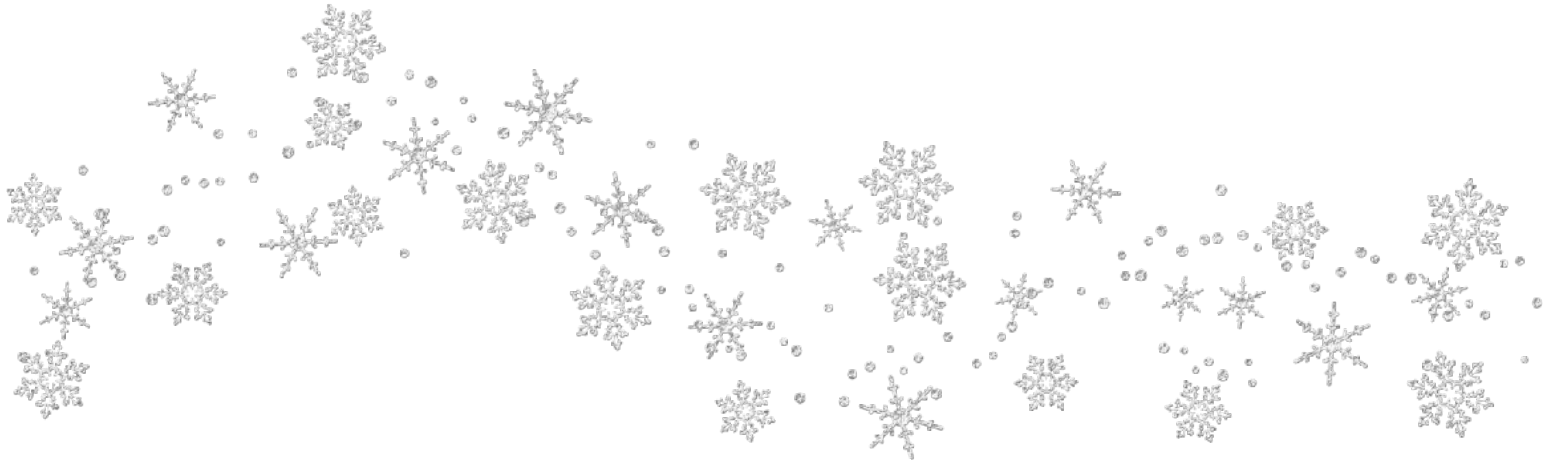


THE BEACON

Sunrise Presbyterian Church

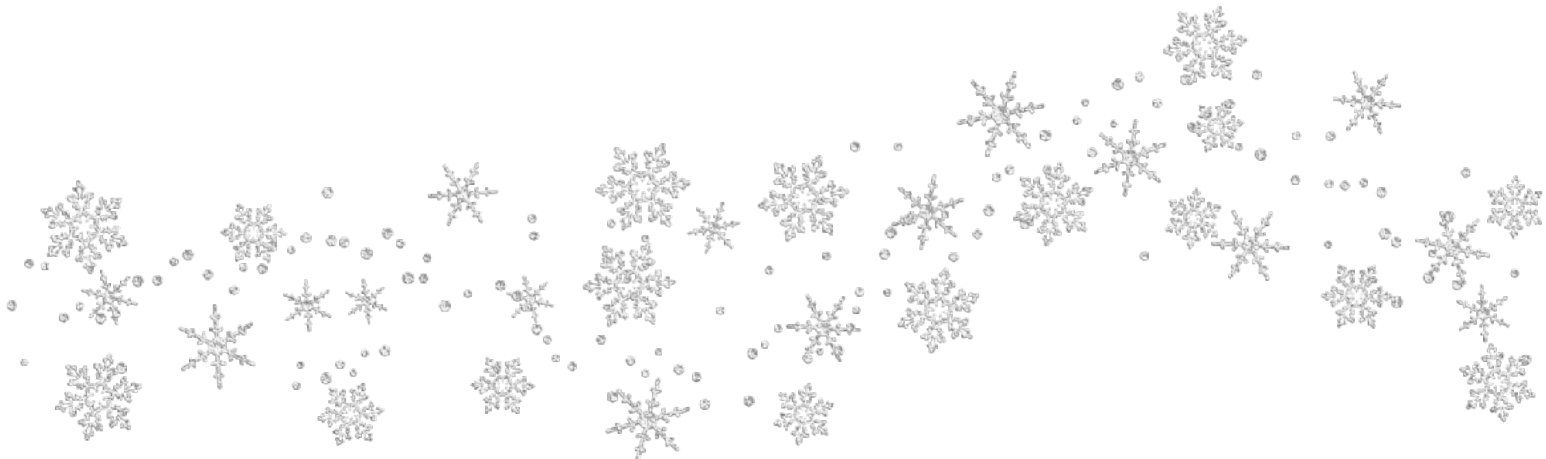
January 2023 Newsletter



Happy New Year!!

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

-2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)



. . . *they shall name him Emmanuel,*” which means, “*God is with us.*” (Matthew 1:23)

The deep meaning of the birth of Christ is contained in the name, *Emmanuel (God is with us)*. It is a celebration of *presence*, of sharing our lives with God and one another. The Christmas season that actually concludes on January 6th (Epiphany) is all about getting together with family and friends.

In a recent essay titled *Why Jesus Loved Friendship*, Peter Wehner goes to the heart of the Christmas Story and that title for Jesus, the Emmanuel (God is with us). Over the centuries, the church has described this reality in theological terms, such as the Incarnation. Our creeds have affirmed the Great Mystery of the Incarnation as Jesus being *fully human, fully divine*. Wehner takes this mystery to the relationship side of Jesus.

The Gospel According to John makes it clear that Jesus does not consider his disciples to be in a servant/master relationship with him, but rather as his friends.

³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34, 35)

¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. (John 15:15)

Friendship is based on a mutuality of love. On sharing life's joys and sorrows. Jesus leads all of us (his present-day disciples) into this rich experience of friendship.

Friendships are the life of the church. They connect us to one another and provide care and support. As we move into 2023, the celebrating of the richness of our church-family friendships is going to be a significant part of this New Year! There will be at least quarterly Congregational Lunches. Our FEAST groups are gathering and welcoming new members. We will be increasing our weekly connections with each other.

As I think of these connections, the hymn, *Blest Be The Tie That Binds* comes to mind. Two of its verses describe beautifully the love and friendship Jesus showed his disciples and has encouraged all of us to share with one another.

*Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.*

*We share each other's woes,
our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.
Amen!*

In God's grace,

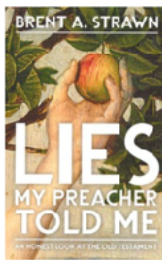


What a wonderful month December was, filled with great memories, fun & fellowship!





The 2023 Flower Dedication Calendar is posted in the Sanctuary. If you would like, please take this opportunity to volunteer to provide flowers in the Sanctuary dedicated *in honor of* or *in memory of* loved ones. You may also contact the church office at 843.883.3888 or sunrisepresbyterian3222@gmail.com with your dedicaions.



Beginning in mid-January, the adult Sunday School will begin a new study called *Lies My Preacher Told Me*. Brent Strawn addresses ten common "lies" or mistruths about the Old Testament, from perceptions of God's personality (the "angry Old Testament God") to the relevance of the Old Testament for Christians. Discover why stories and laws written thousands of years ago, centuries before Christ, are enriching and indispensable for modern Christians. Books will be available for purchase at the first class.



The Sanctuary was overflowing with beautiful poinsettias for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. Thank you for all of the dedications *in honor of* or *in memory of* your loved ones.



**JOIN THE SOUPER BOWL
OF CARING SO NO ONE
GOES WITHOUT SOUP IN
THEIR BOWL**

Save the Date: February 12th



January at Sunrise



Start off your Tuesdays with the Jerry Dillon Men's Prayer Breakfast at 7:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Start the day off right with great food, fellowship, and a devotion.

Growing FAITH

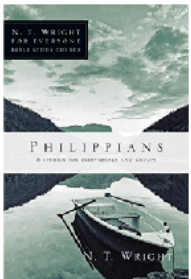
Our next *Growing Faith* meeting will be January 15th at 9am in the upstairs classroom. Students are invited to actively participate through sharing and asking lots of questions as we learn about the Bible. A heavy emphasis of *Growing Faith* is how stories in the Bible apply to their lives today--in 2023. Please feel free to forward this email to anyone you know who might be interested in joining. I look forward to taking faith to the next level with your children! ~ Reece

The Miriam-Naomi Circle

The Miriam-Naomi Circle will meet in the Library January 10th at 10am as we continue our study of the Gospel of Mark using *Mark's Story of Jesus* by Werner H. Kelber as our study guide. We welcome new participants in the Circle. After we meet, those of us who are able to do so usually regroup for lunch at a nearby restaurant. If you have any questions or if you would like to be added to our mailing list, please call Patsy Hindman (843) 906-8653.

Cents-Ability is collected the 2nd Sunday of each month. Thanks to you, donations have been made to TriCounty Family Ministries, East Cooper Meals on Wheels, and East Cooper Community Outreach. Please continue to give at least two cents per person per meal in the bowl in the Narthex. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received.

Women's Evening Bible Study



For 2023, we'll begin the new year with a new Bible study book. We'll be moving from the Old Testament to the New Testament and Paul's letter to the Philippians. This is a book about hope. Hope is a word we probably use a lot (I hope it doesn't rain this weekend, I hope everyone shows up for Thanksgiving dinner), but Philippians introduces us to a true, deep, sustaining hope. It's the kind of hope that can change the way we think about and live our lives. I'm excited about diving in! *PHILIPPIANS* by N. T. Wright can be found on Amazon for less than \$7! If you have any trouble getting a copy, please let me know. The book has an introduction and eight chapters. We will spend one month on each. On January 17th at 5:30 pm I'll start the study off with a refresher of the New Testament and where Philippians fits in to it. We'll continue to meet at the church and via Zoom. -Reece



JANUARY

Birthdays

1 Tom Ferrigan
1 Danielle Feerst
1 Jeff Panitt
1 Lucy Williams
1 Lia McKee
2 Adlai Allard
3 John Clarke
3 Victoria Kern
4 Carolyn Rhyne
5 Dave Shrader
6 Lauren Nelson
7 Lamar Graves
9 Carlin Timmons
10 John Hostetler
11 Bill McClary
11 Charles Guss
11 Brian Fehon
12 Campbell Long
13 Brendan Jeffers

17 Dan Floyd
18 John Wertz
18 Leslie Belicka
19 Madge Walther
19 Ross Wilson
19 Dolores Russell
20 Betty Milner
22 Diane Schmidt
24 Gene McClary
25 Reid Jeffers
26 Pat Fields
27 Vance Polley
28 Georgia Stewart
28 Amy Major
29 Rusty Reaser
29 Ray Dickinson
30 Julie Milly
30 John Hardwick

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Communion</p> <p>New Year's Day</p> <p>9:15am - Choir Practice</p> <p>10am - Single Worship Service</p> <p>4:30pm - Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm - Youth Group - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>2</p> <p>New Year's Day (substitute)</p> <p>1:30pm - Music Lessons (Upstairs)</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:30am - Men's Breakfast</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p> <p>6pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Ceniza/ADULTY</p> <p>9am - Devotional Service - Sanctuary</p> <p>9:30am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>10am - Choir Practice</p> <p>10am - Family Service/Adult Sunday</p> <p>11am - Worship Service</p> <p>3pm - Girl Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>4:30pm - Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm - Youth Group - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1:30pm - Music Lessons (Upstairs)</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:30am - Men's Breakfast</p> <p>10am - Miriam-Naomi Circle (Library)</p> <p>4:15pm - Deakins Lessons - Fellowship</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p> <p>6pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>13</p> <p>12:30pm - Bridge - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9am - Devotional Service - Sanctuary</p> <p>9am - Growing Faith - Upstairs</p> <p>9:30am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>10am - Choir Practice</p> <p>10am - Family Service/Adult Sunday</p> <p>11am - Worship Service</p> <p>4:30pm - Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm - Youth Group - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p> <p>1:30pm - Music Lessons (Upstairs)</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:30am - Men's Breakfast</p> <p>4:15pm - Deakins Lessons - Fellowship</p> <p>5:30pm - Women's Evening Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting</p> <p>6pm - Pack Meeting - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p> <p>6pm - Battery Gadsdon - Sanctuary</p> <p>6pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:30pm - Bridge - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9am - Devotional Service - Sanctuary</p> <p>9:30am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>10am - Choir Practice</p> <p>10am - Family Service/Adult Sunday</p> <p>11am - Worship Service</p> <p>4:30pm - Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm - Youth Group - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:30pm - Music Lessons (Upstairs)</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:30am - Men's Breakfast</p> <p>4:15pm - Deakins Lessons - Fellowship</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p> <p>6pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:30pm - Bridge - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9am - Devotional Service - Sanctuary</p> <p>9:30am - Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)</p> <p>10am - Choir Practice</p> <p>10am - Family Service/Adult Sunday</p> <p>11am - Worship Service</p> <p>4:30pm - Boy Scouts - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>5:30pm - Youth Group - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:30pm - Music Lessons (Upstairs)</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7:30am - Men's Breakfast</p> <p>4:15pm - Deakins Lessons - Fellowship</p>	<p>1</p> <p>FIRST DAY OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH</p> <p>10am - AA Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30pm - Agape Do Karate</p> <p>6pm - Choir Practice</p>	<p>3</p> <p>12:30pm - Bridge - Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>4</p>

Church Office Hours:
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

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