



Snow Creek Christian Church

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JANUARY 2023

Reflections

This month I am hitting the road for a couple of weeks. I will be gone the Sundays of January 8th and 15th. I am finally getting a chance to attend in-class intensives at Lexington Theological Seminary in Lexington, Kentucky where I have been enrolled since I started serving at Snow Creek. These are typically held twice a year in the winter and summer, but Covid has thrown a bit of a wrench in my progress towards a divinity degree. This is the first time that I have been able to attend since I enrolled in the program in 2019.

Not counting the great upheaval that hit our church with the onset of Covid in 2020, this will be, I believe, the first Sundays that I have not been there to worship at Snow Creek since I started. I am a creature of habit and this month will involve a major change in my routine. I am excited to have the opportunity to knock out a lot of the coursework that I need to complete my degree over the next few months, but also dreading the process of actually completing that work.

In the meantime, the church will be in good hands. Bob Mooty has graciously agreed to fill in

for me while I am gone. Most of you will remember him from this year's homecoming when he served as our guest preacher. Bob was my minister for nearly a decade before I came to Snow Creek and in his recent retirement has served as my designated clergy mentor since I have been enrolled in seminary. That means he has to meet me with me most weeks to discuss my progress, what I am learning in class, and my professional endeavors serving Snow Creek. He has been as big an influence as anybody on my path into the ministry and he has influenced many more while serving the Disciples of Christ as a pastor the previous four decades. I am not just trying to be humble when I say that Snow Creek will be trading up for the first part of January.

So that is a look at what the first part of my new year looks like, what about yours? Are there opportunities that you are excited about? Is there work to be done that you are dreading? Are there major changes in your daily routine that you are anticipating? January is a time where we look ahead and embrace the novelty of a new calendar year. That can be exhilarating or terrifying. There will be more of the same, but the

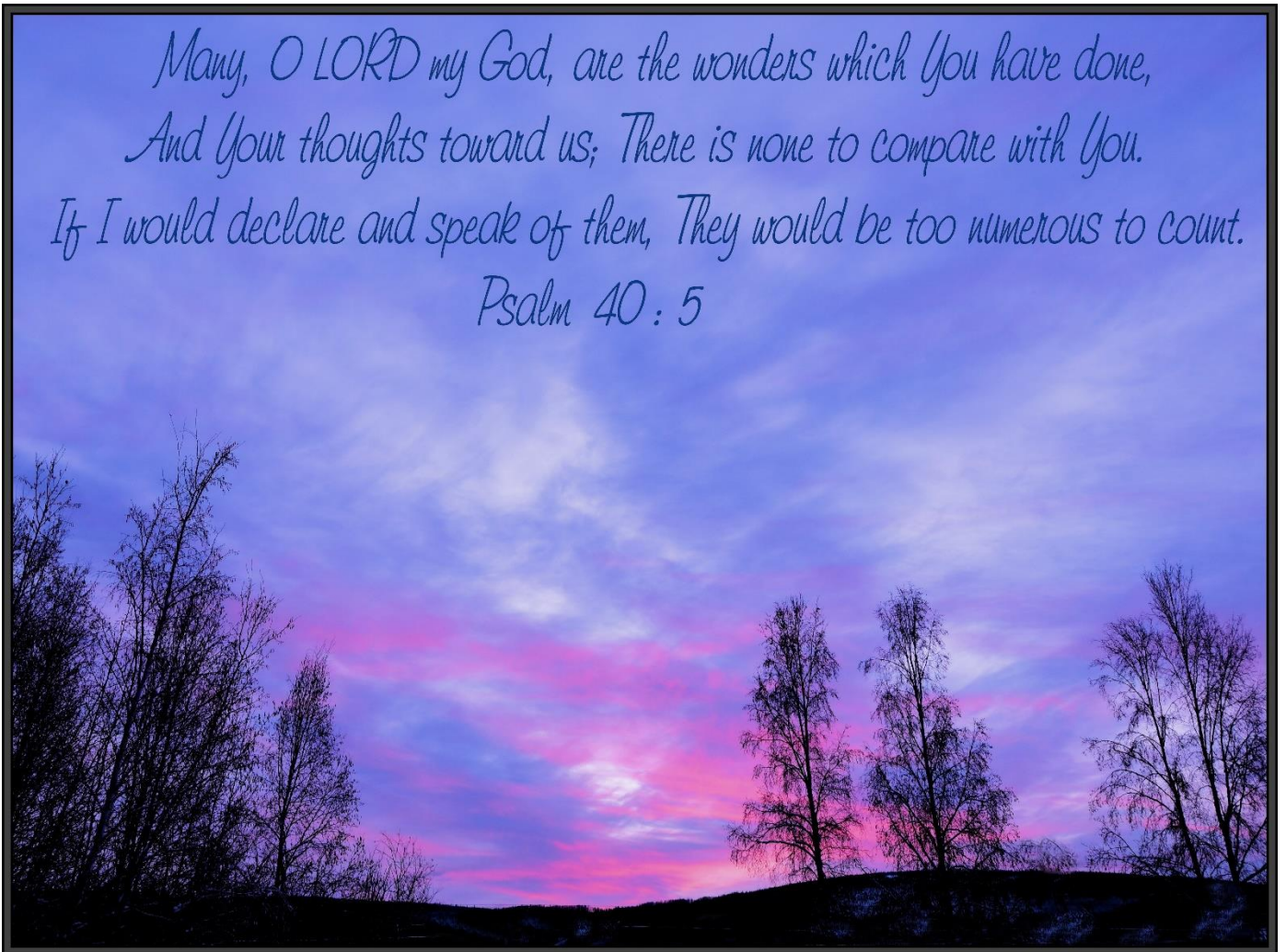
year will also include some stuff that is brand new. God's Spirit is at work in all of it, sometimes in very mysterious ways, but never leaving us alone to the whims of fate that the future holds. Whatever that is, let it help bring you closer to God. The church that has itself weathered so many changes is always there to help you with the ones in your life. On top of that, I hope you will find friends like Bob willing to step in and

lend a hand when you need one. Maybe you will even find opportunities to help somebody yourself. In any case, may you look forward with hope to a new year.

God be with you,

Scott.

*Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders which You have done,
And Your thoughts toward us; There is none to compare with You.
If I would declare and speak of them, They would be too numerous to count.
Psalm 40 : 5*



January Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

January 1 (1st Sunday after Christmas Day)

- Isaiah 63: 7-9
- Psalm 148
- Hebrews 2:10-18
- Matthew 2:13-23

January 22 (3rd Sunday after the Epiphany)

- Isaiah 9:1-4
- Psalm 27:1, 4-9
- 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
- Matthew 4:12-23

January 8 (Baptism of the Lord)

- Isaiah 42:1-9
- Psalm 29
- Acts 10:34-43
- Matthew 3:13-17

January 29 (4th Sunday after the Epiphany)

- Micah 6:1-8
- Psalm 15
- 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- Matthew 5:1-12

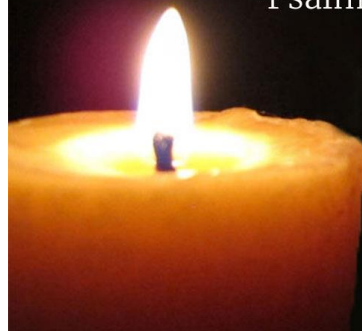
January 15 (2nd Sunday after the Epiphany)

- Isaiah 49:1-7
- Psalm 40:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
- John 1:29-42

The Lord is my
light & my salvation --
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the
stronghold of my life --
*of whom shall
I be afraid?*

-Psalm 27:1



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Board Minutes

13-November-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 Kay seconded the motion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Bud had the treasurer's report for the month of October. He stated it had been a quiet month. Total giving for the month was \$6141.00. Total operating expenses was \$4835.00. Backpack offerings which included food and clothing totaled \$737.00 which was an in and out of giving and then expense. Kay made a motion to accept the report as presented and Barbara seconded the motion, motion carried.

Pastor's Report- Scott said the annual Trunk or Treat was a huge success. Around 80 kids showed up which was more than we had in the last 3 years. The middle school age Sunday school class continued throughout the fall as they are working to prepare some individuals for baptism. As of now it looks like there will be 3 that will be baptized and those baptisms will coincide with Easter 2023. Moving forward the youth will focus on preparing for the Christmas play and take a break from the Sunday school classes so that everyone can rehearse for the play. Those classes will resume later in the winter. Right now, the Christmas play is slated to take place December 11 as part of the Sunday service. That time could change to an afternoon time slot as it has been in years past.

Next Sunday Scott would like to have a short meeting after the congregational meeting with the new slate of officers. He wants to go over the protocol for serving at the Lord's Table. This meeting is to help new members feel more confident. The plan is to have a chairperson for the deacons as well as a chair for the elders.

Scott said they would plan to deliver most of the fruit baskets for homebound congregants as part of the youth caroling event planned for December 18,

Scott plans to resume sending out the morning email devotionals beginning November 27, which is the first Sunday of Advent. If anyone would prefer to not receive those, feel free to let Scott know. The church has been invited to a district-wide Advent service on Sunday, December 4 at 3PM at Jerusalem Christian Church in Martinsville.

The Christmas Eve service at the church will be on Saturday, December 24 at 9PM. If anyone is interested in reading a scripture please let Scott know.

Scott will be gone for 2 weeks in January and Rev. Bob Mooty will be preaching those Sundays. Scott has a list of tasks that he is looking for volunteers to fill. The tasks are things such as communion and sound system helpers that can assist Bob while he is filling in.

Scott would also like to review different means of how to keep the church membership book up to date as well as possibly a digital version. He said we need to make sure the current book is up to date as the one we have now goes back to 1980.

Committee Reports-

Outreach- Linda had the list for organizations the church has given to in the past. We are currently donating a yearly amount of \$800.00 each to the following organizations.

Free Clinic of Franklin County

Faithful Friend Ministries

Heavenly Manna Food Bank

Stepping Stone Mission

Family Resource Center

STEP, Inc.

Helping Hands of Franklin County

Backpack Program

Linda would like to propose we add one more to this list, which is We Care of Franklin County, Inc. for the year 2023. George Martin has stated he would pay for this organization himself this year. Bud made a motion to add this organization and Barbara seconded, motion carried.

There was discussion as to continue with giving all 9 organizations each \$800.00 or dividing the total amount donated in the past, which is \$6400.00, between the 9. That would mean each organization would get \$711.00. Joyce made a motion to keep the amount at \$800.00 each and Kay seconded, motion carried.

Old Business- GB said there has not been any changes in the cemetery issue. Bud has spoken to an insurance company and said the rates are reasonable. There are 2 different versions, General Liability and Professional Liability. He said you could add a Cemetery Rider to our existing insurance. Joyce said someone should reach out the Forrest Hill Christian Church as they have dealt with something similar.

The Prillamans would like a record of all burial plot holders and existing grave holders that have surviving family so they can get letters sent out to all people that could be impacted once and if the transfer does take place to the church.

New Business- GB presented the Proposed Operating Budget for 2023 in the likely amount of \$75,299. Barbara made a motion to approve the budget and Linda seconded, motion carried.

Calendar of Events-

Scott had our closing prayer.

Meeting Adjourned. Respectively Submitted, Susan Walker, Secretary

Snow Creek Christian Congregational Meeting

20-November- 2022

G.B. presented to the congregation the proposed budget for 2023. Roy made a motion to approve the budget and Andrew seconded the motion, motion carried.

G.B. presented the congregation with the list of officers beginning the year 2023. Gusta made a motion to approve the list of officers and Bud seconded, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Susan Walker, Secretary

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 1 Installation of Church officers at the end of the service.

January 7 Vickie Washburn Surprise birthday at rescue squad
Building.

January 6 to January 16 Minister Scott will be in intensives training
in Kentucky. He will be at the Church January 4 and return January 8.

Minister Bob Mooty will deliver the sermon on both Sundays.

He is the minister that delivered the message at Homecoming and
Scott's mentor.

CHRISTMAS EVENTS OF THE CHURCH IN PICTURES

Minister Scott, Choir members, and the Church Youth and their parents went caroling at The nursing home in Roanoke for Aileen Doyle and homes of the Church families in the local community. They also provided fruit baskets to individuals.





FUN AT THE TRAMPOLINE PARK FOR CHURCH YOUTH





LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES BY CHURCH FAMILY MEMBERS



THE YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY





Christmas Day

Service

The Church had a large crowd of people for the service. Scott gave an inspiring message for the worship service and a children's message about Jesus. The music performed by the adult and children's choir was beautiful.





*A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE MANY PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE
CHRISTMAS EVENTS THIS YEAR. WE APPRECIATE ALL YOU DID TO
MAKE THE SEASON BETTER FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY*

*SOME OF THE PICTURES OF THE MANY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES ARE
POSTED ON THE CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE.*

FAMILY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS

To Matthew and Ashley Washburn Dalton on the birth of a baby girl on December 13.

Her name is Maddy Hazel Dalton. Her weight is 13.9 pounds and height is 21 inches.

Her proud Grandparents are G.B. and Krystal Washburn.

Her sister is Baylee





LET'S CELEBRATE



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

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Misty Martin
- 6 Steve Jordan
- 11 Phil Winn
- 11 Evan Mitchell
- 12 Veronica Doyle
- 14 Oaklyn Washburn
- 15 Baylee Dalton
- 15 Tony Plybon
- 16 Silas Amos
- 22 Heather Via,
- 22 Susan Gardner
- 23 Del Smith
- 25 Ruby Mae Oakes,
- 25 Phillip Haynes

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Davy & Lynn Mitchell
- 15 Jim & Nancy Compton

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