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THANK YOU LORD FOR:

THE CULDEE CONNECTION

MARCH 2022

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Newsletter Comm: Jewell Vest, Mary R.
Whitaker, Eve Williamson & Janie Taylor
www.culdeechurch.net

The Culdee Bulletin is now on our website. This allows those not attending to access the weekly prayer list, scheduled events and to follow along with the service when watching online.

To view the bulletin:
Go to: culdee church.net
On the top tab: tap news
And the bulletin will be available.



LOVE.....it has been the subject of countless poems, songs, movies, plays, novels, and letters. The worldview of love is most often portrayed through the lens of pure emotion, but, all too often, human emotions can be fickle and constantly changing. The **Bible** tells us that the truest expression of love is **AGAPE** love. A love that is humble, patient, and self-sacrificing. **JESUS** modeled such love for mankind in **HIS** earthly life and in his death on the cross on our behalf. If we, as believers, are to reflect that kind of love in our lives, fervent prayer is needed. Someone said, "Prayer is our declaration of dependence." We are dependent on **GOD** for such power in our lives; we cannot manufacture such love on our own. **JESUS** said, "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and truth." 1 John 3: 16-18

NOTES FROM THE STATED SESSION of JANUARY 9, 2022

June Stewart, Clerk

The meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with a quorum of Elders in attendance.

The Moderator was Rev. Rick Martindale, Pastor of First Presbyterian of Carthage

Actions taken by Session:

Reviewed and accepted the **Monthly Financial Report** for December, 2021.

Motion approved: **Nancy Gregory** will be offered the permanent part-time office manager position.

Motion approved: All funds raised by the **New Year's Day Meal** will go to Kentucky Relief.

NOTES FROM THE STATED SESSION of FEBRUARY 15, 2022

June Stewart, Clerk

The meeting was held in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of elders in attendance. Rev. Rick Martindale was the Moderator.

Darlene Valitutto gave a report on the Presbytery's **West Community Meeting** that was held via ZOOM.

All reports due to Presbytery and the statistical report due to the PCUSA have been sent in.

The motion was made and approved to have **five session ministries** instead of six for 2022....**Building and Grounds; Christian Education; Congregation Care; Finance; and Outreach/Worship**

The **March** guest speakers will be....March 6, Kevin Gregory (Communion); March 13, Cathy Haynes; March 20, Jim Morgan; March 27, Sandy Stewart

Elders received and reviewed the **January Monthly Financial Report**.

Approved the use of the Fellowship on March 26..... "Haiti, Help and Hope" dinner for **Pastor Sidor**

CHURCH MINISTRIES and Members

Building & Grounds	Ch: Richard Blue	V.Ch: *Lonnie McKenzie
Christian Education	Ch: Pattie Burke	V.Ch: *Marshal Sweat
Congregational Care	Ch: *Janie Taylor	V.Ch: *Don Williamson
Finance	Ch: Danny Aldridge	V.Ch: Diann Fortune
Outreach/Worship	Ch: Robert Barber	V.Ch: *Darlene Valitutto
	Ch: *Darlene Valitutto	V.Ch: Robert Barber

*Denotes new members

**If you are interested in joining one of our committees,
please contact the ministry representative.**

Worship/Outreach Committee

Darlene Valitutto/Robert Barber

As a combined committee for 2022, we plan to have an active year. Upcoming events currently include:

- Ash Wednesday Service, March 2
- Communion Service, March 6
- Maundy Thursday Service, April 14
- Easter Sunday (Scottish Heritage Sunday), April 17 11:00am Outdoor Service

For Easter/Scottish Heritage Sunday-we are not only planning a Scottish service but encouraging anyone who has Scottish attire to plan to wear it! Rev. Dr. Douglas Kelly (a true Scotsman) will hold our service. More exciting news and events to come!

Those serving us in the pulpit for March and April:

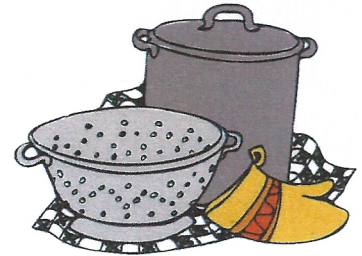
March 2	Linn Fisher- Ash Wednesday Service		
March 6	Kevin Gregory	April 3	Kevin Gregory
March 13	Cathy Haynes	April 10	Cathy Haynes
March 20	Jim Morgan	April 17	Douglas Kelly
March 27	Sandy Stewart	April 24	Sandy Stewart

A special Thank you to Jewell Vest and Nancy Howle for their many years of preparing communion. It is one of those behind the scenes jobs that is definitely needed. Becky Bowen, Wilma Grey Blue and Judy McKenzie have agreed to assume these duties. We thank all of these ladies for their assistance!

Outreach Committee

Outreach Committee supports multiple local and extended missions and missionaries. These include Family Promise, Food Bank, Friend to Friend, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Sandhills Children's Center, Moore County Coalition, The Gideons, Fellowship Community, Wycliffe Bible Translators, ChriStar, and CRU.

We will be having our Mission Lunch (Baked Spaghetti) on **Sunday, March 13**. We will ask for pans of Spaghetti which we will bake. Right now, we are in discussions with restaurants to provide salad. This will be a donation lunch and of course, all monies will go to Missions.



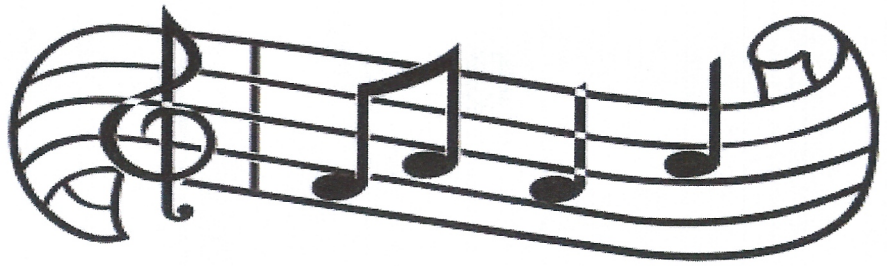
Presbyterian Women's News

Circles 1 and 3 have begun meeting on a regular basis. If you are interested in joining a circle, please contact Darlene Valitutto or the church office for more information about meeting times and days.

If you are interested in placing flowers in the church in honor or in memory of someone, please contact the church office to sign up for a Sunday.

Carnegie Hall Choir Sings On

The choir has resumed community choir rehearsals with Brownson Memorial and Community Presbyterian.



Our concert date for **Carnegie Hall** is set for Saturday May 28, 2022 at 7:00pm.

We will also be having a “**Carnegie Send Off Concert**” on Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 4:00pm at Brownson Memorial in Southern Pines.

The community choir rehearsal will be hosted at Brownson Memorial in the fellowship hall on Saturday, March 12, 2022 from 10:00am-Noon. We ask for your prayers for this group as we move forward. The concert has been postponed twice, May 2020, and May 2021. We thank you for all of your support for our part in this community project.



Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir is meeting in the session room for rehearsal on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. If you would like to join us we would love to have you. You just need to show up, we will have your music ready for you. We certainly enjoy our time together.

Music makes everything better!

Hope to see you there!

BIRTHDAYSIN MARCH

Carson Dennis	01	Mitchell Whitesell	14	Bailey Blue	22
Lydia Craven	02	LeAnn Bailey	15	Greg Bohlander	23
Carolyn Smith	03	Mary Ruth Whitaker	16	Timothy Patterson	23
McKenzie Cox	03	Sylvia Balboni	17	Erica Tolbert	24
Haley Dick (Cuff)	04	Sue Black	17	Debbie Halverstadt	24
Vickie Blue	05	Carter Cuff	18	Scott Bullard	28
Amber Clayton	06	Evelyn Caddell	19	Beverly Furr	28
Steve Cox	07	Richard Dunlop	19	Georgia Blue	29
Carolyn McKenzie	12	Addie Bailey	20	Kimberly White	29
Debby Fields	12	Natalie Cox	21	Payton Savage	30
Molly Sims	12	Noreen Oakman	21	Scotty Pate	30
Morgan Jackson	13	Chad Smith	22	Jonathan Craven	31
				Riley Seawell	31



West Community Presbytery Meeting
Zoom Meeting, Saturday, February 12, 2022

I was fortunate as a brand new Elder to be asked to "attend" the West Community Presbytery meeting held by Zoom Call on Saturday, February 12. There were 63 attendees. Rev. Laura Lupton organized the meeting. Rev John Taylor of Jonesboro Pres. was facilitator. During worship time, Rev. David and Susan Hudson shared their desire to return to Japan as missionaries. At the present time, there are no missionaries in Japan. Their plan is to work with staff at Yodogama Christian Hospital in Osaka. This hospital was built in 1955 utilizing the Presbyterian Women's birthday Objective monies from that year at a cost of \$208, 000. The hospital focuses on whole person care and healing.

Meeting Highlights:

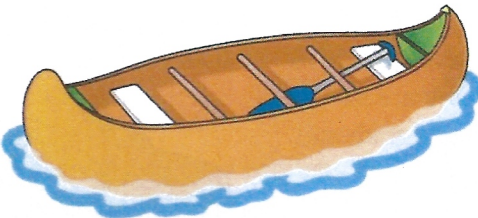
West Steering Committee: Funding is available for Youth Scholarships to Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Thirty Confirmants attended the Confirmation Event. Presbyterian Night at the Woodpeckers Ballgame Is set for Friday, August 26 versus the Charleston Riverdogs. More details to come!

Elders Pathways Program: Ruling Elders are needed to start Pathways program through Union Presbyterian Seminary (on-line). These folks would be able to serve a church in the absence of a minister full-time.

Camp Monroe News

New Director: Gene Joiner

- A new 45 foot climbing wall is being built, Zipline, High Ropes Course and an 18 hole disc golf course are being built.
- Third Thursday Ministry for Older Adults starts:



- March 17 Jewelry making
- April 21 Watercolors
- May 19 Canoeing 101
- Time 10am til 2pm, \$40.00 per person Lunch provided
-
-
- Spring Break Camps for Moore County March 28-April 1 \$150.00 per camper
- Camp Monroe Employment Opportunities:
 - Summer Counselors age 18-22
 - Summer Lifeguards age 16-22
 - apply at <http://monroecamp.campbrainstaff.com>
- Serve Day May 22 9am til 2pm
- Open House May 29 2pmtil 5pm
- Summer Camp Registration is Open! Camperships available. Register at www.MonroeCamp.org



Finance Ministry: Chairman Danny Aldridge & Vice Chair Diann Fortune

Proverbs 21:20 *In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil;
but foolish man devours all he has.*

Financial Status:

December 2021 data from Sandhills Accounting Services shows that Culdee finished the year blessed in that all expenses were paid through contributions. Thank you for your support!

In looking at the budget from the perspective of Culdee being fully operational and with a pastor, December's numbers improved the deficit from November's \$11,446.39 to a lesser \$7,995.90. Again, thank you! Culdee's Session will continue to be frugal and resourceful while doing God's work and meeting needs going into this new year.

Investments finished strongly for 2021 even with all the fluctuation and changes occurring in the world. God connects people when the time is right and by all indications the connection between Culdee and Stifel was right. Growth will allow Culdee to do more with money given for God's glory.

	January 2021 Total Balance	December 2021 Total Balance	Year-To-Date Earnings/Growth
Truist (BB&T) Bank and Live Oak Bank	\$212,207.93	\$184,549.23	\$1,040.42
Stifel-Eastman, Palmer, Davis & Vaughn Wealth Management Group	\$98,526.66	\$353,683.80	\$25,390.09

Office Hours and Staffing:

Welcome to Nancy Gregory, Culdee's new Office Manager! She agreed to begin interim work on January 3, 2022 so Culdee was sure to have someone in place before Edith Martin retired. Nancy came highly qualified and has trained with Edith on Culdee's particulars. At the January Session meeting, the Session did approve the motion for Danny Aldridge to offer her the part-time position and become an official employee of Culdee Presbyterian Church. Please be sure to stop by and welcome her as you have an opportunity.

Sarah Ann Fortune Memorial Fund

The Sarah Ann Fortune Memorial Fund was established to honor God, simply and beautifully, when Culdee's active church members welcome a new baby into the world. Upon the births of children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren of active members, to honor and thank God for these little miracles, a beautiful red rose will be placed in the Sanctuary from the Sarah Ann Fortune Memorial Fund.

Please be sure to notify the church office as soon as possible upon the birth of a child, grandchild or great-grandchild of an active member. The rose bud vase is a gift to the family who is encouraged to take it home to enjoy after the service.



Culdee's Pastor Nominating Committee

As Culdee's PNC searches for the pastor God is calling to the church, please continue your prayers. Prayers for discernment for the PNC as well as the pastor being prepared for the call. Please pray also for patience for all involved including the PNC members and their families, the church family and also for the pastor who is searching for Culdee.

The PNC continues to speak with pastors via Zoom; technology that has been a blessing as compared to searches of the past. But please understand that this process is still arduous and full of responsibility. The PNC is doing its best to find the pastor that will be a good fit for Culdee's needs and the one who needs Culdee. God will put the two entities together in His time. The PNC is depending on discernment from God to present a pastor that fits Culdee. A pastor that feels "at home" and is an effective worship and care leader will be happy to stay and Culdee won't have to repeat this search process again too soon.

God seemed to have poked a bit of humor recently at the PNC by sending a Pastor Information Form written in Korean! Sometimes you just have to pause and laugh.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement of the PNC and please continue your prayers!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Christian Education Ministry welcomes **Marshall Sweat** aboard! We are excited to begin planning a new year.

On Sunday, February 20th, the Funday Sunday gathering included eighteen youth and served hot dogs to forty-three people. The group enjoyed a night of fun, fellowship, food, and music around the firepit. Thank you to Darrell and Karon McKenzie, Lonnie and Judy McKenzie for our hot dog dinner, Danny Aldridge for guitar music and Culdee congregation for cupcakes and support!

In conjunction with Josh McKenzie, we are beginning to plan a **community day** pending approval for **April 3rd**. This will be a Saturday lunchtime event hoping to attract the millennials and their families to Culdee. More information will follow as we determine the best ways to reach and attract this population. Please start praying for this effort.

Mark Your Calendars: For the **next Funday: Sunday, March 20th 4:30pm to 6pm**

May 21st: Serve Day at Camp Monroe

Last year, we drove the van and our set of volunteers built benches, cleaned the craft hut, painted, washed canoes, cleaned the kitchen and picked up debris around the campus. We left around 8:30 and returned after lunch. It was a day of fun and serving others! More information will follow as we get closer to the date.

VBS; Our Culdee VBS will be held **June 27th through July 1st** in conjunction with Camp Monroe again this year. We committed to twenty campers last year. At the end of camp, they declared the week was “epic”! Our hope is to repeat. The camp will meet Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9 – 1 at Culdee. On Thursday, we will load the van and travel to Camp Monroe for the overnight experience. Please call the office to put your child; grandchild; neighbors and friends on the list soon. Hopefully, there will be no cost to the parents.

The Adult Sunday school class continues to meet each Sunday morning at 9:15 in the session room of the fellowship hall. A children’s church/Sunday school is offered for children through 5th grade each Sunday. All middle school/high school students are encouraged to attend youth group on Sunday afternoons. If not a Funday Sunday, please call **Celeste Marino (638-9190)** to join their weekly correspondence on meeting plans.

Patti Burke, Marshall Sweat

KID'S PAGE



Congregational Care

Our New Year's Day Meal fundraiser greatly exceeded our expectations! What a blessing we received! Our initial plan was to prepare food for 200 people and in the end we served approximately 327 meals. The New Year's Event Committee was blessed with a member who consistently said "I think we should plan for more than 200, we are going to sell out of food by around noon. God has his hand



in this and we need to step out in faith." This being our first New Year's meal event some of us did have our reservations. How would the community respond to our event, would we be able to solicit the necessary church participation, what if there was another Covid outbreak, etc?

Although our sign up board contained many unfilled requests, our planning continued and with prayer the decision was made for the proceeds of the event to be donated to the tornado victims in Kentucky. We faithfully prayed and asked for God's blessing. There were 33 collards, 22 pounds of black eyed peas and 22 Boston butts



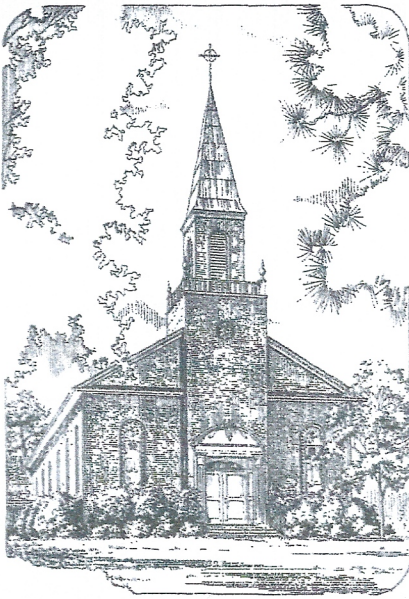
cooked. The ladies' circles donated and prepared the corn bread muffins and the desserts were donated by our church members. During the many hours of food preparation and on the day of the event God provided the needed help! On New Year's Day we were blessed with a group of 22 volunteers who pitched in and worked together like a well-oiled machine... cheerfully serving food, bagging orders, greeting guests, directing traffic, washing pots and cleaning. Our first guest arrived at 10:30 a.m. and by 12:30 p.m. we ran out of food!

By the grace of God, we were able to contribute \$4,474.00 to the tornado victims. Praise the Lord!

We would like to thank Darrell and Karon McKenzie for donating the collards and those who donated money toward the purchase of the meat, peas, muffins, desserts, as well as those who volunteered their time and energy to make this event successful.

In Christ Love,

The New Year's Event Committee



Culdee Presbyterian Church

916 HIGHWAY 73, WEST END
NORTH CAROLINA

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8

Culdee Presbyterian Mission

Culdee Presbyterian Church will build caring relationships with our local and global community while proclaiming the Word of God and building up our faith community.

Filling the pulpit at 10:00 am for Indoor:

March 6 Kevin Gregory
March 13 Cathy Haynes
March 20 Jim Morgan
March 27 Sandy Stewart

April 3 Kevin Gregory
April 10 Cathy Haynes
April 17 Douglas Kelly
April 24 Sandy Stewart

Weekly Worship Services

Sundays:

Online Service-At your convenience

Drive-In Service – 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Evening:

Brief weekly devotion and prayer



Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685 www.culdeechurch.net culdeepresbyterian@gmail.com