

THE SHELBY PRES (S)

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Organist: Joy Cushman

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Nursery Assistant: Erica Vargas

Rainbow Connection Director: Becky Dorsey

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

DECEMBER 2017

Dear Members and Friends,

As we enter this Advent and Christmas season, our church calendar is filled with opportunities for worship, study, fellowship, and service. This year the Spiritual Life Committee has provided an Advent devotional guide for your use entitled, *"Jesus: God's Promise,"* with readings from the Bible and inspirational thoughts from Henri Nouwen. Our plan is to coordinate our Advent worship and sermons with these devotions. In addition, the Spiritual Life Committee has colorful Advent calendars for use by families with children (or anyone who is young at heart!). Each child in our Rainbow Connection Pre-School will also be given an Advent calendar to take home. On Sunday evenings during Advent there will be a small group devotional study using the recently published *"Simply Wait: Cultivating Stillness in the Season of Advent"* by Pamela Hawkins (Upper Room Books). These sessions will be from 6:00-7:00 p.m. for four Sundays beginning November 26 and ending on December 17. For more information contact Sherry Young, Doug Boyette or Jane in the church office.

During the Advent and Christmas Season as we prepare to celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, we pray for peace in our hearts, our homes, and our world. With violence like the tragic shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas, some of you have asked if there is anything we can do as a church. I have checked with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). They have sent representatives to

Sutherland Springs to meet with local church leaders to determine how best to be supportive. PDA leaders have also coordinated efforts with local church leaders in Puerto Rico and other areas affected by devastating storms. If you want to make a financial contribution to help those in need, there is perhaps no more effective way to make a difference than giving to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. If you choose, you may specify your contribution for Sutherland Springs or other need. There are also opportunities through PDA for volunteer service (see website: pda.pcusa.org).

As our Vision Statement at Shelby Presbyterian Church states:

We are called to:

Grow as Disciples of Jesus Christ

Praise God

Serve the World's Needs.

May God bless you and yours during the Advent and Christmas Season that we may be a blessing to others!

Luke Harkey

Sunday, December 24

One Morning Worship Service at 10:00

5:00 Service for Families

8:00 Service with Communion and Candlelight

All Services will be held in the Sanctuary.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Martha/Mary Circle will meet Tuesday morning, December 5, at 11:30 in the home of Ann Royster, 915 West Marion Street. A light lunch will be served. Please RSVP Ann at 704-484-1933 or amr@carolina.rr.com.

Deborah & Sarah Circles will meet together on Wednesday, December 6, at 11:30 a.m. in the home of Jessi Ogburn, 208 Belvedere Avenue. Lunch will be provided. Pat Byers will lead a study on the book, *A Year of Biblical Womanhood*, by Rachel Held Evans.

FIRST THURSDAY WITH SUSAN BELL

Bible Study with Susan Bell will be held Thursday, December 7, 12:00-1:00 p.m., at Central United Methodist Fellowship Hall. All are invited. Feel free to bring a bag lunch.

MEN'S FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

There are two opportunities for all men to join with other men from Shelby Presbyterian Church for food and fellowship. Come to breakfast or lunch or both!

● First Thursday, December 7, 7:00 a.m. at Ken & Mary's Restaurant, 1628 S. DeKalb St., for breakfast and sharing prayer concerns.

● Fourth Thursday, December 28, at **1:30 pm** for lunch and fellowship at Joe's Place, main dining room, 211 S. Lafayette St.

FOOD MINISTRY NEEDS

Our Food Ministry serves lunch each Monday and Thursday. Their pantry is getting low, and they would appreciate your help with the following items:

- Cream of Chicken Soup
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Sugar, 4 lb. bag
- Tea bags, regular or family size
- Coffee, ground-regular or decaf
- Margarine, 1 lb. pack-sticks
- Mayonnaise, plastic jar
- Zip-Lock Bags, 1 gal. size

All donations will be greatly appreciated and may be left on the counter in the kitchen.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN DECEMBER

6:00 pm Meal – 6:30 pm Program
\$3/adult; \$1/under 12; \$10/family max.

... an opportunity to pause midweek,
... to build new relationships,
to strengthen existing friendships,
... and to glorify God through
intergenerational activities, worship,
and programs that help us grow in our faith.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meal</u>	<u>Program</u>
Dec. 6	*Barbecue	Bible Study for All Ages
Dec. 13	*Ham & Turkey SubSandwiches	Hayride/Caroling <i>Thanks to Larry Wilson for providing hay wagon!</i>
Dec. 20	No Supper - Merry Christmas!	<i>See article below for service on Dec. 20.</i>
Dec. 27	No Supper - Happy New Year!	

*Bring side dishes & desserts –peanut free please.
Child care is available for infants-four year olds.

SERVICE FOR THE LONGEST NIGHT

A popular song says Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year. This is true for many, but for those who are grieving or facing other difficulties, the festive atmosphere of the season only intensifies their pain. **On Wednesday, December 20, at 7:00 p.m.** Shelby Presbyterian Church will offer a "Service for the Longest Night" in the Sanctuary. Please plan to join us for this service of hope and healing.

CHILDREN & CHRISTMAS EVE

The Christian Education Committee invites the children to participate in the 5:00 Christmas Eve Service. Practices will be held during the Sunday school hour on December 3 and 10 in the sanctuary. We will also practice on December 17 at a location to be determined. There will be no Sunday School Music Makers during December. All children ages 3 and up are invited to participate. We request that children attend two of the three practices in order to participate in the service. Sunday School teachers are invited to assist the committee with practices if possible.

GRATEFUL THANKS

Many thanks to Anne Langley for her dedicated and faithful service as Bell Choir Director since 2012. Anne will not be able to continue as director, but she does plan to be a member of the Bell Choir and to continue to work with the Sunday School Music Makers. Jennifer Niblack will lead children's handbells with the Rainbow children. Thank you, Anne!

NEWS FROM RAINBOW CONNECTION

November was a calm, peaceful month at Rainbow Connection, highlighted by our Thanksgiving luncheon on November 15. It was a wonderful time of fellowship with our Rainbow and SPC families and friends!

In December, our classrooms will be filled with the excitement and joy of Christmas. The children will be busy making Christmas crafts, singing songs and reading our favorite Christmas stories. We will present our Christmas program on December 13 at 12:00 in the sanctuary and will celebrate Los Posadas on December 19. Please join us as we celebrate!

Rainbow will be closed December 20-January 2 for Christmas and New Year's holidays. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at Rainbow Connection!

-Becky Dorsey, Director

MEMBER CARE

The goal of the Member Care Committee is to extend love and care to all of our Shelby Presbyterian Church Family. If you find anyone needing attention in our church family, in your neighborhood or beyond, please contact Margie McSwain, Chairperson of Member Care, 704-484-0585, margieabt@carolina.rr.com or the church office, 704-487-8503.

Please include the following in your prayers:

Kim Angel	Fred Hunt
Jack Breen	Watt Jackson
Karen Carpenter	Rebecca Jones
Myra Carpenter	Mollie Ley
Bill Chambless	Pearl Lieurance
Lacey Chambless	Faye & Glenn McCants

Charles Clyatt	Lisa McLaurin
Jennifer Clyatt	Joe Miller
Susan Coiner	Betty Monteith
Rip Collins	Judy Neville
Ed Cushman	The Persing Family
Carolyn & Ira Darnell	Sandy Poston
Eddie Deas	Ed Richards
Melissa DeVane	Joyce Ruark

- All those serving in the military
- Stephen Ministers & their care receivers
- Our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos
- John McCall in Taiwan
- Dr. Steve & Alene Burgert in Kenya
- Jo Ella Holman in the Caribbean
- Food Ministry
- Rainbow Connection
- Christians who are persecuted for their faith
- All disaster victims (hurricanes, floods, fires, etc.)

Thank you for expanding your prayer list to include specific children and youth each month. During December, pray for our College Freshmen: Caroline Bridges, Will Clifton, Ali Huston, Davis Kennedy; and our College Sophomores: Jake Appling, Cassidy Brotherton, Barry Persing, Jenna Pharr, Matthew Wehmueller.

PRAYERS & SYMPATHIES GO OUT FOR . . .

†The family and friends of Shirley Cain Crump Carothers on her death on October 22, 2017 in Greensboro, NC. Shirley had been a member of SPC for 44 years.

†Lisa LeGrand and family on the death of her father, Ned Thomas Freeman, on November 8, 2017 in Thomasville, NC.

†The family and friends of former member, Paul Taylor, who died November 9, 2017 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

†The family of Jim Teddy Jr. on his death on November 10, 2017 – his wife Cindy Teddy; his children Brennan, Spencer and Meredith; his mother Grace Teddy; his sister Susan Teddy. Jim had been a member of SPC for 42 years.

DIRECTORY CHANGE

Larry & Carol Hibschan have moved to 149 Columns Circle, Shelby, NC 28150. Their new phone number is 704-466-3195

KEEP IN TOUCH

These members may appreciate hearing from
or seeing you this season. Cards are always welcome.

Susan Coiner
123 Hillside Dr.
Shelby, NC 28150

Dr. Warren "Rip" Collins
Brookdale Senior Living
1425 E. Marion St.
Shelby, NC 28150

Ed Cushman
519 W. Sumter St.
Shelby, NC 28150

Doris Edwards
Carolina House
493 Piney Ridge Rd.
Forest City, NC 28043

Carolyn Gaston
149 Wilson Farm Rd.
Shelby, NC 28150

Jean Hamner
7401 West Lake Terrace #1401
Bethesda, MD 20817

Homer & Margie Haworth
728 Klumac Rd. Apt. 225-B
Salisbury, NC 28144

Watt Jackson
Summit Place
1001 Phifer Rd.
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Rebecca Jones
2430 Shuda Ave., Apt. H
Gastonia, NC 28054

Annelle Kelly
Covenant Village Apt. A105
1351 Robinwood Rd.
Gastonia, NC 28054

Peggy Lattimore
510 Richards Drive
Shelby, NC 28150

Mollie Ley
132 Oakwood Dr.
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Jane McBrayer
909 E. Marion St.
Shelby, NC 28150
(Jane is a new member of our church
and would love to hear from us.)

Faye & Glenn McCants
Summit Place
1001 Phifer Road, Room 109
Kings Mountain, NC 28086

Joe Miller
Brookdale Senior Living
1425 E. Marion St. Rm. 711
Shelby, NC 28150

Betty Mitchell
1319 S. Lafayette St.
Shelby, NC 28150

Betty & Hugh Monteith
1204 Spring Dr.
Shelby, NC 28150

Dr. M. L. Thomas Moss
Brookdale Senior Living
1425 E. Marion St., Rm. 107
Shelby, NC 28150

Judy Neville
2090 Adair Dr.
Shelby, NC 28150

Bill Panther
Peak Resources
1101 N. Morgan St.
Shelby, NC 28150
(Bill is a friend of our church and a
faithful Presbyterian for many years.)

Mary Parsons
Westminster Towers #515
1330 India Hook Rd.
Rock Hill, NC 29932-2464

Joyce Ruark
C/O Jim Ruark
4562 Ike Starnes Rd.
Granite Falls, NC 28630

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for Elder, Class of 2021, and Deacon, Class of 2021. There are 5 positions available for Elder and 5 positions available for Deacon.

Qualifications for serving as an officer of Shelby Presbyterian Church are:

- (1) Officers should be persons of faith, dedication and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian gospel, both in the church and in the world.
- (2) Officers should be knowledgeable about the life of our church based upon active participation as a Shelby Presbyterian Church member in some area of the life of the church for a period of not less than two years.
- (3) Officers should be able to work well with others in decision-making groups and to serve as chair of a committee.

Please give prayerful consideration as you make recommendations to the Nominating Comm. Remember it will not be possible to nominate all qualified persons recommended by the congregation. For this reason it is best not to contact the person being recommended. If you need more space to discuss your reasons for recommending an individual, you may add an attachment to the form below.

Place your recommendation(s) in the offering by January 7, take or mail it to the church office, or use e-mail to jane@shelbypres.org.

NOMINATION FOR ELDER

Name of Nominee: _____

I feel that this individual would be a dedicated and effective Elder because:

NOMINATION FOR DEACON

Name of Nominee: _____

I feel that this individual would be a dedicated and effective Deacon because:

Below is a list of 2018-20 officers:

ELDERS

Class of 2018

Nancy Blackley
Doug Boyette
Agaat Den Hertog
Brock Taylor
Jill Venable

Class of 2019

Jeff Hamilton
Robin Holland
Anne Langley
Lloyd Williams Jr.
Paul Woodard

Class of 2020

Trip Boinest
Betsy Fonvielle
Margie McSwain
David Schweppe
Jeanne Spragins

DEACONS

Class of 2018

Spencer Borders
Kathryn Bridges
Mary Lampley
Jennifer Ormand
Beverly Styers

Class of 2019

Thomas Couch
Tom Greene
Warren Julian
Barbara Moore
Heidi Steeves

Class of 2020

Carolyn Billings
Anne Kennedy
Brett Niblack
Joe Petrilli
Wiley Smith

Turn in your suggestions by January 7 to the church office or place in offering plate by then.

CHURCH SURVEY

The Session of Shelby Presbyterian is asking for your help in assessing the ability of our church to meet your spiritual needs. The Church is developing a vision for the future, and we would like to understand how you evaluate your church life, the programs currently in place, and where you would like the church to go in the next 3-5 years.

If you haven't already done so, please take a few moments to answer the questions on the link below. The whole survey should take under 10 minutes to finish.

We would like everyone 13 or older to be involved in this process. Since all information is to be anonymous, please do not include your name on the survey. If your family needs paper copies, contact the Church Office.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ShelbyPres>

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Cleveland County Choral Society will present their Christmas Concert at Aldersgate United Methodist Church on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7:00 and Sunday, Dec. 3, at 3:00. SPC members include Jack and Sue Breen and Anne Langley. Tickets are \$5 each sold by members or at the door.

CONGRATULATIONS

. . . to Laura Hope Couey and Preston Allison Winters who were married on November 4, 2017 in our sanctuary. Their address is 31 Birkshire Way, Fletcher, NC 28732.

☺ HAPPY BIRTHDAY ☺

December 1 Terri Byers
December 1 Phil Haydon
December 1 Vic McCord
December 3 Melissa DeVane
December 3 Scott Thomas
December 5 Katherine Ogburn
December 5 Erin Riggs
December 5 Craig Stites
December 5 Hunter Young
December 6 Ben Rybnick
December 6 Hailey Venable
December 7 Mary Hamrick
December 7 Colin Simpson
December 7 David Webb
December 8 Mark Petrilli
December 8 Dylan Steeves
December 10 Mike Wehmueller
December 11 Richard Dedmon
December 11 Silas Hamilton
December 11 Madison McIntyre
December 12 Eric Wehmueller
December 13 Leslie Hannah Bankirer
December 13 Lance Ware
December 14 Shawn McNeary
December 14 Joyce Ruark
December 15 Jennifer Niblack
December 16 Karen Simpson
December 17 Bert Cushman
December 18 Shannon Blackley
December 18 Lydia Boinest
December 18 Turner Smith
December 19 Whit Beam
December 19 Pete Moore
December 19 Julia Nicopoulos
December 19 Dot Roark
December 20 Rick Bowles
December 20 Taylor Cerwin
December 20 Lou Gebel
December 20 Kate McIntyre
December 22 Becca Schweppe
December 22 Charlie Schweppe
December 23 Gary Romich
December 25 Anna Winstead Meza
December 28 Larry Pearson
December 29 David Dodd
December 29 Ray Gravett
December 29 Todd Welton
December 30 Dennis Beam
December 31 D Goforth

NOTE OF THANKS FROM YOUTH

The SPC Youth would like to thank everyone who came out to enjoy their Italian night supper fund-raiser and to hear the Guatemala mission team share about their trip experiences. Through your generosity, \$810.00 was collected for the Youth Mission Fund and will support future projects and trips. Thank you!

GIRL SCOUTS NEED YOUR HELP

Our Girl Scout Troop 20032 at Shelby Presbyterian Church has decided to do a service project. We have two girls who are in need that are the same age around our girls size 7 to 8 that need shirts, pants, coat, underwear, socks size large, hair accessories, body spray, body lotion, hand sanitizer, stuffed toys, anything Frozen, anything Cinderella. If you would like to help, please contact Jennifer Ormand. All these things are needed by December 8th. Again thank you for all your support.

-Jennifer Ormand, Scout Leader
Jenniferormand@yahoo.com or 704.477.0235

WORSHIP GUILD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Several of our faithful and much appreciated Worship Guild volunteers have moved away this year– Jill & Lionel Dodson and Debbie Griffin. Therefore, we are in need of additional volunteers for 2018. If this is something that might interest you, please call Worship Guild Chairperson, Harriette Beam, 704-482-3662, or the church office for further information.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Again this year, in the interest of saving the cost of postage, 2018 offering envelopes will not be mailed. For those using envelopes, they will be available for you to pick up at the church beginning Sunday, December 10, in the hallway behind the sanctuary (across from the conference room). Be sure to get your box - they will be arranged in alphabetical order. If you use offering envelopes and cannot find your box, please let the church office know.

NOTES RECEIVED

Dear Church Members,

We wish to thank all the "Pres" members who held us in their prayers after the October tornado that damaged our home and property. We especially thank all the hard working men who aided with our major clean up efforts on Friday and Saturday.

Thanks again for your loving support.

Marvin & Mary Ann Weber

Dear Shelby Presbyterian Women & Members,

Thank you all so very much for your time and kindness in preparing and serving the reception for Mother's service. It was "just right" - as Randy would have said! We were able to visit with many friends because of your efforts. We saw quite a few enjoying the delicious refreshments!

Many thanks to each of you for this and for your caring for Mother over the years. The church was so very special to her, truly what made Shelby home.

Sincerely,

Carole Malek & Cynthia Dixon

(daughters of Shirley Carothers)

2017 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

On Sunday, December 17, our church will collect the 2017 Christmas Joy Offering. With grateful hearts and generous gifts, Presbyterians reach out through the Christmas Joy Offering to members of our Christian family as God reaches out to us. One-half of our gifts supports the Board of Pensions' assistance programs, while the other half helps to support seven Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. We encourage your participation as we help those who are discovering and developing their gifts as students, and those who have served the church faithfully with their gifts, and who now need financial assistance. Bring joy to the longing hearts of young and old alike by participating in the 2017 Christmas Joy Offering.

SESSION MEETING NOTES

OCTOBER 17, 2017

Elders present were Joe Ogburn, Doug Boyette, Anne Langley, Jill Venable, Ellen Fletcher, Margie McSwain, Brock Taylor, Kathy Wilson, Agaat Den Hertog, Nancy Blackley, Jeff Hamilton, Robin Holland, Lloyd Williams, Jr., Paul Woodard, and Sherry Young. Deacons present were Laura Carter, Sandy Cheaney.

Pastor & Moderator Luke Harkey was present and called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. Sherry Young lit the Christ Candle and had a devotional "With God All Things Are Possible" and led in singing the hymn "Take My Life." The Affirmation of Faith was read in unison as printed on the agenda.

ORDER OF THE DAY: EXAMINATION OF NEW OFFICERS

Elders: Trip Boinest, Betsy Fonvielle, David Schweppe, Jeanne Spragins; Deacons: Carolyn Billings, Anne Kennedy, Brett Niblack, Joe Petrilli, Wiley Smith. Each new officer presented insights from officer training. Examination questions were answered. The session voted to accept all new officers.

COMMUNICATIONS

Clerk - Joe Ogburn: •Request for transfer of membership to Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hendersonville, was approved for Sandra Dwork. •Coordinating Council has met to make committee assignments for 2018.

Co-Chairs, Diaconate - Laura Carter and Sandy Cheaney: •Picnic on Consecration Sunday was a success.

Pastor - Luke Harkey: •Red Cross Blood Drive on 10-17-17 was a success. •Wednesday night supper for 10-18-17 has been cancelled to allow SPC members to attend the Red Carpet showing of "Same Kind of Different as Me" at the Mall cinemas. Chick-Fil-A will donate 15% of proceeds to the Cleveland County Rescue Mission for meals purchased prior to the showing of the movie. •Food Ministry Task Force meeting was attended by Pastor Harkey and Joyce Boyette. Food distribution in Cleveland County was discussed. The opportunity to volunteer at the Community Table Thanksgiving Meal to be held at 4 P.M. on Wednesday, November 22 was discussed.

MINUTES

Stated Session minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting and the congregational meeting of October 1, 2017 were approved.

COMMITTEES

Cleveland County Rescue Mission Update -

Jeff Hamilton: •Reported on the movie debut of *"Same Kind of Different as Me."* CCRM is offering cards which can be given to persons in need of a meal and can be presented to CCRM to allow for access to a meal.

Communion - Brock Taylor: •Dates for Communion were noted. Gluten free wafers will be available.

Member Care - Margie McSwain: •The committee has offered to provide funding if needed for members of SPC who pursue spiritual direction with Dr. Al Sproull.

Finance and Stewardship - Jill Venable: •Pledge cards were received from 71 families with pledge of over \$350,000. Pledge cards for the Organ Fund were received from 53 families with pledges of over \$51,000.

Spiritual Life - Sherry Young: •Advent small group study will be offered and facilitated by members of the Spiritual Life Committee. Four weekly meetings will begin on Sunday, November 26. *"Simply Wait"* is the devotional book which will be available in the church office. Advent Calendars/Devotional Booklets will be available.

Worship and Music - Robin Holland: •Plans proceed for the organ repair fund campaign. •Request for baptism of Elizabeth Rhodes Couch on November 26, 2017 was approved. Rev. Delores Langley, great-aunt of Elizabeth, will participate in the baptism and deliver the sermon. •Wedding of Laura Couey and Preston Winters on November 4, 2017 was approved. •Plans for placing rails on the front steps of the chancel are being evaluated. •Request was made that the Communion table be returned to its proper place on the day of Communion.

Property - Brock Taylor: •Lighting for the church spire and the fish on the chapel has been completed. •The concern about the need to remove the pecan tree outside Rainbow rooms has been resolved. The tree will not be removed.

Mission and Ministry - Paul Woodard:

•Monday food ministry served 92 persons in September.

OLD BUSINESS

The SPC church-wide survey is being prepared for distribution by the end of October.

The Session voted to recognize the Rev. Dr. Alden Sproull's work as a Spiritual Director and to invite members of Shelby Presbyterian Church to prayerfully consider this as a way that we can "grow as disciples of Jesus Christ." The Session also authorized the Member Care Committee to contribute to this ministry from member care special funds.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made and approved to allow the Youth Committee to hold a fundraising event at Wednesday night supper on November 1 in conjunction with Youth Mission Group presentation on the Guatemala mission trip of summer 2017.

Luke Harkey adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Joe Ogburn, Clerk of Session, and Doug Boyette, Vice-Clerk of Session.

PRESBYTERY IN BRIEF

OCTOBER 24, 2017

As the fog lifted on a beautiful day in the Blue Ridge, the Presbytery of Western North Carolina joined together on October 24, 2017 at First Presbyterian Church, Asheville. Melvin Meares called us to order and Patrick Johnson welcomed us. With a quorum present, Cam Murchison began our work with the consent agenda and the Stated Clerk's report.

That report included the recommendation of the Administrative Commission for the First Presbyterian Church of Kings Mountain that the church be dissolved as a congregation of the PCUSA under the terms specified in the property settlement agreement. That recommendation was adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

The Administrative Commissions that have served for the First Presbyterian Churches of Hendersonville and Lenoir were dissolved with the thanks of the Presbytery for their steadfast labors on behalf of the congregations.

With hearts ready to listen, we celebrated a service of worship led by Asheville area pastors and lay leaders concentrating on freedom and reformation. We shared in grace at the table and received an offering to support the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program of the PC(USA). The offering today amounted to \$1149.

Speak out time consisted of announcements pertinent to our life together. Carol Brown reminded us that Presbyterians for Disability Concerns had information available at this meeting. Grace Covenant in Asheville reported that they are supporting a transportation program for those who may need legal services for immigration issues. For more information about volunteering to provide transportation to Pisgah Legal Services in Asheville, email Sancttransport@gmail.com. Rebecca Harrison gave a shout out to the Facebook page "Happy to Be a Presbyterian" and encouraged people to join. Sarah Thomas from Black Mountain Home for Children reminded us of the upcoming Thanksgiving Offering and thanked those who helped with the Fall Festival at Black Mountain Children's Home. Tamara Puffer informed us that there will be a meeting of Presbyterians for Disability Concerns at lunch today. Lori Fees of the Children's Hope Alliance announced that there is a new CEO for the agencies. There was a plea for foster or temporary shelter homes.

As the meeting continued, the Standing Rules of Presbytery were updated to reflect changes in our language and structure for committee work in the Presbytery.

In the COM report, Tricia Lytle was approved to move from Transitional Associate Pastor to Designated Associate Pastor of Unity Presbyterian. William Lowrey, Priscilla Durkin, Jeff Aiken and Margaret Torrence were welcomed to the Presbytery and Millie Bruns was commissioned to her work as chaplain at Mills River Lodge Nursing Facility. All active pastors and elders serving on certain presbytery committees are reminded to update their "relational boundaries" certifications with the upcoming workshop on November 4, 2017.

Louden Young, a student from Columbia Seminary and a child of New Hope Presbyterian Church, Asheville became a candidate for ministry (the next step on his way to ordination).

In a rare appearance before the microphone, Robbin Buchanan gave the report of the Nominating Committee, which recommended Rev. Dr. Charles Davenport and Dorothy Descieux be approved as the commissioners for the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic gatherings. Nominated and approved were also commissioners for the 223rd General Assembly - Rev.

Harold Bennett, Rev. Samantha Gonzales-Block, Mimi Michaels and Roger Rizk. Reverend Grace Boyer and Beth Hall were approved as alternates. Approval was given by the Presbytery for the YAD (Youth Advisory Delegate) to be chosen by the General Council and the Youth Committee at a later date. If commissioners and alternates are not able to attend the Moderator of Presbytery and the Chair of the COM were given permission by Presbytery to name new commissioners.

A presentation was given on the PneuMatrix Program available as a pilot project in our Presbytery for church renewal.

Two CE Resource people have been appointed to help out with Christian Education questions and help; Betty Davenport in the Eastern part of the Presbytery and Mary Lou Nash in the Western part of the Presbytery. The CE Committee also reminded the body that there is limited scholarships available for APCE for those who wish to attend. The Youth Committee reminded us of the upcoming Middle School Retreat and the Faith and Sexuality retreat for 5th grade up and their parents.

Bobbi White gave the General Presbyter's report, commending us to "ask new questions" and "remember we are loved."

We heard an update on the Building HOPE Campaign and how the funds used are making a huge difference in the lives of people in Guatemala, Malawi and here in our own Presbytery.

Peace and Justice Committee reported that it is looking forward to discerning the grants that will be distributed from the Peacemaking Offering. Anne Morgan reminded us of the work that needs to be remembered in the South Sudan.

The Hunger Committee provided a moving presentation about the work of "God's Table" in Asheville - a recipient of a Nickel a Meal grant. We also heard about the work the mission group of the presbytery did in Kinston. There will be upcoming opportunities for mission travel to Malawi and other disaster assistance trips are in the planning stages.

We heard good things about the Guatemala Partnership.

The Bills and Overtures Committee considered the motion by First Presbyterian of Marion on Mission Health's status with Blue Cross Blue Shield and presented an alternative statement recommending that no action be taken at this time. The Presbytery concurred.

Blake Daniel offered prayers of intercession for us and Melvin Meares concluded our meeting at 1:17 PM with a benediction.

JOIN US NEW YEAR'S EVE

7:00 pm - Watch-Night Service with communion in Chapel
7:45 pm - Hot Cider

2018 FLOWER CALENDAR

A Flower Calendar for 2018 will be posted soon on the bulletin board as you come in the west entrance (across from playground). If there is a Sunday in 2018 that you would like to reserve, please call the church office and we'll sign you up.

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER POINSETTIAS

If you would like to order a poinsettia(s) to be placed in the church for December 17 and the Christmas Eve Services, either in memory or in honor of someone, we ask that your check accompany the order form below and that it be made payable to "Shelby Presbyterian Church." Turn your form and check into the church office **no later than Dec. 4.**

Yes, I (We) would like ____ poinsettia(s) placed in the church.
Enclosed is \$ _____.
In Memory of _____
In Honor of _____
By _____

NOVEMBER 2017 STEWARDSHIP REPORT

2017 Operating Budget \$543,199.00
Needed Weekly \$ 10,249.04
November 5
Received \$ 20,393.78
5¢-A-Meal (total Nov.) \$ 269.41
Sunday School Attendance 84
8:30 Attendance 33
11:00 Attendance 116

November 12

Received \$ 13,377.19
Sunday School Attendance 67
8:30 Attendance 31
11:00 Attendance 127

November 19

Received \$ 9,967.87
Sunday School Attendance 69
8:30 Attendance 45
11:00 Attendance 120

November 26

Received \$ 6,992.74
Thanksgiving Offering for Black Mountain Home for Children, Youth & Families . . . \$ 1,143.31
Sunday School Attendance 73
8:30 Attendance 40
11:00 Attendance 156

***As of November 27, 2017:** 107 Financial Pledge Cards for the 2018 budget have been received that total \$466,585.40. (At this same time last year we had received 111 cards that totaled \$471,544.36.) We have received 70 Pledge Cards for the 2018-19 Organ Fund that total \$64,320.00. Please give prayerful consideration to bringing or mailing your card(s) to the church office as soon as possible. Cards are available in the narthex or in the church office.*

UPDATE ON ORGAN FUND

Need \$120,000.00
Balance as of 11/27/2017 \$ 71,753.33

MEMORIALS RECEIVED IN NOVEMBER

. . . to the Anne Potts Boy Scout Fund in memory of Jim Teddy Jr.
. . . to the Choir Fund in memory of Shirley Carothers.
. . . to the Legacy Fund in memory of Jim Teddy Jr.
. . . to the Memorial Fund in memory of Grethel Boyette, John Campbell, Shirley Carothers,
. . . to the Music Fund in memory of Shirley Carothers.
. . . to the Organ Fund in memory of John Campbell, Shirley Carothers, Ned Freeman, Jim Teddy Jr.

THREE NOTES FROM THE BOOKKEEPER

(1) 2017 Donations

The Office will be open ONLY until 12:00 noon December 29, 2017 to receive any end-of-year giving. **OR** you can put end-of-the-year donations in the offering plate on December 31! Last donations must be in at that time, or if mailed, postmarked no later than December 31, 2017. Anything after that will be considered 2018 donations, even if the check is dated 2017.

(2) Online Giving

If you have online banking, giving your offering can be made simple and easy. Away on vacation, forgot your envelope, never need to be problems again!

1. Find Bill Pay, or whatever your Bank calls it, on your online bank account.

2. Set up Shelby Presbyterian Church as a Pay To account (this will require the church's address: PO Box 1444, Shelby NC 28151)

3. Select automatic payments

4. Enter the amount you would like to contribute, the frequency, and the duration of your payment. Remember you can adjust this amount or cancel at any time. Also you will be able to give any special instructions regarding distribution of the offering. If it is for your pledge, you need not list any instructions.

If you have any problems setting this up, you can contact your personal bank for help. The check is mailed to the church at no cost to you. If you desire to have your donation posted to your church pledge each month, it will be helpful to have Payment Date by the 25th of each month. This will give the bank time to print and mail.

(3) Giving by Numbered Envelope

The information that helps to be on your numbered envelope is the amount inside. If you desire not to put your name on it, the number will identify it for posting to your Pledge and the Bookkeeper will enter the amount for the Secretary.

HOLIDAY CHURCH OFFICE SCHEDULE

The church office will be closed December 22, 25 & 26; will close at Noon on Dec. 29; and be closed January 1. Please keep these dates in mind for bulletin deadlines. Check the December calendar for other dates the office may only be open from 9:00-3:00. Call 704.487.8503 to make sure someone is here, especially during the last two weeks of Dec.

ARE YOU ON DUTY IN DECEMBER?

9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Fellowship Time

- Dec. 3 Beverly Styers
- 10 Agaat Den Hertog
- 17 Kathryn & Don Bridges
- 24 No Fellowship Time - 10:00 Service
- 31 Barbara Hannah

Deacons Taking Up Offering & Ushers

- Thomas Couch, Captain Heidi Steeves
- Spencer Borders Barbara Moore
- Warren Julian

Sound Board

- Dec. 3 Chip Blackley
- 10 Joe Petrilli
- 17 Lee Huston
- 24 10:00 a.m. Joe Petrilli
5:00 p.m. Chip Blackley
8:00 p.m. John Brotherton
- 31 Chip Blackley

8:30 a.m. Worship Liturgist

- Dec. 3 Jeff Hamilton
- 10 Kyle Aldinger
- 17 Julia Persing
- 24 10:00 a.m. Service in Sanctuary
- 31 Heidi Steeves

11:00 a.m. Worship Liturgist

- Dec. 3 Barbara Blackburn
- 10 Betsy Fonvielle
- 17 *Not Yet Scheduled*
- 24 10:00 a.m. Pat Byers
- 31 Marlene Lovelace

Offering Counter with Bookkeeper

Joe Ogburn

Sanctuary Worship Guild

- Dec. 3 Barbara Blackburn & Barbara Hannah
- 10 Margie McSwain & Margaret Harry
- 17 Harriette & Laura Beam
- 24 Judy Greer & Rachel White
- 31 Beverly Elmore & Stuart Schweppe

Wednesday Night Elders & Deacons

- Dec. 6 Nancy Blackley & Brock Taylor
Beverly Styers & Thomas Couch
- 13 Lloyd Williams Jr. & Jeff Hamilton
Tom Greene & Warren Julian

Sanctuary Flowers

- Dec. 3 *Available*
- 10 *Available*
- 17, 24, 31 Poinsettias

MINUTES With hearts ready to listen, we celebrated a
THROUGH THE SHE

BY PRES(S)