



# MIDWAY MESSENGER

**3238 Midway Road, Anderson, SC 29621**



Dear Friends,

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are great festivals in the church year. They bring back cherished memories of Christmases past. And we carry on many traditions—in part, just because they are traditions.

While yet a little subdued due to concerns of the lingering Covid virus, there are parties, presents, and poinsettias. Food, festivities, and family. Greenery, garlands, and gaiety. Carols, Christmas cards, and yes, credit cards. Each of these can have a place in our experiencing and expressing the joy of Christmas. However, we can get so “wrapped up” in the activities of the season that we miss what brought about all the festivities to begin with—the birth of the Savior, God with us and for us.

I think of Luke’s story (10:38-42) about Jesus’ visit with the two sisters, Mary and Martha in Bethany. We read that Martha was busy and anxious about all the details of preparing a great feast. And who could blame her—*Jesus* was coming to visit. But Mary was sitting at the feet of Jesus listening to him. So Martha implores the Lord to get Mary to help her. But Jesus says that Mary has chosen the “better portion,” while Martha is “worried and distracted by many things.”

During this time of year, it’s easy for us to become like Martha, “busy and anxious about many things.” Luke’s touching story reminds us that “we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4) Yes, there are needed preparations but let’s not get so busy and anxious that we miss the good portion. That we miss the heart of Christmas:

*And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold,  
I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.  
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,  
which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11)*

“I am bringing  
you good news  
of great joy  
for all the  
people.”  
Luke 2:10, NRSV



Merry Christmas!

*John McCallum*



### Midway Christmas Dinner

Everyone is invited to our Christmas Dinner on Friday, December, 17, 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Attendees are asked to turn in meal choice reservation forms and \$10.00 by December 1st. Please return to the church office or drop in the offering plate. Checks can be made out to Midway Presbyterian Church and marked as "Christmas Party." Please bring the following:

- Small gift to exchange
- Hats, gloves, scarves, handkerchiefs, socks, small size toiletries, etc. for local ministries.
- Ready-to-eat items for the Inclement Weather Meals for our Meals-on-Wheels clients, such as ready-to-eat cans of soup or stews, packs of crackers, small boxes of raisins, fruit cups, juice boxes, breakfast bars, etc.

### Congregational Meeting

The Session has called for our Annual Congregational Meeting to be held following Worship, on Sunday, December 12. The budget for 2022 will be presented. A report from the CORD Committee will be heard. And Dr. McCallum will review a few of the highlights of 2021.

### Daytrippers

The Daytrippers will be attending the 3:00 p.m. performance of *Jingle Bell Rock* at the Pelzer Theater on Sunday, December 12, and everyone is invited to join us! Tickets are \$10.50 each for seniors, \$12.50 for younger-than. Bring your money to Linda Mylod, and please put your name and the number of tickets on a piece of paper or the envelope when you hand in your money.



### Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season, you may order poinsettias as a memorial or honorarium by either filling out the form in your Sunday bulletin or by coming by the church office. Deadline for ordering the poinsettias is Sunday, December 5. The cost is \$7.00. Make checks payable to Midway Presbyterian Church. The poinsettias can be picked up after the Worship Service on Sunday, December 26.

### Christmas Eve Service

A Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service will be held in the Sanctuary on December 24, at 5:00 p.m. The Annual Christmas Joy Offering will be received.

### Decorating for Christmas

Everyone is invited to help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 4, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

### Parish Care Team

The Parish Care Team will hold its final meeting of the year at noon on December 8, in the Activities Room of the Manse.



In the November 9 Presbytery Meeting at First Church, Spartanburg, Presbytery Leader Rev. Debbie Foster read the names of Bea Heywood and Bill Kay, along with other Ruling Elders and Teaching Elders who entered the Church Triumphant between November of 2020 and October of 2021.

### Financial Report as of November 19, 2021

Budget Needs to Date	\$146,365.10
Budget Receipts to Date	\$129,739.70
Spent to Date	\$138,183.68
Special Offerings	\$ 5,541.35
Heat & A/C Offerings	\$ 11,019.00

*Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your produce.*

~~Proverbs 3:9

## A Special Thank You

We would be remiss if we didn't name the many unknown members who not only donated items for the yard sale (and in some cases purchased items FROM the yard sale) but also worked to price, set-up, sell, bag, cart and clean-up the leftovers, and, like our precious secretary LeNelle, also brought homemade goodies to sell. Major thanks to everyone who so generously donated their treasures so that others could purchase and enjoy them. And thanks also to those who helped advertise the sale because, without our customers, it would have been a long, lonely day.

So, great thanks to our Pricing Queen, Kitty Burge, her haul-and set-up crew: Linda Mylod, Ginny Keiper, Roz Rozakos, Donetta Dodwell, Marilyn Mamrick, Will Greer, and Bob Bone, then moving to the sale day where our indefatigable crew included the above as well as Elnor Harrell, our premier wrap-and-bag lady, Bob Harrell, our foremost tote and carry guy, Will Greer, another tote and carry guy AND expert Book Room staffer, and Jacky Stamps, Tom Waddell and Keith Wentzky who arrived to help pack up and move the leftovers after the women decided what goes/what stays. It was the best crew ever and made the day pass quickly and smoothly. And the hard work paid off: we raised \$1525 to help defray this year's \$ shortage and ensure that our Missions Programs would be fully funded.

In the fabled words of Mr. Spock, "Live long and Prosper", because, God willing, there are more yard sales in our future.



### SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER



#### Pulpit

Dec. 5 John Dodwell  
12 Linda Mylod  
19 Roz Rozakos  
26 Jacky Stamps

#### Head Usher

Dec. 5 Elaine Gilmore  
12 Marilyn Martin  
19 Tom Waddell  
26 Elaine Gilmore

#### Sunday School

##### Secretaries

Dec. 5 Bob Harrell  
12 Jacky Stamps  
19 Sammy Stevenson  
26 Bob Bone



#### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 2 Denise Kowalski  
5 Kathy Gilmore  
11 Linda Hawkins  
19 John Dodwell  
31 Ryan Morris



#### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 21 Jim & Sybil Ginn 63rd





**Frances Wentzky preparing flower bed with mulch brought by Keith Wenzky**



**Thanks to Keith Wentzky and Kamryn McCormick for placing the flags for Veterans Day**



**Lunch at Presbytery with John Dodwell, Sarah Cornell, Louis Epting, and Amos Workman**



**Bob Harrell with Happy Shoppers at Yard Sale**



**Remains of dead tree**



**Thanks to Bill & Randi Rexroad for cleaning and new gutters**