

Gift Giving

*“On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, and of incense and of Myrrh.”
Matthew 2:11*

Dear Friends,

This is the season for gift giving, a tradition that began long ago when the wise men brought gifts for the Child Jesus in Egypt. (That’s correct, they did not arrive at the nativity on the night Jesus was born.) Nevertheless, what the Magi started with their gift-giving long ago has continued through the ages. Here at New Wappetaw, we have many opportunities for giving during this Advent season:

- we have the mitten tree up in the Narthex so you can give hats, scarves, socks and gloves for folks who need them and we will once again send them to the shelter in Black Mountain N.C.
- You can donate to our annual JOY GIFT offering which helps support retired presbyterian ministers without a pension and minority students.
- We gave out ‘angel tree’ ornaments this past Sunday and your gifts will make 20 children in the St James Santee School happy on Christmas morning (the gifts are due back to the church by Dec 11).
- Of course, the end of the year is always a good time to catch up on your gifts to the church, which keep our ministry going.

As you think about what “gifts” you can give your friends and loved ones, don’t forget about the gift of “presence.” Sharing special times together at Christmas concerts, plays, and church pageants, going shopping, baking Christmas goodies, or getting together with those you haven’t seen for a while can make your holiday more joyous. It is a play on words, but they say that for many folks, your “presence” is the most precious “present.” So, I hope you will be present for our many worship experiences during this Advent and Christmas season!

It’s a joy to be your pastor.

Blessings,
Mike