

THE PRESBYTERIAN PRESS

The monthly newsletter of West Point
Presbyterian Church

December 2024



EST. 1837

*WELCOME: Grace and peace
to you in the name of Jesus
Christ.*

*At WPPC, we are Seeking,
Serving, and Sharing...*

*Seeking...to Nurture
Lifelong Christian
Disciples.*

*Serving...the
Congregation, Community
& World in the Name of
Jesus Christ.*

*Sharing...God's Love in the
Reformed Tradition.*

West Point Presbyterian
Church 1002 5th Avenue, West
Point, Georgia 31833

706.443.2260

wppc@knology.net

www.westpointpresbyterian.com

www.facebook.com/westpointpres

www.twitter.com/WestPointPresb1




December

West Point Presbyterian Church Calendar

Liturgist-Tammy Ledbetter Usher-Kris Cagle
 3rd Sunday Hosts-Session-

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Unity Sunday @FBCWP Youth Bible Study @FBCWP 2-3	2	3	4 Youth Prayer 7:30 GM	5	6 LEO 8am	7 Decorate Tree and Sanctuary for Advent 10 am
8 Communion Sunday / Youth Bible Study	9	10	11 Youth Prayer 7:30 GM	12	13 LEO 8am	14
15 Covered Dish/Session Youth Bible Study	16	17	18 Youth Prayer 7:30 GM	19	20 LEO 8am	21
22 Youth Christmas Party @WPPC 5-7 pm	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 6:00 PM	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27 LEO 8am	28
29	30	31				

**“Wishing everyone
a blessed month of
DECEMBER.
All the Best!!”**



MORNING
greetings.com



By Rev Jerry Ledbetter...

Life has a way of stealing our joy at times.

Unwelcomed news, stressful situations, and trying circumstances challenge and affect us all. And often, if we're not careful, our joy in the Lord suffers.

In John 15:11, just hours before He would be betrayed, arrested, and executed, Jesus told His disciples: "I have told you these things so that you will be filled with my joy. Yes, your joy will overflow!" (NLT). What Jesus promised His disciples, and by extension those of us

who follow Him today, is a joy that transcends circumstances. A joy that comes only from God's work in us, often in response to our prayers.

The truth is we need God's help to grow into people of joy, and thankfully, our Bibles are full of sample prayers we can learn to pray on our own. After all, if joy is a fruit of God's Spirit in us (Galatians 5:22) and the Father longs for us to bear fruit (John 15:2), won't He be pleased to answer our prayers and grant us joy in Christ?

He certainly will.

So let us confidently ask God to grow us into people of joy, unbothered by

mundane irritations and filled with His Spirit.

Here are a few biblical prayers you can start praying today:

1. Based on Nehemiah 8:10: Your joy is my strength, Lord, so please fill me with Your strength to respond with joy even when I'm tired.
2. Based on Psalm 30:5: Though my sorrow may last through this dark night, Your joy will come in the morning. Help me wait patiently for You to turn my tears to laughter.
3. Based on Psalm 51:12: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, Jesus,

and make me quick to obey You.

4. Based on Psalm 4:6-7: Lord, You can fill my heart with more joy than (anything in this life, fill in the blank). I choose to trust in you!

May we grow in the joy that points us and our world to Jesus.

~Jerry



Disciples Youth Group by Rev Sherrad Hayes

The Disciples Youth celebrate a Thanksgiving meal together with turkey, gravy, dressing, cranberry sauce, macaroni and cheese, green bean casserole, and pumpkin pie! We also played foosball, pool, air hockey, and card games.

In November, we have been reading

through Paul's letter to the Philippians. We explored what it means to be found in Jesus, not having a righteousness of our own. Join us on Sunday afternoons from 2-3 at FBCWP! We'll have snacks and drinks while we study the Scriptures together. We will finish this study in early December and

transition to another one of Paul's letters for our final study.

Do you need prayer during the week? We have shifted our midweek prayer back to Wednesday night at 7:30 after the conclusion of the joint Fall Bible Study. Join us on Wednesday to take time to check in with on another virtually and pray for one another!

As I mentioned last newsletter, December will be our last month together

as The Disciples Youth Group, a joint ministry of FBCWP and WPPC. The program will not continue into 2025. While this is a sad occasion for us, this by no means marks the end of our churches discipling our young people! As a group we are focusing on marking this transition well, and continuing to move towards what's been our goal with this group the entire time – a lifetime of following Jesus! Our group has been a few

steps along this journey, and I remain immensely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of it!

We hope you will join us for our final event. We are having a Christmas party on Sunday, December 22 for 5-7 pm in Davis Hall at WPPC! We will enjoy a Christmas breakfast (for dinner) together, play Dirty Santa, have a Gingerbread House competition, and watch Christmas classics.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

December 1 from 2-3 pm Youth Bible study at FBCWP

December 4 at 7:30 Youth prayer time (virtual)

December 8 from 2-3 pm Youth Bible study at FBCWP

December 11 at 7:30 pm Youth prayer time (virtual)

December 15 from 2-3 Youth Bible studay at FBCWP

December 18 at 7:30 Youth prayer time (virtual)

December 22 from 5-7 Youth Christmas party at WPPC (our final event)

Yours in Christ,

Sherrad



Charles and Owen played pool while waiting for dinner to finish cooking. Adjusting to the miniature balls and cues took some effort.



Will and Abbey joined in too! They found the table to be more to their size.



Dinner: Turkey, gravy, cornbread stuffing, baked mac and cheese, cranberry sauce, and green bean casserole. What a meal!



Things slowed down after the food, so we played cards while we digested. Abbey, Will, Amy, Cooper, Owen, and Charles tried not to blow up, while playing Exploding Kittens.



We always have a Scripture lesson based off the sermon, and we do a related craft.

We read Children's bible stories and we do bible related colorings and play bible games.

We have snacks and play.

Our awesome teacher is Ms. Terri!

Her helpers are Cypress McCoy-Small, Mr. Randy (the Candyman), and for special events Ms. Helen, Ms. Lachelle, and Ms. Debbie.

Sunday school 10:00 am-10:50 am Children's
Church 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

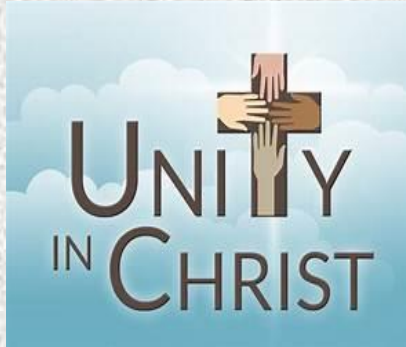


SUNDAY SCHOOL JOIN US THIS WEEK

We gather for prayer time at 10:00 am and head to Sunday School at 10:15.

Dan Bass facilitates the class in the Stanley Room. We will be working on a more general study of the book of Psalms.

Church Life Events



Our next unity service with First Baptist of West Point is December 1st. We will meet at FBCWP @ 10:30.



December 15th is our next Session Meeting.



Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to noon.



Please mark your calendars, ladies!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8th at 5:30, at the home of Phyllis White, 321 Mote Road, West Point, GA 31833.

Phyllis will provide a light meal before we move on to our meeting.

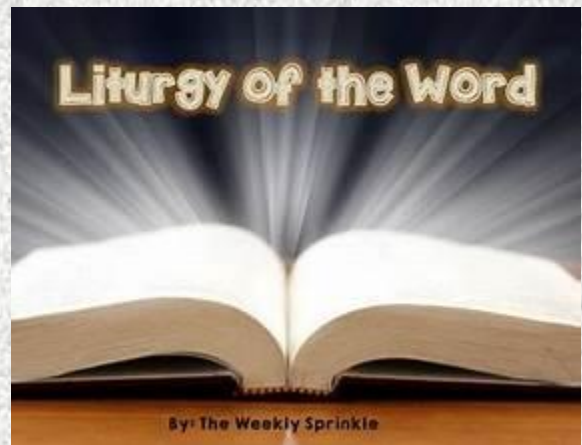
Please join us, we look forward to seeing you there.



It has been decided that with the busy holiday season upon us and so much going on in November and December, our Supper Club will take a break for November and December and resume in January 2025.



If you are hesitant about volunteering as host/hostess, please be assured it's easy. We even have a cheat sheet. Also, don't hesitate to partner with someone. Makes for ½ the work and twice the fun. Our next Covered Dish Lunch will be on December 15th. Your hosts for this event are your Session.



Liturgist

Do you like help with the service?
Please add your name to the Liturgist sheet in the Narthex.

Our Liturgist for the month of December is Tammy Ledbetter



If you would like to bring flowers for our worship service, please let the Church office know. These flowers can be from anywhere! You are responsible for arranging the flowers and putting them in containers, and place them in the Sanctuary Sunday morning by 10:45 am.



Do you like to talk with/greet people? Sign up to be Head Usher for a month. It's easy and a great way to serve. You can even volunteer to assist the Head Usher a time or two to learn the ropes.

Head Usher for December is Kris Cagle

CHRISTMAS CHILDREN

As a church, along with FBCWP we have adopted 6 children from West Point Elementary School (our partner in education), for Christmas. Please contact LaChelle Jones, if you are interested in buying gift(s) for one of the children.



Session:

Lori Heath, Congregational Care (24),
Debbie Von Hollen, Admin. & Finance
(24),
Kris Cagle, Building & Grounds (25),
Tony White, Education (25),
Randy Workman, Outreach(26), Dan
Bass, Music & Worship (26),

Clerk of the Session: Bill Nixon

Treasurer: Ray Gilbert

Senior Pastor

Rev. Gerald (Jerry) Ledbetter

Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry

Rev. Sherrad Hayes

Organist Emeritus

Mr. Austin P. Cook, III

Music Director

Michael Ledbetter

Children's Church Director

Terri Workman

Assistant-Cypress McCoy-Small

Accompanist

Randall Smith

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT



Website: nhct.org Phone 706.643.7529 Box Office Phone 706.518.6234

Address: 411 West 8th St P.O. Box 131 West Point, GA 31833

Proudly Presents



December 5-7, 2024

Directed by Bill Nixon

They're back! The Sanctified Sanders Family Singers return to the New Horizon stage to celebrate the holidays with faith, family, and old-fashioned fun. It's three years after their return to the gospel circuit in *Smoke on the Mountain*. It's Christmas Eve, 1941 and the world is headed to war. The Sanders Family has returned to Mount Pleasant for what may be their last chance to perform for a while.

Please note: A portion of tickets sales will benefit a local charity to be determined by the NHCT Board



December 21, 2024 for two shows only 2:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Directed by Julia Langley

This popular Christmas Musical Extravaganza returns to the NHCT stage to present a one-day-only, high energy Holiday treat. Featuring a stage full of performers, colorful costumes, music, dance, and popular Christmas music – both contemporary and traditional – “Once Upon A December” is Holiday Magic for the entire family.

Please note: Proceeds from this production support NHCT’s Cliff Glover Scholarship Fund



Our P.E.E.P.S. use their pennies for Jesus money to buy food for our little free pantry, won't you consider helping them?



Thornwell began as a dream in the heart of a young Presbyterian minister, William Plumer Jacobs of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, SC.



We support all Law Enforcement Agencies as well as Fire and EMS!

Pastor Jerry does a weekly outreach, we call it LEO, (Law Enforcement Outreach), on Fridays at 8 am. If you would like to get involved see Jerry.



**Building a Better World,
One House at a Time**

For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God* Hebrews 3:4

Foundational principles

We at the Fuller Center for Housing believe that: We are part of a God movement, and movements don't just stop. We have been called to this housing ministry; we didn't just stumble into it. We are unashamedly Christian, and enthusiastically ecumenical. We aren't a church but we are a servant of the Church. We are faith-driven, knowing that after we've done all we can do the Lord will help finish the job — something that requires us to stretch beyond our rational reach. We are a grass-roots ministry, recognizing that the real work happens on the ground in communities around the world through our covenant partners — so a large, overseeing bureaucracy isn't needed. We try to follow the teachings of the Bible and believe that it says that we shouldn't charge interest of the poor, so we don't. Government has a role in our work in helping set the stage, but that we shouldn't look to it as a means to fund the building of homes.



A knock at the door might not seem like a big deal to many of us. But, to a homebound senior, it could signal the arrival of the only person they might see all day or all week long. It brings hope. It brings health. It brings the nutrition and care that will completely make their day. A knock from Meals on Wheels can even save lives.

THE POWER OF A KNOCK TRANSFORMS LIVES.