

Prospect Presbyterian Church
9425 West NC 152 Hwy
Mooreville, NC 28115

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THE GOOD PROSPECTS
Prospect Presbyterian Church
9425 West NC 152 Hwy, Mooreville, NC 28115

Church Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday: 7:00am - 5:00pm
Closed for lunch: 1:30pm - 2:30pm
Closed on Fridays

Telephone: (704) 664-1514
Fax: (704) 664-9612
Website: www.prospectpres.org

2021

Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship Service: 10:30 am

Email:
Pastor: willgipe@hotmail.com
Nurse: virginia.stewart@atriumhealth.org
Office: office@prospectpres.org

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S KEYBOARD:

December is a great time of year. When we think of December, we usually think of Christmas. That is appropriate. On Christmas we remember and celebrate God coming to be with us and to save us. That should be the primary thing followers of Jesus should think about this month. But December also has another time of year that is one of my favorite weeks of the year - the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. We all have different schedules. But for most of us, the week following Christmas usually has some days off, some time with family and is a little more relaxed than the average week. I love that week because, after all the excitement that Christmas brings, as well as all the work that it takes to make our Christmas celebrations happen, that last week in December allow us to take a breath. As we take that breath, we can reflect on what has happened in the past year – some things we celebrate and some things we grieve. That week, we can also take a little time to think about what is important in our lives and how we want the new year to go. So after Christmas is over, let us find some time in that week that follows. Let us give thanks to God for His blessings to us. Let us be confident that He has forgiven our sins (our mistakes, our errors, our regrets) of the last year. Let us look forward to the days ahead that He gives us. Let us consider what He thinks is valuable and important, what He thinks makes up a good life and let us consider how we can prioritize and pursue these things.

To all of you at Prospect, Stacey, Laura, Will, Amber and I wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!



Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!

From Your Church Staff:
Will, Cheryl,
Dixie, Pat & Virginia

May your family be blessed throughout
this holiday season!



During the advent season, we will display poinsettias in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 19th. Poinsettias will be available for purchase for \$7 each. We will **ONLY** order what is paid for in advance. **Orders and payment must be received in the church office by Wednesday, December 15th.** You may reserve your poinsettia in memory or in honor of someone special in your life by signing the chart in the commons area. Please make your check to Prospect Presbyterian Church and indicate it is for the poinsettias. A list of those remembered will be in the bulletin on Sunday, December 19th.



Poinsettias

Merry Christmas



Holiday Church Office Schedule

Church Office Holiday Schedule

The Church Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays December 23rd and 27th and will be closed on Thursday, December 30th for a New Year's holiday. Please remember that your end of the year contributions should be turned in to the church office by Monday, January 3rd. Thank you!



AVAILABLE TO COLLEGE STUDENTS
Applications shall be made to the Scholarship Committee by February 27, 2022

Fannie Turner Hart and Henry Howard Hart were great advocates of education. Their children established this scholarship in their memory, to be referred to hereafter as the Hart Scholarship Fund. This fund has been established at Prospect Presbyterian Church which they loved and where they served God faithfully for many years.

The Scholarship Committee of Prospect Presbyterian Church is elected by the Session to receive and review all applications for the Hart Scholarship. 2022 Committee members are: TBA Please contact the church office at 704-664-1514 with any questions.

Applications can be picked up at the church office. Completed applications need to be completed and placed in the mailbox in the commons area marked "Hart Scholarship."

Joy Gift Offering

In December, you will have the opportunity to participate in the Christmas Joy Offering. This offering dates back to the 1930's when the Southern Presbyterian Church began to supplement the inadequate retirement income of former missionaries, ministers and church workers. 50% of this year's offering goes to aid needy retirees with the Board of Pensions and 50% goes to help Presbyterian racial and ethnic schools and colleges to continue their operations in these tough economic times. **The Joy Gift offering will be received on Sunday, December 19th. Envelopes will be provided.**



REMINDER:

Please, if you know you are going in the hospital or you know someone is in the hospital or sick, PLEASE notify the church office. We would love to keep in touch. Thank you.



NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

ADVENT ACTIVITIES!

1st SUNDAY IN ADVENT, NOVEMBER 28:

The First Advent candle was lit by the Sellers family, Matt, Judie and Cole, during the morning worship service.

2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 5:

The Second Advent candle will be lit by Lynn Britz, Beth Stacy, Fiona Ogle, Amanda & Nora Wolf, during the morning worship service. 4 Generations will be lighting the 2nd Advent candle.

3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 12:

The Third Advent candle will be lit by the Cornett family, Nick, Karen, Sam and Charleston, during the morning worship service. Come worship God, as we sing familiar Christmas carols and celebrate Christ's coming. Also from 4:00 to 6:00 pm the children will have a party with a special visitor. See invitation below.

4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 19:

The Fourth Advent candle will be lit by the Donaldson family, Kevin, Kristin, Emily & Ryan, during the morning worship service.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE, Friday, DECEMBER 24:

At 9:00 pm, we will hold our traditional Candlelight and Communion Service. The Advent candles will be lit by the Burgess family, Dale, Lisa & Seth. Bring your family and friends to this glorious night of worship and welcome Christ again into your hearts.





Christopher Hart	12/01
Vance Moore	12/01
Lane Marlowe	12/04
Jerry Meredith	12/05
Richard Bennett	12/06
Lynda Fries	12/06
Murdoch Morrison	12/06
Ethan Fallowes	12/07
Larry Stutts	12/10
Emily Moore	12/14
Margaret Bradshaw	12/16
Scott Brumley	12/17
Luke Tulbert	12/18
Clayton Fleming	12/21
Barbara Lyerly	12/22
Sharon Bivens	12/23
Anne Cloaninger	12/25
William Stephens	12/25
Susan Blackwelder	12/28
Amzie Hovis	12/29
Ann Jackson	12/29
Tanner Cavin	12/30
Robin Stutts	12/30

Larry & Carol Stutts Dec 19

Session News

Your Session had its regular stated meeting on November 18th at 7pm, moderated by Rev. Will Gipe.

Building & Grounds

- Discontinue the use of the Education Building due to fuel heating issues. Session to evaluate options at December meeting.
- Family Life Center to have a removable center post installed on the double doors.
- Received estimates to repair a roof leak on the flat roof section of the Educational Building.

Worship

- Motion made, seconded and approved to have a Rowan County Deputy on site for 3 hours during worship each Sunday. This will begin sometime in December.

Outreach

- Outreach Committee to handle the Car Show, Easter & Christmas events

Nurture & Care

- There are 4 Lunch n Learns planned for 2022. 1st on is scheduled for Sunday, January 30th. More information to come.

As your Session we always welcome comments.

Grace and Peace,
Dale Burgess - Clerk of Session



Circle News: Wednesday, December 1st, **ACTS/Lettie Beaty Circle** will have their December meeting at Out Back in Mooresville at 11:30 am. Meet at the church at 11:00 am to carpool. **Serendipity Circle** will be a Jeffery's in Mooresville on Tuesday, December 7th at 6:30 pm for their Christmas dinner.

October Financial Report

General Fund:

Monthly Income through 10-31-21:	\$28,264
Monthly Expenses through 10-31-21:	\$26,832
Expenses Less than Income for month:	\$1,432

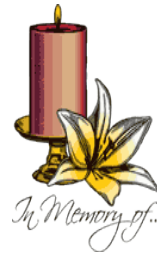
Development Fund:

Ending Balance through 10-31-21:	\$53,351
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SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, December 5th, we will be dedicating our new Family Life Center during our morning worship service, and we will have very special guests, the Johnston Family. **A BBQ lunch** will be provided to everyone in the Family Life Center after worship. Everyone is invited.

Men's Fellowship Group: Men's group will meet at Johnny's Farmhouse in Mooresville on Thursday, **December 9th** at 6:00 pm. If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact Dale Burgess.



GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF ...

REID DAVIS GOODMAN

By

Angela Edwards Strickland
Anthony Edwards & Family
Dianne Davis
Ken & Nikki Henke

HARRIET LIPE

By

Dianne Davis

BOB ATWELL

By:

Mark & Patti Bell

JOHN POPE CLARKE

By:

Deanne Neel Clarke & Family
Dr. & Mrs. Kerry Chatham

HARRY, RACHEL & JANICE BRADSHAW

By:

Steve & Patricia Clontz

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, December 14th, Golden Prospectors will be meeting at the home of Bob & Mary Beth Edmiston for their Christmas gathering. Lunch and everything will be provided. Hope everyone will be able to join.



Thank God for CHILDREN. We are so excited that our kids will be sharing a message in worship December 12. A Big Day all around. We are practicing Dec. 5, beginning promptly at 9:15 AM in the Education Building's children's area and December 11 at 9:00 in the sanctuary.

If you have children who wish to participate, please email Melody at mpact2@copper.net and I will send you the YouTube sites for music and words. Children will sing and support the brief drama as the Shepherds give us a new perspective on the Christmas Story!

Dec. 5 9:15
Dec. 11 9:00
Dec. 12 9:15

Thanks for these great kids. Melody

For Prayer

Missionary:

Justin & Kristen Raymer (African Island Mission in Washington DC)
Brian & Christy Ward (Spokane, Washington)
Rob & Sandy Shaffer (Czech Republic)
David & Caree Lookabill (Bangladesh)

Nursing Homes, Rehab & Retirement Facilities:

Mac Atwell (Trinity Oaks-Salisbury)
Helen Barber (Trinity Oaks-Salisbury)
Anne Cloaninger (Heritage Place, Statesville)
Helen Lyerly (Cadence Living – Mooresville)
Meaghan McSwain (Brookdale Peachtree, Statesville)
Tink Wilkinson (Cadence Living – Mooresville)



Please Remember:

Thad Linker	Jo Powers
Anita & Wyatt Fesperman	Pam Beaver
Carl & Mary Agnes Wiggins	Linda Brooks
Jackie McKnight	Lib Knox
Carol & Larry Stutts	Martha Brown
Ben & Judy Stacy	Sarah Jackson
Frances Ann Neel	Roy Watkins
Mary Helen Smith	Toni Wheeler
Kathy Steed	

Friends & Family of the Congregation:

Keaton Kotecki (*Premature baby, friends of Connie & Erskine Smith*)
Mark Kimball (*Covid/Hospitalized, friend of the Chandlers*)
Jerry, Jody, & Vickie Ledford (*Friends of Mike Anderson & Family*)
Michael Weller (*Brain tumor, friend of Will & Stacey Gipe*)
Teresa Ervin (*Breast Cancer, Vi LaShomb daughter*)
Eli Freeze (*Army, Stationed in Poland, grandson of Vicki Freeze*)
Karen Broadway (*Brain Injury, family of the Chandlers*)
Edgar Moore (*Lung Cancer, friend of Jean Gibson*)
Lou Ann Compton Isenhour (*Blood Cancer, cousin of Becky Hart*)
Jamie Hall (*longtime friend of Will & Stacey Gipe*)
Kim Lambeth (*Cancer, Rachel Marlowe's mother*)
Beth Segui (*Parkinson, Daughter of Betty Alexander*)
Whitaker Raymer (*Cancer, Missionary Child*)
Ellen Goldstein (*Cousin of Becky Hart*)
Rita Purvis (*Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, friend Brown Family*)

ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES

Suggested Donation
for December:

SPICES



Greetings & Merry Christmas from you Health Ministry as well as your Nurture & Care Team!

As born-again Christ followers, Christmas is when we remember the 1st coming of Jesus to earth, as a baby. The Godchild grew up into the Messiah, the God man to pay the debt we owed God. But Jesus is returning to earth and this time Jesus is coming as the King of King and Lord of Lords. I can hardly wait. While we wait for Jesus’ return, let us pay special attention to our spiritual health. Our spiritual health directly and indirectly effects our physical, mental, and emotional health.

First things first. Put God first every day. Talk to Him then be quiet and listen. Make every effort to grow daily in your spiritual life. Jesus is ever present to us in the good and bad of life. I often look behind me and see where Jesus has carried me.

This Christmas, let us bring hope, bring Jesus to our world in every way and every day. Kindness. Love. Hope. Joy. Peace. Forgiveness. Your presence. These are some of the characteristics of Jesus we bring to ourselves and others.

Celebrate that our God is alive and active. Be his hands and feet. Be kind to yourself and others. Allow God’s presence to continually fill you so that Jesus increases, and you decrease. Let us become and be a people that are known for their genuine Christ likeness.



Merry Christmas! Rejoice!

Thursday, December 2nd at 2pm Meet in Session Room to fill Goody Bags for Homebound People. Join us!

Reminder: Enrollment for Medicare Supplement is December 7th.

Exercise Christmas Gathering-December 20, Monday after exercise. Please join in. Bring a Finger Food.

Exercise is Mondays & Thursdays at 11am in FLC. Please join us!

NO EXERCISE - December 23 - 30th. We will resume January 3, 2022. **WOW!!**

December 27 - 30, 2021 - The Nurse will be out of the office.

Grief & the Holidays

For those of us that have experienced the death of a loved one, the holiday season is particularly...hard? painful? anxiety producing? filled with sweet memories?, etc. Mostly, **ALL** of the aforementioned and then some. It is ok to talk to us about our loved one. Hearing their name can be comforting or a sweet memory shared. Everyone is different. Be sensitive to each individual. Sometimes, you don't have to say anything but you "just being there" makes is bearable. Pray for us as we navigate our uncharted grieving. Choose someone that listens, that you can talk to. You will have good days & bad days. It is perfectly normal. There is NO set period to grieve & then "be over it". Griefers, make time to pray (talk & listen) to God. Read a Psalm or listen to it on your phone. Let's face it. **WE ALL need HELP** at one time or another. Reach out. Talk to your pastor, church nurse, friend, doctor, grief support group, etc.

"The Compassionate Friends" Grief Support Group meets the 3rd Thursday each month via Zoom & it is free. For more information, you can contact Debbie at 631-921-4314. If you need someone to talk to at 2am, you can call 800-273-8255 or your "2am Friend". We all need one. I have called this number myself in the wee hours of the morning when my mind was overwhelming me. Most of all, keep loving us and don't give up on us.

Many thanks,
Virginia Stewart, RN
Your Church Nurse



Holiday Gifts & Traditions

“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights...” James 1:17 NIV

A harried woman and her children were ending their day of holiday shopping. To express her frustration and stress, she stated that whoever created Christmas should be strung up and shot. A bystander brought to her attention that someone had already crucified him! Before you get caught up with your tasks, lists, and expectations, put them into perspective. Ask yourself what you should be celebrating: the hectic, stress-laden, financially burdened holiday season, or the gift of peace and hope.



Even though God gives us all we need for a healthy, happy life, we tend to disturb it by “spending” and “observing” the holiday on human terms. Look at the holiday traps that take up your time. Categorize your holiday tasks as “need to do,” “should do,” “want to do,” and “expected to do.” Which ones really address the Christmas spirit? Just because you are invited to attend an event or have habitually participated in an activity doesn’t mean you have to continue that activity. Prioritize all of your activities. By weeding out those that distract you from the true meaning of Christmas, you will find less stress and more enjoyment from your choices.

Advent is a time for hope, peace, joy, and love, not mounds of gifts, chaotic rounds of parties, or copious amounts of food. Consider what has real meaning for you. Is it the Christmas story you heard as a child or its impact on you as an adult? Think about the music of the holiday and how a stirring rendition of “Joy to the World” or a quiet performance of “Silent Night” displays love and peace in a harried world. Don’t let commercialism or stress overshadow the gifts of love and sharing that you offer your loved ones. Remember the spirit of Christmas, share your presence with others, reduce your stress, and create meaningful traditions that demonstrate God’s love.

(Source: www.webMD.com)

Everyone likes to give gifts at Christmas because it feels good to make dreams come true but remember to give responsibly and within your means. Avoid using your credit cards by trimming your gift-giving list, sticking to a budget, buying on sale, or even making your gifts. Explain to children why you can’t buy the latest electronic gadget. Joyful giving does not mean you ruin your credit rating, jeopardize your ability to pay utilities, or cause marital strife from poor finances. Give freely but give within your means. Not all gifts are material. Sharing your time with others is a gift that can be given all year round. Look for community agencies or projects that need manpower. Homeless / abuse shelters, food pantries, meal sites, tutoring projects, hospice programs, Big Brothers – Big Sisters, and many other programs need manpower to provide their services. Research shows that volunteering is also good for your physical and mental health - so choose a project, commit your time, and make it a family event. It will improve the lives of others while it reaps unexpected spiritual and family benefits.

The holidays are times of joy but also times of change. Children grow into adults with lives of their own. Families lose loved ones to death through illness, old age, or accidents. Young adults marry and move away from home, changing the comfortable family traditions of their youth. Your gift to your family is providing loving presence during the changes in your family’s life, and helping them develop new traditions and relationships that incorporate the changes that have occurred. This season, remember the best gift you can give is yourself – be loving, be supportive, be present.

