

For PRAYER . . .

CHURCH FAMILY:

Jerry Wood; 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, December 3, 2023		
Worship Service-Black’s Chapel		9:30 A.M.
Worship Service-TPC Sanctuary		11:00 A.M.
Monday, December 4, 2023		
Boys Scouts, Fellowship Hall		6:00 P.M.
Sunday, December 10, 2023		
Worship Service-Black’s Chapel		9:30 A.M.
Children’s Christmas Presentation during Worship		11:00 A.M.
Christmas Cantata-TPC		5:00 P.M.

Attendance:

November 26 TPC 43 Livestream 12 BC 13 Total 68

Pulpit Schedule December 2023

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

Tazewell Presbyterian Church & Black’s Chapel

149 Church Street, Tazewell, VA 24651
tazpreschurch.org 276.988.4724
office email: sectazpresb12@yahoo.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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).

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.

December Calendar

December 10, 11 AM Children’s Christmas Presentation
5 PM Christmas Cantata

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

December 24, 7 PM Christmas Eve Service

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.

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.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

December 3, 2023
1st Sunday of Advent



TAZEWELL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Black’s Presbyterian Chapel

The Gathering

Chiming of the Hour & Prelude: Veni Emmanuel
ancient Advent hymn/arr.Scriveynor

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope
The Clifton Family: Eric, Kristie, Grace, Lindsey

What is hope? Modern culture tells us it is a “maybe,” a kind of unsure optimism. But in Scripture, hope is an indication of certainty. “Hope” means “a strong and confident expectation.” The Israelites were hoping for a savior, their messiah. God had promised a messiah and they believed it. They didn’t know when or who, but they were waiting. Today we too can live with this hope. We can live with the certainty and the confident expectation that Christ not only came to this world as a baby so long ago, but he will return and everything that God has promised will come true. Today, we light the candle of hope. May it remind each and every one of us of God’s great promise. God is our hope.

Call to Worship *based on Isaiah 11:1-10*

One: The Spirit of God rests fully on the coming Lord.
Many: The promised Lord will rule with true justice and righteousness.
One: As we trust in God, we find our peace.
Many: In the grace of God, we find our hope.
One: Let us - with hope - kindle the light of the Lord.

*Hymn 366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Prayer of Confession

One: The Lord is the potter and we are the clay. We are the work of God’s hand. The Lord will not remember our iniquity forever. As children of the covenant, as the people of God, let us confess our sins together.
All: We confess, O God, that oftentimes we think you are hiding from us, and we forget your ways. Our transgressions overtake us. We fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. O that you would tear open the heavens and come and be among us, that the mountains would quake at your presence, and that you would forgive us, for we are your people. Amen

O Little Town of Bethlehem, verse 4

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today;
We hear the Christmas angels the great, glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.**

Assurance of God’s Grace

One: Friends, we are offered grace and peace through the Lord Jesus Christ!
All: We give thanks always for the grace of God given to us in Christ Jesus. He will strengthen us to the end. God is faithful, and by Him we are all called into fellowship. We are forgiven! Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
(Please share the peace with those around you).

*Response of Praise *O Come Emmanuel, refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The Word

God’s Word in Song: *Awake, Awake to Greet the New Morn*
Haugen

Children’s Message Barbara Kincer

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (Pew Bible, pg. 926)
Mark 13:24-37 (Pew Bible, pg. 826)

Sermon Dr. Scott Sikes

“Careful What You’re Looking For”

Response to the Word

*Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn 83 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Invitation to Offering

Offertory: *Of the Father’s Love Begotten*
from 13th c. plainsong/arr. Carter

*Doxology

**PRAISE God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Sending and Service

*Hymn 92 *While We Are Waiting, Come*

*Benediction

*Chiming of the Trinity

*Please rise in body and/or spirit.