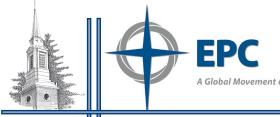
#### January 2023 VOLUME 38 NUMBER 01



A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

I love finding a good quote.

Like this one from the great theologian, John Wayne.

"Tomorrow hopes we have learned something from yesterday."

That is so true! And it is a challenge to each of us to take our experience and log it away as a lesson learned each and every day.



I love reflecting on the wisdom people can encapsulate in words shared. I enjoy a good quote so much, that I have many in frames, hanging on the

wall of my office. The quotes on my wall are quotes which provide an ongoing challenge for me as your pastor and as a leader. I have had many people ask me why I have them on my wall. The answer is simple—I need the reminders. It is very easy to get stuck in a rut or a routine in ministry, as in life, and just go through the motions. But that is not the life we are called to as disciples. And that is not the life I am called to as your pastor. So, for the next few months, I will be sharing a quote with you and then unpacking what it means to me and how it is challenging me as we move forward as the Church God planted here on North Grove!

For the first Update of 2023, there could not be a better quote than this to begin...

"When your memories exceed your dreams, the end is near." *Anonymous*. (Anonymous is one of my favorite theologians because of quotes like this.)

Here we are beginning a brand-new year. It is a clean slate! We have hopes and dreams for what might come, what we might accomplish, where we might go, and who we might meet. We also have joyful memories of the year past, along with memories of opportunities lost, regretful words shared, wonderful moments experienced, and for some of us, the feeling of loss. It is a time of looking backward, while still trying to look forward. It means memories, whether good or bad, intermingling with dreams and hopes. It can be scary and exciting all at the same time!

As a church, it is easy to spend lots of time looking backwards. We remember our past joys and successes...and what a long and rich past we have! One hundred and seventy years of ministry for the Kingdom of God! Whether beginning Hospice and Alcoholics Anonymous within our walls, building a nursing school in Africa, providing Christmas for countless families in this community, feeding a multitude of those who are hungry, serving the vulnerable through our partnerships with the Rescue Mission, Back on Track ministries, or IAM, or looking at how we invested in the next generation with our ministry partnerships and service within schools with Child Evangelism Fellowship, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, we have seen God accomplish some amazing things in and through HPC. So, we look back and celebrate our memories.

But if we spend too much time looking backwards, we can risk missing all that God has yet for us. When we only look to the good 'ole days, we run the risk of forgetting that God is not done with us yet! That God's best is yet to come! So as we begin a new year, as your pastor, I will gladly celebrate our collective past – but not at the expense of missing what is yet to come. God is changing lives in our midst already! God is healing relationships within this church family, God is renewing and restoring marriages. He is forging new relationships among believers within the church. God is opening the doors for our teams who love children to be in multiple schools sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ! God is growing our reach into the youth culture of Henderson County! God is opening doors for us to send mission teams to help others who have been impacted by the storms of life – whether to the rescue mission or to help rebuild after Hurricane Ian. God is at work in our midst today, and I am daily challenged when I look at this quote that though our memories are great, God still has more for us to experience and accomplish for His Kingdom, here in Henderson County and around the world!

"When your memories exceed your dreams, the end is near." Anonymous

May this quote serve as a reminder and a challenge for you as well!

Happy New Year!

**Yours in Christ**, Pastor Rob



## Session Highlights - December 19, 2022

The complete minutes of session meetings are posted on the Session Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall as soon as they are approved.

Twenty-three elders, deacons and officers elect met over a pizza and covered dish dinner for a joint meeting and the examination of incoming officers.

The Deacons' outgoing chair Sherri Jones highlighted their distribution of 28 Christmas gift bags to shut ins.

Personnel Committee presented the new Web Manager position at 5 hours a week. A Job Description draft was circulated. Stacy Mc-Clelland had been recommended to fill the position in addition to her interim Children's Director responsibilities which she currently does for 15 hours a week. An extension of Stacy's current interim contract through June 2023 was unanimously approved. Personnel reported they had approved staff bonuses for the year end.

Local Outreach requested \$5,000 as a one-time gift to a relatively new organization, Refuge Retreat, from the Local Mission Designated Fund. Five retreats have been held (two per year) for collegeage Christians with attendance ranging from 50-80 attendees.

The Clerk requested volunteers for the four commissioners to the Presbytery meeting at Centre Presbyterian Church in Mooresville, NC on January 27-28.

During the Pastor's Report the Treasurer, Larry Mobley, was invited to present his proposal for the anticipated income over expenses amount at the end of the year. If the end of year balance in the General Fund should be more than the usual (but slightly inflationadjusted \$175,000 necessary carryover) then the overage would have 60% moved to designated funds with a tithe of 10% to Local Outreach Designated Fund; 10% to Missionary Care Designated Fund; and the balance of 80% would go into the Building Designated Fund, in anticipation of next year's fundraising for our much needed, numerous building repairs.

The Pastor passed out the Ministry Assignments for 2023 as follows:

Administration: Facilities- Clay Haskins and Doug DiRienzo; Finance-Mimi Jamieson; Personnel-Eloise Murray; Outreach: Local Missions-Andy Morris; Missionary Care-John Spencer;

Discipleship: Caryl Mobley and Robert Wallace; Member Life: Betsy Price and Pam Van Tassel; and Worship: Deanna Crawford and Pat Johnson

Everyone had received their first or second choices. The positions of Clerk, Mimi Jamieson; Assistant Clerk, Eloise Murray; and Treasurer, Larry Mobley were separately approved.

Examination of New Officers took place with sharing of faith stories, questioning, and discussion of scruples to the Westminster Confessions. Officers were then approved as follows;

For the Board of Deacons:

Maureen DiRienzo Sara Emel Susan Sitler Richard Thomas David Demirgian (1 year )

Happy New Year! Mimi Jamieson, Clerk

Deacon's Meeting - Jan 16, 2:30 pm Session Meeting -Jan. 23, 6:30 pm For the Session as Elders:

Doug DiRienzo Mimi Jamieson Pat Johnson Robert Wallace

### TO THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Irene Solbakken December 15, 2022

Our Christian sympathy is extended to her family and friends.

## **UPDATE DEADLINE**

Deadline for the UPDATE is the <u>21st of each month</u>. If you have information or articles for the FebruaryUPDATE however, please get them to us by Januar21.

You can leave written copy/photos in the Communications mailbox in the Church office, or send electronically to the church office or direct to Brenda Bradshaw : brendabrad@aol.com



# **MUSIC NOTES**

#### CHOIR and HANDBELL/HANDCHIME CHOIRS

- Wed. 3:00 Handbell Choir rsumes Jan 11 & 18 in preparation for ringing on January 22
- Wed. 4:00 Choir

### New Choir Members are always WELCOME.

Those interested in joining may call Gayle at 692-3211 Ext. 6 or just come to the Choir Room on Wednesday at 4 pm.

## CELEBRATING COMMUNION



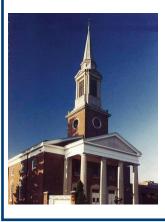
Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month and at other special services. We will share Communion together at Sunday services on New Year's Day and February 5.



Many thanks to Caryl and Larry Mobley for the candlelight candles.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Katherine Macdonald, Rhoda Suesz
- 3 Caryl Mobley
- 4 Steve Byrd
- 5 Sam Elliott, Dorothy Managan, Mary Sizemore, Linda Stephens
- 7 Karen Andrew
- 8 Cathey Gilbert
- 9 Lin Campbell, Bob Murray, Nan Rich
- 13 Ruth Dykstra
- 14 Joan Manfre, John Rich
- 16 Tim Stark
- 17 Jacob Macdonald, Dorothy Pickens, Bette Lee Taylor
- 18 Gayle Emery, Don Holmer
- 20 Barbara Pharr
- 22 John McCaslin
- 23 Brenda Bradshaw
- 24 Patty Collins, Bill Jones, Judy Van Wagoner
- 25 Marcia Elliott, Roberta Swanson
- 26 Doyle Williams
- 27 Georgia Spencer



#### Hendersonville Presbyterian Church

at the corner of 7th Avenue and Grove Street. Parking lot is accessible from Grove Street, King Street and 6th Avenue (64 E).

We have a place for you!

# A Season of Christmas Worship!



Visit our Website: www.HendersonvillePC.org



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# THANKS, VOLUNTEERS!

The Member Life Committee wants to thank alhanksl those who have contributed in making our Coffee Hour a big success this year. As you know, coffee hours don't just happen. It takes conscious effort and committed people. Every Sunday there are dedicated ladies who arrive early to prepare coffee and trays of cookies to serve both services. Others stay after church to clean up. Still other saints keep us well supplied with their delicious homemade cookies as well as those who contribute the store bought variety. So it takes a dedicated team to keep things running smoothly.

We especially appreciate OCC and Women in Ministry for their valuable help during the year

Remember, at its best a church coffee hour is a venue for the Holy Spirit to work. It is in relationship with others and time spent together that Christians grow in their love for others and for God.

# We invite new worshipers to get involved in the coming year in this joyful ministry!

In Christ,

Sara Emel and Betsy Price

# NEEDED: MORE VOLUNTEERS

#### We need men and women to greet Sunday

**arrivals** and help direct people as needed. We will divide up the doors and hours to cover the main entrances from the time we open Sunday morning, through Worship and Sunday School, and then to lock up the building. The more volunteers we have, then the fewer days and

hours each would need to serve.

Please call the church office (828-690-3211) to help.

Thank you!



## **HPC Children**



We are so grateful for HPC and their gracious sponsorship of a Good News Club with Child Evangelism Fellowship at Edneyville Elementary this fall! Praise for the teacher support through HPC's own Susan Kemp, as well as for our volunteer team that includes Judy VanWagoner, Janice Demergian, and Stacy McClelland!

Through all these gifts of time, gifts, and talents we celebrated the JOY that 4 children received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior at our final club at Edneyville in 2022! Let us all REJOICE over the good news

Let us all REJOICE over the good news of Jesus Christ!



#### In January...

Join us Sundays beginning Jan 8th as we seek to put our knowledge to the test! We will be starting off the new year focusing on how we should never stop searching for what is true. Hint: It has everything to do with JESUS!

Sundays, 11-12 p in Room #112

# Thoughts for the New Year

If you put away the sin that is in your hand and allow no evil to dwell in your tent, then, free of fault, you will lift up your face; you will stand firm and without fear. You will surely forget your trouble, recalling it only as waters gone by. —Job 11:14-18

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. —Isaiah 43:19

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. —Ephesians 4:22-24

There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off. —Proverbs 23:18

Love the LORD, all his faithful people! The LORD preserves those who are true to him, but the proud he pays back in full.

Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD. —Psalms 31:23-24



Next meeting Jan 9



WIM Christmas Luncheon

Please join us for our January Women in Ministry program on Monday, January 9th at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall.

We will continue with our Bible Study of Priscilla Shirer's "The Armor of God," led by Pat Johnson. We will be doing Lesson 3 on the Breastplate of Righteousness.

9:45 Fellowship & Refreshments 10:00 Welcome and Devotions 10:15 Bible Study Lesson 3 "The Armor of God"

A short fellowship circle will take place after the study. We will also be making gift baskets for our local law enforcement officers in honor of National Law Enforcement Day. We will make gift baskets and deliver them to the Hendersonville Police Department and the Henderson County Sheriff's Office.

If you are able please bring a snack for the baskets. We need:

lifesavers (packages or rolls)

peppermint pattie Mounds Bar| Starbursts Snickers Bars Chewing gum Airheads Hersheys Kisses Tootsie rolls Payday candy bars beef jerky crackers protein bars granola bars nuts







Thank you for your ongoing support of Operation Christmas Child!

Our church has been involved OCC for over 20 years. It is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Our mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Many people buy items throughout the year when something is on sale. If you would like more information about this Christian mission project or to join the committee, please contact Dale Stephens at 828 891-7155.

Elizabeth Groff was on a special journey to help pack the 200-millionth Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift since the Samaritan's Purse project

began in 1993. She took the 200-millionth shoebox gift across the United States and then to Ukraine.

Elizabeth, who received a shoebox gift years ago as a lonely child in an orphanage

in Ukraine, traveled to



different U.S. drop-off locations and processing centers with the symbolic shoebox to encourage people to prayerfully pack boxes in Jesus' Name.

The project reached this historic milestone as faithful shoebox packers brought their gifts to more than 4,500 locations across the country during National Collection Week (Nov. 14-21). We praise God for the millions of children, as well as families and communities, who have been reached with the Gospel of Jesus Christ over nearly three decades.

Elizabeth wants people to know that God is using these gifts to demonstrate His love to children who are in desperate need. "There are so many children out there just like me who have never heard of Jesus or experienced His everlasting love," she said. "I know the impact a single shoebox can make. It absolutely changed my life. There's no greater reward than being able to serve through this ministry."



## What are your Special Gifts?

As we enter a new year, we often ponder what activities we will focus on during the year. This is a great time to think about the gifts we are given by God.

In 1 Corinthians 12:18-20 (NIV) we read "But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body." And in Romans 12: 6a, 7a, 8a we learn "We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously."

Serving, encouraging, and helping others are hallmarks of Stephen Ministry. Our saying is, "We care, God cures."

Are these some gifts that you believe you have and would like to nurture? If so, God may be calling you to become a Stephen Minister. In 2023 we are organizing a class to train Stephen Ministers. We have not set up a schedule but hope to start the class sometime in March. Our first step will be to find out who in our congregation is interested in taking the classes. There are twenty classes in the training, and they can be taught over three to six months, depending on how frequently we hold classes. Here are a few of the topics you can learn about:

- The Art of Listening
- Distinctively Christian Caring
- Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly
- Maintaining Boundaries in Caregiving
- Crisis Theory and Practice
- Confidentiality
- Using Mental Health Professionals and Other Community Resources

If you are interested in learning more about Stephen Ministry, please contact Pastor Rob, Pastor Charles, Sara Emel or Caryl Mobley—or call the church office so Susan can have one of us contact you.

We would love to hear from you soon, after you have prayerfully considered this opportunity.

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. —Gal. 6:2

## LIBRARY NEWS



#### Hello from the library! Happy New Year

and Happy New Books! If you are looking for a good book of fiction to read this month, give author Francine Rivers a chance. Her series Mark of the Lion was just added and the three books look great. They are "A Voice in the Wind, #1", "An Echo in the Darkness, #2," and "As Sure as the Dawn, #3". This author was recommended by one of our avid readers, Maureen Heaphy.

Another new book was given by Eva House and written by her niece called "The Smallest Giraffe." It is a heartwarming child's story of a giraffe too small and is based on a true story of a boy named Jackson.

Thank you Eva!! And thank you to all who support the library by checking out books, stopping in to say Hi, and for recognizing the importance of books in our lives! —Carolyn Baker, Librarian



Christmas Photo Booth



### Designated Fund for Missionary Care and Local Missions

In September of 2013 the Endowment for Mission Support was created to replace the no longer available Lovett Fund. Each year a small portion of the proceeds of this fund is reinvested to continue growing the fund. The majority of the proceeds are evenly divided between the Missionary Care Designated Fund and the Local Church Missions Fund. The only source of monies now for missionary transportation costs, shortfalls; or special needs not

covered by the church's annual Benevolence support, is from the Missionary Care Designated Fund.

When Henderson County organizations our church supports through Local Missions are in need of extra monies for their support, the only source is the Local Missions Designated Fund.

This is a reminder that, should you want to give to either of these accounts, please write your check to the church and on the bottom state either "For Missionary Care DF" or "For Local Missions DF," or "For the Mission Endowment."

Both committees thank you.



#### The Great Commission

After His resurrection Jesus commanded his disciples as recorded in Matthew 28:18-20:

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



ANDREW and BECC BARON "Power to Change" CRU (FORMERLY CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST) BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Andrew and Becc Baron and their girls, Maddie (8), Brie (6), and Evie (3) are one of HPC's newest missionary families. Andrew is the son of Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU) missionaries Phillip and wife Rachel (d. 2019). Andrew and Becc serve with CRU in Australia through an organization known as "Power to Change." The couple primarily serves on one campus, Queensland University of Technology (QUT), in Brisbane, where they focus on reaching international students. Andrew and Becc are also part of a leadership team that helps direct and oversee five other campuses and ministries across the entire state of Queensland.



Andrew and Becc have seen God answer a 3-year long prayer for international ministry on the QUT campus. They asked God to raise up a small team of student leaders (called Movement Builders -MBs), that would commit to walking closely with Jesus, while making Jesus known on campus through purposeful outreach and discipleship. They are praising God for the seven wonderful student leaders, representing five different countries. Already In 2022, three students have begun a relationship with Jesus through these student leaders! Continue to pray that God would strengthen this leadership team and multiply them!



Navi, a business student from Sri Lanka, met Jesus this semester. Navi stopped by a lunch event and agreed to meet for coffee to hear more about Jesus. He was eager to read a suggested passage from the Gospel of Mark. He returned to the coffee date having read the entire book of Mark and recorded three pages of notes! Over a series of weeks, a student leader led Navi to Christ. This reminds us that the Holy Spirit continues to move in hearts and

minds of those around us.

Now in Australia the school year has finished, and students are celebrating. Beginning the last two weeks of November, high school seniors migrate to the Gold Coast beaches to celebrate graduation. Unfortunately, the crazed partying includes drugs and alcohol, fights, sexual activity, and violence. During these two weeks the Power to Change ministry mobilizes a 'Schoolies Mission Team' of 40+ students and staff to minister across different Brisbane campuses and beach areas. The student teams receive ministry training, biblical input, fellowship, and do night-time outreach on the streets and beaches until the early morning hours. Andrew and Becc help prepare and supervise these yearly events.

December and January are summer holiday months, but Andrew and Becc juggle summer relaxation with planning and training. The family decorates and celebrates Christmas, takes day trips and playtimes at the beach. In January Andrew and Becc will hold a local leadership retreat and attend a national staff conference. February 1-15 will begin the new semester outreach to meet and reach newly arriving international students around Brisbane. Amidst all these commitments, the girls happily meet and make friends with the students and staff. Life is very full for this missionary family.

Pray for the seven student leaders, the students who responded to the Schoolies Beach Mission, the planning for 2023, and for family refreshment over the summer break.

# PLEASEKEEPINPRAYER

Jean Austin **Beverly Barstow** Jeanie Beinert Barbara Byrd Steve Byrd Teresa Compton Nadine Dillon Reva Dixon Jauhnell Durham Len and Ruth Dykstra Jackie and Bill Eadie Nancy England Marilyn Frenier Karen Grady **Bob Hollis** Charlie Horne Ginger Houlton Ian MacGregor Rosie Pardue Nancy Payne Joanne Radman and Don Joyce and Fred Schoch Ed Smith Irene Solbakken Geri Sorrell Dave and Carol Stewart Bette Lee Taylor Jo Tyler Robert and Jessica Wallace Heidi Weicker Paul and Anita Weinert

Other family and friends: Carolyn Baker's brother and sisterin-law, Bob and Mona Russell Brenda Bradshaw's brother-in-law William Carol Broyles granddaughter Kristin Donna Dalton's grandson Ryan Gayle Emery's friend Michael Flake's daughter Ed Foster's neighbor, Ann Weeks Marilyn Frenier's sister's friend Audrey Loyd Karen Grady's friends Mike and Karen Anderson

Dick and Eva House's friends: Evelyn Douglas, Charlene Harris, Brent Holler, Dick's cousin Joe Malone, Charlene Harris, neighbors' grandson, Allan Howard, Meg Williams, and Eva's cousin Maria Esther Jacobson's dentist's grandbaby girl Jan, one of the OCC donors Don and Pat Johnson's grandson Devin and son Ben Rená Johnson's friend Larry and Tanya Jones' friends Bobby Gardner, Anita Rozell, and son Brian Lauren MacGregor's nephew Jeffrey Moore Cheri Matthews' stepdad and mom Dwight and Linda Sledge Caryl Mobley's friend Debbie Betty Muller's granddaughter Chelsev Mossberg Bill and Pat Neuenschwander's daughter-in-law, Patti Nancy Payne's son Chris Curtis Perkins (former HPC Sexton) Margaret Regeness' daughter-in-law Francine and son Tom Glenn Richardson's friends Jeff and Renee Wuff. Bill O'Connel and **Brian James** Peggy Richardson's friends Debbie O'Hare and Roger and Brenda Peters Joyce and Fred Schoch's daughter Kathy Ziprik Lynnette Stark's mother Lynnette and Tim Stark's daughter Wendy and friend Betty Dale and Linda Stephens' friend's toddler Hudson, son's best friend's mother Polly Hardesty, daughter's fatherin-law Herbie Flack Bette Lee Taylor's daughter Kristin Ragena White's brother Rod and sister-in-law Debbie

Pray for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, and for a return to being a Godly nation.

#### And All Those in Military Service

The Bashores' grandson George in the UK Chris and Beth Matthews' son Nick and wife Alaura in SC, their son Pete and wife Laura in AZ, and son Sam in VA; John Woodham's son Tee

<b>Hospital Visitation Schedule</b>		
Jan 1	Judy Van Wagoner	713-582-5114
Jan 8	Sherri Jones	574-294-0264
Jan 15	Victor Lyman	828-553-7430
Jan 22	Priscilla Rouse	828-697-7234
Jan 29	Gayle Emery	828-234-7273
Thanks to all involved in hospital visitation		

#### Let's show our love to our shut-ins with cards, prayers and visits.

Nadine Dillon Accordius Health 200 Heritage Circle Hendersonville, NC 29891

**Dona Mennella** The Bridge at Lake Pointe Landing 334 Thompson Street Hendersonville, NC 28792

#### **Rosie Pardue** Wesley Court Assisted Living 916 Wesley Court Boiling Springs, SC 29316

#### Marilyn Stark The Laurels of Hendersonville 290 Clear Creek Road Hendersonville, NC 28792

**Jo Tyler** The Bridge at Lake Pointe Landing 334 Thompson Street Hendersonville, NC 28792

Contact

Judy Van Wagoner for prayer concerns



at judyvanwag@gmail.com, or 713-582-5114, or call the church office at 692-3211. \* HPC Prays\* is the new prayer chain.

# Thoughts for the New Year

"Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord! Bless his name! Share the news of his saving work every single day! Declare God's glory among the nations; declare his wondrous works among all people."

-Psalms 96: 1-3

Visit our Website: www.HendersonvillePC.org



Hendersonville Presbyterian Church 699 North Grove Street Hendersonville, NC 28792-3729 Tel: 828 692-3211 Fax: 828 692-6872 e-mail: office@hendersonvillepc.org RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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