

**7 Days of Fasting and Prayer
for God's Leadership and Blessings in the Upcoming Year**

Prayer time starts Wednesday, January 1st in the Sanctuary and continues each morning through the following Tuesday, January 7th. The fasting part is left up to each individual. Fasting is going without food mainly, and/or going without some other activity that would be considered a sacrifice. It can be a total fast of food, or partial, like going without sweets, or meats, or snacks. The prayer time is usually no more than 45 minutes. Get there when you can and leave when you need to.

Wednesday, January 1st—9:00am
Thursday thru Friday—7:00am
Saturday and Sunday —9:00am
Monday and Tuesday—7:00am



*Dr. Scott Fowler, Pastor
Kathy Huggins, Children's Director
Jaye Locks, Youth Director
Amy Horrie, Music Director
Jamie Gilliland, Nursery
Jennifer Robbins, Secretary*

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News from up the Creek



The monthly **NEWSLETTER** of Spring Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church

Issue 12

Those who follow Jesus Christ shall "be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season..." Psalms 1:3

December 1, 2024

A Glorious Christmas Season

The Westminster Confession of Faith points to the purpose of our lives as being "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever." No better time than December to talk about glorifying the Lord.

We are introduced to the Christmas event in Luke chapter 2, as angels notified the shepherds abiding in the fields, "And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the *glory* of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened" (vs. 9). The glory, the radiant presence of the Lord helped in substantiating the message of the angel. And then to leave no question in the minds of the shepherds as to the truth and power of the good news of the baby, the Savior, 'And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "*Glory* to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased"' (vss. 13-14). The manifest presence of God, the high praise and magnification of God and His mighty work, point to the glory and honor due His great name.

The shepherds were obedient to the call to go and see the promised Child in the manger. It says that as they left Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, "the shepherds went back, *glorifying* and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them" (v. 20). They were glorifying God with their voices and they were also glorifying God in their obedience. They followed the heavenly call. We do the same thing, though granted, not as spectacular of an initial call with angels and all, when we follow God in obedience to glorify Him. When we walk with the Lord, obeying His Word, the glory of the Lord fills our lives. Out of that abundance of God's grace and glory our lips speak forth, yes even shouts the praise and glory of our God!

As we glorify God with our lives not only is God blessed, and we ourselves are blessed, but so too are others. Jesus said, "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and *glorify* your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). Our very lives, when lived for God, points people to the Lord and causes an incredible thing to happen—they glorify God! So there are angels, and the manger scene, and shepherds, all displaying and bringing glory to God. And us too!

This Christmas season may we live in awe of God's great act of love of sending His Son into the world to save us sinners. And may we live as bright and shining lights, brighter than the Christmas trees, living unto the glory of our gracious God.

Because He came and is coming again,

Grace and Peace,

DECEMBER BIBLE READINGS		
DATE	MORNING	EVENING
15	7	4,5,6
16	8	7,8,9
17	9	OBADIAN
18	10	JONAH MICAH
20	11	1,2,3
21	12	4,5
22	13	6,7
23	14	HAHUM
24	15	HABAKKUK
25	16	ZEPHANAH
26	17	HAGGAI ZECHARIAH
27	18	1,2,3,4
28	19	5,6,7,8
29	20	9,10,11,12
30	21	13,14
31	22	MALACHI

Last Month's numbers		
TOTAL TITHES—	\$17,890.05	
CEMETERY FUND—	2050.00	
DESIGNATED MISSIONS FUND—	\$1,210.00	
HELPING HANDS-	\$200.00	

Grant Gibson— 12/22	B Mandi Broadhead – 12/2
Erik Hartwig – 12/23	I Julie Nolan – 12/4
Joey Arledge— 11/20	P Jim Toney— 12/9
Lily Carter – 11/22	R Remi Freeman— 12/11
Charles Littleton –12/23	T Norma King— 12/16
Ainsley Carter –12/24	H Chris Lowery— 12/16
Stephen Proctor – 12/26	D Sherri Proctor – 12/18
Kinsley Broadhead – 12/28	A Carrie Gibson— 12/19
	Y Zach Edwards— 12/20
	S Nancy Crawford---12/21

T.E.A.M.s—

You are welcome to join any of the T.E.A.M.s. Information on each of the Teams is available in the foyer.



The InReach T.E.A.M.S will meet

Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00pm



OutReach Team is focused on missions and missionaries.

InReach Team is focused on Christian Education and Fellowship.



UpReach Team is focused on Worship and Prayer. Will meet on a quarterly basis.

Buildings and Grounds Team— focuses on improvement and maintenance of our church facilities.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP—

Men's Fellowship Sunday breakfast will not meet in December.



C.P.W.M.—

The CPWM ladies will have an out-to-lunch meeting in place of their regular meeting. They will meet Thursday, December 19th at Blue Agava Restaurant in Columbiana at 11:00am. Please see Nancy Crawford pr Glenda Terrell-Cairns for more information.



The CPWM held their annual bazaar on Saturday, November 23rd. They raised a total of \$5,820 toward their mission donations.

CHOIR—

We are ALWAYS looking for more voices to help sing God's praises! No audition necessary! If you LOVE singing praises to the Lord, WE WANT YOU!

Christmas Dress Rehearsal—The Adult Choir and Kreek Kids will have one final rehearsal for the Cantata on Saturday, December 7th, at 10:15am. We'll enjoy a time of fellowship afterwards.



MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES—

We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at 7pm. This month, we will not meet the 4th Wednesday due to Christmas. Women will be studying "Discerning the Voice of God". If you need a book, please call or text Debbie Ingram at 205-368-7739. Men will continue their study of "Fathered by God." If you need a book, please call or text Ben Ingram at 205-215-1391. **You can join anytime.**

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS—

The Session met in November. Highlights from the meeting were:

- Approved to hold 7-day of prayer and fasting time for first 7 days of 2025.
- Approved for Spring Creek Church to be a part of Optin program.
- Approved Christmas bonus for staff.
- Approved updating screens in sanctuary.

KREEK KIDS

Meet on Sunday afternoons 5:00-6:30pm.

YOUTH UPCOMING EVENTS

Grace Convocation- January 17-20th to Gatlinburg, TN. Registration deadline is **December 8th**. The cost will be \$125. Please see Jaye Locks if you have additional questions.

YOUNG MARRIEDS GET TOGETHER—

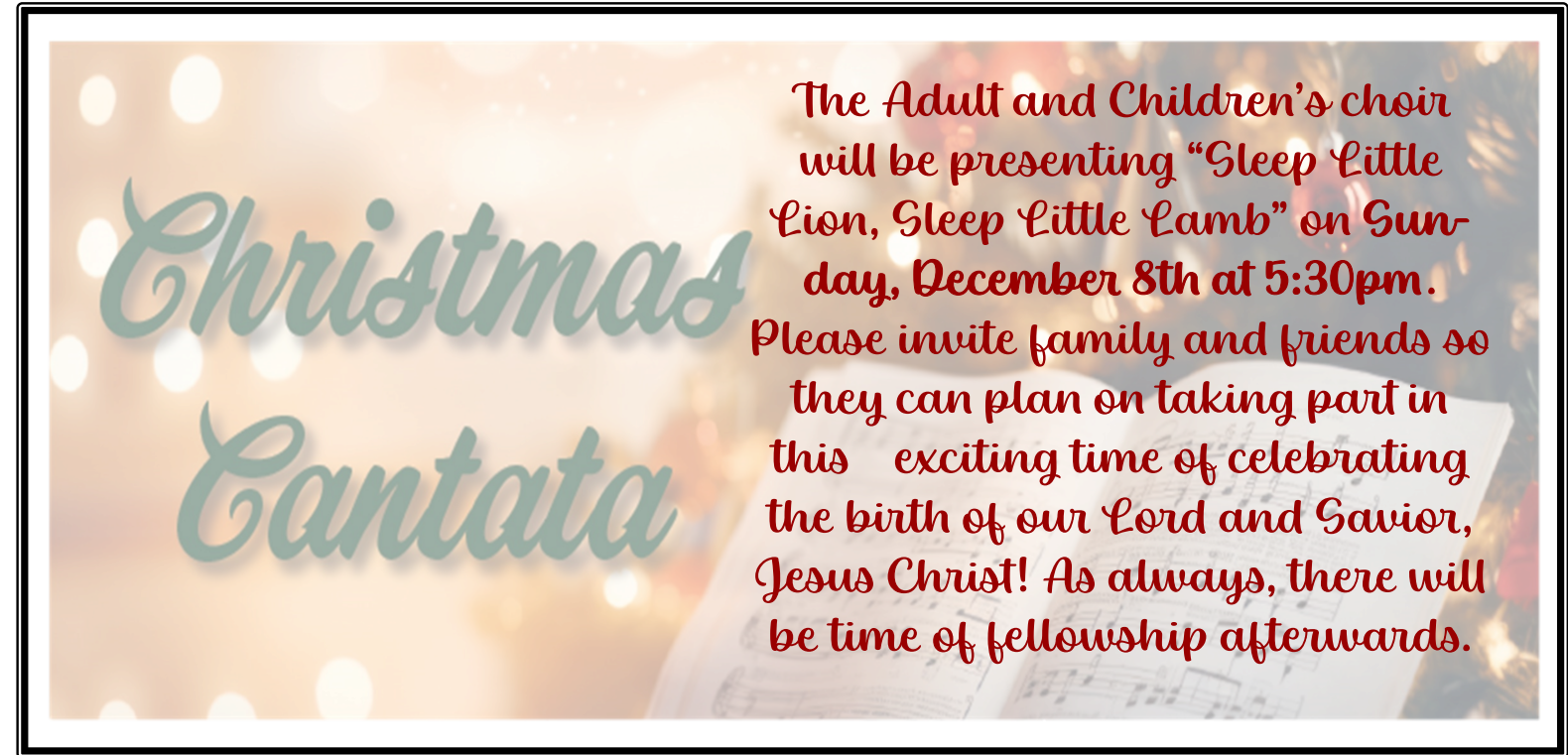
Will meet again in January. Date to be determined

POINTSETTIAS—

Dedicate a poinsettia in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Forms are in the Sanctuary or in the bulletin on December 1st and 8th.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES—

Please join us for Christmas Eve Communion at 6:00pm.



Spring Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church



December 2024



"We Live by faith, not by sight."
2 Corinthians 5:7

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 InReach T.E.A.M Meetings 7:00pm	5	6	7 Cantata Dress Rehearsal at 10:15am
8 Lord's Supper Christmas Cantata 5:30pm	9	10	11 Bible Studies Men & Women 7:00pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 Session Meeting 7:00pm CPWM Meeting	20	21
22	23	24 Christmas Eve Communion 6:00pm	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31	Midweek Message every Wednesday by 7:00pm			

Date	Greeters	Children's Church	Cooking Crew
1st	C. Smith &k. Schramm	Audra & Brian Bolton	Jennifer Hartwig
8th	Same	Shelly Smith	No activities
15th	Michael Watkins & S. Proctor	Jaye Locks	Alex & Audra Bolton
22th	Same	Jennifer Hartwig	Rick & Debbie Ingram
29th	H. Freeman & T. Cairns	Matt & Kimberly Fridy	Ritchie & David Anderson