

CLARKTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

Volume 20, No. 10



December 2015

“Redeemer, come! I open wide My heart to Thee; here,
Lord, abide. Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace
and love in me reveal.”

~Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates

From the Session

The stated meeting of the Clarkton Presbyterian Church Session was held Sunday November 22, at 5P. Becky Raynor is our appointed moderator until we have an interim minister. There will be a called meeting of the Presbytery on December 5; Dan Ward is Commissioner and Linda Clark is alternate. The main business of the meeting is reorganizing Presbytery in order to increase the ability of each community to carry out necessary business without the meeting of the whole Presbytery. This will provide a more efficient way of operating, will provide opportunity for people to get to know one another and give rise to sharing together ideas in mission and ministry. We are in the Central Community and Steuart Link is our Mission Coordinator. Housekeepers have been hired as contract workers and will complete their 90 day period in December. The search continues for supply ministers and finding an interim minister. Our next celebration of Holy Communion will be at 5P at our Christmas Eve Service. All choirs will participate in the Joy Gift Cantata to be held December 20 at 7P. We continue to struggle to meet our operating budget. We are only able to meet it at this time because we are not paying a full time minister salary. The roof leaks and damage to the fellowship hall continue in several places. Repairs will probably be a major expense. Committee Chairs of 2015 and the Clerk will meet December 6 to recommend Elders for 2016 committee positions. The newly elected Elders are in the process of receiving training, will be examined and will be installed on January 24. Concerns of the congregation were discussed. There will be no stated meeting in December; the next stated meeting will be January 24,

2016. All Elders met with Dr. Bill Reinhold, Executive Presbyter and with our liaison, Becky Raynor, to discuss denominational concerns. As we contemplate this Advent with the lighting of candles at worship, let us share this message of Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace wherever we might find ourselves waiting for the Light.

Session Members

George Barber - 645-6695 Greg Brown - 647-0367
Johnny Cox - 647-2251 Julie Cox - 647-2751
Chuck Heustess - 645-6631 Dan Ward - 640-7357
Linda Clark - 645-4509 Lynn Clark - 874-0596
Allison Priest - 645-4669

Mark Your Calendar



- 5 – Called meeting of the Presbytery
- 6 - The Chairs of the 2015 Session Committees will meet after worship to make recommendations for 2016 Committee Chairs.
- 20 –7:00 pm *Festival of Lessons and Carols & Joy Gift Offering*
- 24 – 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service and Holy Communion
- 25 -- MERRY CHRISTMAS
- 27 – First Sunday of Christmas
- Jan. 3 - Epiphany of the Lord observed
- Jan. 9 (Saturday) -- Take down decorations

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

- Wednesday 6:00 pm - Children's Choir
- Wednesday 7:00 pm - Adult Choir
- Sunday 10:00 am --- Morning Assembly and Sunday School
- Sunday 11:00 am --- Service of Worship for the Lord's Day
- Occasional Sundays 5:00 pm --- Youth Choir
- 5:30 pm --- Youth Groups (K-12)

In our Prayers

Arsula Williamson, Kerry Priest, Emily Owen, Billy Whitehead, Jimmy Whitehead, Linda Howell, Ronald Tuton, Rebecca and Happy Lashlee, Marvin Burney, John and Mary Ward, Marion Hardee, Shirley McDonald, Eunice Singletary, Giles McAulay, Gerry Carey, Cody Clark, Jim Burney, Brad Zimmerman, Kelly Smith, Glenda Nobles, Kay Barr, Jim and Joy Bartlett, Lexi Denning, Carolyn Scoggins, Len Melvin, Gene Weldon, Betty Priest

December Service

Nursery: 6 – Gail and Allie Marsh
13 – Candice Ward and Emma Turbeville
20 – Kate Watts and Regan McAulay
29 – Sonya and Luke Barber

Acolyte: Luke Barber

Greeters: Julie Ward and Lynn Clark

Ushers: Greg Brown, Stewart Clark,
Wilbur Ward, Dan Ward

Children's Sermons: 27 – Julie Cox

Advent Candle:

6 – George & Sonya Barber Family
13 – Sam & Shelia Cox Family
20 – Shannon & Candice Ward Family
24 – The Carey Sisters

Operation Christmas Smile



A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in Operation Christmas Child. The soup and sandwich luncheon was successful and enough items were brought and money raised to put together 80 boxes. The youth did a great job filling the boxes and Lynn Clark delivered them to

Whiteville. Thanks also to the Anonymous donor who paid the \$7 per box shipping.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women food item for the Bladen Crisis Center is juice.

Circle meetings Dec. 7th ----

Circle #2 – 7:00 pm at home of Christine Marlowe
Circle #1 - 10:30 am at the home of Joyce Ward

Share in the Joy of a Promise

For God who has promised is faithful. –

Hebrews 10:23

During Advent we remember God's promises to us. We gather together and wait in hope for the coming of the promised Emmanuel, God with us. And God, who has promised, is faithful (Heb. 10:23). So on Christmas Day we celebrate that the promise is kept in the birth of Jesus Christ! The PCUSA provides the opportunity for congregations to join this celebration of God's faithfulness by supporting those in need of help and hope. The CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is able to help provide hope in situations where hope can be hard to find.

When we give, we declare that our hope is well founded, because it is God who has promised, and God who is faithful.



“This is the Christ, God's Son most high,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be
And from all sin will set you free.”

~From Heaven Above
(hymn)