



The Shepherd's Voice

December
2025

Services:

Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist
Rite I

11:00am Holy Eucharist
Rite II

11am service is live
streamed to Facebook at:
[facebook.com/
goodshepherdhayesvillenc/](https://facebook.com/goodshepherdhayesvillenc/)

Coffee Hour in the Parish
Hall following 11am
Sunday service

Tuesday

7:00pm Soaking Prayer

Wednesday

12:00pm Holy Eucharist w/
Healing Prayer

1:00 pm Lectionary
Bible Study

The Rev. Dr. Bill Breedlove,
Rector



Happy Advent! Happy New Year!

With the coming of the Advent season we begin a new year in the life of God's people. Advent, as the name suggests in its Latin meaning, is a season where we watch for the *coming* of God's promised messiah, Jesus. While this watching might first lead our thoughts to the baby to be born on Christmas in Bethlehem, there are other aspects of the coming of God that we also watch for with renewed hope during this season. The Greek word for Advent is *parousia* - a word not referring to the first coming of Christ, but to his promised second coming in power and great glory. Therefore, as we prepare again to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord, let us also watch in thanksgiving for where God's Kingdom is already manifested and for signs of it beginning to show in the hearts and lives of God's people through the leading of the Holy Spirit.



A new year allows for a new start and it has been customary for Christians to use the Advent season as a season of reflection, repentance, and preparation. What is done is done. What is past is past. We give thanks for our many blessing, we make reconciliation where that is needed, and we now look again with a renewed hope in the coming of God who has and who will again dwell among us.

A few thoughts on your participation in a holy Advent:

Prepare for the gift of God's son by giving the gift of yourself. Who are some people in your community who need to know and experience God's love for them, and how can you be the bearer of that love? Small meaningful things can be done with great love.

As God came to us as a powerless infant, expressing great humility and emptying himself for the sake of all, how can you experience and express your own humility? What privileges or rights, or use of resources and riches can you forgo for the sake of others during Advent as your own participation in God's great act of humility? No alms for the poor offered in love are too small to make a difference in the life of another child of God in need. No gift is too large that God cannot use it.

Greater watchfulness requires putting away distractions during a season when sights and sounds and the calls of commercialism and materialism are louder than ever. What busyness can you let go, what noise can you silence? Turn off the social media, put down the smartphone, take out the ear buds. Turn off the television and spend some time each day intentionally looking and listening, to the people around you and your neighbors, and to nature, for signs of God's Kingdom present and yet to come.

God bless you with a holy Advent,

Fr Bill+





Day 1: James 1:17	Day 17: Psalm 68:9-11
Day 2: Luke 11:9-13	Day 18: Psalm 68:19-21
Day 3: John 4:7-10	Day 19: Matthew 5:23-24
Day 4: John 4:11-15	Day 20: 1 Corinthians 16:1-3
Day 5: 1 Samuel 1:17	Day 21: Hebrews 11:24
Day 6: Romans 5:15-16	Day 22: 1 Timothy 6:6-8
Day 7: Romans 6:23	Day 23: 1 Timothy 6:17-19
Day 8: Psalm 76:11	Day 24: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
Day 9: 2 Corinthians 9:6-9	Day 25: Jeremiah 33:6
Day 10: 2 Corinthians 9:10-15	Day 26: 1 Peter 1:18-19
Day 11: Ephesians 2:4-7	Day 27: Hebrews 9:15
Day 12: Ephesians 2:8-10	Day 28: Matthew 5:11-12
Day 13: Ecclesiastes 5:19	Day 29: Matthew 6:38
Day 14: John 3:16	Day 30: 1 Timothy 3:15-16
Day 15: Revelation 2:10	Day 31: Romans 5:8-11
Day 16: Psalm 68:3-6	

*Commit to spending 10 minutes every day to meditate and reflect on God's Word.
Write down what you have gleaned from each day's scripture.*

The Ruffled Mango

St. Francis of Assisi Pet Donation Collection



We would like to extend our gratitude to everyone who helped with this outreach.

Thank you Fr. Bill for helping to get this up and running. Many thanks to our fantastic graphic designer, Mary Ann Miller for the signs and poster and to Kathy Rarey from the Communications Ministry for helping get those printed and posted!

We wish to thank the parish for your donations of pet items as well as the monetary donations which were collected for the month of October, in honor of St Francis of Assisi.

If you wish to contribute to next year's collection, please put a check made out to Good Shepherd Episcopal or cash in an envelope and note *Pet Donation Outreach*.

Thank you!

~Cindy Nodine and Jan Chatterton~

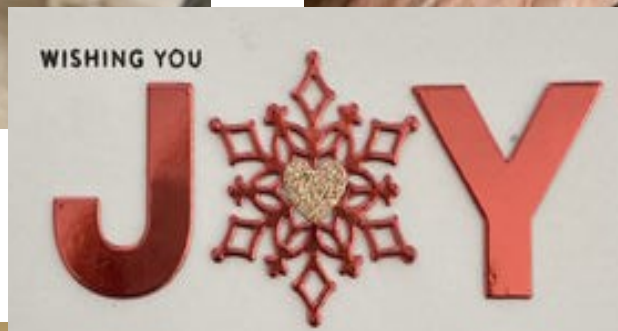
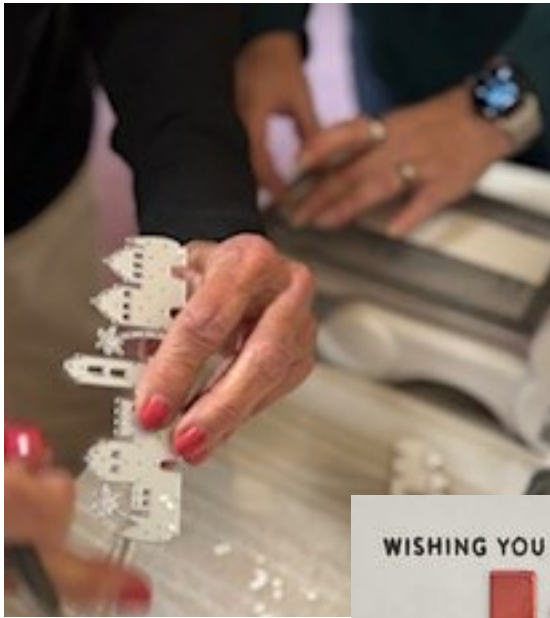


The Shepherd's Voice

Stamping Class

Our recent Stamping Class was so much fun!!! Are you interested in learning how to make pretty handmade cards? Come join us for a day of creativity and fellowship next time we offer our Stamping Class! No experience is needed. Your class instructors, Kaye TeRonde and Jan Freeman will guide you through the steps to create greeting card friends and family will cherish!

What's in store fore 2026?!? Come to our next class & find out!!!



The Shepherd's Voice

Thanksgiving 2025



The Shepherd's Voice



Feel the Call

Dear Good Shepherd Parishioners: We're at the end of another church year which means the call will soon go out for parish members to consider standing for the vestry. Are you feeling the call to serve Good Shepherd in guiding the overall vision for our missions and ministries?

To help you with your prayerful discernment, we are providing below the responsibilities you should expect during a 3-year term as one of 9 members of our church leadership team. We understand that making this commitment is a significant gift of your time, talent and energy, and can be a significantly rewarding time, so please take the time to prayerfully discern this opportunity to serve God in a leadership role.

Expectations include:

- Participate in annual January weekend vestry retreat and attend monthly meetings
- Become familiar with basic church business practices and parish finances
- Once a year lead meeting's opening devotional and prayer
- Take required Safeguarding God's Children training and Anti-racism training (on-line)
- Be familiar with and complete Vestry Person of the Day (VPOD) responsibilities, as assigned
- Serve as Vestry Liaison for assigned parish ministries and report monthly on their progress and needs
- Contact assigned parishioners periodically
- Attend parish social functions to 'see and be seen,' and get to know parishioners
- During meetings, listen with an open heart and mind, and support decisions and work of the vestry

May the Spirit guide you as you discern the feel to serve in a leadership role of the church, whose mission is to Boldly Engage the world as God's shepherds, Share God's blessing and Create Heaven on Earth one person at a time.

If you have questions, please contact your Outgoing Senior Warden, David Gribble.



advent CALENDAR

Perform a random act of kindness 	<i>two</i> Donate food to a local food bank	Have a coloring contest 	<i>four</i> Buy socks for a homeless shelter 	5 Watch a favorite holiday movie
Make or buy a new Christmas ornament 	Let someone go in front of you in line <i>seven</i>	8 Clean out and donate outgrown toys 	Build a snowman out of cotton balls 	Take cupcakes to your local fire department 
Decorate a gingerbread house 	Help wrap a Christmas present 	<i>thirteen</i> Leave a happy note for someone to find 	Have a game night in your PJs 	15 Make paper snowflakes 
Drink hot cocoa 	17 Make Christmas cards 	Bake Christmas cookies 	Sing Christmas carols 	<i>twenty</i> Take a family photo in front of the Christmas tree
Read your favorite Christmas story 	Take a car tour of your local light displays 	Deliver Christmas cards to your neighbors 	Watch or attend a Christmas Eve service 	Read the Nativity story 

FOLLOW THAT STAR!

Good Women of Good Shepherd, mark your calendars! December 6th will be our Advent Quiet Day this year. We will be meditating on how *light* is part of the Christmas story. Our time for guided meditation will be 10:00 a.m. until noon. At noon, we will share a covered dish luncheon. The retreat time is designed to be silent. You are encouraged to bring a holiday project (like the writing and addressing of Christmas cards) which you can do alone and silently. We will be gathering in the Parish Hall. This quiet time is a lovely way to enter into the season in a focused and contemplative way. I look forward to sharing the time with you.

Bev



American Red Cross



Attention Blood Donors: the Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for
Wednesday, December 10th from 12:30 - 5:30 pm.

You may sign up now to donate blood at
1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or redcrossblood.org.





**COLD MOUNTAIN
CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR**
AND HOLIDAY CONCERT AT LAKE LOGAN

DECEMBER 13TH
10AM - 3PM

HOLIDAY SHOPPING
LOCAL ARTISANS
KIDS CRAFTS
W/ SANTA
CHRISTMAS
CAROLING AND
MORE!

Join us for **Lake Logan's 2nd annual Cold Mountain Christmas Craft Fair & Holiday Concert** on December 13th, 2025, from 10 am-3 pm. We will be hosting a wonderful variety of local WNC artisans in the Bishop Johnson Dining Hall, Lake Logan's premiere event center overlooking the Pigeon River and the great Balsam Mountains. Come enjoy an afternoon of holiday shopping, kids' activities, a Christmas carol sing-along, and a super fun holiday concert.

Guests will experience a charming holiday event in a pristine gem of Haywood County. Mile-long Lake Logan is surrounded by the Shining Rock Wilderness and Pisgah National Forest, making this a premier destination for Southern Appalachian hospitality, adventure, and down-home family fun! Folks can enjoy a cup of hot cider by the fire, warm up with a homemade lunch, or embark on a winter hiking adventure using one of our beautiful on-campus trails. Lakeside cabin rentals are available for families and friends who would like to make it a weekend getaway, and All cabins are 20% off December 12-14(email jen@lakelogan.org).

Cancer Support Group



On Tuesday, **December 16th** we are hosting our **Cancer Support Group** in the Parish Hall at **5:30pm**. We are hoping to offer support to those on the journey of dealing with, surviving, and/or caring for someone with cancer.

Bring something to share in thoughts, ideas, and of course some food. Contact Jose Arias by email if you can't attend in person but would like to be part of the meeting by zoom: jose_m_arias@hotmail.com





Forest Bathing Day Retreat: Honoring the Winter Solstice

Discover your connection to nature and self through mindful immersion.

Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Lake Logan Episcopal Conference Center, North Carolina

Facilitator: Karla Woggon, Director of Soul Sauntering LLC, Retired Episcopal Priest, Spiritual Director, Dream Worker, and Certified Forest Bathing Guide

A healthy and delicious lunch is included to nourish your body while you nourish your soul. All participants are invited to come early and/or stay later to enjoy the awe-inspiring beauty of Lake Logan's campus surrounded by the Great Balsam Mountains and Shining Rock Wilderness.

About the Retreat:

Celebrate the winter solstice with a peaceful day of forest bathing—a practice that connects you deeply with the natural world. Immerse yourself in nature and experience its profound health and spiritual benefits, including:

- Improved Mental Health: Reduce stress, anxiety, and depression through the calming effects of nature immersion.
- Enhanced Physical Health: Boost your immune system and lower blood pressure as you breathe in the invigorating scents of the forest.
- Heightened Spiritual Awareness: Deepen your connection to the environment, fostering a sense of purpose and belonging.
- Mindfulness and Presence: Cultivate awareness and presence by engaging your senses in the peaceful surroundings.

Activities Include:

- Forest Bathing: Move slowly through the serene beauty of winter, engaging all of your senses as you soak in the sights, sounds, and scents of the forest. This mindful approach invites a deeper connection with nature, promoting relaxation and inner peace.
- Group and Individual Reflection: Participate in guided activities that encourage personal insight and spiritual growth.
- Creative Expression: Through painting, writing, & other artistic endeavors, you will have the opportunity to express your thoughts and feelings inspired by your forest experience. This process can facilitate deep reflection, enhance your spiritual journey, and help you translate your insights and emotions into tangible forms of creativity.

\$80 program fee. To register or for more information, contact us at: laura@lakelogan.org

Ever Popular M & M Casserole

- 1 lg pkg regular M & M's
- 1 lg pkg peanut M & M's
- 1 lg pkg peanut butter or other flavor M & M's

When shopping for this casserole, it is nice to choose the festive, holiday colors, if they are available.

Store packages in a cool dry place until ready to make the casserole.

Get out a large mixing bowl. Be sure that it is clean and dry. Carefully open the packages of M & M's. Pour, one bag at a time, into the mixing bowl. Gently stir until all are incorporated and well mixed.

Pour into a covered casserole dish. Using your oven mitts, serve the casserole near the end of your Holiday Meal.

Bright Blessings, Kathy





Schedule of Christmas Services

Sunday, December 21 @ 10:00am

Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

Note: No 9:00 nor 11:00am Services on December 21

Note: No Noon Holy Eucharist on December 24

Wednesday, December 24 @ 4:00pm

*Holy Eucharist with Choir
Fellowship and refreshments to follow*

Wednesday, December 24 @ 10:00pm

Late night Fellowship and refreshments

Wednesday, December 24 @ 11:00pm

Contemplative Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 25 @ 9:00am

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 25 @ 1:00pm

Christmas Day Dinner

Sunday, December 31 @ 9:00 and 11:00am

First Sunday After Christmas

Wednesday, December 31 @ Noon

Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers

Sunday, January 4 @ 9:00 and 11:00 am

Second Sunday After Christmas

Parish Life and Church Community

*Please, take note of our scheduled
Office closures for December:
12/25 – Christmas Day*



Notes from our Financial Statements for October

Income Statement

Income received for October	\$35,788
Expenses for October	-\$29,187
Payroll not in Income Statement October	-\$16,236
Net Income/(Loss) for October	- \$ 9,635

Total Income for the Year	\$340,207
Total Expenses for the Year	-\$351,248
Payroll for Sept not in Income Statement	-\$16,236
Net Income/(Loss) for the Year	(\$27,277)

Funds Due from MOF for LED Lights 2024 project	\$4,500
Funds due from MOF for windows	\$9,517
Net Income/Loss after adjustments	(\$13,260)

Account Balances 10/31/2025

Operating funds Accounts

UCBI Operating Account (Checking)	\$ 43,090
UCBI Petty Cash	\$ 130
Operating Funds Money Market (30)	\$125,646

Restricted/Designated funds Accounts

B&G Scholarship Money Market (60)	\$128,855
Camp Henry Tuition Assistance (62)	\$ 4,076
Capital Reserve Money Market (61)	\$ 42,132
Rector Sabbatical Money Market (54)	\$ 5,112
All other Restricted/Designated Accounts Obligations	\$ 19,249

Endowment Accounts

Mountain of Faith Endowment Fund	\$251,523
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Celebrate Good Times!!!

Birthdays in December

12/03 Kathy Marcel
12/02 Aly Caiazzo
12/07 Gil Nicolson
12/07 Pat Hicks
12/07 Debbie Swanson
12/12 Teresa Gribble
12/12 Marilyn Clark
12/12 Paul Swanson
12/13 Lorraine Brown
12/13 Oliver Gray
12/15 Carolyn Rice
12/15 John Pollock
12/17 Carol Smucker
12/19 Sean Riley
12/21 Jay Miller
12/26 Ed Kelley
12/28 Nora Broszeit
12/28 Sandra Green
12/30 Fred King, Jr.
12/30 Meliss Czarnecki
12/31 Gail Criss
12/31 Dudley Hall



Anniversaries in December

12/14 Mike & Jean Gora
12/19 Jonathan & Abby Bethel
12/29 Delmer & Deborah Chilton



Directory Updates:

Please note the following changes in your directory.



Please email Amanda in the church office with any birthday or anniversary updates:

gsepicsopal@brmemc.net

The Shepherd's Voice

Lectionary Readings for *December*

December 7- Second Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 11:1-10](#)
[Romans 15:4-13](#)
[Matthew 3:1-12](#)
[Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19](#)

December 14- Third Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 35:1-10](#)
[James 5:7-10](#)
[Matthew 11:2-11](#)
[Psalm 146:4-9](#)
or [Canticle 15](#)

December 21- Fourth Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 7:10-16](#)
[Romans 1:1-7](#)
[Matthew 1:18-25](#)
[Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18](#)

December 28- First Sunday after Christmas

[Isaiah 61:10-62:3](#)
[Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7](#)
[John 1:1-18](#)
[Psalm 147 or 147:13-21](#)



Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

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