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## Our Church Staff

### Pastor

Dr. Jimmy F. Orr

### Traditional Worship Leader

Damon Skelton

### Contemporary Worship Leader

Jed Cornelison

### Minister of Children

Rene' Milner

### Minister of Students

Eric Patterson

### Senior Adult Minister

Jess Wilbanks

### Weekday Preschool Director

Dina Duffey

### Hispanic Minister

Alfonso Illidge

### Office Manager

Kathy Wood

### Facilities Manager

Dwayne Knox

### CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS CONTACT: RENÉ MILNER 404-661-0862 DECEMBER

#### 9:00 A.M. — NURSERY THRU 3 YEAR OLDS

06 Rene' Milner, Michelle Gaddy  
13 Michelle Gaddy, Rene' Milner  
20 Michelle Gaddy, Rene' Milner  
27 Rene' Milner, Michelle Gaddy

#### 11:00 A.M. — INFANTS— 3 YEAR OLDS

06 Jenny Eidson, Lisa Grace  
13 Karen Davis, Tallants, Blake Wilbanks  
20 Lisa Skelton, Gary Milner  
27 Karen Lambert, Wendy James



December 2020

~ “In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overpower it.” John 1:4

As I write this, it's early November and I saw my first Christmas lights tonight. Normally in past years I would have complained. “It's just too early,” I would have said. “What's the rush?” Bah humbug. Grumble, grumble, fuss, fuss. But honestly this year, I don't even mind.

This has been a hard year for all of us. As a world, we are fearful. As a nation, we are unsettled. As a church, we are seeking direction. Our families are struggling. Some of us, myself included, have had difficult, stressful crises that have tested us and stretched our ability to cope to its very limits. This year has been dark and my heart is craving Light. What better time than Advent to focus on the Savior who brings us Light and Life? And what better symbol of that Light than the Christmas lights we have all around us this time of year?

This Advent, I want to drive around and look at Christmas lights, just like I did when I was a kid, and think about how they take houses big and small, meager and lavish, and transform them into something beautiful in the backdrop of the darkness. I will put up my tree and sit in the darkness of the early morning and be still, soaking in the beauty and meditating on the True Light who brings Hope, Peace and Joy to all humanity. And I plan to put out my same old wreath and greenery--covered in lights that welcome me home on these long, dark winter nights and pledge to think about the Light that guides me every day just as it guided Shepherds to a Manger long ago.

In our current state of life in 2020, we have all been, in varying degrees, disgusted, lonely, weary, and just downright depleted of Joy. So this Advent 2020, let's purposely focus our hearts on the transforming, life-giving Light of our God. And when you see somebody putting up early Christmas lights, don't judge them, join them! I figure this Christmas, we all need as much Light as possible.

Lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us, O Lord.

The Lord my God illuminates my darkness! Psalm 4:6, 18:28

By Carmel Thompson





## Damon Skelton Traditional Worship Leader

As Christmas is quickly approaching, we are all looking forward to spending quality time with our family. We enjoy sitting around the dinner table sharing memories or hearing about all the difficulties of life. We relish the moments of experiencing our family traditions at Christmas, or seeing our children's eyes light up when they unwrap their favorite Christmas present. Our hearts are renewed with joy when we read the Christmas story and sing Christmas carols as a family. All of these loving memories make up our story at Christmas and they revolve around our families.

Nevertheless, let us not forget our church family this year at Christmas. Even during these trying times with the pandemic, we need to spend time with our church family. During this time when so many of us have relied upon the virtual world to bring us together, it sometimes leaves us feeling empty or unfulfilled. Our physical existence and souls need the physical world. We were designed to see, hear, taste and touch our way through this physical world God made. Although our technology has helped us with our worship during these times, we also know its limitations. We all know that "long-distance" relationships are never ideal. Our church family also struggles with these times apart. We must be faithful during this season to reach out to those who cannot safely join us. However, all who are able should seek to gather for our life-giving family reunions.

With much love and God's blessings,  
Damon Skelton  
damon.skelton@cowetaschools.net  
678-378-1604

## René Milner Children's Minister

### Kindness Shown to a Stranger

The week before Thanksgiving, the PBC Kids enjoyed a special event that included watching an episode of The Andy Griffith Show. It was an interesting episode about a gentleman whose car breaks down while traveling through Mayberry one Sunday morning. Of course, in the era of this much-loved TV show, very few places were open on Sunday. In the episode, Mr. Tucker (the stranded gentleman) notices the Sheriff's car outside church as Andy is helping Aunt Bea into the car. Mr. Tucker explains his car troubles and Andy offers to take him to the gas station. Of course, Andy first explained that on Sunday, no one would be there who could make car repairs. Andy takes him not only to the gas station, but to Wally's (the mechanic) home to explain the problem. Kindness shown to a stranger. Mr. Tucker gets impatient after learning what repairs are needed, and he tries to convince Gomer to repair the car. He then learns that Goober could make the repairs but is out fishing. Mr. Tucker then steals a truck – most likely to go find Goober. He ends up at the jail, but instead of arresting Mr. Tucker for stealing, Andy invites him home. Kindness shown to a stranger. While spending the day with Andy, Aunt Bea, Opie and Barney, Mr. Tucker slowly begins to relax and even joins in on a soothing song. Then Gomer appears and lets him know Goober has returned from the lake and was willing to work on his car. Kindness shown to a stranger. The anxious pacing begins again. Gomer finally delivers the car to Mr. Tucker at Andy's house. Gomer refuses any money for the repairs and tells Mr. Tucker it was an honor for both him and Goober to work on such a fine car! Kindness shown to a Stranger. As Mr. Tucker prepares to leave, Aunt Bea gives him a sack with leftover chicken for his dinner. Opie offers him a prize penny to bring him good luck on his trip. Kindness shown to a stranger. As he starts the car, Mr. Tucker suddenly realizes he wants to spend more time with these kind people. He tells Gomer his car needs to be worked on further, but not until Monday morning.

**"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."**  
Matthew 25:40

## Jess Wilbanks Minister of Senior Adults

**Advent is here!** Advent means to celebrate the arrival of something or someone of significance; for believers, we celebrate the Messiah! Four weeks leading up to Christmas day, there's a Christian tradition to read scripture, sing songs, and focus on how God sent his son, Jesus, to save the world. Our church family will be lighting Advent candles each week, they represent: Hope, Love, Joy, Peace, and Christ. PBC has some family devotion literature available to help you prepare for Jesus' arrival.

December 2020 feels different; some of us feel more frustrated, isolated and more sad than usual. Take time to check on your relatives, friends, and neighbors. Let's be intentional to look for people in need this season, ask the Holy Spirit for help recognizing hurt and sharing the burden of grief. Share Hope, Love, Joy, Peace, and Jesus with everyone you encounter.

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
'Til He appears and the soul felt its worth  
**A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices**  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn  
Fall on your knees; O hear the Angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night, O Holy night, O night divine!

**Merry  
Christmas**



## Eric Patterson PBC Student Minister

### It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Here we are. It is almost the end of 2020 and you made it and God is still faithful. This year has been especially hard for many people. The world has had to deal with a plague, civil unrest, unforeseen death, and just a host of things that we did not plan for. As tough as this year has been, we are still here and it is still the Most Wonderful Time of the Year upon us. I am not just talking about the gifts and shopping, which are a blast, but I am talking about the hope that comes during this time every year. Hope in the fact that because Jesus was born all those years ago we can hope for better here and now with him.

It is imperative that we remember what the prophet Isaiah called him, "Immanuel" which means God with us. We have to remember, now more than ever, that God is still with us. Our King is alive and has sent his spirit to live and love in us every day. Hope is what makes this season wonderful. So, as you go through this beautiful time do not forget about the basis of our hope. I would take it a step further, how about you make a point to give hope whenever possible. If you find a conversation that allows for hope, be the one who provides it. I'm sure God will provide multiple opportunities for us to be ambassadors for the Hope that is in the birth of Christ Jesus.



# December 2020

## December Birthdays

| Sunday                              | Monday                     | Tuesday | Wednesday                  | Thursday   | Friday                 | Saturday                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|--|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                     |                            | 1       | 2                          | 3  | 4                      | 5<br>Upward Coaches Training        |
| 6                                   | 7                          | 8       | 9                          | 10   | 11                     | 12                                  |
| 13                                  | 14<br>My Brothers Ministry | 15      | 16<br>Kids Christmas party | 17   | 18                     | 19<br>Choir Christmas Drive Through |
| 20<br>Choir Christmas Drive Through | 21                         | 22      | 23                         | 24<br>Christmas Eve Services with Lord's Supper at 3 pm and 5 pm | 25<br>Merry Christmas! | 26                                  |
| 27                                  | 28                         | 29      | 30                         | 31   |                        |                                     |

|                     |    |                  |    |
|---------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Robbie Blanchard    | 01 | Doug Kearns      | 18 |
| Martha Chester      | 01 | Aundie Kiser     | 18 |
| Lee Cunningham      | 01 | Jason Peace      | 18 |
| Adam Hembree        | 02 | Morgan Hill      | 19 |
| Caleb Koehl         | 02 | Haley Hester     | 20 |
| Michelle Carlisle   | 05 | Harley Rainwater | 21 |
| David Grubbs        | 05 | Annette Stamey   | 21 |
| Hailey Smith        | 05 | William Squires  | 22 |
| Will Robertson      | 06 | Mike Johnson     | 23 |
| Jean Waddell        | 06 | Gail Byars       | 24 |
| Gary Andriate       | 07 | Cathy Hagan      | 24 |
| Wendy James         | 07 | Nicholas Davis   | 25 |
| Mary Richardson     | 07 | Shelby Southers  | 25 |
| Andreen Hylick      | 08 | Tommy Wood       | 25 |
| Janet Moroy         | 10 | Shane Belcher    | 27 |
| Lisa Nicholson      | 10 | John Lambert     | 27 |
| Caryn Freeman       | 12 | Tommy Bentley    | 28 |
| Sandra Henefield    | 13 | Hailee Sieli     | 28 |
| James Nicholson     | 13 | Roger Smith      | 28 |
| Georgette Robertson | 13 | Kelly Creel      | 29 |
| Haley Haselden      | 14 | Michael Gibson   | 29 |
| Tammy Sensing       | 14 | Richard Munn     | 29 |
| Jessica Hagen       | 15 | Kyle Self        | 29 |
| John Hughes         | 15 | Richard Grace    | 30 |
| Olivia Spears       | 15 | Megan Hendrick   | 30 |
| Scout Cornelison    | 16 |                  |    |
| Mark Southers       | 16 |                  |    |
| Callie Watson       | 17 |                  |    |

## December Deacons

November 29-December 5  
Neal Carson, Frank Lambert, Eric Johnston, James White, Toby Potter

December 6-12  
Brent Coley, Bo Bohannon, John Lambert, Cary Chester, Norman Pickett

December 13-19  
Bill Creel, Warren Ward, Stephen Burks, David Johnston, Morgan Brooks

December 20-26  
Dave Eidson, David Carpenter, Chip Hammock, CJ Richardson, David Grubbs

December 27-January 2  
Claiborne James, Shannon Becham, Jeff Collinsworth, Sammy Murphy, Lee Cunningham

### PBC Sundays

Traditional Worship Service  
PBC Bible Studies  
Contemporary Worship Service  
PBC Home Groups

9:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.  
6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting  
PBC Kids' activities  
Vertical Student Ministry  
PBC-Bible Study Classes  
Adult Choir Practice

### Wednesday Evenings

4:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m.  
6:30 p.m.  
6:45 p.m.

PBC Deaf Ministry  
PBC Food Pantry  
PBC Media Ministry  
PBC Ladies' Fellowship  
Palmetto Baptist Weekday  
Preschool (September-May)  
Prayer Ministry  
Faith Riders

### Additional PBC Ministries

My Brothers Ministry  
Men's Ministry  
PBC Mission Trips  
PBC Hispanic Ministry  
Love in Buttons  
Clothes Closet  
Upward Basketball &  
Cheerleading (Jan./Feb.)