



# First Presbyterian Church

UPDATE/12.16.21

MOUNT HOLLY NC

## Hello!

As I sit to write this month's "Hello" greeting my heart is full; full of the spirit of love and generosity in our church; full of gratitude for all we as a congregation have done during 2021; full with the love of God that surrounds and sustains; and full of the joy of Emmanuel, "God with us" as we celebrate the birth of this child and the life giving presence of our Savior.

Our church staff joins me in wishing you a beautiful and meaningful celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Christmas blessings and joy,

Janet



## Christmas Eve Service - 5:00 Special Prelude at 4:45

We look forward to our 57th Annual Service of Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve. This year the music will feature a string quartet so do plan to come early at 4:45 and enjoy some beautiful and peaceful moments as we gather and give thanks for the birth of our Savior.

As is our tradition, the offering received on the night is given to Church World Service to provide warmth for those in need.

The service will conclude with "Silent Night" and the lighting of candles as always.

## Worship on Dec. 26

The celebration of Jesus' birth will continue on Sunday, the 26th as we sing more Christmas carols and enjoy the music of our handbell choir.

## Worship on Jan. 2

We will celebrate Epiphany and look forward to welcoming Mark Wingate at the organ once again. (Note: there will be no children or youth Sunday School this day.)

Immediately following worship your help will be greatly appreciated for the "Un-Greening of the Church."

Thank you!

## Ushers Needed

As we start the new year we are looking for individuals or families, young or old, male or female, tall or short, to help with ushering occasionally throughout the year. If you might fit the bill we invite you to stay after worship on Jan. 23 for a brief training and opportunity to sign up for a date or dates that are convenient for you. Your help is greatly appreciated!

## Church Office Hours

Beginning January 4 please note that Shannon is in the office Tuesday through Thursday 9:30-3:00 and Fridays from 9:30—1:00

## Holiday Hours:

The church office will be mostly closed between Christmas and New Year's. In the event of a pastoral care need, please contact Janet on her cell



Thank you to all who helped decorate our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas. It is absolutely beautiful!

### Prayer Concerns

We continue our prayers for the world, and for those among us in need:

- Karen recovering from surgery
- Frances as she heals
- Henry, recovering at home
- Len in declining health
- Marlene Reynolds
- Those who mourn
- All who are struggling with health issues

### Budget Update

Total Budget 2021	\$184,283.00
YTD Receipts	\$161,049.36
YTD CRO	\$1,369.50
YTD 5 Cents a Meal	\$579.49

Thank you for your faithful giving to our ministry and mission.

### These Days

The Winter issue has arrived and is available to pick up in the sanctuary or church office.

## PC(USA) Disaster Assistance “Out of Chaos, Hope”

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) enables congregations to witness to the healing love of Christ through caring for communities affected by crisis and catastrophic events.

Following the many tornadoes that ripped through multiple U.S. states in Dec. 11 resulting in extensive damage and loss of life, PDA is in touch with affected presbyteries to coordinate resources and assistance.

PDA is supported by our annual “One Great Hour of Sharing Offering” at Easter. When crises arise there are opportunities for further giving. Information on how to give is provided below for those who wish to donate.

**By phone**, call: 800-872-3283

**By mail**: Presbyterian Church (USA)

P.O. Box 643700

Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

**Online**: [www.pda.pcusa.org](http://www.pda.pcusa.org)

To designate tornado assistance note the following: DR000015

And of course, our prayers are needed and encouraged.

### January Birthdays

Frances Springs	01
Sue Grabau	03
Rosanna Swindler	06
James Lucas	10
Lisa Kalinowski	15
Eli Foster	23
Missy Francis	23
Jonathan Brackett	31
Mimi Guin	31



### Annual Meeting

Save the date—January 30, for our Annual Meeting of the Congregation, immediately following worship.