

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

Non Profit Organization  
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Mooreville, NC 28115  
Permit No. 50

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2023

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

**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](http://www.prospectpres.org)

Email:  
Pastor: [willgipe@hotmail.com](mailto:willgipe@hotmail.com)  
Nurse: [Kelly.Wilson@AtriumHealth.org](mailto:Kelly.Wilson@AtriumHealth.org)  
Office: [office@prospectpres.org](mailto: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 it 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 allows 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. We can dream a little bit. We can think about what will bring us real satisfaction this coming year, how we can be obedient and make difference this year. We can consider how Christ wants us to spend our time and money and passion - for His glory and for our joy. 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’s also be praying and looking 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,  
Kelly, Lee, & Pat

May your family be blessed throughout  
this holiday season!





During the advent season, we will display poinsettias in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 17th. Poinsettias will be available for purchase for \$8 each. We will **ONLY** order what is paid for in advance. **Orders and payment must be received in the church office by Wednesday, December 13th.** 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 17th.



Poinsettias



**AVAILABLE TO COLLEGE STUDENTS**  
**Applications shall be made to the Scholarship Committee by February 25, 2024**

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. 2024 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.”



**Church Office Holiday Schedule**

The Church Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays December 25th and 26th and will be closed on Monday, January 1st for a New Year’s holiday. Please remember that your end of the year contributions should be turned in to the church office by Tuesday, January 2nd. Thank you!

**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 17th. 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, DECEMBER 3:**

The **First Advent** candle will be lit by **Bart & Sarah Tulbert and children**, during the morning worship service.

**2nd SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 10:**

The Christmas Breakfast prepared by the Men of the Church will be at 8:00 am in the FLC. The **Second Advent** candle will be lit by **Meredith, Tripp & Shelby Booth**, 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 congregation will have a party with a special visitor for the children. See invitation below.

**3rd SUNDAY IN ADVENT, DECEMBER 17:**

The **Third Advent** candle will be lit by the **Dowdy family, and the Stapleton Family**, during the morning worship service.

**4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT / CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE, Sunday, DECEMBER 24:**

At 9:00 pm, we will hold our traditional Candlelight and Communion Service. The **Advent** candles will be lit by the **Moore family, Paul, Emily, Allison & William**. Bring your family and friends to this glorious night of worship and welcome Christ again into your hearts.



**Golden Prospectors:**

Golden Prospectors will meet at Mary Beth and Bob Edmiston’s house on December 19 at 12:00 noon. Lunch will be catered so you **MJST sign up!** Sign up sheet is in the church basement. Mary Beth’s and Bob’s address is: 1622 Mt. Ulla Hwy, Mt. Ulla, NC 28125.

**Young Disciples:**

**Sunday, December 10**

Christmas Party 4:30 -6:30 pm  
Wear your pjs and join us for the annual Christmas Party. Don’t forget that the Christmas Party is for everyone that wants to attend.

**Sunday, December 17**

Let’s go caroling. Young Disciples and friends will meet after church at Village Inn for lunch and leave from there to visit several members for Christmas Caroling.

**Comfy & Cozy  
Gingerbread Christmas**

GET IN YOUR COMFORT ZONE AND JOIN US FOR THE PROSPECT CHRISTMAS PARTY!

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 4:30-6:30PM**  
Prospect Presbyterian Church | Mooresville

*Bring the family in their comfiest holiday wear (or PJ's!) and bring a friend!*

Dinner served at 5:00PM| Special Guest at 6:00PM





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
Meredith Powers	12/16
Scott Brumley	12/17
Luke Tulbert	12/18
Melody Edmiston	12/19
Clayton Fleming	12/21
Barbara Lyerly	12/22
Sharon Bivens	12/23
William Stephens	12/25
Susan Blackwelder	12/28
Amzie Hovis	12/29
Ann Jackson	12/29
Tanner Cavin	12/30
Robin Stutts	12/30
Kiki Reid	12/31

**Circle News:** Wednesday, December 6th , **ACTS/Lettie Beatty Circle** will have their December meeting in the FLC with Christmas goodies at 10:00 am. **Serendipity Circle** will be meeting at the home of Connie Smith at 6:30 pm for their Christmas party on **Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**.



Olie & Nancy Dwire	Dec 20
Larry & Carol Stutts	Dec 19

Dear Friends,  
This has been an overwhelming past three months! I never knew how kind our congregation could be. I want to thank you for the texts, phone calls, cards, food, visits, and most of all the prayers that were lifted up on my behalf. Without all of you it would have been much tougher!

Thanks to everyone! Will was a constant, encourager! Thanks also to Cheryl and Stefanie! I'm on the road to recovery and I ask that you continue to keep me in your prayers!

Sincerely,  
Mary Lowrance

To my dear church family:  
Thank you so much for the prayers, cards, phone calls, and food that you sent me during my illness. I am on the mend. There is a way to go, yet my loving Savior placed me in a church where a phone call sent help every time. To those of you that made sure I had a ride to my Doctor visits, God bless you for taking time from your day to take care of me. I love you all, and I can really never say thank you enough. Our church is held in God's hands, and it shows in all you do.

Dixie Forbes-Gorby.



## GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF ...

**Eddie Dowdy**  
(Husband of Jenny Dowdy)

By:  
Robert & Margaret Westmoreland

**Donald & Christine Hart**

By:  
Bill & Becky Hart

**Phyllis Towell Carrigan**

By:  
Virginia Edmiston  
John & Cheryl Yutzy  
David & Kelly Sopp  
Ann & Allen Jackson  
Pam Tulbert  
Frances Howie  
Roy & Janielle Watkins  
John & Roxanna Wiggins  
Donald & Sandra Carrigan  
Martha & Paul Graham

**Dawn Lambert Stutts**

By:  
Pam Tulbert  
Ann & Allen Jackson  
Roy & Janielle Watkins

**Danny Bost**

By:  
Frances Howie



## ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES

Suggested Donation  
for December:

**SPICES**



## For Prayer:

### Missionary:

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

### Nursing Homes, Rehab & Retirement Facilities:

Mac Atwell (Trinity Oaks-Salisbury)  
Helen Barber (Trinity Oaks-Salisbury)  
Helen Lyerly (Cadence Living – Mooresville)  
Margaret Martin (Abernathy Laurels, Newton)  
Judy Stacy (Northlake House, Charlotte)  
Margie Swiggett (Autumn Care – Statesville)  
Tink Wilkinson (Cadence Living – Mooresville)

### Please Remember:

Jo Powers	Dick Bennett
Thad Linker	Ella Mae Stewart
Anita & Wyatt Fesperman	Lynda Fries
Wade Carrigan	Eddie Teeter
Jackie McKnight	Roy Watkins
Carol & Larry Stutts	Teresa Compton
Allen Jackson	Hal Stutts
Mary Lowrance	May Dauer
Rick Yokeley	Beverly Bartlett
Wayne Chandler	Margaret Bradshaw

### Friends & Family of the Congregation:

Helen Broadway (*Heart Issues, Mother of Cheryl B. Chandler*)  
Delane Davis (*Cancer, cousin of Chuck Miller*)  
Phyllis Mayberry (*Brian Bleed, Family of Mark Reid*)  
Wayne Vellines (*Sickness, friend of Frances Ann Neel*)  
Jan Milos (*Kidney Cancer, friend of Cristal Howie*)  
Meredith Powers (*Breast Cancer, daughter in law of Rachel Powers*)  
Cash McCall (*Iraq, friend of Edie Steele*)  
Beth Segui' (*Parkinson's, daughter of Betty Alexander*)  
Amy & Mike Corriher (*Amy Breast Cancer, friends of the Lyerly's*)  
Evelyn Griffith (*Cancer, friend of Mike & Robin Anderson*)  
Janet Baker (*Cancer, friend of John Edmiston*)  
Nancy Shinn (*Health Issues, cousin of Frances Ann Neel*)  
Rachel Shinn Stone (*Breast Cancer, cousin of Frances Ann Neel*)  
Teresa Ervin (*Breast Cancer, Vi LaShomb daughter*)  
Henry Bridges (*Cancer Friend and neighbor of Connie Brown*)  
Myra Kelly (*Lung Cancer Mother of Kiki Reid & Sister of Jenny Dowdy*)



Greetings from your Health Ministry!

**December is National Safe Toys and Gifts Month!**

**December 1 is World Aids Day: What is World AIDS Day?**

**World AIDS Day** is a global movement to unite people in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Since 1988, communities have stood together on World AIDS Day to show strength and solidarity against HIV stigma and to remember lives lost. World AIDS Day exists to shine a light on the real experiences of people living with HIV today, while celebrating the strength, resilience and diversity of the communities most affected. It is a moment to inspire the leadership needed to create a future where HIV doesn't stand in the way of anyone's life.

**December 3 is International Day of Persons with Disability**

**December 20<sup>th</sup>** The mammogram van will be here from 8:30 am to 3:15 pm. Please call 704-403-1729 to schedule your mammogram. We must have 7 people scheduled for the van to come to our church!

**Reserve the date:**

**January 14<sup>th</sup>:**

Lunch and Learn with One Blood of the Carolinas

**January 30<sup>th</sup>**

Blood Drive with One Blood of the Carolinas - 2:30 to 7:00 pm

**February 12<sup>th</sup>-May 13<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm to 6:30pm**

Grief Share Support Group in the Family Life Center

**Thank you to everyone** who has offered to provide Christmas presents for the **Mt. Ulla Elementary children** who are in need. All children are spoken for as far as Christmas gifts, but we need **congregational support** to help provide food (**non-perishable food items and paper products**) for the children's families during the holidays. **All gifts and food need to be dropped off in the library at the church no later than noon on Sunday, December 3.** If you have any questions, please contact **Beth Stephens** ([beth13@windstream.net](mailto:beth13@windstream.net) or 704-664-7185).



**Student Loan Funds**

The Session would like to remind our college students that Prospect has monies available to loan to help with your college expenses. The monies will not accrue any interest until graduation or until you are no longer enrolled in an accredited institution. Upon graduation, a repayment schedule will be established in a meeting with the trustees. Student loan applications are available from the church office. We hope that you will take advantage of this program to help with your education expenses.

**Session News**  
Your Session had its regular stated meeting on Thursday, November 16th at 7pm, moderated by Rev. Will Gipe.

Treasurer reported balances on 11/13:

General Fund balance - \$121,664

Development Fund Balance - \$71,575

- Approved Reece Stapleton to the active membership roll of Prospect Church, by Letter of Transfer from Centenary United Methodist Church.
- Approved Galen Grant to be buried at Prospect as a former member for a non-refundable gift of \$1,200 per Burial Policy.
- Received \$4,675.54 from our insurance company for storm damage on church property.
- Received \$1,162.92 from our insurance company for storm damage on manse property.
- To date pledges of \$246,188 towards our 2024 budget.
- Approved to purchase an assisted listening system from Impact Technology, Concord NC for approximately \$4,000. This system will improve sound for the hard-of-hearing. Also, during the Sanctuary Renovation we will add wiring for future monitors when our current video system fails and becomes obsolete.

As your Session we always welcome comments.

Grace and Peace,  
Rick



**October Financial Report**

**General Fund:**

Monthly Income through 10-31-23: \$52,059

Monthly Expenses through 10-31-23: \$39,665

Expenses Less than Income  
for month: \$12,394

**Development Fund:**

Ending Balance through 10-31-23: \$71,575





“THOSE WHO SERVE”

MONTH LONG DUTIES:

**Church Opening & Closing:** Johnny Wilkinson

**Ushers:** Tommy McLelland, Head Usher; Tommy Blackwelder, Vicki Freeze, Carol Linker, Tom McLelland

**DECEMBER 3, 2023**

**Officers on Call:**                      **Elder:** Rick Lyerly (704) 663-9083

**Front Door Before & After Service:** Rick Lyerly

**Offering:** Ushers Team 4

**Sound System Operator:** Stephen Hart

**Newcomer Visitor:** Carol Linker

**Children’s Church:** Cole & Judie Sellers

**DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**Officers on Call:**                      **Elder:** Beth Stacy (704) 746-4642

**Front Door Before & After Service:** Beth Stacy

**Offering:** Ushers Team 4

**Sound System Operator:** Don Truedson

**Newcomer Visitor:** Carol Linker

**Children’s Church:** Meredith Booth

**DECEMBER 17, 2023**

**Officers on Call:**                      **Elder:** Karen Cornett (704) 657-6278

**Front Door Before & After Service:** Karen Cornett

**Offering:** Ushers Team 4

**Sound System Operator:** Stephen Hart

**Newcomer Visitor:** Carol Linker

**Children’s Church:** Connie Brown

**DECEMBER 24, 2023**

**Officers on Call:**                      **Elder:** Van Knox (704) 575-8766

**Front Door Before & After Service:** Van Knox

**Offering:** Ushers Team 4

**Sound System Operator:** Seth Burgess / Stephen Hart

**Newcomer Visitor:** Carol Linker

**Children’s Church:** Cole & Judie Sellers

**December 31, 2023**

**Officers on Call:**                      **Elder:** Terri McKnight (704) 458-4905

**Front Door Before & After Service:** Terri McKnight

**Offering:** Ushers Team 4

**Sound System Operator:** Stephen Hart

**Newcomer Visitor:** Carol Linker

**Children’s Church:** Emily Moore





# December 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:00 pm Secret Sisters Reveal - Judie Sellers' House	2 <b>Teeter Family            FLC All Day</b>
3 <b>1st Sunday in Advent</b> 8:30 am Christian Ed Committee Meeting 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	4 11:00 am Exercise Class 6:30 pm Serendipity Circle at Connie Smith's 6:30 pm BSA Boy Scouts	5 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm REFIT Class	6 10:00 am ACTS/Letty Beaty Circle -FLC 6:30 pm Dinner & Bible Study	7 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Exercise Class	8	9
10 <b>2nd Sunday in Advent</b> 8:00 am Christmas Breakfast 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service 4:30 pm Christmas Party with Special Guest	11 11:00 am Exercise Class 6:30 pm BSA Boy Scouts	12 3:30 pm Nurture & Care 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm REFIT Class	13 <b>Poinsettia Money Due!</b> 6:30 pm Dinner & Bible Study	14 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Exercise Class 7:00 pm Session Meeting	15	16 <b>Wilkinson Family            FLC All Day</b>
17 <b>3rd Sunday in Advent</b> 8:30 am Mission Committee Meeting 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service	18 <b>Newsletter Deadline!</b> 11:00 am Exercise Class 6:30 pm BSA Boy Scouts	19 12:00 am Golden Prospectors Mary Beth & Bob Edmiston's 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm REFIT Class	20 8:30—11:45 am Mammogram Bus 6:30 pm Dinner & Bible Study	21 <b>1st Day of Winter</b> 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Exercise Class	22	23
24 <b>4th Sunday in Advent / Christmas Eve</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service / Joy Offering 9:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service	25 <b>Christmas Day!</b> <b>Church Office closed</b> 	26 <b>Church Office closed</b>	27	28	29	30
31 <b>1st Sunday after Christmas</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service w/ Justin Raymer, Special Guest Speaker <b>Pennies for Hunger Received</b> 11:45 am Worship Committee Meeting						