



The Mustard Seed

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Weekly events (unless otherwise noted):

Sundays (nursery provided)

Sunday School at 9:45 am

Choir Rehearsal at 10:30 am

Coffee Fellowship at 10:30 am

Worship Service at 11:00 am

Additional events for December:

12/02 Decorate church, 10:00 am

12/03 Communion during Worship, 11:00 am

12/05 Presbyterian Women, Piedmont Center, 2:00 pm

12/05 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 pm

12/10 Christmas Pageant, 11:00 am

12/10 Pizza with the Pastor, 12:30 pm

12/10 Sunday Seekers, 2:00 pm

12/11 Davidson Singers, refreshments, 7:00 pm

12/12 Session, 7:00 pm

12/20 Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 pm

12/21 Red Cross Blood Drive, 1:30-6:00 pm

12/24 Sunday Morning Worship, 11:00 am

12/24 Christmas Eve Service, Communion, 5:00 pm

12/25 Merry Christmas! Church Office Closed

12/27 Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 pm

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



The Adult Sunday School Class will begin studying “Not a Silent Night, Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem” on December 10. This Adam Hamilton

book/DVD study witnesses the life of Jesus from Mary’s perspective, starting at the end and traveling back to the beginning – the night of Christ’s birth. The Adult Sunday School Class meets Sunday mornings at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall.



HELP WANTED

JOB DESCRIPTION: Help decorate First Presbyterian Church for the Christmas season.

QUALIFICATIONS: A joyous heart and the willingness to join others in decking the halls, doors, and windows of our church as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

START DATE: Saturday, December 2 at 10:00 AM.

COMPENSATION: Fun and fellowship with other joyful Christians.



**Christmas Caroling
December 8**

**Christmas Party
TBD**

**FOOD OF THE MONTH FOR
CCM:
PEANUT BUTTER**

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

There were eight Session members present, and two absent. Minutes of Stated Meeting of Session on October 10, 2017 and the Called Congregational Meeting on October 29, 2017 were approved.

- **Treasurer's Report:** A financial report printout was distributed, reviewed, and approved. With regards to Stewardship, we received 22 pledge cards totaling \$80,564 on November 12. The counters will provide the treasurer with a listing of how many pledge cards received and the total amount per card. Treasurer spoke with Brotherhood Insurance who now also handles payroll services known as "Ministry Works." The charge is \$35 per month, and we are currently paying \$100 per month to PayChex. We will look over the documentation they provided to ensure the services are the same.
- **Building & Grounds:** The City of Thomasville has asked to place a Bus Stop Bench and trash can along Randolph Street in front of our parking lot which will require 6 inches of our property. B & G recommends we grant the City's request. Session approved.
- **Christian Education:** Confirmation Class will begin in 2018. Once the class is completed, the children will remain in the sanctuary during worship service. Budget was increased in 2018 to cover Rally Day and Valentine's expenses. The children are making the Community Box for the outside front area of our church. They will be responsible for keeping it stocked with food. The youth will go Christmas caroling at Piedmont Center in December. The committee is working with Gene Moore on scheduling an Intergenerational Sunday School once per quarter. The children and parents will meet to plan future activities and service projects.
- **Personnel:** Annual reviews have begun. A congregational meeting to elect officers will be held on December 3, 2017.
- **Service:** Reported on the Presbytery Meeting, including the celebration of Sam Marshall's upcoming retirement (12/31). Family members and close friends of Mr. Marshall attended, and there were well wishes from many people. A Dream Team has been formed to look into restructuring Salem Presbytery. Davidson Singers will perform in the FPC sanctuary on December 11, 2017. The choir will furnish refreshments in the narthex after the performance.
- **Witness:** In Joe's absence, Phil mentioned that the trailer for our float is already at church and ready to be decorated on Monday, November 20. We won't put the letters on it until the day before the parade, as they are too tall to fit under the van port.
- **Worship:** Communion will be held on Christ the King Sunday at the end of November. Christmas pageant dress rehearsal will be held on November 27 at 5:00 pm.
- **Transitional Minister's Report:** Jim Moore's grandchildren, Sara and Eric, may be riding on the Christmas float. We need a task force to consolidate the Witness and Service committees into "Outreach Committee." We received the Huntington's Disease grant check of \$9500, and will try to set up a presentation date that can be covered by a news reporter. It would be great if Kathy (Jim's daughter), could join us and present the check to WFUBMC in memory of her mother, Gail Moore. Attention needs to be given to the Vision Statement in 2018; Pastor Jennie asked Session to give this some thought and be prepared for detailed discussion in early 2018.
- **New Business:** NCPP wants to have a Team meeting here on Saturday, January 27 upstairs; Session approved. FPC needs to set up room and make arrangements to get the food (NCPP will pay for the food). Linda Proctor requested to use the Fellowship Hall on December 16 from 4:30-7:00 for her grandson's 16th birthday (family) party, and wanted to know the cost. Session approved.

*Your word is a
lamp to my feet
and a light to my
path.*
Proverbs 6:23
AMPC

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR DECEMBER

12/3	Sue Hunter
12/17	Carolyn Bennett
12/24	Anice Griffin
12/31	Gene Moore

If you have a scheduling conflict regarding your scripture reading date, please arrange to trade dates with someone; you will need to notify Carole Skinner in the office of any changes so that this may be reflected in the worship bulletin.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN UPDATE

Presbyterian Women will meet at Piedmont Crossing on December 5 at 2:00 pm. Please remember to bring \$5 or \$10 gift cards to be given to teenagers by Cooperative Community Ministries. Appropriate cards include gift cards from Walmart, fast food restaurants, or other establishments that may hold an interest for teens. Hope to see you on the 5th!
Shirley Byrnes & Marguerite Fowler

PRAYER FAMILIES FOR DECEMBER

1st week: Phyllis Abbot, Robert & Jazmin Kunkle
2nd week: Tiffany & Nia Baluka, Jo Riedel
3rd week: Eddie & Reen Coggins, Ron Chatterton
4th week: Ellen Adams, Charlene & Norma Crocker
5th week: Gladys Alexander, Noah & Barbara Manning



**Please join us for the Christmas Eve Service with
Communion on December 24 at 5:00 pm.**

21 Randolph Street
Thomasville NC 27360

The Rev. Jennie Hemrick, Interim Pastor
Carole Skinner, Office Manager
Yulia Roubtsova, Director of Music

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-12:00 noon

Church Office Phone/Fax: 336-476-4110

Pastor's Cell Phone: 336-408-7976

Web Page: www.firstpresthomasville.org

Email Addresses: fpcpastor@northstate.net
fpcvolunteer@northstate.net



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



12/5 Curtis Patterson
12/11 Kaleb Hege
12/12 Marian Greeson
12/14 Mark Warner
12/18 Sandi Rice
12/22 Benny Huff
12/23 Peggy Harrison
12/24 Jane Osborne
12/25 Jane Hasty
12/26 Cindi McCorquodale
12/28 Joan Dorr



Mike & Cathy Lamm
12/17/1978

Brian & Dominique
McSweeney
12/20/2009

The deadline for the issue of the January *Mustard Seed* is December 24, 2017. Please send articles to gresandirice@gmail.com, and indicate "Mustard Seed" as the subject.