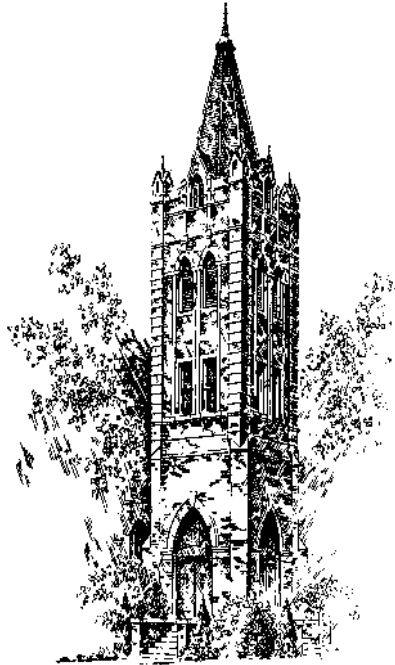


# **Laurinburg Presbyterian Church**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Christmas

January 5, 2025

**Our Mission: To Be The Word In Action**



Founded 1859

Rev. Rebekah Carpenter, Senior Pastor  
Holly Albrecht, Director of Christian Education  
Dr. José Rivera, Director of Music  
Lee Harris, Organist

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Eleven o' clock

*Please pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew and return it to its starting place. If you are worshiping with us for the first time, we invite you to leave your contact information on the pad. This will give us the opportunity to share with you the work and witness of our community of faith—and to welcome you into our midst!*

### Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Rebekah Carpenter

### Prelude

*"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"*

by David Cherwien

### \*Call to Worship

Dr. Robert Dyer

**Leader:** Arise, shine, for your light has come

**PEOPLE: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

**Leader:** There is nowhere we can go where God is not with us.

**PEOPLE: How wonderful are all God's works!**

**Leader:** Let us worship God together

### \*Invocation

\***Hymn of Praise** #109 *"Blest Be the God of Israel"*

### Invitation to Confession

#### Corporate Prayer of Confession

**God of goodness and guidance, In Christ you sent us light to live by, yet we seek shadows in which to hide. In him, you promise new life, but we prefer old habits, nursing grievances and clinging to familiar opinions. You are generous with your love, but we reject neighbors and fear strangers who differ from us. Remake us in the image of your Son with your mercy, and teach us how to follow him in the year ahead. Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

\***Congregational Response** #581 *"Glory Be to the Father"*

### \*Passing of the Peace

"May the peace of Christ be with you."

"And also with you."

### Time with Children

Dr. Hillary Sessions

### Prayer for Illumination

### Scripture

Jeremiah 31:1-14

### Commentary on The Word

*"Dancing Celebration"*

Rev. Rebekah Carpenter

## Installation of 2025 Elders and Deacons

**\*Hymn of Worship** #157 *"I Danced in the Morning"*

**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

**An Invitation to Give**

**Offertory**

*"God's Gift"*  
Chancel Choir

**\*The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*The Apostle's Creed** (pg 35 in front of the hymnal)

**\*Hymn of Parting** #159 *"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

*(Why we sit for the Postlude: We have been blessed with wonderful organists over the years, so it has become a tradition at Laurinburg Presbyterian to remain seated for the Postlude and continue to worship and listen for God through music. If you need to leave before it ends, we do not mind if you exit reverently.)*

**Postlude**

*"The Master Has Come!"*

Welsh Folk Tune

\*Those who are able are requested to stand.

The following incoming Elders and Deacons are being installed during today's service:

**Incoming 2025 Elders:**

Pam Hill

Susan Hartwell

Kirsten Dean

Bradley Williams

**Incoming 2025 Deacons:**

Debra Sutherland

Miriam Bounds

Fred Albrecht

Hillary Sessions

**Save the dates!! Starting next Sunday!**  
**January 2025-Three New Member Classes**

*After worship Lunch\*and Learn Opportunity*

*Noon to 1:30 PM*

*For new members especially but all members are welcome*

*Child Care\* provided*

**January 12, 2025 - Noon**

***“What’s so unique about being a Presbyterian?”***

Revs Rebekah Carpenter and Roderic Frohman will lead a presentation/discussion on “Reformed” theology, emphasizing the distinguishing marks of being a Presbyterian vs. the traditions of our Baptist, Lutheran, Catholic, etc. sisters and brothers in the faith.

**January 19, 2025 - Noon**

***“What’s so unique about Laurinburg Presbyterian Church?”***

We have a rich tradition in Scotland County among all congregations. Some of our member-historians will lead us in a presentation/discussion of the highlights of our past and our unique role in Laurinburg as a catalyst of the development of significant institutions including St. Andrews University, Church Community Services and, most recently, Family Promise of Scotland County.

**January 26, 2025 – Noon**

***“What is church membership all about?”***

This class will highlight what it means to commit to being a church member spiritually and through stewardship of time, talents, service and finances. Charles Bounds will offer a transparent look at how we handle finances at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church.

\*Lunch and Child Care: Please call Lisa Adams in the Church office, 910 276 0831, to reserve your lunch spot and/or need for child care. Yes, lunch will be provided for the children too.

**Stewardship Update**

Budgeted Pledges 2024	\$342,575
Total Received Thru 12/22/24	\$334,155
Difference Thru 12/22/24	\$1,907
Percent	99%

**2025 Stewardship Planning**

2025 Pledges received to date	\$414,080
2025 Budgeted Other Income	\$49,000
2025 Budgeted Income	\$463,080
2025 Budgeted Expenses	\$492,076
Additional pledges needed	\$28,996
Pledges received in 2024	86
2025 pledges received to date	81

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## UPCOMING:

<b>Sunday 1/5</b>	5-6:30 pm Peacemakers 5-6:30 pm Youth Bowling Outing
<b>Monday 1/6</b>	9 am Taking Down the Christmas Decorations
<b>Monday 1/6</b>	6 pm PW Circle 1 Meeting at Angela Purcell's Home
<b>Tuesday 1/7</b>	3 pm PW Circle 2 Meeting in the Fellowship Hall
<b>Wednesday 1/8</b>	5 pm Worship Committee Meeting
<b>Sunday 1/12</b>	9:45 am Sunday School For All 11 am Worship 12-1:30 pm New Member Lunch Class

**Bill Purcell, II is the Elder on-call through January 7<sup>th</sup>. 910-280-1723**

**The Worship Committee invites you to come un-decorate the church this coming Monday, January 6 at 9 am.**

**SAVE THE DATES!! For new members especially but all members are welcome.**

**Starting next week!** January 12,19,26-Three new member classes will be held after worship, Noon to 1:30 PM \*Lunch and Child Care: Please call Lisa Adams in the Church office, 910 276 0831, to reserve your lunch spot and/or need for child care. Lunch will be provided for the children too.

## **Sunday School Information:**

- **Fun Adult Sunday School Class-** Please join us in this new year! This month, Bill Purcell, II, will be leading the class. His first topic will be "What Is Going on with Our Courts and Why Presbyterians Should Care"; he'll finish up the month with "Lessons from the Bullfrog—Leadership Lessons We Can Apply to our Daily Lives", based on a book by Admiral McCraven. The class, also, hopes to soon implement a new "smart classroom" upgrade, so folks can join us via Zoom.
- Children through 5<sup>th</sup> graders mark your calendar for **Peacemakers, January 5<sup>th</sup> 5:00-6:30 pm.** Join us for games, dinner, music, and Bible time. Parents take an hour to enjoy a cup of coffee at Starbucks, read a book, or run an errand without your little ones.
- **Communion Education for children and their parents** will be February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Children will be received at the table on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

**SAVE-THE-DATE for our Presbyterian Women's Retreat March 7-8.** Hadley Horne-Kifner will be leading our retreat. Hadley is a Laurinburg native, currently serving as the Associate Pastor for Spiritual Nurture at the University Presbyterian Church in Chapel Hill. I had the pleasure of teaching Hadley in high school, and her wisdom even at that age was something special. I can't wait to see and hear what she plans to share in March. We will have a social that Friday night (March 7) and the retreat on Saturday (March 8) in our LPC fellowship hall. Angela Purcell, PW Moderator

**The LPC Mission Committee** invites you to partner with us and Total Women's Outreach Ministries in their annual coat drive for kids. Bring in NEW coats of any size to the church office through January 12.

**The Ladies who lunch** will meet Wednesday, January 22 at 12:30 pm at Railroad Bar and Grill. We hope you'll take a break in the new year and join us for some fellowship and fun. If you plan to attend, please let Barbara Bateman or Virginia McCormick know.

**It's time to apply for the The Jane and Katherine McKay Scholarship.**

Current college students need to complete their renewal application by January 31st. The seniors that will be applying for the 2025-2026 can begin applying now. The application cycle opened November 20, 2024 and runs through February 28, 2025. High School Seniors can also apply for the Presbyterian Women scholarships, the Lorena Clark Piner scholarship and the Katie Groves McNeill. All are available on the LPC Website.

**JANUARY VOLUNTEERS**

**Deacon Greeters/Visitors:**

January 5-11      Katie Clark  
January 12-18     Wayne Hobbs  
January 19-26     Louise Mabry

**Bus Drivers:**

1/5                 Andy Womble  
1/12                Michael Sellers  
1/19                Gus Purcell  
1/26                Will Clark

**Sanctuary Committee:**

\*Edna Ann Loftus      Miriam Bounds  
Laurene Stubbs         Sarah Williams

**Usher Team 3:**

\*Allen McLaurin      Fred Albrecht  
Clifton Buie             Jim Coughenour  
Phil Eshleman          Hal Jernigan  
Charles Liles            John McLaurin  
Alex Medlin              Jackson Medlin  
Gus Purcell              Gus Purcell, II  
Gray Sellers              Anne Sprouse  
Jimmy Stubbs

*Prayer List*

- **Sis Thomas**, in healthcare at Scotia Village after a hospital stay.
- **Clint Willis**, recovering, at home, from a hospital stay.
- **Jane Somerville**, receiving Hospice routine home care.
- **LeGette McLean**, dealing with health concerns.
- **Betsy Massey**, recovering after a small stroke.
- **Meredith Bounds** appreciates continued prayers.
- **Fletcher Kendall** of Atlanta, 7-year-old grandson of Paul and Judy Rush, diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
- **Sammy Townsend**, friend of the congregation, at Liberty Commons Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Sanford.
- **Beth Newbold**, continuing health concerns.
- **Sara Tezzi**, granddaughter of Sammy and Linda Simmons; continuing concerns.
- **Barbara Salzlein**, continuing health concerns.

**Scotia Village Skilled Nursing:** Mackey McCormick, Anne Ramsay Melton, Marie Love, Doug Hix, Elizabeth McIntosh

**Scotia Village Assisted Living (Heather Glen):** Daphne Gaw, John and Henrietta Carmichael, Norma McKeithan, Jean Clansky

**Scottish Pines:** Jim "Sunbeam" Sutherland