



We are a Christ-Centered congregation committed to the authority of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. We follow His Word, which commands us to reach out to all people with the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, witness and service.

Christiana Courier

Carl Haynes, pastor
704-279-4655 (Office)
704-223-1468 (Cell)

Angel Tree Project announced

The Angel Tree will be up in the Narthex on Sunday, November 28th. Please be sure to place your name on the sign-up sheet by the number of the angel you choose. Presents need to be placed under the tree no later than the morning of December 19th with the angel taped to the present. We will also be collecting gloves, mittens, toboggans, scarves and socks for Rowan Helping Ministries. Please use the clothespins in the basket near the tree to clip them on the tree. If you have any questions please call Linda Crouch.



December 5

10:30 am 2nd Sunday in Advent

December 12

10:30 am 3rd Sunday in Advent

December 19

10:30 am 4th Sunday in Advent
Choir Cantata "The Gift Goes On"

December 24

7:00 pm Special Music
7:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion.

December 26

10:30 am 1st Sunday after Christmas
Lessons and Carols

Love endures. So can your giving.

Weekly giving keeps this place running. But what if we had a fund that would allow us to do extraordinary things, support our mission in new ways or keep our church campus up to date? We do have that fund. It's the Christiana Endowment Fund, and planned gifts—often made in wills or estate plans—allow our church to thrive in incredible ways. A January luncheon is being planned where you'll learn how to participate in this exciting opportunity available through Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing. If you'd like more information in the meantime, contact the church office to be put in touch with an endowment fund board member.



STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

GIVE AS YOU HAVE BEEN BLESSED

Something to talk about:

Luke 6:38—Give and it will be given to you.

Deuteronomy 16— That it may go well with you.

Psalms 96:8—Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come to his courts.

Hebrews 13:16—Do not forget to do good and to share with others.

We hold that GOD owns everything; we are merely borrowers of all that we might have in this world. When we use his stuff to bless others, we are doing it for him. It is God's home that we live in; it is GOD's car that we drive; it is GOD's money in our wallets; our bodies belong to GOD.

Count your blessings one by one, count them one by one. Give as you have been blessed. There are only two mistakes one can make along the road to serving GOD. Not going ALL the way, and not starting.

December Nursery Attendants

Dec. 5 Tara Beaver & Emily Haynes

Dec. 12 Suzanna & Claire Roth-Tubman

Dec. 19 *Volunteers needed!*

Dec. 26 Chris & Katie Sease

December Worship Support

Reader: Brittney Ritchie

Usher: Brian Barringer

Greeter: Jenny Roberts

Communion Assistant: Judy Stoner

Sound: Terry Ritchie

Lock Up: Tony Hawkins

Altar Guild: Marlene Pethel, Dale & Marsha Beaver, Angie & Syler Hayes

November Attendance

November 7

Sunday School: 59

Worship: 86

November 14

Sunday School: 61

Worship: 99

November 21

Sunday School: 65

Worship: 93

December Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Ella Shank | 12 Elizabeth Ritchie |
| 1 Madeline Zieverink | 13 Wendi Hawkins |
| 2 Amy Cozart | 13 Annabel Holland |
| 2 Susan Holland | 19 Chris Sease |
| 3 Laura Ritchie | 20 Cameron Eller |
| 4 Tim Lingle | 21 Carmen Pethel |
| 4 Joe Koehn | 23 Jackson Smith |
| 4 Cardell Gibson | 24 Mary Morgan |
| 4 Lani Isley | 24 Joyce Ketchie |
| 5 Glenn Wilson | 24 Brittney Ritchie |
| 5 Mason Preslar | 27 Earlene Ritchie |
| 6 David Lingle | 28 Debbie Lyerly |
| 7 Carmen Merrell | 29 Anne Strazzulla |
| 7 Woodrow Frick | 30 Chris Connell |
| 9 Matthew Rowland | |
| 10 Janet Allen | |



December Altar Flowers

Dec. 5 Kathie Albright

Dec. 12 Pastor Carl

Dec. 19 Pastor Carl

Dec. 24 Don & Diane Smith

Dec. 26 Pastor Carl

Please see Kathy Haynes ASAP to sign up for 2022 altar flowers.



Congregational Prayer Concerns

Lynda Pethel, recovering from heart cath at NHRMC. Goes Dec. 1 to Presbyterian to discuss next step.

Janet Allen, recovering from OP gastric surgery.

Blessed Thompson, hospitalized with blood infection.

Frances Basinger's son Roger Freeze, COVID 19

Michael Carscaddon, begins 3 months of chemo after Thanksgiving.

Vaughn Hatley, taking Immunotherapy treatments every 3 weeks.

Sue Wall, recovering from cataract surgery.

Linda Crouch's sister, recovering from reconstruction surgery.

Onetia Bruce, in poor health.

Ethan Martin, Lyme Disease.

Louise Crowther, homebound due to failing eyesight & balance.

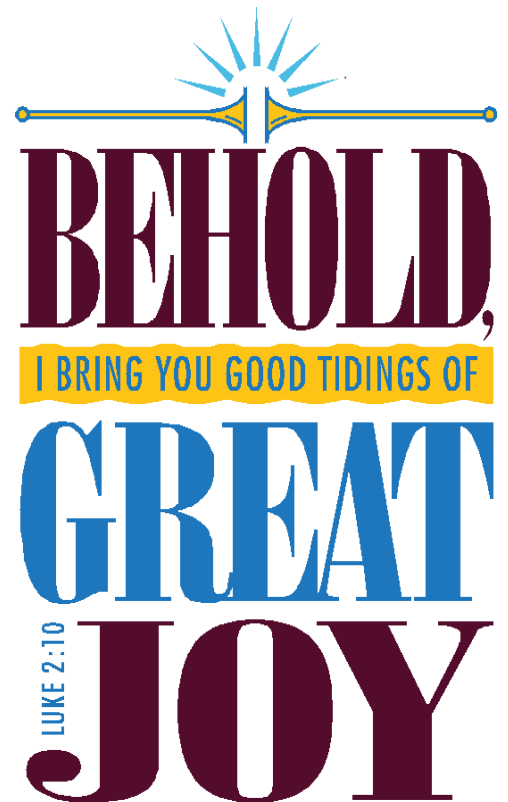
Ann Meacham, at TOHAR.

Don & Rose Dedmon, in poor health.

Our Sympathy to:

Kathy Haynes and family at the death of her uncle Lewis Morrow

Voight Basinger and family at the death of his sister Carol Doolittle



Poinsettia Orders Due December 6

Orders for Poinsettias will be accepted until December 6th. The cost is \$12.50 per plant and payment must accompany this order. The poinsettias may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Service.

Name _____

Phone number _____

Number of Poinsettias _____

Given in Memory of:

By:

Given in Honor of:

By:





As Long as We are Ready

***"Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know
on what day your Lord is coming."***

Matthew 24:42 (ESV)

With the words from Matthew 24:42 our Lord Jesus warns us to be ready at all times for his second coming. And so the church heeds this warning and during the season of Advent focuses on the coming of Christ *again*. Our Lord has already come as a baby and we celebrate that on Christmas. But that baby grew into a man who showed us the way to the Father and then died on a cross to pay for our sin. He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven.

After Jesus' ascension, angels stood amongst the disciples and told them that one day the Savior would return. He would come back just as he had ascended – in the clouds. So we look for Jesus to return one day and take us to be with him. When that day will be no one knows but God the Father. But as long as we are ready, it doesn't matter when. All that matters is that we are ready.

A number of the Advent hymns focus on Christ's coming. My favorite is "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." The first and last verses proclaim: "*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.*" This is a plea for Emmanuel, which means "God with us," to come and set free "captive Israel" that's all believers in bondage to sin.

When we realize that we are heirs to eternal life we know that this earth is not our home. We are citizens of heaven and as such we long to be there. This life, no matter how good it may be, is like living in exile to the believer. And it will be that way until Jesus the Son of God appears and takes us home. Consequently the words to the refrain give cause to celebrate this hope: "*Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*"

My next favorite Advent hymn is "The King Shall Come." The first verse says: "*The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.*" The second verse tells us what kind of King we have coming: "*Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die, but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.*" When Christ the King comes again it will be in power and glory. He will be victorious and will take his people to be with him. And so the fourth verse concludes: "*Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: come quickly, King of Kings.*"

When Christ comes to us in the waters of Baptisms and makes us his own, when he comes to us in the bread and wine and offers us forgiveness of sin, we know the joy of Christ with us. We know the difference he makes in our lives all year long. Believing that, we want others to know the difference Christ makes. We want our Lord to come to them too. And so we tell them: "*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing.*"

When rightly observed, the season of Advent prepares us to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas which is the "Word became flesh and lived among us." Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God became one of us to save us from our sin. For that, we who believe are eternally grateful!

"O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!"

Merry Christmas!
Pastor Carl

Council Meeting Minutes November 14, 2021

Present

Jason Smith, President
David Preslar, V President
Jenny Roberts
Marlene Pethel

Earlene Ritchie
Mike Yarbrough
Laura Ritchie

Harry Agner
Kevan Barringer
Tony Hawkins

Robbie Robinson
Jeff Fleming
Eddie Eller

Also Present

Pastor Carl Haynes
Laurie Ritchie

Items of Business:

October Meeting Minutes: Approved

Treasurers Report: Approved.

October Envelope Income was above budget: **\$493.00**

Total October Income was above budget: **\$212.84**

YTD Envelope was behind budget: **\$4,812.12**

YTD Total Income is behind budget: **\$7,950.85**

October total expense was under budget: **\$3,067.73**

YTD total expense was under budget: **\$39,819.24**

Expense Notes:

Music Supplies- **Over** budget. Budgeted \$450.00, Spent so far \$494.12

Pastors Business Expense **Over** Budget. Budgeted \$3,000, Spent so far \$4,279.97

Mission Delegate **Over** Budget. \$2,000 was budget- Spent so far \$3,252.03

Nehemiah Group Expenses **Over** Budget. Budgeted \$1,500, spent so far \$1,522.52 = Monthly fee has increase by \$5.13 per person.

Water & Sewer **Over** budget. Budgeted \$900.00 Spent so far \$896.97

Cash on Hand: \$64,194.07

Designated Funds:

Brighten the Beacon October donations: \$1,365.00

Report was accepted as presented.

Pastor's Report:

Highlight was giving Syler, Kadence and Joseph their first communion

Approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship:

Pledges turned in are only \$100,020 total right now.

Budget was calculated based on a system of looking on previous budget, expenses, and projections for increase.

Boy Scout account funds were moved to the Thrivent (Youth Fund) account to avoid incurring dormant fees. This was discussed thoroughly by pastor and members.

Church music director (Becky) notified stewardship committee in early 2020 of lack of youth choir participation and at the time the hope was that normal church activities following the pandemic. Recently, Becky gave a letter of resignation for the youth choir due to a continued lack of activity with the youth. The funds will remain in the budget, but that portion will be removed from Becky's pay as of January 2022.

Copier count was over for the month causing an overage charge of \$40.00. The overage was generated by the pre-school operation. If this proves not to be an abnormal occurrence, a conversation will take place with preschool leaders.

Property:

Mike Yarbrough had carpet in the fellowship hall cleaned using his company.

Jason and David switched the lights to LED and power bill has decreased significantly.

Brian and Kevin Barringer changed the light bulbs on the light-posts to LEDs.

Gutters have been fixed.

Wi-Fi system is up and running.

Working with only one gas heating unit in the church. The other will be fixed and up and running soon.

Ice machine in fellowship hall should be fixed by Friday. Parts have been on backorder leading to delays.

DOT has been contacted about the difficulty leaving and coming into our church because of the abrupt drop off since 52 was paved. DOT will be coming in and changing the slope of the roadway at the church entrances.

Worship: Altar Guild will be decorating for Thanksgiving on Saturday the 20th at 10:00 a.m.
Recommendation to Worship Committee made to recognize longest standing member and newest members.

Social Ministry: Angel tree will start on Sunday the 28th.

Evangelism: Trunk or Treat numbers were lower than normal. The Evangelism committee is meeting to discuss opportunities to improve participation and support for the night of the event.

Trick or Treat so others may eat = 800 pounds of food raised.

Thanksgiving Meal = \$60.00 per family needed. Currently have \$658.86. Looking for volunteer drivers to deliver on Thursday morning around 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship: Salisbury Magazine this quarter had 8 pages on our Fellowship Hall and the Veteran's meal.

Membership Review: Thanks, came from visiting members for being welcomed at Christiana.

Nehemiah Group: Their budget will remain over-budget for this year due to an increase in insurance fees. We still have the group rate. We do have dedicated funds that were donated that will be moved over to cover this increase.

LCW – SL Group: Meeting in on December 6th to make stockings for the shut-ins.
January will begin a disaster relief collection of blankets.

LCW - MKL Group: Painted and stenciled large cans with Santa's snowmen and pine cones with hats on them = made to add to the gifts purchased for the shut-ins.
On November 23rd gift bags for children at the battered women's shelter will be put together and added to shut-in cans.
Goal by the end of the year is to raise 1,000 pounds of food for Jeannie's Kitchen. They have already donated 170 lbs. earlier this month.
December 20th is the Christmas Social.

CLM: There were 16 men who went on the fishing trip to the beach.

CRS: Had dinner at El Patron Thursday (9 in attendance).

Bus: Took the bus to Gastonia for combined church youth event last Sunday.

We will continue our annual congregational meeting this week:

To vote new council members.

Changes to constitution (provided on back of ballot)

NALC Constitution Change Ratification

2022 Spending Plan

Open seat (Thomas Meade) on the council will need to be made by appointment

Next meeting: **December 12th at 7:30am in Fellowship Hall**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura E. Ritchie
Council Secretary

Christiana Rowdy Seniors
will meet for a Christmas
lunch and fellowship at a
location yet to be
determined on Thursday
December 9 at 12 noon.



**Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting
November 14, 2021**

Number of Members Present: 79 **Presenters:** Jason Smith, President Pastor Carl Haynes

Items of Business:

Called to order by Jason Smith, President.

Moved to waive the reading of the minutes from last meeting. Approved unanimously.

Moved to approve the Financial Plan. Approved unanimously.

Presented nominated Council Members for 2022 – 2024:

Richard Crouch
Todd Koontz
Charlotte Pacilio
Brittney Ritchie
Laurie Ritchie

All nominees were elected

Presented Endowment Fund Nominee 2022 – 2026:

Cam Ritchie

Nominee was elected

Christiana Constitution Change # 1: In Article 1 regarding committees: 1.6 Stewardship Committee. The proposed change is to change the word “audits” to “review.” (The term audit is a legal term. The cost for a legal “audit” is over \$10,000.)

Proposal passed

Christiana Constitution Change # 2: The proposed change is to add the words “or email” to the two places in C10.03. (Cost of postage has increased, and email is a more convenient way to send out the information. Members can elect how to receive their information.)

Proposal passed

NALC Constitution Change Ratification: Changes have been made and approved at the delegation last August: Congregations can form mission regions, while remaining part of the mission district. We are a part of Piedmont East. Regions can adopt their own budgets and constitutions that work for their region. Terminology is more specific. Deans will continue to serve in mission regions. Other regions will be added as the denomination grows. A new bishop will be added to help serve more churches. Vote is to agree to this support this change.

Proposal passed

2022 Spending Plan: No questions about spending plan.

Spending plan was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura E. Ritchie
Council Secretary

The example of Mary

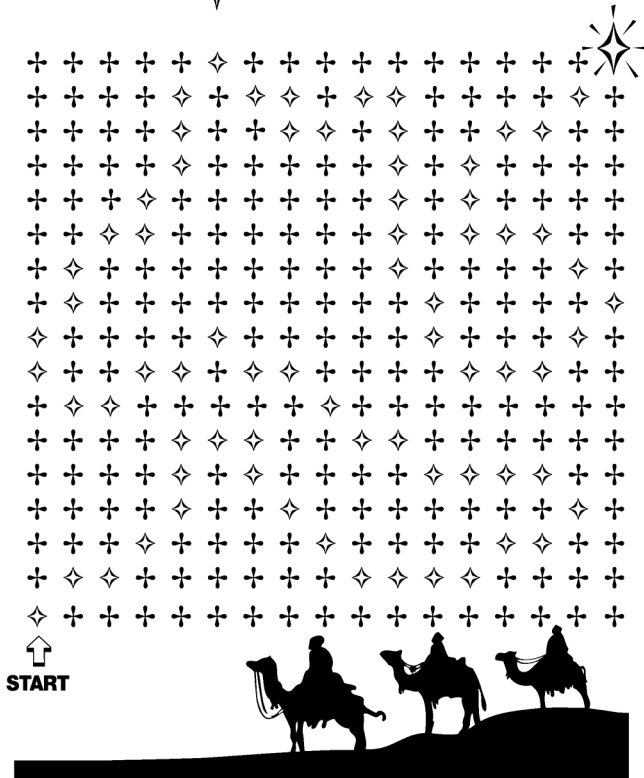
“We must look to Mary’s example to know how to deal with the glorious impossibilities of God,” writes Calvin Miller in The Christ of Christmas. “Look how she turned the world upside down by making one simple statement.”

Jesus surely could have come to earth without Mary’s aid. But God seems to prefer partnering with people to accomplish miracles such as salvation and healing. So God chooses Mary to carry the Savior. Later, Jesus often declares people’s own faith crucial to their healing. And today, God works justice through us, not apart from us.

God doesn’t force us into collaboration. Yet, notes Miller, “God needs only a little of our agreement in order to work mighty wonders.” Like Mary’s humble assent: “I am the Lord’s servant. ... May your word to me be fulfilled” (Luke 1:38, NIV). And like yours — for whatever partnership God invites you into. God will do the heavy lifting, for certain, but he hopes you’ll say yes.

Puzzle!

Starting in the lower-left corner, help the wise men follow the ✧ path that leads to baby Jesus.



Now unscramble these words to discover what gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

L D O G N C A K N R I E N F S E R Y H M R

Answer: gold, frankincense, myrrh



LCW Happenings

Miss Katherine Lyerly LCW

will meet in the Smith Assembly Hall
on Monday, December 20
at 10:00am to share a covered dish
meal, bake and share desserts,
and make gift bags for shut-ins.



Sister Lucille LCW

will meet on Monday, Dec. 6 at 6:00pm.
at Christo's for dinner and
to fill stockings for shut-ins.



The Church Office will be closed
December 24—29

Remember those in nursing homes



Autumn Care:

Joe Haas

Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab:

Cardell Gibson, Ann Meacham

Liberty Commons: Elizabeth Ritchie

Not too Late to Fill Out a Time and Talent Sheet

If you have not filled out a Time and Talent Sheet for 2022, please see an usher before worship. Fill it out, fold it and place it in the offering plate, hand it to Pastor Carl or bring it by the church office. It is very important that everyone fill one out. These are used by the Council, the pastor, the committees and support groups to involve members in using their talents to serve God.

Also, if you have a new mailing address, phone number, or email address, please, please, please, notify the Church Office ASAP!



Brighten the Beacon Fellowship Meals will resume in January

The Fellowship meals we had before COVID will start back in January. The menu will be chicken and dump-lins', vegetables and dessert. We have folks lined up to cook, but we need help in setting up the dinning room and most importantly in cleaning up afterwards. Many hands make light work. We had 40 people raise their hand on Sunday, Nov. 14 saying they were interested.

In the past we relied on donations to cover the cost and any left over went to Brighten the Beacon. This time we will have a set cost for the meal—\$10 per person. Kids under 12 free.

If you are interested in helping contact Harry Agner. He is willing to help with the meals, but not do them. So if we want to continue to have these wonderful fellowship meals, we are going to have to have people step up and be willing to be on one of three crews: set-up, cook or cleanup.

Let's work together to make it happen.



Scripture Lessons for December

2nd Sunday in Advent, Dec. 5

Malachi 3:1-7b
Psalm 66:1-12
Philippians 1:2-11
Luke 3:1-14

3rd Sunday in Advent, Dec. 12

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Psalm 85
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 7:18-28 (29-35)

4th Sunday in Advent, Dec. 19

Micah 5:2-5a
Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-45 (46-56)

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-20

1st Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 26

Lessons and Carols

*Scriptures from the Old and New Testaments
about the Christ's birth*

To Members of Congregation:

Sister Lucille Circle would like to thank you for the overwhelming support of our "Sock It To Me" project. Thanks to the full support of our congregation, we were able to present to Rowan Helping Ministries 925 pairs of socks. We were able to provide socks for men, women, and children to keep them warm and dry this winter season. Thanks to the youth's Sunday School classes that made "cupcakes" out of the socks to give to the children – a special gift for sure.

*Thank
You*

No matter what project we tackle, we always have such an outstanding support from our congregation. We are blessed to be part of such a loving and supportive Church Family.

Help us decorate the Sanctuary for Advent/Christmas

Thursday, December 2, the Altar Guild invites members of Christiana to help decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas. We will meet at 5:30pm for a sandwich supper with chips, drinks and cookies. Then we will go upstairs and decorate. Make plans now to come and help us with this time of fun and fellowship as we prepare our church and our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.



To Brighten the Beacon

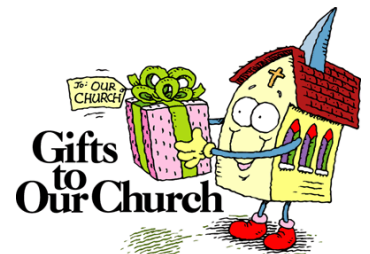
In memory of Carol & Phil Dwiggin by Doris Ritchie
In memory of Jennifer Holland by Bobby Barringer
In honor of Richard Crouch by Harry Agner
In honor of Pam and Christy Agner on their birthdays by Dale & Marsha Beaver

To the Endowment Fund

In memory of Lewis Morrow by Madeline Zieverink

To the General Fund

In memory of Callie Mae Thomas and Eve Ann Thomas from Patricia Thomas Pena & Kaitlin Christiana Pena



6190 US Hwy 52
Salisbury NC 28146
Address Service Requested
Phone: 704-279-4655

Sunday School 9:15 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Pastor: Carl M. Haynes
E-Mail: pastor-
carl@charlotte.twcbc.com
Council President: Jason Smith
Council Vice-President: David Preslar
Council Secretary: Laura Ritchie

Church Secretary: Ann Teague
Email: christianal@charlotte.twcbc.com
Church Treasurer: Laurie Ritchie
Organist/Music Director: Becky Morris

Christiana Lutheran Men: Jason Smith
Christiana Rowdy Seniors: Jenny Roberts

Chancel Choir
Becky Morris, Director
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Handbell Choir
Kathy Haynes, Director
Sundays at 3 p.m.

Kids' Puppet Team
Becky Morris, Director
Sundays at 3 p.m.

Mailed Nov. 24, 2021

Check out these websites:
www.christianalutheran.org
<http://carolinasnalc.com>
<http://thenalc.org>

Join us on Facebook



*
A
bernathy
*Adkins*Agner*
*Albright*Allen*
*Barringer*Basinger*
*Beaver*Beretsky*Bernhardt*
*Braun*Brown*Bruce*
*Burris*Chapman*Cline*
*Coffey*Connell*Cooper*Cowden*
*Cozart*Cross*Crouch*Crowther*Dedmon*
*Douglas*Doyle*Duncan*Edens*Eller*Fesperman*
*Fleming*Fox*French*Frick*Gibson*Goodman*Haas*
*Hatley*Hawkins*Hayes*Haynes*Haynes-Barnes*Hill*Holland*
*Holshouser*Honeycutt*Huneycutt*Isley*Keene*Kelsoe*Kepley*
Kluttz*Koehn*Koontz*Lapish*Lingle*Lowry*Lyerly*Madison*McKenzie*
*McKinney*Meacham*Mead*Merrell*Morgan*Morris*Nesbitt*Pacilio*
*Peeler*Pethel*Preslar*Pruette*Pryor*Ramsey*Reavis*Richardson*Riddle*Ritchie*
*Roberts*Robinson*Roper*Roth-Tubman*Rowland*Scott*Sease*Sechler*Shank*Smith*Stack*
*Stokes*Stoner*Strazzulla*Swanner*Swicegood*Thomas*Thompson*Trexler*
*Wall*Weant*Wilhelm*Wilson*Witty*Wood*Wright*Yarbrough*Zieverink*

Pastor Carl
Becky Morris
Laurie Ritchie
Ann Teague

**Wish you all a Blessed Christmas
and a most Joyous New Year!**