

December 2023



Warrenton Baptist Church

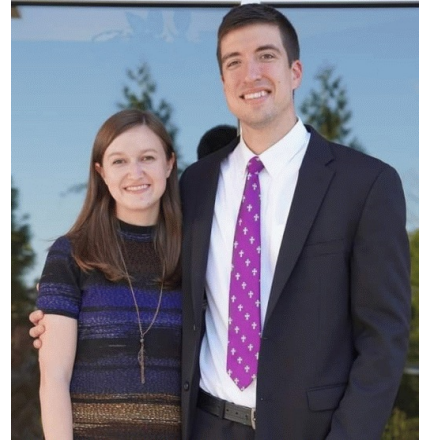
226 NORTH MAIN STREET ♦ WARRENTON, NC 27589

www.warrentonbaptist.com

Church Office 252-257-3130

warrentonbaptistchurch1849@gmail.com

Happy December! This month is one of the busiest months of the year, primarily because of the celebrations and events that take place before and during the Christmas season. In the midst of all the busyness of this month, I hope you will put Jesus Christ at the very center of your life and activities. At Warrenton Baptist Church, we will celebrate the hope, peace, joy, and love of the Advent and Christmas season each Sunday. In addition to our morning services where we will light candles, sing carols, and read Scripture together, we will also have special services on two Sunday evenings this month. We will celebrate our Hanging of the Greens service on Sunday, December 3rd at 7pm and we will celebrate our Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service on Sunday, December 24th at 5pm. We hope you will make plans to join us as we give glory to God for the birth of our Lord and Savior!



In addition to our times of worship and celebration at church, Advent is also a wonderful time to make service and giving a priority. One opportunity for this in our community is through the Warren Family Institute, Inc. which is sponsoring a Christmas Toy Drive. They are collecting new, unwrapped toys through December 14th. Toys can be dropped off Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-4:00pm at 422 W. Franklin Street, Warrenton, NC 27589 Bldg. #6 (located at the old Hawkins School campus). If you prefer to send a monetary donation instead, those donations can be mailed to PO Box 150, Warrenton, NC 27589. If you have any questions, you can contact Linda Reid Pitchford at 252-257-1134.

On the last Sunday of November, we celebrated Christ the King Sunday in our morning worship service. Earlier this year, England crowned a new monarch for the first time in more than seventy years. Some of you may follow that sort of thing closely. For one short section of the coronation ceremony, the new king dressed in a plain linen tunic and received a private anointing by a priest. This symbol of humility and service was covered up with layer upon layer of costly robes, then symbols of power and majesty made of gold and priceless jewels were bestowed on the new king. In spite of the symbols of humility underneath, there is nothing ordinary or common about being king.

In Ephesians 1, the Apostle Paul describes the reign of Christ. Paul's description of Jesus' reign also sounds anything but common: at God's right hand, Christ is seated "far above all rule and authority, power and dominion" for all time. But Jesus does not remain distant and untouchable with layers of velvet and arms full of gold. That is the hope of the Advent season: Jesus comes into our world and lives among us. Even now, Jesus is as near as the body we belong to and as close as the breath in our lungs.

What about you? What images and stories of kings or queens do you know from history, books, or movies? How do you think Jesus' reign is like those monarchs, and how is it different?

My prayer is that no matter what authority we see in power here on earth, we would all ultimately submit our lives to the one ruler whose name is above every name: Jesus Christ.

Peace to all,
Chris Wilson

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES IN PLACE FOR 2024

Our thanks to members of the congregation for willingness to serve in various roles in the new church year which begins in January. These were approved at the annual church conference on October 15. A Youth Committee was not appointed at this time, and every member is encouraged to take on the role of engaging and encouraging our young people. A committee will be nominated as circumstances suggest the need.

2024 YEARBOOK UPDATE

Our church yearbook is in the process of being updated for 2024. If there are any changes to your contact information, please call or email the church office.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR JANUARY

January 7 - Communion
January 14 - Deacon Installation and Recommittment
January 21 - Quarterly Conference

The announcement in this December newsletter will meet the requirements of proper notification for the Quarterly Conference on January 21, 2024.

Beginning in January, our first scripture reader will consist of deacons and volunteers from the congregation. If you wish to serve in this special way, please place your name on the sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the back hall.

MISSIONS AND MINISTRY

Donations to our annual Mile of Pennies project to benefit the NC Baptist Children's Homes totaled \$1402.96. We enjoyed a time of fellowship and coin counting during a pizza lunch after worship on November 5. The Brotherhood thanks everyone who contributed to this most worthy project.

Again during Advent, we will join the Brotherhood in the White Christmas Project, collecting non-perishable goods to be placed under the Chrismon Tree, beginning December 3, and to be delivered on December 17. Also, we invite donations to the continuing Blessing in a Bag project, providing food for week-ends and school breaks for identified students at Mariam Boyd Elementary School. Donations may be placed on the pew in the Allen Bible Classroom.

WHERE WE'RE FROM

As we approach the celebration of our 175th anniversary as Warrenton Baptist Church in April 2024, we are highlighting each month some tidbits of our identity and history – where we're from as church. We invite you to offer your memories for inclusion here.

Dr. T. B. Kingsbury served as pastor from 1866 to 1870. He was also editor and publisher of *The Warrenton Indicator*. Formerly a Methodist, he authored a book entitled, *What Is Baptism?*, defending the Baptist practice of immersion of believers. After some years he re-examined his concepts and went back to Methodism.

Dr. C. T. Bailey, pastor from 1871 to 1876, a native of Williamsburg, Virginia, came here from Edenton. While here, he was a member of the faculty of the Warrenton Female Collegiate Institute. During Dr. Bailey's pastorate, midweek services were conducted regularly. Upon leaving Warrenton, Dr. Bailey became editor of the *Biblical Recorder*, state Baptist newspaper. Dr. Bailey's son, Josiah William Bailey, became a United States Senator from North Carolina.

2023 December Lectionary

2023 December Calendar of Events

- 12-3 First Sunday of Advent**
 Isaiah 64:1-9
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37
 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18
- 12-10 Second Sunday of Advent**
 Isaiah 40:1-11
 2 Peter 3:8-15a
 Mark 1:1-8
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
- 12-17 Third Sunday of Advent**
 Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28
- 12-24 Fourth Sunday of Advent**
 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
 Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
 Romans 16:25-27
 Luke 1:26-38
- 12-31 First Sunday After Christmas**
 Isaiah 61:10-62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:22-40

- 12-3 First Sunday of Advent/Communion**
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Worship/Communion
 7:00 PM Hanging of the Greens
Reception Following
- 12-10 Second Sunday of Advent**
 7:30 AM Brotherhood Breakfast
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Worship
Deacons' Meeting Following Worship
- 12-17 Third Sunday of Advent**
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Worship
- 12-24 Fourth Sunday of Advent**
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Worship
 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service
- 12-31 First Sunday After Christmas**
 10:00 AM Sunday School
 11:00 AM Worship
- Every Wednesday**
 9:00 AM Lectionary Discussion

2024 Calendar For Sanctuary Flowers

Shown below is the calendar for placing flowers in the sanctuary for worship, with open spaces indicated for reserving a time. You may use the flowers for two Sundays in succession. The flower calendar for 2024 is posted on the bulletin board in the back hallway. If you wish to place flowers in the sanctuary for worship, please sign up or contact Kim Burrows at 257-3301.

Date	Communion	Name	Name	Name	Name
Dec 2023	3-Communion Hanging of Greens	10- Advent Poinsettias	17- Advent Poinsettias	24 - Advent Poinsettias	31- Poinsettias

Date	Communion	Name	Name	Name	Name
Jan 2024	7-Communion	14-Cathy Gardner	21-Cathy Gardner	28-Cathy Gardner	
Feb	4-Communion	11-Bettie Jean Davis	18-Lent/Greenery Bettie Jean Davis	25-Lent Greenery Bettie Jean Davis	
March	3-Communion/ Lent/Greenery	10-Lent/Greenery	17-Lent/Greenery	24-Palm Sunday (Palms)	31-Easter Sunday Lilies

Remember In Prayer & Ministry

Last Update 11-30--2023

In Town and Near By:

Carolyn Adcock, 247 Adcock Dead End Road, Macon, NC 27551
Jimmy Allen, 637 Robinson Ferry Road, Macon, NC 27551
Mike Aycock, 1971 US Hwy. 401 S
Lawrence Boyd, 221 Graham St.
William Brannock, 672 Limertown Rd.
Bryan Burnside, Robert's brother, 326 Hazelwood Rd.
Joy Burnside, Robert Burnside's mother, 128 Battle Ave.
Harry Jackson Carter, 1976 US Hwy. 401 S
Margie Clayton, Coventry House Inn Room 4, 20 Medical Court, Henderson, NC 27536
Tom Flynn, 40 Siltstone Dr., Franklinton, NC 27525
Tom Hardy, 222 Fairview St.
Phyllis and Earl King, 118 Dogwood Acres Rd.
Luke McCullough, 316 N. Main St.
Cecile and Randy Renn, 215 Fairview St.
Frances Sondgeroth, 21 East Holly Lane, Henderson, NC 27537
Lee A. Thompson, 926 Black's Rd., Macon, NC 27551
Harrison West, 351 Hwy 4, Littleton, NC 27850
Donald Wimbrow, PO Box 533, Norlina, NC 27563



Out Of Area:

Mary Adams, Kim Burrows' mother, 405 Blythe Ferry Lane, Georgetown, TN 37336
Wayne Jenkins, 3064 NC Hwy. 35, Woodland, NC 27897
Seth McCullen, Selma's Grandson-in-law, 17 Chanticleer Dr., Greenville, SC 29605
Keith Tharrington, Selma's son, 455 Buggs Island Rd., Boydton, VA 23917
Terry Vaughan, Marie's son, 4205 Weaver Road, Wilson, NC 27893
Mary Lillian White, 25351 Settlers Mill, Magnolia, TX 77355

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE DATES

Please remember our Hanging of the Greens service this Sunday, December 3 at 7:00 pm. A reception in the Allen Bible Classroom will follow the service.

Our Christmas Eve service will be held at 5:00 pm.



DECEMBER

Lindsey Wrenn Davidson	3
John Adcock	5
Kathy Crenshaw	5
Kim Burrows	7
Sarah Thrift Thompson	11
Laura Edmonds Thornton	13
Annette Burrows	17
Tommy Rooker	23
Gayle Serls	24
Willoughby Harris	30

Warrenton Baptist Church

Rev. Chris Wilson, Pastor

226 N. Main Street, Warrenton, NC 27589 ♦ Office 252-257-3130

www.warrentonbaptist.com

Email: warrentonbaptistchurch1849@gmail.com

Christy Serls, Secretary

Anora Rainey, Pianist ♦ Tom Flynn, Organist

Tina & Finley Neal, Custodians