

For PRAYER . . .

CHURCH FAMILY:

Sue Keene, Family of David Larimer (death of David’s brother, Sam Larimer); Matthew Kincer; Jim Thompson; Dolores Pruitt; Connie Fletcher; Dorothy Wright; Julia Butler; Doris Branam.

Heritage Hall: Betty Kelly

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

Michael Thomas, Kristie Hancock Clifton, Barbara Kincer, Josh Thompson, Davina Larimer Perkins, Howie Mitchell, and Peggy Riley.

OTHERS:

Reverend Michael Weller; Family of Zachary (Zac) Andrew Carter, child of Jeff & Amy Carter, who bravely & courageously battled metastatic osteosarcoma for over 7 years; Letty & George “Chappy” Chapman (death of her son); Kim McGraw’s mother.

Active Military Service: Jon Wright.

TO PASS ALONG A PRAYER REQUEST:

Contact Eunice Jones at (276.988.4412) *jnseun@aol.com*); or the church office at (276.988.4724; *sectazpresb12@yahoo.com*). Names will remain on the Prayer List for 4 weeks, unless otherwise requested.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 26, 2023

Worship Service-Black’s Chapel	9:30 A.M.
Worship Service-TPC Sanctuary	11:00 A.M.
Greening of the Church	2:00 P.M.

Monday, November 27, 2023

Boys Scouts, Fellowship Hall	6:00 P.M.
Session Meeting	7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, November 29, 2023.

Adventure Time/TAG	3:30 P.M.
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Sunday, December 3, 2023

Worship Service-Black’s Chapel	9:30 A.M.
Worship Service-TPC Sanctuary	11:00 A.M.

Attendance:

November 19 TPC 31 Livestream 10 BC 10 Total 51

Pulpit Schedule for December 2023

December 3	Dr. Scott Sykes
December 10	Pastor Grace Kim
December 17	Dr. Martin Dotterweich
December 24	Pastor Grace Kim
December 31	The Reverend Russ Hatfield

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome

We welcome all who join our Sunday worship service. If you are not able to be present in our sanctuary you can join us live on [YouTube by searching Tazewell Presbyterian Church](#). All of our live-streamed services are available for replay. Through our worship, we proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and celebrate the community of faith. We are happy that you are here!

December Calendar

November 26, 2 PM Advent Festival to decorate church

December 10, 5 PM Christmas Cantata

December 13, 11 AM Outreach Luncheon with Southwest Virginia Community College Music Students

December 24, 7 PM Christmas Eve Service

Our Pledges of Time, Talent, and Resources

We will dedicate our 2024 Time, Talent, and Pledges during — the service today.

Poinsettias

Please have your forms and checks for the Poinsettias back to the church by Sunday, December 17, 2023. Make checks payable to Tazewell Presbyterian Church.

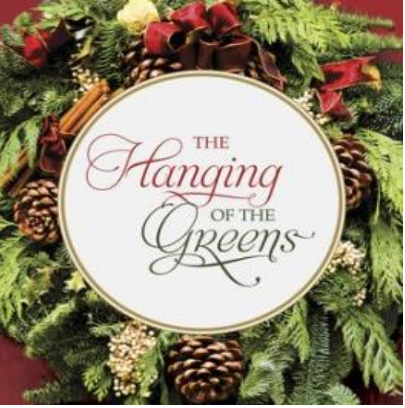
Food Pantry Needs for December 2023

The Food Pantry’s special emphasis for December is “Christmas bag contents {3-lb. canned ham, boxed dressing, canned or boxed potatoes, gravy mix, canned sweet potatoes, bread mix, jello, cake mix/canned icing or brownies}”. Donations may be placed in the basket in the church narthex (front entry).

Christmas Cantata

The TPC Chancel Choir will be joined by choirs from Lebanon Memorial UMC and Main Street UMC, as well as other friends from the community, to present a Christmas cantata "Sing for Joy," on Sunday, December 10th, at 5:00 p.m. in the TPC sanctuary. This service includes choral pieces in a variety of styles from classical to African rhythms to jazz, combining to present the story of the birth of Christ through Word and music. A reception for all, in Fellowship Hall, follows the cantata.

**The Service of
Hanging of the Greens
*November 26, 2023***



**TAZEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Black’s Presbyterian Chapel**

Chiming of the Hour & Prelude:

People, Look East
Chancel Choir

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Jeremiah 33:14-15

One: The days are coming, declares the Lord.

**Many: I will fulfill the gracious promise I made
to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.**

One: In those days and at that time I will make
a righteous branch sprout from David’s line.

Many: He will do what is just and right in the land.

One: Let us worship God.

Hymn 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, we desire to love and trust you, but so often we get in the way of ourselves. We see only the deep sadness of the world and do not notice your people at work amid the sorrow. We assume that things will never get better, and do not see all that is good right now. We close our eyes and complain about the darkness, rather than see the light that shines all around us. Help us, O God. Help us to grow in love and trust, in compassion and hope, so that as the Christ Child comes to us once again, we will see him, know him, and rejoice.

Assurance of God’s Grace

*Passing of the Peace and Response of Praise: Gloria Patri

The Origin and Symbol of the Advent Wreath

Carol and Roger Weaver

Jeremiah 23:5-6
The days are surely coming says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous branch, and He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which He will be called: "The Lord is our Righteousness."

The Advent Wreath is a vivid symbol of preparation. The lighting of a new candle each of the four weeks before Christmas reminds us that something is happening, but more is yet to come. The circle of evergreens reminds us of the everlasting covenant offered in the birth of Jesus. The four candles symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love. And on Sundays during the Advent, we light each candle as a symbol of Christ. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.

The Origin and Symbol of Evergreens

Bob Brown and Daniel Brown

1 Peter 1:23-25
For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, “All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field. The grass withers and the flowers fall. But the word of the Lord stands forever.”

From ancient times, evergreens have been considered a symbol of eternity, a sign of God's everlasting nature. Isaiah tells us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah. Therefore, we hang wreaths shaped in circles, and place garlands of green, as a sign of everlasting life. These are symbols of Christ's gift of eternal life and of the celebration of Christmas itself.

The Origin and Symbol of the Poinsettia

Davina and Brad Perkins

Numbers 24:17
I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near ...a star shall come out of Jacob and a scepter shall rise out of Israel.

The poinsettia's association with Christmas began in 16th-century Mexico, where legend tells of a girl named Pepita, who was too poor to buy a gift for the celebration of Jesus' birthday. She gathered weeds from the roadside and placed them in front of the church altar. Crimson blossoms sprouted from the weeds and became poinsettias. The star-shaped leaf pattern is said to

symbolize the Star of Bethlehem, the red color represents the blood of Jesus' crucifixion and the white color, purity.

The Origin and Symbol of the Manger

Josh, Lura, and Huntley Thompson

Luke 2:6-7
And while they were there the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the Inn.

The manger is placed as a reminder that Jesus Christ was born in the humblest of places. It reminds us that the Son of God might dwell among the lowliest of people. Jesus, who was born in this most modest beginning, has compassion on all God's children - from the humblest to the richest.

The Origin and Symbol of the Christmas Tree

Elene Combs, Clair Combs, and Elaina Davis

Micah 5:2, 4
But you, O Bethlehem, from you shall come forth one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from ancient days. And He shall stand and feed His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God. And they shall live secure, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth; and He shall be the one of peace.

In ancient times the cedar was revered as the tree of royalty. It also signified immortality, and was used for purification. We have placed this tree in the sanctuary as a symbol of Christ, who reigns as King forever, and whose coming will purify our hearts.

The Origin and Symbol of the Christmas Lighting

Joan Flynn and Patricia McPherson

John 1: 1-5, 9-14
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the Beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, who were born not of the blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

As our preparation for the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World, we will light the Chrismon tree. Whenever you see a lighted tree, let it call to mind the One who brings light into our darkness, healing in our brokenness, and peace to all who will receive Him. May this tree, arrayed in beauty and splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in hearts.

Invitation to Offering and Pledges

Litany of Dedication for Stewardship Pledges

One: Everlasting God, we give You thanks this day as we gather the pledges of support for Your Church in the coming year. We bring them before You with anticipation and hope.

Many: Hear us, O God, as we give You our thanks and praise.

One: For those whose lives have been touched by Your Spirit, and who have renewed their commitments,

Many: We give You thanks and praise.

One: For those who are responding to Your grace by pledging for the first time,

Many: We give You thanks and praise.

One: For those whose lives are in transition or turmoil and who feel they cannot pledge, but continue to be a vital part of our community.

Many: We give You thanks and praise, and we pray for peace in their lives.

One: That each one of us, and Your whole Church, become more faithful to the call of service in Jesus Christ,

Many: We ask Your continuing guidance and care.

One: That these pledges may emerge as real gifts, thereby enabling the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ to move forward through this congregation and the Church Universal,

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to this pledge. Amen and Amen.

Offertory: As With Gladness Men of Old

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

***Song of Dedication:** 697 Take My Life

*Benediction

*Chiming of the Trinity

Postlude