



Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Cross Currents

December 12, 2017

**Blessed by God that we
might be a blessing to others**

Sunday, December 17

**Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am**

**Children's Christmas
Pageant**

FROM PASTOR JEFF

Friends,

The Advent Season is halfway over and we are quickly moving toward the celebration of Christmas and the New Year. Let me take a moment to encourage you to continue in our struggle not to get caught up in the trappings of the time and lose track of what it is we are celebrating! Jesus is the greatest gift God has ever bestowed on humanity, for in Christ, God gave us Himself. He is Emanuel, God with us! During the hustle and bustle of getting things done, stay connected to God and ask Him each day to open your heart to the depth of His love which we celebrate during Christmas.

One sure fire way to capture the joy and love of Christmas is to attend Church this Sunday (12/17) as our children lead us in worship. They have a special day planned for us all, with music and a message sure to stir our hearts. I hope and pray that you will not only join us for this special Sunday, but that you will invite friends and family who need to be reminded and encouraged to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas! I promise you will be touched by what God is doing through the children of our church, under the direction of those adults who have worked so long and faithfully with them.

Second, I want to remind you that next Sunday (12/24), we will not have Sunday School. We are asking that all our members take that time to travel to Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church for a community worship service at 10:30 am. This service will be a Lessons and Carols format

PLEASE NOTE

Due to the holidays, we will not be sending Cross Currents out for the next two weeks. The next issue will be sent January 9th.

END OF YEAR GIVING

2017 contributions must be postmarked by 12/31 or in church office by Sunday 12/31.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Allen McDowell for passing the State Professional Engineers Exam (first try!). Good luck on a bright future.

CHRISTMAS TREES FOR JACKSON PARK FAMILIES

Jackson Park Ministries has 9 families that cannot afford a Christmas Tree. We have had one family in the church purchase a tree for one family at Jackson Park.. We have 8 families still in need of a tree. If you would like to donate a tree to one of these families, please call the church office to do so.

with participation from our members and our children. Make plans to spend Christmas Eve morning with us in worship at Central Steele Creek.

Later that same day, we will celebrate our Christmas Eve Love Feast at 6:30 pm. Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church will be joining with us for our traditional service involving music, cider and Moravian sugar cookies. This is always a special time in the life of the church and in many ways, has become a “homecoming” for friends and family who are no longer in the Steele Creek area. This service is always well attended, so plan to get here early to get a good seat and to visit with those you haven’t seen in a while. Please note! We are short of servers this year! Many of those who have served for years are not available to do so this year. Perhaps you and your family could start a new Christmas tradition and serve your brothers and sisters in Christ on this special occasion. Contact Mary or Ernie Coskrey if you would like to volunteer at 704-588-1053.

The final Sunday of the year (12/31) we will be back on our usual schedule for Sunday School (9:30 am) and Worship (10:30 am). As we close out the year, we will celebrate Star Sunday, where each person in attendance receives a simple star with a word of challenge or encouragement to guide you throughout the new year. This is a great way to start off the new year and perhaps renew your commitment to the church through active participation in the life and family of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church.

May God continue to guide and direct us, individually and as a church, as we seek to love Him, and serve Christ as we serve God’s people!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Jeff

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our children will lead us in worship on Sunday, December 17 as they present, “The Colors of Christmas”. This musical will remind us of the significance of all the colors of the season and how they all can help point us to the real reason for the season - JESUS! There will also be instrumental music provided by several of our children to help us worship during this special season. Please plan to be in worship on December 17!

LOVE FEAST HELP NEEDED

Every year on Christmas Eve here at Steele Creek, members, neighbors, and friends come to celebrate the birth of Jesus. At 6:30 we will gather for the Love Feast. In

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Please consider making a donation to The Christmas Joy Offering this year! Offering envelopes will be available December 17 and 31. You can also donate online at using the following link: www.presbyterianmissions.org/give/christmasjoy or text JOY to 20222 to make a \$10 donation. Thank you for your support of this cherished Presbyterian tradition!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Pastoral Care team has printed an updated Church Directory. If you would like one, please contact Marion Briggs (lbriggs2@bellsouth.net or call 803-628-7662).

FLOWERS NEEDED

Please sign up to provide flowers for a worship service. Flowers are needed for all weeks in January – March. Please put your name on the date of your choice on the flower calendar in the narthex or call the church office. And thanks to all who provide flowers. Your contributions are very much appreciated!

MEN'S BASKETBALL CANCELED

Men's basketball is cancelled from December 12 through January 2. Basketball will resume on January 9.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1

*Karen Brunelle
Grayson Moore*

2

Paul Bell

this family friendly service, we hear a Christmas message, sing carols while we share Moravian cookies and cider. At the end of the service, as the lights are turned down, everyone lifts a candle to the glory of God. At least 28 people are needed to prepare or serve the cookies, cider and candles for this service. Volunteers are asked to come at 6:00 for an easy training session. To volunteer, call Mary or Ernie Coskrey at 704-588-1053 or Walter Neely at 704-588-1069.

ASHE COUNTY UPDATE

The Ashe County Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 16 at 11:00 am. Any gift that you would like to give to the children in the mountains will be much appreciated. There will be a wrapping party on Thursday, December 14 at 10:00 am. --Thank you, Marion Briggs.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS

Mark your calendars for the annual Birthday Party for Jesus, Saturday December 16th at 10:30-11:30. All children, three years old through elementary school are invited. We will have crafts, celebrate the story of the birth of Jesus and what's a birthday party without a special snack. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for our Levine Children's Hospital toy drive.

FUN BUNCH LUNCH

It is time for the Fun Bunch to have our annual Christmas celebration. We will be serving a traditional Christmas feast of turkey with dressing, rice and gravy, salad bar, rolls and a special Christmas Cake. Some surprises may be on hand but we can't share those or it wouldn't be a surprise. Please let the church office (704-588-1290) or Frances Campbell (704-588-4686) know of you plans to attend. This is the best attended luncheon of the year and we want to be prepared for all. Please join us in this special celebration in honor of our Savior's birth.

THANK YOU!

Wayne Whiteside and Family wish to thank the Congregation for their many calls, visits, food, and deeds of helpfulness during Gaye's illness and at the time of her death. Their deepest thanks to Pastor Jeff for his visits with Gaye and Wayne during her illness and with the Family at the time of her death, to hear family stories to help him prepare for her funeral. They thank the

Martha Brown
Steve Smith
Melanie Wallace
4
Stacy Combs
Alexander Davenport
Brett Davenport
5
Linda Elliott
Zoey Farnham
Marissa Myers
6
Joyce Carpenter
7
Tom Applegate
Peggy Reid
8
Rory Byrum
9
Wanda Kinard
10
Lois Yandle
11
Jacob Economon
Joshua Economon
Bob Freeman
Virginia Lindsay
Fred Willis
12
Travis Hedger
Richard Hoover
David McGaha
13
Ford Haston
14
Harper Farnham
15
Hannah Davenport
Allison Moody
17
Joe Hines
18
Bill Shubert
19
Melissa Ferguson
22
Ella Kauffman
23
Carson Economon
Brady Farnham
Carson Pennington
24
Marian Hines
25
Clinton Corbett
26

Bereavement Team for the Reception they provided during Visitation. Thanks also to the Staff for their work in preparing the building and yard for the Funeral and Visitation.



Christmas Tree Sale

Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

7407 Steele Creek Road

November 24-December 17

Weekdays 4:30pm-8:00pm

Saturdays 10:00am-8:00pm

Sundays 12:00pm-8:00pm

Proceeds to benefit Youth and Adult Mission projects.

PRAYER UPDATE*

Please update your personal prayer list according to the information below.

Family of Tracee Mann

David Warren - CMC Main w/ Pancreatic cancer (Betty Warren's son)

**This update is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all prayer requests, as lack of space prohibits us from doing so. Prayer requests/updates will be listed here for two weeks but should remain on your personal prayer list until informed otherwise. Thank you for your understanding.*

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Rufus Beaty
27
Cathy Farnham
John Harraman
28
Jenna Elliott
29
Roy Stilwell
30
Charlie Wilson

THIS WEEK

Dec 12-19

Tuesday

No Men's Basketball

Wednesday

Staff Meeting 10:00a

Children's Pageant Rehearsal 5:30p

Stewardship Team Meeting 6:30p

AA Meeting 8:00p

Thursday

Ashe County Gift Wrapping Party 10:00a

Praise Team 6:15p

Choir Rehearsal 7:00p

Friday

Moms & Dads Bible Study

Saturday

Girl Scouts 9:00a

Children's Pageant Rehearsal 9:15a

Birthday Party for Jesus 10:30a

Ashe County Christmas 11:00a (in Ashe County)

Sunday

Christmas Joy Offering

Children's Choir 9:00a

Children's Christmas Program 10:30a

Ethiopian Evangelical Church 10:30a

Deacon Meeting 11:30a

Session Meeting 12:30p

Cheerleading Practice 2:00p

Youth Christmas Party 5:30p

AA Meeting 8:00p

Monday

Boy Scouts 7:00p

Tuesday

Scripture & Starbucks Ladies Bible Study

NO Men's Basketball
