



December at Perry Methodist Church

A Season of Hope, Anticipation, and Generosity

December is here, and with it comes my favorite rhythm of the year—Advent. This holy season slows us down, calls us to wait, and invites us to look for Christ with fresh eyes. While the world speeds up, Advent whispers, “Be still. Make room. Pay attention.” As you move through this month, I want to encourage you to ask:

Where am I slowing down? How am I steering my life—and my family—toward God each day?

Not just on Christmas Eve, but all through December... in the mornings, around the dinner table, in quiet moments, and even in the hurried ones.

Your 2026 Pledge Card: A Gift of Faithfulness

Thank you to everyone who has already turned in a pledge card for 2026. If you haven't yet, now is a great time. Your commitment helps us prepare faithfully for the ministry God is calling us to in the coming year.

Scripture gives us this bold promise:

When we bring the full tithe, God opens the windows of heaven and pours out blessing.

It's not pressure—it's *invitation*. A call to trust God with the very thing that often tightens our hearts the most.

But hear this: **giving is not “all or nothing.”** If you feel like you cannot tithe yet, or you simply aren't ready—don't freeze, and don't pick a random amount just to check the box.

Pick a percentage. A percentage ties our giving to the Giver.

Dollar amounts make *us* feel good about what we've done. Percentages remind us that **everything we have comes from God**. Choose a percentage and grow toward a tithe.

Or... if you're feeling brave... maybe God is nudging you toward 11%.

Generosity grows us. It frees us. It opens our hearts to God's blessings in ways nothing else can.

Sunday Worship in Advent

This year's Advent worship will help us quiet our spirits, center our hearts, and wait on Jesus with expectation. I hope you'll make weekly worship a priority—not just for your soul, but for the spiritual formation of your family.

We need this.

We need the slower, sacred pace of Advent.

We need a place where hope is rekindled and burdens are lifted.

We need to be reminded that the Light still shines in the darkness.

The 2025 Christmas Eve Offering: We're Giving 100% Away

This year, we will give **every dollar** of our Christmas Eve offering away—every single penny.

50% will support the future of the Church

Across the Global Methodist Church, the greatest need right now is **spiritual leaders**—pastors, ministers, and lay leaders who feel called but fear the financial burden of training.

Your Christmas Eve generosity will help fund:

- Seminary scholarships
- Course of Study
- School of Ministry
- Certified Lay Ministry training

Anyone in our congregation or conference who is preparing to answer God's call

Wise men and women still seek Jesus—but some simply cannot afford the journey.

50% will bless the poor and needy in our local community

Half of our offering will go straight to those in need here in Perry and Houston County—families and individuals who need food, shelter, assistance, and hope.

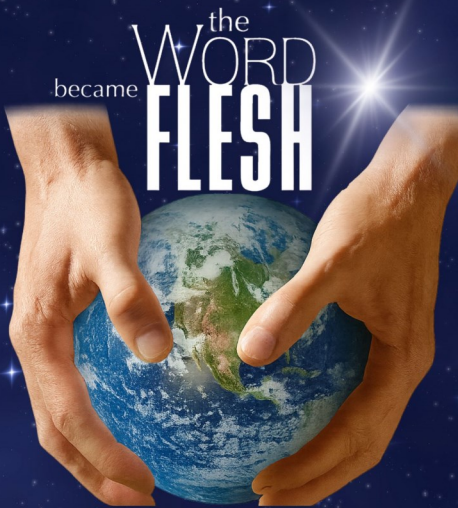
Christmas Eve is a beautiful time to make a difference.

This Advent, may we wait with hope, give with joy, worship with intention, and celebrate the Savior who has come and is coming again.

Grace and Peace,
Tom

MUSIC MINISTRY

Director of Music/Organist: Dr. Jane Kimbrel
Collaborative Pianist: Dr. Carol Goff
Music Assistant: Tammara Shipes
janekimbrel@gmail.com (478) 987-1852



became the **WORD**
FLESH

The Sanctuary Choir
and
Orchestra
with
Dr. Michael Kinsley, narrator

Sunday, December 14
9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

Perry Methodist Church
1002 Carroll Street

PERRY METHODIST CHURCH
1002 CARROLL STREET

**THE JOY
CHOIR**

WITH KATIE CAWTHON
NARRATOR
PRESENTS

Beautiful
STAR

A SOUTHERN GOSPEL
SENIOR ADULT
CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

DECEMBER 7, 2025
4:00 P.M.
FELLOWSHIP HALL
RECEPTION TO
FOLLOW



MISSION MINISTRY

Mission Coordinator: Katie Cawthon
katie.pumc@gmail.com (478) 987-1852

Operation Christmas Child: Thank you so much for changing the lives of children around the world by packing a shoebox! We sent off 182 boxes to go to the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Atlanta, where they will receive a final check before being shipped around the world!



Bake Sale Fundraiser: Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our bake sale fundraiser! We raised a little over \$2000 for our Honduras mission trip!



Angel Tree: Thank you so much for sponsoring our 60 Houston County children in foster care this Christmas! All gifts are due back to the church office by **Monday, December 1**. Please return gifts in gift bags with the angel attached.



Christmas Motel Outreach: We will deliver meals and goodies to our neighbors living in motels on Christmas Eve. If you would like to help with the delivery, email Katie at katie.pumc@gmail.com.

We will also be putting together blessing bags of groceries and gifts for the children. We need financial donations to help with the food, and we are collecting new stuffed animals, blankets, board games, and puzzles for the children. All items can be dropped off in the church office. Thank you for helping our community have a Merry Christmas!

Our December Hospice casserole helper is the Discoverers Sunday School class.

DECEMBER for the kids

KRISSY WALKER
CHILDRENS PASTOR
KEPTeach@YAHOO.COM
CHRISTIE ROOKS
CHRISTIAN ED. ASSISTANT
CHRISTIEROOKS.PMC@GMAIL.COM



Sunday School Fun:

Kids are invited to wear RED & GREEN
to Sunday school & church on
December 21st!

December 7th at 2:30
A Christmas afternoon at the theater...
Let's go see Anastasia at Perry Players!
Order tickets at www.perryplayers.org and meet us there!

December 22nd ~ 3 More Sleeps Til Christmas...

A day for kids to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas and a few hours for parents to
check off last minute things!

1-4pm (Kids should eat lunch before they come.)

We will decorate Christmas cookies, make Christmas crafts,
play games, and more!

Sign up online to attend-30 spots available!



**BIG Dates to Save for
2026:**

After School VBS

March 16th-20th

CLWS May 3rd at 9&11am

Weekend VBS June 12-14

Children's Camp

July 6th-10th

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

MERRY CHRISTMAS

PERRY METHODIST YOUTH

Nichole Lawson
nhslawson@gmail.com
478-230-2237

Youth Christmas Party
Wednesday, December 3
6 p.m. in the FLC

Wear your Christmas jammies
and bring a pillow and blanket!
We will watch a Christmas movie.

Bring a dish or two to share
with your friends!
We will have
chicken tenders!



SUNDAY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21
10 A.M. IN THE
YOUTH CENTER

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Confirmation
Classes restart
on January 4
at 10 a.m. in the
Youth Center

Winter Youth retreat to Snowbird
February 13-16, 2026 for \$250 per person

We are heading to Snowbird for a fun, adventure filled, high activity experience!
Registration is open at perrymethodist.com/ministries/youth
Space is limited so don't miss out!

WINTERSWO

www.facebook.com/perryyouth

www.instagram.com/perrymethodistyouth

Electronic Service Requested

**Average Attendance
As of November 23, 2025**

Morning Worship	335
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Finance Report Month to Date	As of November 25, 2025
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Receipts Month to Date	127,692.48
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Disbursements Month to Date	106,653.36
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Finance Report Year to Date	As of November 25, 2025
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Receipts Year to Date	1,457,538.71
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Disbursements Year to Date	1,437,154.19
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Difference	20,384.52
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Building Fund	As of November 25, 2025
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Total Received	3,673,404.45
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Building Loan Balance	862,924.52
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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

9 a.m. - Morning Worship
10 a.m. - Sunday School
11 a.m. - Morning Worship

Tuesday

7 a.m. - Men's Prayer Breakfast
11 a.m. - JOY Choir Rehearsal
(meeting December 2, 9, and 16)

Wednesday

6:45 p.m. - Sanctuary Choir
Rehearsal
(meeting December 3 and 10)

Thursday

2 p.m. - Walking in the FLC
5:30 p.m. - Hope Beyond Today Grief
Support Group (meeting

SPECIAL EVENTS

December 1 - Angel Tree Gifts Due Back
December 2 - Administrative Board
Meeting in the Sanctuary
December 3 - Youth Christmas Party in
the FLC at 6 p.m.
December 4 - Prime Time Luncheon
December 7 - JOY Choir presents
"Beautiful Star" in the Fellowship Hall at
4 p.m. (reception to follow)
December 7 - PMA hosts "Christmas at
the Crossroads" at 6 p.m. at the Old
Perry Courthouse lawn
December 8 - Methodist Women
Christmas Luncheon
December 13 - Sanctuary Choir
rehearsal at 10:30 a.m.
December 13 - Music Ministry Luncheon
in the FLC at 12:30
December 14 - Sanctuary Choir
presents "The Word Became Flesh" at
9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary
December 16 - JOY Choir buses depart
for Southern Pines at 10 a.m.
December 20 - Community Menorah
Lighting Ceremony at 6:30 p.m.
December 21 - Youth Sunday School
Christmas Party at 10 a.m.
December 21 - Blue Christmas Service
In the Sanctuary at 6 p.m.
December 22 - Children's "3 more
sleeps til' Christmas" in the Fellowship
Hall
December 24 - Christmas Eve Motel
Outreach
December 24 - Christmas Eve Service at
3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

METHODIST WOMEN

**Monday, December 8
12 p.m. at the Perfect Pear
\$35 per person**

**Make your reservation by calling the church
office by Monday, December 1! Check your
email or mail for a letter with more details!**

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Brandi Warren, United States Navy,
granddaughter of Bill Warren
Lt. Col. Phillip Ferris, son of Mark and Gloria
Ferris
CPL Connor Hill, USMC, grandson of Linda
Loewen and the late Arthur Loewen
Lt. Col. William R. Wright, grandson of Elaine
Wright
**Staff Sergeant Brooks Warren, United States
Air Force,** grandson of Bill Warren
SFC Christopher Lanning, United States Army,
son of Richard and Trisha Lanning
Sergeant First Class Derek M. Livingston,
United States Army, Grandson of Liz
Fauconniere
CPT Harrison Booth, United States Airforce son
of Bill and Dawn Booth
Brian Sikes, United States Navy, nephew of
Mike and Lisa Klug

**Please help us keep this list updated by
calling the church office.**

Perry Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Tom Carruth	Senior Pastor
Rob Ray	Assistant Pastor
Krissy Walker	Children's Pastor
Christie Rooks	Christian Education Assistant
Katie Cawthon	Missions Coordinator
Nichole Lawson	Youth Pastor
Caroline Peavy	Assistant Youth Pastor
Dr. Jane Kimbrel	Director of Music Ministries/Organist
Dr. Carol Goff	Collaborative Pianist
Tammara Shipes	Music Assistant
Dicky Gilbert	Audio Visual
Emilee Sheffield	Office Manager
Kelley Sorrow	Financial Secretary
Mike Klug	Building Superintendent
Alice Releford	Custodian
Joyce Cook	Nursery Worker
Abigail Durham	Nursery Worker
Lacy Murphy	Nursery Worker

**Supporting the
Ministries of Perry
Methodist Church**

Thank you for your support of
our church ministries. You may
make your gifts by several
means:

**Perry Methodist Website
perrymethodist.com/give**

Click the "Make a donation"
button and follow the
instructions.

Online Giving

Text "PERRYMC" to 73256
or and follow the prompts.

Postal Mail

PO Box 73, Perry 31069