appreciated to the point where it is too costly to sell them, they can be transferred to the church's brokerage account, tax free. You get the deduction

without having to pay the gain on sale of stock.

Please speak to your accountant or financial planner to assist you.

Also, end of year is a good time to review your wills. Consider designating a percentage of your assets to be given to the Endowment Fund.

THE NEXT
LADYBUG
LUNCHEON WILL
BE ON
THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 3,
12 NOON
AT THE GRUMPY
MONK



LADYBUG LUNCHEON

By Carol Butler

Our October luncheon took us nowhere because of Hurricane Matthew. Due to evacuations all along the Grand Strand my concern was major traffic tie-ups, so I made the decision to cancel the lunch at he Grumpy Monk. Just to continue with a little humor, I will continue my newsletter as usual.

There were 0 Ladybugs in attendance. No one brought anyone.

We collected \$0.00 for charity. Thank you ladies for your next anticipated generosity. The food was non-existent and there was no service or servers.

As it turned out no one was well-behaved because no one was there. But, there always has been and will always be lots of conversations and laughter at our luncheons.

The next lunch will be Thursday, November 3, 12noon ,at

the Grumpy Monk located on Route 501 across from Tanger Outlet. Pat Teal will again be our hostess. If you have already signed up the original sign up sheet will be in the Narthex. If you still plan on going put a check mark next to your name. If you didn't sign up and would like to go, please put your name down. Let me know if you need a ride. All Ladybugs, their friends and family (female of course) are invited....hope to see you there.

Youth of Celebration

THE SECOND AND THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IS OUR HE~BREWS COFFEE BAR!

YOUTH

By Cecilia Evans and Jackie Sinnet

Shhh. It is just around the corner Breakfast with Santa. Come one come all on December 10 to have a pancake breakfast, picture with Santa, games and much more! Breakfast is \$8.00 for everyone 2 and above.

The sanctuary is adorned to look like a winter wonderland

with a candy cane path to Santa and beautiful poinsettias.

Space is limited so please complete the online form or get one from the bulletin board at church.

Contact Cecilia or Jackie with questions.

Upcoming Dates for Youth
 Belk Charity Days November 5
 Present wrapping November 13
 Breakfast with Santa December 10



MISSIONS/OUTREACH

By Cecilia Evans

To continue Pastor Tom's theme, thanks for giving a pint for the Red Cross. With the recent storms blood donations have declined. Thanks to Nanette Kelly for leading the blood drive and helping Celebration make an impact on our community. To the

hospitality team, volunteers and donors it was all made possible by your participation.

Calling Santa's elves to help with the making/purchasing of sneakers for the Salvation Army Sneakers for Santa. We will be collecting the sneakers

in the month of November and through December 12. Our goal is 150 pairs of sneakers. Each year your generosity helps Santa deliver sneakers and socks to those in need. So who's in to make this the best sneaker Christmas yet?



SERVICE ON NOVEMBER 29, AT 6PM

EVANGELISM

By Paula Jansson

Celebration Presbyterian Church will be hosting the second annual Blue Christmas service on November 29, 2016, at 6pm.

This service is so very timely with the devastation that many have suffered because of the recent hurricane. It is a service of light and hope, because God is our light and hope for the future. The

service will feature uplifting music.

Anyone who has pain or sadness due to a recent death, divorce, loss of employment, health issues, family strife or financial stress may experience a deep sadness in November and December.

Our Pastor Tom Dendy, along with church leaders, will

gently guide us through this worship service.

All are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Paula Jansson, at 843-903-1403.

VOLUNTEERS SERVING THIS MONTH

Elder of the Week

Nov 6—Jan Coulter
 Nov 13—Carol Butler
 Nov 20—Carol Butler
 Nov 27—Nancy Torcivia

Liturgist

Nov 6—Elizabeth Wills
 Nov 13—Kathy Wechter
 Nov 20—Peg Speidel
 Nov 27—Priscilla Mulligan

Visitors Table/Greeter

Nov 6—Priscilla Mulligan
 Nov 13—Sharon Hills
 Nov 20—Betsy Hughes
 Nov 27—TBA

Nursery

Nov 6—Donna Woodard
 Nov 13—Betsy Hughes
 Nov 20—Nanette Kelly
 Nov 27—Donna Woodard

Pre K –Kindergarten Children’s Church—

Tonja Paolini

Children’s Church Grades 1-5
 Trudy Miller

Sound Board

Nov 6—Bernadine Lamar
 Nov 13—Carol Butler
 Nov 20—Bernadine Lamar
 Nov 27—Bernadine Lamar

Media Shout

Nov 6—Katrena White
 Nov 13—Katrena White
 Nov 20—Katrena White
 Nov 27—Katrena White

Ushers for the month

Bernadine Lamar, Bob and Linda Miller, Barb Johnson, Bob Stepanek

Acolyte

Nov 6—Katelyn Burrows
 Nov 13—Jada Cartwright
 Nov 20—Katelyn Burrows
 Nov 27—Jada Cartwright

Communion

Bernadine Lamar, Barbara Barranco, Bob Miller, Paula Jansson



We are collecting SANTA’S SNEAKERS for male and female teens. Our goal is to collect 150 pairs of athletic shoes by Sunday, December 11. The Salvation Army will distribute the shoes, along with the Socs for Santa that were collected earlier this year.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS Celebrate the season by enhancing our sanctuary with a Christmas Poinsettia.



It is now time to place our order for the Christmas Poinsettias. This year we will be ordering a red poinsettia for \$10.00 per plant. **Deadline** for orders will be November 20. The poinsettias will decorate the church for the Christmas season. Since Christmas is on a Sunday they will be available for pickup after worship on Christmas day, Sunday, December 25. Order forms will be available in the bulletins each Sunday.

HOSPITALITY - FWF ON 11/2

By Laurie Andrews



Wednesday, November 2, at 5:30 pm, is the next First Wednesday Fellowship. The theme for this dinner is a Tailgate Party. Wear your favorite sports jersey from any sport and bring your favorite

tailgate food, such as wings, chili or bring your favorite go to dish.

Following dinner, Lisa Culpepper, from St. Paul’s Presbyterian church in New

Harmony Presbytery, will tell us about her mission work in Syria.

Hope you can join us!

BIRTHDAYS FOR NOVEMBER



Take a moment to wish those who have a birthday this month birthday wishes or send them a card.

If your birthday is not listed, please let Linda Berry in the office know.

Nov 5—Dylan Brennan

Nov 8—Bo Yates

Nov 8—Karolyn Davey

Nov 10—Donna Woodard

Nov 10—Kasey Watson

Nov 19—Gail Alexander

Nov 12—Dalton Coleman

Nov 20—Bob Miller

Nov 21—Martha Schmidt

Nov 22—Ken Deubler

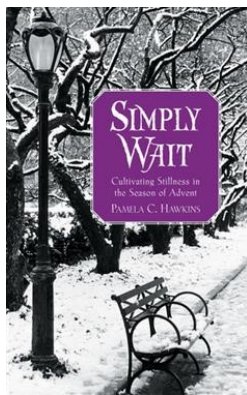
Nov 22—Carol Mitchell

Nov 25—June Marcus

Nov 27—Charlotte Bruce

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Ken Krenzer



It seems that it's not even Halloween and Christmas "stuff" has already been out for a while. The Advent season is just around the corner along with all of the hustle and bustle, shopping, holiday dinners, parties, programs, gatherings and other activities that seem to "busy" the season.

So, I would like to extend an invitation to join an Adult Education series that may offer an avenue to seek calm and quiet in the midst of the holiday clutter.

As a guiding text we will use *Simply Wait Cultivating Stillness in the Season of Advent* by Pamela C. Hawkins.

The first session is scheduled for November 20 at 9:15 and will continue in December .

I am really looking forward to joining with you and sharing with you this wonderful Advent season in celebrating Immanuel---"the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14)

PRESCHOOL

By Susan Spraker



Wow! What a month. I feel like I blinked my eyes and October was gone. Being out of school for the Hurricane made the month fly by. I hope everyone came through the storm without any major problems. We did have to cancel our annual trip to the farm this year due to all the missed days of school. Hopefully, we can return next year.

Sadly, we have a student in our preschool that recently lost his

father. This was a shock to everyone. We are currently collecting donations to assist with funeral expenses. If you would like help, please drop your donation off to the preschool office.

This month we are getting ready for Thanksgiving. It is a time for the children to share all the things they are thankful for. Each child will bring a piece of fruit to make a friendship fruit salad.

Together, they will dress up as

Pilgrims or Indians and share a feast.

I hope everyone has a very Happy Thanksgiving.



NOVEMBER 2016

PRAYER OF JABEZ —“Oh that You would bless Celebration, indeed, and enlarge our territory, in your name. That your hand would be with us and that You would keep us from evil, that we may not cause hurt to others.” I Chronicles 4:10 (Adapted for Celebration)

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Quilters 10am	2 Men's Break- fast at IHOP 8am First Wednesday Fellowship 5:30pm Program to follow Choir Rehearsal 7pm	3 Ladybug Luncheon at The Grumpy Monk 12 noon	4	5 Belk Charity Day
6 Fellowship 10:15am Worship 11am Communion Daylight Saving Time ends "fall" back one hour	7 Tool Time Bible Study 10:30am Elder Training III 6pm	8 Quilters 10am Election Day Preschool Closed	9 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	10	11 Veteran's Day	12
13 Fellowship 10:15am Worship 11am Youth He~Brews Café Youth Present Wrapping	14 Tool Time Bible Study 10:30am	15 Quilters 10am	16 Choir Rehearsal 7pm	17 Preschool Board Meeting 11am	18 Breakfast Buddies at Famous Toastery 9am	19
20 Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am SESSION 12:15 Thanksgiving Offering Received Youth He~Brews Café	21 Tool Time Bible Study 10:30am	22 Quilters 10am	23	24 THANKSGIVING Church Offices Closed	25 THANKSGIVING PRESCHOOL CLOSED	26
27 Fellowship 10:15 Worship 11am Youth Led Children's Sermon 1st Sunday of Advent	28	29 Blue Christmas Service 6pm	30	The Thanksgiving Offering received on November 20, will benefit the children of Thornwell Home for Children located in Clinton, SC. See Marla's Story on Page 9		



Here's one of my favorite Thanks-Giving Hymns and some background you may not have known about the history behind it. *Now Thank We All Our God* written by Martin Rinckart; translated into English by Catherine Winkworth. (It is Hymn No. 643 in our new *Glory to God* hymnal.)

For modern American Protestant churchgoers, the hymn "Now thank we all our God," likely conjures up an image of a congregation singing in unison, a pipe organ blasting away at a stately tempo, and a church full of people thinking about the approaching feast of stuffed

turkey with cranberry sauce. In order to understand where this hymn came from, I would like to offer a very different image: A minister and his family sing this hymn before dinner to thank God for the scraps of food they have on the table in their meager home in a desolate refugee city that is afflicted with famine and disease and war. Since the earliest projected date for this hymn is 1636 and the oldest known date is 1663, this hymn was certainly written during or soon after the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648). Martin Rinckart (1586-1649) was an accomplished musician who studied at the University of Leipzig and then spent most of his career as a musician and minister in the city of Eilenburg during the Thirty Years' War. British Hymnologist J.R. Watson accounts that Martin Rinckart was a Lutheran minister who came to Eilenburg, Saxony at the beginning of the Thirty Years' War. The walled city of Eilenburg became the refuge for political and military fugitives, but the result was overcrowding, and deadly pestilence and famine. Armies overran it three times. The Rinckart home was a refuge for the victims, even though he was often hard-pressed to provide for his own family. During the height of a severe plague in 1637, Rinckart was the only surviving pastor in Eilenburg, conducting as many as 50 funerals in a day. He performed more than 4000 funerals in that year, including that of his wife. So in the midst of tragedy and hardship Martin Rinckart wrote this hymn of thanksgiving to almighty God that he originally introduced for use as a sung table grace/blessing before a meal.

The text of the first two stanzas are based on Sirach 50:22-24: "Now therefore bless ye the God of all, which only doeth wondrous things everywhere, which exalteth our days from the womb, and dealeth with us according to his mercy. He grant us joyfulness of heart, and that peace may be in our days in Israel for ever (KJV)."

The story of this great man of God, Martin Rinckart, enables me to put into perspective the day-to-day trials that I might experience. During this time of Thanksgiving, I anticipate our dinner table discussion when we will recount our thanks-giving and THANKS-LIVING for the year. Through joys or sorrows we will share the hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God" as a sung prayer of Thanks and Praise for all God's tender mercies.

(1) Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

(2) O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed;
And free us from all ills, in this world and the next!

(3) All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
The Son and Him Who reigns with Them in highest Heaven;
The one eternal God, whom earth and Heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

*We will be singing verse three as our DOXOLOGY in worship on the first three Sundays in November.

Wishing you a happy Thanksgiving every day!

Pastor Tom

2016 Thanksgiving Minute for Mission

MARLA'S STORY

Thirteen-year old Marla* knows what it feels like to be unwanted and unappreciated. Before coming to Thornwell, she spent most of her childhood being shuffled from one distant relative's doorstep to another; her meager worldly possessions constantly in tow.

From an early age, Marla understood that her very presence was an inconvenient burden in the lives of those who opened their doors to her. While her basic needs were usually met, she was made well aware that the various roofs she slept under were provided out of a prideful sense of moral obligation, not love.

As she grew older, she was treated with increasing cruelty by the various family members who took her in. Her gentle spirit and lack of resources were frequently taken advantage of. She was often forced to work long, hard hours to earn her keep, and endured violent physical and emotional abuse. She began missing a lot of school, and her ideas about her own innate value and self-worth were slowly diminished.

By the grace of God—Marla's story does not end there! Today, if you ask Marla to tell you about the happiest day of her life, she'll describe—without hesitation—the day she came to Thornwell. She'll tell you the moment she first stepped into her cottage felt like a dream come true! For the first time in her life, she felt welcome and wanted in her new home. Her Family Teachers were warm and kind. They treated her no differently than their own children, and greeted her with a genuine, unconditional love that required nothing in return.

We share Marla's story today, not to sensationalize or exploit her personal struggles, but to provide a candid illustration of the invaluable, life-changing ministry Thornwell provides—a ministry made possible through the faithful support of congregations full of individuals like you!

Children like Marla come to Thornwell every day feeling hopeless, helpless and alone—but as they are embraced and encouraged with the unconditional love of Christ, they begin to learn their true worth, value and purpose as a child of God.

When you give a charitable contribution to Thornwell, you are providing children like Marla with more than just a roof over their heads—you are acknowledging, encouraging and strengthening them in their faith as equal members in the body of Christ! Thank you for sharing *your* gifts with the children and families we serve together.

From the Scripture...

²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

1 Corinthians 12:20-27

** Marla's name has been changed to protect her privacy and ensure her continued safety, but her story is very real!*



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Celebration Presbyterian Myrtle-Beach

Dr Tom Dendy—Pastor

Dr Rebecca Kiser, Temporary Supply Pastor

Sarah Abushakra—Music Director

Linda Berry—Office Administrator



CELEBRATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OUR IDENTITY STATEMENT

We are Christ followers who are open, accepting, loving and welcoming to all!



December 3 is the Ladies' Christmas Luncheon. It will be held at the Pine Lakes Country Club. There are flyers with all the particulars that will be handed out on Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex with your choice of meal. Laurie Andrews is collecting the money for your meal. The cost is \$25 per person.

We are again asking those attending to bring an unwrapped gift for a child between the ages of newborn to 11 years old.



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT CELEBRATION

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

The Christmas season can be a painful time for many who have experienced loss of a loved one, employment or good health. Perhaps you need a space and time to acknowledge your sadness and to know you are not alone. Join us for a **BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE IN CAROLINA FOREST** at Celebration Presbyterian Church, 2300 Carolina Forest Blvd., Myrtle Beach, on Tuesday, November 29, at 6:00pm. This service will include beautiful music, readings, candle lighting, prayers and anointing. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Contact Paula Jansson, at 843-903-1403 or celebrationpresbyterianmb@gmail.com.

FOR THOSE WHO FIND REJOICING HARD WORK!