Sedgefield Presbyterian Church

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Church

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Responding gratefully through service in our community, worshipping our Creator and working to alleviate hunger in our neighborhood.

"It is while waiting for the coming of the reign of God, Advent after Advent, that from the we come to realize that its coming depends on us. What we do will either hasten \mathcal{P} where or slow, sharpen or dim our own commitment to do our part to bring it." Joan Chittister

One of the most startling and challenging revelations that has come to me over the past couple Advents is the lectionary text given to us for each first Sunday. In my holy imagination I thought we would begin Advent with Mary's annunciation (being told that she would be the mother of Jesus) or at least reading of Christ's genealogy. However, I have discovered that these difficult and unusual texts are what we need for the beginning of Advent. Why? Because Advent is difficult and challenging. There is nothing easy about birthing. To birth a new idea, a new concept is to bring forth something that has never been- it is the most difficult and yet the most rewarding.

The good news about Advent is that it comes to us every year to remind us that birthing is possible. That new ideas and new ways can be celebrated. Too often we settle for what is and what has been. But Advent tells us that we don't need to settle! We are called to embrace what could be if we trust God fully. The psalmist declares we, "Sing unto the Lord a new song." That declaration does not mean we throw away the hymns of



the faith. Rather it means we sing our songs in fresh and invigorating ways. We are called to imagine, we are called to listen, we are called to see what the Holy Spirit is asking of us.

What does Advent look like when it comes to Sedgefield Presbyterian Church? What is the Holy Spirit asking of us this season and going into 2020? How are we to grow in our relationship with God and one another? How are we to be inspired by our worship together each Sunday? How are we to love our neighbors? How are we to give voice to the injustice and oppression we witness in this world?

Friends, I do not have the answers to all of these questions, but I believe that Advent is not only the season of waiting, but the season of birthing new ideas and new ways to be the church. We do not have to wait to make a difference in the lives of others. The world needs each of us to participate in bringing our Advent ideas into being, not for an unknown future for that future belongs to Christ—but for the present.

The manger is not the end of this Advent—our work, our voice, and our love is urgent and vital. So in this Advent season as we carefully listen, hoping to hear that small, but persistent voice of love, hope, and peace once again, may we each be a part of spreading that message that Christ came into this world to bring the promise of God's future.

Blessings this Advent season...

Peace and love, Kim



December Anniversaries: 22 Tony & Sarah Freeman

January Anniversaries: 15 Barbara & Andrew Bucior, Jr.

December Greeters & Ushers: Tim & Kathy Saunders December Elder(s) on Call: Jim Gehling, Zoe Dillard

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Worship Assistants

December	Lay Reader	Infant Care	Church School
1 Commun- ion Team A	Linda Price	Carol Reed	
8	Carol Reed	Charlotte Stone	Shani Lester
15	Charlotte Stone	Diane Weeks	Gin Reid Hall
22	John Stone	Janice Butler	Suzanne Thacker
24 Christmas Eve Communion Intinction			
29	Geraldine Burch	Linda Price	Norma Matto

Communion Assistants:

Team A: Sheryl Bell, Ellen Chelava, Zoe Dillard, Jim Gehling

Team B: Gin Reid Hall, Karen Johnson, Gene Lester, Jef Morgan

DECEMBER 1 Communion Preparations: Stanley Ashworth



CHRISTMAS EVE Communion Preparations: Myra & Roger Montgomery

Flders

Session Class of 2019: Zoë Dillard, Jim Gehling, Jef Morgan

Session Class of 2020:

Gin Reid Hall, Gene Lester, Myra Montgomery

Session Class of 2021:

Sheryl Bell, Ellen Chelava, Karen Johnson

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We'll continue our justice discussions Dec. 1st and 8th. Then we'll enjoy music and stories Dec. 15th and 23rd.

Attention All Youth



I am excited that we will continue to meet with the youth of **Jamestown Presbyterian Church.** Middle School Youth will meet 4:30pm to 6:30pm with dinner included, and the High School Youth will meet at 6pm to 7:30pm.

December 1 - box of cereal December 2 - peanut butter

Christian Education

ADVENT CALENDAR

Each day add an item to a box. On Christmas Eve, donate the contents to a food bank.

December 3 - stuffing mix	
December 4 - boxed potatoes	
December 5 - macaroni and cheese	
December 6 - canned fruit	
December 7 - canned tomatoes	
December 8 - canned tuna	
December 9 - dessert mix	
December 10 - jar of applesauce	
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes	
December 12 - cranberry sauce	
December 13 - canned beans	
December 14 - box of crackers	
December 15 - package of rice	
December 16 - package of oatmeal	
December 17 - package pasta	
December 18 - spaghetti sauce	1.
December 19 - chicken noodle soup	U
December 20 - tomato soup	
December 21 - can corn	4
December 22 - can mixed vegetables	
December 23 - can carrots	h
December 24 - can green beans	1

CHURCH SCHOOL CELEBRATES THE "NEW YEAR"



As Christians, we move through the year with the "church seasons" as well as the seasons of nature. So, the first Sunday in December marks the beginning of the church year as we begin the season of Advent.

In church school, children will learn about Advent, its four weeks, as we wait and watch for the birth of Jesus. We invite children to join us as we journey together through this season of anticipation.

During this time together, the children will prepare to lead the congregation in worship on December 22, telling the story of Jesus' birth.



Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.~Desmond Tutu

SPC Preschool



Celebrating the Holidays at the Preschool

Our children at the preschool are looking forward to a fun December. The classrooms will be busy making special Christmas crafts and gifts; of course there is always the anticipation of Santa. We will also be busy practicing for our Christmas performance that will be held on Thursday, Dec.19th at 11:00am. The preschool classes will be singing holiday songs that always put one in the holiday spirit. All are welcome to see our Preschool perform! We are out for the Christmas break on Dec. 20th and will return January 6.

(Ed. Note: While I finished up this December Grapevine, the children enjoyed their Thanksgiving Feast and presented a program to their guests. They are pictured at left. Thanks, John Stone, for the picture.





It's nice when you pray for someone, but it's better if you become an answar to someone's prayer.



December 24, 2019 at 5pm

Communion & Candlelight

Family-friendly

Sunday, December 1

Join us for worship as we decorate the sanctuary, and for lunch afterwards



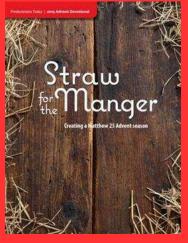
Please remember in your prayers: David Harkleroad; Gene Lester (Gene's dad) broke his hip and is in rehab; the Lenker family on the death of Bill; the Wilson family, on the death of Jim; Gail Simpson (Karen Johnson's friend), on the death of her husband, Monty.



Note: Prayer requests should be sent to the church office at ofice@sedgefieldpresbyterian.org.



Please join us for a special worship service on **Sunday, December 22 at 11 am** when the children of the church present the story of Christ's birth.



Advent Devotionals will be available on the first Sunday of Advent and afterward in the church office.

The Reverend Dr. James Kieffer Wilson, Jr. -November 3, 1931 ~ November 8, 2019

Upon hearing of his death, I received phone calls and emails sharing stories of how Rev. Jim Wilson had touched their lives. Rev. Wilson served as the Pastor or Sedgefield Presbyterian Church from 1973-1998. Under his leadership, SPC flourished.

I often hear of his tenure here as the "good ole days." His leadership laid the foundation of the ministry that takes place in this community. I stand on the shoulders of Tempe Fussell, Douglass Key, Jim Wilson, and the earlier pastors and interims.

During my first week at SPC, I received a mysterious voicemail from our friend. He wanted to make me aware that I

needed to keep a close eye on the office volunteers. That one specifically, whispering the name of 'Geraldine Burch', had a tendency to help herself to pens, pencils, paper, and other office supplies. I learned quickly of his mischievous ways.

I would call Rev. Wilson when I needed help with my early funerals and he was always willing to help. He would share stories of our members that would assist me in writing their eulogy. SPC and its members always held a special honor in his heart. May we continue to share the stories of the "good ole days."~ Peace and blessings, Kim

We always appreciated hearing Jim's sermons when we would visit SPC. He and Eleanor were cordial and welcoming. We have wonderful memories of his performing Gin Reid & Scott Hall's marriage, bagpipe, Scottish garb, and all!!

~Bill & Mary Helen Blair

Jim Wilson was a great friend and colleague! I am blessed to benefit from the fruit of his ministry by participating in the work that continues here at Sedgefield Pres! ~Frank Dew





Boots and bagpipes! Andrew John Hyers and Jim Wilson 😂



We joined Sedgefield in 1978 when our oldest was a baby . I will always remember this church as a very warm and friendly place . Such fond memories of Charlotte and John Stone who greeted us and of Charlotte instantly reaching for our baby, who is now 41. I remember hearing Jim outside playing his bagpipes! All 3 of my children were baptized here and grew up in this loving church. Jim was indeed a wonderful storyteller. He always did a time in worship and the children came up for a story and lesson. We moved to South Carolina in 1996. It was so hard for us to find a church home. ~Jo Ann Foard

- Worked diligently over the years to improve his preaching skills
- Excellent listener
- Provided very comforting pastoral care
- Confidential
- Impeccable integrity
- Nurtured members in growing their faith
- Taught us how to disagree without being disagreeable – "I don't see it that way"
- Devoted to his family
- Loved Scotland and the bagpipes (I can see him standing over our shoulder and saying "Can't you say more?) ~Charlotte & John Stone

I'm sure I'm not alone in that I always enjoyed watching and listening to him play the bagpipes. He always did a beautiful job. I also enjoyed his wonderful sense of humor. ~Chuck Burch

I fondly remember Jim doing story time with the preschoolers. Jim was a gifted storyteller and always kept his audience mesmerized.

I remember Jim baptizing Carmen and presenting her to the congregation in the regal, yet grandfatherly, way that only Jim could do.

Lastly, I remember Jim always calling me Sue! I never knew if he was confusing me with Sue Shaw or Sue Riedlinger (two other Sue's in our church at the time). Jim eventually learned my name but still called me Sue occasionally just to tease me.

~Ana Atwater







Church Connections



A great team of volunteers send notes and goodie packages to



our young adults so they know they are

always in our prayers at SPC.

Thanks to parents for sending in students' addresses! If there are changes or additions, please send to dianeweeks54@gmail.com

I want to thank the SPC Angels for thinking of me with the Target gift card. It will come in handy for Christmas.

Love, Hannah and Colby Alexander

Ladies Luncheon

Wednesday, December 11 12:00

Catered Lunch in Church Parlor RSVP to Kay Perry at 336.255.0694



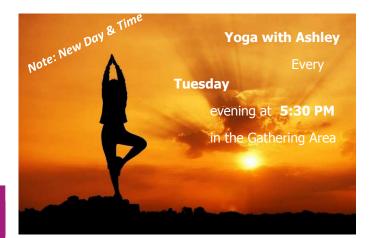
We welcome our first-time visitors! Volunteers for this ministry greet our visitors and give them information about our church and a package of Equal Exchange coffee.

Attention All Cooks!

The volunteers taking part in this very important ministry prepare and deliver food to those who are ill, who have had a death in their family, or are recovering from a medical procedure.



To request help with a meal, or to volunteer, please contact Diane Weeks, at <u>dianeweeks54@gmail.com</u>.





Our Yearly Christmas Dinner will be held on Monday December 9 at 6:30 pm

At the home of

Ana Atwater

5414 Dorchester Road ~ Greensboro, NC PLEASE BRING A SHARABLE DISH AND JOIN US! Please RSVP to <u>dianeweeks54@gmail.com</u> or text/call 336.707.7651

Benevolence Taking Care of God's Family

DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN, BY ALL THE MEANS YOU CAN, IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN, IN ALL THE PLACES YOU CAN, AT ALL THE TIMES YOU CAN TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN, AS LONG AS EVER YOU CAN.

~John Wesley



'Twas 6:15 at Cooking Matters -by Norma Matto

'Twas 6:15 at Cooking Matters And all through the church... "Where were the participants?" The volunteers began to search!

There was Cesar with his book: He had come the night before To tell us tales of his air fryer And win the on-time prize once more!

There was Ana in her nametag; There was Sharon on snacks: Raigen and Tricia were filling bags; JP and Bob were in the back.

When out in the parking lot there arose such a clatter! Ten kids swept in with all of their chatter! They came in the side door and went straight to work With Holly and Donna, they smeared lots of yogurt!

Sara and Leslie on hand-wash, the clean-up began; Mary Brooke and Gin Reid cleaned pan after pan! And then onto MyPlate we flew in a flash; "Nuts, beans and eggs are all proteins?" Our heads we did scratch!!

We looked under our chairs: We even searched all the pews For ideas and messages and good eating clues!

We ate eggs and spinach for dinner; Some new squash we did try; Crushed up cornflakes to coat chicken: Then made some Halloween fries.

We celebrated Afia's first taco: We cheered Chandrica on relay: We held Jamie's sweet baby, And King had a birthday.

And I heard them all exclaim as they rode off in the night "Cooking does Matter-we are gonna eat right !!"



Benevolence Ministry, cont'd

The second half of our fall Cooking Matters for Families course flew by!

"Eat Real Food" was our mantra for Week 4. Norma reminded us of the importance of starting the day with a healthy breakfast and we enjoyed making and eating English muffin breakfast sandwiches and fruit smoothies. Fiber and fitness were the focus of Week 5 and turkey tacos and yogurt parfaits were devoured by all. And finally, Week 6 was a time to celebrate our success with a Jeopardy review game and a graduation party with a colorful spread of healthy party foods. Participants went home with full bellies, lots of prizes, and a certificate showing that their family has acquired the knowledge and skills necessary to make healthy choices when shopping, cooking, and eating!

Congratulations to our thirteen newest SPC Cooking Matters for Families graduates, Afia, Ekua, & Emmanuel Baah, Chandrica Malone, Diva & King Brooks, Cesar, Max, & Sebastian Martinez, and Jamie, Butros, Nasir, & Jazarian Wargu.

Thank you to our many dedicated volunteers who serve as class assistants, Raigen Stiefel, Sarah Burger, Holly Dickinson, Donna Church, Mary Brooke Guernier, Tricia Hayes, Leslie Scher, and Gin Reid Hall. Special thanks to our chefs, James R. Patterson and Robert Halpin, our nutrition educator, Norma Matto, and our kid craft expert, Sharon Turcot!

Contact Ana Atwater at <u>ana@theatwaters.com</u> to learn more about volunteer opportunities with the Cooking Matters ministry at SPC. For more information on the Cooking Matters program, visit <u>www.cookingmatters.org</u>.

Cooking Matters Recipe for December.....

Holiday Roasted Butternut Squash



Serving Size, Serves 6, 3/4 cup per serving

Ingredients

2 pounds butternut squash
¼ cup walnuts
2 Tablespoons canola oil
1 teaspoon dried sage
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
1 Tablespoon butter or canola oil
¼ cup dried cranberries
1 ½ Tablespoons maple syrup

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375°F.

2. Rinse and peel squash. Cut off ends and discard. Cut squash at the neck, creating a narrow end and a round end. Cut round end in half and scoop out seeds with a spoon. Cut both ends into ³/₄-inch, even-sized cubes.

- 3. Coarsely chop walnuts. Set aside.
- 4. In a large bowl, add squash. Toss with oil, sage, salt and ground black pepper.
- 5. Spread squash evenly on a baking sheet. Roast, stirring once, until tender, about 35 minutes.

6. In a small skillet over medium heat, melt butter or heat oil. Add walnuts and cook until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in cranberries and maple syrup.

7. Gently toss cooked squash with cranberry mixture.

Chef's Notes

To make flavors pop even more, stir in 1 Tablespoon cider vinegar along with the cranberry mixture.

You can use fresh sage instead of dried. Leave out dried sage in step 4. Roll 4 fresh sage leaves into a log shape and thinly slice. Cook fresh sage in butter or oil along with the walnuts in step 6.

Use pecans or hazelnuts in place of walnuts. Try using raisins or dried cherries for the cranberries.



For many years you have put a smile on the faces of children and their families who live in our community when they receive a gift from our Angel Tree! For those of you who would like to participate in this important tradition, you are invited to choose a child from our Angel Tree and purchase the requested gift.

The Benevolence Ministry Team receives names of children each year from the social worker from our partner school, Sedgefield Elementary. These children are from families who will not be able to provide Christmas gifts for their children. Some of these children are "homeless" and currently do not have a permanent home address. If you would like to help make Christmasa little brighter for a child in our community, please choose a tag from our "Angel Tree" in the Gathering Area. Names on the Angel Tree will be available Sunday, December 1. You will find listed on each angel the child's first name, age, grade and a special request/need. You may choose to purchase an outfit, jacket, shoes, special "toy" request, or fill a stocking for the child. If you would like to provide everything for one child, you will need to choose the tags with the same name. They will be easily identified because the tags will be the same design. *It is very important that you sign the designated sheet on the table beside the Angel Tree. Please return your gifts to the Gathering Area by December 16. Attach the Angel Tree tag to the gift. <i>Each gift also needs to be identified with the child's name.*

You may also make a cash contribution which will be used to purchase a Food Lion gift card. Please mark checks for "Christmas Family".

The Benevolence Ministry Team is very grateful for your help in providing Christmas for these special children from Sedgefield Elementary School. If you have questions you may contact



one of our Benevolence Team members – Ana Atwater, Janice Butler, Ellen Chelava, Michelle Harkleroad, Leisa Huddleston, Ellen Morton or Charlotte Stone.

HOLIDAY HONOR CARDS

Honor Cards are available on a table in the Gathering Area. You may choose cards from.....

Greensboro Urban Ministry Bread for the World Greensboro Animal Rescue Cooking Matters Backpack Ministry

Cards are \$5 each.









Stewardship Campaign theme this year was Increase Our Faith. We were asked to make a commitment of our finances, energy, and time. We can give to many organizations, but we give to the church recognizing all the ways we can love God and love our neighbors through the life and ministry of Sedgefield Presbyterian Church.

Moreover, we give because we need to be people whose lives are compassionate and generous. Not only does the world need it, or the church need it, but because we need to be people whose faith is increased.

Please make sure your 2020 Commitment cards have been turned in and that your 2019 pledge is met. Thank you for your spirit of generosity.

FINANCI TEAM

October 2019 Financial Results

Year to date Budget Receipts/Distribution

	Actual	Budget			
Receipts.	\$118,151.41.	\$120,041.80			
Disbursements.	\$104, 645.94	\$110, 437.50			
Net Year to Date Surplus/ (deficit)					
	\$ 13,505.47	\$ 9604.30			

Help us to finish the year well. Stewardship is an active commitment. Thank you for your gifts and prayers to work and ministry of SPC.

Please remember our church members who are not able to be with us each Sunday by sending them a Card Lee Oliver —1575 John Knox Drive, Apt. P206, Colfax, NC 27235 Scien Boyer —1575 John Knox Drive, Apt. 305P, Colfax, NC 27235 Classie Meredith—2600C Pennoak Way, Greensboro, NC 27407 Myra Montgomery—5523A Hornaday Road, Greensboro, NC 27409 Jane Wray—4007 Hiddenwood Court, Greensboro, NC 27407



http:// www.salempresbytery.org/

You can also follow Sales Presbytery on Facebook and on Twitter





HOT DOG TUESDAY

EVERY Tuesday (January– November) 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Hinshaw United Methodist Church 4501 W. Gate City Blvd. (formerly High Point Road) BENEFITS LOCAL HUNGER Epiphany Dinner January 5, 2020

More details to come



Please continue (or begin) to save your qualifying **box tops** for Sedgefield Elementary School. Click on the

following link, choose Media Center, then click on "Box tops" for more information.

http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Sedgefield_Elementary/ About_Us

Pennies for Hunger

The collection buckets are passed on the first Sunday of each month.

Other times, you can find the buckets near the pulpit; donations are accepted at any time!

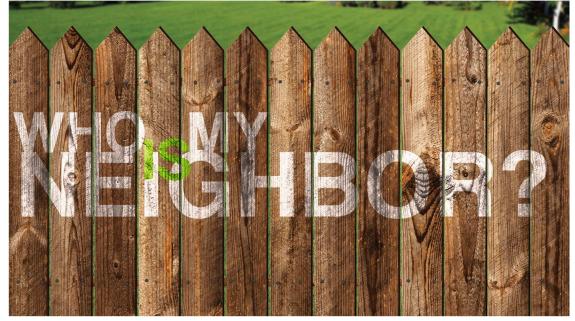




Sunday School Offering Helps Locally

Our congregation is a **GCAN**

(Guilford Congregational Assistance Network) partner and we work with Greensboro Urban Ministry and the Salvation Army to meet emergency assistance needs of individuals and families in our community. Please remember your offering!



Who is my Neighbor?

Sunday morning, October 27, 2019

Charlotte and I drive south from Columbus, GA for about 45 minutes on Hwy 27 (Columbus is the closest place to find a hotel), then take a left onto a side road pointing to Lumpkin. Here we meet six others who are part of this trip coordinated by Faith-Action in Greensboro and El Refugio in Lumpkin, GA. Lumpkin seems like any small Southern town of about 1,400 population that's not on a major highway. Except...turn left on Main Street, continue several miles out of town and we soon see a sign to CoreCivic. Turn right and we see a large water tank indicating we've arrived at the Stewart Detention Center. Enter the parking lot and leave basically everything in our car...wallet, pocketbook, cellphone, books, pad, pen, etc. All we can have with us is a government issued ID and our car keys. Also, we had to dress appropriately, no shorts, leggings, tank tops, sleeveless shirts, caps, hats, pants with any holes are allowed.

The detention center is located inside a fence inside another fence (both covered with razor wire). We walk up the first gate and press the button. The gate opens, enter and wait while the gate closes and then the second gate will open. We walk forward, open the door to the building and enter the home to over 1,900 male detainees. We're in a small waiting room that's maybe three-quarters the size of the church parlor, and includes the guards' desk and possibly as many as 40 chairs. We complete paperwork, leave our id, put our car keys in a locker sit down and wait for 2 hours. When we're called up, we go through metal detectors like airport screening. We're led to a secure area with 5 walled-off, small cubicles each with a chair, a telephone and a window through which we talk for an hour to a detainee and be their only contact with the outside world for weeks or possibly months.

I spoke with a person from Africa who is seeking asylum (seeking asylum is not a violation of any law, but we detain individuals until their case is heard – it can be months and they need legal help to be successful. Only 6% of the detainees at Stewart have legal representation.) He is married to a nursing student in New York City and has not seen her in six months. He was a bit guarded in speaking at first and our telephones had poor connections. When faith came up in our conversation, he brightened considerably and said his Christian faith is what gets him through the day. His immediate hope was to get outside as the detainees had not been allowed outside for two weeks.

Back in town, there is the new home for El Refugio Ministry which is supported by a number of churches and other organizations (go to YouTube Samantha Bee Dec. 19, 2018 Part 8 to learn more about El Refugio's special house). El Refugio has its roots in Georgia Detention Watch, whose members began leading groups to visit immigrants and asylum seekers detained at Stewart Detention Center in 2008. After witnessing the challenges shared by those visiting loved ones at Stewart — traveling long distances, the trauma of family separation, and the lack of resources such as hotels and restaurants in the remote town of Lumpkin — a group of friends established El Refugio. In 2010, El Refugio opened a hospitality house offering meals and lodging at no cost. Perhaps more importantly, they offer friendship and support to the loved ones of immigrants and asylum seekers who are detained.

If you would like to learn more about our trip, Charlotte and I would be happy to share more details - John

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
List Sunday of Advent Pennies for Hun- ger, Communion; After worship: Hanging o' the Greens, Lunch	2	3 5:30 Yoga	4	5	6	7
82nd Sunday of Advent	9 6:30 pm Women's Christmas Dinner at Ana Atwater's home	10 5:30 Yoga	11 12 pm Catered Ladies' Lunch in Parlor	12	13	14
15 _{3rd Sunday}	16	17 5:30 Yoga	18	19	20	21 Winter Begins
224thSunday of Advent Benevolence Basket; Youth @ Potter's House Children's Pageant during Worship	23	24 Christmas Eve Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve		ece	mb	
KOOD	JXXX	<u>NNN</u>	NNNN	JANA	(XXX)	ABBA
X	•		resbyter			X
4216 Church	Wayne Road G Email: office@sed					
4216 Church	Kim Priddy, Pa 336-299-4061/ce PastorKimspc@gn Andrew Bucior,	stor Il 336-587-5978 nail.com Jr., Music Direct	Korina Mo 336-299-53 sppprescho www.sedge	cGill, Preschool 353/cell 336-210-2 ool@hotmail.com fieldpresbyterianpr	Director 2132 reschool.vpweb.com	
			eritus Rev. Fran	ak Dew, Peace an	nd Justice Advoc	
PRARAF		BBBE	SEVENE			SSS SSS