

JANUARY 2022

THE MESSENGER

Talbot Park Baptist Church

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

John Chappell III – 1
Jeffrey Conner – 2
Lexi Henderson – 2
Madison Brody – 5
Bill Partin – 6
Jack Blake – 7
Bailey Simmons – 7
Haley Carter – 8
Addison Lumpkin – 8
Robert Kirkman – 12
Diane Turner – 13
Nancy Harper – 19
Wayne Stroud – 21
Tayler LeBargo – 21
Louise Steinbruck – 28
Ally Capizola – 28
Brandy McNabb – 29
Annica Brooks – 29
Les Conner – 30

SERMON TEXTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

January 2

Luke 4:31-44

January 9

Luke 5:1-28

January 16

Luke 5:29-39

January 23

Luke 6:1-11

January 30

State of the Church
Address

During January, Aaron will be preaching a series of sermons entitled "What Did Jesus Do?"

THE REVEREND'S RAMBLINGS

In a famous verse from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus instructs his disciples to "let their yes be a yes and their no be a no." I think those remain good words for us to live by as we enter into this new year as God's people at Talbot Park.

For most of us, life is busy. There are multiple demands on our time and our attention. We are pulled in many directions at once. Sometimes church becomes the place where those competing priorities clash.

But I think Jesus' words have a way of focusing us. So in the year 2022, when we say yes, let us say yes with a strong conviction. Let us not be half-hearted in our commitment to the work of Christ. If we have agreed to serve on a committee, let us serve in that role as enthusiastically as we can. If we have pledged to give a certain amount of money, let us give as cheerfully as we can. Let us be honest that being the church requires some effort from us and take it seriously, no matter our task.

The flip side of that is knowing when to say no. The past two years in particular have been exhausting for many of us. There is no shame in acknowledging that we are burned out. We all need time for Sabbath and restoration. Sometimes as Jesus' disciples, I believe you and I make the mistake of spreading ourselves too thinly. Instead of doing a few things well, we attempt to do a lot of things halfway. And in the process, we wind up wearing ourselves out.

What I'm saying is—we need to know our limits. If we cannot serve with our whole heart, I believe it is better for us to say no to something than to say yes out of guilt or obligation. Sometimes even when we want to say yes, common sense would dictate that we reconsider based on our other commitments. It requires gumption to say no if someone is pressuring us to do more than we can. But there is as much faithfulness in a definitive no as there is in a wishy-washy yes. I hope we are a congregation where we can honor both the yeses and the nos. May Christ give us the discernment to choose wisely as we enter this new year.

PLEDGE CARDS

Our church books will remain open through Sunday, January 2nd, 2022. Checks must be dated no later than December 31st, 2021 in order to receive financial credit for 2021. Our Year to Date income for 2021 is currently \$255,159 with the Year to Date expenses totaling \$291,461. To date, 36 pledge cards have been received totaling \$172,972 towards the 2022 budget of \$334,702. Also, 26 individuals and families have pledged to pray for our ministries and 17 have pledged to contribute their time and talents. If you have not returned your pledge card, there is still time. Extra cards are available on the hallway table.



NEW YEAR'S SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST

On Sunday, January 2nd, during our regular Sunday School hour (9:30-10:30), instead of meeting in our individual classes, we will meet for a fellowship breakfast in the Social Hall. Everyone is asked to bring a fruit, pastry, or covered dish and the church will provide drinks. The 2022 sheets for the Deacon-Led Teams will be available for sign-up. Come join us as we ring in the New Year together!

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, January 23, 2022
Lunch at 12 noon ~ Meeting at 12:45pm
Lunch will be Pollards boxed lunches and is \$8.50 per person, please make your lunch reservations no later than Thursday, January 20th.

SOUP LUNCHES



During the month of January we will have a simple luncheon right after worship on January 9th, 16th and 30th. The lunch will consist of soups, chilis, bread, and dessert. If you wish to provide a pot of soup or a dessert, please sign-up on the sheet in the hallway. We need at least three pots each Sunday to make sure we have enough. There is no cost, although there will be a basket out for donations to help off-set the expenses of paper products. No reservation is required. We hope to have a good crowd join us each week for this time of fellowship during the cold winter!

THANK YOU

To the members of Talbot Park:
My sister and I are profoundly thankful that Talbot Park opened its doors to us to allow us to celebrate the life of our dad, John Allan Clark. The hospitality and kindness shown by everyone at the church really touched our hearts. We are especially grateful for the technical support in allowing Charlotte to communicate in real time with guests during the reception.
With much gratitude,
John H. Clark

Talbot Park,
Thank you so much for bringing snacks to our coffee hour and for bringing enough for students to enjoy later while studying. we are so grateful for churches that care for our students and the ministry here. Thank you!
ODU BCM

UPDATED COVID GUIDELINES

We no longer require masks in the buildings during church activities for those who have been fully vaccinated. Reminder that fully vaccinated means having both shots and a two week period following. Boosters are a plus! We continue to ask unvaccinated people to wear masks anytime they are in the buildings. Individuals who remain vulnerable and who wish to continue wearing masks are encouraged to do so. Those who feel uncomfortable being around others without masks should be advised that there will be many maskless folks present from this point forward.

ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

Are you discouraged, grieving, or angry over events that are happening in your life or in our world? Beginning in January, Aaron will facilitate a support group that will meet every other Tuesday at 11am. This will not be a Bible study or a counseling session, nor will this be an effort to “fix” problems. It is intended to provide a safe space to share feelings and find support with others. There will be brief Scripture readings and prayer but the conversation (or lack thereof) will be generated by the needs of the participants with a focus on where we find God moving in our lives. The first meeting of the encouragement group will be on Tuesday, January 11 at 11am in the church parlor. Please see Aaron for more information.

MESSY CHURCH

Beginning in January, Talbot Park will be starting a new ministry called Messy Church which is an opportunity for families to experience church in a new way. This will be a gathering for all ages, featuring creative play, an interactive worship celebration, and sharing a simple meal. Messy Church will meet once a month on Sundays from 4:30-6pm. No RSVP is required; come as you are. Church members are invited to join us, either as participants or as volunteers. If you would like to help, please contact Karen Stowe at 757-621-7815. We hope to see you at Messy Church!

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS

On Sunday, January 30th, Aaron will deliver his annual “State of the Church” address during morning worship. This will be an opportunity to hear about upcoming events and plans for the future of our congregation. We hope you will be present for this exciting time of ministry dreaming.



Preschool News

We would like to thank the church for inviting the children to be a part of the Living Nativity this year. It was such a special time to be able to share with the families and to come together with the church. Thank you to those who came out to support our preschoolers during their Christmas Program. The teachers and children worked so hard on all of their lines and songs! We hope you enjoyed it and had a wonderful Christmas season.

On Friday, January 21st, we are hosting a Winter Wonderland for our students. Olaf himself is coming all of the way from Arendelle to dance and frolic with the children. There will be arts and crafts, a special snack, music and so much winter fun! We are looking forward to this special time with our students. If you haven't already, be sure to follow our social media pages for pictures and to keep up to date with all of our activities!

Anna Selvy & Holly Costas



WINTER MISSION OFFERING

We were able to collect \$810 during the month of December to give to the CBF ministry.

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
<i>2</i> 9:30am Sunday School Breakfast	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 8:00am Living Nativity Tear-Down
<i>9</i> 12:00pm Soup Lunch	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 11:00am Encouragement Group 7:00pm Deacons Meeting	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i> 12:00pm Soup Lunch	<i>17</i> Office Closed <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> 7:00pm Finance Meeting	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 7:00pm Church Council	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> 12:00pm Business Meeting & Lunch 4:30pm Messy Church	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> 11:00am Encouragement Group 2:30 Birthday Club at OceanAir Elementary	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>30</i> 12:00pm Soup Lunch	<i>31</i>					