

Prayer Requests

Carter Plyler	Lester Howie
Patsy McGee	Jane McNeely
Rita Brunson	Zach Denson
Loretta Hatley	Rev. Alan Mears
Louise Rakoczy	Terri Barbee
Joyce Blackwelder	William Pfister
James Samuel (Anita McGill's father)	
Jamie Johnson (Susan and David Johnson's grandson)	

On December 10th

Worship: 40
Giving: \$1,729

Christ Child Offering

Our church has a tradition during the Advent season to provide our members an opportunity to make a special offering to help meet shortfalls in our collections for the year. Actual offerings are down about 11% vs. what we had planned to receive for the year to meet our expenses. Gifts are also down over 50% compared to last year.

As you know this year has been a challenge due to the changes in our membership community. Your leadership team has worked and will continue to work to manage a responsible budget as well as provide a vision for growth and renewal as we move into the new year.

In January we will also begin regularly to keep you more informed of our financial picture. For now, we want to provide everyone a way to give to the Christ Child on **Sunday, December 17**, as we prepare for the coming of our savior this Christmas season.

Thanks,

Dan Wiser
Finance Chair

Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Songs: Angels We Have Heard on High #238 v1-4

It's Christmas

*Meet and Greet

Lighting of the third Advent Candle: The Candle of Love

Hymn: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #211 v3

Testament Readings:

Old Testament: : Psalm 8

New Testament: Hebrews 10:1-10

Offertory

Children's Time

Prayer of Illumination:

Guiding God, without the presence of your Holy Spirit, we are hopelessly lost on this Advent journey. Come to us in this place as we gather to hear your Word. Open our hearts to receive your Word and our minds to understand it.

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 1-16 (NIV)

Message: "The Wonder of a Manger"

*Closing Song: Make Room

Benediction

**Please stand as you are able.*

Bruce Armstrong will be our Testament reader for December.

We want to hear from you

Each week, this tear-off section is here to make it easy for you to communicate with us. As we learn to be a Christ Community doing life together, you are invited to share how we can serve one another. Feel free to drop this sheet in the offering plates as they are passed.

Prayer Requests:

I'd like more information about:

- Helping with seasonal decorating
- helping with children's ministry
- helping with the youth group
- helping with special events or projects
- helping with the Angel Tree

If you have never filled out a connection card or have updated information to share with us, please fill out the reverse side of this sheet.

December 17, 2023

Welcome Friends

Good morning and welcome to Waxhaw United Methodist Church. We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. If you are a guest with us today, we hope you feel relaxed and at home. From childcare to restrooms, please do not hesitate to ask a host for anything you need.

We are glad you are here and it is our hope that you experience the presence of Christ and community through worship today.

If you have never filled out the connection information below, we would appreciate knowing more about you and your household. It gives us a chance to get better acquainted and let you know more about Waxhaw UMC.

After filling out this sheet, please tear it off and either place it in the offering plate or hand it to one of our hosts.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check here if you would like to receive our weekly enews.

Any questions or other information you'd like to share?

Coming Events and Announcements

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Waxhaw UMC

Check Out What's Happening!

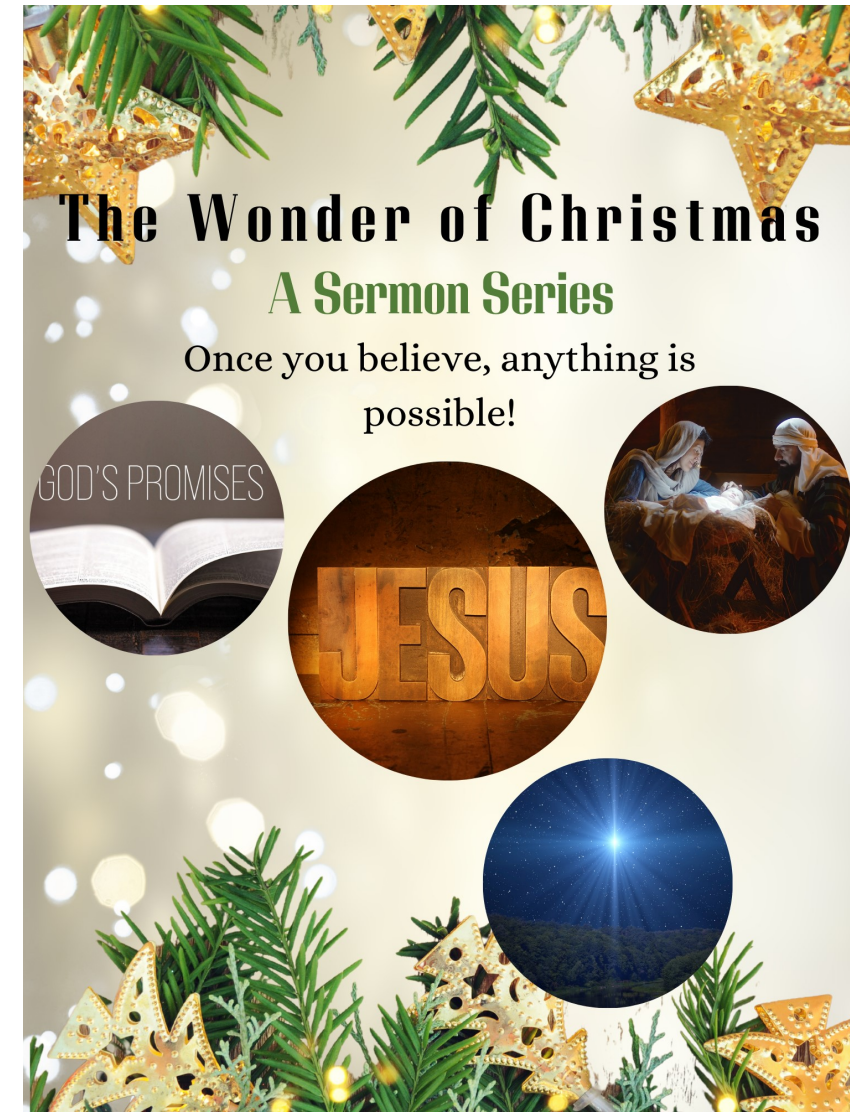
December 17 **Angel Tree Gifts**
Angel Tree Gifts are due back today, December 17th. Thank you for your generosity in supporting families in our community!

December 20 **Advent Study**
"The Wonder of Christmas" small group study for Advent:
Wednesday, Dec 20th at 11:00 am in the conference room with Pastor Norma.

December 21 **Prayer with the Pastor**
You are invited to join Pastor Norma in the sanctuary for a time of prayer and meditation on Thursday evenings from **4 pm to 4:45 pm**. *Please note: **There will be no prayer meeting on Dec 28th.** *

December 31 **Holiday Food Drive**
Please place your non-perishable donations in the barrel on the belltower porch by **Sunday, December 31st**.

To rsvp for any event or to ask questions www.waxhawumc.com
Call Amy: 704-843-3931 or amy@waxhawumc.com



December 17, 2023

Pastor Norma Villagrana

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