

Culdee Presbyterian Church

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THANK YOU LORD FOR:

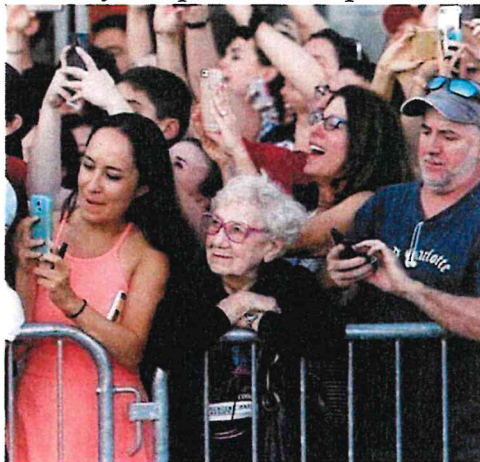
THE CULDEE CONNECTION

November 2023

Published By: Culdee Presbyterian Church
916 Hwy 73, West End, NC 27376
Phone (910) 295-6685
email:culdeepresbyterian@gmail.com

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

One of the things I do most mornings, after I've finished my devotions, is to check my "memories" on my Facebook page. Those of you who use Facebook know that there's a place to see your posts from previous years on the same date. Recently this photo popped up in my



Facebook "memories." My recollection is that this picture was taken at a parade. I don't know who took it and so I can't give credit, but the person captured a poignant image. In this day when most of us have cell phones in our pockets, we often feel more compelled to capture images of events than to simply enjoy them as they unfold. Notice the woman in the center of the photo who is joyfully immersed in what she is seeing, without a phone in hand.

I want to be more like that woman. I want to be more present in many moments of life, without feeling the need to capture everything I see or hear. I find that when I begin my days in a prayerful manner, I'm less likely to feel anxious about precious moments slipping away, and more likely to be able to simply enjoy them. We are, after all, living toward eternity. Moments of love and meaning won't leave us simply because we are not recording them on our iPhones.

With prayers for your journey,
Connie Weaver, Pastor

NOTES FROM THE STATED SESSION OF OCTOBER 8, 2023

June Stewart, Clerk

The meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. in the Children's Church Room in the Fellowship Hall with a quorum of elders in attendance and Rev. Connie serving as moderator

Actions of Session:

Pam Brown was received as a member by reaffirmation of faith.

Minutes from the Stated Session of September 10; Called Session of September 24; and Congregational meeting of September 24 were approved as read.

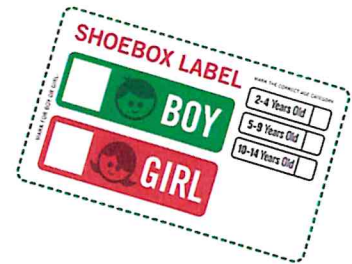
The September Monthly Financial Report and the Quarterly Finance Investment Report were reviewed with elders and received into the record.

There will be a Mini Sunday Fun Day on October 29 for ages 0 – Preschool.



SAMARITAN'S PURSE CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

It is time to pick up shoeboxes to fill for children in the USA and around the world!! The National Collection Week is November 13 – 20 so please have your boxes back to the church by Sunday, November 12. You can pick up a suggestion list of items for boys and girls and labels when you get your box. Boxes, lists and labels will be available in the narthex and the sunroom. Thank you for your help with this most worthy project. The suggested donation for processing and shipping a box is \$10.00.



Update on Pastor Sidor

Pastor Sidor has returned to Haiti. With the Lord's blessings, Pastor Sidor has opened a school at the church in Duclos. It is high in the mountains and is safe from the gang violence.



School opened in September with 75 students. Since then, it has grown to 250. That is the maximum due to space limitations. One half come in the morning and one half in the afternoon, with lunch served to each group.

There is no running water and Pastor Sidor has plans to dig a well for the school and people in the area.

Please continue to pray for the children and people of Haiti. And for God's servant, Sidor.

Haiti Help and Hope
Nancy Howle



This fall has been a busy and exciting one for the youth! The weekend before school started back, we ended the summer and began the school year with a confirmation retreat to Lake Tillery! Pastor Connie and I had a fantastic weekend with our confirmands and they all have wonderful mentors to lead them into a life of service and love. The youth have been involved in sports this fall, including Connor playing on the undefeated Pinecrest JV football team! Congrats Connor! Mikey had a great cross country season at Southern Middle and got to play his trumpet with the Pinecrest Marching Band at a football game! Anya enjoyed playing volleyball at North Moore, and Gavin has been gearing up for basketball season at Pinecrest. We worked hard getting prepared for the Harvest Festival and had some fun, too! Thank you to Danny Aldridge for cooking our hotdogs on the grill for our hotdog sale and Diane Aldridge for donating other needed items! Big thanks to our parents for making the baked goods to sell for dessert!

We will be meeting on October 29th at 5pm for a parent and youth dinner for our annual “what’s next” meeting where we talk about service projects and activities that we want to do in the upcoming year!

Love and Light, Celeste Marino and your Culdee Youth



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY

Fall has been a busy time at Culdee. The Harvest Festival is a great opportunity for our church family to work together and welcome the community surrounding us. It was a beautiful fall day this year filled with laughter and a unified purpose!

On October 29th, we enjoyed our second mini Sunday Funday from 3:30 – 5:00. Our day included an old fashioned Halloween Carnival with games, face painting, cookie decorating, and running through a mini maze! The children were engaged with an interactive Bible lesson. Our group of young mothers did a great job planning this. There was plenty of fellowship, laughter and fun!

We will turn our attention to making Christmas plans. The Christmas Sunday Funday will include a short time of volleyball, a Christmas meal together, time of worship and a trip to Highlanders Farm for the light show and ice cream. The date for youth night at Highlanders Farm has not been set, but more information will follow as soon as we know. Plans for the Culdee Children's party are also beginning.

As usual, we appreciate the support of our Culdee Family!
Marshall Sweat, Darrell Cole and Patti Burke



Children's Hope Alliance Angel Tree for 2023

It's that time of year again. As many of you know, each year The Presbyterian Women Sponsor the Children's Hope Alliance Angel Tree. If you are not familiar with the Angel Tree, these are Angels placed on the Christmas Tree in the Sunroom with the age, whether girl or boy and some things that the child has put on the Christmas wish list. Children's Hope Alliance includes Barium Springs and Grandfather Homes for Children along with other facilities in the state. Children's Hope Alliance is a 501c3 nonprofit organization with a long history of child advocacy and welfare dating back over 130 years. All of the programs and services provided, create hope for hurting children and families in three ways: healing the hurt, providing a safe home, and encouraging a healthy start. Many of these children are victims of abuse, or come from homes where violence, drugs and alcohol are common.

We will have eighty (80) "angels" again this year and they will be on the tree placed in the sunroom soon. Please choose one or more angels and provide a gift for these less fortunate children. The angel will have whether it is a boy or girl, age, and their wish item. Gifts should be returned, unwrapped, by Sunday, November 26th, and no later than Sunday morning, 10 am, December 3rd. Director, Lorie Fees, will be here during the morning worship on December 3rd and will pick these gifts up. Let's help these kids have a very Merry Christmas!!



Gail Farmer,
PW Moderator



All ladies are invited to a **Christmas Breakfast** on Saturday, December 2nd at 9:00 am. This will be held at the Pinecrest Inn. Please RSVP to Jewel Vest. Call your friends, fill up your car, and plan to have a great time.

Culdee Presbyterian Church

Fall Harvest Festival Auction



The annual auction held in conjunction with Culdee's Harvest Festival is always much anticipated. One never knows what sorts of treasures will be available and that just adds to the excitement. Without the generosity of the community, the auction would not be successful! Thank you to each one of you for your contribution, whatever form that may have taken!!

Culdee would particularly like to publicly thank the following businesses that supported the auction through their donations. It is with great hope that the Culdee Family will also support these businesses in return whenever possible.



Advance Auto Parts, Carthage

AutoZone, Carthage

Beefeaters Restaurant & Lounge

Burney's True Value Hardware

Carolina Air, Carthage

Carthage Detail: Auto Detail Shop

Carthage Farm Supply

Haiti: Help & Hope

Hickory Hill Pottery

Hughes Supply, Pinehurst

Jugtown Pottery

Keith's Hardware, Carthage

Latimer's Happy Trails Woodshop, Angier

Leenheer Automotive & Truck Repair

Linda Dalton Pottery

Drum & Quill Restaurant

Beni's Mexican & Seafood Grill

Mill Iron Spear Construction & Remodeling, LLC

NAPA, Carthage

O'Quinn Pottery

Owens Pottery

Pastimes Antiques

Pete's Family Restaurant, Carthage

Sandhills Woman's Exchange, Pinehurst

Sizzling Steak or Eggs, Southern Pines

Southern Pines Nissan

Speer Oil Co, Carthage

Sweet Magnolia Speech Therapy, PLLC

Teague's Frogtown Pottery

Thomas Tire Automotive

Valet Cleaners, Southern Pines

The Villager Deli Restaurant

Additional businesses will be noted in the forthcoming December newsletter.

Thank you again, for supporting the work of Culdee Presbyterian Church! Blessings to all!

Thanksgiving Breakfast:

We will have our traditional Thanksgiving Breakfast on Thursday November 23, @ 7:00 am served by our men of the church. The Presbyterian Women will have a brief program and the Presbyterian Thank Offering will be collected that morning for missions. If you have any questions, contact Wade Garner or Gail Farmer.



Sunday, November 19th – There will be a **Community Thanksgiving** service at 6:00 pm followed by a light reception. Other churches are invited. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to come and celebrate the goodness of God!

Congregational Care

What an amazing day we had on October 21st! All the weeks of planning, phone conversations, making lists of things to do, checking volunteer sign-up sheets, scrubbing pots and pans and the entire kitchen, all made for a VERY successful Harvest Festival for 2023.

Our return to Culdee's famous chicken and dumplings was welcomed by many of our friends and neighbors as witnessed by the extended drive-thru line of cars and the sold-out dumplings, slaw, and green beans by 6:30. There were many smiles around the tables at the Country Store on Saturday. Shoppers were excited to see favorite homemade items from years past such as sourdough bread and rolls, persimmon pudding, cakes, and other special breads. There was also those grape hull preserves and garden-grown canned green beans.

Our crafters provided a large variety of interesting items such as Christmas ornaments, wooden ink pens, and hand-knitted dishcloths.

Our green-thumbed members worked well with Mother Nature to offer a good selection of beautiful plants for our yards and homes.

And most importantly, God provided us with an absolutely perfect day for our events! It was a wonderful day for us to minister to our congregation, our families, friends, and neighbors.

As in the past, it took many, many hands to make it all happen. So thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you who were instrumental in making Harvest Festival 2023 such a success! We could not have done it without you!

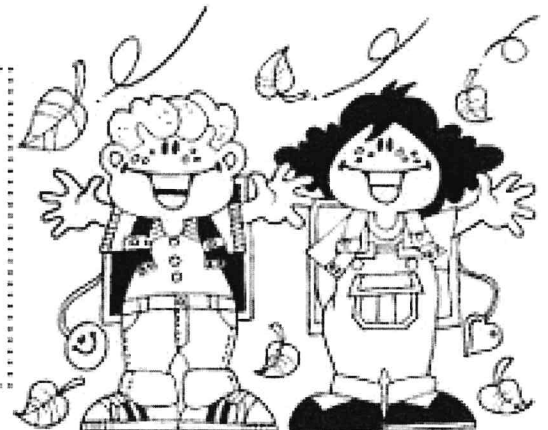


FALL

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apple	hay	oak	rake
cool	jump	owl	red
corn	leaf	pears	tree
crow	maze	pie	web
fall	nuts	pile	yellow



Tree Valley Academy



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.

Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685

www.culdeechurch.net

culdeepresbyterian@gmail.com