

WEST END NOTES

JANUARY 2020

West End Presbyterian Church ☩ 275 Knox Lane ☩ West End, NC 27376



Like an Ever-Rolling Stream

Time is a funny thing. It seems like yesterday that we were all on high alert about Y2K. My, how time

flies. The high school graduating class of 2020, for example, is the first class of students to learn about 9/11 as a historical event, iPods are genuine artifacts to them, they were born the same year as the first Lord of the Rings movie, and they live in a world that has always had Wi-Fi, Wikipedia, and Google.

We mostly treat time as a linear thing: Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday..., 2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020....The Greeks of the ancient world had two concepts of time.

Chronos (or chronological) time was the linear time that rules our days: soccer game on Saturday, church on Sunday, doctor's appointment on Monday, big meeting on Tuesday, 18th birthday party on Wednesday. This kind of time gives us the sense of time marching on, day after day, from thing to thing.

The other kind of time is harder to pen down in your calendar. The Greeks called it *Kairos* time. This is the kind of time that describes the slow-moving era of childhood, or that one first date with your true love, or losing time as you read a great book, or the day your child or grandchild is born. It is rich time, when the rush of the clock fades away and time slows down or even seems to stop; and ideas have time to emerge; and minds become clear and focused.

The New Testament speaks of this kind of *Kairos* time when it talks about the coming of Jesus in "the fullness of time." *Kairos* time is God's time. In Gala-

tians 4:4, we read: "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law...." And in Ephesians 1:10 we learn that God has "a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth."

One of my favorite hymns is an interpretation of Psalm 90 and it holds together the dual nature of time: the ever-rolling stream of *Chronos* time and the eternal time of *Kairos*.

*Our God our Help in ages past,
our Hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.
Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting Thou art God,
to endless years the same.
A thousand ages in Thy sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.
Time like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten as a dream dies
at the opening day.
Our God our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be Thou our guard while life shall last
and our eternal home.*

And we are reminded that all time belongs to God, including the minutes and days and years given to us. As we enter a new year, I wish you *Kairos* moments: moments of fullness and an awareness of God's presence.

Eternally,

Maggie



Rev. Maggie Beamguard

“There is no resolution that, if kept, will make me more worthy of love.
reminds self”



The above is a tweet in January of last year from Nadia Bolz-Weber, a well-known Lutheran pastor, author, and speaker. As we enter January it is often a time where we feel pressure – self-induced or societal – to improve. This makes sense, a new year is a natural time for all kinds of new ‘stuff’, a chance to start fresh. Self-reflection and improvement can both be healthy things. They can also be unhealthy if we make our self-worth at all dependent on what others think. As Christians, our value comes from the idea that God created us...fearfully and wonderfully and uniquely. We believe God never stops loving what God created. There is nothing we can do to earn that love...and nothing we can do to lose it either. That’s grace! So as we move into 2020 if you want to eat differently, or exercise more, or do other things that *you* think will make you a better ‘you’, that’s great! Maybe you can also consider “spiritual resolutions”: more time with God, more time volunteering, or even simply resolving to let people you know who might really need to be reminded that they are worthy of love. The words from the fifth chapter of Second Corinthians can guide us: “¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view... ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!”

Peace be with you,
Pastor Todd

Tuesday Tutoring Christmas Party

The 2019 Tutoring Christmas Party was exciting and joyous for students and tutors. This is the meaning of Christmas. Blessings to our tutors, volunteers, and families represented.

*Tutoring resumes January 7.



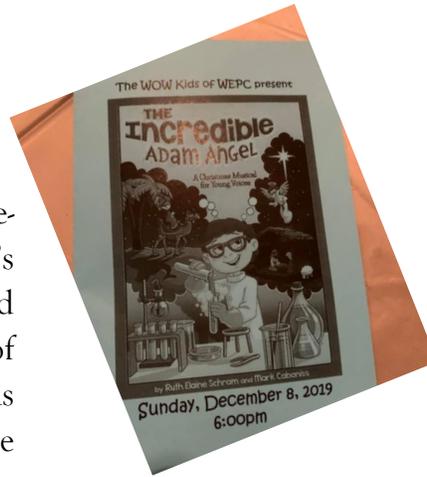
There were gifts, games, stories and snacks for everyone!



Pastor Todd reads a Christmas story to the children.

2019 W.O.W. Children's Christmas Pageant and Dinner

The WOW kids were busy during December preparing for their annual Christmas play. This year's play, "The Incredible Adam Angel," again helped to prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Christmas. Your support for them, as always, is much appreciated and reminds them of their role in the life of this church.



Thank you to the Deacons, WOW/CE Leaders and everyone who helped make this years pageant and dinner such a success!

The annual WOW Christmas party was enjoyed by all. Activities included face painting, decorating cookies, games and even a Christmas relay race. It was a fun way to conclude weeks of dedicated play practice.



WOW resumes January 8 with many activities in store for the new year. The WOW kids thank you for your continued support of "Change for Haiti" and will have an updated report on collections in the new year.



A NOTE FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

"For I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me..." Philippians 4:13

For the past several months, I have been on a personal journey of self-care, self-discovery and diving deep into my issues in search of resolution and inner peace. While I am very hesitant about sharing this, sometimes you just have to put things out there...Lately the phrase "follow your bliss" keeps popping in my head. The phrase has been made popular by Joseph Campbell, American mythologist, writer and lecturer. He stated "Follow your bliss and don't be afraid, and doors will open where you didn't know they were going to be..." This hit home in so many ways. Throughout my musical career, I've run into many talented students and singers that are truly afraid of either being on the stage or actually of using their talents to make music. Once encouraged and given the opportunity to use their talents, they gained such confidence and joy in all areas of their lives. They were encouraged to follow their bliss.

So why am I sharing all this with you, O Great Member of WEPC? Because, like the aforementioned lovers of music, you want to make music but are afraid or think you're not good enough. Well, I am here to tell you that you are good enough if music is calling you...and it is calling you. We have two lovely groups of people at WEPC that bring their love of music every week ~ the Chancel Choir and the Handbell Choir. They aren't professionals, semi-professionals and most don't even read music! So how does it happen? How do they make beautiful music week after week? The answer is simple: it's in their hearts. Give me a call, send me an email, show up to a rehearsal...I will lead you every step of the way building your confidence and overcoming your fear. Follow your bliss in the New Year and don't hold back the blessings that God has given! Amen!

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MUSICAL REHEARSALS JOIN US!

HANDBELLS IN THE SANCTUARY

6:00PM – 7:00PM

CHANCEL CHOIR IN THE CHOIR ROOM

7:00PM – 8:30PM



MUSIC AND WORSHIP TEAM NEEDS YOU!

The Music and Worship Team needs volunteers to remove and store the Advent/Christmas decorations. The volunteers will meet on Tuesday, January 7, at 9:00 to remove the decorations. Please consider volunteering. Contact Louise Thomas, 910-695-5999 or lthomas3353@gmail.com.

**The poinsettia given by Dr. Diana M. Henshaw was in loving memory Dr. Dan M. Henshaw.
(We apologize for the error!)*

AS THOSE GUIDED BY THE STAR: EPIPHANY AND OFFICER INSTALLATION/ORDINATION

Our first service of worship in 2020 will fall on January 5, Epiphany of the Lord. The celebration of the Feast of Epiphany is an ancient Christian celebration dating at least as far back as the 300's. It is the day we celebrate the arrival of the magi, or the Eastern wise men, who came to visit Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. It comes at the end of the twelve days of Christmas.

The word epiphany comes to us almost directly from the Greek: "epi," meaning 'on' or 'upon,' and 'phaneros,' which means 'visible,' 'apparent,' or 'manifest.' An epiphany is something that is revealed to you. We celebrate with joy the epiphany the wise men received for us all. A star led them to the light of the world, the "Prince of Peace," and they found him with his mother and bowed down and worshiped him. They saw God made flesh and God's salvation for all people.

Just like the wise men were guided by a star, this occasion invites us to prayerfully consider how God might be guiding us this new year in our lives of discipleship. How the Guiding Star help us reflect the light of Christ to the world?

THE BEANGUARD FAMILY

WELCOMES ALL TO CLOSE OUT THIS SEASON

AT AN EPIPHANY DROP-IN

AT THEIR HOME

(150 MORRIS DRIVE, 7 LKS W)

4:00 TO 6:00PM

JANUARY 5

Let's enjoy all this season of hope has to offer and let our lights shine all year.



OFFICER INSTALLATION AND ORDINATION

We will be ordaining and installing our new church officers on January 12. These officers have committed to serve as Elders or Deacons as a sign of God's work in their life. Their response echoes those Magi who brought what they had to Jesus. We offer our thanks for those who have agreed to serve in the 2022 Class of Officers:

ELDER'S CLASS OF 2022

JERRY ARNOLD
SHARON KUETHE
JUDY LAUT
JOHN WILSON

DEACON'S CLASS OF 2022

AMANDA BROWN
JULIE JONES
DIANE MORETON
ROBERT PITTS
JEANNE WILLIAMS

WE ARE GRATEFUL for the service and dedication of the 2019 Elders and Deacons who are concluding their term this month: Debbie Bare, Page Brown, Ron Dunning, Megan Kitchen (Youth Elder) Terre Currie, Gary Lewis, Carol McDonald, Virgil Reid, Coy Paul Holland (Youth Deacon).

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



The women of the church meet monthly for fellowship and study. The Morning Circle meets the first Monday of the month at 9:30 am at the Hogan Youth Center. Join them with your Bible on January 6 as they continue their study.

On the third Monday of the month, the Evening Circle meets at 7:30 pm at the Hogan Youth Center. Their study will continue on January 20.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

comes together on the second Wednesday at 10:30 am in the Gathering Room to knit and crochet prayer shawls for those in the church and community who are going through difficult times. Join them on January 8.



- JANUARY 02 COE HUDDLESTON
- JANUARY 07 ALLISON AUMAN
NORAH BEAMGUARD
- JANUARY 08 RUTH BROOKE
- JANUARY 09 BEN PATE
- JANUARY 10 SARAH MILLER
- JANUARY 11 KATHY HESS
- JANUARY 12 RYLEE MCBRIDE
- JANUARY 13 DEBI MIRIELLO
- JANUARY 15 COY PAUL HOLLAND
- JANUARY 16 MEREDITH PFEIFER
- JANUARY 18 MARISSA DOTSON MALEWSKI
- JANUARY 19 ALISON MCCLOSKEY
- JANUARY 21 DAN COPELAND
IRIS GOODEN
CAROL McDONALD
- JANUARY 23 LAUREN KINNEY
DOROTHY MARTIN
RANDY RANDOLPH
- JANUARY 24 MICAHLA KITCHEN
- JANUARY 25 HILDA CONRAD
- JANUARY 28 BAYLEE RYAN
PAT WYLIE
- JANUARY 29 LAWTON BAKER
BILL PRICE
LILLIAN SCHAFER
- JANUARY 30 BOB HELMS
- JANUARY 31 DEAN CHARLES
LOGAN McDONALD



JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

ELDER OF THE MONTH:

MAC JONES

DEACON OF THE MONTH:

CAROL McDONALD

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

JANUARY 5	CHARLIE MABRY
JANUARY 12	BAYLEE RYAN
JANUARY 19	IAN SCOTT
JANUARY 26	LEILA BROWN

NURSERY HELPERS

DATE	SUNDAY SCHOOL	WORSHIP
5	SHARON BETTINI	SHARON BETTINI DONNA MCCALLUM
12	SHARON BETTINI	SHARON BETTINI PHYLLIS RONDELLO
19	SHARON BETTINI	SHARON BETTINI DEBBIE BARE
26	SHARON BETTINI	SHARON BETTINI SARA TURNER



MEN'S BREAKFAST is on Sunday, January 6 at 8:00 am, all men and their fathers, sons and friends are invited to come to Priscilla's Kitchen at the Crawford Center for prayer, project proposals and fellowship. The usual breakfast of eggs, sausage, bacon, grits, gravy, biscuits and cinnamon rolls is offered for just \$5.00 and the first time is as a guest.



If you are wondering why the flags are at the left side of the church office...Marlins Septic come out to show exactly where our lines run.

Thank you for your patience.



- JANUARY 3 JACKIE AND DAVID KINNEY



DEAR WEPC CONGREGATION,

Your church staff would like to thank you for the cards, candies, baked goods, flowers, gift cards...all the ways that you made us feel appreciated. We are blessed to serve a loving, giving congregation and we are thankful for your continued support and care!

YOUR WEPC STAFF:

REV. MAGGIE BEAMGUARD, SHARON BETTINI, JENNIFER THOMAS,
REV. TODD DAVIDSON, KATHY HESS, PAULA MONTGOMERY, AND MARTHA PARKER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			 <i>Church Office Closed</i>			
5 8:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship ~ Epiphany 4:00 Epiphany drop-in at the Beamguard's	6 9:30 Morning Circle	7 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC 5:30 Christian Ed.	8 10:30 Prayer Shawl ~ GR 2:45-5:00 WOW 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir	9 1:00 Outreach Committee	10	11
12 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship ~ Installation of Officers & Communion 6:00 Youth	13	14 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC 5:30 Music & Worship 6:30 Deacons	15 2:45-5:00 WOW 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir	16	17	18 Officer's Retreat
19 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Youth	20 <i>Church Office Closed</i> 6:00 Session 7:30 Evening Circle	21 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC	22 2:45-5:00 WOW 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir	23	24	25
26 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 6:00 Youth	27	28 10:00 Staff 2:45-5:00 Tuesday Tutoring ~ CC	29 2:45-5:00 WOW 6:00 Handbells 7:00 Chancel Choir	30	31 <i>CROSS Mission Trip</i> <i>January 31—February 2</i>	

West End Presbyterian Church



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*This newsletter is sent with a blessing
and a prayer to:*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE CHURCH STAFF:

REV. MAGGIE F. BEAMGUARD
REV. TODD DAVIDSON
MARTHA J. PARKER
JENNIFER THOMAS DANIS
PAULA MONTGOMERY
SHARON BETTINI
KATHY HESS

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Church Administrator
Director of Music
Finance Administrator
Nursery Attendant
Sexton

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todd@westendpres.church
martha@westendpres.church
jennifer@westendpres.church
paula@westendpres.church
sharonbettini@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

The church office is opened Monday - Thursday from 8:30am to 4:30pm and Friday from 8:30am to Noon.