



# The Messenger

## Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

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Vol. 42 No. 1

**Our Vision Statement: The Word In Action**

November 2017

### COMMUNITY, WORSHIP, SERVICE

#### Friends in Christ,

The title of my newsletter article this month could be read in two different ways. I do want to highlight the Community Worship Service for Thanksgiving that will be held in our sanctuary on Sunday evening, November 19 at 6 pm. I eagerly invite you to attend and help our church be a welcoming host to members from nearly a dozen other congregations in and around Laurinburg. In late summer, reflecting on the racial hatred that overflowed in violence at Charlottesville, Virginia, I suggested to the session that perhaps we could take a step toward greater reconciliation and cooperation in Laurinburg by making this year's Thanksgiving service more representative of the whole community. So, with the help of Rep. Garland Pierce, an interracial team of local pastors has been meeting to craft a time of worship and fellowship.

Even though our diverse churches have our own theological and social agendas, we feel we can at least come together to give thanks to God during the season of harvest. A varied list of worship leaders and a combined choir will reflect the unity we hope to portray, but more importantly, we want to gather as a community of Christians to show our gratitude to God in scripture, song and prayer. Please plan to come. If you can help the Fellowship Committee by bringing a pie for the fellowship time or helping with set up and service, please call Martha Olmstead. Also, invite your friends and family for this wonderful statement of unity and thanksgiving.

Aside from this community gathering, we have other enticing services of worship during November.

- St. Andrew's Sunday is the 5<sup>th</sup>. An alumnus from the school, Rev. Arthur Gatewood, will be the morning preacher. The St. Andrew's choir, under the leadership of Ed Williams and Sean Moore, will provide the anthems,

and the Pipe and Drum band led by Bill Caudill will shake the rafters with stirring Scottish favorites. The potluck dinner that follows is a time for enjoyable fellowship.

- Two weeks later, on the 19<sup>th</sup>, our youth group leads morning worship, and we commit our financial pledges to God at the end of our annual stewardship campaign. Come and listen to the wonderful upbeat music that bubbles with youthful enthusiasm. Then demonstrate your investment in God by placing your pledge card in the basket at the front of the church.
- Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday, Nov. 26, often gets lost in the flurry of Thanksgiving weekend, but it is still an important Christian holiday. We celebrate it by serving the Lord's Supper, this sacrament that reminding us of Christ's presence in our midst as our Risen Lord and King. We will take home communion to many of our homebound members that afternoon.

So, we've mentioned community, and many references to worship; how about Service? I want to remind you of a way you can serve God through a great national and international program. Our Presbyterian denomination provides an annual Giving Catalog that lists over 3 dozen practical ways you can help people close to home and across the world. Why not make an early Christmas list and look through the catalogue to match the people on your list to an appropriate gift? For \$25 you can send a family of chickens to a farmer in Central America. For \$30 you can send a bag of native seeds to North Africa. \$50 buys linens and blankets for refugee children everywhere, and \$75 buys a bicycle for a pastor in rural Zambia to make home visits to a far-flung congregation. Isn't this kind of gift a great way to demonstrate your commitment to Christian mission and still honor a friend or family member

at Christmas? Stacks of these catalogs are available outside the office, near the fellowship hall doors, or on the table as you enter the sanctuary. You can also order online: [www.presbyteriangifts.org](http://www.presbyteriangifts.org).

So, Community – our Nov. 19 evening event. Worship – three special services in November. And Service – a way to transform your Christmas giving into Christ-like compassion. Community, Worship, Service – that’s what we are up to this month!

Shalom, Dr. Duane Hix

**MANY THANKS TO REV. DR. DOUG HIX,** “RETIRING” AS ASSISTANT FOR PASTORAL VISITATION Last October, the church session entered into an agreement with Dr. Doug Hix to assist Interim Pastor Dr. Duane Hix (kinda’ confusing, isn’t it?) in making visits to our members. Over that year, Doug made hundreds of those visits, in member homes, as invitations to his and Pat’s own home, in hospitals near and far, care centers, and here at the church whenever someone would sit with him for a few minutes. Every Thursday he would come to the office to report on one week’s visits and plan the next week’s visits with Dr. Duane. He has been an extremely important part of the pastoral care of our church. After a fall last week, Doug decided he needed to cut back on his commitments a bit, so he will only be available now in emergency situations when Dr. Duane is up in Apex or otherwise away. Please be sure to thank him for his year of caring, and help Dr. Duane keep abreast of our members by calling the church office if you know of a hospitalization or other pastoral care need.

#### WORSHIP SERVICE

##### NOVEMBER 5, 2017 ST ANDREW’S SUNDAY

Rev. Arthur Gatewood - class of 1968 “I Will Thank God in All My Remembrance of You”

(Scripture used) Psalm 107:1-9; Philippians 1:3-6 Josh. 3:7-17; Ps. 107:1-7, 33-37; Thess. 4:13-18; Matt. 25:1-13

From Highland Peaks

450 Be Thou My Vision

649 Amazing Grace vv. 1&2 (with pipe band)

**In lieu of flowers** this Sunday a donation has been made to the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund in memory of Jack and Pony Gaw and Joe and Sarah Dean given by Ellen and Dan Dean

##### NOVEMBER 12, 2017 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Dr. Hix’s Sermon:** “How Manifold Are Your Works!” (Scripture used) Psalm 104: 1-9 and 14-28

Judge 4:1-7; Ps. 123; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matt. 25:14-30  
667 When Morning Gilds the Skies  
36 For the Fruit of All Creation  
326 For All the Saints

**In lieu of flowers** Sunday a donation has been made to the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John F. McLaurin and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Quick by the family.

##### NOVEMBER 19, 2017 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Youth Sunday/ Commitment (Stewardship) Sunday

**Dr. Hix’s Sermon:** Investing in God

(Scripture used) Psalm 104: 1-9 and 14-28

Judges 4:1-7; Ps. 78:1-7; 1Thess. 5:1-11; Matt. 25:14-30

Congregational Song: (10,000 Reasons)

712 As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

##### NOVEMBER 26, 2017 Christ the King Sunday

(Communion)

**Dr. Hix Sermon:** “I Myself Will be the Shepherd of My Sheep”

(Scripture used) Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34: 11-16

Ezek. 34:11-16, 20-24; Ps. 100; Eph. 1:15-23; Matt. 25: 31-46

268 Crown Him with Many Crowns

801 The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want

384 Soon and Very Soon

**Dr. Hix’s messages** Copies are available at the front entrance of Fellowship Hall for anyone that’s interested.

#### Volunteer Schedule

##### **November Opening and Closing Church**

##### VOLUNTEERS

##### BUS DRIVERS pickup at Scotia 10:20

NOVEMBER 5 Greg Wood

NOVEMBER 12 Jim Willis

NOVEMBER 19 Eddie Carmichael

NOVEMBER 26 David Carmichael

##### NOVEMBER USHER TEAM #2

Brian Bounds, Leader, David Bounds, Eddie Carmichael, Jim Mason, Boyd McLaurin, Randy Miller, Bob Dyer, Kevin Patterson, Bill Purcell II, Chip Wells, Charles Bound, John Decembrino

##### ACOLYTES

NOVEMBER 5 Garrett Sellers

NOVEMBER 12 Cooper Sutherland

NOVEMBER 19 Jack Herr

NOVEMBER 26 Communion (no acolyte)

##### NURSERY

NOVEMBER 5-26 VOLUNTEERS

##### COMBINED CHILDREN CHURCH (3 years - 5th grade)

NOVEMBER 5 Mary & Wesley Quick

NOVEMBER 12 Carmichael Family

NOVEMBER 19 Kristen & Ryan Anderson

NOVEMBER 26 No Children’s Church

(Communion)

##### GREETERS FELLOWSHIP DOORS

NOVEMBER 5 Edna Ann Loftus

NOVEMBER 12 Clint Willis

NOVEMBER 19 Kristen Anderson

NOVEMBER 26 Martha Olmstead

##### GREETERS ELEVATOR DOORS

NOVEMBER 5 Bob Dyer

NOVEMBER 12 Jacque Britt

NOVEMBER 19 Lynn Davis

NOVEMBER 26 Kirsten Dean

##### GREETERS SANCTUARY DOOR

NOVEMBER 5 Drew & Kathy Williamson

NOVEMBER 12 Bill & Pam Hill

NOVEMBER 19 Gus & Angela Purcell

NOVEMBER 26 John & Lynn Massey

##### NOVEMBER SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

\*Emma McInnis, Co-chair, Maggie Wells, Carol Lee, Johanna Altman, Eleanor McRae

#### LAY LEADER SCHEDULE

Nov. 5 - DEC. 31, 2017

Please be sure if you cannot make a certain date that you find a replacement and be sure you let Cathy know of the change in time for the bulletin printing on late Thursday afternoon.

Nov. 5 – St. Andrew’s Students (DST ends)

Nov. 12 – Scott Miller

Nov. 19 – Roland Stout

Nov. 26, T’Day wknd, Edna Ann Loftus

Dec. 3 – Kristen Anderson

Dec. 10 – Denise Herr

Dec. 17 – John Clark

Dec. 24 (Xmas Eve day) – Annette Morgan

Dec. 31 – Janet Smith

#### **The Following Is An Update Of The Stewardship And Capital Campaigns 2017 YTD**

##### **STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN**

2017 YTD PLEDGED \$345, 954

2017 YTD PLEDGES RECEIVED \$288, 219

2017 PLEDGES NEEDED \$ 57, 735

2017 PLEDGES RECEIVED 83% OF TOTAL PLEDGED

##### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

2017 YTD PLEDGED \$302, 125

2017 YTD PLEDGES RECEIVED \$246, 822

2017 PLEDGES NEEDED \$ 55, 303

2017 PLEDGES RECEIVED 82% OF TOTAL PLEDGED

**Christmas Cheer!** Once again this year the Board of Deacons is asking for your help to spread some Christmas Cheer among deserving families in our community – families who would otherwise have little to celebrate on this very special day. As before, LPC will adopt 10 families. In a few weeks, the Christmas Cheer Tree will be up in its usual place. Please be on the lookout for it, and consider helping LPC to put **The Word in Action** by sharing some of its abundance with those who have so little. Thank you!

Bill Loftus

#### **PRESBYTERIAN PRESENCE**

This is a continuation of last month’s thoughts from “Pastoral Pipeline”. As with all advanced degrees, the prospects of additional debt looms large. This is quite a consideration, for in many areas, pastors are not well paid. The good news is that 85% of graduates are employed within a year of graduation. Did you realize (based on 2015 information) There are 9790 congregations in the PC(USA). Close to 1/3 had NO pastoral leadership. Almost 1/3 had 50 members or fewer. Of those, only 376 had an installed pastor. Of churches with between 50 & 100 members, just under 40% had an installed pastor. Among active ministers, 40% are pastors or co pastors, just under 8% are associate pastors and 7% are in temporary pastoral relationships. In validated ministries, 27% serve in the “other” category. All these facts are startling, aren’t they? Maybe all congregations, no matter the size, might mentor young people to help them recognize their gifts for ministry and leadership and to think about vocation and what gives real meaning and significance to a life and to work. I realized that nothing in this article spoke of lay pastors and the leadership they bring to congregations. Did you realize that this congregation has six of its members who have completed the required courses and serve in a number of ways? Praise God for them!

Meredith Hudson

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

November 6  
Circle 1  
7:00 pm Martha Olmstead Host -Home  
Circle 2  
4:00 pm Anne Sprouse home - Barbara Bateman and  
Anne Sprouse Hostess  
Circle 4  
3:45 pm Scotia- Henrietta Carmichael

## SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

I would like to thank Georgia Dye, Betty Jackson, Linda Maddox, Sue Schulz, and Anne Sprouse for helping to get our Sanctuary ready for the upcoming holidays and wedding.  
Sincerely, Sis. Thomas

## MACS (Maturing Adult Christians)



Anyone interested in going to Southern Supreme in Bear Creek, NC, please let Betty Jackson or Sis Thomas know. We are also planning in November to go see, "Driving Miss Daisy," an Encore Theatre Presentation. We will get information out as to dates, time, cost and when our Bus Driver is available. Please contact one of us if you are interested.

Thank You, Sis Thomas

## Stewardship Campaign Update

The Annual Campaign began on October 22 and will end with Commitment Sunday on November 19. By now, your caregiver should have been in contact with you with information from the Membership & Stewardship Committee, including a pledge card. If you have not been contacted, please call the church and we will bring it to you. We ask that you prayerfully consider the information and your financial commitment toward the 2018 budget. If you have questions or concerns, please

call Stewardship Chair, Janet Smith, at 910-690-9643. You may return your pledge via mail, have a member of the committee pick it up from you, or bring it to Commitment Sunday on November 19. The Stewardship Committee

## Join Us in Being "The Word in Action" (Messenger insert)

The Membership and Stewardship Committee presented the inserted green sheet to the Congregation on October 22, 2017 to highlight the ways we can serve, worship, study, enjoy fellowship and make music at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church. This is another essential part of this year's Stewardship Campaign. Please take time to read this Time and Talent Opportunities information and take note of what interests you. Feel free to submit ideas for committees or groups you would like to see at LPC, such as a support group for aging parents, support for a local mission, or a particular book or Bible study. Consider being an Elder or Deacon in the future, or serving on one of the Session Committees. Lastly, please see the "Done in a Day" Committee which is designed for those who may not want to join a committee, but want to serve the church. Your name will be part of a list of those who will help the church on an as-needed basis with tasks such as stuffing envelopes, answering the telephone, or folding bulletins. Please complete this form and return it to the church office. The Membership and Stewardship Committee thanks you for your consideration and appreciates your prayerful consideration of all of your gifts to Laurinburg Presbyterian Church.

## Brown Bag Bible Study

Please join us at the weekly Brown Bag Bible Study to begin again on January 11, 2018 at 12:15 p.m. in the Session Room. We eat lunch, discuss our book and learn from each other for about an hour.

Last year, we read took turns leading discussion of John Ortberg's If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat, a lively and fun book which also challenged us to take risks in order to grow in our faith. Beginning in January, we will read Philip Yancey's Vanishing Grace: Whatever Happened

to the Good News? The back cover reads: "In a time of division and discord, grace seems in vanishing supply. Why? And what can we do about it?...This is a milestone book for all those who are striving to make sense of faith and live it out amid the changing landscape of our day." This book may be purchased from Amazon.

Bring your lunch and a drink and take a break with friends as we study this interesting book. Attendance isn't taken, so come when you can. We hope to see you on January 11 in the New Year!

Janet Smith

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Ashleigh Bailey  
11/01  
David Salzlein  
11/01  
Jerry Wooten  
11/01  
Debi Hobbs  
11/02  
Boyd McLaurin  
11/03  
Shannon Braswell  
11/04  
Taylor Carmichael Jr.  
11/05  
Lynne Mabry  
11/05  
Louise Koonce  
11/09  
Meredith Bounds  
11/10  
Jule Butler III  
11/11  
Claire Carmichael  
11/11  
Shea Poage  
11/11  
Wayne Hobbs  
11/12  
Maggie Wells  
11/13

John A Jackson Jr  
11/15  
Gibson McLaurin  
11/15  
Anne Miller  
11/16  
Phyllis Laviner  
11/19  
Matthew Patterson  
11/20  
Richard Mabry  
11/21  
Thelma Morgan  
11/22  
Elizabeth McIntosh  
11/23  
Fred Fox  
11/25  
Lindsay Laviner  
11/25  
Max Anderson  
11/29



The family of Bonnie Purcell would like to thank our Laurinburg Presbyterian family for the many expressions of love and kindness you showed us during this time of loss.

Lucy Sojka

### **Exciting Worship Opportunities!**

We have lots of great things going on in worship over the next few weeks. On November 5, we will host the choir and pipe band from St. Andrews for worship and a luncheon. On November 12, the Joyful Singers and Cherub Choir will present the Children's Message. On November 19, the Middle and High School Youth will lead the service and provide all of the music. And on November 26, we will celebrate communion. We hope you will join us for all of these special services!

### **Advent Workshop December 2, 10 am-12:30 pm**

The Advent Workshop will take place in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, December 2, from 10 am until 12:30 pm. We will make crafts, decorate cookies, hold a nativity scene scavenger hunt, and then conclude with a light lunch. All kids and youth of the church are invited to participate. Friends, neighbors, and community members are also welcome!

Want to help? There are lots of opportunities! We need at least one more skilled crafter to plan and lead a project table. We also need people who can staff a sign-in table, prepare lunch, or provide direction at one of the easy project tables. And we welcome contributions of lunch items (talk to Jaime for more details), as well as clean, empty glass jars for one of our projects (8-18 oz. pickle and jelly jars are especially good).

### **Christian Ed Corner: Helping Kids Cope with Grief**

This message wasn't prompted by anything in particular—just the knowledge that the children in our lives will sometimes, and often unexpectedly, have to handle some very big losses. So it's useful to think in advance about how we can offer them a safe and stable place to work through grief. Here are a few ideas:

**1. BE CLEAR:** Keep your language simple and concrete. Children tend to think in literal terms so the adult euphemisms we have for tragedies aren't all that helpful. Being clear also prevents you from inadvertently creating a false sense of hope. Respond to questions simply and directly, and be honest when you don't know the answer.

**2. BE PATIENT:** Grief is repetitive and cyclical for kids as well as adults. Someone who is doing well one day may struggle the next. Young kids especially may ask the same questions over and over, but that gives you an opportunity to reinforce your love and support while providing new ways of coping.

**3. BE CONSISTENT:** Maintain your routines as much as possible, as kids need that stability. Sticking to what feels normal can help prevent anxiety; so will explaining unfamiliar rituals and situations in advance.

**4. BE PRESENT:** Listen and respond with empathy. Offer a hug, a hand to hold, or just sit quietly together.

**5. BE OPEN:** Make sure kids know that all emotions are okay and can be expressed, and help them put those emotions into words, artwork, and projects. Encourage story-sharing, look at photos together, and offer ways of memorializing what was lost.

**6. BE ALERT:** If you are not the child's parent, be sure to alert parents if a child displays dramatic shifts in behavior or personality, has lost interest in all playtime activities, cries frequently and uncontrollably, and/or asks for constant help with things they were routinely doing by themselves.

\*Condensed and adapted from a post on the Illustrated Children's Ministry blog.

### **FUN ADULT CLASS**

Our class is off to a great start for this year. Dr. Duane Hix taught for the beginning weeks. Dr. Doug Hix began on October 22, teaching a series of lessons taken from videotapes of interviews with 50 white Presbyterian Ministers who were important in leading the Presbyterian Church in the South during 1950-1970 to deal with the racial issues that faced our region. On Nov. 19, Dec. 3, Dec. 10, and Dec. 17, Ron Crossley will be teaching from a book by Frederick Buechner, "Telling the Truth; the Gospel as Comedy, Tragedy, and Fairy Tale." We will not have Sunday School on Nov. 26, Dec. 24, or Dec. 31. Please join us for these interesting lessons and good fellowship.  
Lynn Massey

TIME CHANGES NOVEMBER 5, 2017  
DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCK BACK 1 HOUR



### **HAPPY THANKSGIVING WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?**

**I'M THANKFUL FOR LIFE, HEALTH AND, STRENGTH  
FOR MY FAMILY, AND FRIENDS, AND GOOD FOOD!**



### **Church Leadership by Committee for 2017**

Edna Ann Loftus, Clerk Session (home: 910-277-0186; office: 910-277-5256; cell: 910-280-3057; eaol@sa.edu)

Robin Snead, Chair Christian, Nurture & Education (home: 276-3990; cell: 910-610-5779; robin@snead@gmail.com)

Richard Mabry, Chair Building, Equipment & Grounds (home: 276-1800; cell: 910-318-4720 rtmco@roadrunner.com)

Martha Olmstead, Chair Fellowship (home: 361-4747; cell: 571-2220; olmsteaj@erols.com)

Kristen Anderson, Chair Childcare Advisory (cell: 774-2501; kristen.anderson@uncc.edu)

Janet Smith, Chair Membership & Stewardship (home: 276-7871; cell: 690-9643; janetcsmith1129@gmail.com)

Susan Wentz, Chair Worship, Music & Arts (home: 276-0587; cell: 280-3414; susuwentz@gmail.com)

Clint Willis, Chair Capital Campaign (home 276-2739; cell: 910-986-3352; email: bg.clint7@gmail.com)

Nick Sojka, Chair Finance & Administration (home: 277-7598 cell: 280-2050; nsojka@wilclamsondean.com)

Danny Caddell, Chair Personnel (home: 276-8488; cell: 277-6498; danny@dannycaddell.com)

Leslie Sellers, Moderator Presbyterian Women (home: 276-3921; cell: 280-8923; lrspt@roadrunner.com)

Bill Loftus, Moderator Deacons (home: 277-0186; cell: 280-3061; wjl@sa.edu)

***Please remember these in your thoughts and prayers!!!***

**Continuing Concerns:** Lucile Bridgeman, Sammy Simmons

**In Scotia Skilled:** Evelyn Crossley, Virginia Johnson, Frances Haupt, Mackey McCormick, Ann Hill, Louise Wester, Sarah Bullock

**Scotia Special Care:** Margaret Caudill

**Scotia Assisted:** Ervin Hill, Adell Page, Louise Koonce, Marion McNair, Marjorie Coughenour, Flo Johnson, Millie Peele, Elizabeth McIntosh

**At Scottish Pines:** Katherine Edmund, Thelma Morgan

**On the Calendar**

Sundays: 9:45 am SS Adults; 11 am Worship;  
11:20 am Children's Church

**November 1**

5:30 pm WMA

**November 5**

ST. ANDREW'S SUNDAY

4:30 pm Deacons

**November 7**

7:00 pm BEG

**November 8**

5:00 pm CNE

**November 14**

5:00 pm Membership/Stewardship

**November 15**

7:00 pm Finance & Administration

**November 16**

5:30 pm Childcare

**November 19**

6:00 pm Community Thanksgiving

**November 20**

7:00 pm Session

**Office and Daycare Schedule for Thanksgiving**

November 22 Office will close at 11:00

November 22 Daycare will close at 2:00 pm

November 23-24 Office and Daycare Closed for  
Thanksgiving. Operations will resume Monday,  
November 27th.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES** are broadcast on WLNC  
1300 Sunday at 11 am, on the internet (wlncradio.  
com), the previous week's service TV Channel 2 on  
Sundays at 10 am & Tuesdays at 8 pm. Sunday's (same  
day) service is shown at 2 pm Scotia's MMEC.

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