Our love, sympathy, and prayers are given to:

Perry Stanley upon the death of his father Ronnie Stanley who passed away on November 18, 2026. He will have a graveside service on December 5 at 2 p.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Donna White upon the loss of her husband, Chuck White on November 21. His funeral was on November 25, 2026 in Macon.

Weekly Schedule

Today, November 29
2 p.m. - Funeral service for Dr. Tony DeLoach in the Sanctuary

Monday, November 30
5 p.m. - Ladies Bible Study in the Brad Brady Conference Room
6 p.m. - Cub Scouts in the Youth Center
7 p.m. - Sanctuary Bells Rehearsal in the Handbell Room

Tuesday, December 1
Angel Tree gifts are due - Please put in gift bags – not gift paper
7 a.m. - Men's Prayer Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall
11 a.m. - JOY Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 2
6 p.m. - Youth $5 Pizza in the Youth Center
6:30 p.m. - Youth Worship and Bible Study
6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

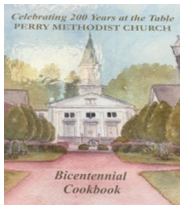
Thursday, December 3
6:15 a.m. - Men's F3 Basketball in the FLC
12 p.m. - Prime Time Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall
1 p.m. - Walking in the FLC
5:30 p.m. - Hope Beyond Today Grief Support Group in the Brad Brady Conference Room

Methodist Women Christmas Party
Monday, December 14
12 p.m. at the Perfect Pear
$30 per person (this will cover the meal, drink, dessert, and tip)



Reservations are required no later than December 8 by calling the church office at 478-987-1852.

Pre-Order a Cookbook



We have ordered another set of cookbooks! They should arrive before Christmas (we are trying our best).

Pre-ordering ensures that you get your copy! We sold out of the first set in only 2 days. Go to perrymethodist.com/cookbook for more information or to order!

Perry Ministerial Association presents
Christmas at the Crossroads
December 6 at 6 p.m.

Celebrating the birth of Jesus as a community!
801 Carroll Street
on the lawn of City Hall

Let's celebrate together!

Perry Methodist Church
A Life That Matters
Living for What Lasts
Everyone Matters.
Everybody Belongs.

2027 Commitments

Thank you for leaning in, praying, serving, and responding with generosity. For 200 years, faithful people have helped make ministry possible.
We are grateful to be part of what God is doing next.
www.perrymethodist.com/give

Perry Methodist Church



What Are We Waiting For?

There is a strange tension at the heart of the Christmas season. We sing about peace on earth while living in a world increasingly at odds with itself. We sing about joy while carrying burdens that few people know about. We celebrate the coming of a Savior while spending much of our lives trying to save ourselves.

Perhaps we need Advent more than we realize.

Advent begins not with the sentimentality of Christmas but with the deep, sometimes painful longing of the human heart. The prophet Isaiah cries out, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down!"

I understand that prayer. There are things in this world, and things in my own life, that I wish God would simply come down and make right. I suspect you have your own list.

But what if God's answer to our deepest longings is different from what we have imagined? What if the very things we wish God would change become the places where God changes us?

Over the next four Sundays, we will explore what it means to be people of hope in a world where so much is uncertain, where our lives are remarkably brief, and where so much is beyond our control.

Christmas is the astonishing claim that God has entered into the very mess of human existence.

What would it look like to live as though that were actually true?

Perhaps beneath all the things we want this Christmas is a much deeper longing for the One who is coming.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Pastor Tom

The Service of Worship

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026

Liturgical Color: Purple
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Opening Prayer Rev. Rob Ray

Prelude *Praise You for Christmas Day with The First Noel*
arr. Marty Parks
The J.O.Y. Choir (Just Older Youth)

***Hymn** 211 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1, 2, 6)

Lighting of the Advent Candle
9:00 - Larry and Kelly Gallemore
11:00 - Eunice Andrews and Jennifer Andrews

Response: Lord, shape us into the people you created us to be. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn** 393 *Spirit of the Living God*
(Sing Twice)

Offering Feel free to give as you feel led

Offertory Anthem *Christmas Hymn with Christ is Born! Sing Noel!*
Dvorak/Parks
The JOY Choir

Christ is born, Sing Noel! Hail the newborn King!

Come to us, one of us. Let the heavens ring.

Gloria! In Excelsis Deo! Gloria! In the Highest!

Quietly here at last. God's own son will take.

Mortal form - weak and poor - all the mortals sake.

Gloria! In Excelsis Deo! Gloria! In the Highest!

***Doxology** 94 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Scripture Isaiah 64:1–9

Sermon What We Want vs. What We Need Rev. Tom Carruth

Hymn 382 *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

Closing Blessing

***Postlude** *Wir Christenleut, S. 612* Bach
David M. Kenney, Jr., organ

*Stand as you are able

Acolyte: Olivia Alston 11:00
Crucifer: Jameson Applegate 11:00

- The Altar flowers are given by Mike and Maria Huckabee in honor of our Youth. Last Sunday's youth-led worship service left us feeling blessed, encouraged, and hopeful for the future. In a world that often feels uncertain and frightening, seeing our young people boldly share their faith is a beautiful reminder that God is at work in the next generation. What a blessing they are to our church family!

- **Attention Hearing Aid Users!** Our sanctuary is now equipped with AURACAST (Assistive Listening Technology). This advancement will allow you to wirelessly connect your enabled devices to our sound broadcast – easily providing enhancing clarity and understanding. Select the "PMC Sanctuary" Auracast stream using your device settings or hearing aid app. Listen and enjoy!

- A pre-school nursery is provided for children six weeks through four years. Children's Church is offered during the 11:00 a.m. service for children age four through those who have completed first grade. An usher will be happy to help you locate these ministries in the Education Building.

Rev. Tom Carruth, Senior Pastor
Rev. Rob Ray, Associate Pastor

Perry Methodist Church
P.O. Box 73 | 1002 Carroll Street
Perry, GA 31069
Phone: 478-987-1852
Email: church@perrymethodist.com
Website: www.perrymethodist.com