

THE OUTLOOK

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF WAXAHACHIE

402 N College Street
Waxahachie, TX 75165

November 2022

Greetings Friends,

Grace and peace to you this season of Advent. We have stepped off into a new walk with Christ. Our lectionary readings supply us with the basic necessities for our journey together.

The first Sunday in Advent encourages us, as we begin to walk, keep watch for the great Day of the Lord, and to not be afraid because we are children of God, waiting to be taken - heart, mind, and soul. *Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.* (Matthew 24:44)

The second Sunday in Advent is a call to repentance and reminds us we can always begin again, and again. From generation to generation, the church has cried out, repent! Begin again!! *John the Baptist appears in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, Make straight his paths."* (Matthew 3:1-3)

The third Sunday in Advent places us on the holy highway along which we will walk with joy. *The wilderness and dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom. The eyes of the blind shall be opened. The ears of the deaf unstopped. The burning sand shall become a pool. **A highway shall be there** and the ransomed of God shall return. Everlasting joy shall be upon their heads. They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.* (Isaiah 35:1-10)

The fourth Sunday in Advent reminds us that the Holy Spirit will guide us on our way. Messengers from God, called angels, will speak to us in new and unexpected ways if we will slow down and pay attention. *But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.'* (Matthew 1:20-21)

Remember, you do not walk alone. I pray the God of mercy, forgiveness, and peace be with you this season and throughout the year to come. Traveling Mercies to you all.

Peace,
Betsy





December Birthdays

Patricia Whatley	2
Callianne Buie	2
Ronnie Tapp	4
Jean Silvera	10
Isabel Hentschel	17
Larry Felty	25
Mike Collier	27
Vance Hinds	31

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

John 3:16

CPC Stewardship Campaign 2023

On behalf of the Session of Central Presbyterian Church, I would like to express gratitude for your prompt return of pledge cards and the generosity contained therein. We are \$29,500 above last year's giving. This is wonderful news as 10% of pledged income is given directly to charitable causes both in our local community and in the world. If you are interested in how we distribute these monies, please visit a Mission and Care Team meeting in 2023!

We hope to have an approved budget for 2023 sometime this month, and it will be made available for viewing by anyone who is interested in seeing how we make ends meet! Again, thank you all for making possible the CPC ministry of Christ to the world.

Peace,
Rev Betsy Lockhart

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 2022

Unrestricted donations	\$ 15,619	YTD Unrestricted	\$150,260
Other Income	209	Other	24,249
Total Income	\$15,828		\$174,509
Total Operating Expenses	\$15,138	YTD	\$157,210
Net	\$ 690		\$ 17,299

An Angel Tree Reminder

I hope you Angel Tree elves are having fun shopping for your PCHAS youth.
Please bring your bag of unwrapped gifts to the
cottage no later than Sunday, December 11.

It is helpful to call Johnna to let her know you are coming. (972-937-2924)

Happy shopping!

Susie Tickner



Please Prayerfully Consider...

Since Susie will be moving at the end of
February, a replacement is needed to be our
church PCHAS Ambassador.

If interested, please let Susie know.
It is a very rewarding experience!

Blue Christmas Service

What is a blue Christmas service?

A Blue Christmas service is a worship service that names and holds space for the sadness that accompanies the holidays. Heightened by the advertising of our consumerist culture, there is a definite Christmas ideal that includes neatly iced gingerbread houses, smiling children, and an excessive amount of neatly wrapped packages. These standards and the church's sometimes solitary focus on joy can make the holidays an isolating time for anyone who can't muster happiness or meet the criteria. A blue Christmas service is an invitation for anyone who wants to come and set their burden down, for a community to hold pain collectively.

This service is for a group of people who recognize that joy and sorrow intertwine, and those who love them.

The service falls on December 21 — the shortest day of the year. This offers an opportunity for the community to reflect on darkness and light in a literal sense. When the darkness feels overwhelming, we can take comfort in knowing that God meets us here. And whether it is a seed in the soil, a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb, we know that life comes out of the dark.

Central Presbyterian Church of Waxahachie is offering a Blue Christmas service this year on Wednesday, December 21st at 6 p.m. in the Patrick Chapel. Please enter through the side door adjacent to the parking lot off Jackson Street by Bethlehem Revisited. We have a ramp and stairs. The chapel is just to the left of the stairway. This is a brief service of hope and light in the midst of the darkness. Please join us.



*OPPORTUNITIES TO BE INVOLVED AND
SHARE YOUR GIFTS*



**Making Contacts and a new
Shepherding Program**

The Congregational Care Ministry team is looking for volunteers who would be interested in making contact with our homebound members. Contact could be a card, a phone call, or an email, etc. We strive to include all of our congregation as important members of our church.

The Team also voted to form a "Shepherding Program" for the new members of our church. The purpose would be to pair new members with a "shepherd" who can help them feel welcomed, to introduce them to our church family, and to determine their interests in being a part of the work and ministry of our church.

Anyone wishing to volunteer with contacting homebound members or Shepherding new members should contact Dee Drecksage at 972-533-9564, or any member of that Team.

**MARVIN ELEMENTARY
FOOD PROGRAM**

We are receiving from donations, sacks of nonperishable food items for our students at Marvin who may be nutritionally compromised during the Christmas holiday season. As we've done in the past, we will collect food items such as boxes of cereal, peanut butter jars, Vienna sausage, mac & cheese cups, fruit cups, etc. to give to identified students on **December 17**. The deadline for that food collection will be on **Sunday, December 12**.



Waxahachie Caregiver Support Group

Every second Tuesday of the month, from 6:30 –7:30 pm, there will be a Waxahachie Caregiver Support Group Meeting at Central Presbyterian Church. The group is led by Marie Gardner, and it focuses on those who are caregivers or ones affected by Alzheimer's or dementia. Together you will:

- ◆ Exchange practical information on caregiving challenges & solutions
- ◆ Talk through issues and ways of coping
- ◆ Share feelings, needs and concerns
- ◆ Learn about community resources

This group will meet once a month, on the 2nd Tuesday. For more information, contact Marie Gardner at 214-450-3849.

GREETERS IN DECEMBER

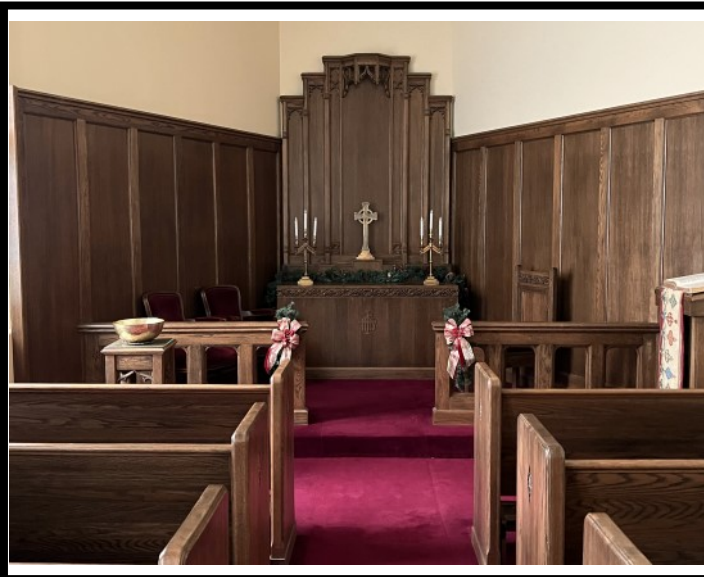
The worship team is looking for individuals who would like to serve as greeters on Sunday morning at the 11 o'clock service. If you are interested in participating, please call Cheryl Arey or Cheryl Loper to volunteer.

This is a great way to meet other members and friends!



FLOWER CALENDAR

Please consider honoring or remembering a loved one or event, by providing flowers for the sanctuary. There will soon be a new flower calendar on the wall for 2023. It will be by the north, ramp side entrance. Johnna will add the information to the bulletin and the entire congregation can enjoy the flowers on Sunday.



Christmas Day Worship Service

There will be a Christmas Day Worship Service for those who would like to come to church and worship together. We will meet at 10:00 am, in the chapel.



Lay reader or liturgist?

Two terms that mean assisting in worship, reading the scripture, and leading other parts of the worship service on Sunday morning.

We have a new year of worship opportunities with an opportunity for new leaders. Please contact Alex Galeti at 516-473-4748 (call or text) or e-mail AlexGaleti@RaymondJames.com to learn more.

Jesus is calling—you?

Sign up for CPC updates and reminders by e-mail by contacting: cpcwaxnews@gmail.com

Shop on Amazon and support our Church!

CPC is now a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for us to earn fees by linking to Amazon.com and affiliated sites. For us to earn money, **you must go to Amazon by clicking on the Amazon link on our CPC web site.** Do your normal shopping, and we will earn a portion of the qualifying sales. It is that easy!



NOTICE FILMING IN PROGRESS

To include those who are not able to worship in person, worship services may be filmed.

We have reserved the back third of the sanctuary as a no-film zone.

Please sit where you feel most comfortable.

Are you still receiving the CPC Monthly Newsletter, *The Outlook*, by mail? Sign up for e-mail-only delivery by contacting the office at cpcwax@gmail.com and help save on printing and postage.
Thank you.

Reminder

Please have your Newsletter contributions/submissions to both Nancy Post at ntposttx@gmail.com and Johnna Breedon at cpcwax@gmail.com by the 20th of each month. No computer? No problem.

Please just submit to the office.

Thank you!



402 N. College Street
 P O Box 38
 Waxahachie, TX 75168

Sunday School 9:45 am
 Worship Service 11:00 am

Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm
 Friday 9am-Noon

Phone: 972-937-2924

E-mail: Office: cpcwax@gmail.com

Pastor: cpcpastorwax@gmail.com

Web: www.waxcpc.org

Follow CPCWAX on social media:



December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 6:00-9:00 Bethlehem Revisited	3 6:00-9:00 Bethlehem Revisited Common Ground Christmas Store
4 9:45 Andrews Class 11:00 am Worship in Sanctuary 2:30 Piano Recital 6:00-9:00 Bethlehem Revisited	5 6:30 Jubilate Ringers	6	7	8	9 6:00-9:00 Bethlehem Revisited	10 6:00-9:00 Bethlehem Revisited 12:30 Piano Recital
11 9:45 Andrews Class 11:00 am Worship in Sanctuary 6:00-9:00 Bethlehem Revisited	12 6:30 Jubilate Ringers	13 10:00 PW WOMEN CIRCLE 6:30 Waxahachie Caregiver Support Group	14	15	16	17
18 9:45 Andrews Class 11:00 am Worship in Sanctuary	19 6:30 Jubilate Ringers	20	21 6:00 pm Blue Christmas Chapel	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Worship</i>
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS 10:00 am Worship In the Chapel	26 Church office closed	27	28	29	30	31
The outlook						