

OPENING WINDOWS TO CHRIST

JANUARY 2021

Dear NPC Family,

As this dispiriting year comes to an end, I find myself reflecting on all the struggles that this year brought with it. However, alongside my longing to be reunited is an awareness of just how far we have come this year. It turns out amid our fears of social unrest, political division, and public health risks, God has stayed true to the Christmas moniker Immanuel which means God-with-us.

God was with us as we navigated the successful transition from in-person to virtual worship. We went from an outdated audio recording operation that required Tom Moynahan or Frank Reece to run upstairs to press record just before the sermon began to live streaming our entire worship service using a professionally-installed Audio-Visual-Lighting system.

God was with us as we gave away more money through our outreach ministry than we have since my arrival, including a \$20K surplus from 2019's budget, \$5K to Thanksgiving meals, \$3K to the girls at Angel's House for Christmas, and in December Outreach made special year-end gifts to several local non-profits. And none of those dollar amounts factor in the groceries each of you brought into the Church Office for Bridging the Gap and One Roof from August through December that helped hungry Cowetans feed their families.

God was with us through the Newnan Presbyterian Preschool and Kindergarten, who after suffering a COVID setback in the spring opened its doors in the fall with a solid health and safety plan, and under the leadership of Barbara Kookogey and Karen Geeter welcomed a record number of enrollments that includes an expansion into two first grade classes.

God was with us in June when we were blessed with the calling of Rev. Tyler Brock and Choirmaster Cliff Brock to our community. Already Cliff has brought expertise and passion to the music ministry and to our worship services. Meanwhile, Tyler has the confirmation class humming and is increasing our congregation's visibility through social media. These two join a wonderful staff, anchored by our stellar secretary, Beth Royal and have only added to our ministry in Newnan.

But, Immanuel does not mean "God *was* with us." It means "God *is* with us." As I write this, God is with me. As you read this, God is with you. And through it all, God has remained faithfully present. As a congregation and in our personal lives, God has been with us through each struggle and each blessing. And so as a new year is upon us, I invite you to reflect with me back on a year clouded with pain and loss. And alongside the pain and the loss, I invite you to see the presence of God through it all.

Continued, Page 2

Sunday Worship Services

During the month of January, our worship services will be online. Services can be viewed live at [NPC's Facebook Page](#). (No FB account required!) Recorded services available for viewing at www.newnanpres.org.

Worship Guides emailed Saturdays at Noon. If you wish to have a Worship Guide mailed to you via USPS, please contact the Church Office.

January 3 | 10:00 am

"Boy Jesus in the Temple"

Luke 2:41-52

Rev. David Jones preaching

Special music: Martin Rudy

January 10 | 10:00 am

"Jesus Baptism"

Luke 3:1-22

Rev. Jones preaching

January 17 | 10:00 am

"Sermon at Nazareth"

Luke 4:14-30

Rev. Tyler Brock preaching

January 24 | 10:00 am

Dedication Sunday

"Fish for People"

Luke 5:1-11

Rev. Brock preaching

January 31 | 10:00 am

"Healing on the Sabbath"

Luke 6:1-16

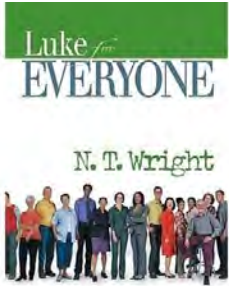
Rev. Jones preaching

Message from Pastor David Jones, continued...

May God's presence in 2020 embolden us to be more of a blessing in each other's lives in 2021. And may that blessing bring us closer together that we might continue to bless this community in ways only possible through God's unending love.

Peace, David

Pastor's Bible Study Begins January 25, 2021



Rev. David Jones will offer a Bible Study on the Gospel of Luke. Meetings will be via Zoom every Monday through May. The book to be used is N.T. Wright's "Luke for Everyone" and may be purchased on Amazon. The book is helpful for this study, but not required. Please contact david@newnanpres.org to sign up.

SisterS of Service Circle Now Meeting on Second Sundays

Ladies, during the winter months, we will meet the second Sunday at 2:00 pm in Barrow Hall, as we continue our study on Lamentations. Please join us January 10 at 2:00 pm.

Outreach Ministry Opportunities

This month we are collecting canned protein to help restock the shelves of One Roof and Bridging the Gap. Look for healthy canned protein options like tuna, chicken, chili, etc. No time to shop? We're happy to purchase the items for you!



Please make checks payable to NPC and designate "January Canned Meat Project." If mailing checks to the Church Office, please use the PO Box 1107, Newnan, GA 30264 address for secure mailing.

Choir Notes

The Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals Wednesday, January 13. The Handbell Choir rehearses at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Come sing and ring with us!

Children's Ministry

Last call for sign ups to attend Passport Kids Camp in July! Please contact [Darcie Jones](mailto:Darcie.Jones@newnanpres.org) immediately if your rising 4th through rising 7th grader is interested. Camp will be at Montreat, NC July 6-9, 2021. We plan for the cost to be \$100/kid. There is a "cancellation due to COVID" policy in place this year that would allow for a full refund before May 1. You can learn more about Passport kids camp at

www.passportcamps.org

Thank you!

On behalf of the church staff, thanks to all who gifted us this Christmas season with delicious treats, gift cards, Christmas cash, and sweet Christmas cards! You are kind and generous to remember us during the holidays. We thank you all! It is our pleasure serving this Body of Christ!

January Birthdays

- 1:Debbie Krauth
- 3:Melinda Bailey
- 4:Linda Mitchell
- 5:Andy Clark, Kim Dean
- 7:Jan Bowyer,
Matthew Vasconcelles
- 8:Harry Barrow, Tres Taylor
- 10:Katie Cook
- 11:Finley Waller
- 13:Dorothy Shutt,
Chelsea Pierce
- 14:Caroline Kantorczyk,
- 15:Dan Kazmierczak
- 16:Melissa Thomas
- 18:Janet Boyce,
Donna Mattke,
Terry Schroeder
- 19:Matt Brass
- 20:Hans Boesing
- 23:Ruth Mallehan
- 24:Kay Crosby
- 25:John Gray, Ian Caswell
- 26:David Jones, Helen Lindell
- 27:Carolyn Callaway
- 29:Sealy Dreyer,
Ashley Vasconcelles
- 31:Jeannine Jackson

Collecting canned meat for Bridging the Gap and One Roof in January! Select healthy options like tuna, chicken, chili, etc.



Abundant Generosity!

As we begin the new year, the stewardship ministry would like to thank each of you for your financial contributions to the church's ministry in 2020. In a trying year, we retired the church's debt, increased our community outreach spending, hired new staff, and added to the church's reserve fund.

Our 2021 stewardship goal is \$453K. With your generous support, we plan to increase our benevolence to local outreach partners, continue to pay top-notch staff, increase the visibility of our worship services online, and remain financially healthy throughout 2021.

In the weeks ahead, you will receive a pledge card in the mail. We invite you to return your pledge card by dropping it off at the church office, mailing it in, or you can make your pledge online through REALM.

If you have questions, please reach out to [Jon Moss](#), Chair of Stewardship, or [Karen Geeter](#), our Financial Secretary.

Thank you, Former Officers!

We express appreciation to our Elders and Deacons rotating off the Session and Diaconate! Thank you, deacons - Bob Graff, Roy Yancey, Justin Kantorczyk, Georgina Boesing, and Dick Kozma. Thank you elders - Nancy Ballard, Neal Davis, Eli Hearnburg, Lalla McGee, and Jenni Parnell. Your faithful service is greatly appreciated!

NPC Officers | Session & Diaconate | 2021 - 2023

Elders

Class of 2021

Kate Davis - Senior Adult
Debbie Krauth - Christian Education
Melanie Smith - Outreach
Audrey Spragins - Clerk
Ashley Vasconcelles - Membership

Class of 2022

Hasco Craver - Connections
Judy Davis - Communications
Jon Moss - Long-Range Planning
Lissa Rand - Personnel

Class of 2023

Jennifer Eriksen - Fellowship
John McGee - Property
Tom Moynahan - Worship
Nan Newman - Finance

Deacons

Class of 2021

Jane Anderson
Lane Dugger
Greg Shivers
Judy Tokarsky

Class of 2022

Maegan Brass
Wynn Griffin
Melanie Harkleroad
Jacob Story

Class of 2023

Ann Beegle
Buzz Flannigan
Gwyn Kozma
Virginia Stanley

Newnan Presbyterian Preschool & Kindergarten

The first day of preschool will be January 11. We look forward to having the children back!

Church Post Office Box

When mailing checks to the church, please use the church, please use the NPC, PO Box 1107, Newnan, GA 30264 address for secure mailing.

These Days Devotionals

Our shipment of new devotionals has been delayed. Once they are received, we will be happy to mail booklets to all who request them.



A Few Christmas Eve 2020 Highlights



The Smith Family



Ginny Lyles & Kitty Henninger



The Jones Family



Erik Swindlehurst & Greg Shivers



Lawson Howard and Jack Howard



Ian Caswell



Alexander Rice



The Crosby Family



The Richardson Family