

Love God, Love People and Serve Together

“Christmas is for Misfits”

December 8, 2024

One of the things that I like most about this time of year is the Christmas movies that we always watch. Sunday, I mentioned that Christmas is not set in place without the ability we have to watch some of the Christmas classics: Frosty the Snowman, It’s a Wonderful Life, Scrooge, Elf, The Grinch, etc.... But one that I remember the most growing up as a red-headed child was Rudolph and the Isle of Misfit Toys. I think it really had something to do with the fact that I was literally the ONLY redhead in our community in North Carolina and I could truly understand where Rudolph was coming from when he felt like a misfit and an outsider. I looked at myself in the mirror and felt like a misfit because I did not look like everyone else. I remember a lot of the many jokes about me having a fire top or having the thought that the only way that I was ever going to be tan was to pray that all of my freckles would come together. Being a misfit did not seem to be something of great value in this world.

However, as I continued to watch the story unfold, I felt as if I belonged in the movie. I mean, think about some of the characters. You had Hermey, a misfit elf who left Santa’s workshop to follow his dream to be a dentist. You had Yukon Cornelius, a prospector who has spent his life searching for silver and gold. Charlie in the box was a character whose main misfit is that his name is Charlie instead of Jack. Then there was the cowboy riding an ostrich instead of a horse; the spotted elephant that was white and pink instead of grey; a choo-choo train that had square wheels on the caboose; a water pistol that shoots jelly... and on and on and on. I know that in 1964 when the movie came out, there were so many questions about these oddities and why they would not have been considered as unique, but nonetheless, they were all deemed misfits because they were outside the norms for society.

Then we step into the story of a virgin Mary betrothed to her carpenter husband Joseph and who was about to bear the Son of God. Honestly, I believe that God was proclaiming to the world that He is the God of ALL the misfits. I believe that Christmas was established to help all of creation realize that we were not, in our current state, capable of even being in the presence of God. We were misfits because of this sin-filled world and God was trying to show us that His grace, through the birth of Christ, was the remedy we needed to no longer be misfits, but to be claimed as children of God. We fail to realize that we too are misplaced and lost and in need of a purpose that we can only receive through Christ.

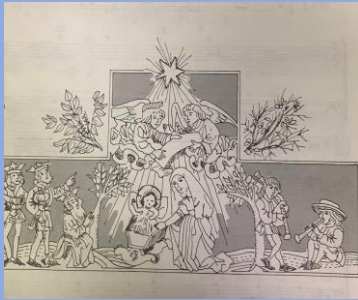
As the story ends, Santa comes and takes the toys from Misfit Island and gives them a purpose and a reason for their creation. He places them with others who see their uniqueness and loves them even more. God sees us the same way. We are all created in His image with our own uniqueness that only God knows about us. God has called us and given us a purpose to do all that we can each and every day to rejoice in preparation for what is still yet to be revealed. When we all look in the mirror, I pray that we are able to stop looking at the flaws and listening to the voices that tell us that we are misfits. Instead, we should recognize Christmas was created for the Misfits for the sole purpose to provide us a home in eternity. May we take each day and share that message with the world.

In His grip,
Jason



A **DISCIPLE** leaf was given in honor of Bennett Massey on his 80th birthday by his family.

JESUS CAME IN LOVE



Festival of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 15, 2024
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

PECAN SALE

The Joyful Noise Sunday school class is selling pecans again. Call on any member of the Joyful Noise class to order yours. Our final order will be placed on **December 8th**. Thank you for supporting this mission project!

Prices	
1 lb. halves	\$12.00
1/2 lb. halves	\$7.00
1 lb. pieces	\$12.00
1/2 lb. chocolates	\$9.00, white, milk or dark chocolate



POINSETTIA SALE



Cost: \$12.00
Deadline to order:
Sunday, December 8th

Delivery date:
Thursday, December 12th

See a New Beginnings
Class member to order.

JOYFUL NOTES FROM THE CHOIR!



This Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the "awakening" that began with angel visitations declaring the Good News of the coming of our Savior. Our Wesleyand Chancel Choirs will sing anthems that tell the story of angels preparing and visiting Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and shepherds in a field. The Chancel Choir will sing a choir and congregation favorite, *Angels Are Making Their Rounds*. Originally part of a larger work, "Night of the Father's Love," it is a remarkable anthem that has been recorded by numerous choirs. Pepper Choplin describes *Angels Are Making Their Rounds* as "a song that communicates a holy stirring on earth as angels began appearing to different people. Musically, the song slowly builds as each voice is added, reaching an impressive crowning point as all voice parts weave together to share the message of their story.

"*Angels are Making Their Rounds*" by Pepper Choplin
Angels are making their rounds, O what a beautiful sound, angels are making their rounds. Fear not Zechariah, for the Lord has heard your prayer, Elizabeth will bear a son. Hail, O blessed one, you have found favor with God. O blessed one, you have found favor with God.

Angels are making their rounds, O my what a beautiful sound. Heaven's glory comes down when angels are making their rounds. Fear not Joseph, go and take Mary to be your wife, for she carries a holy Child. Unto you is born a Savior, glory to God and peace on earth, for now the Lord is with you. Angels are making their rounds, O my, what a beautiful sound. Heaven's glory comes down when angels are making their rounds. Gloria, O gloria, now the Lord is with you. Angels are making their round, O my what a beautiful sound. Heaven's glory comes down when angels are making their rounds. Fear not Zechariah, Fear not Joseph, Hail O blessed one, The Lord is with you.

The Wesley choir will share an anthem told from the perspective of angels preparing to sound forth the Good News! This anthem combines an ethereal and exquisite melody with moving harmonies to tell the story in a new way.

"*Angels Preparing the Song*" by Mark Burrows
A rustling stirs in the stillness; the rush of awakened wings. From high above in the heavens the murmur of music rings. A world that cries for comfort has waited for so long. But now we hear the whispers of angels preparing the song. They gather radiant and ready to sing of the Savior's birth. A light of hope in the darkness the promise of peace on earth. The time is drawing nearer, their voices growing strong. We hear it ever clearer; the angels preparing the song. Sing gloria, sing gloria. Their praises will fill the sky. Sing gloria, sing gloria. Glory to God on High! Angels preparing the song. The world that cries for comfort has waited for so long. But now we hear the whispers of angels preparing the song.

God's Great Peace to You!

Diana B.



There's no better time than now to get connected with the student ministry here at Wynnton! All 6th-12th grade students are invited to join us at any of our gatherings throughout the week.

Wednesday Night Supper and Bible Study

6:30pm-8:00pm

Ambassadors of Christ

Friday Morning Prayer Breakfast

7:00am-7:30am

Chick-fil-A on Whittlesey

211 Faith Connection/Sunday Night Youth

5:00pm-7:00pm

The Basement

Last Family Faith Connection is Dec 15th

All youth are welcome to join us from 5:00pm-8:00pm. We will load up in the church bus and travel from home to home for a progressive dinner! I am asking that students bring a gift no more than \$10 for white elephant gift exchange.

To view and import the youth calendar into your Apple or Google Calendar please scan this QR code:

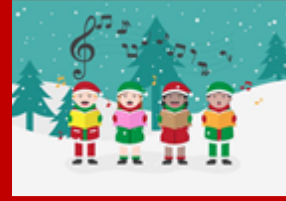


If you have not joined the GroupMe, please scan this QR code to join. This is the main form of communication with our parents:



Blessings,
Derek Harrison

CHRISTMAS CAROLING



Sunday, December 8

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Soup and sandwich dinner to follow caroling.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Nursery

8:30 am - 12:15 pm

Infants - Age 2

First Floor Grimes Building



Sunday School

9:45-10:50 am

3-year-olds - Fourth Grade

First Floor Grimes Building

Children's Church

11:00 am - 12:00 pm (after Children's Sermon)

3-year-olds - Fourth Grade

First Floor Grimes Building

**Parents, please make sure to check in with our registration system (hallway or Children's Center)

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 8:

Nursery:

Carrie Thomas and Marcia Therrien

Sunday School & Children's Church:

Melissa Derby & Penny Lamb



**Children's Worship
Bulletins™** 

Children's bulletins are available on Sunday mornings for all services. They are in the Sanctuary and in the Ministry Center.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE

Week 47

Scripture Readings



This week we will be reading the verses related to the trial of Jesus, the crucifixion, His burial and empty tomb. Sit with each day and listen. If you sense the Lord is speaking to you about anything specific, I would love to hear from you.

Steve

December 9	John 19:8-16
December 10	John 19:17-22
December 11	John 19:23-27
December 12	John 19:28-30
December 13	John 19:31-37
December 14	John 19:38-42
December 15	John 20:1-10

WYNNTON ARTS ACADEMY

Delivery dates for your unwrapped and labeled gifts are December 6 - 13. This will allow time for the gifts to be checked to make sure all gifts were delivered and for all gifts to be wrapped.

You are making a lot of students happy this Christmas!

WYNNTON NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORK

A big THANK YOU goes out to all for contributing food to the Wynnton Neighborhood Network this past month. With your help, the network provided food throughout the month of November. Then the Network provided 250 individuals and families a turkey and plenty of food during our annual Thanksgiving Giveaway. Thank you for your ongoing support to this very important community organization as it continues to help those in need.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

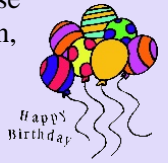


Tuesday, December 24
Candlelight Communion Service
5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 29
 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Only

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 8 Kenny McLaughlin, Fred Wise
- 9 Mike Blasingame, Ann Hartin,
Carole Sears
- 12 Lee Andresen, Ben Toelle,
Jeff Yates
- 13 William Bray, Eliza Daffin,
Eric Hubbard, Madison Vinyard-Elliot
- 14 Jarrod Hart



OUR ATTENDANCE

12-1-24

8:30 a.m.....	37
9:00 a.m.....	14
11:00 a.m.....	133
Sunday School.....	93

OUR STEWARDSHIP

12-1-24

General Fund.....	15,783.00
Christmas Offering	150.00
Missions	97.00
Other Contributions	71.00
Thanksgiving	850.00

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Our Finance Committee has designated our Christmas offering to go to Hurricane Relief. You may make your gift any time in December in a worship service or by mailing it to the church office.

2024 END OF YEAR GIVING

Please be sure to send your end of year contributions before December 31 or put it in the offering plate by Dec. 29. Submissions postmarked after Dec. 31 cannot be counted for 2024. Also, gifts of stock and online payments must clear by Dec. 31. Thanks for helping us meet our budget needs!

**WYNNTON SAFETY SQUAD
December 8**

Team 2: Scott McCranie, Harold Hill,
Mike Wolfe

OFFERING TRUSTEES SCHEDULE

December 8: John Richey and Lynn White

**COFFEE STATION VOLUNTEERS
December 8**



New Beginnings

**OUR DEPLOYED CHURCH MEMBERS AND
FAMILY OF CHURCH MEMBERS**



Sam Perez

If you have a deployed family member and you would like them added to our list, please call the office.

Our Known Prayer Concerns:

Sue Rogers	Jennefer Spell
Aubrey Walker	Frank Feagle
David Woolbright	Sabrina Hart
Pam Feagle	Walter Cook
Michelle Foote	Ben Smith
Virginia Bonner	Candace Hickman
Lynn Christenson	Larry Campbell
Hazel Hope	Jonique Edmondson
Mike Woodard	Jud Calfee
Joyce Hawkins	

SUNDAY'S SERMON

Christmas was Made for Misfits
Luke 3:1-10

8:30 a.m. Rev. Steve Croft
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. - Dr. Jason Wade

DECEMBER ADVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 7

Open Arms Ministry, Ministry Center, 12:00 pm

Sunday, December 8

Christmas Caroling/Soup Dinner, 3:00-5:00 pm

Wednesday, December 11

Communion, Wynnton Chapel, 11:15 am

Friday, December 13

Goodwill Christmas Party, Wynn House, 12:00 pm
New Beginnings Party, The Lambs' House, 6:00 pm
Genesis Christmas Party, The Edwards' Home, 6:30 pm

Sunday, December 15

Festival of Lessons & Hymns, 8:30 and 11:00 am services
Choir Luncheon, Ministry Center, 12:00 pm
Youth Christmas Party, Wynnton Basement, 5:00 pm

Wednesday, December 18

Communion, Wynnton Chapel, 11:15 am

Thursday, December 19

New Seekers Christmas Party, The Wynn House, 11:30 am

Tuesday, December 24

Church Office Closed
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Sanctuary, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, December 25

Church Office Closed
Christmas Day

Thursday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 29

Worship Service, Sanctuary, 10:00 am

Tuesday, December 31 – Thursday, January 2

Church Office Closed

BE A WYNNTON WELCOMER

WE NEED YOU! to sign-up as a Sunday morning welcomer. We are looking for volunteers to fill open slots through the end of December. Check your calendars for a few Sundays you are available to help us greet our members and guests on Sunday morning. Sign-up sheets will be available in the main hallway this Sunday.





Saturday, December 7, 2024
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.
Ministry Center

We will not be wearing our blue Wynnton shirts so that we can dress in our festive Christmas attire.

WYNNTON WRITERS

The Wynnton Writers Group meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 5th has been cancelled.

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 2nd.

See you then!!!

MODERN SERVICE

We will not have the Modern service on December 15th so that everyone can join us to experience the Festival of Lessons and Carols.

PASTOR ON-CALL

For emergencies: Dec. 6-8
Dr. Jason Wade 770-289-4039

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 8

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Modern Worship Service - Ministry Center
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for adults, youth & children
- 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service - Sanctuary
- 3:00-5:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling
- 5:00-7:00 p.m. 211 Family Faith Connection - Basement

Monday, December 9

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study - Library
- 5:30 p.m. Bible Study - Home of Beth Hendrickson

Tuesday, December 10

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Train Burger King
- 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group - Alpha Building

Wednesday, December 11

- 11:15 a.m. Communion Service - Chapel
- 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Youth Praise Band Rehearsal - Basement
- 6:00-8:00 p.m. Northside Volleyball Banquet - Ministry Center
- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study - Ambassadors of Christ
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
- 7:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - A. Building
- 9:45 a.m. Backpacks of Grace

Friday, December 13

- 7:00 -7:30 a.m. Prayer Breakfast & Jesus - Chick-fil-A - Whittlesey Rd.

Saturday, December 14

- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Coaches Corner