

A stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world. C. S. Lewis

Many of us have been decorating our homes for Christmas. Many of us have started our Christmas shopping. Have we begun our Christmas worship? After all, Jesus Christ is the reason for the season. Jesus came to be born in a lowly stable. He came so that He could die for your sins and mine. One reason for the season is to celebrate His birth. But the other reason is so that God could become man and give us His righteousness. So in that respect, we are the reason for the season. Stand in awe that God would die for sinful people and make us His very own. Stand in awe that we have John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

In all of our hustle and bustle this year, let's make it a special priority to spend some extra time with Jesus. Take some time to reflect on who He is and all that He has done for us. Sing some praise songs to Him and praise Him through the Psalms. Start your day with Him. Whisper your love to Him throughout the day. Go to sleep with a thankful heart. Our God is worthy of our praise each and every day, regardless of the season.

Isaiah 9:6-7

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

~Shared by Kim Combs

NEW AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Mary Martha Busy Ladies

Mary Martha Busy Ladies will meet at the church on **Thursday, December 14, 2023** at 11:00 a.m. We will leave for The Homestead Steakhouse by 11:30 a.m. This is our Christmas luncheon. Please RSVP to Sue (919-819-0344) or Pat (984-358-2167) by Friday, December 8th. We hope you can join us!

Holiday Treats for Pathways Elementary Teachers and Staff

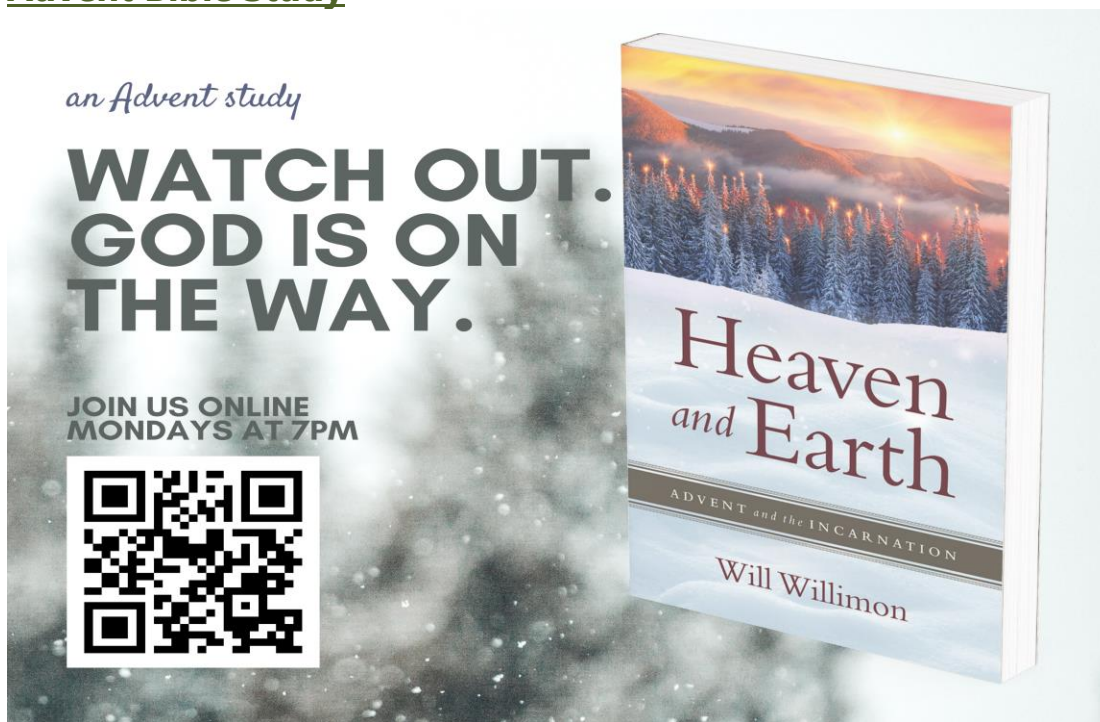
A group of parents, grandparents, and friends are providing treats for the teachers and staff of Pathways Elementary on December 15th. This includes store-bought cookies (with the nutrition label) and individually wrapped candy. If you would like to contribute, please bring the above items to the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, December 10th, and place them in the container labeled "Holiday Treats For Pathways Teachers and Staff". For more information, contact Ashley James at (919) 618-7524.

Trip to the Billy Graham Library and "The Real Christmas Story"

Saturday, December 16, 2023

The bus will arrive at the church at 8:30 a.m. and will leave at 9:00 a.m. We should arrive at the Library around 12:00 and will have lunch on our own at the Library. We will arrive at Narrows for the play around 6:15 p.m. Dinner is served at 7:00 p.m. We should arrive back at Walnut Grove between 11:00 and 11:30 p.m. You may want to consider bringing a snack that doesn't require refrigeration, if needed,

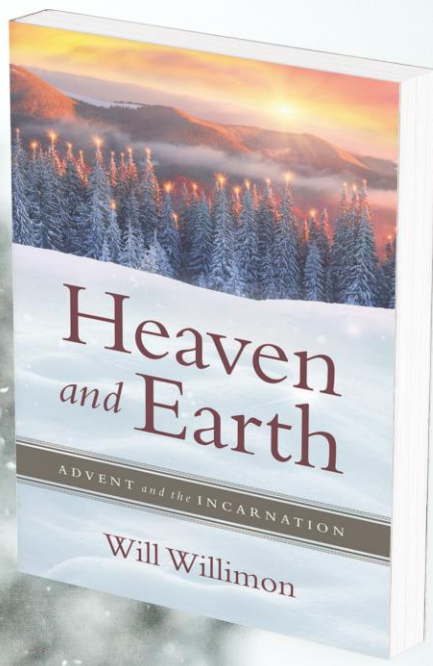

Advent Bible Study



an Advent study

**WATCH OUT.
GOD IS ON
THE WAY.**

JOIN US ONLINE
MONDAYS AT 7PM



Tithes and Offerings

We have four ways to give to our ministries. If you would like your offering to be allocated towards a specific ministry, please indicate it in the memo of your check or you will be prompted on the website.

1. Give during our weekly Worship Services.
2. Mail in a check to 7215 Walnut Grove Church Road, Hurdle Mills, NC 27541.
3. Use our church [website](#). Click GIVE in the upper right corner.
4. Use our online giving app "Vanco Mobile".

JOYS & CONCERNS

Prayer List

- Judy Parker who is recovering from a pinched nerve
- Linwood and Linda Lovitte in the passing of Linwood's brother (C.G.)
- Family of Ann Davis (sister-in-law of Donnie Davis)
- Betty Sue Hyder (cancer treatments), Margaret Williams' sister and Sharyn Gates' aunt
- Beth Roberts, who was recently in a bad car accident. She is the daughter of Billie Roberts
- Billy Addison from Erwin, NC who has been diagnosed with mouth cancer. Cheryl Humphrey is asking for prayers for Billy.
- Pat Sykes
- Debbie Haywood (cancer treatments), friend of Ann and Bruce Richardson.
- Dana Kimrey. He is the brother of Lorraine Hines.

Quilts

- Heidi from Durham is having serious health issues. Heidi is a coworker and friend of Jennifer Kajenski.
- Thomas Gates from Hillsborough is having health issues. He is a friend of Barry Parker.
- Judy and Nelson Parker from Hurdle Mills are members of our church family. They have been having health issues.
- Ashley B. Wallace from Nashville, NC is having cancer treatments. Ashley's quilt is requested by Rev. Laura Dunlap.

(The prayer quilts will be at the front of the sanctuary on Sunday. You're invited to tie a knot and say a prayer over the quilts before and after the service.)

Upcoming Birthdays

Friday 12/8 – Darryl Clayton, Joshua Rogers

Saturday 12/9 – Lynwood Clayton, Cameron Ray, Casey Young, Gwen Hall-DiFabio

Sunday 12/10 – Caden Robinson

Tuesday 12/12 – Ricky Triplett

Wednesday 12/13 – Gardner Latta

Friday 12/15 – Mary Blalock

Saturday 12/16 – Joyce Brown, Grant Berry, Angie Comer

If your birthday is incorrect or missing, please contact Kim at the church office at 919-732-5722 or by email at office@walnutgroveumc.org so we can update our records.

STAYING CONNECTED

[WG YouTube](#)

[WG Facebook](#)

[Website!](#)

[Sign UpHere! For Online Sign-Up](#)

Serving in Worship

December 10th

Acolytes: Wyatt James/Eleanor Whitaker

Greeters: Faith Parker/Dale Smithson

Ushers: Stephanie & Tyler Smith

Nursery: Cheryl L Parker/Cathy Boling

Scripture: Brenda Berry

Trustee Open/Close: Johnny Clayton

December 17th

Acolytes: Anna Robinson/Isabella Conway

Greeters: Cheryl L & Barry Parker

Ushers: Cheryl & Scott Humphrey

Nursery: Judy Butler/Cheryl S. Parker

Trustee Open/Close: Jimmy Berry

NOTE: If you're unable to serve in your role listed above, please find someone to serve in your place and notify the church secretary of the change. This will allow us to have an updated listing to publish each week.

Upcoming Happenings

Sunday, December 10 9:30am Sunday School
 10:30am Worship Service
 10:45am Children's Church
 3:00 – 7:00pm Christmas at Camp Chestnut Ridge
 4:30pm Christmas Worship Choir

Wednesday, December 13 7:00pm Worship Choir

Thursday, December 14 **CORRECTION** - 11:00am Mary Martha Busy Ladies

Friday, December 15 Youth Winter Retreat Registration Due

Saturday, December 16 9:30am – Worship Choir dress rehearsal
 Trip to Billy Graham Library and "The Real Christmas Story"

Sunday, December 17 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service – Adult Christmas Program
3:00 – 8:00pm Youth Caroling and Christmas Party
5:30pm Hallelujah Kids play practice

Wednesday, December 20 6:30pm Worship Band
7:00pm Worship Choir

Saturday, December 23 9:30am Hallelujah Kids dress rehearsal

Sunday, December 24 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service – Children's Christmas Program
7:00pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Monday, December 25

Friday-Sat., Dec 29-30 Walnut Grove Crafters

Sunday, December 31 9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
5:00 – 8:30pm New Year's Eve at the Grove

See You Sunday!!