



# MIDWAY MESSENGER

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



Dear Friends,

At Epiphany we commemorate the visit of the Magi to the Baby Jesus, and thus the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.

*On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Mt. 2:11)*

Epiphany traditional falls on the twelfth day after Christmas, January 6. It closes one season of the church year and opens another. In countries where the Orthodox Church is strong (such as Ethiopia) Epiphany can be a bigger day than even Christmas. Epiphany is the season of light, for Jesus is The Light of the World.

In Ephesians Paul says:

*Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ. (3:7-8)*

The good news of great joy is for *all* people. Not just people of a Jewish lineage, but non-Jewish lineage as well. Not just insiders, but outsiders. God's saving love comes through Jesus the Jew, but it reaches far beyond to embrace kings from the East, an unworthy Roman centurion with a paralyzed servant (Mt. 8:5-13), hated tax collectors and sinners (Mt. 9:10-11), a good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-27), and you and me. The Wise Men come to offer him gifts, but he will offer himself as a gift for all people. This Baby Jesus will become The Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world.

At the end of Matthew's Gospel the disciples are commissioned to go and make disciples of *all* nations. that's our mission, too. And Pentecost will speak of the Spirit's giving us power to carry out that mission. But first let us bask in the light of Christ, who loves us and gave himself for us.



*As with gladness men of old  
Did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light,  
Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we  
Evermore be led to Thee.  
(“As with Gladness Men of Old,” v. 1)*

Yours in Christ, The Light of the World,  
*John McCallum*



### Prayer and Sympathy

Our Christian love and sympathy is expressed to the family of Peggy White at her death on December 20. Peggy is the wife of Jim White and mother of Gail Alewine.

### Thank You

*"Dear Church Family, Thank you for all the cards, phone calls, gifts, and especially the prayers. I appreciate them very much. Love in Christ, Sybil Ginn."*

### New Elders

During Worship on December 19, the following Elders were installed to office in the Class of 2024:

Bob Harrell  
Marilyn Mamrick  
Tom Waddell

We express appreciation for the faithful service of the Elders rotating off the Session:

Elaine Gilmore  
Jacky Stamps  
Terry Waddell

### Thank You from the Staff

The members of the Church Staff, John, LeNelle, Beth, Roz, and Cindy want to thank the Church for the generous Christmas checks. It's been a blessing to serve you this year.



### Tornado

The First Presbyterian Church and much of the town of Mayfield, Kentucky, were destroyed by the recent tornadoes. Our Session is encouraging members to consider extending a helping hand. One way we can do so is by making a check out to Midway Presbyterian Church, and noting it for Mayfield Tornado. Then on January 12, 2022 we will send the total contributions to the Presbytery of Western Kentucky.

### Undecorate

Everyone is invited to help undecorate the church on Saturday, January 8, at 10:00 a.m.

*"What does up, must come down."*



33 members and friends enjoyed food, fellowship, and singing at our Christmas Dinner.

### Christmas Joy Offering

The offering received on Christmas Eve came to \$850.32. Appreciation is expressed to all who gave.

### Parish Care Team

The Parish Care Team will meet on Wednesday, January 12, at noon in the Conference Room of the Church Activities Building. We are always open to new members to join our team, so please come join us.

### Financial Report as of December 24, 2021

Budget Needs to Date	\$162,274.35
Budget Receipts to Date	\$ 147,677.72
Spent to Date	\$152,683.36
Special Offerings	\$ 6,651.76
Heat & A/C Offerings	\$12,629.00

*Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*

~~James 1:17

## Community Life & Mission Updates

On behalf of Midway Church and its Mission Committee, on December 10<sup>th</sup> Linda and Jim Mylod delivered \$100 worth of shampoo, deodorant and soap, 10 hoodies, and \$1250 worth of gift cards (Shoe Carnival, Target, Chick-Fil-A and McDonald's) to Lisa Butler for the Homeless Kids program of Anderson's School District #5. The gift cards will be distributed to youngsters in the program for Christmas purchases of shoes and clothing and for their enjoyment with friends over the Christmas break. The hoodies and toiletries will be distributed as needed during the school year. The funding for these purchases came from the very successful 2020 Yard Sale. (Proceeds from this year's yard sale were put into the General Operating Fund to help defray an anticipated year-end shortage.)

On behalf of our committee, we thank our members for their great generosity at the Christmas party in providing hats, gloves and dozens of pairs of socks, which have been donated to South Main Street Mercy Center, as well as a large quantity of first-rate toiletries that have been donated to Clean Start. The incredibly generous amount of soup and other requested items for the NICE meals delivered by Meals on Wheels will be brought to their office next week. Terry Waddell, our committee chair, said that we have the best members at Midway, and their generosity is often overwhelming to us. We thank everyone for all they did throughout the year – often in a quiet way that received no recognition but didn't go unnoticed. Due to the Covid outbreak, these past two years have been an unusual challenge for churches. But, as we struggled through our own financial difficulties, the members of Midway have remained aware of the needs of the less fortunate in our community, as directed by God.

*For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore, I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.' Deuteronomy 15:11.*

May the blessings that you have bestowed upon others in 2021 be tenfold to each of you in 2022. Warm wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year from the Community Life and Mission Committee!

### SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY



#### Pulpit

Jan. 2 Dee Ashworth  
9 John Dodwell  
16 Bob Harrell  
23 Linda Mylod  
30 Roz Rozakos

#### Head Usher

Jan. 2 Tom Waddell  
9 Marilyn Mamrick  
16 Marilyn Martin  
23 Dee Ashworth  
30 John Dodwell

#### Sunday School

##### Secretaries

Jan. 2 Bob Harrell  
9 Jacky Stamps  
16 Sammy Stevenson  
23 Bob Bone  
30 Bob Harrell



#### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 5	Tommy Alewine	Jan. 21	Jacky Stamps
	Dee Ashworth	23	Kitty Burge
8	Anna May Potter	24	Sammy Wentzky
16	David Peters	28	Beth Croft
17	Olin Scarborough	31	Randi Rexroad



#### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jan. 14	Frank & Joyce Wentzky	66th
19	John & Donetta Dodwell	49th
31	Alan & Traci Webb	41st





**Marilyn, Kim, Terry and Cindy**

**Decorating**



**“All Work and No Play...”**



**Dee and Gary's House**



**“O Christmas Tree”**



**Jim Mylod with Santa's Helpers**



**Gifts for Those in Need**