

SYNOPSIS OF OCTOBER 2023 REGULAR MEETING

PRESENT: Moderator: Rev. Herbie Miller **Elders:** Peter Bonney, Lisa Pianka, Tricia Bunn, Curtis Moore, Mary Miller (Finance) and Dianne Dalto (Clerk). Absent: Travis Meredith

CALL TO ORDER: Moderator Miller called the meeting to order. A quorum is present. **DEVOTION:** Elder Tricia Bunn gave the devotion and opened the meeting with prayer. **ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda, as is, was approved.

REPORT OF THE PASTOR/ELDERS: Deaths/Funerals/Weddings: Marguerite Bonney 10/5/24; Hospital/Home Visit/Phone Calls: Cliffords, Peter Bonney

REPORT OF THE CLERK:

Approval of minutes: 6/23/24 (regular); Minutes approved as written.

Attendance: 9/1 – 47; 9/8 – 50; 9/15 – 40; 9/22 – 32; 9/29 - 44

TREASURY REPORT – Mary Miller (Financial Assistant) supplied financial balances as of 10/11/2024

Truist Checkbook balance \$ 13,511

Truist Savings balance 63,588 General

10,450 A/C Reserve

74,038 TOTAL

Mary asked for some discussion regarding a stewardship letter being sent out to the congregation. Pastor Herbie said he would take care of writing the letter in the near future.

MINISTRY GROUPS –

FELLOWSHIP: (Brenda McIntosh via Kathy Jones) –There will be a Thanksgiving meal after worship on Nov. 24th. Herbie to check with City Walls Church to see if we might consider a combined service with sharing the meal afterwards.

EDUCATION (Tricia Bunn) – Adult Bible Study Update for October/November will be a series on “Faithful Christian Citizenship”. Advent Plans include a Bible study on “Advent in Narnia”. A viewing of the movie “*The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe*” might be scheduled for those who are not familiar with it and might help understanding the premise of the Bible study. Advent Notes: Hanging of the Greens and fellowship time prior to the service on Sunday December 1st. Motion to move the Christmas Eve service this year to 5:00 p.m. was made by Lisa Pianka, seconded and all approved.

WORSHIP (Lisa Pianka) -Next special service will be Nov. 3rd which is All Saints Day. Members are asked to send the names and relationships to Barbara by Oct. 24th. A candle will be lit for each person. The children in Sunday School will be making Chrismons for the tree at the Hanging of the Greens on Dec. 1st.

PW REPORT – Sharon Meredith: PW continues to provide food for ill church members and those who are grieving. Lunch Buddies will start at the end of October and be on Fridays. PW will be collecting \$10 gift cards for Piney Grove Elementary. A total of 20 will be needed.

BUILDING & GROUNDS (Travis Meredith/Curtis Moore) –

MOTION: Approve attached letter to Idlewild VFD requesting being considered to purchase their stove when they close. Motion passed unanimously. Carolina Youth Chorale Concert, Tuesday December 10th from 7-8 p.m. They will be using the facility for rehearsal etc. from 3-10 p.m. Herbie will check with City Walls regarding their equipment that is in the sanctuary. Heating system scheduled to have annual service by Horne A/C on December 10th. **The date for this needs to be moved as the sanctuary will be used by Carolina Youth Chorale Concert that day.** Kitchen sink has a slow leak, we will attempt repairs. Considering increasing exterminating service to prevent bugs...also to address ants in the yard. Old broken grill removed and discarded. Have a recommendation for using a different fire prevention service in the future due to excessive charges from Pye-Barker. Curtis volunteered to treat the fire ant problem along the walkway at front of the church.

ADMINISTRATIVE (Tricia Bunn/Peter Bonney) - Our financial assistant, Mary Miller, would like to step down from the day to day finance duties such as paying bills, payroll etc. She would continue to balance the checkbook, deal with administrative finance issues such as Pension and still report to Session with her monthly finance breakdown and budget. Mary has offered to do her continued financial part pro bono as her gift to MorningStar. She has spoken with Barbara and Barbara is willing to take on the above tasks as long as she can continue to work her two days per week but now adding in an extra 5 hours (from Mary’s job) divided between the two days.

Motion to hire Barbara Smith to do day to day bookkeeping, contribution recording, paying bills, payroll etc. along with her previous tasks for an extra 5 hour/week increase in pay. Included in this motion is that for one month, payment will be made to both Mary and Barbara while Mary does training during the transition. This motion was made by Dianne Dalto, seconded by Curtis Moore and was approved with gratitude for Mary and all her hard work unanimously.

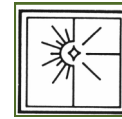
REPORT FROM CITY WALLS CHURCH (Travis Meredith)

Met with CWC leadership on Sunday October 6, 2024 after worship with Lisa, Pastor Miller, myself and five CWC representatives present. CWC wants to put a sign out front, we asked them to submit a proposal for Session approval. This sign would also have to meet Matthews guidelines and need their approval as well. Volunteered to provide labor if we buy flowers and plants for the planting strip.

Also volunteered to provide labor to pressure wash sidewalks. Discussed leaving the facility as it is found, lights off, doors locked.

Their numbers dropped due to time change, requested reducing rent. Discussed purchase of stove and their benefit. Discussed possibility of a joint service or event. Overall a very positive meeting. Because Travis was unable to be at this meeting in person, it was decided that any decisions would be tabled until our next regular meeting. This especially applies to the request to reduce the rent.

NEW BUSINESS – By consensus it was decided that the best strategy to provide help for Hurricane Helene Relief would be to send gifts directed to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program. Sophie Miller has requested to transfer her church membership from Philadelphia Presbyterian to MorningStar Presbyterian. **Motion to receive Sophie Miller by way of transfer from Philadelphia Presbyterian was made by Curtis Moore, seconded and all approved.** Barbara Smith will send the paperwork over to Philadelphia Presbyterian.



The Morning Star

2024

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

MorningStar Friends,

In this month’s newsletter article, I want to fill you in on the many events that will take place between now and Christmas. So, get your calendars out and write down what I’m about to tell you!

On **Sunday, November 24**, we’re having our annual Thanksgiving dinner after the worship service. More details from Brenda to come!

The **first Sunday of Advent is December 1**. Before the service, we’ll hang the greens in the sanctuary. Be here at 9:00 am for snacks and then we’ll get to work. During the service, we’ll hang Chrismons on the tree. The kids are hard at work preparing for this!

On **Tuesday, December 10 at 7:00pm**, the Carolina Youth Chorale will be giving a free, public concert in our sanctuary. Two of my daughters—Sophie and Sidney—are in the choir. They and their friends are working hard to prepare a top-notch performance. You won’t want to miss this Christmas concert!

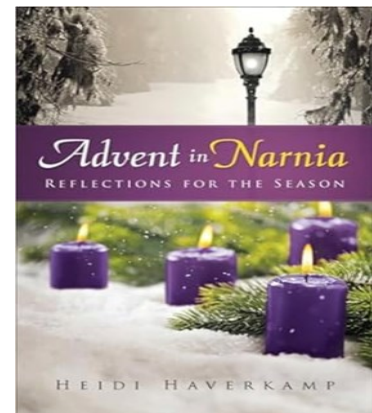
On the **fourth Sunday of Advent (December 22)**, the PCUSA Christmas Joy Offering will be taken up. And we’ll be putting poinsettias in the sanctuary (more info to come about how to order one).

Please be sure to remember that our **Christmas Eve service** will be at **5:00pm** this year. Session decided to have the service a little earlier as a convenience for those who have plans later in the evening, or don’t want to be out too late that night.

Finally, during this Advent season, I’m inviting everyone in the church to join me in reading *Advent in Narnia: Reflections for the Season*—a short book with daily devotions that is based on C.S. Lewis’s *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. You can purchase the devotional here at the church for \$10, or grab one on Amazon. I plan to draw on the devotions in my sermons and adult Bible studies during Advent. You’ll be able to stay on pace with my preaching and teaching by starting the first devotion on **Thursday, November 21** and ending with the last one on **Wednesday, December 18**. If you’re extra eager, you can read *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, or watch the movie, to get more out of the devotional!

I’m looking forward to anticipating and celebrating the birth of Christ with you this Advent and Christmas season!

Pastor Herbie




Calendar Reminders

- Nov 1 All Saints' Day
- Nov 3 Service of Worship 10:00 am
Holy Communion Celebrated
Observance of All Saints' Day
Elementary Sunday School in worship
Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov 6 Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm — 6:45 pm
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Nov 10 Service of Worship 10:00 am
Elementary Sunday School 10:00 am
Regular Session Meeting 11:15 am
- Nov 11 PW Gathering at 10:00 am at the home of Mary Miller
- Nov 13 Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm — 6:45 pm
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Nov 17 Service of Worship 10:00 am
Holy Communion Celebrated
Elementary Sunday School 10:00 am
- Nov 20 Adult Bible Study 6:00 pm — 6:45 pm
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- Nov 24 Service of Worship 10:00 am
Elementary Sunday School 10:00 am
Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering
Thanksgiving Luncheon

- 10 Nancy Nestor
- 13 Sidney Miller
- 16 Clara Hoefflerl
- 17 Dalys Miller
- 26 Gloria Smith
- 29 Carolyn Crane



 **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** will meet on Monday, November 11, 2024 (note date change), at 10:00 am at the home of Mary Miller, 8412 Bretton Woods Drive, Mint Hill. Please join us for fellowship, food and Bible Study. Bring a friend!

Volunteer Schedule

- GREETERS**
- 3 Travis & Sharon Meredith
- 10 Randy & Kathy Jones
- 17 Brenda McIntosh
- 24 Curtis & Mary Moore
- COUNTERS**
- 3 Lynne Cole & Deb Smith
- 10 Robert Hamilton & Sharon Browning
- 17 Lisa Pianka & Ronnie Honeycutt
- 24 Lynne Cole & Deb Smith
- LITURGISTS**
- 3 Dianne Dalto
- 10 Curtis Moore
- 17 Lisa Pianka
- 24 Dianne Dalto
- ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- 3 Worship Service
- 10 Sharon Browning
- 17 Kathy Jones
- 24 Sharon Meredith
- NURSERY**
- 3 Pieter & Liana Prinsloo
- 10 Mary Miller & Tricia Bunn
- 17 Brock & Dalys Miller (Sunday School)
- 24 Pieter & Liana Prinsloo (Nursery)

ELDERS SERVING COMMUNION

- November 3 Tricia Bunn #1
Dianne Dalto #2
- November 17 Curtis Moore #1
Travis Meredith #2



CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE FOR SERVANTS HEART . . Please bring a new unwrapped toy with price attached or a \$25.00 Walmart Gift Card for older children in month of November and December. These donations will make a child's Christmas much brighter! Toys need to be at the church by Sunday, December 8. This ministry serves families in the Mint Hill (28227) community and children who attend Mint Hill schools.

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON on Sunday, November 24, following the service of worship. Turkey and ham will be furnished. Please sign up to bring your favorite side dish to go with the turkey and ham. Sign up sheet will be available on the back table. Please sign up no later than November 17. Hope to see you there!



Join us for the hanging of the greens on the first Sunday of Advent — December 1. Before the service, we'll hang the greens in the sanctuary. Be here at 9:00 am for snacks and then we'll get to work. During the service, we'll hang Chrismons on the tree. The kids are hard at work preparing for this!

