



This is our Story this is our Song



Lucy Baumer
December 18, 2022

The Kirkin' O' The Tartan & Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Thank you for being part of The Kirkin' O' The Tartans and Stewardship Dedication Sunday. Your generous support of God's work in and through Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church enables us to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.



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Congregational Luncheon and Deacon's Symposium

9/24/23



Celebrating the Inaugural Diaconate Wellness Symposium!

When someone agrees to serve as a deacon, it means you will have a special role in the leadership of the church. You will not be dealing with budgets or campaigns or personnel, but you will be dealing with people. Namely, the people with whom you share worship each Sunday. Deacons promise to care for our people with compassion when things are not going well and celebrate with them in joy when good news is ready to be shared.

One of the key words for deacons is *nurture*. So, bearing this in mind, this year's diaconate decided to take a new step toward nurturing the congregation by holding their inaugural Deacon's Symposium. This event took place Sunday, September 24 following a congregational luncheon and we were thrilled that over 40 people elected to stay and receive some nurturing through the presentation given by Cheryl Borchardt entitled "Lifestyle as Medicine: Exploring the Pillars of Health." Cheryl discussed the power of lifestyle for supporting optimal health and longevity, and explored the areas of nutrition, sleep, movement, stress, toxins, and purpose with all those gathered.

Cheryl's presentation was just the jumping off point for future gatherings that will address the wellness and health of our flock. Potential topics may include specific areas of health, financial well-being, estate planning, caring for aging parents and the like. If you have an idea or speaker you think might be perfect to help us help one another with increased physical, mental, and spiritual well-being, please speak to Pastor Nadine or incoming Diaconate Moderator Ross Tudor.

If you didn't make it to this first one, I hope we'll see you at a future event! And thank you to John Franklin, Mary Linda Lamar, Carl Young, and Harriet Monnig, in particular, for bringing this idea to life!

-NADINE ELLSWORTH-MORAN
Associate Pastor



REID MEMORIAL MOTHER'S DAY OUT PRESCHOOL

We are off to a wonderful start to the school year here at Reid Memorial! It has been such a blessing to get to know another class of world changers, some old and some new.

Our preschoolers kicked off the year with a field trip to Appleby Library. They loved being able to walk across the street safely with our favorite officer, Bill Adams, to listen to a few stories.

We have continued our own Story Time in the fellowship hall every other Tuesday led by several of our amazing volunteer readers. It is not too late to get involved.

The icing on the cake has been that our spectacular AU students decided to join us for another year and have been working with our preschool students and teachers. We are so fortunate to be able to draw knowledge and understanding from them in the area of occupational therapy. It has made a world of difference in how we are able to provide the utmost care and learning environment for each one of our students.

With a start this good, we know the remainder of the year is only going to get better!



-ANNA SANDERS
MDO/Preschool Director

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Youth Activities

Scavenger Hunt 10/8/23



Pumpkin Carving 10/29/23



-REBEKAH MAYFIELD
*Director of
Children & Youth*

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Youth Service

Rise Against Hunger 10/21/23



GAP Serve Day 10/22/23



Turn Back the Block 10/27/23



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Kid's Retreat

Bishop Gravatt Camp & Conference Center

On November 3, our 3rd thru 5th graders headed to a Kid's Retreat at Bishop Gravatt Camp and Conference Center just up the road in the woods of Aiken, South Carolina. It was the perfect setting for a spectacular weekend!



There were chunks of time built into the retreat for students to play, laugh, share stories, pray, relax, and hangout with each other. Their relationships with each other and God were transformed through this special time away. It was amazing to watch God bring encouragement, understanding, hope, and new attitudes during our short time together.



The theme for the weekend was based on a popular faith-based, children's book called The Three Trees, which highlighted the stories of Jesus' birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. By taking the kids out of their normal daily activities and routines, our hope was to create an opportunity for God to break into their lives in real and unique ways.



-JOY MAPLE
Director, Christian Education

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Kid's & Youth: Upcoming Events



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🎵 Music Minutes

Start to the Music Season

As we gathered September 10, 2023, the loft was full! Led by our Chancel Choir and accompanied by our fine organ and guest string orchestra, Sunday the 10th marked the start of our 23'-24' music season. The Angel Choir (meeting Sundays during children's church), Children's Choir (meeting Wednesdays at 5:00pm), Chancel Choir (meeting Wednesdays at 7:00pm), and The Master's Ringers Bell Choir (meeting Sundays at 6:00pm) are all back in full swing!!!

With just weeks left before the arrival of Christmas, the whole department is very busy learning our carols and anthems that will be shared during the festive season. Been thinking about how you might join in the song? It's not too late! Those wishing to participate in this year's holiday presentations please feel free to reach out to Mr. S.C. Toe, Director of Music, or anyone in the music ministry. We would all love to have you and point you in the right direction!



Hidden Gems:

Songs of the African American Experience

October 22, 2023 at 4:00pm

We are so grateful for Dr. Johnnie Felder, no stranger to Reid Memorial, for sharing this very special afternoon recital with us. Beautifully programmed, the recital showcased works by both well-known and lesser-known black composers.

Dr. Felder was accompanied by Mr. Chris Leysath on the piano.

The Kirkin' O' The Tartans

November 5, 2023 at 10:45am

Thank you all for your willingness to participate in this year's Kirkin' O' The Tartans service. I, like many folks, have quickly come to love this service. To see all the colors of the tartans lining the center aisle, and the skirl of the bagpipes, it all just has a way of making its way into your heart. But the thing I think I love most is our time together on the Fuqua lawn. As passers-by on Walton Way carry out their morning tasks, they pass a church with people, and flags, and children, and choirs, and life! Thank you all for your part in this great testimony and witness to the community.



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More Music Minutes



North Augusta Senior High Concert Choir

November 30, 2023 at 7:00pm

This outstanding choir is under the direction of Chris Leysath. The choir will sing selections that span the last 300 years of musical history, from Bach to Wilbert, and Mendelssohn to Dawson. Beloved Christmas carols will also be included.

Christmas at Reid: *Join in the Shout!*

December 15, 2023 at 7:00pm

Mark your calendars! This is a night not to be missed. Come hear the choirs of Reid Memorial as we celebrate the birth of our Savior by exuberantly proclaiming this great news. Bring friends, family, and neighbors to this season's favorite concert.



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023 at 10:30am & 6:30pm

This year's Children's Christmas Pageant will take place during our 10:30am worship service. Make plans to join us as our students lead us through the story of Christmas with word, song, and drama.

The Candlelight Christmas Eve service at 6:30pm will include communion, lighting of candles, and the singing of "Silent Night."

Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 31, 2023 at 10:30am

Originally written for worship at King's College Chapel, our service will include the singing of familiar carols and the reading of nine scripture passages. First used on Christmas Eve in 1918, the service begins with a call to prayer and meditation that invites us to go "even unto Bethlehem" in our imaginations and to make the sanctuary of Reid Memorial "glad with our carols of praise."

Plan to add your voice to the joyful chorus as we celebrate on the First Sunday of Christmas. Invite friends and family who may be "home for the holidays" to join you.



-S.C. TOE

Director of Music

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ANGEL TREE

This year's **ANGEL TREE** will include 120 Angels for children from Child Enrichment. Child Enrichment provides help, hope, and healing to children and families who have experienced abuse and neglect.

To participate:

Please take one (or more) of the Angel tags from the tree in the fellowship hall. The Angel tags will have a child's gender, age, and one item from their wish list.

Remember:

1. Gifts DO NOT need to be wrapped.
2. Angel tags must be securely attached to the gift.
3. Place gift(s) under the tree in the fellowship hall.

Thank you for helping Reid Memorial be a beacon of light this Christmas season!

And let us remember, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." (Luke 2:14)



Ready... Steady... Pack! It's that time of year!

The annual White Gift Box lunch and packing event December 10

I'll bet you didn't know that in an undisclosed location on the church campus there are cans and boxes of food multiplying steadily. Throughout the year, the Missions committee has been keeping an eye out for bargains and opportunities to stock the "pantry" in preparation for our White Gift Box packing event. Our Harrisburg partners are also in the process of gathering names of those neighbors most in need who will be recipients of these boxes in time for the holidays. Most of you have participated in the past and know that there are ways everyone of every age and ability can participate! We'll pack 300 bags of ham, beans, stuffing, peanut butter, and the like – each enough for several meals for one family.

While the bulk of the deliveries belongs to our partners, we'll have around 30 families to deliver to ourselves. If you are interested in being a delivery person/family, please let Pam Snowdy or Pastor Nadine know you'd like to be involved.

December 10 is just around the corner, so mark your calendars and start exercising those biceps and limbering up those legs -- we'd love to see everyone there to make light work of a big and meaningful church-wide project!

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Join us at 5:00pm
Sunday, December 17th
for

Blue Christmas

The Meaning Behind the Blue Christmas Service

Have you ever had a holiday season that was just “off”? Maybe there was an illness or loss, you were alone in a new city, finances were strained, emotions were frayed. Sometimes it isn’t the happiest time of the year, try as we might to make it so. Blue Christmas services emerged as a way to acknowledge this wintering season when we are perhaps not ready for crowds drinking cocoa and singing carols. We need time, quiet, space, and, yes, companions who are willing to sit a while with us and hold our hands.

The origins of this service, according to an article from Slate online by Ruth Graham, may be traced back to British Columbia in the late 1980s, where it originated within the hospice community, and was then adopted in the mainline churches in the 1990s. According to Graham, “the structure varies widely, but common motifs include candles, music in minor keys, periods of silence, and time to privately share a specific sadness or fear.”

“But it sounds like kind of a downer,” I have heard said, more than once, “Why would I come to this service if I’m not dealing with one of these issues?” Great question! In response, I would ask you to consider what it means to nurture and care for one another. Sometimes, it means we’ll just be there, we’ll be a shoulder to lean or cry on, we’ll not forget those who are suffering in the midst of our own joy. Jesus was constantly surrounded by people in desperate and lonely places, and Jesus looked on them with compassion even though he was dwelling in the joy of the Lord himself. Jesus is Christmas, after all; He is the “reason for the season,” but by his own example, we need to remember those for whom the lights are a little dimmer and the tinsel and shiny ornaments have lost some luster.

We come to this service because we need to. Maybe we need to for ourselves and our pain, maybe we need the quiet that reminds us that Christmas is a holy season, maybe we need to be available for someone who needs our strength and our prayers to carry them through the holiday. Graham’s article concludes: “It’s a small offering, to be sure. One religious service will not fix our problems, personal or corporate. There’s a good chance it won’t even make us feel better. But when darkness falls and feels like it will never lift, it’s worth gathering together for an hour or so around the light.”

-NADINE ELLSWORTH-MORAN
Associate Pastor

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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 3 - JANUARY 7

Illuminations Advent from St. John's Bible **Leader: Nadine Ellsworth-Moran (Room 202)**

As we continue to tell our story, we are also telling God's story. Particularly in Advent, we watch with anticipation as our history and stories merge into one telling, one faith, one miraculous moment that changed everything for the world, and for each of us, with the birth of Christ. This Advent, we will be looking to the St. John's Bible and its detailed and visual storytelling through thoughtfully wrought and theologically rich artwork. If you looked up the word, illuminate, you would find this definition:

from in + luminare to light up, from lumin-, lumen light. 1a. to enlighten spiritually or intellectually, b. to supply or brighten with light; 2a. to make clear, b. to bring to the fore; 3. to make illustrious or resplendent.

Advent does just this through the narrative of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, and all that is brought into the light in the incarnation and life of our Savior. So, join Pastor Nadine for this fun and informative study of how the artwork of St. John's Bible helps to illumine our Christian story in a whole new away.



The Birth of Christ, Donald Jackson

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER 3 - JANUARY 7

The Birth of the Messiah

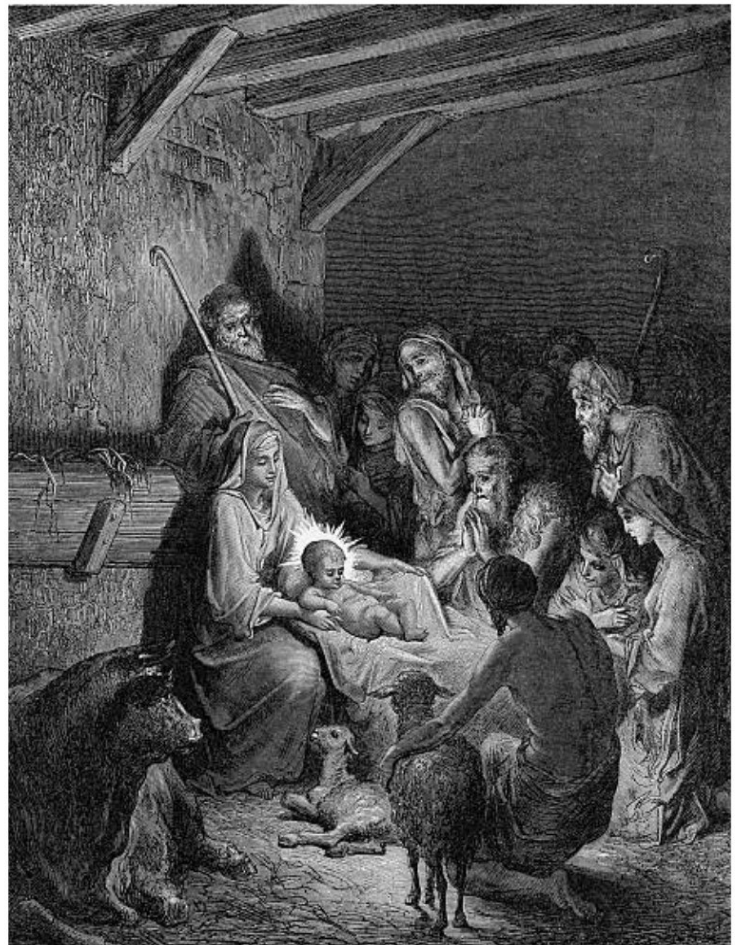
Leader: Boyd Lien (Room 201)

Our Advent preparation for the birth of Jesus will focus on the first chapters of the Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Luke. Our study of the genealogy of Jesus, the three annunciations of his birth, and the Benedictus will be guided by the scholarship of Fr. Raymond E. Brown. Pieces of the profound story will come together, and we are guaranteed many “aha!” moments.

Grace and Hope at the Manger

Leader: Dana Matthews Cheap (Room 203)

Do you live with shame regarding some personal scandal or failure? Are you feeling unnoticed, unappreciated, or taken advantage of? If so, come and hear how God uses our circumstances and dysfunctional family dynamics to bestow grace and restore hope this Christmas.





Treasurer's Report

October 2023

<i>Compared to budget</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Better (Worse)</i>
Revenues	\$1,002,017	\$1,064,931	\$ (62,914)
Expenses	1,134,235	1,185,985	51,750
Surplus (deficit)	<u>\$ (132,218)</u>	<u>\$(121,054)</u>	<u>\$ (11,164)</u>

<i>Compared to last year</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>Better (Worse)</i>
Revenues	\$1,002,017	\$ 945,883	\$ 56,134
Expenses	1,134,235	987,106	(147,129)
Surplus (deficit)	<u>\$ (132,218)</u>	<u>\$ (41,223)</u>	<u>\$ (90,995)</u>

Copies of the Treasurer's Report and detailed Financial Statements are available on request



Loaves & Fishes *Alternative Gift Market*

Giving Outside the Box - Second Annual Loaves & Fishes Alternative Gift Market

If asked, most of us would likely agree that the best gift doesn't always come in a box tied with a bow, but rather, comes from the joy of helping others. The Loaves & Fishes Gift Market was born out of this desire to provide gifts "outside the box" for those organizations and agencies that meet the needs of least of these. There are many ways to share God's love, and through this market, we hope to offer you one way to share that love through a meaningful gift. The gifts you choose in the name of others will bring joy and hope to those being served by our mission partners.

The Loaves & Fishes Market will allow you to contribute to our local, regional, and international missions in honor of family, teachers, colleagues, friends, loved ones, or that special someone. You will receive a beautiful card and envelope for the recipient that describes your gift.

Beginning Sunday, November 26th, look for the Loaves & Fishes Gift market table before and after worship in the Fellowship Hall to see just how many wonderful opportunities there are to make an "outside the box" gift and share the joy of the season with those who may most need to be reminded, through the work of these agencies, that they are loved. You may purchase the alternative gift cards online, anytime, or in person, on Sunday mornings. Let's make this a season to remember and hold the box!

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This is Our Story, This is Our Song
Faith Seeking Understanding - January 21, 2024
Sneak Peak!

Our fall theme will carry us into the new year as we discuss, debate, and consider all the ways our story moves us forward as a church in the midst of a complex and ever evolving world. Our guest speaker and preacher for the day will be Reverend Lori Archer Raible from Charlotte, NC. Lori is a dynamic, funny, spunky, not afraid to ask some hard questions kind of leader. She will bring her years of experience in the pulpit and knowledge gained by leading her own church through a storied season to bear at our Faith Seeking Understanding event in January 2024. You don't want to miss this!

Lori's resume is long and distinguished already, and this is only the briefest glimpse from her biographical statement: Reverend Lori Archer Raible has served the congregation of Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church since 2008. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University where she was a member of the Cross-country and Track and Field teams. She earned her Masters of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary of Charlotte, in 2006 and is currently pursuing her doctorate of ministry from Union Presbyterian Seminary with a focus on gender, authority, and congregational leadership.

So go ahead and save the date!

January 21, 2024

Sunday school at 9:30am

Worship at 10:30am

Seminar at 4:00-5:30pm

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UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 2023

- 3 ADVENT Sunday School (9:30-10:15am)
ADVENT Worship - Communion Service
Children & Youth Advent Wreath Making Event and Dinner (4-5:30pm)
- 9 RockSTARS - Salvation Army Bell Ringing
SAMS Christmas Party @ The Slater Residence
- 10 ADVENT Sunday School (9:30-10:15am)
ADVENT Worship
White Box Mission & Congregational Luncheon (CLC)
- 13 Preschool Christmas Chapel
- 15 Christmas at Reid (7:00pm)
- 17 YOUTH Christmas Party (4-6:30pm AFC)
Blue Christmas (5:00pm)
- 20 No Preschool Chapel
- 24 ADVENT Worship - Children Leading Worship
Reid's Refreshments before 10:30am worship
Christmas Eve Worship (6:30pm)
No Sunday School or Sunday evening classes
- 25-26 HOLIDAYS - Office Closed
- 27 No Wednesday evening activities
- 31 Christmas Lessons & Carols (10:30am)
No Sunday School and No Sunday evening activities

JANUARY 2024

- 1 HOLIDAY - Office Closed
- 4 MDO / Preschool Returns
- 7 No Sunday School
Sunday evening activities resume
- 10 Preschool Chapel resumes
Wednesday evening activities resume
- 12-14 Middle School Retreat (Great Wolf Lodge)
- 14 Adult Sunday School new session begins
New Officer Ordination and Installation
- 15 HOLIDAY - Office Closed
- 21 FSU Day with Luncheon
- 28 Hollywood Premiere Event (4:30pm)
GAP Ministry Service Day

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