

THE WITTENBERG WITNESS

The Monthly Edition of Wittenberg Lutheran Church's Newsletter

December 2021

Dear Church:

As I write to you this Wednesday before Thanksgiving, my kitchen counter is filled with the ingredients for Thanksgiving dinner. All of the extended Anderson family will be gathering at my sister-in-law's beautiful new home near the Nantahala Forest in NC. We're all excited to be together!

As a pastor and as a congregation, preparations for Thanksgiving mean that all the major preparations for Advent and Christmas need to be in place. The staff, leaders, and volunteers at Wittenberg have been working for months to make sure all is ready, worshipful, and beautiful. Thanks to the team that raised the church tree on November 23rd, to those who will work to decorate on November 26th, and to all the worship leaders who will faithfully prepare for each of the services in Advent and Christmas.

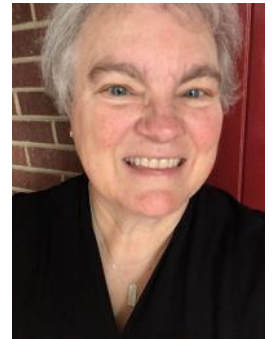
We do all these things because we love God, love our church, and love the mission we share for the sake of the world. The beauty of this season and the word of hope and promise in Scripture, sustain our confidence in difficult times and in an often-despairing world. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

I also know that December and the Christmas season can be difficult times for some of us who have fresh grief or who live with chronic depression or anxiety. I am very available to speak with you and pray with you during this time. My email, phone, and door are always open to you!

I'm looking forward to the Advent-Christmas Season at Wittenberg in 2021.

Peace and joy,

Pastor Anderson



ELCA VISION:

Claimed by God's grace for the sake of the world, we are a new creation through God's living word by the power of the Holy Spirit;

Gathered by God's grace for the sake of the world, we will live among God's faithful people, hear God's word and share Christ's supper;

Sent by God's grace for the sake of the world, we will proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serve all people following the example of our Lord Jesus, and strive for justice and peace in all the world.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Parish Council & Committee Reports
- Serving This Month
- Parish Events & Announcements
- Within The Wittenberg Family
- Council Contact Information, and Meeting Minutes
- Church Calendar

The Season of Advent



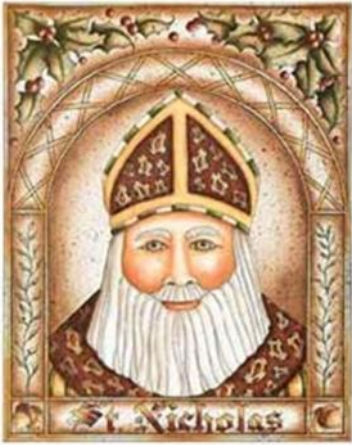
Advent 1 November 28th

We light the first candle of Advent, process with the first figures in our creche scene, and enjoy the beauty of this year's Christmas tree.

Advent 2 December 5th and Festival of St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas will be at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services.

A Stewardship Dinner will be hosted by the Stewardship and Finance Committee at 12:30.



A Festival of St. Nicholas
Bishop of Myra
Celebrating the Spirit of Generosity
December 5, 2021
Wittenberg Lutheran
Leesville, SC

Did you know St. Nicholas was a real person who was a bishop in Turkey in the 4th C? The stories about his care for children and the poor are legendary and eventually grew into the figure of Santa Claus or Old St. Nick.

During the 11:00 am service on December 5th, St. Nicholas will visit our church during worship! Pastor Anderson will share the story of Nicholas, especially the famous story of how he helped children who were poor. In honor of Nicholas, all children are asked to bring a 2lb bag of rice, a 2lb bag of pinto beans, canned tomato soup, or canned chicken noodle soup to support Wittenberg's ministries to those in our community who live with food insecurity.

The children of the congregation and of the preschool will sing together the song "The Lord is my Shepherd" that we have been learning during our weekly worship times together.

We hope to see you on December 5th, The Second Sunday of Advent!

Nicholas is remembered each year on December 6th, the day of his death in the year 343.

Advent 3 December 12th

Our celebration of Advent continues. We will have a brief congregational meeting before each service to approve the 2022 Budget and elect council members. At the offering time we will celebrate our stewardship by turning in our pledges of time, talent, and treasure.

Advent 4 December 19th

On this Sunday we will celebrate the Baptism of Koe Blankenship, the Reception of New Members, and the Recognition and Blessing of our Confirmation Mentors.



The Season of Christmas

Christmas Eve

Children are invited to bring their Advent piggy banks as offering beginning on Christmas Eve. Each bank needs \$30 to help buy one pig for a family in need in various parts of the world.

5:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Service

This service will include worship leadership by our children and youth as readers and musicians. It will include communion and candlelighting.

7:30 pm Silent Night Service

This simple service will be held outside in the church yard. We will read the Christmas story, light candles, sing "Silent Night" and offer prayers for ourselves and our world.

10:30 pm Festival Service of Christmas

This service begins with pre-service music at 10:30 followed by the worship service at 11:00. We look forward to beautiful music of Christmas, sharing of the Word and Sacrament, and Candlelighting.

First Sunday of Christmas December 26th

We will only have **ONE** service at 11:00 this day as we continue the celebration of Christmas with a simple liturgy including scriptures and songs of the season.

Coffee and Conversation Study – Coffee and Conversation will continue to meet on Mondays at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. Beginning Monday, November 29th, we will have conversation around the scriptures, hymns, rituals, and themes of the Advent season. We'll keep this conversation going through December 20th. On December 27th, we'll take a Christmas break. Come whenever you are able. We currently have a good group of 12-13 each week. Come in person or zoom in using this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82330214281> . People who prefer to use regular phones can dial 301-715-8592 and log in with Meeting ID: **823 3021 4281**.



Serving in the Food Pantry this month:

Friday, December 3: Mike & Virginia Nichols

Saturday, December 4: Volunteers Needed

Friday, December 10: Mike & Virginia Nichols

Saturday, December 11: Marti Burns, Debbie Reynolds, Summer Lawson

Friday, December 17: Rondoll Watson, JoAnn Williams

Saturday, December 18: Larry Dasher & Volunteer Needed

Friday, December 24: Rondoll Watson, JoAnn Williams

Saturday, December 25: CLOSED

Friday, December 31: Volunteers Needed

Saturday, January 1: CLOSED

Serving In Worship This Month:

GREETERS:

Ervin & Annette Caughman

ALTAR GUILD:

Ann Nichols, Marti Burns, Summer Lawson

USHERS (8:30):

5 Chris Taylor
12 Patricia Tiffner
19 Billy Rauton
26 Jesse Rauton

USHERS (11:00):

Chip Spradley, Billy Rauton

LAY READER:

Patricia Tiffner

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Chris & Robin Taylor

ACOLYTES

5 Ansley Gresham
12 Shayla Bedenbaugh
19 Skyler Frick
26 Jack Shealy

CRUCIFER:

5 Jayden Banks
12 Cooper Cannon
19 Cade Long
26 Wyatt Hendrix

CHRISTMAS EVE (5:30 SERVICE): TBD

CHRISTMAS EVE (11:00 SERVICE):

Acolyte: Smith Kirby
Acolyte: Pierce Kirby
Almsbearer: Cade Long
Bible Bearer: Cooper Cannon
Banner Bearer: Jase Long
Crucifer: Sara Reed

ALTAR FLOWERS:

5 By: Jackie Frick & Family
12 By: Brian & Kayce Shealy
19 By: Crissie Kirby
24 Mike & Sally Sherman
26 By: Helen Dasher

BBW:

5 Wendy Epting
12 Betsy Dority, Kayce Shealy
19 Ricky & Donice Frick
26 Last Sunday Breakfast

NURSERY:

5 Justin & Samantha Trotter
12 Robin Taylor
19 Toshia & John Banks
26 Betsy Dority



The annual Wittenberg Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12 at the 8:30 am and 11:00 am worship service. Business will include approval of 2022 Budgets and Council Nominees. Council Nominees include: (3 Year Term) Ross Cary, Wendy Epting, Jarrod Frick, and Justin Trotter. (1 Year Term) Kayce Shealy has been nominated to fulfill the final year of Patricia Tiffner's Council seat. Patricia will be resigning Council on Dec 31, 2021 due to employment obligations.



The Congregation is invited to the Stewardship Luncheon after 11:00 worship on Sunday, December 5, 2021. A barbeque lunch will be provided.

If for some reason you can not do the duty you were assigned, please let the church office know ASAP so a substitute can be arranged. Thank you.

Parish Events & Announcements:

Soup Kitchen: The soup kitchen will be serving on Saturday, **DECEMBER 18**, 10:30am - 12n. Please contact Jennifer Spradley or Jennifer Patrick with any questions, donations, or volunteer times.

Virtual Sunday School: You are invited to attend virtual Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:50 am via zoom. The link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88343982569>. If you would rather call in, dial 301-715-8592 and enter the meeting ID 883 4398 2569.

Coffee and Conversation: Coffee and Conversation will continue to meet on Mondays at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. On December 27th, we'll take a Christmas break. We currently have a good group of 12-13 each week. Come in person or zoom in using this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82330214281>. People who prefer to use regular phones can dial 301-715-8592 and log in with Meeting ID: **823 3021 4281**. Please attend whenever you are able.

Dorcas Quilters: The Dorcas Quilters group will not meet in December.

Child and Youth Safety Program: Wittenberg has adopted a new Child and Youth Safety Program. You can find out more online by visiting <http://wittenbergleesville.org/>, and clicking on "Policies/Forms" and looking under the heading "Youth Security Policy and Forms." For questions, please contact Brian Shealy.

Lutheran Men: The monthly Lutheran Men meeting will take place on Monday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Noisy Offering: Noisy Offering will take place on the third Sunday of each month (December 19). A bucket will be placed beside the offering plate for your loose change to benefit the Food Pantry.

Records and Archives Team: The Records and Archives Committee will meet on December 15 and take a field trip to see the Crumley Archives. The bus will leave the church at 9:30 a.m.

2022 Flower Calendar: The Flower Calendar for 2022 is now up in the Narthex. Sign-ups are first come, first served. If you have a special date that you would like, be sure to sign up as soon as possible! The cost will be \$60 this year. You can also give Becky a call in the office to sign up! (803)532-4636. **Please remember to state who you would like to honor or remember when you sign up on the flower calendar.**

Food Pantry Advent Calendar: The Advent Season is upon us and we are collecting food donations for the Food Pantry. This year's Advent Calendar will be placed in the pews with the gray bags beginning the first Sunday in Advent. Boxes for donated items will be placed in the Narthex, Commons Area and Fellowship Hall.

Call Process Update: The Call Committee has interviewed three possible candidates and has decided to invite one back for a second interview. Your continued prayers are requested.

CIRCLE INFORMATION:

<u>Circle</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Leader/Hostess</u>
Morning	December 1, 2021	11:30 a.m.	Angelo's	Dottie Mullins
IV	December 13, 2021	6:30 p.m.	Fellowship Hall	Finger Foods
L	December 13, 2021	6:30 p.m.	The Root Cellar	

Monthly Witness Reporting
as of 10/31/2021



Thank You for Your Generosity!

Your financial gifts and your gifts of time and talent are the fuel for our ministry here at Wittenberg. Not only do you support our local congregation, but our synod, the ELCA, and the church around the world. Your gifts have global reach. Thank you for making a difference!

Offering Report	October	YTD
Regular Offering	\$ 20,272	\$ 206,469
Food Pantry Offering	13,326	36,833
Total Offering to Budgeted Operations	\$ 33,598	\$ 243,302

Vision 20 + 20 Offering	1,090	16,620
Other Designated Offering/Income	\$ 1,800	\$ 588,342

*A bequest of \$543,607.51 from the Hare family was received in August.

Expense Report	October	YTD
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 32,890	\$ 289,432
Actual Expenses	29,927	251,984
Budget vs. Actual - Over/(Under)	\$ 2,963	\$ 37,448

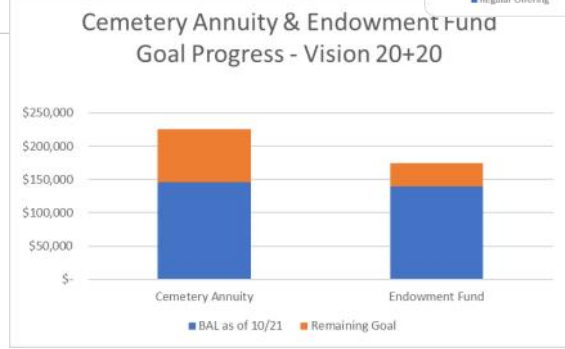
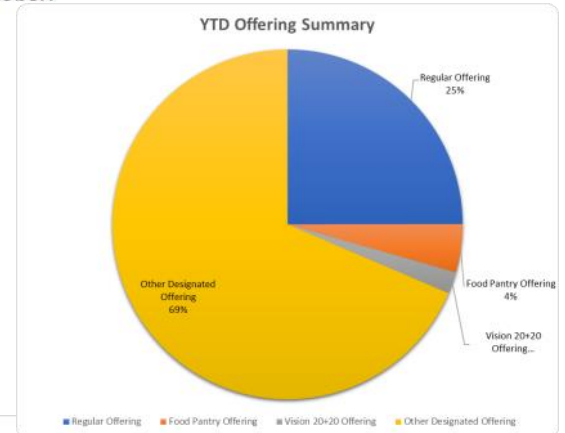
Food Pantry Report	October	YTD
Expenses	\$ 2,955	\$ 22,420
Balance	\$ 20,599	

Soup Kitchen Report	October	YTD
Balance	\$ 8,192	

Fund Report	BAL as of 10/21	BAL Last YTD	Vision 20+20 Goal
Cemetery Annuity	\$ 145,660	\$ 140,789	\$ 225,000
Endowment Fund	139,413	106,916	175,000
Vision 20+20 Fund	163,532	126,411	

Preschool Report	October	YTD
Offerings	\$ 250	\$ 3,220
Operating Income*	52,125	214,763
Expenses	15,490	135,209
Net	\$ 36,885	\$ 82,774

*A \$37,000 grant from DSS was received in July and a \$40,000 grant was received in October. Both grants are included in the Operating Income above.



2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2022 offering envelopes will be available to pick up beginning Sunday, November 28. They will be located on a table in the concourse area to the left of the elevator. Please remember to pick up your envelopes by the end of the year and begin using them January 2, 2022. Each year some people will have a new envelope number because of people leaving or joining the church the previous year. Please use your envelopes for whatever you give. Whether it is to the general fund, Vision 20/20, the food pantry, poinsettias, lilies, altar flowers, music fund, endowment fund, soup kitchen, any memorial, etc. Also remember if you give to Vision 20+20 or the Cemetery Fund you need to write separate checks for these funds. This is so important for record keeping.



DONATIONS FOR 2021

If you want your gifts to the church to be counted for 2021 please remember to make your donations to the church by Sunday, December 26, 2021. If you are giving on line through VANCO please make your donation with them before December 15 so it can be counted by December 26. Thank you for your cooperation.



ATTENTION CIRCLE IV

Circle IV will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Monday, December 13 at 6:30 pm. We will have finger foods and send Christmas cards to shut-ins.



2022 WELCA HANDBOOK

The end of 2021 is coming soon and we need to make plans for 2022. Each active circle needs to provide updated information for the women's handbook to Connie Kramer by December 20. Please include changes in membership, officers, phone numbers, meeting dates, times and locations. Also include a summary of all the activities that your circle participated in during 2021. You can hand Connie your information, mail it to her or email her at bgus72scus@yahoo.com Thank you for your help.



LOOKING FOR LOST SHEPHERD BOY

Way too many years ago (late 90's) five women from Wittenberg each did a separate counted cross stitch panel of the Nativity scene. I have four of those panels but I am missing The Shepherd Boy. It took me a while to remember who did this piece. I finally remembered, found her address, and wrote to her. They haven't been members of WLC for a long time. It is Laura Walter. She called me and said she did work on it, however the count was too small for her to do. So she gave it to another member of Wittenberg but she doesn't remember to whom. If you happen to be that person or know who might have it, I would appreciate finding out. It doesn't have to be finished. Thank you for your help in finding this lost piece. Contact Connie Kramer, 803-532-5558.

A Note from the President - December Newsletter



Thank you to our Wittenberg family for your continued ministry and support over this past year. Despite the ongoing COVID pandemic and the departure of Pastor Emily as Wittenberg's Pastor, together, we managed the health and safety of our members, the ability to continue worshipping, learning, and serving our neighbors. Thank you to our staff and Council for your leadership, guidance, and patience throughout the year. I would especially like to extend a thank you to our outgoing Council members, Emily Barnes, Ricky Frick, and Billy Rauton for sharing your time, talents, and passion for our ministry by serving on Council these last three years. It was a pleasure to be able to work with you. We look forward to our continued ministry in 2022 and ask God to continue to guide and bless us.

Here are a few highlights from our December Council Meeting:

-Congregation Council reviewed committee and congregational input on the Hare Bequest fund utilization plan. Council looks to finalize this plan at our December Council meeting.

-Congregation Council planned for the annual Congregational meeting on December 12th. Business at this meeting will include action on the 2022 Wittenberg and Wittenberg Preschool budgets and elections for 2022-24 Congregation Council members.

-Council approved the Endowment Committee's request for Harriett Householder to begin a 3-year term on the Endowment Committee's board beginning 1/1/22.

-The Stewardship and Finance Committee presented the third and final draft of the 2022 budget to the Congregation Council. A budget workshop was held for members on Sunday, November 21st.

-A proposal from the Property Committee was approved to draft an engineering plan to upgrade our main electrical service.

-The Wittenberg Youth group plans to participate in the B-L Christmas Parade on December 5th with a float and highlight our outreach ministries.

Grace, mercy, and peace,

Brian Shealy

KICS News

We had a great time playing games at church in November and thank all those who came! We have planned to get together for KICS at the church on December 5 to assemble care packages for the Soup Kitchen/Food Pantry and have supper. Given the Christmas Parade is scheduled for this same day, we will plan to meet at **6 pm for pizza and care package assembly on 12/5** (rather than 5 pm). The kids will participate in the first Christmas Eve service on 12/24. We practice handbells each Sunday at 9:30.

We will have a schedule for January and beyond within the next few weeks. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.



Youth News

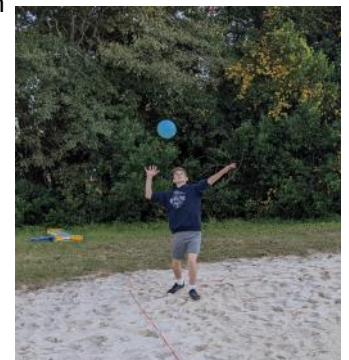
The youth group had an amazing month of November. We kicked the month off with some competitive volleyball followed by dinner and our Youth Leader Elections. 4 leaders were elected to serve as the face of our youth group: Jase Long as President, Pierce Kirby as Vice President, Smith Kirby as treasurer, and Ethan Long as Chaplain. We thank these leaders for their service and leadership.

Upcoming Events:

December 5th: B-L Christmas Parade Float @ 5 PM, Campfire + Pizza + Devotion @ 6 PM

December 18th: Soup Kitchen Helpers 9 AM - Noon

December 24th: Prepare luminaries for evening worship @ 9 AM



WITHIN THE WITTENBERG FAMILY



Gary Barnes	12/1	Heather Smith	12/20
Andy Hendrix	12/1	Liz Barnes	12/21
Pete Osment	12/6	Ariel Maroney	12/23
James Banks	12/7	John Banks	12/27
Pierce Kirby	12/7	Megan Brown	12/27
Kevin Halsey	12/9	Larry Lorick	12/27
Carter Shealy	12/9	Earlene Swygert	12/28
Pam Humphries	12/14	Haven Banks	12/29
Anna-Claire Osment	12/14	Davey Taylor	12/29
Annette Caughman	12/17	Robin Taylor	12/29

LET US PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS:

Tissy Price	Mona Henderson
John & Merlyn Watkins	Anne Shealy
Sandy Spradley	Earlene Swygert
Larry Lorick	Nathan Shealy
Cricket Leaphart	Jerry Shealy
Lisa Cook	Hazel Cooper
Freida Banks	Sally Sherman
Carolyn Price	

LET US PRAY FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY:

Lynwood Hyler (*friend of Robbin Swygert*)
 Chris Gunter (*cousin to Robbin Swygert*)
 Walter Chandler (*friend of Hazel Cooper*)
 Shealy McCormack (*WLPP student*)
 Bill Amick (*family of Barbie Rodgers*)
 Tayler Grace Kinard (*cousin of KD*)
 Reece Spradley (*niece of Chip & Jennifer Spradley*)
 Ronda Miller (*friend of Chip & Jennifer Spradley*)
 Selena Player & family (*relatives of Chip & Jennifer Spradley*)
 Lisa Williams (*friend of Crissie Kirby*)
 Daphyne Ridgell (*friend of Brent Shealy*)
 Beverly Smith (*sister of Jerry Price*)
 Missy Lewis (*friend of Brenda Howard*)
 Helen Winstead (*mother of Sonya Cary*)
 Jerry Prim (*brother-in-law of Susie Hendrix*)
 Bill Eubanks (*friend of Sonya Cary*)
 Carole Hair (*relative of Sonya Cary*)
 Keith Berry (*friend of Brenda Howard*)
 Sally Kinard (*cousin of KD*)
 Hunter Stocks (*friend of Billy & Lynne Rauton*)
 Barry Webb (*uncle of Toshia Banks*)
 Barbra Cross (*grandmother of Toshia Banks*)
 Tommy Penick (*friend of Sonya Cary*)
 Jason & Tammy Howard (*family of Brenda & Arthur Howard*)
 Maudine Taylor (*sister-in-law of Lavonia Frick*)
 Ann Herrington (*friend of Donice Frick*)
 Bryan McLeod (*father of Kayce Shealy*)
 Jacob Kneece (*nephew of Brenda Howard*)
 Chad Smith (*cousin of Lynne Rauton*)
 Mark Juergens (*GMS student*)
 Billy Reeves (*nephew of Howdy & Judy Hays*)
 Earl Oswald (*step-father of Diane Spradley*)
 Tobie & Chester Plunkett (*in-laws of Debbie Reynolds*)
 Greg Smith (*friend of Debbie Reynolds*)
 Raymond Boozer (*father of Brenda Burkett*)
 Aaron Reynolds (*in-law of Debbie Reynolds*)
 Luene Clyburn (*aunt of Walter Smith*)
 Nina Rash (*sister of Virginia Nichols*)
 Marie Stevens (*aunt of Debbie Reynolds*)
 Melissa Layton (*friend of Barbie Rodgers*)
 Brant McCormick (*grandson of Mary Cook*)
 Tim Sinnott (*friend of Nathan Shealy*)
 Scott Adams (*friend of Pam Humphries*)
 Kendall Adams (*friend of Pam Humphries*)
 Richard Holter (*cousin of Pam Humphries*)
 John Bedenbaugh (*father of Tracy Bedenbaugh*)
 Pastor Jim Nichols (*friend of Pastor Anderson*)
 Kisharn Whitt (*friend of Brian Shealy*)
 Josiah New (*Preschool family member*)
 Barbara Reece (*friend of Diane Spradley*)
 Gina Tuten (*cousin of Cricket Leaphart*)
 Denise Hill (*sister of Rebecca Dasher*)
 Edie & Kenny Boozer (*friends of the Frick family*)
 Rose Marie Hall (*sister of Diane Spradley*)
 Taylor Vandy (*niece of Virginia Nichols*)

ARMED FORCES:

Jon Rogers	Karl Smith
Ross Shealy	Capt. Will Cary

WE REMEMBER:

Darren Spencer (*husband of Tami Spencer*)
 Wayne Holley (*cousin of Rachel Young*)
 Pastor Brett Collins (*Pastor, Holy Trinity, Little Mountain*)
 Susan Stamper (*wife of Rev. Henry Stamper-First Baptist Church, Batesburg*)
 Jeanette Anderson (*friend of Debbie Reynolds*)
 Samuel Schaffer (*cousin of Robin Taylor*)
 Louise Derrick (*friend of Rebecca Dasher*)
 Bobbie Smith
 Benjy Watson
 Hank Munn (*cousin of Brittany Frick*)
 Robert Householder III



Chris & Robbin Swygert	12/21
Don & Josie Price	12/22
Larry & Elwanda Lorick	12/28
Jarrod & Brittany Frick	12/29

Approved Council Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2021:

Members present: Gregory Dority, Patricia Tiffner, Ricky Frick, Todd Long, Billy Rauton, Brent Shealy, Connie Kramer, Pastor Mary Anderson, Gerrie Gresham, Brian Shealy, Matt Shealy, and Pam Humphries, Emily Barnes

Member Absent: Ashley Bouknight

Call to Order By Council President – Brian Shealy at 7:10 pm

Devotion – Chancie Frick – Gratitude changes everything.

Prayer Concerns - Discussed

Prior Meeting Minutes - previously approved via email

Pastor's Report – Pastor Mary Anderson report submitted by email. Also showed PowerPoint prepared by Jase Long (confirmation student) on his chosen mentor Ervin Caughman. Brian Shealy also gave thanks and appreciation to Pastor Anderson for doing what she does with the children in helping them in learning responsibility.

Treasurer's Report – submitted via email-Brent Shealy –Mentioned that the church continues to be in “good solid shape.” Also mentioned the Vision 2020 mutual fund matured on October 22nd and just rolled over. Funds total approx. \$163,000. Motion to accept report as presented by Ricky Frick , 2nd by Matt Shealy. All in favor stated “aye”. Report approved.

Financial Secretary Report- submitted verbally by Connie Kramer- Noted corrections to the Vision 2020 section. Corrected report was submitted via email after official meeting. Connie also stated that remained okay counting alone. Brian Shealy and council suggests that practices go back to before Covid way. (To include council members each week.) Motion to accept report as presented by Gregory Dority , 2nd by Ricky Frick. All in favor stated “aye”. Report approved.

President's Report – a) No facility use requests. b) Covid Operations Update – Continues to move forward. Noted that the 1) Passing of the offering plate 2) Passing of peace 3) communion practices will continue to be on hold and practices will continue to be monitored. Ricky Frick inquired about “children’s’ church” starting back. Noted it was not stopped due to Covid but for staffing reasons and that current practices seemed to be working for all. Guest Book location not known at this time. Pastor Anderson and/or Brian Shealy will research. Also, Worship and Music committee presented request that the “Worship Assistant” be started back for the purpose of helping with Communion distribution. Discussed and council approved. C) Call committee update. 2nd interview of one of the candidates to take place in next week. 2 other prospects were thanked for their time and interest. Will continue to update Council of progress. d) Council goals 1) Delay in shipment of playground equipment for 4-6 weeks (could be 3 months) due to fire at manufacturing plant. Will be getting Preliminary Design for food pantry, parking, and building. Meeting to get things started again on Tuesday with Billy Rauton. Will get entire committee involved after this initial meeting. 2) No changes on Capital Campaign currently. 3) Call Process – See above. d) Hare Bequest –Spreadsheet presented by email. Noted that the Columbarium line item removed, due to high cost of item, and Wittenberg has lots of land available, so item not something needed immediately. Can revisit at later time. Also noted that the Cemetery Annuity line item of \$65000.00 (\$6500.00 every year for 10 years), needed to stay in because the budgeted item is only done IF funds allow. Also discussed “Jane’s Fund” (proposed name- In memory of Jane Hare) see Preschool Report) Upcoming events – Budget Workshop is being held November 21st before the Sunday school opening. December 5th is Stewardship Sunday. A meal and slide presentation is planned. Any pictures that can be used should be sent to Becky in the church office. December 12th is the congregational meeting. Presentations for the congregation are as follows: Church budget, Preschool budget, nominations of new council members of Ross Cary, Jarrod Frick, Justin Trotter, Wendy Epting for the 3-year term and Kayce Shealy for the 1-year term remaining of Patricia Tiffner’s term. Patricia Tiffner regretfully turned in her resignation tonight to council due to her new employment schedule. Resignation to be effective immediately, but remaining term to begin as of 1/1/2022. Council members unanimously approved and accepted resignation (also regretfully) and appointment of Kayce Shealy as replacement by stating “AYE”. Nominations for new council members to be closed on November 28th. Letter to congregation on November 29 and in notice of congregational meeting on December 12 in the 2 bulletins preceding (December 5 and November 28) Pledge/Time and Talent sheets to be returned at this time. f) December council meeting to be held at 6pm to include a meal and invitations to new council members and families. Brian Shealy to provide the meat and other council members the sides and deserts. Preschool and the Stewardship and Finance committee decided not to have a December meeting.

Committee Reports

A/V&T - Brian Shealy – No new equipment yet. Reaching out again to Darryl and Sid.

Cemetery – Gregory Dority – No report

Christian Education – Ashley Bouknight – Absent. No report.

Endowment - Brian Shealy – Met with Edward Jones on 11/11/21 concerning Portfolio plan and management. Going well. New board member Harriett Householder for 3 year term starting 1/1/2022. Gerrie Gresham completing his 3 year term. Motion brought by Brian Shealy to accept Harriett in this position. 2nd by Pam Humphries. All in favor stated “Aye”. Motion carried.

Evangelism/Christian Care – Patricia Tiffner – Phone calls being made to all the members on the prayer list at this time.

Mutual Ministry –No Report

Parish Life – Ricky Frick – OWs luncheon scheduled for 11-28-21. Committee discussing what they are going to do for the congregation this year. Ex: Last year: Fruit baskets.

Preschool – Chancie Frick – Discussed Hare Bequest “Jane’s Fund”. Proposal sent via email. In summary, fund would be used for Wittenberg Lutheran Church preschool families in need. Discussed that Cricket Leaphart would be handling unless need was determined to be out of her realm of responsibility, then would be taken to the Preschool Board. Noted that funds would have to be always available for use. Recommended by Brian Shealy to review and finalize before the end of year. Decorating for Christmas soon. Candy Land theme in hallways. Reminded about Christmas tree available.

Approved Council Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2021, cont.:

Property – Billy Rauton – Todd Davis and Ervin Caughman involved in getting the old electrical service to basement updated. Emailed document outlines cost to get the engineer to present proposal. Full amount of cost is \$1600.00, and the narrative is \$500.00. Todd Davis saved the church money by preparing the design. Funds will come from Vision 20/20. Motion brought to council by Brian Shealy, President. 2nd by Ricky Frick. All in favor stated “Aye”. Motion carried.

Social Ministry – Emily Barnes – Food Pantry served 135 for October- do not have Soup Kitchen numbers at this time. Lynne Rauton has been taking charge of the Food Pantry service for the last couple of years and now must step back related to her health. She has emailed a list of needs and concerns that are needed. Emily separated to short term and long term. 1) Need for continued purchasing and loading and unloading food to pantry. 2) possible need to bring FP back into basement related to cold weather (will consult workers) 3) Outreach to other congregations for volunteers 4) Rotary club is giving the FP check for \$5000.00. 5) Lexington Blowfish/ Mayor Prayer breakfast also giving FP \$5000.00 check. Wants to present on 12-8-21 at 7:30 am. Emily to ask Robert Epting to attend with her or alone. 6) Suggested by Pastor Anderson that every 6-8 weeks a training session be done to help people know what “volunteering” at the FP means. 7) Establish or change the committee to only handle “food service” (Food pantry, blessing box, and soup kitchen) with more organization done. 8) Looking at different avenues for purchasing food. For ex: Unboxed, US Foods, Harvest Hope, USDA, etc. Noted that Harvest Hope requires participants to show “proof of need”. Our FP had not wanted to go that route in the past. Will continue to research. 9) also need to set aside time in future to honor Lynne Rauton for her service.

Stewardship & Finance – Gerrie Gresham – Budget presented via email. Motion to accept by Gerrie Gresham. 2nd by Ricky Frick. All in favor stated “Aye”. Budget to be present to congregation on December 12th for their approval. Also noted that Fire Policy, Bus policy are now through Brotherhood Mutual. Increased the sexual misconduct liability limit to 1,000,000. Brotherhood Mutual also wants the Girl Scout troops insurance information for increased coverage. Workman’s Comp is still with Church Mutual until September 2022. New insurance cards for Bus, noted to be in the Bus.

Strategic Planning – Matt Shealy – No report

Worship & Music – Pam Humphries – Requested that the council bring back the “worship assistants” for help with communion. Also noted that wine spots on carpet. Will wait to after removal of Chrismon tree before having carpet cleaned. Billy to set up. Tree to be removed on January 7, 2022.

Youth – Todd Long – Continue to experience good participation. Youth elected officers. Proposal for Christmas Parade float to be entered in Christmas Parade on 12/5/21. “Angels of Christmas”. To include promoting or educating folks on Wittenberg’s Outreach Ministries. Exl Food Pantry, Soup kitchen, Blessing box. Need approval and guidance. Council agreed.

Other New Business – Ricky Frick mentioned that the floor in social hall needs stripped and waxed. Billy Rauton to line up with Chris Derrick. Also, inquiry into when trailer belonging to Ricky Longs’ family needed to be returned. Reminded that we could use if needed. Noted too that Dean Rodgers had a smaller trailer available for use if needed. Will look at again after social committee meets about where Food Pantry will be located (inside basement or outside as current).

The Executive committee proposes that we increase Becky’s annual paid vacation days from 2 weeks (10 business days) to 3 weeks (15 business days) as part of her benefits package beginning Jan 1, 2022.

Council unanimously approved motion to extend Becky Hughes paid vacation. Emailed by Brian Shealy on Sunday 11/14/21 following the meeting.

Old Business – None

Adjourned at 9:15 pm: Motion by Billy Rauton, 2nd by Pastor Mary Anderson . Closed with Lords’ Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Tiffner, Council Secretary

PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Chancie Frick—Preschool Chair, 803-413-3808, parrishchan@gmail.com

Pam Humphries—Worship & Music Chair 843-287-1426, hpam333@gmail.com



WLPP

Wittenberg Lutheran Preschool Program

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November found us surrounded by turkeys! This past month we have been learning about turkeys, pilgrims, the Mayflower, Indians, teepees, cornucopias, scarecrows, and most of all we talked about what we are thankful for. The children have made turkeys, Indian headbands, teepees, and did a little feather painting. I hope you were able to see our turkey disguises in the hallway! We celebrated Veterans Day and painted poppies for our Veterans here at the church. Pastor Anderson talked to us about the "Blessing Box" as we helped fill it up with food during one of our "Tuesday Chapel" visits. We even had a Mickey Mouse and Princess Day on the 18th. On the 24th we celebrated Clemson vs. Carolina day. The kids wore their favorite team's colors to preschool. We also collected food for the food pantry here at Wittenberg. After Thanksgiving we are gearing up for a Candy Land adventure! What a great way to start up the Christmas holidays! The children have been practicing their songs for the festival of St. Nicholas on December 5th. Then we will be focusing on the Nativity with Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, the Shepherds, Angels, and Wisemen. Then we'll be celebrating a Christmas spirit week. Look for lots of pics of little candy canes, crazy socks, holiday headwear and ugly Christmas sweaters! We can't let the holiday pass by without a Christmas party. Since the afterschool kids will be joining us while they are out for Christmas break, we are having more games and a movie or two to complete the holidays. Of course, we also will be gearing up for a New Year celebration! Can you believe the year is almost over! This year has been a tough one with quarantines, Covid regulations, masks, or no mask. I pray that the new year before us will bring us more peace. I don't think we will ever get back to life the way we knew it. But moving forward, we can learn from the year behind us. May you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year! Please keep these little children in your prayers. In a world of uncertainty, let them find peace.

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ~ [Matthew 1:21](#)



December 2021

EARLY SERVICE—8:30 A.M. + SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:50 A.M. + WORSHIP SERVICE - 11:00 A.M.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 Advent One 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School Opening 10:10 AM Last Sunday Breakfast 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Drive Through Communion/OWL Luncheon</p> 	<p>29 9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation</p>	<p>30 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel 10:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>1 Bulletin Deadline 10 a.m. 11:30 AM Morning Circle</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>4 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open</p>
<p>5 Advent Two Stewardship Sunday/ St. Nicholas Festival 8:30 AM Worship/St. Nicholas Festival 9:30 AM Sunday School Opening 10:35 AM BBW 11:00 AM Worship/St. Nicholas Festival 12:00 PM Drive Through Communion 12:30 PM Stewardship Luncheon 5:00 PM B-L Christmas Parade 6:00 PM KICS 6:00 PM Youth</p> 	<p>6 9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation</p>	<p>7 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Executive Committee</p>	<p>8 Bulletin Deadline 10 a.m.</p>	<p>9 6:15 PM Girl Scouts</p>	<p>10 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>11 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open</p>
<p>12 Advent Three Congregational Meeting 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School Opening 10:35 AM BBW 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Drive Through Communion 7:00 PM Council Dinner and Meeting</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation 6:30 PM Circle IV 6:30 PM Circle L at Root Cellar</p>	<p>14 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel 10:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>15 Bulletin Deadline 10 a.m. 9:30 AM Records and Archives Field Trip</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open</p>	<p>18 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open 10:30 AM Soup Kitchen/ Youth Volunteers</p> 
<p>19 Advent Four 8:30 AM Worship/Noisy Offering 9:30 AM Sunday School Opening 10:35 AM BBW 11:00 AM Worship/Noisy Offering 12:00 PM Drive Through Communion 3:00-5:00 PM Junior and Senior Confirmation at WLC</p>	<p>20 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation 7:00 PM Lutheran Men</p>	<p>21 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel 10:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>22 Bulletin Deadline 10 a.m.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open 9:00 AM Youth place Luminaries 5:30 PM Family Service 7:30 PM Silent Night Service 10:30 PM Candlelight Service</p> 	<p>25 9:00 AM Food Pantry CLOSED Merry Christmas!</p> 
<p>26 Lessons & Carols 9:30 AM Sunday School Opening 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Drive Through Communion</p> 	<p>27 9:00 AM Coffee and Conversation—canceled</p>	<p>28 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel 10:00 AM Staff Meeting</p>	<p>29 Bulletin Deadline 10 a.m. Pastor Anderson—vacation Becky—vacation</p>	<p>30 Pastor Anderson—vacation Becky—vacation</p>	<p>31 9:00 AM Food Pantry Open Pastor Anderson—vacation Becky—vacation</p> 	<p>1 9:00 AM Food Pantry CLOSED Pastor Anderson—vacation Becky—vacation</p> 

Please check our calendar on the WLC website <http://www.wittenbergleesville.org/> for the latest information.

Wittenberg Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 3447
Leesville, SC 29070

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GATHERED IN BAPTISM + FED BY WORSHIP + SENT OUT AS SERVANTS

Join Us For Worship!

Sunday Morning Worship Times...

Worship - 8:30 or 11:00am

-In person **OR**

-Live Stream at 11:00 a.m. on our YouTube Channel

@WittenbergAV – Subscribe to our YouTube channel, access

YouTube videos on our website wittenbergleesville.org, or follow

us on Facebook or Twitter.

-Request a recorded copy of the worship service via DVD disc from

the church office. A limited number of portable DVD players are

available on loan if needed.

Contact Us

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mary
Anderson

For more information contact...

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Office Hours:

Monday-Friday... 9am-1pm