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THANK YOU LORD FOR:

THE CULDEE CONNECTION

January/February 2023

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Choir Luncheon at Valenti's

NOTES FROM THE STATED SESSION OF JANUARY 8TH

The meeting was held on January 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of Elders in attendance and Pastor Connie Weaver as Moderator.

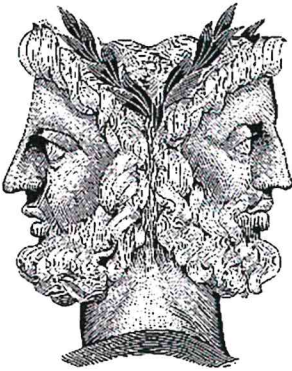
A motion was approved to divide the proceeds from the New Year's Day Meal as follows.....50% to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and 50% to Samaritan's Colony.

A motion was approved to schedule a Congregational meeting on January 22 immediately following the morning worship service. The purpose is to act on a report from the Elder Nominating Committee.

A motion was approved to purchase and hook up a generator for the manse.
The Monthly Financial Report for December was received into the minutes.

A motion was approved to grant Elaina Aponte \$500.00 from the Doris Moore Scholarship Fund to help pay her educational trip expenses to Chile through Go Global NC.

Congregational Care



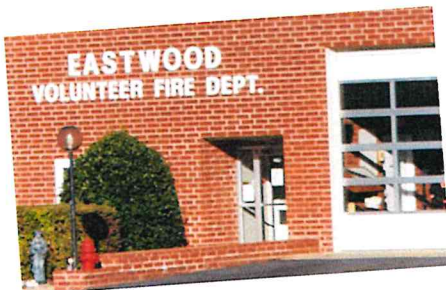
The month of January is named for the Roman god Janus. Janus is usually depicted as having 2 faces-one facing backward and one facing forward. January does exactly that. It looks backward toward the previous year and forward toward the new year.

As we look back on 2022, there will be memories to keep and memories to release. As we look forward into 2023, let us keep our eyes focused on The One who guides our footsteps and numbers the hairs on our heads.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all!

February is traditionally known as 'heart month'. This could be because of Valentine's Day when our thoughts turn especially to those we love. This can apply to our church family as well.

Right now, there are many needs among our congregation members. We have several of our members going through medical situations that give us opportunities to think of our friends with love. One of the ways we can show our love is to be in prayer for each one of them, along with their families and the medical personnel who are providing their daily care. Prayer can happen at any time in any place and we know God is only a prayer away.



Another way to show our love is to consider being a blood donor. The need for blood is always high, especially this time of year. It only takes a few minutes of our time and one donation can save the lives of at least 3 people. Congregational Care is teaming up with the Eastwood fire department to organize a blood drive this spring, so roll up those sleeves and get ready!



New Year's Day Meal Event

Our New Year's Day Meal fundraiser was a success! By the grace of God, we were able to contribute \$3,279.15 to the Presbyterian Disaster Fund and \$3,279.15 to the Samaritan Colony in Rockingham. Many thanks to those who volunteered their time and energy to make this event a success and to all those who purchased a meal!

In Christ Love,

The New Year's Event Committee



Christian Education Ministry

As we close this year of Christian Education ministry, we look back over our accomplishments and also peep into another year with anticipation and expectation. In 2023, it is our hope we can begin to make necessary changes to encourage growth. In order to accomplish this, we will be asking for your help and input on how best to achieve our goals.

On December 4th, our Sunday Funday trip to the Highlander's Farm light show was cancelled due to the power outage. We were disappointed but could not find a time to reschedule due to the Children's program on December 11th and the beginning of school vacations. Christian Education assisted with the children's program on December 11th. Thirty four people attended and were entertained by our talented young musicians and Granny Janie's telling of the Christmas story to the children attending. Santa arrived with the sound of sirens and the children watched with excitement. We closed the evening with food, fellowship and singing!

Mark your calendars!



The dates for our **VBS** have been set. We will once again partner with Camp Monroe so VBS will include the overnight camping experience. Please encourage your children and grandchildren to join us. The dates are
June 26- June 30, 2023.

May 2023 bring each of you good health and many blessings!

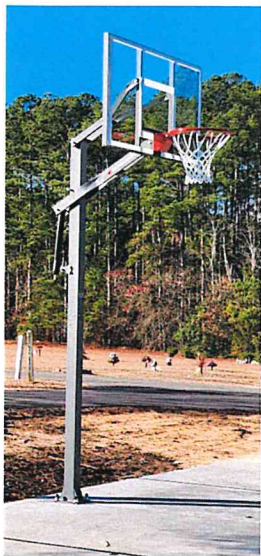
Marshall Sweat and Patti Burke

“Moments for Mission”

February “Blanket Awareness for CWS”

Even in the midst of crisis, CWS Blankets are used to respond to our neighbors in need, throughout the world. Through our generosity here at Culdee over the years, our neighbors have benefited from use of these blankets. They are given clean and warm blankets in their moment of need. For only \$10 you can supply someone in need with a warm blanket around the world. Our offering will be taken **February 26th**.

Jewell Vest



Building and Grounds

By the grace of God the basketball goals and court are complete and ready for the youth to enjoy this spring. Thank you to Marshall Sweat for his painting of the lines on the basketball court.

Thanks to Don Williamson, the generator has been delivered for the manse. The wiring is to be completed soon and will be ready for use in case of power failure.

God is good.

Richard & Lonnie





Finance Ministry: Chairman Danny Aldridge & Vice Chair Diann Fortune

Proverbs 21:20 *In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil;
but foolish man devours all he has.*

Happy New Year!!! The following was penned for the January newsletter which was not published.

2022 presented some wonderful opportunities for the Culdee family! Think back on a few highlights:

- Culdee learned the community loves collards and pork for New Years. Proceeds from that meal supported missions and many are looking forward to a yummy New Year's Day 2023.
- Pastor Connie Weaver was welcomed to Culdee and has already had a great impact. Due to her leadership, some impressive accomplishments have been made.
- First, Lonnie McKenzie and Richard Blue of Building & Grounds have led the construction of the basketball court which was approved back in 2019! They also oversaw the grading and seeding of the original basketball court site where a building was torn down. Folks will enjoy the court and grassy area for years to come.
- Another year-end goal was the installation of a live-streaming system. Culdee will be able to reach out to worshipers all around the globe once this technology installation is complete.

It will be exciting to see what 2023 has in store for Culdee and the Culdee family!!

Be sure to come worship, serve and bring a friend!!

Financial Status:

The Financial Report from Sandhills Accounting Services for November 2022 showed Year-to-Date contributions are \$530.62 over budget needs which is good news! Unfortunately, expenses for the month were \$4,801.06 over the budget needs. Culdee's investments at Stifel's Eastman, Palmer, Davis & Vaughan Wealth Management Group are rocking just like the remainder of the nations. And like at home, as long as Culdee does not sell any investments, Culdee is not losing any money. While the value of the investments changes, the good news is that Year to Date dividends, interest, & realized gains on investments are \$4,691.55. Interest earned at Live Oak Bank and Truist Bank totals \$1,913.00 year to date.

Culdee continues to be in good shape overall.

Finance Ministry members are always available to answer questions.

Finance Ministry meetings are held monthly, usually the second Sunday evening.

Thank you for your continued support.



Culdee Finance Ministry and Investments Committee News For February 2023

Well here we go with another new year. A chance for a new start, a new beginning. Your Finance Ministry is in hopes that your new year has been good so far. Although Pastor Connie has only been with us a few months, she has contributed greatly to our efforts and we have really appreciated her attending our meetings.

The Finance Ministry is also welcoming Faye Riggsbee and Darrell Cole as new members of the Finance Ministry.

We would like to take this opportunity to review some information regarding the 2022 budget. In 2022, we needed \$4,608.86 every week in order to meet our budget. As of December 31, 2022, we are happy to report that we finished the year receiving \$1,190.45 more than needed to meet our 2022 budget requirements. Our expenses for 2022 were managed very well by the ministries and that resulted in us being under budget by \$25,254.96 which is wonderful.

The 2023 budget has been approved by the Session and if it has not been presented to the congregation by the date of this publication, it will be soon.

It is the Finance Ministry's sincere belief that we will be able to meet the 2023 budget needs through our personal tithes and offerings.

Again, we welcome input from the Congregation at any time. The Finance Ministry remains fully committed to serve our Lord and the needs of Culdee Presbyterian Church. With your help and prayers we'll have a successful 2023.

Would you like to make a difference? Attend one of our meetings or even join the Finance Ministry. The next Finance Ministry meeting is scheduled to be held on Sunday, February 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Session room of the Fellowship Hall. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, please feel free to direct them to a Finance Ministry member. Finance Ministry members are as follows: Danny Aldridge, Diann Fortune, Tim Lea, Ann Savage, Jim Stewart, Faye Riggsbee and Darrell Cole.

JANUARY

Virginia Elder	04
Cody Thompson	05
Nelson Pusser	07
James McKenzie	08
Tony Cox	09
Josh Halverstadt	12
Lisa Patterson	13
Dianne VanWinkle	14
Catherine Sears	14
Clara Bailey	16
Jason Cole	17
John Blue	18
Randy Cox	18
Tyler Prince	20
Phillip Marion	21
Caleb Marion	22
Domonic Campbell	25
Derek Stewart	26
Breese Lilly	26
Dot Monroe	27
Matthew Clayton	29

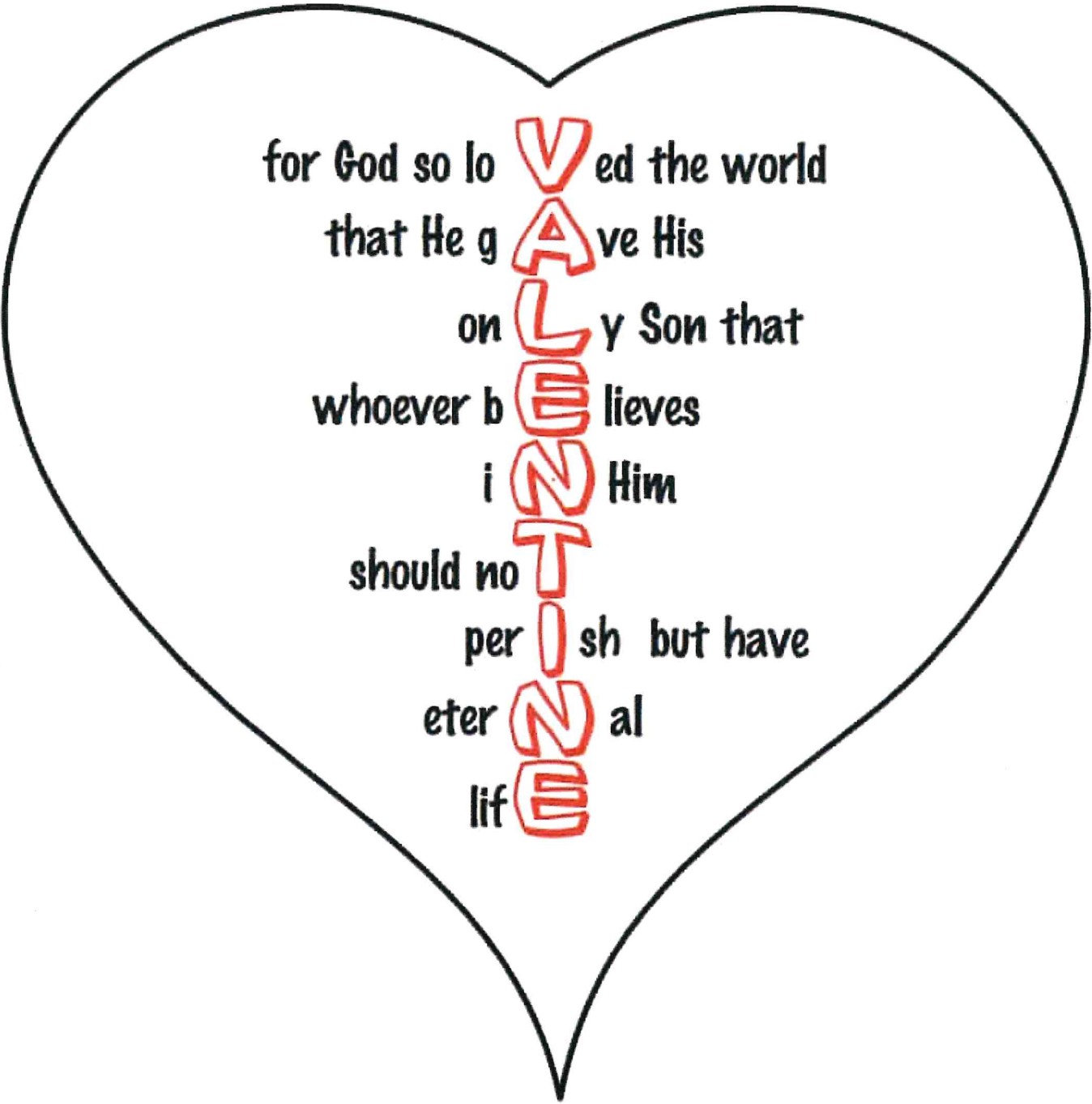
FEBRUARY

Pryor (Jr.) Moon	03
Jonathan Aldridge	06
Patrick Howle	07
Danny Aldridge	08
Kristen B. Harrill	08
Alex Patterson	11
Carolyn Lea	12
Rhonda Shields	12
Cathy Marion	12
Gavin Washington	12
Betty Black	12
Chasity McKenzie	15
Linda Bryson	17
Taylor Ferguson	17
Sylvia Pusser	17
Martha Mathews	19
Brynley Marino	19
Don Williamson	20
Brooke Kemp	20
Daniel Jackson	20



Emma Ferguson	21
Bryan Fields	24
Diann Fortune	25
Madison Adams	25
Forrest Cox	25
Austin Aponte	27
Sarah Cox	28
Kathleen Black	29

John 3:16



for God so lo **V**ed the world
that He g **A**ve His
on **L**y Son that
whoever b **E**lieves
i **N**Him
should no **T**
per **I**sh but have
eter **N**al
lif **E**

A Message from our Pastor

Dear Culdee family,

As I write this, we are just a few weeks away from the beginning of the Lenten season. I grew up in a church that did not observe Lent, so it was a new idea to me when I learned about it as a young adult. Over time, I've come to appreciate the opportunity that the observance of Lent gives us to examine our lives in preparation for Easter. Lent is about so much more than just "giving up chocolate" or making some other small change in our lifestyle between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. The season of Lent calls us to a deep examination of our priorities and of our relationship with God in Jesus Christ.

As part of our Lenten observance at Culdee Church, I'll be preaching a series of sermons entitled, "Heart to Heart," beginning on Feb. 26th. The messages will be about biblical encounters with Jesus as described to us in the gospels. The series will actually extend past Easter Sunday, to conclude on April 23rd. I invite you to attend the Ash Wednesday service on February 22nd, and to consider how you might allow your heart and mind to be opened to God's instruction during the Lenten season. During the earlier part of February, we'll be wrapping up the current series on the Life of Jesus, and Sandy Stewart will be your preacher when I am away on February 12th.

One exciting thing that has happened recently, is that we began live streaming our Sunday worship services online! This had been planned for some time but required installation of cameras and upgrades to our audio system that have just recently been completed. The purposes of live streaming are to make our services available to those who cannot attend in person, and to give prospective visitors a chance to check out our worship services ahead of a in-person visit. The live streaming takes place on our public Facebook page, which is accessible regardless of whether you have a Facebook account.

Making our worship available online in "real time" requires a couple of adjustments in our habits. One is that off-microphone and pop-up announcements are no longer advisable. This will result in "dead air" time on our live stream. This change prompts all of us to anticipate what may need to be communicated and to get that information into the bulletin and/or newsletter in a timely manner. If an announcement is needed in the worship service, please hand a note to me or to whomever is giving the welcome that morning.

A second adjustment is that we will need to take more care about personal information that is shared during the service. This applies mainly to prayer concerns. But it will be important for all of us to remember that whatever is said in worship is truly public now that we are making our services available online.

One final word about worship: We have a dedicated group of children's sermon volunteers who are greatly appreciated, but we could use a few more. If by chance you have felt the Spirit's prompting toward this ministry, please let me know.

With prayers for your journey,

Connie Weaver, Pastor

"It's A Wonderful Musical Life" by Beverly Dunlop

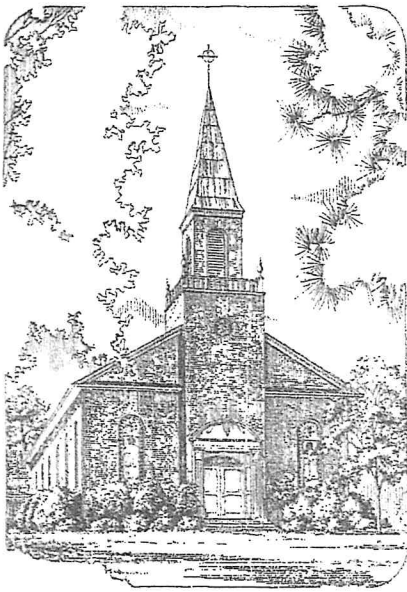


A cold, wet Sunday afternoon in Vass, NC was a warm setting for a glorious, fun filled afternoon for the Culdee music department. Valenti's did a wonderful job of catering for our Christmas Party. We had our own dining room where we could visit and reconnect with one another. We were missing several key members due to illnesses, but we sure hope to do this again real soon when we can have 100 percent of our musical family with us.

We would like to thank Gail Farmer and Amber Clayton for their continual service in entertaining our group with games and laughter. We had prizes for the winners and losers. We have some seriously competitive people in our group. Thanks to everyone who made this afternoon of fun possible. It was a long time coming!



Choir Luncheon at Valenti's



Culdee Presbyterian Church

916 HIGHWAY 73, WEST END
NORTH CAROLINA

Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what He has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8

Culdee Presbyterian Mission

Culdee Presbyterian Church will build caring relationships with our local and global community while proclaiming the Word of God and building up our faith community.

February Preaching Schedule

February 5th- The Life of Jesus: Sender Luke 10:1-11

February 12th – Sandy Stewart – The Life of Jesus: Servant Matthew 20: 20-28

February 19th – Transfiguration Sunday Matthew 17: 1-13

February 22nd –Ash Wednesday Isaiah 58: 1-12

February 26th – First Sunday in Lent – New Series:

Heart to Heart, Personal encounter with Jesus in the gospels.

Contact Us: Phone (910) 295-6685

www.culdeechurch.net

culdeepresbyterian@gmail.com