Ye Fourth Creek Journal

First Presbyterian Church

November 2017

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Look! I'm doing a new thing; now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?
Isaiah 43:19a

renew

...be transformed by the renewing of your minds so that you can figure out what God's will is
Romans 12:2b

Stewardship Dedication Sunday is **November 12**.

Join us as we renew commitments and join God in renewing the world.

Preparation for Worship

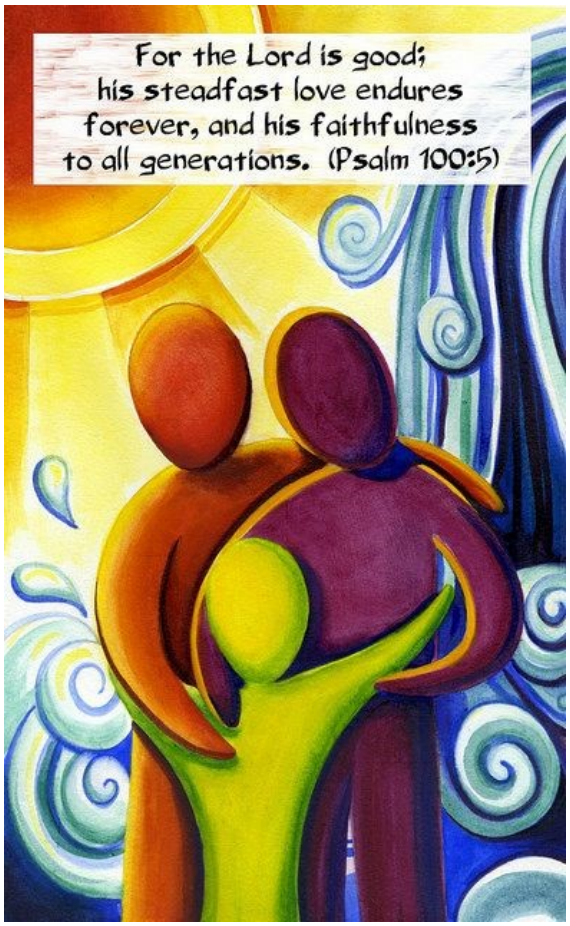
November 5
All Saints Sunday
Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:1-12
Steve Scott Preaching
Sermon: "Renew: New World, New Values"
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

November 12
The Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
Wes Pitts Preaching
Sermon: "Choosing God"
The Sacrament of Baptism

November 19
The Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
Steve Scott Preaching
Sermon: "Settling Accounts"

November 19
6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship
(child care by reservation)
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

November 26
Christ the King Sunday
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100
Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46
Steve Scott Preaching
Sermon: "Final Exam"



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Homecoming

"The Welcome Table"

Dear friends,

I want to thank everyone who made our Homecoming Celebration happen - elders who extended invitations; Melody Morrison Beaty, Neal Hayes, and all our choristers for enriching worship; Sarah Davis and the Congregational Life Ministry for all they did for our Homecoming lunch; Sloan Goforth for serving as emcee; Jane Lentz for preparing the scrolling slideshow; Wes Pitts for taking on more than one task; and not least of all, our Homecoming ensemble, Jim Tarman, Karla and Stewart Kincaid, David Parker, Jonna Sears, and Wes Palmes - we'll never forget "The Welcome Table." We thank Harriet Gilbert for sharing and nurturing a vision - as I announced, the Session has given her the honorary and affectionate title "Homecoming Queen."

Finally, I want to thank everyone who made a point of coming, including some friends we hadn't seen in awhile. Coming to worship and staying for lunch, you enriched the experience we all got to have.

Grace and peace!

Steve

Christian Education

Two weekday study opportunities begin in November!

The Grand Sweep returns!

We're restarting our year long study of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation! It's a challenging, yet eye-opening, study into our faith's holy scriptures. You'll read parts of the Bible you didn't even know existed as well as the most beloved parts—with the added benefit of it's full context. This Bible study is open to everyone—whether you've never read the Bible or have many times.

We'll meet every Tuesday evening from 6—7 pm beginning **November 7** in the Heritage Room

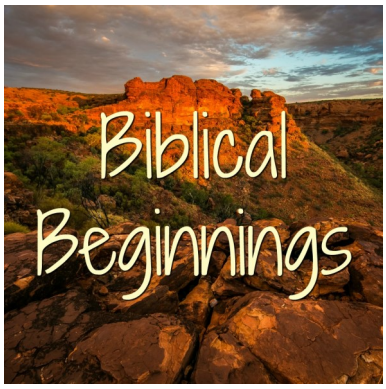
The Gospels are the favorite parts of the Bible for most Christians. In them we have some of the best loved stories of Jesus' good news. We'll be embarking on a new study of the gospels that will answer the questions: who wrote them, for what purpose, and what do they have to say for us today? Experience the 344 stories of Jesus in a new way—through an in depth study of Jesus' four interpreters, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, over the course of a year.

We'll meet every Wednesday from noon to 1:00pm beginning **November 1** in the Fellowship Room

Youth

The Youth Retreat planned for November 3-5 will be rescheduled for a later date in early Summer. An alternate activity will be planned for that weekend - watch for details in your email.

Our church's annual Thanksgiving Service is held November 19 at 6:00 pm. Youth are singing in the service, so there will not be regular youth that evening.



We continue going through the first two books of the Bible to learn the early history of our faith and what it can teach us today.

Family Movie Night—November 15, 6:00pm

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Inheriting the earth might seem attractive; meekness, however, at least in its general usage, is anything but. 'Meek' seems like something of an insult, suggesting someone unwilling to stand up for themselves, someone weak. What would the earth look like if the meek, of all people, inherited it? The word as it is used in scripture, however, holds two meanings – gentleness and strength. It is something to do with a discerned and appropriate use of power. No single word in the English language that combines these concepts helpfully… but we do find some help in a cartoon dog named Bolt.

Bolt is a 2008 Disney film that follows an eventful few weeks in the life of the eponymous dog hero. Bolt has been reared from puppyhood believing that he has superpowers: he is the hero of his own TV show and in order to ensure his 'method acting', he never leaves the studio, nor does he know that there is life outside of it: he believes that every stunt and special effect is real and that, in world filled with evil, he has the ability to protect his partner using his various superpowers.

When the program format is changed, Bolt and his partner/owner Penny are kept apart at the end of an episode, and the distressed Bolt escapes, finds his way into a packing box and is shipped across the country. The narrative of the film then follows two journeys. The first is Bolt's odyssey back across the U.S., the second is Bolt's coming home to himself – his painful (both physically and emotionally) recognition of his limitations and gradual acceptance of his identity as a 'regular dog'.

It is this second journey that is of most interest to us: Bolt comes face-to-face with the reality of who he is, and it's a difficult realization. His life to date had been an elaborate set-up and there are many, including Penny's emotionally illiterate agent, who had been totally invested in keeping him in that false world. He had never been hurt, never experienced hunger, and never experienced the world outside a Hollywood studio. The viewer is rightly moved as Bolt fails to recognize all the evidence of his limitations. All the powers that he trusted to protect him no longer worked, which means he got hurt physically. But the real pain was in the realization that he is not what he thought he was: 'if I don't chase bad guys then who am I?'

Perhaps we recognize that we too are often fed a packaged or staged view of the world. There are forces keen to prevent us from seeing ourselves for who we really are and the world for what it really is. Pope Francis makes precisely this point in *Laudato si'*, recognizing that many people are sold the lie that consumption is the only route to the good life. We are so immersed in that lie, our lives are so elaborately staged to deliver this message, that when something happens to knock us out of our delusion it can be utterly disorientating. We are left asking the question, 'who am I now?'

There is something here of what we experience on the journey of faith: of being loved as we are while also being called to play our part in building the Kingdom. It is a dynamic of true freedom, recognizing that we, and the world, are imperfect, but that even in the midst of this, we are loved. That love lifts us and gives us the will and energy to labor for something better, even if we know that the part we play may be very small. In this process, we can learn to live in the ordinary and to recognize how truly good and beautiful that is. In the end, Bolt discovers how to live fully and to enjoy the grace of life. He becomes meek, in the best sense of the word, discovers the reality of the world and so inherits the earth.

- By Edel McClean (this is an edited version of an article that appeared on thinkingandfaith.org)

Christian Education

November 6 and November 20

6:30 p.m.
Wine Maestro

WATER INTO WINE

Open to those interested in frank conversation about faith.

Facilitated by Wes Pitts, Carrilea Potter Hall and Justin Cox

Clinkers

Clinkers will meet for Dutch dinner on Thursday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m.
At Cozumel Restaurant, Signal Hill Drive

We hope anyone who wishes to celebrate with a fun crowd before the holiday rush begins will plan to be present.

RSVP by Nov. 15 to make a reservation so the tables will be set up for us to Wendell and Doris Worthington at: 704-872-5821

Presbyterian Women

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle #1
November 14, 10:00 a.m.
In the Fellowship Room

Circle #2
November 13, 2:00 p.m.
In the Fellowship Room.

Circle #3
November 14, 6:30 p.m.
At the home of Beth Bush
711 Maplewood Ln.

OWLS

Schedule Change

OWLS will meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month. This is a schedule change. The date for November will be Tuesday, November 17.

Fifth Street

We have the holidays coming up, so we need donations of the makings of a traditional thanksgiving meal.

Please watch for updates in the bulletin incase they may need help with the meal preparation.

Sanctuary Flowers

We are in the process of scheduling flowers for the sanctuary for the month of January and want to know what dates you prefer during the year for your family. Please call or email Jerry Barbee or the church office to reserve your date. Our goal is to have flowers in the sanctuary every Sunday!

Advent Preparation

We will gather to decorate the Sanctuary for Advent/Christmas on Wednesday, Nov. 29 beginning at 5:00pm. Please let Doris Worthington or Jim Tarman know if you are available to help. A soup and sandwich dinner will be served.

Congregational News

Sympathy: We share the hope we have in the Risen Christ with the family of Bob Brady, who died October 8, in Statesville.

Robert Elwood Brady
October 5, 1929—October 8, 2017
"I am the resurrection and the life"

. . . and with George Caudle and family, whose brother, Boyce Caudle, of Granite Quarry, NC, died Friday, October 6.

Memorials

Memorial Fund
In memory of Bob Brady
. . . Mrs. James V Johnson
. . . Nickie Crawford
. . . Rhyne and Ginnifer Scott
. . . Esther Cole
. . . Judith Watts

Music Fund
In memory of Ken and Patty White
. . . Esther Cole
In memory of Bob Brady
. . . Duke and Edith Williams

Organ Fund
In memory of Bob Brady
. . . Paul and Mary Gilbert

Grateful Hearts

Dear friends,

I thank all who have made a point of participating in Pastor Appreciation Month. Some of you I can thank personally for cards, tempting treats, and remembrances, and some of you I can thank only in a general way for tokens of appreciation and affection since you chose to be anonymous. Your encouragement and support mean a lot to me and make ministry here a rich experience. Thank you!!

Grace and peace!

Steve

Friends -

Every October you all shower so many amazing gifts and words of praise on me and Steve. It's a blessing to be a part of this congregation teaching, serving, and joining in fellowship with you all. Thank you all for all you do to make this congregation so vibrant and wonderful, and thank you for the gifts - from delicious baked goods to gifts cards, it means so much.

- Wes

To: Congregation of First Presbyterian,

What people could a person ask for than a Church family such as you. One that responds so generously and graciously during times of need by others. My family in the Islands thanks you immensely and pray Abundant Blessings for you all as well.

Thanks again!

Merlin Christian

Dear Rev. Scott, Rev. Pitts, Lamar, Lew, and John,

Thank you all so much for your long and faithful support of our Towns Habitat and its mission to provide safe, affordable housing in our local communities! Specifically, thank you too for kicking off our "Stuff the Truck" month for the new Statesville Restore! We are so excited about this presence in Statesville!

Blessings,

Amy Freeze

Mission

MAKING CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FOR OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED – A MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION TEAM

This Christmas season First Presbyterian Church the Mission Ministry is initiating the sponsoring of local families in need. This presents an opportunity to make a difference here in Statesville to a family or 2 where our holiday spirit and the gift of giving can bring a smile and, more importantly, the knowledge that God's love is present in their lives.

The Mission Ministry will provide a Christmas Tree here at the church for each family we sponsor decorated with names and ideas of appropriate gifts to fill needs and bring joy.

As the season nears, more details will be broadcast via the Sunday bulletin or voicemail message, so look for this great opportunity to open your heart to help and spread cheer and love here near home.

We thank you in advance for your gift of love for some of our neighbors in need.

For more details, you may contact Susan Hollingsworth at: shollingsworth1948@hotmail.com or John Downs at: johnadowns@roadrunner.com.

Thursday, Nov. 30 6:30 p.m.
Children's Hope Alliance
Benefit Christmas Concert
Melody Morrison Beaty, soprano
Youth Ensemble • Children's Chorus
Youth String Ensemble • Youth Soloists
Please come and invite friends
to enjoy the music of the season
while supporting a worthy ministry!

children's hope
ALLIANCE

The Pennies for Hunger funds for 2017 have been dispersed and community hunger programs received over $24,000 in grants! This includes two Statesville agencies - Iredell Christian Ministries (receiving $1,500) and Yokefellow ministries (receiving $2,000). Even small change adds up to big things!

Session 2017-2018

Stephen W. Scott
Moderator
David Parker
Clerk of Session
John Gilbert, III
Advisory Council

Class of 2018
Toni Conger
Sarah Davis
John Downs
Sloan Goforth
Sandra Milholland
Dick Sears

Class of 2019
John Childress
John Gilbert, III
Jane Lentz
Bill Long
Joan Scott
Ann Speaks

Class of 2020
Harriet Gilbert
David Parker
Carole Pickett
Susan Sharp
Jim Tarman
Scott Zanotti

Session Organization, 2017-18
Christian Education: John Childress (chairperson), Carol Pickett
Communication: Jane Lentz (chairperson), Sandra Milholland
Congregational Care: Harriet Gilbert (chairperson)
Fellowship: Sara Davis (chairperson), Toni Conger
Finance: Bill Long (chairperson), Joan Scott, John Gilbert
Mission: John Downs (chairperson), Susan Sharp, Scott Zanotti
Personnel: Sloan Goforth (chairperson), Ann Speaks, David Parker
Support Services: Dick Sears (chairperson), Scott Zanotti
Worship: Jim Tarman (chairperson)

♫ ♫ Music Notes ♫ ♫

Youth Choir
Regular rehearsals are from 5:00 to 6:00.
November 12 – Stewardship Sunday, Sing in Worship
November 19 – Evening Worship, Thanksgiving Service and Harvest Procession
December 3 – Sing in Worship
December 10 – Joy Gift Program, 5:00
December 17 – Messiah, 3:00, Youth Choir will join: "And the Glory" and "Hallelujah Chorus"

Handbell Choir Wednesday rehearsals - 5:45-6:45
November 12 – Stewardship Sunday
December 3 – Advent I
December 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 Service

Sanctuary Choir
Choir rehearsal, each Wednesday 7:00-8:15.
Preparations for Advent and Christmas are beginning now!
November 5 -
1:00 to 2:00 Community Messiah rehearsal; 12:15 - soup and sandwich
November 12 - Stewardship Sunday
November 19 - Evening worship, Thanksgiving Service and Harvest Procession - 5:00-6:00 Rehearsal

Cherub and Junior Choirs
Wednesdays
4:00-4:30 - Cherub Choir, beginner to 2nd grade
4:30-5:30 – Junior Choir, 3rd -5th grade
November 12 – Stewardship Sunday, Sing in Worship
November 19 – Evening Worship, Thanksgiving Service and Harvest Procession; 6:00 Warm-up
November 30 - 6:30 Children's Hope Alliance Benefit Concert, Community Children's Choir
December 3, 10, 17, 24 – Sing in Worship; Shine Advent Candle, Shine
December 10 – Joy Gift Program, 5:00; Dinner, 6:00

Community Messiah will be presented at First Presbyterian on December 17, 3:00. Mark the date and invite singers to join.
Community rehearsal schedule:
Nov 5, Dec 3 – 1:00-2:00, rehearsal; Soup and sandwich lunch, 12:15-12:45, guests are welcome.
Dec 13, 6:00 - Dress rehearsal
Dec 17, 1:00 Warm-up rehearsal and 3:00 performance

2018 Montreat Worship and Music Conference, June 24-29
Early bird registration saves money and ensures availability of favorite class selection.

Music in November

November 5
Anthem - Simple Gifts arr. Hopson - Sanctuary Choir

November 12
Anthem - Down to The River to Pray arr. Petterson Sanctuary Choir
Offertory - For the Beauty of the Earth arr. Childers
Hand Bell Choir with Gay Tatman, flute
Baptism Anthem - You Have Put on Christ - Hughes
Cherub and Junior Choirs
Introit - Morokeni arr. Krűge
Youth Choir

November 19
Anthem - Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing By Young Sanctuary Choir

Evening Thanksgiving Worship Service
Anthem - A Simple Thanksgiving arr. Martin
Youth and Sanctuary Choir
Children Sing Thanks arr. Shafferman
Cherub and Junior Choirs

November 26
Anthem - Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring - Bach
Sanctuary Choir

Preschool News

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

We would officially like to welcome Anita Craver to our FPC Preschool staff. Anita joins us in our Tuesday/Thursday one year old class and Monday/ Wednesday/Friday two year old class. Welcome to our preschool family Anita!

Preschool Field Trip

On Monday, October 2nd our four year old classes visited the fire station. Thank you to the Statesville Fire Department and Station 1 for our wonderful tour! We had a great time walking to the fire station and learning all about fire safety.

Chick-fil-A

Thursday, November 2nd from 5-8 PM is First Presbyterian Church Preschool Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A. Please bring family and friends out to join us and remember to tell them you are there to support FPC Preschool.

You're Invited!

On **Wednesday, November 8 from 5:30-7:00** we are having our fall preschool open house where we will officially recognize our new playground. We would love to have you join us for this special occasion!

Our three and four year old classes had so much fun with Ms. Laura last month learning all about dance and how to use dance as a creative means of self-expression. Thank you Ms. Laura for taking the time to come share this special gift with our children. For more information on the preschool dance classes at the YMCA, please contact Laura Hanson at l.hanson@ymcanwnc.org

November Responsibilities

Sanctuary Guild:
Sherry Harris, Teresa Kutteh

Open/Close the Church:
Richard Boyd

Ushers

November 5	Roy Morrison, Hewitt Linyard, George Moody, Nate Neely, Libby Weaver, Lew Wilson, William Bush
November 12	Brian Long, Rudy Davis, Sarah Davis, Carey Parker, Rodger Speaks, Julian West, Isaac Kauffman
November 19	Jim Pickett, Beth Davidson, Steve Hartzog, David Rothwell, Aiden Zanotti, Scott Zanotti
November 26	Don Searcy, Calvin Alexander, Ann Kincaid, Katie Long, Ryan Oliphant, Dylan Sutton

Nursery

November 5	Sherry George, Melinda Childress, Liz Petree
November 12	Natasha Austin, Falon Speaks, Annie Parker
November 19	Beth Davidson, Beth Setzer, Rachel Setzer
November 26	Beth Bush, Karen Kauffman, Heidi Kauffman

November Birthdays

1	Stamey Holland III
	James Howard
2	Carol Spell
3	Mary Lib Clausey
5	Karl Kirkman, Jr.
6	Rada Spencer
7	John Sharp
	Richard Hanson
9	Christine Brown
	Ben Bograd
10	Chris Hollingsworth
	Roy Morrison
	Susan Sharp
11	Ron Milam
13	Kim Austin
14	Joe Davidson
	Libby Kennedy
16	Suezi Long
	Margaret Wells Morgan
	Dave Rokes
17	Betty Boyd
	William Warlick
18	Alan Carpenter
	Alex Hollingsworth
19	Ann Kincaid
21	Michelle Rokes
	Fay Long
22	Ron Milam
26	Laurie Claire Davidson
28	Laurie Scott
29	Nancy Harris
	Andrew Cothren
	Caroline Cothren
30	Mary Gilbert
	Rebecca Jones
	Bryan George

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
125 N. Meeting Street
Statesville, NC 28677
(Return Service Requested)

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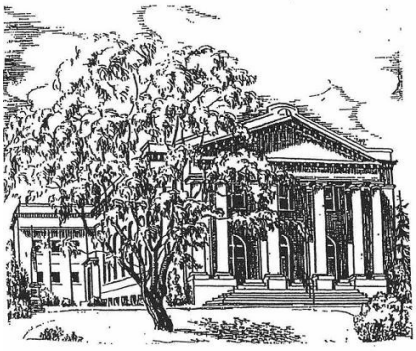

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Preschool Director
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November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			9:30 Piecemakers 10:00 Staff/Prayers 12:00 The Gospels 4:00 Cherub Choir 4:45 Junior Choir 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Sanctuary Choir			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Dinner 6:30 Youth Group	6:30 Water into Wine	6:00 The Grand Sweep	9:30 Piecemakers 10:00 Staff/Prayers 12:00 The Gospels 4:00 Cherub Choir 4:00 CE Ministry 4:45 Junior Choir 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Sanctuary Choir 5:30-7:00 Preschool Open House			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Second Sunday Lunch 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Dinner 6:30 Youth Group	2:00 Circle 2 7:00 Advisory Council	10:00 Circle 1 6:00 Endowment Board 6:00 The Grand Sweep 6:30 Circle 3	9:30 Piecemakers 10:00 Staff/Prayers 12:00 The Gospels 4:00 Cherub Choir 4:45 Junior Choir 5:45 Handbell Choir 6:00 Family Movie Night 7:00 Sanctuary Choir	6:30 Clinkers		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Dinner 6:30 Thanksgiving Worship 6:30 Youth Group	6:30 Water into Wine	12:30 OWLS 6:00 The Grand Sweep 6:30 Circle 3	9:30 Piecemakers 10:00 Staff/Prayers 12:00 The Gospels ***FCJ DEADLINE***	***Thanksgiving*** ***Office Closed***	***Office Closed***	
26	27	28	29	30		
9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 5:00 Youth Choir 6:00 Youth Dinner 6:30 Youth Group	6:00 Support Ministry 7:00 Session	6:00 The Grand Sweep	9:30 Piecemakers 10:00 Staff/Prayers 12:00 The Gospels 4:00 Cherub Choir 4:45 Junior Choir 5;00 Decorate Sanctuary 5:45 Handbell Choir 7:00 Sanctuary Choir			

Advent Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be placed in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 17, to remain throughout the Advent season. You may donate poinsettias in honor or in memory of someone. **The poinsettias placed in memory or in honor will remain in the sanctuary until after the worship service on Christmas Day.**

The Young Men's Bible Class will place poinsettias in honor of our homebound members. These honor flowers will be taken to the homebound members after the worship service on December 17.

Poinsettias are $14 each. Please complete the form below and return to the church office with your money by Monday, November 27. Names will be listed in the bulletin on Sunday, December 17, and Christmas Eve.

Please list names as you want them acknowledged in the bulletin.

In Memory of _____

_____

In Honor of _____

_____

By _____

Quantity _____ **Amount Paid** _____