

Welcome Home! Come Walk With Us!

Northside **NEWS**

Northside Presbyterian Church

December 2019

Blacksburg, Virginia



***THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS IS NOT IN
THE PRESENTS BUT IN HIS PRESENCE!***

***MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM
YOUR CHURCH STAFF:***

*Linda Martha Marya
Pat Susan*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 A.M. – Morning Worship

11:15 A.M. – Sunday School

USHERS

Dec. 1: Steve & Rosemary Cole

Dec. 8: Sandi Webster &

Sandy Hancock

Dec. 15: Sue & Ernie Bentley

Dec. 22: Paul Ruzler & Drew Taylor

Dec. 29: Joy & Kay Hunnings

Officers On Call

Dec. 1-7: Marshall Chaney

540-320-8083

Dec. 8-14: Steve Cole,

540-953-0434

Dec. 15-21: Jane Jones,

540-250-1963

Dec. 22-28: Clark Gaylord,

540-641-1439

Dec. 29-Jan. 4: Lucian Robinson.

540-558-8730

FLOWERS

Month of December: Poinsettias

****If only men took the nation's
problems as seriously as they do
its sports!***

****There is no problem that you and
your heavenly Father can't
handle***

LECTIONARY PASSAGES FOR DECEMBER

Dec. 1: Isa. 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Rom. 13:11-14
Matt. 24:36-44

Dec. 15: Isa. 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matt. 11:2-11

Dec. 8: Isa. 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Rom. 15:4-13
Matt. 3:1-12

Dec. 22: Isa. 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Rom. 1:1-7
Mat. 1:18-25

Dec. 29: Isa. 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Heb.2:10-18
Matt. 2:13-23

Prayer Request Station:

The Worship Committee recognizes the need for many to want prayers offered in a more private and confidential manner than simply calling them out or having them announced during the worship service. Therefore, a station has been placed in the *sanctuary*, with cards to be filled out at any time during each week for specific requests. On Sundays after worship, members of the Session and the Deacons (who are tasked with confidentiality) will take the cards and offer those requested prayers during the following week. For further information or if there are any questions, please contact Linda.

Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry

Don't forget the food needs of people in our Community. Bring items to church and help fill our barrel. Monetary donations are also welcome. When writing your check to Northside, please designate "for the Food Pantry" or "Food Pantry Eggs" or "Food Pantry Milk".

With the holidays coming up more food is needed at the pantry. Please give to those less fortunate during this season of Thanksgiving! Thank You!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

- 1 Cameron Gaylord
Noxie Gilmer
- 10 Avery Stolte
- 11 Katherine Helsing
Linda Walker
- 14 David Meincke
- 15 Jane Jones
- 17 Marj Robinson
- 21 Ron Pearson
- 30 Charles Bostian



If your birthday is not listed here, you probably have not given it to us. We want to have everyone's birthday on file. Please give us a call at the church office and tell us the date of your birthday. We promise not to ask the year!

HAPPY, HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Montgomery County Christmas Store

The Montgomery County Christmas Store depends on the generosity of our community to make the store a reality. As of November 15th, \$149,100 or **55%** of the fund raising goal of \$272,000 had been received. You can help raise 100% of our budget by donating online using a credit card or PayPal. Go to <http://www.mcchristmasstore.org/> and click on the donate button. To mail a contribution please submit a check to MCCA, P.O. Box 221, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

The Christmas Store appreciates the generosity of the Community in their support of the **Hokies for the Hungry and the Montgomery County Schools food drives.**

The Montgomery County Christmas Store invites you to an **Open House, Sunday, December 1st from 4 to 6 pm** at the Store location at 30 West Main Street in Downtown Christiansburg (entrance from the back of the location parking lot).

The Montgomery County Christmas Store is an all-volunteer, community-wide, non-profit organization which assists low-income families in Montgomery County during the Christmas season by providing a shopping experience characterized by choice and dignity. Serving families with children is our priority.

The store will be open for shoppers from 12/3/19 – 12/7/19.

Care Sundays

There's a new way for Northsiders to care for one another! On the third Sunday of every month, we'll have an opportunity during fellowship time to send a greeting card to a member who might particularly enjoy receiving one. The deacons will set up a table with addressed envelopes and appropriate cards, and you can add your name or message when it's convenient. This will be an easy way to keep in touch with people who aren't always able to be here in person—another way to show God's love.

ATTENTION: WOMEN OF NORTHSIDE

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Wednesday, December 11, 2019
at 1:30 pm in the old kitchen!**

This year the women will be using the book, *"Love Carved In Stone" – A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments* by Eugenia Anne Gamble.

The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month in the old kitchen at the church. Rev. Linda will be leading the Bible Study again this year and we look forward to seeing you at this study. Pick up a study guide at the church office. **NO CHARGE** for the booklet this year. **REFRESHMENTS!!** All are welcome and we hope to see you there!!!!

Joy Gift Offering – December 15 & 22:

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related school and colleges. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to current and retired church workers and their families. Thanks in part to the support from this offering church workers can receive critical financial assistance to support them through life's challenging circumstances. Please give generously.

The Mission Committee

**HIGHLIGHTS FROM SESSION MEETING
November 17, 2019**

At its regular monthly meeting, the Session discussed an adjustment to Rev. Dickerson's terms of call for 2020. On October 21, Rev. Linda had a discussion with the clerk of Session and the chair of the human resources committee. She explained that due to the continuing recovery of her husband Doug, she needed to continue the part-time schedule approved by the Session in August. To be fair to the congregation, she asked that her terms of call be changed to work at 3/4 time, 30 hours a week. Her salary would be adjusted accordingly, reduced to 75 percent of her current salary (with an adjustment in benefit costs that are based on percentage of salary). This reduction from full-time would also include a change in Sundays, with one Sunday of each month as a day off. Four weeks of paid vacation and two weeks paid study leave are required by Peaks Presbytery; if taken these will be 30-hour weeks.

This plan was presented to the Session for discussion, per the Book of Order, which states "The session shall review annually the minister's terms of call and shall propose for congregational action such changes as the session deems appropriate" (G-2.0804). After discussion, the plan was accepted by the Session and Sunday, December 15 was set for a special congregational meeting. The purpose of the meeting, per G-1.0503, "Business Proper to Congregational Meetings" is for "changing existing pastoral relationships, by such means as reviewing the adequacy of and approving changes to the terms of call of the pastor." The new terms of call, if approved, will go into effect on January 1 for a 6-month period, to be revisited by the Session in June.

JOY GIFT DINNER AND PROGRAM: December 8, 2019, 6:00 pm

This will be a Potluck Dinner – each family is asked to bring a main dish **and either** a salad, side **or dessert**.

We don't want anyone to stay home because they cannot drive a night! If you need a ride please call Sandi Webster, 540-544-7602.

DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER:

Dec. 1: 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / COMMUNION

2: Community Gathering, 5:30 pm

4: Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

8: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Cents-A-Meal Offering / Committees to Meet

JOY GIFT DINNER & PROGRAM, 6:00 pm

9: Community Gathering, 5:30 pm

11: Women’s Bible Study, 1:30 pm in old kitchen

Choir Practice, 7:30 pm

15: CHOIR CANTATA

Session Meeting

16: Community Gathering, 5:30 pm

15: Christmas Joy Gift Offering

Congregational Meeting Following Worship

22: 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT / Christmas Joy Gift Offering

24: Christmas Eve Service, 7:30 pm

25: NATIVITY OF THE LORD/CHRISTMAS DAY

29: Hymn Sing, 10 am

Check Us Out...

Church Address: Northside Presbyterian Church
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Blacksburg, Virginia 24060

Phone: 540-552-4327

Email: secretary.northside@gmail.com

Minister’s Email: dickerson.northside@gmail.com

Website URL: <http://www.northsidebburg.org>