



The Covenanter

DECEMBER 2021



Winter Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Have a Happy and Blessed Advent. I hope the words of Milton from his poem *The Lord Will Come and not be Slow* will bless you during these days as we wait expectantly upon the Lord.

The Lord will come and not be slow,
His footsteps cannot err;
before Him righteousness shall go,
His royal harbinger.
Truth from the earth, like to a flower,
shall bud and blossom then;
and justice, from Her heavenly bower,
look down on mortal men.
Surely to such as do Him fear
salvation is at hand!
And glory shall ere long appear
to dwell within our land.
Rise, God, judge thou the earth in might,
this wicked earth redress;
for thou art He who shalt by right
the nations all possess.
The nations all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy Name.
For great thou art, and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.

Please join us in worship during Advent and plan to attend our Christmas Cantata on December 19th at 10:30 AM and our Christmas Eve services on December 24th at 4:30 and 7:00 PM.

As we wait, have a joyful Advent and a Merry Christmas,

Pastor Darren

Worship Services: 8:15 & 10:30 AM | Sunday School: 9:15 AM
400 S. Lakemont Avenue | Winter Park, FL 32792 | 407-647-1467 | www.winppc.org



Living Nativity

DECEMBER 18TH

BEGINS AT 6:00 PM | LAST ADMITTANCE IS 8:30 PM

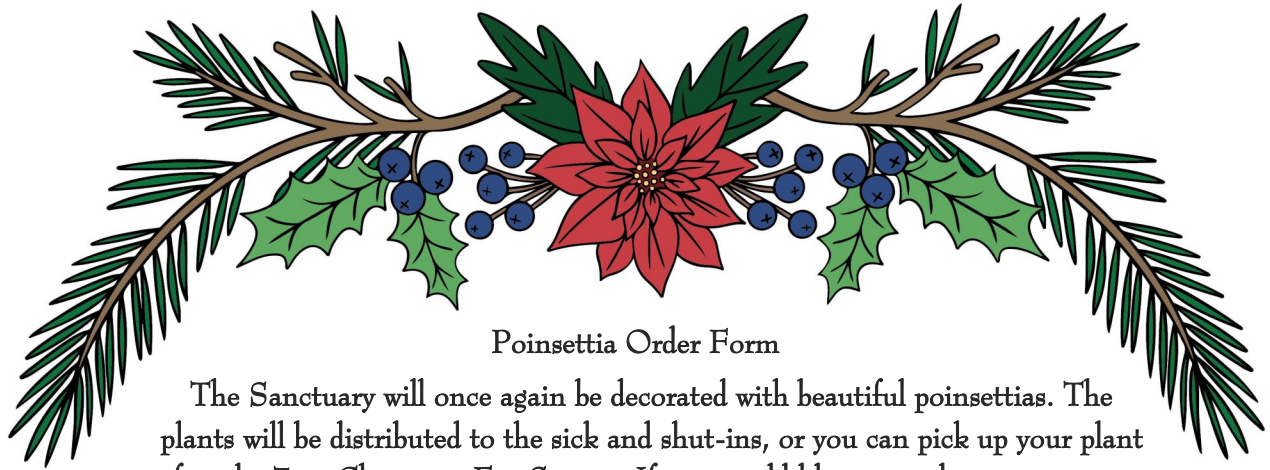


On Saturday, December 18, from 6:00-8:30 PM Winter Park Presbyterian Church will be hosting our annual Living Nativity!

Just as we did last year, our Nativity will be broken up into several tableaux that guests will come and walk through as they experience the birth of Jesus Christ. But, as always, in order for Living Nativity to work, we need you! And your family! And your friends! And your neighbors! We need volunteers. Actors, guides, dressers, set decorators, even technicians are all required to help our Nativity run smoothly and for that we need you!

If you are available on December 18th, whether it's for a few minutes or a couple of hours, please contact Emily Wasser at emilyw@winppc.org or 407-647-1467 immediately so we can find a perfect place for you to serve.

We look forward to seeing you!



Poinsettia Order Form

The Sanctuary will once again be decorated with beautiful poinsettias. The plants will be distributed to the sick and shut-ins, or you can pick up your plant after the 7pm Christmas Eve Service. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor/memory of someone, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office by December 5th. The cost for each poinsettia is \$15.

I would like to purchase _____ poinsettia(s)
(Qty)

Attached is my check in the amount of \$ _____

Donated by _____

In Loving Memory of

In Honor of

In Appreciation of

Apopka Community Toy Drive

**Toy Collection
Sunday, December 5**

**Toy Delivery
Tuesday, December 7**

Please bring NEW toys only. The toys will be made available at discounted prices for parents to purchase their gifts with dignity.

Contact Rachel Myers at 407-484-7290 if you would like to help box the toys on Sunday after the service and/or deliver them on Tuesday, December 7. Come join the Fun!



SUGGESTED TOYS:

- ☐ BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS, HELMETS, TRICYCLES
- ☐ DOLLS OF ALL COLORS
- ☐ ARTS & CRAFTS KITS
- ☐ PLAY 'PRETEND' KITS, JEWELRY AND MAKEUP
- ☐ SPORTS BALLS OF ALL KINDS
- ☐ EDUCATIONAL GAMES AND BOOKS
- ☐ NEW SOCKS, PAJAMAS, PLAY CLOTHES, AND UNDERWEAR FOR BOYS/GIRLS
- ☐ CARS & TRUCKS (ESPECIALLY MEDIUM/LARGE VEHICLES)
- ☐ TOYS, CLOTHING, AND BLANKETS FOR INFANTS & TODDLERS
- ☐ BABY DIAPERS (NEWBORN TO SIZE 5)



YOU CAN ALSO HELP BY ORDERING THROUGH
AMAZON AND SENDING YOUR ORDER TO:
HOPE COMMUNITY CENTER - CHRISTMAS TOY SALE
1016 NORTH PARK AVE., APOPKA, FL 32712

WHITE SOCKS DRIVE

DECEMBER 5th IS THE DEADLINE!!!

This year we will be serving the Homeless earlier than usual so please bring your socks before December 5th. The Hannah Circle will be folding and packing them for the December Meal.

The recipients of these socks are the people that come to the Coalition for the Homeless for an evening meal, or they are residents in the program. Our church has been doing this drive for over 20 years, and have dispensed literally thousands of pairs of socks. It's hard to describe the joy and thanks that is expressed for these simple gifts.



**Please bring
NEW WHITE SOCKS
and deposit them in the
marked containers in
front of the church.**

**We will be accepting the socks
up until December 5th.**

The Compassion Committee thanks you for your continued support.



LAKE NONA SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

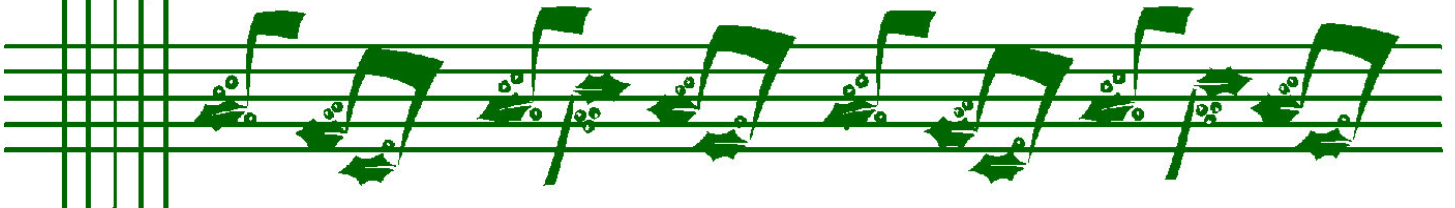
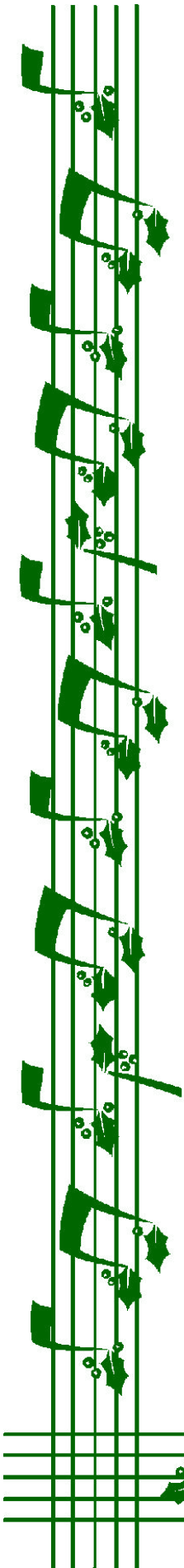
WPPC SANCTUARY

11:00 AM

The Lake Nona Singers, under the direction of Justin Chase and Aaron Kaas, will give a concert for the whole congregation and guests.

This will be a true matinee performance because it will be in the morning –11:00 AM to be exact. Take a break from the busy-ness of the season to enjoy the beautiful music these young people perform.

The event is sponsored by the Friendship Club, which is part of the Church Life and Outreach Committee, and all ages are welcome. Hope to see you at 11 a.m. on Thursday, December 16 for this Christmas treat.





For December, we are continuing the Community Life Committee's "catch up" with our new members who have joined in 2021. This month we are pleased to introduce Dave and Lil Rea, who joined our WPPC family in June. If you haven't done so already, please introduce yourselves to Dave and Lil, and make sure they feel like part of our family. Merry Christmas, and keep your eye on future editions to meet more new members!



Dave & Lil Rea

Joined: June 14, 2021

Dave grew up in a small town in Indiana and Lil was born and raised in New York City. They have been married for 57 years and raised two sons and a daughter and are blessed with seven grandchildren.

Dave's career with the DuPont Company moved the family to Texas, West Virginia, Michigan, and Delaware. After enjoying 16 years in the Fort Myers/Naples area they relocated to Westminster Baldwin Park in May and are delighted to be a part of WPPC.





SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
9:15—10:15 AM

Relationships in Action (R in A) • ROOM 301

December 5 • Toy Collection

The R in A class will not meet this Sunday as room 301 will be used to collect the toys for the Hope Community Center. We will be helping the Compassion Committee sort the toys that will be delivered to HCC in Apopka on Tuesday, December 7.

December 12 • Planning Session

Relationships in Action (R in A) class planning session for January. All are welcome.

December 19 • Christmas Party

The Relationships in Action class will be hosting an annual Christmas Party including all adult WPPC Sunday School classes.

December 26 • No Class

Christmas weekend—The R in A class will not be meeting this Sunday.

SEEKERS CLASS • ROOM 315

The Seekers Class started an advent series on November 21. The video series, entitled *Faithful—Christmas Through the Eyes of Joseph*, is narrated by Adam Hamilton, pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, Kansas. Marilyn Bryant will lead the class discussion. The Seekers Class meets in Room 315 on Sundays at 9:30. All are welcome.



Hope and Expectations

The hope of the righteous is joy, but the expectations of the wicked will perish.
- Proverbs 10:28

I remember how boyish expectations began to build at the beginning of Advent. We children began to speculate about presents we might receive on Christmas Day. We dropped hints about coveted toys and games and feared getting socks and underwear instead.

Some years I got what I expected, but surprises came as well. Some gifts that eventually became favorites were completely unanticipated. At other times, desired toys turned out to be duds. I gradually learned to let the day arrive and deliver what it would deliver. The deepest joy of Christmas grew out of the feeling of family closeness. When I think of the holiday now, I remember happy, intimate conversations at the dinner table more than the presents I received.

The verse from the Book of Proverbs makes a distinction between hope and expectation. Living in communion with God brings joy. Hope and faith are the steadfast companions of someone who feels God's presence in his or her life. On the other hand, expecting to get or achieve ultimately harmful things brings disillusionment and despair. Truman Capote's unfinished book, "Answered Prayers", suggested that suffering comes when selfish dreams come true. If his theory is correct, then we should tread carefully when we petition for frivolous things.

The Lord's Prayer gives us direct guidelines for dealing with hope and expectation. The prayer calls us first to consider our relationship with God and our place in the world as God's children. Then we're directed to ask for necessities, to recall our duty to others, and to pray that we remain in good relationship with God. Petitions for status, power, and possessions fail to make the list.

The prayer teaches us to ask for the things that encourage joyful hope, that draw us closer to God. Nothing else matters.



**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING
THE SEASON OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19
THE PERFECT GIFT**



One of the most powerful things that Christians claim is that God saw the great needs of the world and offered a perfect gift in response, a gift that brought God and humanity closer together. God's perfect gift, Jesus Christ -- a gift Who opens a door. Jesus is the perfect gift, not only opening a door but coming through it. In Jesus, God joined with humanity, and in His life, death and resurrection, so our story of God goes, Jesus is the door, now standing open. The giving continues because God is with us, still -- and always.

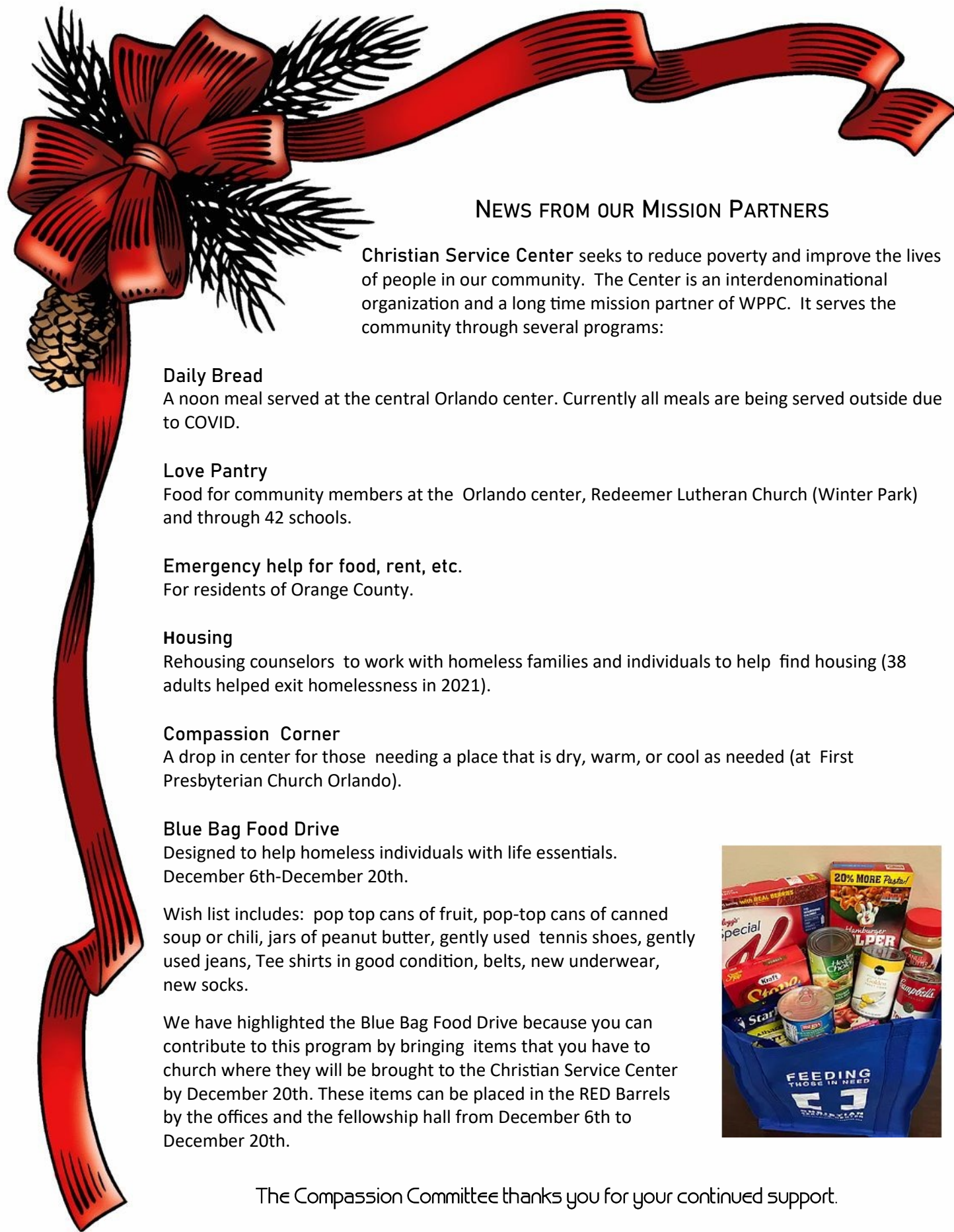
Even though many of us haven't been able to be together in person, we have been together in spirit and in faith. We missed seeing faces we love -- up close and personal, but the physical distance also revealed, for us, the importance of those things which bring us together, even when we are physically far apart.

We offer our gifts during this Advent Season to the Christmas Joy Offering because God shows us the power and importance of being together, of "being with." We might not be able to meet face to face with those who need the support that our gifts provide, but we are very much still together. We see the potential of students of color who will

become our leaders and we seek to come alongside them, to encourage them, to be together with them. And we see church workers who have critical financial needs and we come alongside them, to assist them -- we are with them. And we see the witness of the whole Church, either gathered in buildings or connected home to home, member to member, sharing what we have, together. We thank God for being "with us" through the gift of Jesus, for opening doors that may not have been accessible to us, and for joining us together as the Church and, through our gifts, with those who have need.

Fifty percent of your gifts provide assistance for current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs (Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions). Fifty percent of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color (Racial Equity Office of the Presbyterian Mission Agency). Thank you for your participation in the Christmas Joy Offering, which will be taken on Sunday, December. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!

~The Compassion Committee



NEWS FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Christian Service Center seeks to reduce poverty and improve the lives of people in our community. The Center is an interdenominational organization and a long time mission partner of WPPC. It serves the community through several programs:

Daily Bread

A noon meal served at the central Orlando center. Currently all meals are being served outside due to COVID.

Love Pantry

Food for community members at the Orlando center, Redeemer Lutheran Church (Winter Park) and through 42 schools.

Emergency help for food, rent, etc.

For residents of Orange County.

Housing

Rehousing counselors to work with homeless families and individuals to help find housing (38 adults helped exit homelessness in 2021).

Compassion Corner

A drop in center for those needing a place that is dry, warm, or cool as needed (at First Presbyterian Church Orlando).

Blue Bag Food Drive

Designed to help homeless individuals with life essentials.
December 6th-December 20th.

Wish list includes: pop top cans of fruit, pop-top cans of canned soup or chili, jars of peanut butter, gently used tennis shoes, gently used jeans, Tee shirts in good condition, belts, new underwear, new socks.

We have highlighted the Blue Bag Food Drive because you can contribute to this program by bringing items that you have to church where they will be brought to the Christian Service Center by December 20th. These items can be placed in the RED Barrels by the offices and the fellowship hall from December 6th to December 20th.



The Compassion Committee thanks you for your continued support.



MISSION UPDATES

5 CENTS A MEAL

Our fourth quarterly offering for 5 Cents a Meal was taken on October 24, 2021 and we received \$618.62. These donations will help support two local missions: SoSA (Society of St. Andrew, a gleaning organization) and Second Harvest Food Bank. They also support our two international missions: AIR (Agency for International Reforestation in Guatemala) and Madagascar Project (helps our missionaries, Dan and Elizabeth Turk). On behalf of the above recipients, thank you for your generous support of these projects. The beneficiaries of these gifts will learn that through Christ's love all things are possible.



PEACEMAKING OFFERING

The Peacemaking Offering was taken on World Communion Sunday, October 3, 2021. We received donations totalling \$120.00. However, in June 2021 we realized an additional \$438.00 had been received in late 2020 for the Peacemaking Offering held on October 4, 2020. We sent those monies in June to Presbytery and IDignity crediting them to the Peacemaking Offering for 2021. Our partners in the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly will use 75% of these offerings for various peacemaking projects throughout the world. The Compassion Committee has chosen IDignity (<https://idignity.org>) to be the local recipient of 25% of our collection to support their work to help others in our community navigate the complexities of obtaining their personal identification. Thank you, again for your Christian charity to help those in our community who are less fortunate than we are.

The Compassion Committee thanks you for your continued support.

LIBRARY NEWS
DORIS ANGUISH, LIBRARIAN



Thank you so much to those who donated books to the church library recently. These and additional books can be checked out from the display in the Narthex.

Read to your family this Christmas. Children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren enjoy being read to plus it helps you form a special relationship between you and the child. Keep Christ in Christmas.

The nave windows are all interesting and perhaps the most interesting is of the Boy Jesus—a famous painting finding Christ in the Temple explaining “My Father’s Business” to the learned teachers of the Law. Here Jesus is only 12 years old.

See the intensity on the faces of the teachers in the Temple as they listen to the answers of their questions and their answers to his. In the far background standing by the pillar, are Joseph & Mary watching and listening.

The scroll in the lower panel symbolizes the writings of the Old Testament, the Law and the Prophets in which Jesus was reared and which he knew so well—as the visit to the Temple implies.



COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS - Here's How to Help

We are delighted to again be serving in the Men's Service Center at the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida. If you would like to serve, please sign up on the Coalition serving list posted in the hallway near the office, or contact Nancy Galyean at 407-929-0903 or nangalyean@gmail.com.

What	When
Bake brownies (Bonnie Gaughan 407-804-2565)	Wed 12/8 9:00-11:00 AM
Prepare meal (Mary Van Hook 407-359-2388)	Thurs 12/9 9:30-11:30 AM
Bag brownies (Joanne Robertson 407-678-8254)	Fri 12/10 9:00-10:00 AM
Donate reading materials: Magazines (news, sports, cars, National Geographic, religious magazines/booklets, paperback books)	All month: Place in COALITION giant storage box in Fellowship Hall.
Prepare to transport: Gather supplies, load food & supplies into bus (Nancy Galyean 407-929-0903)	Fri 12/10 3:30-4:00 PM
Serve the Meal. Join us in the WPPC kitchen for departure to Coalition at 4:00 PM and return by 7:30 PM. Volunteers please wear closed-toed shoes; it is a violation of health code to wear flip-flops. Please sign up in office hallway or call Nancy Galyean (407-929-0903) by the Wednesday before if you would like to serve.	Fri 12/10 4:00-7:30 PM NOTE: The church bus is reserved for this function.
Cleanup kitchen: Wash, sanitize items used; store supplies	Fri 12/10 7:30-8:00 PM
Financial Donation: Make check out to WPPC; note on the memo line "Coalition for the Homeless" - mail to WPPC or bring to the church office.	Anytime

HOMELESS COALITION TEAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Each month about 50 devoted WPPC volunteers handle the many tasks to provide and serve a wonderful meal to our guests at the Coalition.

We are in need of additional volunteers for various projects, and backup volunteers when regulars must be absent.

Any of the above gifts, or your time, are so appreciated!

**To help in any way, please contact: Nancy Galyean
407-929-0903 or nangalyean@gmail.com.**

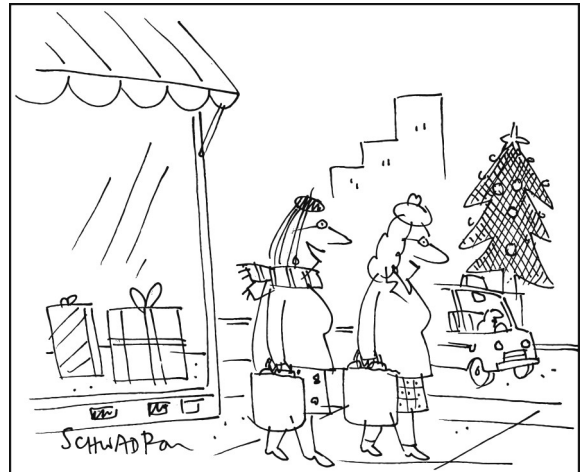
Bible Quiz

In Matthew's genealogy, which woman is *not* mentioned as Jesus' ancestor?

- A. Tamar
- B. Rahab
- C. Mary
- D. Ruth
- E. Sarah
- F. Bathsheba



Answer: E (See Matthew 1:1-17.)



"I decided to give everyone on my list a 3-D printer and let them make their own gifts."



F M K N L A D E G S C E J A T S

H M V S R B O L Y Q O X A V H R T A I N G F I P H S C I B E J H A

What's in a name?

An angel told Joseph what to name Mary's baby. Solve the puzzle to discover the name's meaning.

Directions: Begin at the circled H below and follow the arrows. Circle every other letter, and then place them in order to complete Matthew 1:21.

"S_e w_ll _ _ve b ir _ _
to _ s_n, and _ _u a_e to
gi_e _i_ the _ _me J _ _us,
b_c_u _ _ he _ill s _ _e his
_ _op_e f_o_ t _ _ir s_n_."

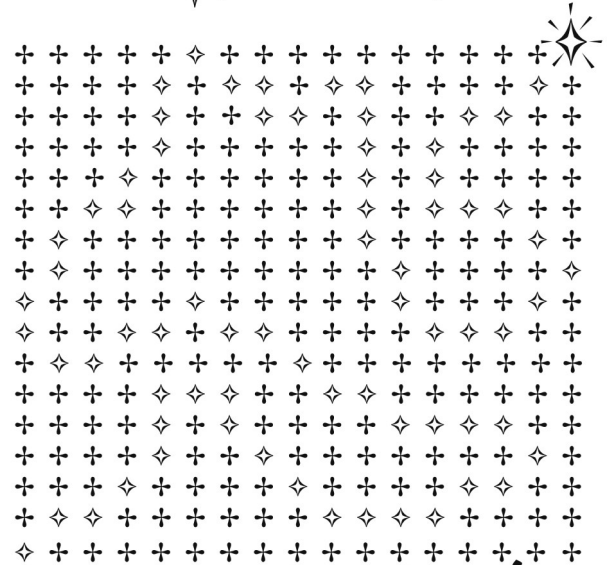
MATTHEW 1:21, NIV

START HERE

A I N G F I P H S C I B E J H A

Puzzle!

Starting in the lower-left corner, help the wise men follow the path that leads to baby Jesus.



START





Now unscramble these words to discover what gifts the wise men brought Jesus.

L D O G N C A K N R I E N F S E R Y H M R

Answer: gold, frankincense, myrrh

Answer: "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21, NIV

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> <i>Lucy Martin</i>	<u>2</u> <i>Jackson McCurdy</i>	<u>3</u> <i>Rene Cuthill</i> <i>Sara Woodward</i>	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u> <i>Beverly Tavel</i>	<u>6</u> <i>Doris Anguish</i>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> <i>Annabelle Bartholomew</i> <i>Terry Irwin</i> <i>Sylvia Reaves</i> <i>Dawn Sumrall</i> <i>John Trexler</i>	<u>9</u> <i>Ellenorr Osterhaus</i>	<u>10</u> <i>Reta Jackson</i> <i>Robert Walker</i>	<u>11</u> <i>Linda Morse</i>
<u>12</u> <i>David Lee</i>	<u>13</u> <i>Berta Hall</i> <i>Noel Wilson</i>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> <i>Linda Beaty</i>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> <i>Melinda MacDade</i> <i>Don McCarter</i> <i>Ann McDonald</i>	<u>18</u> <i>Betty Gale Case</i>
<u>19</u> <i>Julie Kent</i> <i>Holly Small</i> <i>Stephen Smith</i>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> <i>Cynthia Nants</i>	<u>24</u> <i>Corinne Dodd</i>	<u>25</u> <i>William Darcy</i> <i>Julie Frazier</i> <i>Tasha Lampe</i>
<u>26</u> <i>Julie Rankin</i> <i>Ellis Roe</i>	<u>27</u> <i>Jerry Osterhaus</i> <i>Clark Ranson</i>	<u>28</u> <i>Howard Evans</i>	<u>29</u> <i>Gary Henderson</i> <i>Lil Rea</i> <i>Ellen Skelton</i>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> <i>Patrick LaRue</i> <i>Glenn Riccio</i>	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<u>1</u> <i>Rick Davis</i> <i>Tom Russell</i> <i>David Yost</i>
<u>2</u> <i>John Gehrig</i> <i>Claudia Hafich</i> <i>Barbara Oldford</i> <i>Carole Reece</i> <i>Audrey Santiago</i>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> <i>Nancy Johnson</i> <i>Tiffany Osborne</i>	<u>6</u> <i>Lucienne Lee</i>	<u>7</u> <i>John Bartholomew</i>	<u>8</u> <i>Eleanor McKechnie</i>
<u>9</u> <i>Jo Davidson</i> <i>Johnnie McCarter</i> <i>Jay Van Hook</i> <i>Joseph Workman</i>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> <i>Dennis Schmalstig</i>	<u>18</u> <i>Debbie Workman</i>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u> <i>Meg Baldwin</i>	<u>21</u> <i>Lindsay Blood</i>	<u>22</u>
<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> <i>Jean McGuire</i>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> <i>Andy Anderson</i> <i>Drew Byrne</i> <i>Patricia Kiester</i>	<u>27</u>	<u>28</u> <i>Alyssa Kittinger</i> <i>Flo Tuck</i>	<u>29</u> <i>Barbara McKnight</i>
<u>30</u> <i>Chris Galante</i>	<u>31</u>					



Our annual [Audubon Birds of Prey](#) Event was very exciting! We were visited by Laura VonMutius, Education Manager, and Sabrina Sachlis, Docent Volunteer, who talked to the children in our three-year-old and VPK classes about an eastern screech-owl and a bald eagle that they brought from the center. They sang a song about birds together and learned many facts about each type of bird, but the best part was seeing them up close. The children were also amazed by the talons and beaks that were presented. We have always believed in connecting children to nature, and the birds of prey presentation is an excellent example of incorporating an outdoor learning experience into the school day.

Many parents are already making preschool choices for the 2022-2023 school year. We will offer classes for children who are age one through VPK-eligible as of September 1, 2022. Information and tuition rates are available on our website winppc.org/preschool/. Photos of

our classes and their activities can be found on our Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool Florida Facebook page. Registration opens to the public on February 1st.





The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor
 The Rev. Emily Wasser, Associate Pastor
 Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant
 Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
 Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
 Justin Chase, Director of Music
 Penny Walsh, Organist
 Susan Davis, Director of Handbells & Children's Music
 Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs
 Kenny Lovelace, Sexton

SESSION

2021

Phillip Anderson
 Lisa Dreasher
 Jayne Leach
 Shaheed Mohammed
 Nelson Roe

2022

Theresa Coker
 Bonnie Gaughan
 Fran Morrissey
 Michelle Trahan
 Jay Van Hook

2023

Syd Davis
 Fred Kittinger
 Malcolm MacDiarmid
 Jim McKinney
 Dawn Sumrall

DIACONATE

2021

Mike Galyean
 Reta Jackson
 Julie Kent
 Curtis Koon
 Sara Van Arsdel
 Jeanne Vinci

2022

Susan Davis
 Jane Munns
 Rachel Myers
 Christine Rich
 Dennis Schmalstig
 Meg Ball Thomas

2023

Ron Ellman
 Betty Johnston
 Sevilla Morse
 Cynthia Nants
 Jyme Smith

MISSIONARIES

Mark Hare & Jenny Bent - Costa Rica
 Dr. Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar

For Covenanter or Sunday bulletin submissions, please fill out a publicity request online at <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/> or contact Cindy Mitchum at cindym@winppc.org or 407-647-1467.