



December 18, 2019



The Christmas Star

*May the Light that shone
from the Christmas Star
on that night so long ago,*

*Fall on you this Christmas
night and set your face aglow.*

*May it shine from your eyes,
may it rest in your mind,
may it burn in your
Spirit bright.*

*May the Peace it spoke to a
weary world, bring joy to your
heart this Christmas season.*

Please Note

The Church Office will be **CLOSED** for the Holidays from noon on Christmas Eve, 12/24/19, until 9am on Monday, 12/30/10. It will then be **CLOSED** again at noon on New Year's Eve, 12/31/19, until 9am on

Thursday, 1/2/20. This means that **ALL** alarms will be on continuously when the office is closed. Therefore, if you need to get into one of our church buildings on those days, make sure you know the alarm code before entering and please reset the alarm when you leave.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and may you all have a very, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



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

following our worship service to go on our annual **Christmas Caroling to some of our Homebound members.**

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. Our children & youth will perform a play, we'll sing some beautiful Christmas carols, and we'll end the night carrying God's light to our world outside our church walls! Please invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to join us as we celebrate Jesus' birth at **5:00pm on December 24th** here at Cook's!*



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!

MISSION CORNER



The Group from Cook's that goes to help serve drinks to the guests of **Urban Ministries** during their lunch would like to invite **YOU** to join them on the 1st Tuesday of every month (**January 7th**)...meet @ church at 10am! If you have any questions, call Pede Self at 704-516-1753.



EVERYONE is invited to join us on the 2nd Thursday of every month (**January 9th**) in FH for the **COMMUNITY DINNER**. Dinner is served from 5:30-7pm and this month's menu will be pork loin, collard greens, slaw, peas, cornbread 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. {January's food item will be canned fruit.}

Lily Pad Haven's DECEMBER'S collection item is **Walmart gift cards**. A collection basket is in the Narthex. {January's item will be toilet paper/paper towels.}

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!



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 handled 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 January 5, 2020, through prayer and the reading of scripture... "This do in remembrance of Me" {Luke 22:19}.*



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

The Session has called for a
**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**
on Sunday, January 5, 2020,
for the purpose of voting on a
**Minister for Cook's Memorial
Presbyterian Church.**



**PW's Christmas
Party 2019 -**
thanks to

everyone who attended and brought all the delicious food and a toy for a needy child! A great time was had by all...as you can see!



2020 FLOWER CALENDAR INFORMATION

****DECEMBER 29, 2019** has become **AVAILABLE** on our 2019 Flower Calendar – if you'd like to supply our flowers on this date in honor and/or memory of a loved one, please let the church office know as soon as possible – 704/399-7735 or office@cookschurch.org.

Letters have been sent out 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).



*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)***



Cook's Men of the Church
will be having a

CHICKEN DINNER fundraiser
on **Friday, January 24, 2020!**

Bucky Oates will be cooking the chicken
and a plate will include:
air-fried chicken, baked beans, cole slaw
& bread...cost is \$10 a plate.

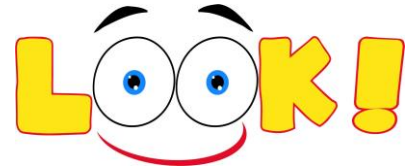
Please plan to come and support our
Men and enjoy a delicious meal!



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!



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.



Please make a note of the following new address
for Richard & Debbie White:

220 Battery Dr, Locust, NC 28097
{ cell #'s the same }

NEW PHONE NUMBER

In our last newsletter the following information was
published for Billie & Pete Sigmon:
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. ****THIS # WAS INCORRECT.**
Her cell # is **704-929-1987.**



**Wise Words &
Quotes**

– Vern McCellan

***"God blesses those who work for peace, for
they will be called the children of God."***

(Jesus, Matthew 5:9)

***"What the world needs is peace that passes
all misunderstanding."***



*We wish a Happy Birthday
to the following:*

Dec. 23 - Frances Dean
Dec. 25 - (Tom LaBonte), (Lynn Thompson Bryant)
Dec. 26 - Alex Bogojevich, Mildred Alexander
Dec. 29 - Marsha Sifford, Audrey Brady, Glenda
 Dunn, Casey Noles
Dec. 31 - Caalan Sykes
Jan. 3 - Loretta Hinson
Jan. 4 - Nancy Thompson
Jan. 8 - Toni Thompson
Jan. 9 - Joe Chichetti



Dec. 22: Dolores Freeman, Mary Thompson

Dec. 29: Beth Noles, Toni Thompson

Jan. 5: Linda Lynn, Sydney Thompson

Jan. 12: Denise Vead, Beth Noles

{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. 22-Spiritual Life/Adult SS Class; Dec. 29-Cook's Youth; Jan. 5-Viewpoint SS Class; Jan. 12-Presbyterian Women

Usher Schedule: December-Janice & Jim Phipps, Connie & Dale Luckey; January-Johnnie Quinn, Gaye List, Melinda McElhaney, Dwight Black

Sound Tech Schedule: December-Joe Chichetti; January-Dave List

Teller Schedule: Dec. 22-Audrey Brady, Bonnie Pace, Lucile Savelle; Dec. 29-Ginger Thompson, Christi Brafford, Gordon Stanley; Jan. 5-Ginger Thompson, Scott Jones, Max Love; Jan. 12-Ginger Thompson, Dwight Black, Sheila Black

Weekend Opener/Lockup: December-Jerry Spurlock; January-Dale Luckey



During these next 2 weeks, Dec. 22-Jan. 5, please make a special effort to recognize **Nancy Stanley and Loretta Hinson** with a visit or a card.

They would love to hear from you!

Nancy Stanley, 10923 Ridge Acres Rd, 28214
Loretta Hinson, c/o Brookdale @ Concord, Rm #2,
 2452 Rock Hill Church Rd, Concord, 28027

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.*



*Thank you to our Men of the Church,
 F.D. Hager and Dale Luckey for
 providing the beautiful nativity scene and
 Christmas tree that are now decorating
 our front lawn!*



*Please remember in your prayers the
following people:*

Members

Debbie White (CMC-Univ)	Reggie King
McKensie Thompson	Jerome Abernathy
Pete & Billie Sigmon	Frances Dean
Connie Stroup	Carolyn Young (Huntersville Oaks)
Pat Hager	Jill Griffin
Mildred Grice	Blake Benfield
Vera Smith	Gerri Rhodes
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	Melanie Paul
Melanie Iraci & family (husband in Hospice, 35 yr old)	
Bobby Ford	Tommy Brown
Bobby Kondrat	Tripp Wood
Ethan V.	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.



12/08/19: 96
12/15/19: 95

2019 Offerings:

Weekly offering needed for Budget YTD: \$357,624
 YTD General Fund offerings rec'd: \$348,347



**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!



CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 22

9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*

9:00am – Thompson family reunion/FH

~ **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!)

~**11:15am-Church-wide Christmas CAROLING**
to some of our Homebound members

Monday, December 23

Tuesday, December 24

****Church Office CLOSED @ Noon**

~ **5:00pm – Christmas Eve Service**

Wednesday, December 25 – Merry Christmas!

****Church Office CLOSED for Holiday****

****NOTE:** ALL alarms will be on from 9pm on 12/24 until Sunday, 12/29, @ 8am.

Thursday, December 26

****Church Office CLOSED for Holiday****

Friday, December 27

****Church Office CLOSED for Holiday****

Saturday, December 28

Sunday, December 29

9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*

10:00am–Worship Service/sanc

11:00am – Fellowship on the Lawn...cookies & drinks for everyone!)

Monday, December 30

Tuesday, December 31

****Church Office CLOSED @ Noon**

****NOTE:** ALL alarms will be on from 12:00 on 12/31 until Thursday, 1/2, @ 9am.

Wednesday, January 1 – Happy New Year!

****Church Office CLOSED for Holiday****

Thursday, January 2

Friday, January 3

Saturday, January 4

~ **3:00pm – Room In The Inn/FH & bus**

Sunday, January 5

9:00am – *Sunday School Classes for all ages!*

10:00am–Worship/Epiphany/Communion/Ordination & Installation/sanc

11:00am – Fellowship on the Lawn...cupcakes & drinks for everyone!)

Monday, January 6-DEADLINE for next newsletter

9:30am-1pm- Playschool/Ed Bldg

6:15pm – Jr Girl Scouts/bsmt

6:30pm – Cub Scouts/Ed Bldg

Tuesday, January 7

9:30am-1pm- Playschool/Ed Bldg

~**10:00am – Group to Urban Ministries/bus**

6:00pm – Aerobics/FH

7:00pm – Boy Scouts/Ed Bldg

Wednesday, January 8

8:00am – Quilters/Rm 101

9:30am-1pm- Playschool/Ed Bldg

Thursday, January 9

9:30am-1pm- Playschool/Ed Bldg

~ **5:30-7pm – COMMUNITY MEAL/FH**

6:00pm – Daisy Scouts/bsmt

6:30pm – Brownies/bsmt

Friday, January 10

Saturday, January 11



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, Jan. 6th**
@ 4pm for next newsletter!



The Art of Christmas

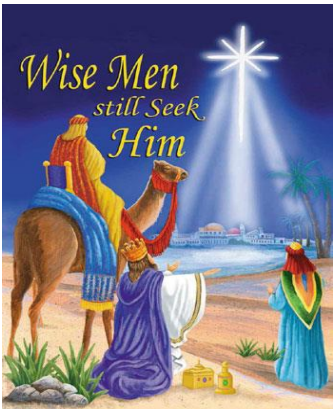
How can we best keep Christmas?

- By following the star on an inward journey to Bethlehem to stand again in awe and wonder before the Babe in a manger.
- By rediscovering the faith and simplicity of a little child, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.
 - By being still and listening to the angels sing within our hearts.
- By quietly evaluating our lives according to the Master’s standards as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount.
- By resolving to give ourselves away to others in love, joy and devotion.

{ Wilferd Peterson, *The New Book of the Art of Living* }

Learn to Give

In Acts 20:35, Paul quotes Jesus as saying: ***“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”***
(Interestingly, that’s the only recorded statement of Jesus that’s not found in one of the four gospels.)
The blessings of giving are profound and lasting. Poet Maya Angelou says, “I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver.”



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!
