Mission Statement of Midway Presbyterian Church

Our purpose is to call people into a living and growing relationship with God in Jesus Christ with the help of the Holy Spirit, and to promote the mission of Christ in compassionate ministries.

We intend to be a welcoming and caring church - a church family that nurtures a sense of community and belonging. We want young and old to join us in the Christian pilgrimage as sojourners in the great adventure of faith.

The Church Staff

Dr. John McCallum Mrs. Roz Rozakos Mrs. Beth Croft Ms. Cindy Wentzky Mrs. LeNelle Chastain Mr. Will Greer

Session

<u>Class of 2023</u> Linda Mylod Roz Rozakos Jacky Stamps (Clerk)

<u>Class of 2024</u> Bob Harrell Marilyn Mamrick Tom Waddell <u>Class of 2025</u> Dee Ashworth Marilyn Martin Amy Morris

Pastor

Pianist

Secretary

Choir Director

Staff Assistant

Media Specialist

Commissioned Deacon Earle King

Treasurers

Bob Harrell Linda Mylod Disbursing Treasurer Receiving Treasurer

Parish Nurse Ginny Keiper

Midway Presbyterian Church 3238 Midway Road Anderson, South Carolina 29621 864-226-1880 www.midwaypres.org.



Established 1833

MIDWAY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship Service December 3, 2023 10:30 a.m.

"If the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready..." ~Matthew 24:43-44

> **The Service For the Lord's Day** *First Sunday of Advent*

The GatheringPreludeMrs. Beth CroftIntroitThe ChoirChiming of the HourThe ChoirGreetingDr. David BaileyAnnouncementsJacky StampsMinute for MissionEddie Capps, Director of Haven of RestJar OfferingHaven of Rest Women's Ministries

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Bill and Randi Rexroad & Granddaughters, Madison & Ryleigh Okey

Sermon

"Preparations"

Dr. David Bailey

Responding to the Word

*Hymn #291

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

*Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I BELIEVE in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings The Offertory Prayer The Offertory Music *The Doxology

The Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

The Sending		
*Hymn #286	"Once in Royal David's City"	
*Charge and Blessing		
*Choral Benediction #263	"What Can I Give Him?"	
What can I give Him, poor as I am?		
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;		
If I were a wise-man I would do my part;		
Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.		
*Postlude	(*Those who are able may stand.)	

*Hymn #245

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*Call to Confession

*Unison Prayer of Confession

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom. We have lived casual lives, and ignored your promised judgment. Judge us, O God, for we have been slow to serve you. Forgive us, for the sake of your faithful servant Jesus, our Savior, whose triumph we want and eagerly wait for. Hear us now as we make our personal confessions to you in the silence...Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon Pastor: The Peace of God be with you. **People: And also with you.**

*Exchange of The Peace

*Gloria Patri

The Word			
Prayer for Illumination			
The Old Testament Reading	Isaiah 64:1-9		
Anthem	"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"	The Choir	
The New Testament Reading	Matthew 24:36-44		
Leader: The Word of the Lor People: Thanks be to God.			

Calendar of Activities and Upcoming Events				
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK				
Sunday	Elders' Prayer Time	9:00 a.m.		
	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.		
	Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.		
Mon.	Scouts	5:00 p.m.		
Tues.	Legacy Academy	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.		
Thurs.	Legacy Academy	8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.		
	Advent Service @Lickville	12:00 noon		
Fri.	Christmas Party	5:30 p.m.		

On Call: Elder: Jacky Stamps 864-225-3305				
Church Office: 864-226-1880				
LeNelle's e-mail: lenelle@midwaypres.org				
Dr. McCallum's Phone & e-mail:864-616-0918 (C) 864-268-1392(H)				
johnmccallum@ft.newyorklife.com				

Those Serving Our Church Elder

Head Usher

Marilyn Martin Jacky Stamps

Sunday School Secretaries Today: Jacky Stamps Next Week: Amy Morris

> This Week's Birthday Dec. 5 Kathy Gilmore

Announcements

Our Jar Offering for the first four Sundays in December will go to Under His Wings Women's Ministry, a division of Haven of Rest. This is a Bible-based discipleship program and ministry that is designed to rescue, restore, and release women facing life-dominating problems related to addiction and homelessness. Their goal is to see every program participant will have immediate needs met, find freedom from addictions, and hope in a new life with Christ.

Lickville Presbyterian Church is inviting us to join with them in an **Advent Service** at noon on Thursday, December 7. A light lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall. If anyone needs a ride, please see Linda Mylod.

Christmas Party

If you haven't made your reservation for the party which is on Friday, December 8, payment must be received today so a final count can be given to the caterer tomorrow. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. so let's try to arrive before that to get settled and out of the caterers' way.

Please remember that desserts and beverages are to be provided by our members, so feel free to bring your best Christmas cookies or some other treat. But if you're not a baker, no worries; just come and enjoy the festivities!

Food items, toiletries, socks, hats, gloves, etc. will be collected at the party and will be donated to the Salvation Army of Anderson for anyone who is staying there. Bring them wrapped only in Christian love.

The Session has called for our Annual Congregational Meeting to be held following Worship on Sunday, December 10. Dr. McCallum will note some of the highlights of 2023, and the 2024 Budget will be presented.

Christmas Gift Suggestion

There are cards in the vestibule from the Gideons, which would make lovely Christmas gifts to your friends or family members who already have everything they need; for \$25 you can provide 5 Bibles. The Gideons provide Bibles to every member of the U.S. Armed Forces, to patients at U.S. Veterans Hospitals, and they place them in hotel rooms. During the 2020 pandemic Bibles were removed from hotel rooms, and the Gideons are trying to replace them. So, if you need a suggestion for a worthwhile Christmas gift, look no further than our front door!

Everyone is invited to help with cupboard cleaning and manse preparation on Saturday, December 16th at 10:00 a.m. Professor Larisa Mistrean and her daughter (Bianca-Francesca) will live in our church manse during the spring semester. Larisa is a Fulbright scholar from Moldova and will be working at Anderson University during her stay. Additionally, if you would like to donate/loan any items that you think they would need during their stay (e.g., hot plate/crock pot, shower rod & curtain, towels, etc.) and/or volunteer to host them for a dinner or local outing contact Kent Saunders (765-617-2134).