

HEALTH CONCERNS

Iola Cannedy (recuperating at daughter's home after cracking ribs from a fall)
Donna Carmichael (Vertigo)
Deryel Clark (heart issues—resident at Spring Arbor of Greensboro)
Lucy Dillon (health issues)
Faye Hodges (resident at Kerner Ridge, Phone No. 336-817-5989)
Bernie Krecklow (resident at Brookdale Lawndale Park, 336-286-3432)
Kae Mattingly (hospitalized at Forsyth Medical Center in Winston-Salem)
Judy Maxwell (health issues)
Mike Polinsky (home recuperating from knee replacement surg. on 11/21/2023)
Stan Stigall (health issues)
Millie Vernon (health issues)
Rodgers White (health issues)

Bolen Tony Rupard (recuperating from a kidney infections); Anna Rupard (parkinsons); Steve Crutchfield (brain lesions); Steve Martin (recurrence of cancer); Ron Smith (cancer); Carmen Spoon (dementia); Lila Bolen (cancer); Amy Ikerd (health issues); Marie Tuttle (breast cancer); Cindy Strickland (diabetes & health issues); Carol Carroll (health issues)
Bowman Stephanie Piraino (daughter—cancerous thyroid removed and undergoing treatment)
Budkey **Joan Doyle** (diagnosed with A-Fib and diabetes); Becca Tate (friend—breast cancer); Richard Hedgecock (bone cancer)
Butler Mary & Rodney Robinson (very sick with COVID); Dan Payne (cancer)
Downing Steve Miller (Shari's brother—cancer)
Kerr Roger Kerr (Kerry's cousin—health issues)
Mattingly Lisa Tuttle (stage 4 emphysema)
Polinsky Chad Amond (nephew—primary progressive aphasia)
Roudabush Tim Roudabush (Dottie's son—health issues); Dottie's daughter-in-law's mother (health issues)
G. Sharp Brenda Johnson (former choir director—assisted living in Walnut Cove); Larry Mabe (neighbor—cancer); Joyce Wyramon (neighbor—cancer)
S. Sharp Maria Gomes (friend of Spence & Paulo)
Tincher Bernice Tincher (Rich's mom—health issues); JoAngie Semonco (breast cancer—surg. 12/19)
Unknown Kara S. (cancer treatment—healing)
Watts Chandler Stewart (cousin—metastatic kidney cancer)

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Bolen Catherine Bolen (diagnosed with ALS)
Vernon Prayers for family members
Watts Kent Watts (Ellen's son—travelling mercies—travelling a lot for his job)

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Budkey Linda Spencer (Joy's neighbor—home from hospital—doing well); Killean Phillipp (had 2nd surgery—home recuperating—supposed to walk around Christmas)
G. Sharp Rabbi & Shari Mann (safe in Jerusalem)



First Presbyterian Church

Telephone: (336) 993-7358 • Fax: (336) 993-5526 • www.fpckernersville.org

Rev. John Pruitt, Pastor

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Stan Stigall, Music Director

January 7, 2024—Epiphany of the Lord

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GATHERING

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, join the search for all God will reveal. We are the church, committed to an encounter with mystery.

All: God has sent light to dispel our fears. The glory of God has risen upon us.

One: Praise God from the heights of heaven. Praise God, all people of the earth.

All: We gather together and lift up our eyes. Our hearts thrill to the sight and our lips rejoice.

One: Through us, the wisdom of God will be made known. There is a rich variety to meet each one where we are.

All: The radiance of truth surrounds us. Boldly and confidently, we approach our God. Let us worship God!

*HYMN NO. 150

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

DIX

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of sovereigns and commoners, we confess that we are often more impressed with famous people than we are with your amazing glory. The rulers of this earth are more real to us than the one who reigns over time and eternity. Your priorities are not foremost in our lives. We reach for power and popularity more than for justice for the poor. We are more focused on prosperity than on relief for the oppressed. Our pursuits do not satisfy; save us from their fragmenting grip in our lives. Cause a new epiphany among us, we pray.

(The prayer continues in a time of silent, personal confession.)

Amen.

RESPONSE

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God will judge us with righteousness and deliver us from the oppressive greed to which we have succumbed. The showers of God's blessings will fall on us like rain on new-mown grass. Peace will abound in the hearts of those who give help to the poor and needy. God commissions us, as fellow heirs with Christ, to fulfill the mission given to the saints. Friends, believe the good news...

All: *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

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

All: *And also with you.*

(Please share a sign of peace with others.)

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

"Seeking Wisdom"

Rev. John Pruitt

SENDING

*HYMN NO. 152 "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright" PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*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.

INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Skip Smith and Lorna Foster (Class of 2026)

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

*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. 151 "We Three Kings of Orient Are" KINGS OF ORIENT

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Serving Today (Jan 7)

Greeters/Ushers: Nancy Bolen, Nancy Sharp

Serving Next Sunday (Jan 14) - Communion

Greeters/Ushers: Joy Lynn Budkey, Jim Ingram

Element Prep: Nancy Sharp, Lynda Self

Assisting Elders: Nancy Bolen, Nancy Sharp,
Linda Volcek, Tom Parker

*You may stand in body or spirit.

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