

DECEMBER 2021

TIDINGS

The Church of the Good Shepherd
Cashiers, North Carolina



Advent, Christmas, and Incarnation

This time of year with trees and lights and seasonal joy gets observed in different ways. For the church, it is not about Santa, snow, and shopping. It is Advent, a time of waiting and expectation. We light candles one-by-one on a wreath of evergreens to mark weekly the steps in time that occurred over generations. Prophets like Isaiah and seers like Daniel knew God would provide a Messiah, an Anointed One, to save us and to lead us. In that, we remember how long they hoped and how long they waited, even as we wait hopefully for a long time for the second-coming.

Waiting is not easy—whether we wait on the heavenly or the earthly.

- ~We wait with some exasperation for this pandemic to end, or to become less life-threatening, and certainly to become less divisive.
- ~Some wait on workers. Others wait on jobs.
- ~Some wait on a house to sell. Others wait on housing of any kind.
- ~We wait for justice.
- ~We wait for peace.
- ~All of this earthly waiting as we wait for the Kingdom to come.

How does this waiting take shape? When Jesus was born, it took the shape of a baby boy who grew into a teacher, a healer, the Messiah. We call that Incarnation: the Word becoming flesh. That restorative incarnation was good, just as God said, “It was good” during the days of creation. Thus we pray in thanksgiving and in hope when pondering the feast of the Incarnation (better known as Christmas).

O God, who wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life if him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. BCP 252

So, sharing the divine life with others as God shared it with us is not something we have to wait on! We have that life in Christ to share now even as we wait on the final installment in the second-coming. Whenever that is, however long we wait, we have a way to live now: a sharing. Better yet, a generous sharing of self, a humble sharing, a sharing that can be restorative. So whatever the season—Advent, Christmas or even Lent—let us wait with this Incarnational purpose—not impatiently, but purposefully as restored people of God.



December Birthdays

- 1 JOHN CANNON
- 2 ROBERT FORTSON
- 3 LAURA BLACK
- 5 ELIZABETHINE G. MCCLURE
- 5 WINTON NOAH
- 5 SUZANNE TURNBULL
- 9 SANDRA WALTZEK
- 10 CATHY FOSTER
- 11 MARY CONOVER
- 12 BARON HOLMES
- 14 ROBERT WOOD
- 14 LAUREN TURNER
- 15 GWIN ROBBINS
- 17 MAURICE SPONCLER
- 17 CLARE CRAWFORD
- 18 CHRISTY BANKS
- 18 JERRY HAYES
- 20 GORDON GRAY
- 21 ELEANOR WELLING
- 21 WYLIE HOFFMAN
- 22 GAIL KECK
- 22 M.J. SOLDO
- 23 CARROLL RIVERS
- 26 RAY MAGARO
- 26 DEBBIE JONES
- 27 JIM SCANLON
- 29 SHELIA CRAWFORD
- 29 KAY MAYBANK
- 29 BRIGGS PUSCH
- 31 MARY LOFTIN
- 31 CAROLYN FRANZ

New Faces at Good Shepherd!

We are so pleased that even during this pandemic we have continued to open our doors to our community...and look who has come in! Be sure to introduce yourself!

Augusta Williams | Nicole Livesey



The Dyers Baptism

Samual Dyer & Townsend Dyer
Fowler Creek
Sunday, November 7, 2021



2021 Christmas Service Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE | DECEMBER 24

- 3:30 PM Family Service with Pageant, Music, & Prayers
- 5:30 PM Lessons & Carols, Sermon, & Holy Communion
- 10:30PM Sermon & Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY | DECEMBER 25

12:00 PM Holy Communion, Rite II

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 26

One Service - 11:00 AM

December Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 7 MAURICE & BETTY SPONCLER | 23 COLLINS VALLEE & BETTY DURHAM |
| 14 ALFRED KENNEDY & BILL KENNY | 24 TOM & KAREN SNYDER |
| 20 RAY & PATTY MAGARO | 26 MIKE & SUE ANN GLENN |
| 21 DICK & LYNN MEYERS | 27 CLAY & DEBBIE JONES |
| 22 BRAD & SHARON VANVICK | 28 MICHAEL & DONNA BORN |

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY IS MISSING PLEASE CONTACT ELLEN AT 743-2359 OR GOODSHEPADMIN@FRONTIER.COM



November Youth Events

The Children and Youth of Good Shepherd enjoyed fellowship and fun around a campfire, at the Hunter's Home on November 7, then gave thanks like Charlie Brown on the 21st at the church.



A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving



Campfire Fun at the Hunter's Home

Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 | 4:00-5:30 PM | HINES HALL
Ornament making & Advent Wreath Making

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 | 4:00-5:30 PM | TBD
More information to come!



2021 Vestry Updates

WELCOME TO THE NEW VESTRY MEMBERS!



RUTH RUSS



PETER KECK



VIC BRANDT

2021 VESTRY ELECT

THANK YOU! TO THE DEPARTING VESTRY MEMBERS!



SANDRA SWARTZFAGER



PERRIN DARGAN



LEA THOMPSON



PATCH FOSTER

2021 DEPARTING VESTRY MEMBERS

The Reverend Robert B. Wood, Rector
rwood.gs@gmail.com
The Reverend Alison Schultz, Assistant Rector
The Reverend Toby Summerour, Adjunct Priest
The Reverend Steve Hines, Adjunct Priest

Church of the Good Shepherd
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Vestry Officers:

Perrin Dargan, Senior Warden
Patch Foster, Junior Warden
Irv Welling, Interim Treasurer
Ellen Albright, Clerk

Vestry:

Sandra Swartzfager	Peg Kirchner
Jim Recktenwald	Lenny Blevins
Laura Lankford	Doreen Hastings
Lynn Jones	Mark Quick
Lea Thompson	

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Staff:

Ellen Albright, Parish Administrator
goodshepadmin@frontier.com
Christy Banks, Finance & Accounts Manager
Dr. Lyn Ellen Burkett, Organist & Choir Master
Donna Patton, Nursery & Office Assistant
Skip Ryan, Bazaar Barn Manager
Cari Sanders, Communications Director

Church Phone: (828)743-2359

Website: www.goodshepherdofcashiers.com

Plug into Good Shepherd

Coffee Hour is back at Good Shepherd! We had a wonderful time on our first one back, November 14. Parishioners enjoyed fellowship, and conversation over coffee and a lite fare.



We need hosts for future Coffee Hour events! Hosts are asked to provide either store bought or homemade edibles. Some items we have had during the past few weeks include; pimento cheese sandwiches, tomato bisque, tortilla wraps, cookies, fruit, deviled eggs. The hosts also make sure the coffee is made and set out cold tea. Sign up in Hines Hall on the bulletin board.

Want to get involved?

Contact Julia Boeve and Rose Mary Achey at VolunteerGoodShep@gmail.com to find out how!