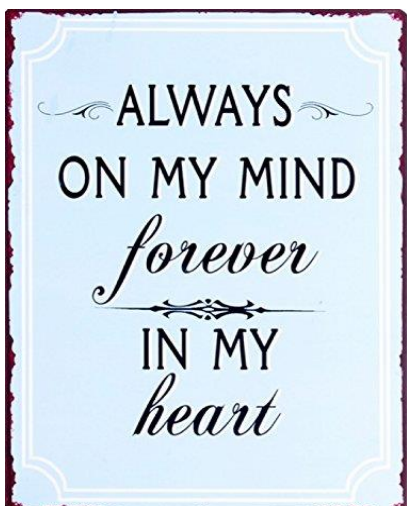




December 4, 2019



Pete and I are moving to Charleston, S.C. December 8th will be our last Sunday for awhile. It's going to be hard for us since we have been members at Cook's for 69 years. Needless to say, we are going to miss our precious church family so very much!

I have precious memories of being here and witnessing the good works that have come through this church but here are two things that will stay with me forever:

Margaret McKee, when she walked down the aisle at Phyllis' wedding. It took my breath. Here came this beautiful, stately lady in a beautiful, navy blue dress with a white collar and I don't think I have ever seen anything that touched me anymore.

One more memory I will take with me is the Christmas pageant the youth did some years ago. Dalton Stroup was the Innkeeper and Caroline Salm was the Innkeeper's wife. They were wonderful. All the youth did a beautiful job and they looked and acted their parts. I have seen many Christmas pageants in my lifetime but never one that I enjoyed so much as that one.

Thank you, dear Cook's family, for all the good you have brought in my life. I love each and every one of you and shall keep you ever in my heart always.

God bless us all,

Billie Sigmon

(Billie & Pete Sigmon's new address as of December 15, 2019: **1675 Folly Rd, Apt. 804, Charleston, SC 29412**. She will continue to use her cell # which is 980-231-5675.

May God's love and care be with them and please keep them in your hearts and prayers always!)



It's that time of year again where we get to share Jesus' love and His birth by helping local families from our community through the Angel Tree.

*Angels were distributed last Sunday and the gifts will need to be returned by Sunday, **December 15th**, to either the parlor in Fellowship Hall or the church office.*



We'd love to have you and your family join us on **Sunday, December 22**

immediately following our worship service to go on our annual **Christmas Caroling to some of our homebound**. We will gather in the parking lot near the church office and then split up into groups for this outing and *deliver some joy for all!* If you have any questions, contact Nan McClure at 704/578-7748.



Christmas Eve is such a special time in the life of the church. It is time for family and friends to gather together to worship

God and remember the great gift of salvation God sent to us in the form of a baby. So please bring your families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and yourselves to celebrate with us at **5:00pm on December 24th here at Cook's!**

MISSION CORNER

Free Community Dinner



EVERYONE is invited to join us on the 2nd Thursday of every month (**December 12th**) in FH for the **COMMUNITY DINNER**. Dinner is served from 5:30-7pm and this month's menu will be ham, potato salad, lima beans and dessert. *Please bring your friends & neighbors with you to enjoy a delicious {and free} dinner and some great fellowship!*

DECEMBER's non-perishable food item that we are collecting for **Loaves & Fishes** is **CANNED MEATS**. Collection boxes are in the Ed Bldg lobby & Narthex.

Lily Pad Haven's DECEMBER'S collection item is **Walmart gift cards**. A collection basket is in the Narthex.

URBAN MINISTRIES IS IN NEED OF EYE GLASSES. Please bring your old glasses and place them in the basket in the Narthex.

Items needed for **'Leah's Love Box'** that is in front of Rowan Hall: **Soap/body soap; Cleaning supplies** (Laundry detergent; counter sprays, window/bathroom cleaner); **Kleenex; Sunscreen; Feminine hygiene products; Hats/gloves; Insect repellent; shampoo/conditioners; Lotion; Diapers; Floss/toothpaste/toothbrushes; Deodorant**. Questions, call Heather Lyerly at 704/618-6947.

Kajiado Children's Home: Thank you for your continued support of Kajiado Children's Home. It is a privilege to represent Cook's Church in this important mission. We rescued 25 additional children this Spring and are seeking Christian sponsors for these children. To sponsor a child or find out more about KCH, contact Gaye List (980/213-7115) or Pede Self (704/516-1753). Thanks to everyone for their prayers and support!



On Tuesday, **December 10th**, **ALL** women are invited to Cook's Presbyterian

Women's Christmas get-together at the home of Penny Love (4000 Mtn Cove Dr in Overlook) at **6:30pm**. Please bring an **appetizer** to share and an unwrapped **toy** of any type that will be given to a needy family and/or organization such as Toys For Tots or A Child's Place. If you have any questions, contact Pede @ 704/516-1753.



ALL MEN are invited to join Cook's Men of the Church on **Sunday, December 15th** at **7:30am** for their monthly breakfast meeting – contact Dale Luckey if you have any questions (704-309-0798).



Cook's **Room In The Inn** will operate on a limited schedule December, 2019 through March, 2020. We will only have guests on the 1st weekend of each of those months. The Cub Scouts will handle Dec. 7/8, our Presbyterian Women & Men of the Church will handle Jan. 4/5, the Boy Scouts will handle Feb. 1/2 and Cook's Session & Deacons will handle March 7/8. If you would like to help on one of these weekends, please contact Pede Self (704-516-1753) or Kelly Harper and we will put you in touch with the weekend coordinators. ****We can always use donations of new men's socks, underwear, gloves & toboggans.**



Congregation: you are encouraged to prepare yourself for communion to be served at our Sunday worship service on **December 8, 2019**, through prayer and the reading of scripture... **"This do in remembrance of Me"** {Luke 22:19}.



The **Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet on Sunday, December 15th at 9:00am in the **parlor**. Please join us for a time of devotion, fellowship and instruction if needed. Call Audrey Brady (704-609-7931) with questions.



Change of Address

Please make of the following address change:

Cody Weldy, 214 N. Adams St, Joplin, MO 64801



Please remember that **ALL 2019 donations must be either received in the church office**

NO LATER THAN 12/31/19 or postmarked 12/31/19!

Also, our **2020 Offering Envelopes** are in the Narthex for you to pick up to have for the new year. If you don't see one with your name on it but would like a box, please contact Audrey Brady at 704-609-7931.

As always, we thank you for all of your generous donations to Cook's Church!

Flowers



2020 FLOWER CALENDAR INFORMATION

Sometime in the next few weeks, we will be sending out letters to the current members who supplied our 2019 sanctuary flowers to see if they want the same week in 2020. If not, then we will open available weeks to others in the congregation. Please note: we use Grace's Florist as our supplier (they have information to be able to get into our sanctuary to place any arrangements ordered) but you are not limited to them. You can make your own arrangements with flowers from your home or other flower suppliers. Please note these 2 items: we ask that arrangements be made with live flowers and you will be responsible for getting your arrangement in place in our sanctuary by 9am on your assigned Sunday. Thank you! If you have any questions, see Penny Love (704-458-1258).



We really need **3-5 more workers for our nursery during worship** so if you would be willing to serve God

by watching over our youngest members, please contact the church office asap at 704-399-7735 or office@cookschurch.org. We'll need you to complete our Child Protection Policy forms and then we'll get you on the nursery schedule. Thank you!

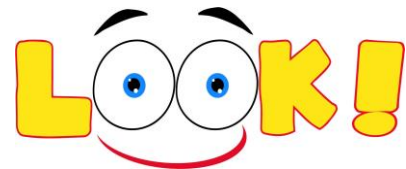


Cook's family, thank you so much for the sweet Bedtime Stories book you gave Hayden at his baptism. The stories are short & sweet and show God's love for Him. We will all love reading to him at night and teaching him how special he is and how much he is loved by his family and church friends.

*Sincerely, The Bolz & Blacks
(Lyndsey, Dan, Diane, Dwight, Barbra & Art Bolz)*

COMMUNITY NEWS

Christ UMC (8020 Belhaven Blvd) invites you to join them for their **LIVE NATIVITY**, December 14 & 15, 2 shows nightly @ 7&8pm. This is a free, outdoor musical plus free hot chocolate/apple cider.



Please be aware that beginning last **Sunday, 12/1**, **ALL** exterior doors will be locked at **10:10am** every Sunday morning except for the front sanctuary doors. All doors can be exited. Entry will be restricted to the sanctuary front doors. The Worship Elders will be happy to unlock any door for you if needed during worship. This decision by Session was made to help ensure the safety of our children and nursery volunteers.



Christmas time has arrived at Cook's Playschool! We will be celebrating Jesus' birth all month long as we prepare for our annual Christmas program. We hope everyone will attend!

On Tuesday, December 3rd, the children had a special visit from Santa himself and had the opportunity to sit on his lap and tell him how good they've been! Ms. Jennifer from the Mt. Island Library will be by for story time, lots of crafts will be made, songs sung, and each class will celebrate Jesus' birth with a Christmas party.

We thank *all* of our Playschool Parents for sharing their children with us and we hope everyone will have a Merry and Blessed Christmas!



You are Cordially Invited to Attend Cook's Playschool's Annual Christmas Presentation of

"Christmas Is..."

**Thursday, December 19, 2019
11:30am in the Church sanctuary
(The Sanctuary doors will open at 11am)**



We wish a **Happy Birthday** to the following:

- Dec. 17 - Kaley Vead, Mel Thompson
- Dec. 18 - Alex Jackson
- Dec. 19 - Ava Jane Glaser
- Dec. 21 - Darian Benson



- Dec. 8:** Audrey Brady, Sandy Birmingham
- Dec. 15:** Linda Lynn, Sydney Thompson
- Dec. 22:** Dolores Freeman, Mary Thompson

{If you **cannot** keep nursery on your assigned day please find a substitute by 'swapping dates' with someone on list or call Diane at 704/398-8388.}

Greeter Schedule: Dec. 8-Men of the Church; Dec. 15-New Horizon SS Class; Dec 22-Spiritual Life/Adult SS Class

Usher Schedule: December-Janice & Jim Phipps, Connie & Dale Luckey

Sound Tech Schedule: December-Joe Chichetti

Teller Schedule: Dec. 8-Audrey Brady, Scott Jones, Dwight Black; Dec. 15-Audrey Brady, Sheila Black, Melinda McElhaney; Dec. 22-Audrey Brady, Bonnie Pace, Lucile Savelle

Weekend Opener/LOCKUP: December-Jerry Spurlock



During these next 2 weeks, Dec. 8-21, please make a special effort to recognize **Carolyn Young and Mildred Alexander** with a visit or a card. They would love to hear from you!

Carolyn Young, 9330 Belhaven Blvd, 28214
Mildred Alexander, c/o Carmel Place, Rm 206, 5512 Carmel Rd, Charlotte, 28226

Here is a complete list of our Homebound Members: Loretta Hinson, Melva Thompson, Nancy Stanley, Annie Luckey, Mildred Alexander & Carolyn Young...*please pray for them all daily.*



If you are **not receiving the weekly **Enews** on **Thursdays** via your email, please let the church office know asap at office@cookschurch.org or

704-399-7735, and if you **aren't** receiving the **bi-weekly newsletter** on **Wednesdays** by email **or mail**, also let the church office know asap. We want to be sure we are communicating with everyone...thank you!

CHECK THIS OUT!



FREE 2020 Calendars are available in the Ed Bldg lobby – feel free to take one if you want and share with others!



Please remember in your prayers the following people:

Members

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Reggie King | McKensie Thompson (surg 12/13) |
| Jerome Abernathy | Pete & Billie Sigmon |
| Frances Dean | Connie Stroup |
| Carolyn Young (Huntersville Oaks) | Pat Hager |
| Debbie White | Jill Griffin |
| Mildred Grice | Blake Benfield |
| Vera Smith | Allyne Gant |
| Hazel Dunn | Steve Self |
| Corky McClure | Cook's Pastor Search |

Friends & Relatives

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Scott Troxler | Kevin Cook |
| Cole/Davidson family | Marcia Larson |
| Gary Shuler & son | Grier Stanford |
| Jeff & Gloria Herman | Sherry Smith |
| Ginger (White) Eagle | Tommy Brown |
| Melanie Paul | Clyde Culbreth |
| family of Melanie Iraci (husband in Hospice, 35 yr old) | |
| Mike Helms | Bobby Ford |
| dementia patients/caregiver | |
| those affected by hurricane & other natural disasters | |
| shooting victims/families throughout the world | |
| people going through life transitions | |
| those hungry/abused/scared/depressed | |
- (Please note: we leave names on prayer list for 4 weeks unless otherwise notified/updated.)



Please remember in your prayers the following soldiers (and all veterans and their families) that are in some way associated with

Cook's Church: Austin McCrary, Triston Thompson, Terrell Gore, Turner Salm, Anne Ledford, Eddy Self, Andy Dula, Chris Dula, Seth Seal

CONGREGATION



Please notify the church office (704-399-7735 / office@cookschurch.org) OR Johnnie Quinn (704-392-0562 / johnnie_quinn@hotmail.com) of any deaths, sickness, surgeries, births, etc. that you and/or a family member may be experiencing.



ATTENDANCE

11/24/19: 109
12/01/19: 76

2019 Offerings:

Weekly offering needed for Budget YTD: \$342,880
YTD General Fund offerings rec'd: \$337,050



Wise Words & Quotes

– Vern McCellan

"Fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and truth." (Joshua 24:14, NASB)

"False doctrine is not right just because a person sincerely believes it."

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 8

- 9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*
~ 9:30-9:45am – Children/Youth Choir
Cantata Practice
10:00am – *Worship/Communion/sanc*
11:00am – *Fellowship on the Lawn...cookies & drinks for everyone!*
~11:00am – FINANCE Ministry mtg/office
~11:15am-noon-Children/Youth Play Practice
~ 6:30pm – JOINT Session/Deacons mtg/FH

Monday, December 9

- 9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
1:00pm – LPH mtg/FH
6:30pm – Cub Scouts/Ed Bldg



Tuesday, December 10

- 9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
6:00pm – Aerobics/FH
~ 6:30pm – *Joint CIRCLE Christmas party/home of Penny Love (see article on pg 3 for more info)*
7:00pm – Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg

Wednesday, December 11

- 9am-2:30pm – Quilting Bees/Rm 201
9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
6:00pm – Strings/Youth Ensemble Rehearsal
6:30pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12

- 9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
~ 5:30-7pm – COMMUNITY MEAL/FH

Friday, December 13

Saturday, December 14

- ~12-4pm-Annual BABYSITTING Afternoon
~5:00pm – ICE SKATING NIGHT @ WWC

Sunday, December 15

- ~ 7:30am – MEN's monthly breakfast mtg/FH
~ 9:00am – PRAYER SHAWL Ministry/parlor
9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*
~ 9:30-9:45am – Children/Youth Choir

Cantata Practice

- 10:00am-*Worship/Baptism/Cantata/sanc*
11:00am – *Fellowship on the Lawn...cookies & drinks for everyone!*

~11:00am – MISSION Ministry mtg/Rm 113

~11:15am-noon-Children/Youth Play Practice

Monday, December 16-DEADLINE for next newsletter

- 9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
6:15pm – Jr Girl Scouts/bsmt

Tuesday, December 17

- 9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
6:00pm – Aerobics/FH
7:00pm – Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg 3rd floor

Wednesday, December 18

- 9am-2:30pm – Quilting Bees/Rm 201
9:30am – Playschool/Ed Bldg
6:00pm – Strings/Youth Ensemble Rehearsal
6:30pm – Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 19

- 9:30am – Playschool/Christmas program/Ed Bldg
6:30pm – Brownies/bsmt

Friday, December 20

Saturday, December 21

- ~10:00am – Adult Choir Cantata Rehearsal/sanc



HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO BE PART OF SUNDAY'S

WORSHIP SERVICE? THEN, WE NEED YOU!!!! We are currently looking for people to read God's Word on Sundays. If you are interested, please contact Teena Ridenhour (704-516-8957 / teenaridenhour@bellsouth.net). We have slots open as soon as **JANUARY, 2020**...step right up...YOU are a very valued part of our service!



If you shop at Amazon.com, link your account to Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church and we'll get

5% back from your purchases through their Amazon Smile program! After linking the church to your account, start your purchases at <http://smile.amazon.com>. If you have questions, contact Ginger Thompson at 704-562-7558.



This is Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church's new QR code. There is an "app" you can put on your phone that lets you scan the QR code and donate to the church with your credit card. For instructions to download the "app", contact Ginger at 704/562-7558.

Cook's Communicator

is a bi-weekly newsletter published by:

Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road, Charlotte, NC 28216

"Cook's mission is to love God, love yourself, love your neighbor and go tell others about Jesus."

"We, the members of Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church, are a community on a journey of faith dedicated to spiritual growth and Christ's teachings. We are committed to be a community of God, open to all people. We pledge to be witnesses for God and to be caring Disciples of Christ."

STAFF:

Music Director & Organist: Rev. Charles Mathews
Office Manager: Cheryl Cole
Custodian: Susan Mundell
Playschool Directors: Kelly Carter/Bobbie Penninger
Treasurer: Ginger Thompson
Financial Secretary: Audrey Brady

RULING ELDERS: Class of 2019: Sheila Black (Education), Audrey Brady (Cong Care), Penny Love (Worship), Jerry Spurlock (Property); Class of 2020: Dale Luckey (Property), David Lyerly (Missions), Bonnie Pace (Finance); Johnnie Quinn (Clerk); Class of 2021: Joe Chichetti (Personnel), Dan Griggs (Nominating), William Savelle (Worship)

DEACONS: Class of 2020: Debbie Myers (Homebound), Jack McClure (Homebound), Jeannie McClure (Moderator/Special Needs); Class of 2021: Dwight Black (Homebound), Barbara Stevens (New Members), Sydney Thompson (New Members); Class of 2022: Susanna Justice (New Members), Nan McClure (Special Needs), Lucile Savelle (Homebound), Bev Weldy (New Members),

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Joe Chichetti, Laura Griggs, James Harper, Jeannie McClure, David Myers, Johnnie Quinn, Mike Stanford

Sunday Schedule: *Sunday School for ALL ages at 9:00am; Worship Service at 10:00am; Fellowship on the Lawn (Cookies & Drinks for everyone) immediately after worship.*

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am-5pm; (704) 399-7735; fax #: (704) 399-0823; E-Mail: office@cookschurch.org
Website: www.cookschurch.org/www.cmppyouth.weebly.com
Sermons/newsletters are available on our website!

Now you can find us on **Facebook** and follow us on **Twitter!**
{ Online Directory now available on www.cookschurch.org }

Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church
3413 Mt. Holly-Huntersville Road
Charlotte, North Carolina 28216

Good News Inside!

God, we thank You for:



Written articles to be in Church Office by **Monday, Dec. 16th** @ 4pm for next newsletter!

{Our 12/18/19 newsletter will be the **LAST** one for 2019 so be sure to get your articles in by **12/16/19** for anything that needs to be announced between 12/18/19-1/11/20...thanks!}



ATTENTION ALL CHILDREN & YOUTH!

Save these dates in December:

December 8, 9:30-9:45am - First Children/Youth Choir Cantata Practice; 11:15am-12noon – Christmas Eve Play Practice...be sure to be here to get your part!

December 14, Annual BABYSITTING

Afternoon, 12-4pm...PARENTS-take this time to finish your Christmas shopping or go on a “date”!; your children will be making Christmas ornaments, baking & packing cookies for our Homebound members and decorating Gingerbread houses (Youth to assist younger children), and possible Cantata/Play practice

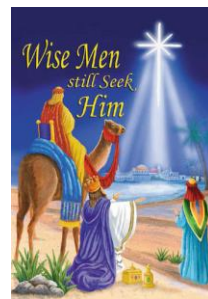
ALSO on **December 14, ICE SKATING NIGHT & lighted trail walk** at White Water Center, 5pm, cost \$20, **ANY** aged child is invited and **all members are welcome** if you want to join us!

December 15, Children/Youth Cantata practice, 9:30-9:45am; Christmas Eve Play Practice, 11:15am-12noon

December 22, Last Children/Youth Cantata practice, 9:30-9:45am; Church-wide Christmas Caroling to our Homebound members and distribute cookies our children made, 11:15am

December 24, 4-4:45pm, Last Rehearsal for Play that will be during our 5pm Christmas Eve worship service.

We hope all children & youth will join us for these fun events! 2020 will be a fun year also but we need your help with planning - send ideas to Sandy Birmingham, Beth Noles or Paige Benson.



We will be celebrating “**Epiphany**” on **Sunday, January 5, 2020**, during our 10am worship service. This holy day is the official ‘end’ of the Christmas holy days. We will observe *The Lord’s Supper* on this day. This worship time will help us ‘keep all these things and ponder them in our hearts’ for the coming year. Your children will particularly love this service because every worshiper will receive a *King (cup) Cake* and the chance to participate in a very special tradition at the conclusion of the service. *King Cake* is an Epiphany tradition with a surprise baked inside. If you bite into the special piece, you become King for a day – crown and all! Don’t miss this joyful finale to the Christmas season and beginning of the New Year!



Our TANG group (anyone 50+ years young) invites you to celebrate the New Year with them at the home of Bonnie & Lyle Pace (511 Glencurry Dr) on **December 31 @ 6pm...** ringing in the New Year at 9pm! Please bring a covered dish and **RSVP** to Penny Love at mlove03@gmail.com so that Bonnie will have a general headcount. We look forward to enjoying a fun evening together!