



Snow Creek Christian Church

4970 Snow Creek Road
Martinsville Virginia, 24112
Phone 276-638-5272
www.snowcreekcc.com
Like us on facebook



December 2022

Reflections

This is one of those years in which, by some quirk of the calendar, December 25th falls on a Sunday. What that means is that many Christians the world over will spend Christmas morning, not opening presents under the tree, but in church. To someone that knew nothing about Christianity, this might seem normal. They might assume that on the day that Christians have specially set aside to celebrate the birth of the one that would become their Lord and Savior that Christians might regularly join together in worship to hear the story of Christ's birth, to sing hymns of praise to him, to offer prayers of thanksgiving for him, to give our gifts of time and tithe to him, and to share at his table together with him as a community.

On the contrary, over time we have developed many other traditions to celebrate Christ's coming into the world. We decorate, we feast, we gather as family and give gifts to loved ones. I know two children (my own) who may not be so excited about church disrupting their cherished Christmas morning routine of excitedly tearing into their presents.

Sometimes it seems as if we have come to celebrate these Christmas traditions more than the actual Christ child that they are meant to honor. But that is not anything new. When Jesus was born in a stable and placed in a manger, the world took little notice. From then until now, people have frequently disdained the many ways that Christ would come to challenge their traditions and disrupt their routines.

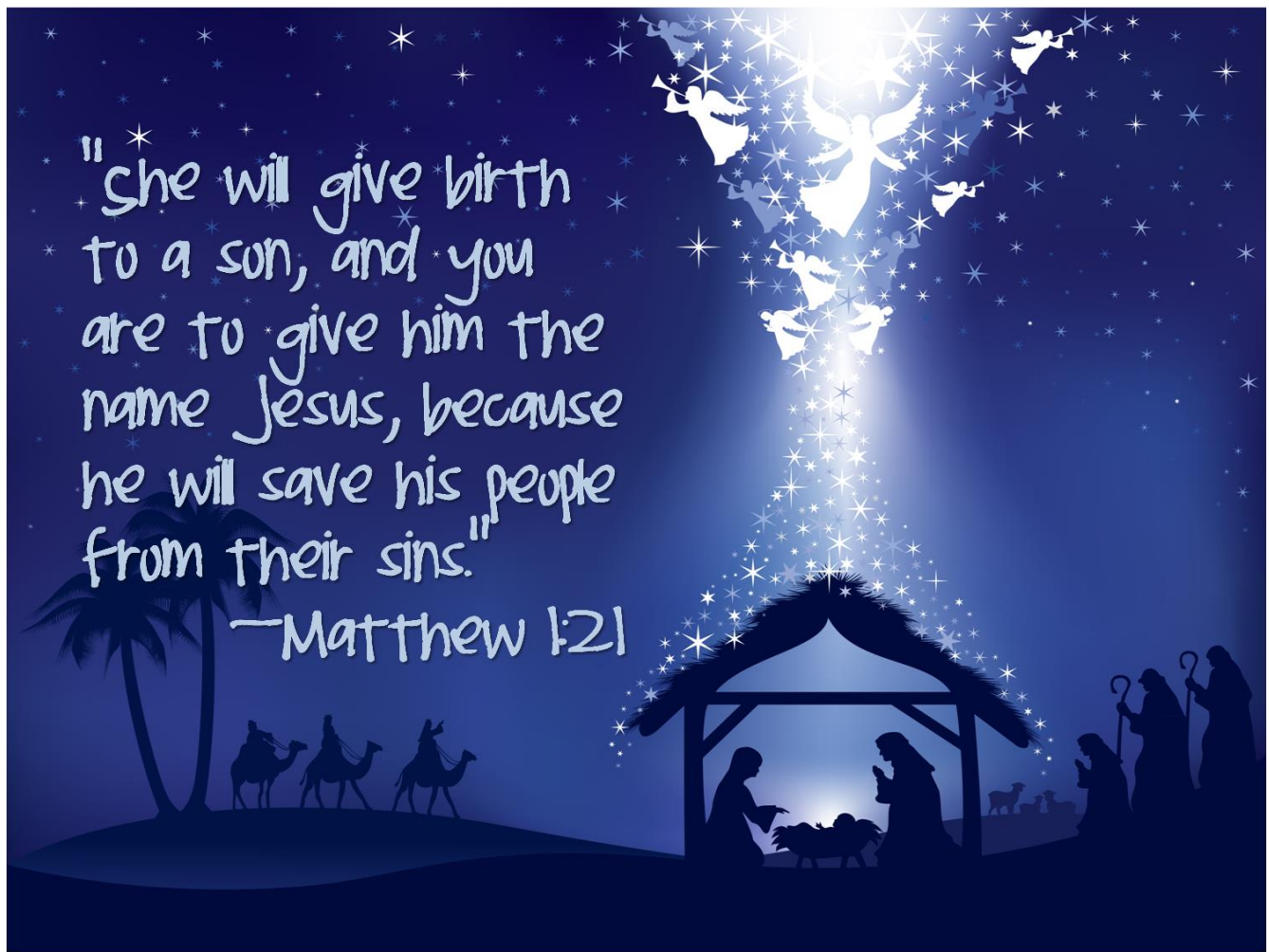
This is a busy time for people, even for the church. In the coming month, we are planning a youth outing to Roanoke and the youth Christmas play which will be on December 18th during the worship service. Our outreach committee has made annual donations to several local charities serving our area and is in the process of visiting and delivering gift baskets to our homebound congregants and others. We are adding an additional worship service on Christmas Eve at 9 o'clock to usher in the Christmas season and emailing daily devotions during Advent to prepare for its arrival.

In the midst of the busyness though it is important that we not lose sight of the goal of it all, to celebrate the birth of Christ. The word Christmas comes from a mash-up of the terms Christ and Mass, Mass being the age-old term for the coming together of Christians to celebrate Holy Communion. There is a cliché that pops up every year at this time lamenting that people have forgotten to put the Christ in Christmas. This year Snow Creek Christian Church is excited that we have the

opportunity to put the Mass back in it as well. I hope you can make time to come join us then and each Sunday morning this December.

God be with you.

Scott.



December Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

December 4 (2nd Sunday of Advent)

- Isaiah 11:1-10
- Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
- Romans 15:4-13
- Matthew 3:1-12

December 18 (4th Sunday of Advent)

- Isaiah 7:10-16
- Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
- Romans 1:1-7
- Matthew 1:18-25

December 11 (3rd Sunday of Advent)

- Isaiah 35:1-10
- Psalm 146:5-10 OR Luke 1:46b-55
- James 5:7-10
- Matthew 11:2-11

December 25 (Nativity of the Lord)

- Isaiah 9:2-7 OR 62:6-12 OR 52:7-10
- Psalm 96 OR 97 OR 98
- Titus 2:11-14 OR 3:4-7 OR Hebrews 1:1-12
- Luke 2:1-20 OR 2:1-20 OR John 1:1-14



Christmas Offering

(from Disciples Mission Fund)

On December 11 and 18, Disciples churches across the US will collect the annual Christmas Offering. This offering supports regional ministries. In 31 regions across the United States and Canada, ministers are nurtured and congregations are provided opportunities for work and worship. Often recognized for the ministries of camps and conferences, regions also play a critical role in the preparation and authorization of ministerial ordination. Both are key to church leadership and development. Regions partner with congregations to support the work required to call a new minister. Thank you so much for your generosity both past and present in support the Disciples of Christ at the local and regional level through your giving.

Board Minutes

16-October-2022

G.B. called the meeting to order. Scott had our opening prayer. Minutes were reviewed. Joyce made a motion to approve the minutes and Linda seconded the motion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Bud had the treasurer's report for the month of September's offering and expenses. It was a typical month in offerings totaling \$5783.00, which included the \$138.00 from the donations collected for the kid's ice cream fund. There was a new operating expense for pre-marital counselling for \$70.00. There was \$1900.00 in miscellaneous donations given towards the backpack program. Kay made a motion to approve the report and Doug seconded, motion carried.

Pastor's Report- Scott said he did not have much to report on. The time for Trunk or Treat is going to be 5-7 instead of the original time of 6-8 on October 30. He said he will be at the church this week Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday instead of the typical Monday, Wednesday and Friday. He also said the exterminator was coming on Tuesday October 18.

There will not be any Community fall services this year.

Committee Reports-

Old Business- The board was presented with a list of current officers as well as the list of officers for the year 2023. There were no district representatives listed except noted as needed. There were few changes other than noticeably fewer diaconates. There were discussions about training for the Deacons as well as having someone with experience working as a lead in conjunction with the newest members while they were serving. Bud said there are books that one can refer to and that he has one. There was also mention of having a lead Elder and a lead Deacon that would oversee the functions of those positions. Bud said it should not be on Scott to have to make sure someone was available to serve any given Sunday. Bud made a motion to accept the list of officers and Gusta seconded, motion passed.

CD and John Prillaman were present for the board meeting to answer questions about possibly conveying the cemetery over to the church. The title of the Prillaman cemetery is Snow Creek Cemetery Corporation. CD and John wanted to have an open discussion forum with questions and hopefully answers. They have put together everything they have managed to find at this point dating back to the 1870's. That included currently buried and purchased plots. They said the software Crypt Keeper could be purchased for \$60.00 annual and it could be accessed from a phone. It has mapped out pictures and details that could help to modernize the bookkeeping aspect of the cemetery.

They believed there were still 35 lots for sale above the driveway. Gusta and Joyce each have receipts but no deed. The Prillamans want to get that updated and said it was important to know who had lots paid for. A plot also includes 2 gravesites. Their main reason for wanting to convey this over to the church is that there is no one left in their family who is able or has a desire to care for it.

They stated the average yearly cost in maintenance was \$1200.00- \$1500.00. They also said the owner of the monument is responsible for the monument and that the owner of the cemetery is responsible for sinkage, mowing and maintaining the driveway.

The remainder of the cemetery discussions were held after the pastor's exit. GB said it is important to have accurate documentation of what has been purchased and reserved. Bud said in regards to maintenance cost the church needs to weigh today's cost as versus cost 50 years from now. The church needs an accurate map of the cemetery and GB stated that until that was secured there would be no transfer to the church. GB said there would be a token dollar amount of 6-7 thousand dollars also given at the time of transfer to the new owners.

GB said the Prillamans have Holland and Purdue for attorneys. GB suggested the church reach out to Steve Maddy on the church's behalf. Janet made a motion to speak to Steve Maddy and Barbara seconded, motion carried.

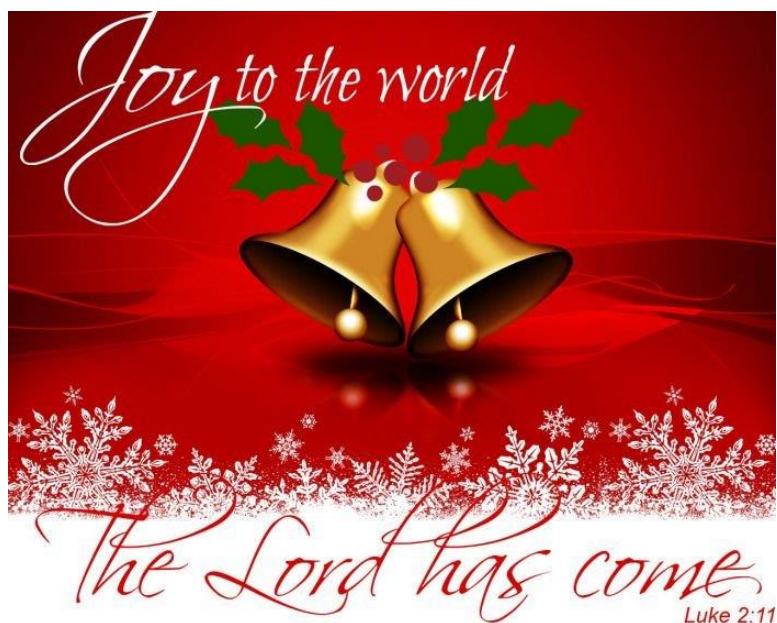
New Business- GB said Sunday, October 23 the church would celebrate Scott as part of October's Pastor Appreciation month. GB proposed the board consider increasing Scott's, Mike's and Debbie's Christmas gift in this year's budget. Kay made a motion to increase the gift amounts and Joyce seconded, motion carried.

Calendar of Events-

Trunk or Treat Sunday, October 30 from 5-7

Bud had our closing prayer. Meeting Adjourned,

Respectfully Submitted, Susan Walker, Secretary



New Members



Please welcome Wanda Plybon Damon to the Church. She transferred her Membership on November 6 to our Church. She lives in the Snow Creek area and is related to the Plybon and Martin families in the Church.

Hanging of the Greens







Trunk Or Treat 2022





Upcoming Events

Daily Advent Devotionals emailed to the Church Family during the Advent Season by Minister Scott. Lighting of the Advent candles by families each Sunday during the Advent Season at Church.

Dec. 11 Board Meeting after worship

Dec. 18 Youth Christmas Play during the worship service

Dec. 18 Youth Caroling in the area and delivering fruit baskets from the Church following the Church service.

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve service at 9:00 p.m. at the Church.

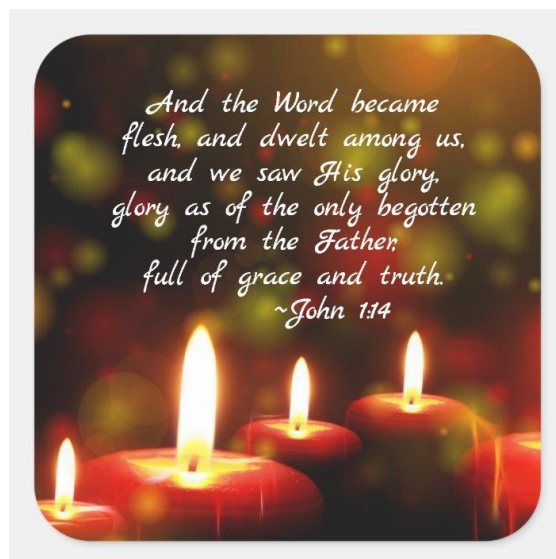
Dec. 25 Christmas

Jan. 6 to Jan.16 Minister Scott will be in intensives training in Kentucky.

He will be in the Church January 4 and return January 18.

Minister Bob Mooty will deliver the sermon on both Sundays.

He is the Minister that delivered the message at Homecoming.





LET'S CELEBRATE



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Michele Beall
- 4 Mason Arrington
- 5 Cynthia Jordan
- 7 Nick Doyle
- 9 Jared Pruett
- 10 Lindsey Doyle
- 11 Aileene Doyle
- 12 Lee Mitchell
- 13 Sammy Boyd
- 17 Walker Amos
- 19 Donna Thurman
- 25 **JESUS**
- 27 Molly Mitchell
- 29 Breyer Martin
- 30 Marty Plybon

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 Phillip & Debbie Haynes
- 11 Steve & Cynthia Jordan
- 12 Curtis & Louise Washburn

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Krystal Washburn
- 3 Ed Ingram
- 4 Tyler Jordan, Ryan Haynes
- 8 Nancy Compton,
- 8 Patricia Brown
- 9 Vickie Washburn
- 12 Michelle Via
- 13 Lisa Shepherd
- 16 Haley Morris
- 16 Ashlee Washburn Dalton
- 17 Nancy Martin
- 20 Taylor Amos
- 22 Jonathan Mitchell
- 23 Donald Via
- 24 Colton Haynes
- 26 Heather Amos
- 29 Curtis Washburn
- 30 Barrett Pruett
- 31 Lacey Mitchell

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 20 Mike & Pam Doyle

Please email me any additions or corrections to the birthday or anniversaries list.

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family, please email me at barbsmith@b2xonline.com or call me at 540 352 4535 or relay in person.

If you are currently not receiving a Newsletter by email and would like to receive one, please email me to add you to the email mailing list at barbsmith@b2xonline.com.

