



Dear Friends,

Several, well actually when I look back, many years ago I assisted with a series of special services during the Advent season. They were services intended to give people a chance to slow down, pray, meditate and enjoy beautiful music from local artists who played the harp, the piano and acoustic guitar. There were only a few times during the service that anyone spoke out loud. As we sat and absorbed this beautiful atmosphere, you could hear the collective exhale as the cares and concerns, the hustle and bustle and sometimes the sadness this time of year can generate just dissolved and disappeared. (At least for a while.)

Every service opened with this call to worship:

Leader: What is Advent?

People: Advent is a time of waiting, waiting as the world waited in hope and repentance for Christ to be born.

Leader: What is Advent? Advent is a time of wait in, waiting in hope and repentance for Christ to come again, and He will come again.

All: Make way for Him in your heart; allow Him to awaken your soul.

As we all wait again to celebrate our dear Savior's birth, let us hold fast to the hope, peace, joy and love we will talk about each Sunday as we light our Advent Wreath. For unto us a child is born and unto us our Savior will return to set free those who have been oppressed and held captive by the evils of this world.

With love and prayers for a meaningful Advent,
Elizabeth

P.S. I found this Advent prayer by Barbara Gray and I just had to share it.

As I move through the season of Advent, help me, Lord, to "hush the noise and cease the strife and hear the angels sing." Amen.



Decorating for Christmas

Everyone is invited to help decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, November 29, from 10:00 a.m. – noon. Refreshments will be available.



Advent Bible Study

The Advent Study will begin on Saturday, November 29, immediately after the decorating of the church. The group will meet the next three Fridays at 11:15 a.m. Books will be provided for those who signed up and Elizabeth has those for you today. Be sure to pick yours up after church. If you want to come but have not signed up, let Elizabeth know.

Advent Face-up Services

Lickville Presbyterian Church is inviting us to join with them for an **Advent Service** at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, December, 11. A light lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall. If anyone needs a ride, please see Linda Mylod.

Midway is hosting an Advent Face-up Service on Wednesday, December 17., at 11:00 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend this meaningful service. A light lunch will be served following the service.

Our Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 12, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. It will be a catered meal, and will cost members and their guests \$15 per person. Catering will be provided by Redwood Catering. The menu will include chicken tenders, sliced ham, macaroni & cheese, yams, green beans, strawberry shortcake and banana pudding.

We'll collect winter accessories such as hats, gloves, scarves, socks, etc. for South Main Street Mercy Center. Let's share some Christmas joy with our Anderson neighbors who might be struggling financially this year.

Great thanks to Terry for once again arranging for our Christmas party. We hope to see everyone there.

CHRISTMAS PARTY – December 12, - 5:30

If you are planning on attending the Christmas Party, please send the following form along with payment to the church office by December 7, 2025

Name: _____

Number of Guests: _____

Amount Paid: _____



Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service will be held on Wednesday evening, December 24, at 6:00 p.m. The annual Christmas Joy Offering will be received. Bring your family and friends.

Undecorate Church

Everyone is invited to undecorate the church on Saturday, January 3, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.



Financial Report as of November 21, 2025

Budget Needs to Date	\$ 117,201.10
Budget Receipts to Date	\$ 148,559.67
Spent to Date	\$ 157,952.51
Special Offerings	\$ 9,023.58

*For it is in giving that we receive.
~~St. Francis of Assisi*

Our Jar Offering for December will go to the 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.

Our 2-Cents-a-Meal Offering for the 4th Quarter of 2025 will go to Foothills Presbytery's Cents-Ability. This offering supports 14 local ministries across the 5 counties in Foothills Presbytery, including South Main Chapel & Mercy Center and Anderson Interfaith Ministries.

The Community Life & Missions Committee will collect the following items throughout December for Meals on Wheels NICE bags (Nutrition In Case of Emergency) for our Route 15 recipients in case inclement weather hinders us from delivering their meals:

Ready-to-eat, pop-top soups (No Condensed Soup); individually wrapped granola bars (Soft Chew); canned or boxed juices; small boxes of raisins; single-serving cans of pop-top fruit (please avoid tops that can pierce easily). This is an excellent way for our members who aren't part of Route 15's delivery service to support Meals on Wheels.

Gratitude Notes

We received thank you's from:

Jim Boyer, Family Promise *"Dear Friends, We want to thank you for your generous donation of gift cards. Your contribution will assist in furthering our mission to provide safe lodging spaces for children and their families experiencing homelessness as well as emergency food during this time of chaos. Your donation is a true blessing and will make a significant difference in the lives of the families we serve."*

More Gratitude Notes on Page 3

SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

Pulpit

Dec. 7 Roz Rozakos
14 Kent Saunders
21 Dee Ashworth
28 Bob Bone

Head Usher

Dec. 7 Marilyn Martin
14 Amy Morris
21 Linda Mylod
28 Chrissie Saunders

Sunday School

Secretaries

Dec. 7 Amy Morris
14 Linda Mylod
21 Sammy Stevenson
28 Bob Bone



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December	5	Kathy Gilmore
	11	Linda Hawking
	19	John Dodwell

Gratitude Notes



We received thank you's from:

Salvation Army, Major Joseph Irvin *"Dear Friends, You are a true friend to the many struggling families we are called to serve. We appreciate all you do! Because of your compassionate spirit and generous heart, we are able to embrace people who are facing hardship this season."*

The Lot Project, Nate Knox *"Dear Midway Presbyterian, 'Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.' I get to witness this kind of love every day through people like you—those who give generously to help us serve our neighbors in need.. Your past support has allowed us to provide meals, clothing, transitional housing, and most importantly, the hope of Jesus Christ. Thank you for being part of this mission. We are so grateful for you."*

Thornwell, Rev. Myron Wilkins, President *"Midway Presbyterian Church your love and generosity help build tomorrow's families through an enduring legacy of hope and joy! Children and families in the shadows of challenging times step into the light and love of Jesus through your support. This year, You made sure we could keep saying "YES" to all who needed us."*

A Special Holiday Way to Help -

Anderson's annual Christmas Lights drive-thru display and Santa's Village opens on Thanksgiving - a great 2.5 mile ride of beautiful Christmas lights, plus a Village where you can purchase *hot chocolate*, *shop in their bakery*, *sit at the fire pit to make Smore's*, *listen to live entertainment* or have a visit with Santa. On Tuesday, Dec. 2nd; Friday, Dec. 5th; Sunday, Dec. 7th; Saturday, Dec. 13th; and Thursday, Dec. 18th, volunteers from Family Promise will be collecting the fee at the gate, and any additional donations made will go directly to Family Promise. The entrance fee is only \$15 per car so round up your family/friends and chip in some extra for Family Promise. (Credit cards accepted.) Gates are open from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Visit <https://andersonchristmaslights.org>, and mark your calendars to enjoy the display on one of the above dates.

Health Corner

Keep Your Brain Young

Do crossword or jigsaw puzzles. They challenge your brain to think in new ways and to remember information. They improve your memory and help problem-solve, which may lead to a sharper mind.

Learn something new. When you learn, your brain makes new connections, which can help your memory and your thinking process. Try knitting, painting by numbers, learning a new language or taking up a new hobby. Learning to play an instrument can improve your memory in just 10 weeks.

Play board games. Games like chess, Scrabble or Monopoly make you think, remember, and problem-solve. They're also a great way to stay socially connected. Join us for Bingo once a month at Fellowship Hall for some socializing and fun!

Switch up your routine. Take different routes to the store; walk in a new park or shop at a new store. Small changes can challenge and keep your brain engaged.



WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS



Second Sunday Thanksgiving Dinner November 9, 2025 was enjoyed by all



The last Bingo session of 2025 was attended by 7 members and 18 enthusiastic visitors. A plethora of lovely prizes dwindled down to just a dozen. The Christmas prizes were donated to a local charity thrift store to find a new life with some of our Anderson neighbors. Watch for our 2026 Bingo schedule, and join us for fun in fellowship in the New Year.

GREAT THANKS to Carol Wentzky for being our Caller Extraordinaire all year!

Outreach monies raised from prior bazaars & yard sales were also spent this year to bring a little joy to: some mothers at Anderson Pregnancy Center; some families at Family Promise; and two girls at Calvary Home. Tiny outfits and baby accessories were purchased for APC; some Ingles and Wal-Mart gift cards were purchased for the FP families; and the pictures show some of the clothes and gift items purchased for 5-year old Lucy and her 15-year old sister Rose at CH.

Many thanks to our members who supported our prior fundraisers and to Linda Mylod for making the gift purchases and deliveries. Please watch for the date of our 2026 Spring Yard Sale and Bake Sale to be announced. Start saving your gently-used home goods and décor for next year's fundraiser so we can continue to be a Christmas light shining in the world, reflecting God's love for those less fortunate.



Tommy & Gail Alewine placed a lovely flower arrangement in the church sanctuary on November 9, 2025 in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary, November 14th.