



Volume 16
November-December 2017

The Newsletter

New Wappetaw Presbyterian Church

New Wappetaw
Presbyterian Church
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Minister
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Minister's Message

Dear Friends,

It was a birth of sorts. When the new boat was loaded on a trailer and rolled out into the sunshine for the first time, I caught my breath. The emotion surprised me. We had spent nearly six months building this craft. It was time to rig it for the big christening and launching the next day, October 15th when the church would gather for worship by Jeremy Creek and witness this event, this miracle.

Together (many youths and adults), we had labored to give life to a pile of lumber, and now it sat on a trailer that Rut had loaned the church, a gleaming white and blue sail boat!

Rarely does a minister have such a powerful illustration for children in the church. First of all, the construction illustrated the need to work together on a project that was bigger than anyone. Boat-building skill was the least important thing they would learn, though. More importantly, they would have the opportunity to grow as a community, having the chance to hone the skill that comes with cooperating with others. They would be learning to take instruction, and also giving instruction; and gaining a sense of accomplishment as a group is an important lesson in life, one that will take a person far. Secondly, my hope is (in learning to sail) that these children will learn to cooperate with nature as they take command of this ship. There is a higher power which they will learn more about, as they trim the sail and navigate the waterway, paying attention to wind direction and strength.

The most important thing about sailing lies between the ears. It is a thinking sport. Long after the boat is stored on the trailer, the mind goes over what happened and how better decisions can be made next time. This only happens by experience. It's important to listen to instruction and to watch others do it, but the real learning only comes from actually taking the helm and sailing the boat.

My hope, too, is that by doing all this these children will be better equipped to navigate through life in ever-changing situations, paying attention constantly to that higher power which is over all! Somehow, what we've been doing these past six months on Wednesday will carry over into something far greater than we can know! We do this all the while paying attention ourselves—to that higher power that strengthens us as well. If we can teach them something about this power, it will be worth every bit. Unlike the wind that drives the sailboat and can be fickle sometimes, this power actually cares about us. This is the most important lesson of all. Like sailing, one begins to realize there are always new things to learn. No one has completely mastered the art of sailing. No one has indeed mastered the art of life, either. But we press on. This is the work of faith.

God bless you, and I love you.

Steve

Christian Sympathy: The congregation extends Christian sympathy to the family of Jean Smith Beckman Stroman on her recent death,
and to the family of Louis M. (Bubby) Morrison on his death on October 29, 2017.

Remember these members and friends in prayer: Hugh Wilson, Terry McKnight, Debbie Hattaway, David Meyer, Junior and Joyce Bradshaw, Charles Hansen, Ty Darby, Bob Aldrich, Ronnie Hutto.

November Birthdays

Joanna Morrison	November 6		
Killian Morrison, Zack Stroman	November 8	Alicia Bruner, Matthew Tarry	November 21
Lonnie Morrison	November 9	Mary Davis	November 22
Mary Duke,		Kimberly Souther Westergaard	November 23
Caroline "Baker" Leslie	November 11	Jane Garner	November 25
Roland Shelley	November 18	Walt Hansen, Helen Morrison,	November 29
Jerry Hicks, Charles Leland, Linda Salters	November 19	Andrew DuPre	November 30

December Birthdays

John Leland, Mary Scott	December 2	Chris McClellan	December 18
Mary Beckett Culpepper, Kay B. McCarley,		James Stannard Hurteau	December 19
Margaret Crouch	December 4	Bob McCarley, Russell Tyler,	
Laura Capps Tarry,		Hugh "Bo" Scott	December 21.
Tyler Scott Furches	December 7	Allen DuPre	December 23
Eliza Crouch	December 8	Margaret "Peg" Nicols,	
Forrest Morrison, Peggy Small	December 11	Kathleen Read	December 28
Martha Douglas	December 13	Kay Carlisle	December 29
Audrey Cooper	December 16	Katie Tisdale Scott	December 30
Robert Garner, Autumn Morrison	December 17	Gilbert Allen	December 31

Remember daylight saving time starts on Sunday, November 5th – set the clock forward since an hour is lost at 2:00 A.M. – if you forget and arrive early for worship, join the adult study group at 10:00 A.M.

From the session

Mission offerings -- In recent weeks, worshippers donated \$600 to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief Fund, and \$346 to the Peace and Global Witness Offering. Offerings will be taken for Thornwell Home for Children on the Sundays before and after Thanksgiving, and the Joy Gift offerings will be taken on Sundays December 17th and 24th.

The Building Committee is awaiting final approval of the building plan for new classrooms, and subcontractors are being selected.

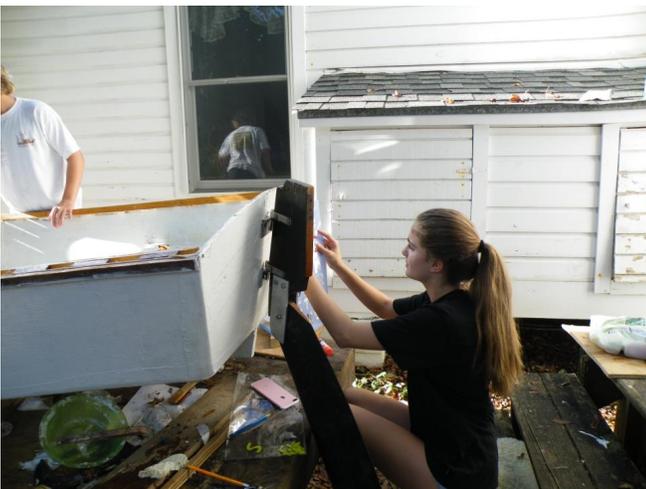
New Wappetaw has donated \$100 to the collection fund of Columbia Theological Seminary. The Seminary holds in safekeeping our church's original session minutes from 1872 through 2016. We retain copies in the Treasurer's office, and they are available for review.

Members and friends are encouraged to provide email addresses. These are being collected to make possible the efficient notification of special events or needs. Sandee Moseley will manage the list, keeping them up to date. The list will not be made public, and will be utilized by the minister, the clerk of session, and the church treasurer. Please add your addresses to the list at the church entry.

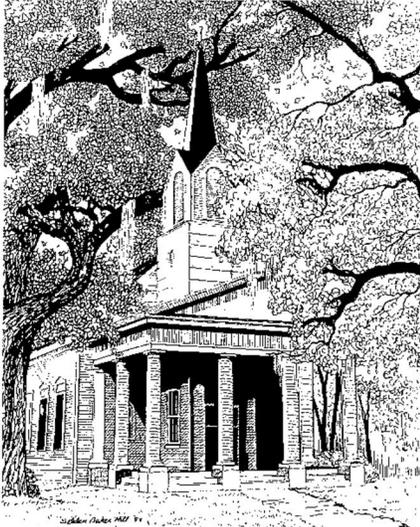
The Sweetwater



Many contributed to the building of the craft



A book, put together by Sylvan Racine, documents this project every step of the way with photos, and shows all persons involved. Come see it in the church library (the adult study class)!!



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New Wappetaw Services and Meetings

First Wednesday soup luncheon and devotional – at noon, November 1 and December 6

Afternoon Circle – Tuesday, November 7 – 3:00 P.M. with Kathy Leland
and December 6 with Beth Gannon

Evening Circle – Monday, November 13 and Monday, December 11 – 7:00P.M. – at the church

Men's Supper – Thursday, November 16th – 6:30 P.M. at the church

Special Services and Music at New Wappetaw during Advent and Christmas

Lighting of the Town's Christmas Tree – Town Park – Sunday, November 26th, 5 P.M.

All are invited to New Wappetaw for refreshments afterward

Hanging of the Greens Service – at worship – Sunday, December 3rd

The Mitten Tree will be located in the church entry that morning

The Christmas Choral Concert – Friday, December 8th – 7:00 P.M.

Service of Lessons and Carols – at worship – Sunday, December 10th

The Christmas Pageant – at worship – Sunday, December 17th

Christmas Service – at Worship – Sunday, December 24th

The Christmas Eve Communion Service – Sunday, December 24th, 6:00P.M.

