



## The Pastor's Part

I love this time of the year. It is one of the busiest times of the year for pastors, but it can also be the most meaningful. I remember my first Christmas after my ordination, 1983, and going to all the houses that had children of the Bethlehem and Morton Presbyterian Churches in Rocky Mount, NC. We were blessed with many young families so there were a lot of Christmas trees to enjoy, a lot of eggnog to drink and cookies to eat, and hear those eager voices telling me what Santa was going to bring them.

The only problem that day was that I was out most of the day in one of the coldest days of the year. In spite of my love of the cold then even, I was frozen when I finally got back to the manse, built a fire in the fireplace and lay down in front of it to get warm. That is the only time in my life I have done that, but it felt so good.



Now one of my greatest joys during this season is riding around at night and enjoying the lights- and the gaudier the better!!! Years ago we used to make the **Tacky Light Tour** in Richmond, and there were two that were famous, and I think half of the city came by at least once during the season. The best part of this was seeing the wonder in the eyes of the little ones and to hear their shrieks of joy as they encountered another character they knew. I have found several houses in Waynesboro that do their best to get as much wattage as possible on their houses and yards. I go by them several times before they go dark for another year.



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(Preecha continued in column two)

## Scripture for New Year's Day

### Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.

2 The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

3 He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with lyre and the sound of melody.

6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

7 Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

8 Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

9 at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

(Preecha continued from column one)

I hope you have many great memories of Christmas, and that you are building more. I wish for you good food, good cheer, good friends and family to share the season with and so I say to you all, Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

Blessings and Peace on Earth,

*Preecha*

## And the Winners Are...

At the annual Christmas dinner, the PW held drawings for a handcrafted bowl made by Larry Mayer from an oak tree recently cut on Hebron's property and a painted plate by Helen Shiflet Wood, donated by her daughter Gail Mayer. David Obenschain was the winner of the bowl while Linda Harvey won the plate.



Maxine Carpenter collected \$175 through donations towards the drawings. With the money collected by the PW and adding some additional funds from the treasury, the group decided to equally divide the proceeds to the Riverheads and Churchville Weekday Religious organizations, New Directions, and Links of Love.

## Committee Reports Due

Reports from Sessional committees are due by January 10 in order to conclude the 2024 year and prepare for a report for the Congregational meeting TBD. This report entails information from the



Administrative, Cemetery, Christian Outreach, Congregational Life, Presbyterian Women, Property, Worship, and Church treasury to assess the

state of our church.

## Installation of Elders

On January 5, Hebron will install the new elders for the Class of 2027. Those who will be installed include Glenn Mader, Randy Moyer, and David Obenschain. All have previously served.



During the Session meeting held on August 25, 2024, a motion was made and seconded to decrease the number of Session members from twelve to nine due to the difficulty of securing nominees to serve. The motion carried unanimously.

## It's A Wrap!

The Presbyterian Women (PW) wrapped and boxed up their **Reverse Advent Project** on December 10. Members Maxine Carpenter, Nancy Davis, Shirley Fallin, Sammy and Denise Lyle, Millie Ruleman, Edna Stone, Anita Tuttle, and Joan Wright packed boxed and canned foods from the food drive which began in early September and continued through the first Sunday of December. .



The statistical breakdown was as follows:

- over **600** food items were donated
- **28** boxes for **12** families were packed
- a total of **65** people were served
- of the **65** recipients, **29** were adults and **36** were children
- **eight** families from Churchville Elementary School and **four** local families received food boxes
- Millie Ruleman collected **\$281** to shop for needed items

The PW extends their heartfelt thanks to the Hebron members who answered the call to supply food to our neighbors in need.

The PW wishes all who helped our project a very happy and prosperous new year!

## Church Video No Longer on Facebook

For the present time, the video that Robert Christian films each Sunday cannot be accessed on Facebook due to META's ruling that an entity must have at least 100 followers to post a video. But, the video can be accessed through the YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/HebronChurch-Staunton](http://www.youtube.com/HebronChurch-Staunton). (no period in the web address!)

So if you must miss a service, try our YouTube channel to catch up on a Sunday's service.

## Special Offerings

Ever wish you had a cheat sheet to help with all the things you need to keep track of? We hope the information included in this article will help with questions you may have about Special Offerings.

### What exactly are Special Offerings?

The Special Offerings of the PC (USA) offer the whole Church a way to embody Matthew 25 through the Spirit-inspired stories and gifts which place us in partnership with those who have least. Over the past several years, the Special Offering's work has been informed by the idea the "the Church" is not an institution, but an action. For the church to be the Church it must be enacted in relationship to those in need—an understanding that can readily be drawn from Matthew 25. Through gifts to the Special Offerings, we directly support people experiencing hunger, homelessness, thirst, imprisonment, sickness and deprivation, as well as welcoming the stranger.

### How many are there? Four.

***One Great Hour of Sharing***-promoted and received during the season of Lent

Offering Season-March 5-April 20

36% Presbyterian Hunger Fund

32% Presbyterian Disaster Fund

32% Self-Development of People

**100% sent to Presbyterian Mission Agency**

***Pentecost Offering***-promoted and received on Pentecost Sunday (or any other youth-focused Sunday)

Offering Season-April 21-June 8

40% congregational ministries with children at risk

60% Presbyterian Mission Agency

**40% kept by congregation**

**60% sent to Presbyterian Mission Agency**

***Peace & Global Witness Offering***-promoted during A Season of Peace (September) and received on World Communion Sunday (the first Sunday in October)

Offering Season-September 7-October 5

25% congregational peace and witness efforts

25% presbytery and synod peace and witness efforts

50% Presbyterian Mission Agency

**25% kept by congregation**

**25% sent to mid council**

**50% sent to Presbyterian Mission Agency**

***Christmas Joy Offering***-promoted and received during the season of Advent

Offering Season-November 30-December 21

50% Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions

50% Leadership development and education at Presbyterian-related school and colleges  
equipping communities of color.

**100% sent to Presbyterian Mission Agency**

**Join other congregations in making an impact on the world.**

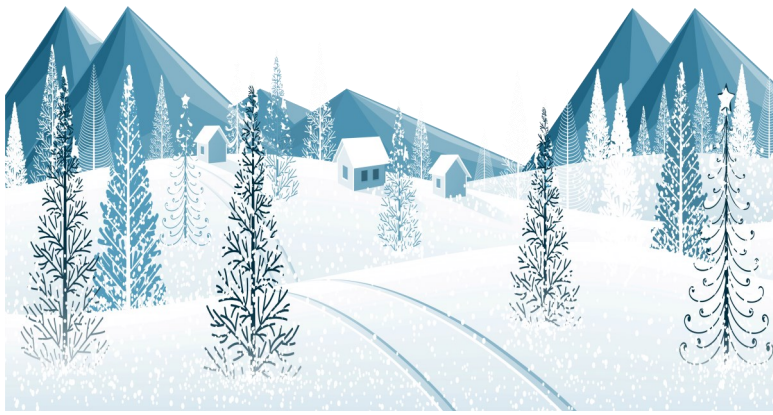
**Let's be the church, together.**

## SACRA and Valley Mission Update

For the month of December, Hebron donated 24 items to the SACRA food pantry. Several boxes of cereal were also donated to Valley Mission.

Please remember these agencies as we enter the new year. Their agenda is to feed those who struggle for food or are homeless in our immediate area.





# January 2025

## Hebron Presbyterian Church

**Sunday School 9:55 A.M.**  
**Worship 11:00 A.M.**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day Church Office closed	2	3	4
5 Worship 11:00 A.M. Installation of Elders	6 Epiphany 	7 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.  Tuesday Club 12 Noon	8	9	10 Yearly Committee Reports due 	11
12 Worship 11:00 A.M.	13	14 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.	15	16	17	18
19 Worship 11:00 A.M.	20	21 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.	22	23	24	25
26 Worship 11:00 A.M. Session Mtg. 12 Noon	27	28 Bible Study 11:00 A.M.	29	30	31	



## Bible Study Resumes

With the beginning of a new year, Dr. Scoggins has announced that Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, January 7, at 11:00 A.M. in the church library. The group will continue its study of the book of Genesis.

Dr. Scoggins says that not only do the attendees learn more about the Bible, but the group has a lot of fun. So make a new year's resolution to come and learn about "the beginning".

Meanwhile, enjoy a little word search regarding the book of Genesis, chapters 1-20.



## Genesis 1-20

H	P	H	A	R	R	O	M	O	G	A	N	H	T	H	M	B
N	J	Q	N	H	A	L	E	S	U	H	T	E	M	F	R	Z
J	A	P	H	E	T	H	A	X	H	Q	B	S	S	H	E	M
N	P	I	A	L	S	O	D	O	M	G	T	E	A	B	Z	L
T	O	Y	H	A	G	A	R	O	N	B	H	T	N	R	E	E
A	M	A	D	C	A	N	A	A	N	T	O	H	N	B	A	A
T	V	R	H	R	I	J	M	T	E	L	C	Q	A	H	E	H
A	B	R	A	H	A	M	D	S	E	D	K	N	N	K	F	N
J	Q	M	M	E	L	C	H	I	Z	E	D	E	K	E	U	A
Z	R	O	A	D	A	M	A	S	C	U	S	E	Z	X	D	C
T	A	N	M	S	E	N	I	T	S	I	L	I	H	P	G	E
A	O	M	M	N	Y	K	L	Z	K	I	S	T	N	E	F	K
B	Z	O	O	F	I	Z	A	G	U	A	J	U	A	B	V	E
R	X	A	N	E	W	A	K	D	B	R	N	Y	D	T	X	E
A	D	B	L	N	E	L	C	I	E	A	X	Y	A	H	A	M
M	S	E	T	A	R	H	P	U	E	S	I	V	M	I	R	T
N	F	T	A	B	I	M	E	L	E	C	H	K	B	G	D	O

PHILISTINES  
GOMORRAH  
CANAAN  
AMMON  
NOAH  
ABEL

MELCHIZEDEK  
DAMASCUS  
SODOM  
ABRAM  
MOAB  
LOT

METHUSELAH  
JAPHETH  
SARAI  
ZOAR  
EDEN  
HAM

EUPHRATES  
ABRAHAM  
SARAH  
SHEM  
CAIN  
EVE

ABIMELECH  
KADESH  
HAGAR  
SETH  
ADAM

# HEBRON HERALD

Hebron Presbyterian Church  
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Staunton, VA 24401  
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E-mail:

[myhebronpc@gmail.com](mailto:myhebronpc@gmail.com)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/HebronPCUSA](http://www.facebook.com/HebronPCUSA)

YouTube:

[www.youtube.com/HebronChurch-Staunton](http://www.youtube.com/HebronChurch-Staunton)

Website: [www.hebronpres-stauntonva.org](http://www.hebronpres-stauntonva.org)

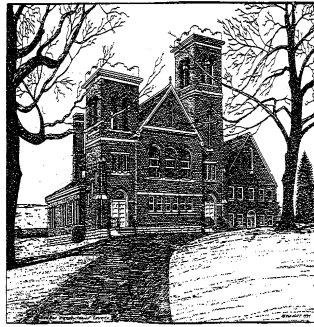
Ministries available to all ages

Sunday School 9:55 A.M.

Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.

Supply Pastor - Dr. Henry Scoggins

Editors of **Hebron Herald** for January- Joan Clemmer Wright  
and Joann Weikert



## Odds and Ends

Thanks to Robert Christian, Tom Cook, Mike Dundas, Larry Mayer, Anita Tuttle, and Emerson Willard who came for the fall cleanup on Saturday, December 14.

Thanks to Theresa Moore and the Congregational Life Committee that provided and served the Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 8. Also, to the congregation—we enjoyed the desserts you provided!

The church sanctuary and doors were absolutely beautiful with the poinsettias and wreaths provided by Polly Hewitt, Larry and Gail Mayer, Joyce Coleman and family, Mike Dundas and family, Jean Miller, the Tuttle family, Tracy Mayer, Betty Piner, Donna and Keyser Kirtley, and the Hankins family. The church cemetery benefited from monetary donations from Maxine Carpenter. Thank you for your generosity.

There are no Session minutes in this edition due to the fact that there was no Session meeting held during the month of December.

Have you seen the pie-wedge shaped tree sample Tom Cook cut from one of the oak trees “in the grove” several years ago? The sample showed somewhere between 225-275+ rings to indicate the age of the felled tree. This sample had a note attached to it and had previously been seen in the Session Room beside the wall with pictures of Hebron’s previous ministers.

## January Birthdays

Martha Moore	1
David Moore	18
Guy Wright	19
E. Anne Wright	23
Randy Moyer	23
Nancy K. Cook	25
Bill Sellers	29
Hannah Bush	30

## In Case Of Snow Or Bad Weather...

If winter weather is ever severe enough that we think it necessary to cancel church, we will notify television station WHSV-TV3 in Harrisonburg to announce the cancellation.

Also, if church is canceled because of severe winter weather, we will put a message on the church’s answering machine so you can call the church office at 540-885-1648. A decision to cancel church will be made by 9:00 A.M. Therefore, check after 9 o’clock to be sure.