



Shallotte Presbyterian Church

THE CHURCH VOICE

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December, 2022

Number 12

Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year. With the first week in Advent, the liturgical colors in the sanctuary change to purple. Purple is commonly associated with royalty, so we use the color to symbolize the coming Lordship of Jesus Christ. We also use purple as the liturgical color for Lent. You might not think that Advent and Lent share much in common, but Advent also has origins as a time for repentance and fasting, one which lasted for forty days following St. Martin's feast day on Nov. 11.

In recent years, the use of blue vestments has become more popular for Advent. Many cultures view the color blue as symbolic of hope. Other Christian traditions use red or even gold in their Advent observances. You may have also noticed many Advent wreaths include a pink or rose candle. This candle is traditionally lit on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, commonly referred to as Gaudete Sunday from Latin word for "Rejoice". The rose color marks the transition from repentance and fasting to the joyful celebration of the Nativity.

The use of the wreath is a relatively recent addition to the Advent observance. The circular shape of the Advent wreath was a traditional pagan symbol that symbolized the change of the seasons. Although the use of the wreath for Advent may have origins in the 16th century, it did not become common until the 19th century in Germany. Early Advent wreaths had upwards of twenty-three candles, which were used to count down the days leading up to Christmas. Gradually it evolved into its present form, although Eastern Orthodox traditions use six candles, instead of four.

The term "Advent" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which is often translated as "coming". *Adventus* is the Latin equivalent of the Greek word *parousia*, a word commonly associated with the second coming of Jesus Christ. And although we use this season to anticipate the future fulfillment of God's promises, let us not forget that we hold Advent as a *perpetual* observance. This season challenges Christ's disciples, to not only wait patiently in hope, but to also carefully consider how Christ is already among us, so that we may go out in search of him, wherever he may be!

"May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints."

– 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Grace, Peace & Merry Christmas!

George

Looking Ahead for Worship



2nd Sunday of Advent December 4, 2022

8:30 am & 11:00am Worship
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-13
Songfest at 12:15 in Fellowship Hall

3rd Sunday of Advent Wear Pink! December 11, 2022

8:30 am & 11:00am Worship
Luke 1:46b-55, James 5:7-10,
Matthew 11:2-11

4th Sunday of Advent December 18, 2022

10am Worship - One Service
Lessons in Carols - Music Program

Christmas Eve December 24, 2022

6pm Service
Psalm 96, Luke 2:1-20, Isaiah 9:2-7

Christmas Day December 25, 2022

10am Worship - One Service
Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-4, 5-12
John 1:1-14



Session Highlights - 11/21/22

- Approved request for SPC membership for Sarah Owen.
- Approved request from Susan Pearce to transfer membership to First Presbyterian Church of Petaluma, CA.
- Approved request to take an offering at Songfest on December 4.
- Approved 2023 communion dates.
- Approved combined worship services at 10 am on Dec. 18, Dec. 25, and Jan. 1.

Shallotte Presbyterian Church

Rev. George Chapman, Pastor
Randy Warner, Music and Worship Associate

The Session (Elders)

<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Bob Gorman	Susan Alley	Betsy Braddock
Don Kauffman	Ed Carter	David Martin
Gail Thomas	Barbara Montague	Scott Taylor
Donna Trest	Ryan Smithwick	Rich Winslow
Rev. George Chapman, Moderator		Mike Claxton, Clerk of Session

The Board of Deacons

<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Wendy Hughes	Sally Gunn	Deb Claxton
Daphne Jones	Charlie Libert	Donna Crews
Ann McPhaul	Susanne Pierce	Alberta Gisel
Dick Wilson	Marvin Stackhouse	Audrey Lee

Marvin Stackhouse, Moderator Susanne Pierce Clerk of Deacons



Sunday Worship Services 8:30am - Indoor 11:00am - Indoor

The 11am service is also streamed live on our Facebook page and on our YouTube channel.

There will be one worship service at 10am on December 18, 25, and Jan 1
There are no Sunday School Classes on these dates.

Sunday School Classes

Both the youth class (Rm 3) and the adult class (Room 7) are offered at 9:45 AM on Sundays

Important Reminders



Food Pantry Sunday is December 11th. If you wish to make a monetary donation, you may drop it off at the church or mail your check to the church office.

PORCH - will be collecting food donations at their new location at 3610 Express Dr. on December 14 & 15th from 12-4pm. You can drop food off anytime throughout the month in the church office for PORCH.

Calendar Notes:



December Bible Study Class led by Pastor George - December 6 and 13th

SongFest in the Fellowship Hall on December 4th from 12:15 to 1:15.

Second Sunday Funday will be on December 11th - cardmaking and cookies .

Sisters of Strength will meet at the Boundary House on Friday, December 16th at 11:30am

The office will be closed on Monday, December 26th.



Thank You, Christmas Angels!

With your participation in the Brunswick Family Assistance (BFA) Christmas Angel Tree, you have fulfilled the wishes of 20 boys and girls and 20 Senior citizens. The gifts you've provided have surrounded the Christmas tree in the Narthex. These gifts were taken to BFA on December 1st and will be distributed to the recipients during the week of December 12th. Thank you so much for helping to make a wonderful Christmas for these neighbors in our county. May God bless each and every one during this Holy time.



Blood Drive!

**Monday, Dec. 19th
12:30pm - 5:30pm
Shallotte Presbyterian Church**

I would like to thank all of my church family for their prayers, phone calls, cards and food during Bill's hospitalization and death. I am so blessed to have you all in my life. Kathy Kelly

Greeters and Ushers - December, 2022

Date	Greeters 11am	Ushers 11am
12/4/22	Carol Vealey	Don & Carol Kauffman
12/11/22	Elizabeth Lewis	Dave Green, Tobin Henry
12/18/22	10 am Service Beth Spoon Patsy Calhoun	Dave Green
12/24/22	6pm Service Marvin & Linda Stackhouse	The Braddocks
12/25/22	10 am Service Gail Thomas	Mike & Deb Claxton

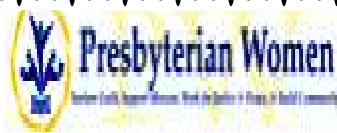


PORCH South Brunswick Update

Donated in October
Total Donations - 5341 lbs
Total SPC Donations - 242 lbs

Donated in November
Total Donations - 3339 lbs
Total SPC Donations - 281 lbs

Food can be donated all month long. If you are not able to give a monetary donation on Food Pantry Sunday, please consider donating food.



Celebration Circle News

On Wednesday, November 9th, 34 SPC women gathered for our monthly Celebration Circle meeting in the church fellowship hall. Carol Kauffman moderated our meeting.

Our Bible study leader, Vicki Chadwick, presented a passionate and enlightening lesson “Sabbath and Sunday” from this year’s study book Celebrating Sabbath, Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight by Carol M. Bechtel. Following an explanation of the historical evolution of the day we presently call the Sabbath and set aside for worship, Vicki urged us to dig deep within ourselves and use all the amazing resources God has gifted us with to deal with circumstances in our lives that are challenging and sometimes seem impossible. She reminded us of the need for a healthy balance in our lives between work and rest.

Following a brief business meeting, Beth Spoon and Suzanne Simpson led our Thank Offering Dedication. Each year in November, our mission focuses on the Presbyterian Women USA Thank Offering. Donations for this project are collected from Presbyterian Churches nationwide. PWUSA coordinates and distributes the donations to local, state and international non-profit organizations in the form of grants. The grant money is used to address the needs of vulnerable populations in our communities and improve the quality of life.

We concluded our Celebration Circle meeting with a delicious luncheon, organized and hosted by Beth Spoon and Suzanne Simpson. Good fellowship abounded!

Our next circle meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14th at 10:30AM in the SPC Fellowship Hall. As always, we welcome all women at SPC to join us. Our Bible study will be led by Joyce Winkler and the mission project for December is the Lord’s Food Pantry. If you need transportation, notify Kathy in the church office, 910-754-6929, a few days prior to the 14th so that arrangements can be made to assist.

We are truly blessed at Shallotte Presbyterian. We give thanks for the many blessings and Pastor George and the wonderful staff. Thanks be to God!

SHALLOTTE PRESBYTERIAN SCHOLARSHIP

YEAR END CLOSE: As we all prepare to close out 2022, I would like to remind everyone that this is a perfect time to make a year-end taxable donation to our own church scholarship fund. Simply submit a check payable to the church with “scholarship” written in the memo line or use the Blue envelopes in the pew racks.

DEADLINE APPROACHING: It is now time to submit applications for next year, (February 13, 2023.) Any deserving member of Shallotte Presbyterian Church who is trying to further his/her education, whether currently enrolled in a 4-year college, a community college, trade school, or a graduating High School Senior is eligible to apply.

Applications are available in the church office or by email request to Kathy Sasso. Students with existing scholarships must reapply. *Erskine Blount, Project Chair*

We had an incredible week at our church as a Drop Off Location during National Collection Week!

Betsy Braddock reports that we had 21 volunteers who gave over 200 hours of service for OCC. Thank you to everyone that contributed to this mobile ministry! We delivered 2508 shoeboxes to Wilmington on November 21st. About 150 of these shoeboxes were from our congregation! On Second Sunday Funday, our youth packed 27 shoeboxes using the gifts we collected in the Narthex all year!

Mike Clawson offered to drive the giant Uhaul to Wilmington and he was overwhelmed to encounter a banner at the Central Drop Off at Freedom Baptist Church commemorating Susan. Shell Baptist, is one of the churches in which Susan began an OCC campaign about 9 years ago and they have brought in more than 800 shoeboxes each and every year since, AND, they have only about 120 members! This year, they dedicated their collection efforts to Susan. Susan Clawson brought OCC to our church many years ago, and we are grateful to carry the torch in her memory!

It was an especially poignant year for Mike and Drew Clawson as they remembered Susan, who passed away in May of this year. With Drew's permission, we share a Facebook post that says it all..

"Crazy how 4 years ago we were packing boxes together for Operation Christmas Child to now just Dad and I. My mom truly lit the torch in our area and inspired thousands to donate shoeboxes to be given to children in need all over the world by spreading the story of her faith and mission to everyone in her path. Today was certainly surreal, I kept looking around looking for you expecting to turn around and see you with a shoebox or a smile. I know you're around because your spirit has certainly lived on in the torch that everyone else has carried in your wake. Big love to Betsy Braddock who has championed taking over the operation." And Mike Clawson shared - As the OCC slogan goes- Good News, Great Joy. Our God is so, so Good!!!!

Operation Christmas Child





If you have placed a name on the list below and it needs to be removed, please call or email the Church Office, 910-754-6929, church@atmc.net



Please Pray for the Individuals Below and Their Families

Tim Bartlett, Pat Bell, Family of Jerry Bertschi, Cynthia Boland, Marlena Braddock, Crystal Braxton, J.C. Brooks, Bill Coggins, Justin Cook, Larry Cook, Phylis Dart, Pat Dobbins, Kimmie Durham, Ray Gillis, Charles Greene, Marie Harrison, Richard Hilton, Mary Mac Holcombe, Family of Bill Kelly, Michael Kenny, Wendy Hughes & Scott Outlaw, Lantz & Peggy Lackey, Brad Loggins, Josh Long, Bob & Frances Mayhew, David Martin Jr., Judy McCann, Emma Melvin, Bill McPhaul, Family of Rev. Dr. Gene Miller Jr., Drew Milholland, Catherine Norman, Lucie Oakley, Nancy Parker, Evelyn Robinson, Family of David Rourke II, Richard Stackhouse, Carole Stephenson, Lee Sullivan, William Timms, Jim Townsend, Patrick Winkler, Joyce Winkler's great nephew Evan,

If you know of anyone serving in the military that we can add to our prayer list, please let Kathy know.

A Note from the Stewardship/Finance Committee

The following is a brief summary of our giving and related expenditures of the Operating Fund for the 10 months ended October 31, 2022 with comparative amounts for 2021 and 2020.

	2022 <u>Actual</u>	2021 <u>Actual</u>	2020 <u>Actual</u>
Pledges & Other Offerings received	<u>\$327,726.41</u>	<u>\$348,664.08</u>	<u>\$304,384.51</u>
Expenditures:			
Staff Ministry	154,055.58	136,549.30	136,593.45
Local Program Ministry	9,604.01	12,596.60	10,482.15
Property and Grounds	89,435.81	73,796.26	94,027.45
Administration	17,945.87	15,897.57	18,340.25
General / Sessional	186.61	157.34	157.34
Missions and Benevolences	<u>49,684.00</u>	<u>44,583.00</u>	<u>43,717.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>320,911.88</u>	<u>283,580.07</u>	<u>303,317.64</u>
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	<u>\$ 6,814.53</u>	<u>\$ 65,084.01</u>	<u>\$ 1,066.87</u>

A thought to consider....

"Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost"

Ignatius of Loyola
Jesuit Founder



What is the purpose of the Columbarium?

The Columbarium consists of niches, uniform in size of the capacity to hold the cremated remains of 1 or 2 people. Each niche is covered with a granite plate, uniform in size, with a cast bronze name plaque with the name(s) and dates of birth and death of the deceased. Cremation after death is an increasingly popular choice considering lack of land for cemeteries and sustainable land use. If you want more information, please see Betsy Braddock or any other member of the Columbarium and Memorial Garden Committee.

**Second Sunday Funday
Shoebox Packing for
Operation Christmas Child**



Mary Grace and Laura Thompson invited our Friendship Home residents to see Frozen Jr on Nov. 19 performed by the Starbright Theatre. They had a wonderful time!

**Eat, Sing, and Do Some Good
Let's Help Our Neighbors!**



Please join us for lunch **December 4th** at **Shallotte Presbyterian Church** from **12:15 to 1:15 PM**. After eating, we sing and play the songs, carols, and stories of Christmas – this year accompanied by the Shallotte Presbyterian Bell Choir! A donation, starting at **\$5.00**, is collected for the lunch provided by the Fellowship Committee. 100% of the donations go to the Food Pantry.

Steve Spoon SONGFEST: 2022



Report from the Nominating Committee

The 2023 Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers to serve as elders and deacons for the class of 2026 . They will begin the search in early 2023. The members serving on the committee are as follows:

Session Representative - Barbara Montague, Chair
Rich Winslow, Co-Chair
Diaconate Rep. - Marvin Stackhouse
Choir Representative - Molly Frederick
Presbyterian Women Rep. - Beth Spoon
Member ex-officio - Rev. George Chapman

An additional member will be elected at the January 29th Congregational Meeting to represent the congregation at large. The floor will be open for nominations of a member of the congregation that is not currently serving as an active elder or deacon. These members should be consulted prior to their nomination and agree to serve.

Please direct any questions to Barbara Montague.

Shallotte Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

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www.shallottechurch.org

Non-Profit Organization

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Shallotte, NC

Permit #140

ADDRESS RETURN REQUESTED
December, 2022



Scan with your Smartphone to Access
our NEW Online Giving Web Portal!



www.facebook.com/shallottepresbyterian



4910 Wrightsville Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28403
910-452-7370/910-448-0525
Satellite Office: Shallotte
Presbyterian Church

We Are Mission-Driven

Our mission is to provide hope and healing for all. The Center's staff is dedicated to serving the children and adults in our community.

We feel that costs should never be a barrier to care.

Meeting Community Needs

To fulfill our mission to provide hope and healing for all, the Center offers a sliding scale fee for those in financial need. As a non-profit organization we underwrite this important service with donations from the community, churches and corporate partners. If you would like to join us in this mission, please visit us online to learn how you can give, visit us at: www.wantcounseling.com.

**Are you interested in counseling for yourself or
someone close?**

Call the Center at 910-452-7370



MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST

This is a part-time position regularly scheduled to work up to 10 hours per week as agreed upon between the incumbent and the Pastor. Set up, video and stream worship services on Sunday mornings and other special services. Any change in schedule must be approved by the Pastor. Contact Shallotte Presbyterian Church (Church@atmc.net) for detailed job description or to submit a resume.

****We are also looking for volunteers who can help with live streaming services on a rotating Sunday basis until we hire a specialist. Please contact the office if you would be willing to help. ****