

J**JANUARY 2023**

MIDWAY MESSENGER

3238 Midway Road, Anderson, SC 29621



Dear Friends,

We will move quickly through the remaining days of an old year about to end and a new year about to be born. Not only do many of us think of collard greens and blackeye peas, but also resolutions. Therefore, let me suggest one you may not have considered.

Recently, a church member asked me about a program for reading the Bible in a year. There are numerous online resources that can be considered. In both the Earnest Workers Sunday School Class and the Contemporary Sunday School Class there are suggested readings for each day (but not for reading the whole Bible). Likewise, are there Lectionary readings for each day that follow a three-year cycle.

My own thinking is that following one of these listings of readings for each day would be more helpful than just trying to read the whole Bible through in one year. The selected sections would allow us time to study and understand the context of what was being said. A Study Bible can be very helpful in this regard. *The New Interpreter's Study Bible* (in our Church Library); *The English Standard Study Bible*; *The NIV's Life Application Study Guide*—they can all be valuable resources.

Furthermore, I think it's important that we allow time for to pray and meditate upon what God might be saying to us today, in our particular situation, through the ancient words of Holy Scripture. Thereby our reading becomes a spiritual practice.

If we're not already doing so, let us add this resolution to our list for the New Year: to be a more faithful student of God's Word. It will do us and those around us a world of good.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.*

~Psalm 119:105

Happy New Year!

John McCallum



Undecorating the Church**Undecorate**

Everyone is invited to help undecorate the church on Saturday, January 7, at 10:00 a.m. "Many hands make small work."

Daytrippers

Nine of our members enjoyed a truly rockin' "Jingle Bell Rock" at Pelzer Theater on December 11. The six talented young entertainers performed some old and new Christmas tunes with such energy that many of us left reminiscing about the days when our energy levels might have been that high! The theater had almost no open seats, so it was nice to see that folks are back to supporting the Milltown Players and their excellent shows.

January Congregational Dinner

On January 8 we will have a Congregational Dinner, which will be Covered Dish. The 2-Cents-a-Meal Offering will be received for Good Neighbor Cupboard.

New Nativity Set

We hope you've noticed the new Nativity set that's in front of the altar. After decades of chips and repairs, at Cindy Wentzky's request the Session voted to purchase a new set. Fortuitously, the Sunday that we were boxing up the old set, Eddie Capps, the Executive Director of the Haven of Rest, was in the sanctuary to give a Minute for Mission talk at the Worship service. We offered him the old set for the Haven, and he was happy to accept it. So our old figures have a new life at a good home.

Parish Care at Senior Solutions

Ten of us, including a friend of Marilyn Mamrick's who graciously joined us, caroled at both of the Senior Solution's Day Care Centers this month. Due to the unfortunate absence of our pianist and choir director, it was a shorter program than in years past but with as much joy and enthusiasm as ever. Stockings filled with small gifts were handed out to the attendees in the Adult Center. Dr. McCallum closed the program in both rooms with a prayer for a blessed Christmas for everyone there, and a reminder of God's goodness to all of us by sending our Savior that first Christmas morn. We lunched together at Tucker's and enjoyed fellowship and camaraderie there.

The members of our Parish Care Team wish each of you a truly blessed Christmas and invite you to join our committee in 2023 to take part in helping to serve our membership by prayer, cards and visitations throughout the year. Our first meeting in 2023 will be on Wednesday, January 11th, and we'd love to have you join us. Merry Christmas to all!

Thank You from the Staff

The Staff wants to express our appreciation to the Session and Congregation for the generous Christmas checks. It is truly a privilege to serve on the staff at Midway.

**Financial Report as of
December 22, 2022**

Budget Needs to Date	\$159,773.31
Budget Receipts to Date	\$152,375.67
Spent to Date	\$148,530.49
Special Offerings	\$ 8,640.84
Heat & A/C Offerings	\$14,479.00

*"God has given us two hands, one to receive with
and the other to give with."*

~~Billy Graham

Very Special Delivery!



The many boxes on the dolly contain coats, jackets, sweat-shirts, sweaters, leggings, long-sleeved tops and underwear for youngsters in District 5's Homeless and Forster Kids Program, which were delivered to Lisa Butler by Keith Wentzky, Jacky Stamps and Linda Mylod. Also hand-delivered were \$1k worth of gift cards for some extra Christmas joy. Funds for these purchases were raised at this year's bazaar, so great thanks to all our members who helped make this happen! Pictured with Keith and Jacky is District 5 employee James Scott.

THANK YOU!

The generosity of our members was never more evident than at our Christmas party. Winter hats, scarves and gloves, toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, travel size tissues), hand and body lotions, numerous bars of soap, men's underwear, dozens of pairs of socks, a cozy throw, and even some small manicure kits were brought by the partygoers for donation to local charities. The men's underwear, men's socks and a boxful of travel size toiletries were delivered to Clean Start, along with many bars of soap and some body lotion. The Huggies wipes, baby shampoos, and the throw for a mother to cozy up with her new baby will be dropped off at the Anderson Pregnancy Center this week. The pretty hats, pretty socks plus some of the gloves and body lotions will be brought to the Haven of Rest Women's Ministry along with a check for this month's Jar offerings. All the donations will have found a home and filled a need this month, and your generosity will be a blessing to many! Thank you for keeping the true spirit of Christmas in your hearts.

SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY



Pulpit

Jan. 1 Dee Ashworth
8 Linda Mylod
15 Roz Rozakos
22 Jacky Stamps
29 Tom Waddell

Head Usher

Jan. 1 Donetta Dodwell
8 John Dodwell
15 Elaine Gilmore
22 Marilyn Martin
29 Jacky Stamps

Sunday School Secretaries

Jan. 1 Amy Morris
8 Jacky Stamps
15 Sammy Stevenson
22 Bob Bone
29 Amy Morris



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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Jan. 14	Frank & Joyce Wentzky	67th
19	John & Donetta Dodwell	50th
31	Alan & Traci Webb	42nd

“WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS”



Two of Several Boxes of Donations that were delivered to the Clinton Presbyterian Home



Bob Bone & John Dodwell decorating the Sanctuary



Manger Scene donated by Amy Morris



Terry, Roz, Marilyn Mamrick, Amy, Joyce and Kitty decorating the Fellowship Hall



John & Hazel's Thanksgiving Cactus



We're Going to miss Jean



"A Gracious Plenty"



A Poinsettia for Bob and Kitty



"All Ready for Worship"



One of the Wooden Bowls David Peters made for Contemporary Class Members



"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"