

“O God of Hosts, look down from Heaven, and visit this vine which, we trust, Thy right hand hath planted. Watch over, protect, and defend it. Nourish it with the dews of divine grace, and cause it to grow and spread and flourish...”  
Also, refer to John 15:5 — “I am the vine, ye are the

## Prayer requests December 18, 2024

- \*Brian Milam
- \*Tom Robertson
- \*Paul Wilkie Sr.
- \*Linda Wilkie
- \*Jennifer Bridges, daughter of Allen and Patti Jenkins
- \*Mark Dolny—Linda Lister’s step-son
- \*Amy Lister
- \*Charlsie Cox
- \*Virginia Bonner
- \*Evelyn Dupree Watkins— Patti Jenkins’ mother palliative care
- \***Cyn Coakley**
- \*Linda Murphy
- \*Kaye Richard
- \*Kim Lister Tyson at Home
- \*Ray Bell—
- \*Allen Jenkins
- \*Mary Hamilton Burris
- \*Lillian Moneyhun— cancer Drucie’s cousin
- \***Bill Baldwin**
- \***Kaye Moore**

## Presbyterian Communities

Jerry Stoddard

**Bold print = new people added to the list**

**A BIG THANK YOU** for all of our members helping with all the decorations and decorating our church!

An older lady who attends First Baptist Church and lives at Martha Franks, parked in the gravel parking lot, by the bank, last Sunday. Her car was broken into and her wallet was stolen while we were all in church. Please be careful about leaving personal items in your trucks and cars.

## **DEAR WOMEN OF THE CHURCH,**

Our annual BAKE SALE will be here before we know it !!! As a reminder, the date of this fun and rewarding event for take place on Saturday, December 14th from 9:00 am until Noon.

So..... please get your aprons on and start cooking and contributing for this fun event. You may bake cookies, cakes, candy, bread, casseroles, soup, etc. You may bring your items the day before (11th) and drop them by the church kitchen to tag. All proceeds help the Women of the Church with their mission work, as well as help support the women of the church in their many activities.

Dear Saints of First Presbyterian Church:

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. – Luke 1:26-31

It's amazing the time and effort we spend trying to get a glimpse of the future. We desperately want to know just what will happen... and how it will happen... and when it will happen. Despite all of our mental energy spent in this pursuit, what we can really know about the future is quite limited. Perhaps Mary’s experience can give us some insight; we’ll talk about it Sunday.

Because God is present with us in every moment, know that you are loved.

Dr. Mike

**The BINGO and Singing Night is coming up this Thursday 12th at Memorial Home! It all starts at 6:00!**

We will have singing in the Chapel and then move on to the kitchen area to play BINGO! Most of these residents do not have anyone left in their lives.

Please drop off quarters in the office! They win quarters when they get a BINGO! They use the quarters in the vending machines they have at Memorial Home! The more quarters we have to take to Memorial Home, the longer they can play BINGO!

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

400 West Main Street

Laurens, South Carolina 29360

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*The Rev. Dr. Frank M. McCracken, Pastor & Head of Staff*

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Offering envelopes are in the office hallway. Please look for your name on the box. If you see a neighbor's box, please take it to them.

Our beautiful Advent Devotional books have arrived. We have placed them on the sideboard! We would love for each family to take one home!

***USHERS***

**December 15, 2024**  
**Galatians**  
Rick Thompson\*  
Kate Thomas  
Parker Thomas  
Wayne Neal

**December 22, 2024**  
**Ephesians**  
Scott Holland\*  
Janice Holland  
Daniel Lauer  
Eli Lauer

**December 29, 2024**  
**Philippians**  
Robert Thomason\*  
Betty Jo Bell  
Ernie Segars  
Marion Robinson

**January 5, 2024**  
**Colossians**  
Chris Edwards\*  
Ryland Edwards  
Paul Wilkie, Jr  
Shawn Brown

***Flowers for the Church***

**December 15, 2024**  
**Church**

**December 22, 2024**  
**Church**

**December 29, 2024**  
**Church**

**January 5, 2025**  
**Daniel & Brooke Lauer**

***Safety Team Duty*** -Rick Thompson