



Snow Creek Christian Church

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November 2023

Reflections

Thanks! It is a word that I do not say nearly enough, but November is always a good time to give thanks. So thanks a bunch.

Thanks for hiring a student minister back in 2019 who had not only never preached a sermon before, but had not even started his first class in seminary. I still have a lot of trouble believing that was over four years ago. One day, maybe, I'll get the hang of this 'new' job. In the meantime, thanks for your patience in working with me as I do.

Thanks for being there. Thanks for filling the pews (and for a time the parking lot) each Sunday. The church is not a building, but a community and a community requires people. In an age when we have so much at the tips of our fingers and can do so much from the comforts of our own homes, thanks for taking the time to be present with that community each Sunday. Time is a valuable community of which we only get so much. Thank you for spending some of that valuable time each week together with me and everyone else in worship. Thanks for all the extra time that so many of you put in to serve

the congregation and the community in so many different ways.

Thanks for the money. Not just for me (though trust me that is appreciated), but also for the church. It is easy to forget that churches are one of the only institutions out there that exist entirely on the generosity of others. We are not selling anything here and we don't require that anyone pay their dues to belong. Churches exist entirely on grace. Thanks for yours.

Thanks for your energy. The life of a church is made up of all of its different parts. It will only do what the sum of those parts allows it. We have accomplished a lot over the past year and all of that has come from the varied talents of those of you who have served it in so many distinct ways.

Thanks for the love. You all have welcomed me into your lives. You have welcomed me into homes and hospital rooms in times of sickness and sadness. You have shared with me struggles and celebrations. You have welcomed my family into your

community and you will always be the church that my children were raised in.

I could go on, but I want to stop and ask you what you are thankful for. Whatever it is, try to take some time, especially in this month of Thanksgiving, and express that thanks. Give credit to those for whom you are grateful. Let them know. Moreover, give thanks to the One from whom all those blessings flow. We all have things for which to be thankful to God, so let us all come together with one another each week and say so in worship and

prayer and song. We don't say thank you nearly enough, but that is what November is there to remind us to do. So let us give our thanks this month and let us live our thanks this month in a spirit of gratitude.

God be with you.

Scott



November Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

November 5th (23rd Sunday after Pentecost)

- Joshua 3:7-17
- Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
- 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
- *Matthew 23:1-12*

November 19th (25th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Judges 4:1-7
- Psalm 123
- 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
- *Matthew 25:14-30*

November 12th (24th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
- Psalm 78:1-7
- 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- *Matthew 25:1-13*

November 26th (26th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
- Psalm 100
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- *Matthew 25:31-46*



Board Minutes

Snow Creek Christian Church Board Meeting - September 10, 2023

G.B. Washburn called the meeting to order. Pastor Scott Oliver had our opening prayer. The August minutes were reviewed. Joyce Ingram made a motion to approve the amended minutes, Vivian Doyle seconded, the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Bud Hippisley reported for August; it was a reasonably normal month. The only unusual expense was \$1,237.00 for the plumber to repair the line and demo the pump house. Again, the new monthly number for insurance is up 17% to \$381 and will remain at this rate for the next 10 or 11 months. The Backpack offering at end of July should have been in July report, but did not get deposited until August so it is on this report. Bud has spoken to Church Mutual and notified them that we will not have a claim for the well or the pump house since we now know they are on the Lodge property, not church property. Curtis Washburn made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Vivian second, the motion carried.

Committee Reports: No reports

Old business

- Well House- There is no information from the State Police yet on who may have hit the pump house. The Lodge is working on estimates for repair and will submit to their insurance company. They are still planning to install the tank in their basement. We will continue to monitor their progress and decision, since it impacts our water service.
- Finance Committee - In August, the Board approved a motion to allow the Finance Committee to invest church funds in the Disciples of Christ Foundation mutual funds. The Foundation requires a Resolution by the Board before funds can be invested in their products. The Board needs to complete a certificate of authority/signature card. Bud Hippisley made a motion to complete the certificate of authority signifying the Board's Resolution to invest funds in the Disciples of Christ Foundation products in accordance with the Board's August decision, Joyce seconded, the motion carried. (See attached copy of certificate of authority.)

New Business

- Custodial Services - GB received three bids for the custodial position: Veronica Doyle, Lonnie Fredette, and Kimberly White. Veronica is a member and has been performing the service temporarily since Kay Boyd had to stop. GB met with Kimberly, Veronica, and Lonnie walked them through the church and explained the required service. Question: Do we need to have these people bonded? Answer: We haven't in the past, but have had them contracted,

which should protect our interest. Two clause additions are required to be added to the contract: 1) the contractor must give 30 days' notice of intent to leave the position and 2) the contractor is responsible for finding an acceptable substitute when they are ill or on vacation and cannot perform the duties. Bud moved that we contract with Veronica Doyle for custodial service, based on her training from Kay and her membership in the church, Vivian seconded, the motion carried.

Nomination Committee - GB asked for people to let him know if they are willing to work on the Nominations Committee. Last year, Bud Hippisley, Linda Hippisley and Barb Smith were on the committee; GB will contact them to see if they are willing to serve again this year..

Purchase Vacuum Cleaner- GB recommended a vacuum cleaner be purchased so that *one* can be available upstairs and one downstairs to make cleaning the 'church easier. It should have attachments that can be used to vacuum the cloth seats in pews. For future discussion he recommends the Board consider purchase of a storage cabinet for cleaning supplies and vacuum so these supplies can be removed from the kitchen and replacement or maintenance of problematic electrical outlets. Joyce moved to spend up to \$200.00 to purchase a new upright vacuum cleaner, Vivian seconded, the motion carried.

- Schedule:

- Breakfast for the Backpack Program: Oct 7th
- Trunk or Treat: 6-8 on Oct 29th
- Piedmont Community Services
 - At the end of July Pastor Scott received an email from local community service board that provides mental health services for people with addictions. They have invested in a mobile unit that will be used to make care more accessible to people in the community, since transportation to their offices is a problem for many participants. The concept is for the unit to set up for a day (8:00 AM – 5:00 PM) in different locations in Patrick, Henry and Franklin Counties on a rotating basis to service individuals in that area. The organization contacted Pastor Scott inquiring about Snow Creek Church as a potential spot for the mobile unit due to its strategic location on a main road and closeness to the intersection of Sontag Road and Snow Creek Road. In addition to parking in the church lot, they have asked for access to a room for group counseling sessions. Pastor Scott has spoken to the Elders about this request.
 - Cynthia Shively (Nurse Practitioner) and Tammy Franklin (Admin Associate) from Piedmont Community Services came near the end of the meeting and spoke with Board, provided them with an introductory letter about the program and gave a tour of the mobile unit.
 - Their goal is to increase access to treatment in Patrick, Henry and Franklin Counties and was funded through grants. The unit is self-sufficient with a generator and bathroom and is equipped for administrative intake of individuals, peer counseling and assessment of physical health. While a nurse practitioner will be on board and can prescribe medication no medication, other than NARCAN, will be stored on the mobile unit.
 - If the Board decides to move forward with this request, a Memorandum of;

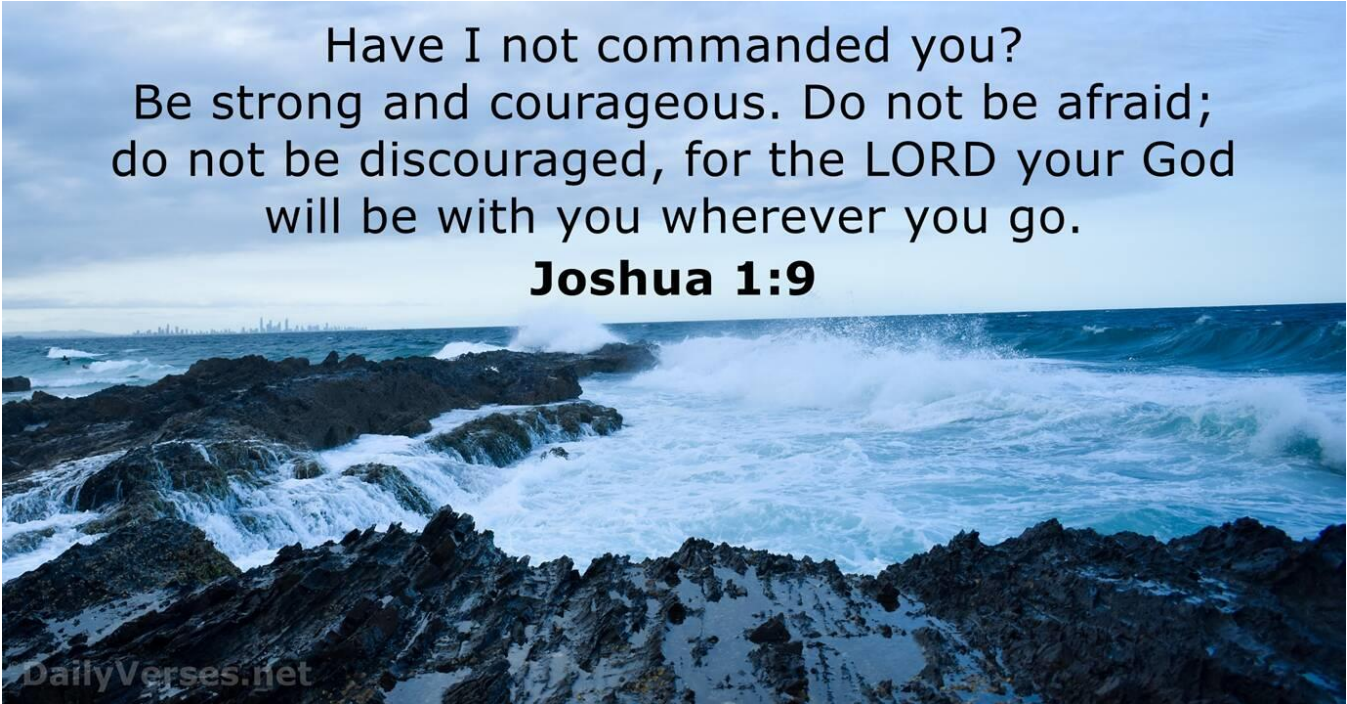
- o 'Understanding will be established between the church and Piedmont Community Services. They have secured agreements with several locations already. GB said that the Board would not make a decision before the meeting. He also recommended that they contact the Snow Creek Rescue Squad as a potential location, since it has a paramedic on duty during day time hours.

GB made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned. Pas-

tor Scott said a closing prayer. Meeting adjourned. Re-

spectfully Submitted,

Wanda Damon, Secretary



Have I not commanded you?
Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid;
do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God
will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Special Offerings

(from Disciples Mission Fund)

2023 Thanksgiving Offering

Nov 12 & 19

The Thanksgiving Offering supports Disciples colleges, universities and theological institutions. Disciples have a long history of post-secondary and theological education. This offering provides a direct connection to 15 colleges and universities, 7 seminaries and theological programs. Gifts from this offering continue the Disciples tradition of developing leaders for our communities and the Church.



2023 Christmas Offering

December 17 & 24

The Christmas 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.

New Members



Adam Eller

Adam recently became a member of the church. Congratulations to Adam. He is the husband of Jeannie Plybon and the son in law of Tony and Nancy Plybon. He is also the newest member of our **great** choir.



President Woodrow Wilson declared November 11, 1919, as Armistice Day to celebrate the ending of the Great War (World War I) a year earlier at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918.

“To us in America the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service, and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of nations,” declared Wilson.

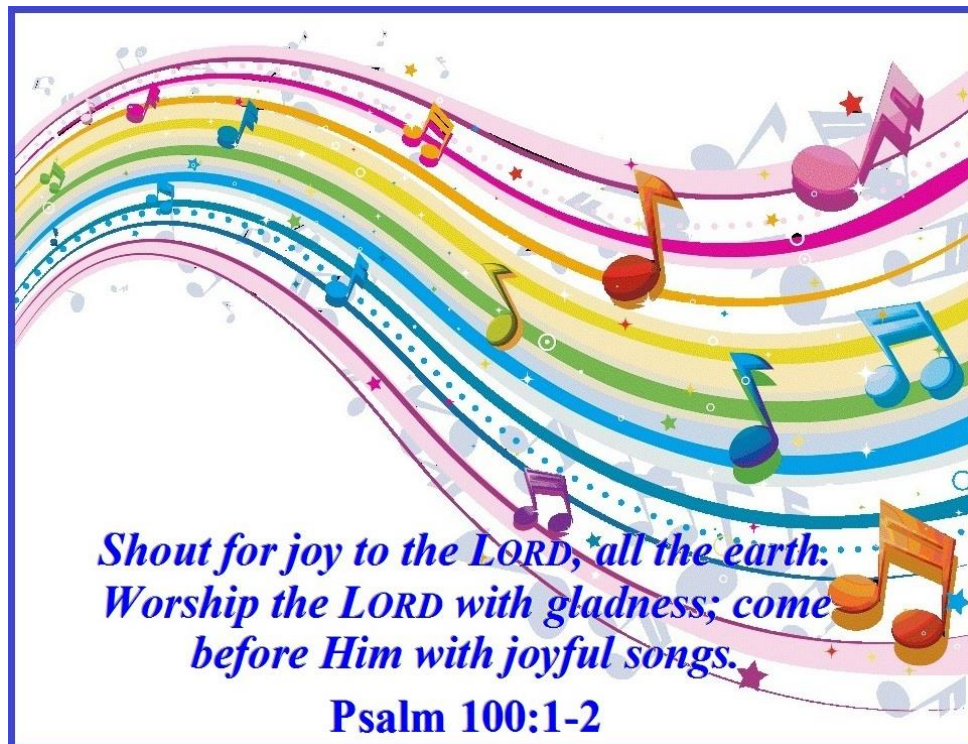
For the past 55 years, Armistice Day has been known as Veterans Day to commemorate the heroism of our soldiers and dedicate a day to the cause of world peace.

Veterans Day by Cheryl Dyson

On Veterans Day we honor all
Who answered to a service call.
Soldiers young and soldiers old
Fought for freedom, brave and bold.
Some have lived, while others died,
And all of them deserve our pride.
We’re proud of all the soldiers who
Kept thinking of red, white, and blue.
They fought for us and all our rights.
They fought through many days and nights.
And though we may not know each name,
We thank all veterans just the same.

Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Event
Nov 11		Veterans Day
Nov 12 & 19		Special Thanksgiving Offering
Nov 26		Thanksgiving
Dec 17 & 24		Special Christmas Offering
Dec 24		Youth Christmas play
Dec 24	9:00pm	Christmas Eve Service
Dec 25		Christmas



In Memory of



Ruth Belcher Davidson

Ruth Belcher Davidson, 84, of Martinsville, Va. passed away on Thursday, October 19, 2023, at her residence. She was born on October 10, 1939, in Virginia to the late Ora Parcell Belcher and James Belcher, Sr.

She is survived by her Husband, James Douglas Davidson of the home; Daughter, Susan D. Gardner (Bobby) of Penhook, Va.; Son, Terry L. Davidson (Crystal) of Martinsville, Va.; Brothers, Donald Belcher and Jimmy Belcher (Carol) all of Martinsville, Va.; Grandchildren, Jenny Douglas, Josh Gardner, Laurynn Davidson and Emelyn Davidson; Great-Grandchildren, Kinsley Gardner, Kaylee Gardner, and Camden.

Ruth was a long time member of the Church. She was very active on several committes such as the worship committee and others. She attended most of the Church board meetings and rarely missed one. She was the Church greeter on Sundays for several years. It was pleasure to be greeted by her smiling face. She loved to greet all the children each Sunday and they enjoyed seeing her. She will be truly missed. Barbara

Trunk or Treat









LET'S CELEBRATE



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Debbie Haynes
- 3 Landon Mitchell
- 5 Kay Boyd
- 7 Melody Martin
- 10 Abbey Shepherd
- 12 Adam Eller
- 14 Josh Gardner
- 17 Walker Amos
- 19 Keri-Jean Pruett
- 19 Barbara Smith
- 26 George Martin
- 28 Terry Davidson

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Sammy & Kay Boyd
- 15 Taylor & Heather Amos
- 15 Edward & Joyce Ingram
- 26 Trey & Ashley Washburn
- 30 George & Susan Martin

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Michele Beall
- 4 Mason Arrington
- 5 Cynthia Jordan
- 7 Nick Doyle
- 9 Jared Pruett
- 10 Lindsey Doyle
- 12 Lee Mitchell
- 13 Sammy Boyd
- 17 Walker Amos
- 19 Donna Thurman
- 19 Michael Smith
- 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

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.