

# *The Pinecrest Precentor*

## December 2021

### *From Our Senior Pastor*

Dear Pinecrest Family,

Do you have people in your family who seem to skip right by Thanksgiving? Who are already focused on Christmas trees, carols, and presents before they've even sat down for turkey? I have several in my family that I have to remind to celebrate Thanksgiving before moving on to Christmas.

The Bible teaches us (especially in books like 1 & 2 Thessalonians) to have a healthy balance between focusing on the future and the present. Do not forget the future because you are so focused on the present nor forget about the present because you are so focused on the future. One could express this same concept by saying don't ignore Thanksgiving for the sake of Christmas nor ignore Christmas for the sake of Thanksgiving.

It was a joy to share with you on Sunday, November 21st the new mission statement that God placed on the hearts and minds of the vision team: "Walking Together Along God's Pathway to a Fulfilled Life in Christ". This new mission statement accompanied a vision of what we believe Pinecrest could be in the future by the grace of God. However, the vision team is fully aware that this vision for the future will not come about without a lot of work in the present. Every Christian needs to remember the hope for the future that is ours through Jesus Christ, while at the same time consistently remembering that until Christ comes again for us that God has work he wants us to do in the present. Even here on Earth, God wants us to glorify and enjoy Him, to build up His Church, and to share the hope that we have in Christ with others.

If you missed the vision team presentation or would like to hear it again, we have recorded it and plan to send it out via email to all members and guests who request it in early December. I will also be preaching a sermon series through our new vision and mission statement starting in January. We hope the Lord will guide and encourage all of you and others in our community to "Come Walk with Us!"

May the Lord bless our church and may the Lord bless each of you with a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas!

*Rev. Rhett Carson*

### **Intercessory Prayer**

Norma Eckley, Martha Byrd, Linda Carpenter, Joy McCraw, and Revival in our Church and Nation

### **Book of Remembrance**

The following have contributed towards the General Fund or other fund as noted below:

**In honor of Mrs. Martha Byrd and Mrs. Norma Eckley** from Mr. & Mrs. Jim Brice.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Covered Dish & Program**

Our 1st Wednesday Covered Dish and Program for December 1st will center on decorating the church, singing Christmas songs, and making Christmas baskets for our shut-ins. BBQ pork will be provided and we ask that you bring sides and desserts. Please plan to come and pack baskets for our beloved friends and decorate the church for all to enjoy. Dinner will begin at 5:30. Please let us know if you can attend and what you will bring by signing up on the sheet in the atrium. All are welcome.

### **Holiday Market**

The Flat Rock Farmer's Market will be putting on a very special Holiday Market on Thursday, December 2nd from 2-5pm. Pinecrest is planning on having a booth set up with free goodies for all ages. Stop by for some great goods from local farmers and vendors, as well as a chance to meet other members of our community. Please contact Christian if you'd like to help with this event, as volunteers of all kinds are needed!

## **Revival Prayer Meetings with Pastor Rhett**

Please join us at 9AM on Sundays December 5th, 12th, & 19th in Evans Hall to pray for revival and revitalization in our nation, community, church, and most importantly our own hearts.

## **Christmas Social**

On Sunday, December 12th the Carson Family invites Pinecrest members and guests to join us in Evans Hall between the worship service and Sunday school for light refreshments and to receive a small Christmas gift.

## **Ladies: Save the dates for Lunch & Learn**

Thursday Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 12-2PM. Come join us for fellowship and Bible study.

## **Congregational Meeting**

We will have a Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 19th, immediately following the 10am worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to elect Church officers. Please plan to attend.

## **Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service**

5:00 pm Thursday, December 24th.

## **Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you to everyone who filled a Christmas shoebox this year. We collected 135 boxes for children somewhere around the world. These boxes will make a difference in a child's life. Merry Christmas.

## **Blue Ridge Prison Ministry**

...is collecting socks for inmates' Christmas gift bags again this year. The socks should be plain white with no color or pattern. We would like to have 150 pair of mens socks and 50 pair of lady's socks. There will be a collection box in the atrium.

## **2021 Contributions**

All contributions for 2021 should be dated and post marked by December 31, 2021. Contribution statements will be available as soon as possible once the deposit has been made but no later than January 31, 2022. In order to reduce the expense of postage, contribution statements will be placed in a file box that will be located in the atrium for you to pick up. If you would like the church to email your contribution statement, please call the church office (after January 3rd) at 828-692-0063.

## **2022 Flower Calendar**

The 2022 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary ready for you to fill in the dates you would like to provide flowers for worship services in memory or in honor of someone you love.

## **Stamp Ministry**

Just a reminder that while you are enjoying Christmas cards in the coming weeks, save the stamps for the missionary project. Put them in the floral box in the atrium. Thank you.

## **Church Office Volunteers Needed**

Our church secretary will be away on vacation the week of December 28<sup>th</sup> through January 3<sup>rd</sup>. We need a few volunteers to answer the phone and a few other lite duties each day between the hours of 9am and 4pm. We can even split each day into two shifts if that would make it easier. Anyone who would like to help out can call the church office at 828-692-0063.

## Please share your email address with us

In an effort to reduce expenses, we'd like to be able to email you the Precentor each month along with updates and important information regarding meetings and events happening at the church.

Pinecrest will not share your email address with anyone outside the church and will not send you anything that does not directly involve the church or its activities.

## 2022 Offering Envelopes

Your numbered offering envelopes will soon be available in the atrium of the church. Please pick up your envelopes before the end of this year to ensure proper credit for 2022. The envelope boxes will be arranged in alphabetical order so that you can find your box easily. If you have not been assigned an envelope number and would like to have a boxed set, please call the church office at 828-692-0063.

## Wednesday Online Prayer Meetings

Pinecrest will be having an online prayer meeting each week on Wednesdays at 11:00 am using Zoom Cloud Meetings. If you did not receive an email from the church with instructions on joining, please contact the church office. Please email pinecrestarp@gmail.com with any prayer requests and plan to join us online each week as we pray for each other and for the end of the coronavirus.

## Online Giving

During this challenging time, we wanted to make it easy for you to continue your contributions to the church. Please visit our webpage at Pinecrestchurch.com and click on the "Give Online" button in the top right-hand corner. You may use a credit or debit card or opt for direct draft from your bank account. You may also download the Tithe.ly app, create an account, and then search for Pinecrest Presbyterian Church. Or you may opt to mail your check directly to the church at PO Box 421, Flat Rock, NC 28731.

## December Birthdays

1 Susan Sanders  
6 Sherry Voris  
8 Gwen Hicks  
9 Dennis Dodd  
12 Phyllis Dingeman  
21 Ashley Harper  
23 Mary Burrell  
28 Jeff Allers  
Rhett Carson

29 Bob Brogi  
31 Jim Brice  
Bill Kent

## December Anniversaries

17 John & Ruth Anne Gibson  
Scott & Susie Roberts  
27 Reggie & Frances Ramsey

If your name or family members name is missing and you would like to have it included in future publications, please call the church office at 828-692-0063.

## Financial Statement October 2021

*Contributions	Expenses	Surplus
\$36,911	\$32,878	\$4,033

### Year to Date

*Contributions	Expenses	Deficit
\$277,029	\$330,743	\$53,714

\*Does not include investment income/loss.

## Upcoming Events:

In addition to the weekly schedule listed below

11/25 Thanksgiving Day  
11/25-26 Church Office Closed  
12/1 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Dinner & Program  
12/2 Holiday Market  
12/12 Christmas Social with the Carson's  
12/14 Session Meeting 5pm  
12/16 Ladies Lunch & Learn  
12/19 Congregational Meeting  
12/24 Christmas Eve Service  
12/24 Church Office Closed  
12/26 No Sunday School

*Pinecrest Presbyterian Church*  
*Associate Reformed Synod*

1790 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock, North Carolina

For the Glory of God, Pinecrest Presbyterian Church exists to produce fruit for God's kingdom by rooting people in God's word, growing them in their faith, and helping them branch out with the gospel in their homes, communities, and the world so that all may know that Jesus is Lord.

Revival Prayer Meeting 9:00am

Sunday Worship Service 10:00am

Sunday School 11:15am

Sunday Youth Group Meeting to be announced

Wednesday Prayer Meeting via Zoom 11:00am

You may visit our webpage at [Pinecrestchurch.com](http://Pinecrestchurch.com) or connect with us via Facebook or YouTube to view our Sunday Sermon online.