

**HEALTH CONCERNS**

**Members:**

Jeff Briggs (health issues)  
 Donna Carmichael (Vertigo)  
 Deryel Clark (heart issues—resident at Spring Arbor of Greensboro)  
 Ginger Clark (health issues—resident at Spring Arbor of Greensboro)  
 Konnie Conrad (home recuperating from spinal surg Nov. 10 & 11)  
 Lucy Dillon (health issues)  
 Faye Hodges (resident at Kerner Ridge, Phone No. 336-817-5989)  
 Bernie Krecklow (health issues)  
 Hamp Langdon (health issues)  
 Donna Myers (recuperating with Hospice palliative care at The Manor at Countryside Village where they live in Stokesdale)  
 Bob Myers (heart issues)  
 Gerry Sharp (health issues)  
 Millie Vernon (health issues)  
 Joyce White (home from hosp. after heart complications on 11/12)  
 Rodgers White (health issues)

**Friends & Family:**

Bolen Marie Tuttle (breast cancer); Brett Tuttle (health issues with a brain tumor); Faye Dean Watson (cancer treatment); Cindy Strickland (diabetes & health issues); Carol Carroll (health issues)  
 Budkey Jeff Emory (throat & tongue cancer); Heather Camp (Retired Executive Director of The Shepherds Center—living with daughter and recuperating from broken femur); Patricia Kennedy (Joy’s aunt—end stage of condition)  
 Butler Ken Adams (pancreatic cancer—upcoming surg. 11/11)  
 Downing **Larry Kear** (hospitalized for 30 days with COVID and Sepsis); **Steve Miller** (cancer)  
 Gonzalez Marilyn Gaylor (both parents hospitalized with COVID)  
 Kerr Kelly Kerr (Kerry’s brother—Stage 4 prostate cancer); Marla Kerr-Lawson (Kerry’s sister—dialysis)  
 Maxwell Clara Maxwell Yarber (breast cancer)  
 Myers Keith Downs (Bob’s nephew—cancer)  
 Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—primary progressive aphasia)  
 Pruitt John Fair (organist—cancer); Julian Pruitt (John’s father—health issues)  
 Roudabush Daughter-in-law’s mother (bladder cancer)  
 Self Connor Self (10 yr. old grandson—infusions for kidney disease on 11/26 at Brenner Children’s Hosp.)  
 Sharp Marli Correa (Paulo’s mother—cataract surg. on Oct. 26)  
 Thach Hope Border (23 yr. old who has had two mini strokes)  
 Watts **John Towery** (heart issues)

**SPECIAL CONCERNS**

Bolen Catherine Bolen  
 Butler Lillie Adams (wife of Ken who has pancreatic cancer)  
 S. Sharp Paulo Correa (Brazilian brother—waiting for job transfer to new location)  
 Vernon Prayers for family members

**SYMPATHIES EXTENDED TO**

Watts The family of Denise Watts Gray



# First Presbyterian Church

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 • Fax: (336) 993-5526 • [www.fpckernersville.org](http://www.fpckernersville.org)

Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Nancy Bolen, Choir Director

December 19, 2021—Fourth Sunday of Advent

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

#### GATHERING

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tom Parker, Rusty Sudderth, Skip Smith

Leader: In this season of Advent, we celebrate God’s love.

**People:** *Soon we will welcome the beautiful and radical love of God as Jesus Christ comes to live among us.*

Leader: We embrace our identity as beloved children and let this truth guide our decisions and relationships.

**People:** *In our homes and in our church we offer warm hospitality by welcoming those we don’t know, those who are in need, and those who are different from us.*

Leader: We demonstrate our care for creation in real and tangible ways through the products we buy, the food we eat, and the way we live every day.

**People:** *Together, we are a sign of God’s love for the world.*

(The lighting of the Advent Candle will now take place.)

Leader: Let us pray:

**People:** *God of extravagant generosity, in Jesus we discover the depth of your care and the lengths you will go to save us. Forgive us when we ignore the needy, trample your creation and refuse to share all that we receive from you. Teach us to love our neighbors, caring for each other in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.*

\*HYMN NO. 123

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, in whom all things are possible, we confess that we have doubted what we cannot explain. We have sought strength and enjoyment apart from you. We have taken pride in ownership more than giving praise through stewardship. We have neglected to thank you, either in good times or when you have supported us during days of uncertainty. We have resisted the newness you offer. Forgive us, we pray, for installing ourselves as reigning deities. Lead us, rather, in paths of trust and obedience. *(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.)*

Amen.

### KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God does not turn away from steadfast love, even when we are unfaithful. The Rock of our salvation keeps covenant with us despite our iniquity. God's mercy is for all who humbly seek it. If we have chosen to receive forgiveness and to move away from self absorption, we will understand God's pardon and live joyously within it. Friends, believe the good news...

**People:** *In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.*

### \*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People:** *And also with you.*

*(Please share a sign of peace with others.)*

### ANTHEM

*"Carols Around"*

~arr. by Carl Nygard

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People:** *Thanks be to God.*

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:39-45

### SERMON

*"God Times"*

Rev. John Pruitt

## SENDING

### \*HYMN NO. 121

*"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

ST. LOUIS

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*"The Apostles' Creed"*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

*"Mary, Did You Know"*

Soloist, Laura Gonzalez

### \*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### \*HYMN NO. 147

*"The First Nowell"* (verses 1-4)

THE FIRST NOWELL

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** are given to the glory and honor of God and are placed by Dee Barham in love, honor and memory of Osma P. Barham, Jr.—December 15, 1923—August 2, 1990. We miss you, Ted, Don, Ron, Dee and family.

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**Serving Today (Dec 19)**

Greeters/Ushers: Lynda Self, Nancy Sharp

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**Serving Next Sunday (Dec 26)**

Greeters/Ushers: Mike & Darcy Polinsky