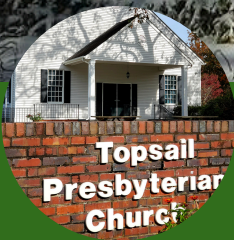




Newsletter

December 2025



Important Dates

December

- 6** Christmas Tea 12 - 3PM
- 7** Second Sunday of Advent
Communion Sunday
Youth Sunday
Youth Christmas Party 5:30PM
- 14** Third Sunday of Advent
Children & Youth Christmas Program
- 15** Session Meeting 6PM
- 18** Blue Christmas Worship 7PM
- 21** Fourth Sunday of Advent
Lessons & Carols
- 24** Christmas Eve Worship 6PM
- 28** Sunday Worship-One Service
Only - 10:30AM
- 30** No Super Tuesdays Kids Club

THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE BY REV. STEUART LINK

Dear TPC Family,

As Advent unfolds and we journey once more toward Bethlehem, I find myself recovering from a total shoulder replacement. It was not something that I planned for but as we all know, life happens, and we must take care of those things when they arise. As a result of my surgery, I am forced to slow down and reflect on how deeply we really need this season of holy waiting. The world around us rushes toward Christmas with lists, lights, and deadlines—but Advent invites us to pause, breathe, and listen for the still, small voice of God who comes not in power or noise, but in vulnerability and love.

Each week, as we light another candle on the Advent wreath—hope, peace, joy, and love—we proclaim that the Light still shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. These simple flames remind us of the truth we confess as Presbyterians: that God's grace breaks into the ordinary, transforming even the most ordinary places into holy ground.

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THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This December, I invite you to lean into the practices that shape our life together. Join us in worship, in prayer, in the quiet beauty of candlelight and carols. Reach out to someone who may be lonely. Support our mission partners as they share compassion and dignity with those in need. In all these acts, we are participating in God's work of renewal and reconciliation.

On Christmas Eve, as we gather to hear again the story of the Christ child, may our hearts be filled with wonder. May we remember that the same God who came to dwell among us in Bethlehem is still at work here and now—redeeming, healing, and calling us to follow the Prince of Peace.

Grace and peace to you this Advent and Christmas season.

May the love of Christ be born anew in you and in our world.

With hope,
Steuart

HOLIDAY SERVICE

SCHEDULE

DECEMBER

18

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE
7:00PM

21

LESSONS & CAROLS
ONE SERVICE ONLY
10:30AM

24

CHRISTMAS EVE
ONE SERVICE ONLY
6:00PM (with Communion)

28

ONE SERVICE ONLY
10:30AM

CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH.

CLEAN-UP DAY

BY LAURIE RUCKS

The month of November came in a bit chilly, which did not stop our Clean-Up Day on November 1. Many thanks to our partners, Boy Scout Troop 235 and the members of our church who came out to beautify our campus, inside and out. David Howard brought in the big guns, which made our clean-up easier! Troop 235 family muscle was out in full force. Thank you for allowing TPC to have the privilege of interacting with your scouts. It was a DELIGHT!! **THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH.**



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BY DAWN FRAZIER

As we usher in the Advent Season, there will be many opportunities to share in the joyful life of our children's programs!

In Sunday School and Super Tuesdays Kids Club, we will travel together through the Gospels of Luke and Matthew as we prepare to welcome the new born King! In addition, we will be practicing the music for our "True North Christmas" program during our classroom time together. There is so much to look forward to as we patiently wait for the celebration of Jesus's birth! Please see below for a full line up of our holiday calendar:

"Hanging of the Greens"- Sunday, November 30th at 10:30 am. This special worship service is a living lesson that the children and youth will participate in observing scriptures and the traditions behind the flora of Christmas. Children will remain in the worship service, there will be no Sunday School.

Super Tuesday Kids Club - December 2nd & 9th, 5:30 - 7 pm.

It is important to attend STKC these dates for the opportunity to practice for our True North Christmas. (*Please practice with music links at home, as well.*)

"True North Christmas" Rehearsal - Saturday, December 13th, 10 am - 12 pm.

Our children and youth will come together for a morning rehearsal on stage.

"True North Christmas" Dress Rehearsal - Sunday, December 14th, 3 pm until program time. Final rehearsal on stage. Children and Youth will dress in plaid/flannel shirts and jeans - *think camping adventure*. Light snacks will be provided.

"True North Christmas" - Sunday December 14th, 5 pm. Join us as our children and youth return on their Alaskan adventure to *True North* to experience the story of Christmas. Refreshments with a "very special guest" will follow immediately after their performance downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

STKC's "Pancakes & Pajamas" - December 16th, 5:30 - 7 pm.

Our STKC kids will celebrate Christmas together with a service project of crafting Christmas cards for our Meals on Wheels recipients. They will wear their toasty pajamas and enjoy a yummy pancake dinner! STKC will then break for our Christmas/Winter Break, returning on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

"Lessons and Carols" - December 21st, 10:30 am Worship:

Children will be invited to come forward to sing a beautiful Christmas hymn, "Why Jesus Was Born on Christmas Day," written and composed by Wayne and Christine Fritchie, Mrs. Rebecka's parents. All children are invited to sing - sheet music will be provided.

"Christmas Eve Candlelight Service" - December 24th, 6 pm (One Service Only)

TPC warmly invites all families to attend our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Communion will be served.

Our Children's Ministry team is looking forward to sharing this Advent Season with our TPC children and families! For more information about our calendar of events or how you may be a part, please reach out to christianed@topsailpres.org or 910-270-2312.

Warmly wishing everyone a season filled with the hope, love, joy, and peace of Christ!

Merry Christmas,
Mrs. Dawn

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - NOVEMBER 2025



YOUTH MINISTRY BY LESLIE BLAIR

Our Youth Ministry Students are having an eventful Fall season, so far!

Over the past couple of months, they've rolled up their sleeves and served through two impactful service projects: Rise Against Hunger and Operation Christmas Child. During our Rise Against Hunger project at the end of October, several youth students joined others from our congregation to pack over 10,000 meals! The students also came together in November for the Operation Christmas Child service project, and they prepared shoebox gifts full of toys, school supplies, personal hygiene items, and other necessities for children in need.

We wrapped up the month of November by taking on new heights as a group with a rock-climbing event at Wilmington Rock Gym! This event brought students together for a fun challenge and a chance to develop their teamwork skills. We celebrated all the hard work the students put in while climbing with a delicious cake break to end our afternoon together.

We have many events to look forward to as we move into the Christmas season this year! If you would like more information about upcoming Youth Ministry events or if you have a middle or high school student who wants to get involved, please contact Leslie Blair at youth@topsailpres.org.



Prayer Requests

Bobbie Ruegner, Bonnie Miller, Nancy Lockamy, Janice Thomas, Donna Kraynick, Ann Henry, Charlotte Kelly, Mary Anne Matherly, Sally Ferrante, Ken Rice, John Stillgebauer, Brian Jones, Mary Rogers-Ellsworth, Carolyn Rice, Sharon Egan, Theresa Allen, Deliah Sitorus, Linda Blount, Marjorie Gulliksen, Wiley Lewis, Carol Campbell, Vicki Hufham, Ronnie Edens, June Crosby, Jeanne Rick, Jeffrey Smith, Mary Gist, Brian Padgett, Martin Padgett, John Flowers, Adrianna Neely, Graycin Goesswein, Joey Scavone, Alexander Marechal, Taylor Barnes, Pete Brunsvold, the family of Mark Fisher, Bonnie Carpenter, Carol Wilson, the family of Cindy McKnight, the family of Bruce Filer, Gayle Lathom, Gary Gulliksen, the family of Tom Feller.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Shona Talbert	December 1
Candace Migliara	December 2
Dennis Woodcock	December 2
Rick Lamb	December 3
Dee Rose Kalfin	December 7
Piper Kalfin	December 11
David Batts	December 12
Elias Van Cleave	December 12
Lawson Consey	December 14
Lyla Consey	December 14
Joseph Strickland	December 16
Jamie Tyson	December 16
Katina Kalfin	December 17
Heidi Sabatura	December 18
Laura Thomas	December 22
Jaco Serfontein	December 23
Lloyd Bowman	December 27
Michael Kalfin	December 28
Kitty Lamb	December 28

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Chris Thomas	January 4
Jennifer Elder	January 7
Dianna Stancil	January 8
Kara Crumpler	January 10
Joanne Foster	January 11
Sharon Schwarz	January 11
Elizabeth Kalfin	January 12
Jeff Boyce	January 14
Bob Henry	January 15
Tanya Batts	January 17
Dan Eller	January 17
Ken Hemphill	January 17
Dickie Grace	January 19
Walker Brown	January 20
Ed Ostroski	January 20
Diane Hughes	January 22
Janice Thomas	January 25
Lilly Consey	January 27
Becky Steed	January 27
Jay Heidel	January 28
Rachel Carroll	January 31

STAY CONNECTED THROUGH OUR “NEWS” PAGE BY TOM SIDBURY

We’ve added a News section to our church website!

This new section is designed to help keep our church family informed and connected. By visiting regularly, you’ll stay up to date on meaningful moments in our shared life of faith — from new staff members and fellowship events to special celebrations and key church updates. Did you miss Sunday’s video announcements? They are available for you to view anytime on our News page.

You can access the News page from our homepage or connect directly to individual stories through featured links in the news scroll.

Have something to share? Submit a [communication request](#) or contact Tom Sidbury at admin@topsailpres.org.



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Susan Warren	Dec 6
John & Dianna Stancil	Dec 17
Greg & Dottie Mosher	Dec 22
Dickie Grace & Erica Talbert	Dec 27
Kristi & Bryn Haas	Dec 27
Denise & Bill Heinemann	Dec 27
Russ & Mary Layman	Dec 30

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Ryan & Lesslie Duncan	Jan 15
Chuck & Fleur McKnight	Jan 21





PLEASE JOIN US FOR A MULTIGENERATIONAL
WORSHIP SERVICE AS WE CELEBRATE THE
TRADITIONS OF THE



Hanging of the Greens



NOVEMBER 30, 2025
10:30 AM WORSHIP

CHILDREN & YOUTH WILL REMAIN IN THE
SERVICE JOINING IN THE MEANINGFUL
PROCESSION OF THE GREENS AND THE
LIGHTING OF OUR CHRISMON TREE



NO CHILDREN OR YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL ON 11/30





True North Returns!

*Join our TPC Children & Youth
on an exciting Alaskan Adventure to
welcome Christ's Birth!*

Sunday, December 14th - 5 pm

Immediately following their performance - Refreshments will be served with a very special visitor in the Fellowship Hall.

For Practice details and more information contact:

Dawn Frazier - christianed@topsailpres.org

Leslie Blair - Youth@topsailpres.org