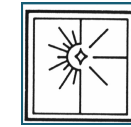


# JANUARY

## The Morning Star



### Lectionary Gospel Texts

**January 6, 2019**  
 Epiphany of the Lord  
*Seeing Stars*  
 Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12  
 Holy Communion celebrated

**January 13, 2019**  
 Baptism of the Lord  
*Serviceable*  
 Isaiah 42:1-9; Luke 3:15-22  
 Session Meeting - 11:15 am

**January 20, 2019**  
 Second Sunday After Epiphany  
*Staying Power*  
 1 Cor. 12:1-11; John 2:1-11  
 Holy Communion celebrated

**January 27, 2019**  
 Third Sunday After Epiphany  
*Out of the Wilderness*  
 Psalm 19; Luke 4:14-21



### ✚ Pastor's Corner

The leaves on the tree should be gone by now. The other trees in the backyard have shed their leaves, with the collection raked into the "forest" that exists behind our house in Matthews. Most of the trees in the forest shed their leaves in keeping with the timing of the season, and so all the leaves came down at pretty much the same time. The trees were not all the same, but most of them seemed to have a coordination with each other's seasonal duty. But there are a couple of trees that just don't want to follow the rest and so their leaves, as faded as can be, are still hanging on to the place from which they sprouted in the Spring of the year, seemingly so long ago, and now seemingly so far away.

For some reason, that type of tree is not going to behave like the rest of the arbors, and so it will be up to the homeowner to properly deal with a new set of leaves that cover the places that need to be raked (again). Is the tree being contrary, or is that just the natural timing for the kind of tree that it is? Needless to say, for those keeping forestry score, there are those pine trees that lose their needles periodically, but not in way to be noticed when they shed.

Maybe there are those kinds of trees that are just going to be the way they are, and therefore, patience with diversity is learned. A parable, it seems.

Faithfully,  
 Steve Mitchell

**Ten Cents a Meal Offering**

Ten Cents a Meal Offering will be taken the last Sunday of each month. The first Sunday will be January 27, 2019.

### Calendar Reminders

- 6 1st Sunday in Epiphany
- 8 Girl Scouts at 6:00 p.m.
- 9 Choir Rehearsal at 7 p.m.
- 13 Baptism of the Lord  
Session Meets at 11:15
- 15 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
- 16 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- 20 2nd Sunday in Epiphany  
Communion
- 22 Girl Scouts 6:00 pm
- 23 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm
- 27 Third Sunday in Epiphany  
Ten Cents a Meal Offering
- 28 Ministry Group 7:00 pm

12 MONTHS OF GIVING: During the month of January we will be collecting **CANNED CHICKEN** for the Matthews Help Center. Bring your gifts to worship with you.



The Presbyterian Women will meet Monday, January 21 at 6:00 p.m at the home of Gloria Smith. We will be making plans for the card party and the coming year. Please join us for food, fellowship and Bible study. Bring a friend. Happy New Year.



The Women's Annual Beach trip will be May 4 - May 11 at Ocean Isle. A deposit of \$150.00 is due by February 15. Please give to Tricia Bunn as soon as possible.



**BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

January 1	<i>Travis Meredith</i>
January 7	<i>Micala Harrington</i>
January 21	<i>Don Smith</i>
January 27	<i>Linda Horky</i>
January 31	<i>Brenda McIntosh</i>

## Volunteer Schedule

<b>BEADLES GREETERS</b>	
Jan. 6	Randy Kathy Jones
Jan. 13	Tom & Lynne Clifford
Jan. 20	Lisa Pianka/Clara Hoeffler
Jan. 27	Mary Miller
<b>COUNTERS</b>	
Jan. 6	Tricia Bunn/Robert Hamilton
Jan. 13	Lynne Cole/Sharon Browning
Jan. 20	Jerry Cole/Skip Smith
Jan. 27	Jan Davis/Linda Horky
<b>LAY LITURGIST</b>	
Jan. 6	Sharon Browning
Jan. 13	Sharon Browning
Jan. 20	Dalys Miller
Jan. 27	Dalys Miller
<b>NURSERY</b>	
Jan. 6	Deb Smith/Alexis & Savannah
Jan. 13	Sharon & Travis Meredith
Jan. 20	Joe & Nancy Nestor
Jan. 27	Don & Roberta Kesler

### Session Regular Meeting Synopsis December 16, 2018

**PRESENT:** Moderator: Steve Mitchell Elders: Jerry Cole, Linda Horky, Clara Hoeffler, Curtis Moore, Tom Clifford, Kathy Jones, Sharon Browning and Dianne Dalto. **EXCUSED:** Nancy Hamilton

**DEVOTION:** Sharon Browning shared a devotion and opened the meeting with prayer.

#### CLERK'S REPORT

Minutes of Session November 11th (regular meeting); approved as read. Motion was made by Jerry Cole that Rick and Carol Lynn Rorie be transferred from MSPC to Matthews Presbyterian Church (effective date 10/7/18). Linda Horky seconded the motion and it was approved by all. Clerk will be sending a transfer letter of membership to Matthews Presbyterian.

#### TREASURY REPORT – (Mary Miller)

Mary Miller (Financial Assistant) supplied hard copies of the financial balances as of 12/14/18. BB&T Checkbook balance: \$ 2,792 (payroll of \$2,629 to come out 12/21). BB&T Savings balance: \$6,673 (designated funds included)

#### MINISTRY GROUPS

UPWARD/INWARD – No Written report (Sharon/Kathy/Nancy)  
PW notes are needed to be included in the upcoming newsletter. Kathy will contact Sharon Meredith regarding this. There will be two services on Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm and 10:00 pm. Clara has volunteered to be the nursery worker during the early service. On New Year's Eve at 7 pm, there will be a fellowship time with everyone bringing white elephant gifts to exchange and finger foods to share.

FORWARD – Written report (Jerry Cole/Tom Clifford/Curtis Moore)  
Budget of Forward looks to be appropriate going forward, but might have to make minor adjustments. Door security was discussed again and it was decided to do it as simply as possible. The cleaning service contract needs to be reviewed as some tasks need to be added to their cleaning list.

#### NEW BUSINESS –

Elder Sharon Browning has requested the use of the church facility to hold a Blue & Gold Banquet on Saturday February 16th. **Motion was made by Curtis Moore, seconded by Tom Clifford and all approved that the church can be used for the Blue & Gold Banquet on 2/16/19.**

#### BUDGET –

Financial Assistant Mary Miller presented a 2018 budget worksheet that is up to date through Nov. 30th. As of now, \$86,958 has been actually pledged for the 2019 budget. The current budget has already been closely trimmed so there is hardly any room for cuts. It was decided to table approving this budget until the final numbers are complete on Dec. 31st. Mary will then have a year-to-date budget worksheet for Session at the January meeting.

**Next Session Meeting: Sunday January 13th @ 11:15 a.m.**  
**Next Presbytery of Charlotte Stated Meeting: Saturday February 9th**