

The Lord's Day, December 14, 2014
"The Wonder of God's Wide Grace"
Matthew 2:1-12
Rev. Cory Colravy

Prayer List, Sunday, December 14, 2014

PRAY FOR UNSPOKEN REQUESTS

PRAY FOR OUR NATION AND OUR LEADERS

PRAY DAILY FOR OUR PASTOR AND STAFF

Rev. Cory D. Colravy, Pastor
Mrs. Glenda L. Delmar, CCS Principal
Mrs. Martha A. Middleton, Executive Administrator
Ms. Roseanne S. Culpepper, CCS Office Manager
Mr. Bryan M. Walker, CCS Bookkeeper
Mr. Art Stroh, Youth Director
Mr. Scott Perry, Music Leader

PRAY FOR UNSPOKEN REQUESTS

PRAY FOR OUR NATION AND OUR LEADERS

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND OUR MISSIONARIES

Sunday Jerry Cross% MTW, South America
Monday Bryan Walker*
Tuesday Melinda Wallace% MTW
Wednesday Kristie Delmar*
Thursday Emad Mikhail% MTW
Friday Rocky & Dawn Welch#
Saturday Mara Frazier*
(*Happy Birthday, #Happy Anniversary, %Missionary)

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY AT HOME AND ABROAD

Currently Deployed Overseas: Randy Miller (Joyce Post's grandson)

Currently Serving at Home Shawn Rost (Warren & Judy Kline's son-in-law), Brian Neal, Ben Hollo

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

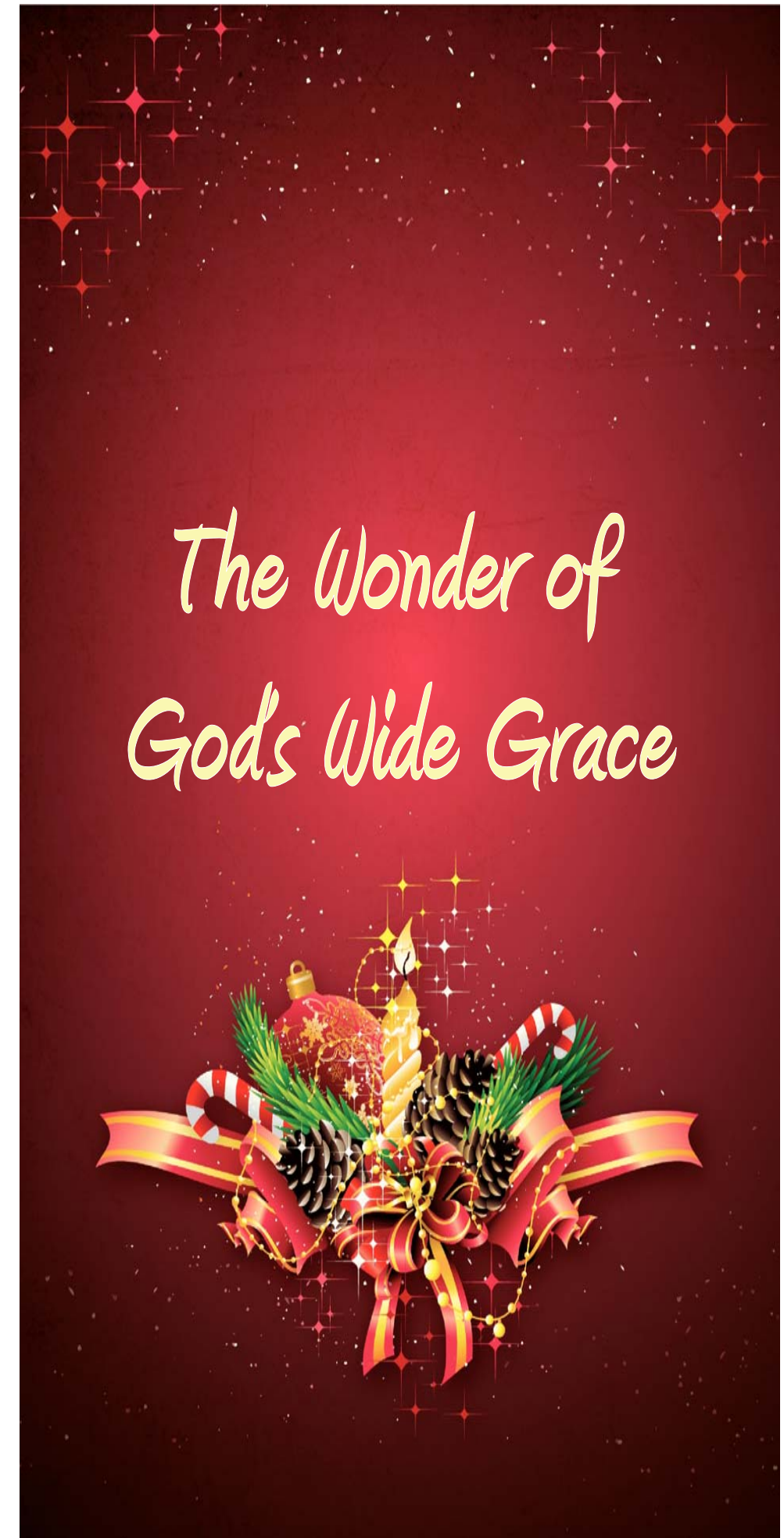
Cancer: Phil Khalife (Sonja Seidler's brother), Dawn Colravy (thyroid), Tracy Becker (wife of Concord PC Pastor, John Becker, double mastectomy), Alan Wise (Mara Frazier's family member, prostate cancer), Lee Broughton (friend of Martha Middleton, breast cancer), John Dudinski (Middleton's friend, skin cancer & chemotherapy), Gerald Skipper (Jan Langham's brother-in-law), Ruth Weber (Pastor Colravy's cousin, ovarian cancer), Charlene Elliott (CCS parent, blood cancer)

Illness: Brian Schreiber (Fred & Carrie Hayes Schreiber's son, blood disease), Fran Coyne (friend of the Steele's, aortic valve stenosis), Johnny Langham (Jack & Jan Langham's son), Robert Corr (Claire Phillips' brother, Parkinson's disease), Joy Thomas (Dawn Welch's mother, COPD), Carola Bickford (Barbie Shold's friend, knee surgery), Tyson Wellcome (Rocky Welch's cousin, facial injury & reconstructive surgery), Cheryl Gaudiano, Naomi (brain tumor surgery, step-daughter of James Thompson's friend Jeremy Williams), Ryan Colravy (Pastor Colravy's nephew, (chemotherapy & radiation), Helen Newman (Dawn Colravy's mother, MRSA infection), Jan Langham (back surgery), *Charlie Saunders (O'Lear family member)*

Special Need: Virginia Palmer, David & Toni Hill (Rusty Hill's parents), Melody Barton Lane family, Tom Bingham family, Richard Post family, Randy Tucker (Patty Ann Bruner's son, stroke recovery), Andrew & Lauren Walker Bahati (Andrew's immigration Visa)

Expectant Mothers: Anna Denny, Abby Stokes Wann (former member), Kristie Delmar

**Names in italics are new to the list this week.*



The Lord's Day, December 14, 2014

MORNING WORSHIP 10:30 A.M.
Third Sunday in Advent

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church

to all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and need strength;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Preparation for Worship Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast,
His hair was like a star.
(O stern and cunning are the kings,
But here the true hearts are.)

The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart,
His hair was like a fire.
(O weary, weary is the world,
But here the world's desire.)

The Christ-child stood at Mary's knee,
His hair was like a crown.
And all the flowers looked up at Him,
And all the stars looked down.

~ G.K. Chesterton, *A Christmas Carol*

Pastor's Welcome and Announcements

The Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ Brings True Rejoicing, Even Under the Cross. Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see *"the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful"* (James 5:11). Therefore, in the promise of the Gospel, *"be patient" and "establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand"* (James 5:8). Like John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as *"the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up"* (Matthew 11:5), so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also. He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His holy Church, so that *"sorrow and sighing shall flee away"* (Isaiah 35:10).

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Joy

Prelude "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" (T200)

*For those who are able, please stand at these times.

The Psalm Psalm 146

Prayer of Invocation and Praise

*Call to Worship I John 4:14, 16

*Hymn Medley of Praise "O Come All Ye Faithful" (T208)
"Once in Royal David's City" (T225)

*Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism, Question 125

Leader: **What does the fourth request of the Lord's Prayer mean?**
People: Give us this day our daily bread means,
Do take care of all our physical needs so that we come to know that you are the only source of everything good, and that neither our work and worry nor your gifts can do us any good without your blessing. And so help us to give up our trust in creatures and to put trust in you alone.

Old Testament Scripture Reading Isaiah 35:1-10

New Testament Scripture Reading James 5:7-11

Hymn of Response "As with Gladness Men of Old" (T226)

Children's Gospel Reading Matthew 2

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Special Music "How Many Kings"

Girls of Grace

Prayer of Illumination Psalm 119:133-134

Sermon Matthew 2:1-12

"The Wonder of God's Wide Grace"
Rev. Cory D. Colravy

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation Luke 22:14-23

Reading of the Law and Confession of Sin Matthew 7:7-14

Confession of Sin

Leader: **God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**
People: But we have too often presided as harsh judges over the lives of others. We have been quick to place blame on anything or anyone but ourselves. We have avoided our obligation to care or to help those in need.

Leader: **God blesses those whose hearts are pure, for they will see God.**
People: But we have defiled our hearts with idols of our own choosing, doubting that God will keep His Word and His promises. We continually compromise the truth by trying to find our meaning and security in our jobs, our friends, our pleasures, and our projects - but not in God.

Leader: **Lord, please show us your mercy.**
People: Lord, have mercy upon us in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Isaiah 53:5-6

Special Offering Covenant Mercy Ministry

Hymn of Meditation "What Child Is This?" (C281)

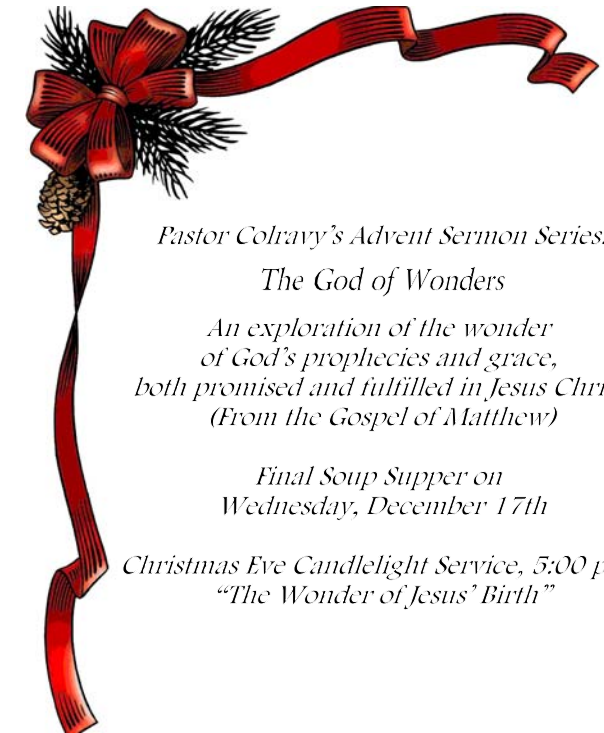
Distribution of Elements

*Charge and Benediction II Thessalonians 3:3

*Hymn of Benediction "O Come Let Us Adore Him"

We'll give You all the glory, we'll give You all the glory,
We'll give You all the glory, Christ the Lord.

*Postlude



Pastor Colravy's Advent Sermon Series:
The God of Wonders
An exploration of the wonder
of God's prophecies and grace,
both promised and fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
(From the Gospel of Matthew)
Final Soup Supper on
Wednesday, December 17th
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5:00 p.m.
"The Wonder of Jesus' Birth"

THIS WEEK, December 14-20, 2014

Today •Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
•Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall, 10:00 - 10:25 a.m.
•Morning worship, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday •Soup Supper, 5:30 pm.

Announcements

- ◆ **In Our Nursery Today:** Sunday School~ Megan Colravy
Morning Worship ~ Claire Zechman
- ◆ **Nursery Next Week:** Sunday School ~ Kim Thompson
Morning Worship ~ Jane Perry, Robyn Perry
- ◆ **WIC Bible Study:** Will not meet again until January 6, 2015
- ◆ **Budget Receipts, December 7, 2014**

Tithes/Offerings	\$	8,598.26
Building Fund		166.67
Seasonal Ministries		87.00
Mortgage Balance	\$	239,271.37

Covenant Presbyterian Church

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