



# Presbyterian 'Connection'

December 2017 Volume 24 Issue 12

A Word from Dr. Fred

## “A SONG IN THE AIR”

The Christmas season is a good time for reminiscing. I enjoy thinking back on Christmas Eve at the Lutheran Church I attended from the time I was 5 years old until just after my 10th birthday. After our children input and the service was over, we were given a bag of candy and an apple. As soon as I got home the bag was opened and sweet pleasure took over. I'm sure I shared with anyone who may have been there. I got to reminiscing and decided to share with you what I wrote for the December 2000 Connection.

### “A Song in the Air”

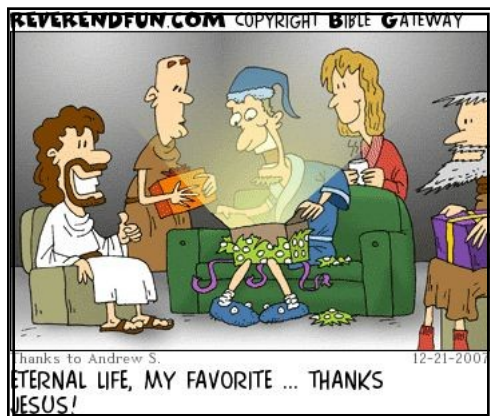
At Christmas “the air is filled with the sound of music.” There is little doubt that “There's A song in the Air.” The voices of Christmas sing out “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!--- Glory to the New-born King!” The violins play “What Child is This?” as pure and sweet as an angel sings to the beautiful melody of “Greensleeves”.

This child, this Jesus, has come a long way. Jesus left the stable in Bethlehem to take his place at the pinnacle of greatness. The great choirs sing with the triumphant sounds of golden trumpets --- “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace,” as they resound the message of Handel's “Messiah”.

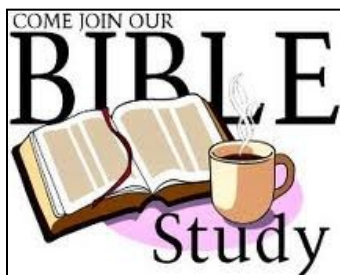
The saddest part of Christmas is that so many people never let the baby in the manger become the Lord of their lives. Many who profess Jesus as Christ their Lord and Savior remain but babes in the faith because they won't let Christ grow to maturity in them. My Christmas prayer is that all Christians will hear the song in the air that Christmas brings and arise from their self-imposed mangers and grow “in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men,” as did our Savior, Jesus Christ.

*God Bless and Merry Christmas!*  
*Fred*





**October Income - \$4,136.09**  
**October Expenses - \$5,103.03**



**THURSDAYS, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO NOON IN MEMORIAL HALL. MEN & WOMEN WELCOME.**

## Coffee & Fellowship



Be sure to drop in for coffee, maybe a Danish or cookies and wonderful fellowship on Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Memorial Hall!

## Connection Online

If you would like to read the "Connection" newsletter online, go to our website;

<http://www.presbyterianchurchofbullshoals.com>

Click on the 'Info Center' tab at the top, then on the drop-down menu, click on "Presbyterian Connection", then choose the month of the newsletter you would like to read. The most recent newsletter will be at the top.



**Our Church Face Book page**

<https://www.facebook.com/presbyterian.shoals>

**Church phone # - 870-445-4622**

**Our church email address**

[presch@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:presch@suddenlinkmail.com)



# WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

**DECEMBER 3rd**  
**"What a Promise!"**  
**Jeremiah 33:14-16**  
**COMMUNION**



**DECEMBER 10th**  
**"Someone's Coming"**  
**Malachi 3:1-4**  
**POT LUCK**

**DECEMBER 17th**  
**"Why Is He Coming?"**  
**Zephaniah 3:14-20**  
**BLESSING OF THE FOOD PANTRY**



**DECEMBER 24th**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
**"How Is He Coming?"**  
**Micah 5:2-5 & Psalm 80:1-7**  
**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE - 6:00 P.M.**



**DECEMBER 31st**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**"He Became Their Savior"**  
**Isaiah 63:7-9**





USHERS & GREETERS

## CHURCH USHERS/GREETERS

December 3 - Amy Johnson & Dr. Simons

December 10 - Bob & Gloria Wiles

December 17 - Roger & Celia Millard

December 24 - Faye Brackett & Sandy Erickson

December 24 - Christmas Eve Candle Light Service - Sandy Erickson & Meg Simons

December 31 - Sandy Erickson & Elaine Miller

## COMMUNION SERVERS

Ed & Peni Lloyd

## PRAYER LIST FOR CONGREGATIONS, PRESBYTERY OF AR. - 2017

December 3 - Mountainburg Church

December 10 - Laotian Ministry, Ft. Smith

December 17 - Memorial Church, Atkins

December 24 - Kirk of the Hills

December 31 - Church Pre-Schools



Active & Retired Ministers

First, Stuttgart

First, Walnut Ridge

Fairfield Bay & One-O-One Church, Gamaliel

Prison Ministries

*PLEASE NOTIFY PAT ERLEWINE IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO SHOULD BE ON OUR PRAYER LIST.*

## BIRTHDAYS

### December

December 8 - Linda Allensworth

December 11 - Jewel Riley



### January

January 9 - Mary Kerr

## ANNIVERSARIES

December 30 - Bob & Gloria Wiles



January 28 - Ray & Pat Erlewine



# LIBRARY LINES - DECEMBER 2017



Two non-fiction books have been donated: THE DESIRE OF AGES by Ellen White and HOLY BIBLE - King James version large print. These books can be found in the back of the library where the reference material is located.

We have a new fiction Christmas book by Debbie Macomber entitled ANGELS AT THE TABLE. The Christmas books will be located on a cart in the Children's library. Take some time to check out some wonderful inspirational Christmas books.

The following is a synopsis of the book ANGELS AT THE TABLE:

"In this joyous and whimsical holiday novel, Debbie Macomber rings in the season with the return of Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy, delivering laughs, love, and a charming dose of angelic intervention.

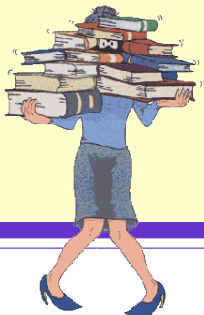
Shirley, Goodness, and Mercy know that an angel's work is never done, especially during a time as wondrous as New Year's Eve. With an apprentice angel, Will, under their wings, they descend upon Times Square in New York City eager to join in the festivities. And when Will spies two lonely strangers in the crowd, he decides midnight is the perfect time to lend a heavenly helping hand.

Lucie Farrara and Aren Fairchild meet after bumping into each other—seemingly by accident—in Times Square on New Year's Eve. They immediately hit it off and find they have a lot in common: Lucie is a burgeoning chef and Aren is a respected food critic. But just as quickly as they're brought together, another twist of fate tears them apart, leaving Lucie and Aren with no way to reconnect.

A year later, Lucie is the chef of an acclaimed new restaurant and Aren is a successful columnist for a major New York newspaper. For all the time that's passed, the two have not forgotten their one serendipitous evening—and neither have Shirley, Goodness, Mercy, and Will. To reunite the young couple, the angels cook up a brilliant plan: mix true love, a second chance, and a generous sprinkle of mischief to create an unforgettable Christmas miracle."

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year,

Faye Brackett, Librarian





## MISSION MINUTE

### DECEMBER - 2017



We will be participating in the Joy Offering again this year starting with Sunday December 3rd and ending Sunday December 24th. Joy Offering envelopes will be located in the pews. Please read the bulletin board in the Narthex for more about the Joy Offering.

We will also be doing the Christmas Card Tree again this year. All money collected from the tree will go to the Food Pantry. Please remember to mark your checks for the Food Pantry. Instead of purchasing cards to send to our church friends, we write our names on a Christmas ornament and put on the Christmas tree. The money saved from purchasing cards will be donated to the Food Pantry. The tree is located in the Narthex.

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering you will be helping families of active and retired church workers and also helping to provide opportunities for education. The offering is shared equally by the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges for education.

We wish you all a Blessed Christmas and New Year,  
Submitted by the Mission Committee





# The First Noel



The first Noel, the angel did say,  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the the East, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a King was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

This star drew night to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.



Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee;  
And offered there in his presence,  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.



[www.BlueBonkers.com](http://www.BlueBonkers.com)

# DECEMBER RECIPE

## Avocado Chicken Salad Recipe

**Prep time:** 15 mins

**Total time:** 15 mins

**Serving:** 6 as a side or 4 as an entrée

### Ingredients

#### Avocado Chicken Salad Ingredients:

- 2 large chicken breasts,\* shredded or chopped
- 3 medium or 2 large avocados
- 1 cup corn (from 1 cooked cob)
- 6 oz Bacon, cooked and chopped
- ¼ cup Chives or green onion, chopped
- 2 Tbsp chopped Dill
- 2 **hard boiled eggs**, cut in halves or quarters, optional



#### Lemon Dressing:

- 3 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 3 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp sea salt, or to taste
- ⅛ tsp black pepper

### Instructions

Dice or shred the 2 large cooked chicken breasts and place into a large mixing bowl.

Peel and pit 2 large avocados, slice into bite-sized pieces and add to the mixing bowl.

Add 1 cup of cooked corn (freshly cooked corn is best), toss in ¼ cup chopped green onion, chopped bacon, and 2 Tbsp fresh Dill.

Add dressing ingredients to a small bowl and stir to combine. Drizzle over your salad and toss to combine. Serve with slices of hard boiled egg if desired.

#### Notes

\*You can use rotisserie chicken, cook your own chicken breast seasoned with salt and pepper or use well-drained canned chicken.



## Till We Speak Again

DECEMBER 2017

White Christmas, It's A Wonderful Life, Home For The Holidays, and Miracle On 34<sup>th</sup> St., aside from being wonderful movies from a few (many) years back, what do they all have in common? Home, family and finding the joy of Christmas.

They say that the holidays are for family, well I guess that's true. We're all part of God's big family. He is our loving father, and gave us the perfect gift over 2,000 years ago. No use trying to compete with that, you can't! Nothing you can buy will make you as happy as Jesus, if you will just let him.

This year I'm changing my focus from what's under the tree, to what's actually behind it. I'm going to focus on Jesus and not on myself, the stores, or society in general. I feel better already, the pressure is off.

Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas!!

Luv, Millie



# DECEMBER PUZZLE



YMAR

--	--	--	--

1

JSSEU

--	--	--	--	--

10

ANLGSE

--	--	--	--	--	--

13

14

MNEGAR

--	--	--	--	--	--

12

8

PEJSHO

--	--	--	--	--	--

7

KDNOYE

--	--	--	--	--	--

2

5

DALCEN

--	--	--	--	--	--

6

RCEADL

--	--	--	--	--	--

3

STRA

--	--	--	--

11

4

SNIG

--	--	--	--

9

--	--	--	--	--

1

2

3

4

5

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14



### **THIS WE BELIEVE FOR DECEMBER**

**"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."**

**"John 3:16"**

**"We will be scripture-based to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ  
and spiritually led to guide all people to be active doers of the Word"**

Approved by Session on November 16, 2007

### **CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor: Fred Taylor, Clerk of Session: Vicky Bair, Church Treasurer: Ken Hobart,  
Secretary: Christi Partee, Financial Secretary: Elaine Miller**

### **DEACONS**

#### **Class of 2017**

**Ed Lloyd  
Amy Johnson**

#### **Class of 2018**

**Pam Hobart  
Vacancy**

#### **Class of 2019**

**Sandy Erickson  
Pat Erlewine**

### **ELDERS**

#### **Class of 2017**

**Meg Simons  
Peni Lloyd**

#### **Class of 2018**

**Ken Hobart  
Steve Broskovak**

#### **Class of 2019**

**Vicky Bair  
Vacancy**

**Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals  
P.O. Box 305  
Bull Shoals, AR. 72619**