



WALDENSIAN  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# WALDENSIAN HERALD

MAY 2022

*-Current News About Your Church-*

www.waldpres.org  
(828) 874-2531

April 24, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

It was wonderful celebrating Easter with you in person for the first time. The efforts of our choirs, musicians, handbells, worship committee, ushers, officers, members and staff coordinated to provide multiple opportunities for praise and reflection. There is no other season of the year where we are so reminded of God's advocacy *for us*. That message is especially poignant in a world where the daily headlines are so pre-occupied with brokenness and destruction. In the face of the terrible news that surrounds us on all the Good Fridays we experience in life is the ultimate news of Jesus resurrected. God intends no mere band-aid, but instead the ushering forth of new life, new wholeness! Just think what that offers each of us in the places we struggle. In our relationships, vocation, health, service, and circumstances, Christ can make all things new. That, dear ones, is extraordinarily good news, *gospel*.

In an interview with Bill Moyer, Desmond Tutu was asked about his preaching. He responded that he only preached one sermon, but he preached it over and over again. The sermon had to do with the theme of God's capacity to liberate the oppressed. He observed that he thought it was a word distinctly for black South Africans, but discovered, much to his surprise that it was perhaps even more provocative for white South Africans. The connection they often shared with him was that he had helped them understand that the great hunger or emptiness they felt inside was not something remedied by the acquisition of something external or extrinsic, like more power, prestige, material goods, or influence, but rather that the need was, in fact, something only God could satisfy intrinsically, from within by some internal transforming experience. Our thirst in things being different does not find its remedy in our situations becoming different through the transformation of our circumstances, but in our being transformed in ways to better face those circumstances. This reality is redemption for the non-Christian and sanctification for the Christian.

The Easter season is one where we celebrate the newness of life available in Christ. It is a blessing that challenges all of us to embrace that blessing anew. Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace,

John

# May

## CIRCLES MEETINGS

The Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team is scheduled to meet on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am in Room 200.

### ATTENTION:

Presbyterian Women have not celebrated the Birthday and Thank Offerings during the Pandemic. On May 2, 2022, all Presbyterian Women are invited to a luncheon at noon in Pioneer Hall. (\$6.00) This will be to celebrate and collect the Birthday Offering. Please let your circle chairperson know if you plan to attend. If you are new to the church or do not belong to a circle and would like to attend the luncheon, please call or text Elsie Whisenant at 828-446-7820 as soon as possible. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> celebration of this Offering and the many projects it has funded! (Note: We will also be collecting canned goods for our church food pantry.)

### Presbyterian Women

#### Mission Project for May:

Clothing Bank (First Baptist)  
Needs: Spring/summer wear,  
Women's tops – XXL and XL,  
Shirts for girls – sizes 10-14,  
Shirts for boys – sizes 12-16

## MAY WORSHIP

	<u>May 1</u>
8:30am	Connections
11:00am	Traditional Worship
	<u>May 8</u>
8:30am	Connections
11:00am	Traditional Worship
	<u>May 15</u>
11:00am	Unified Worship
	<u>May 22</u>
8:30am	Connections
11:00am	Traditional Worship
	<u>May 29</u>
8:30am	Connections
11:00am	Traditional Worship

## MAY COMMITTEES

### Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

2:00 PM Christian Action

### Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>

6:15 PM Diaconate

### Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

7:30pm Communications

### Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

1:30 AM No Worship

4:00 PM No Outreach

### Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>

6:30 PM Personnel

### Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM Fellowship

### Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

4:00 PM Stewardship/Finance

### Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

6:00 PM Session



As I write, we have recently completed multiple worship services during Holy Week and Easter. What a wide range of emotions and biblical events we had the opportunity to experience throughout the week: hearing the Word from John, Jason, community ministers at midday service, our Scripture readers on Good Friday, and congregants during responses; glorious music from Chancel Choir, Grace Notes, soloists, a variety of instrumentalists, the choir from Mt. Zion, our congregation raising their collective voices in song; the intimate introspection of gathering at the "long table" in small groups as John and Jason led small groups of us in a quiet observance of The Last Supper; the natural beauty at the Easter sunrise service including full moon, rising sun, cherry trees in full bloom, birds singing, remembrances of those we love who have gone before us, all surrounding us as we gathered at the Waldensian cemetery.

As your director of music, the choral and instrumental music of Holy Week and Easter has moved me deeply this year, especially as we have tried to make up for time lost during the Pandemic shutdown. Our singers and instrumentalists and I have worked together diligently over the last few months to get those pieces of music to the place where we could offer them to God and to you for our worship. You hear from me often that I appreciate our faithful musicians. Chancel Choir and Grace Notes met the challenge of preparing for three worship opportunities this past week with major music components in each. I know they must have been as exhausted as Carla and I were by noon on Easter, but without complaint and with genuine love for what they do, they all sang and played their hearts out to God. The blended

### EVERYONE INVITED!

Our Outreach Committee invites everyone to come out for a cleanup day at Valdese Lakeside Park on May 7 at 11am. Bags and gloves will be provided by the town, but other gear is welcomed.

*"I think that we have to clean the beach at Lakeside Park. It's important to keep our beautiful waters and earth clean. We could spend time together in fellowship doing something that will clean up a park that a lot of our members have supported. Let us all go out and do a service to people and spend time outside with each other for a good purpose."*

- Wade Garrison



choral sound was striking and beautiful to me as I stood in their midst to conduct, and I give thanks to God each week as it unfolds. It is never quite the same on even the best recording, but the sounds they made all together "live" have reverberated in my mind since, and I am grateful that we have all gotten to share that music together. Every voice matters, and when they listen to one another's voices and blend their sound as they have come to do well, we are all blessed to hear their offering. Jessica, Ray and Sidney, thank you for singing beautiful, emotion-filled solos during those services, too. I am also grateful to our team of videographers who record our services so that those who are not able to attend can experience them, too.

We have such amazing instrumentalists in our own church, and their willingness to play with us brings us all joy. Thank you to Carla Sperry (organ and piano), Melinda Davis (flute), Rob and Marissa Williams (percussion), Corey Smith (guitar), and to guests Emily Jones (oboe), RJ Wohlman (violin), Allison Bormuth ('cello), Anna Sheppard and Seth Henderson (trumpets), Ben Salliard (trombone) and Chris Moore (tuba).

I am thankful to and have great respect for our staff and Worship Committee, chaired by Mary Murray, for their planning and collaboration to cover details over these months. John and Jason and I had the chance to sit down together several times to plan these worship services, and I am grateful for the collegial work between us. Rita did such wonderful work, as always, on all the many bulletins and inserts we asked of her. She and I pass bulletin drafts back and forth multiple times each week. She keeps us all centered and reminded of what we need to do, and our gratitude for her is boundless.

Although some illnesses and absences kept our Connections Band from playing and singing on Easter as we had planned, I know that people who have attended Connections since we started back to that early service in

January can tell you how much the Band is enjoying working together each week. We have learned and shared some new music as well as including some more familiar songs. For April 24 and May 1 while I am on vacation, Jim Cockerham and Allan Bonner are joining the group to sing and play some great music during those two Connections services. I am thankful to all of them and to Maria Smith, who chose the playlists and is coordinating this effort.

Each of the vocal/choral groups and our Handbell Choir will participate in our **Music Appreciation Day** combined service at **11:00 on Sunday, May 15**. We hope you can be with us.

God is with us.  
Laurie Nicholson



As I was brainstorming for this article, I looked at recipes, looked at Pinterest, racked my brain, and under a box on my table/desk, there it was, "LIVING" by Martha Stewart. I cannot believe that this magazine has finally come in handy. If I am honest, I usually just look at the pictures. Whether you love her or "hate" her, sooner or later she does give nuggets of helpfulness.

This month's magazine gives tips on cleaning three spring greens, leeks, spring onions/ramps and radishes.

LEEKs: Often associated with Easter, they hold a lot of dirt. It is recommended to cut them apart and float in a bowl of water, and the dirt will settle on the bottom. Now, I knew that, but if Martha says so, than it must be so 😊.

SPRING ONIONS/RAMPS: Ramps have a very short growing season and are usually found in the wild. Both veggies have a gritty root end and need to be rubbed off under running faucet water. Use your fingers.

RADISHES: Separate the bulb from the leaf. Wash the bulb with a vegetable brush and store separately from the greens. Wash greens, spin dry and store in refrigerator. Add the greens to your salad.

There you go, all I can say is thanks, Martha.

Bon Appetit!  
Coron Jordan

---

Our April Community Assistance Committee offering totaled \$390. Thanks for your support!



**WORSHIP**  
ONLINE

To view Rev. Frye's sermon each Sunday, you may go to the church website, [www.waldpres.org](http://www.waldpres.org), and click on the YouTube link. Choose the service date you wish to view.

---

## Waldensian Heritage Museum

Now open Tuesday thru Friday  
Morning Tour at 11:00am  
Afternoon Tour at 2:00pm  
Groups of 6 or less by appointment

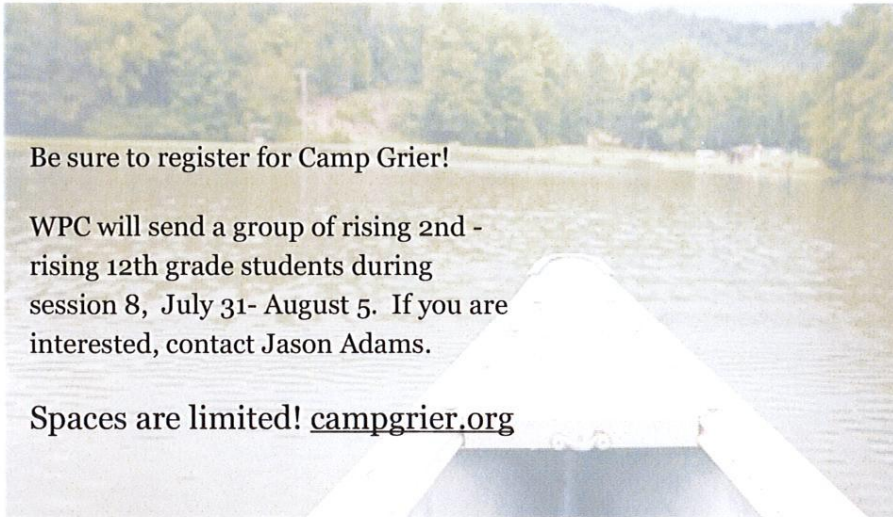
Please call the museum at 828-874-1111 to schedule a tour. Face masks are required while inside the museum. We look forward to seeing you!

---

During Traditional worship on May 22, we will recognize our graduates. One of our members, **Joseph Heilman**, will be graduating from Draughn High School! We also celebrate the graduation of Draughn High School seniors: **Jazmine Powel, Evan Lambert, Skylar Mull, Jake Hudson, and Kaylee Carter**. These students are active in the WPC Youth program.



C O N G R A T S !



Be sure to register for Camp Grier!

WPC will send a group of rising 2nd - rising 12th grade students during session 8, July 31- August 5. If you are interested, contact Jason Adams.

Spaces are limited! [campgrier.org](http://campgrier.org)

The 2022 Easter egg hunt was so much fun! A special thank you to

---

all who helped make this event a success. WPC Youth hid eggs and our CA members taught the kids

---

the meaning of our Easter joy!



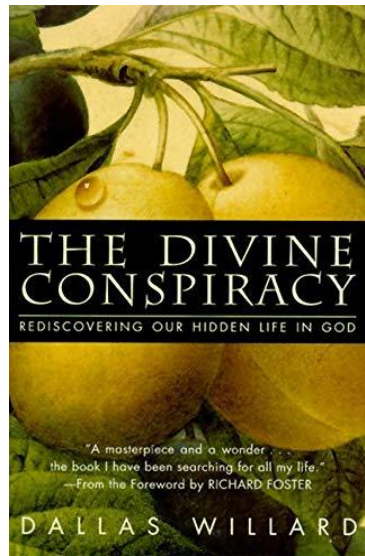
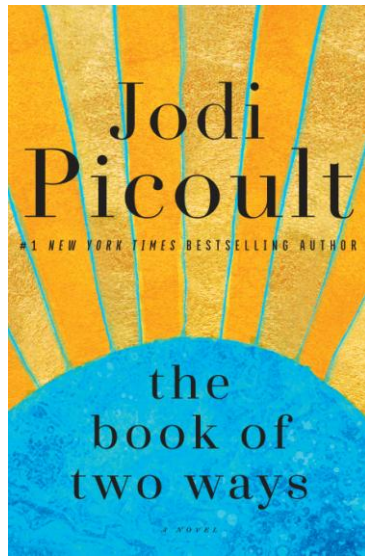
# Christian Action



## WPC Youth

The middle and high school youth have been exploring the historical aspects of Roman crucifixion and Jewish burial practices during the first century A.D. We wrapped up April with discussions centered around the disciples reaction to Jesus' resurrection. Even the youth of today are interested in discussing what the early church was discussing 2000 years ago!

**WPC Youth meets: Wednesday @ 6  
Sunday @ 5:30**



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Join us as we explore books in our small group setting. These groups are designed to allow readers several weeks to acquire and read the selected books. The format of the book discussions includes provided questions and group discussions in an informal setting. Books are selected from recommendations from group members.

All are welcome to participate. Feel free to come when you can and/or come when you are interested in what is being read and discussed. Feel free to come each time, to either or both groups.

*Please be considerate when borrowing books from the public library and check out only one of our selections at a time.*

### Afternoon Book Discussion Group- 4:00pm

(meets outside the second Thursday of the month)

Thursday, May 12 – *The Book of Two Ways* by Jodi Picoult

Thursday, June 9 – *The Last Child* by John Hart

Thursday, July 14 – *Come Fly the World* by Julia Cooke

Thursday, August 11 – *The Henna Artist* by Aika Joshi

### Faith Matters Group – 3pm (note new time)

(meets in Room 200 the fourth Sunday of the month)

Sunday, May 1 – *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden life in God (Part Two)* by Dallas Willard

Sunday, May 22 – *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden* by Yossi Klein Halevi

Sunday, June 26 – *The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus's Final Days in Jerusalem* by Marcus J. Borg

Sunday, July 24 – *Desire of the Everlasting Hills: The World Before and After Jesus* by Thomas Cahill

Sunday, August 28 – *God and the Rhetoric of Sexuality* by Phyllis Trible

# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

## Stated Session Meeting Minutes February 27, 2022

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS is a condensed form of the minutes that contains reports and approved motions. An unabridged copy of the Stated Session Meeting Minutes is available in the church office during business hours.

The Session gathered in Room 200 on Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting began with a prayer and devotional by Rev. Dr. John Frye, the moderator, who called the meeting to order. The routine actions within the Consent Agenda were approved:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting, as corrected, of January 23, 2022.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Called Meeting of the Trustees of the Corporation on January 30, 2022.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Called Meeting of Session on January 30, 2022.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Congregational Meeting on February 6, 2022.

Motion: To approve the Annual Statistical Report.

### Clerk's Report

Linda Rostan stated that the action items of her report were approved in the Consent Agenda. The following items were noted:

1. The sale of Property on Pineburr has been completed. The church received payment in the amount of \$1000 from MKX Enterprises on February 25, 2022.
2. The Sacrament of Baptism was held for Timothy Hutson Stillwell on February 20, 2022. Communion was also served on the same date for the Emancipation Celebration Service.
3. Communion will be served on April 14, 2022, for the Community

Maundy Thursday Service at 12:00 o'clock noon and also for the Maundy Thursday Service from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Both services will be held in the Sanctuary at WPC.

4. The Minister's Compensation Report has been sent to the Presbytery Committee on Ministry.
5. The meeting of Presbytery was Saturday, January 29, 2022. The virtual meeting was hosted by First Presbyterian Church Belmont, NC.
6. The next Presbytery Meeting will be Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at the Montreat Conference Center in Montreat. Our commissioners to that meeting will be John Heilman and Willie Pascal who were approved at the January Session Meeting. Reverend Frye will also be in attendance.
7. The following correspondence was provided to the members of session: Presbytery Commissioner Roster, Presbytery in Brief for January 29, 2022, 2021 Contributions to Presbytery of Western North Carolina Statement, Nickel-a-Meal Program, National Fund for Sacred Places.

### Pastor's Report

Rev. John Frye stated that he was grateful for the participation at the Officer's Retreat. He challenged the officer's to begin thinking ahead for the next officer's retreat that would hopefully be soon after the installation of a new pastor. Having a facilitator already in place would be a significant help to the new pastor.

Rev. Frye noted that funeral services were being held again in the sanctuary (as Covid restrictions allow) and it is a great comfort for the family and congregation to have the officers in attendance as a pastoral overture. He invited the officers to think about sitting together during the funeral services for church members when not sitting with family. He commended Willie Pascal for ringing the church bell for a recent committal service at the cemetery, saying that standing on the hill in the cemetery the grieving family could

clearly hear the tolling of the church bell and it was powerful reminder that the church had not forgotten them.

He continued his report, noting that he would be putting together an Inquirer's Class during the next few weeks with a luncheon and would be asking a couple of officers to be present for the possibility of having one or more express a desire to unite with the church.

Rev. Frye asked about having the Community Assistance Ministry to present an annual report to the session giving a better understanding of who and how this ministry helps families within the community.

### Treasurer's Report

John Heilman briefed members of session on the Incoming Revenue and Expenses for January 2022, reporting that the Income Revenue was down slightly from the monthly average at \$28,656 and the Expenses at \$42,207 were down as well. Both shortfalls are typical for the first month of the year. He continued to the Designated General Funds, explaining that the balance of fund #204113 has been corrected to \$46,815. This education fund is one that helps to balance the annual budget. Fund #120004 will be removed from the financials due to the sale of the parcel of land on Pineburr Avenue.

John reviewed the 2021 End of Year Report for the Endowed Funds reporting that the significant increase in the total values were due to a good market year. He explained that the endowments work for us in every aspect of balancing the budget, doing renovations, providing education, as well as our mission endeavors. A discussion was held, and questions were asked and answered.

The Director of Music, six youths, and two additional chaperones will attend the Montreat Music Conference in June. The cost will be \$5,729. They are seeking \$3,329 additional funding from S&F. The motion from committee was affirmed.

Motion: S&F moves that the needed \$3,329 be taken from the Adult and Children's Music accounts located in the Restricted Memorials and Donation

(#204019) to be used to fund the Montreat Music Conference Retreat.

#### Property Committee

John Williams reported that the old nativity scene was stored in the museum garage and if it is to be used again, the barn would need to be repaired. CA indicated that the live nativity was abandoned due to a lack of adult volunteers. After discussion, CA will go back to committee and ask about the possibility of displaying the nativity on the front lawn during the observance of Christmas.

There was discussion concerning the needed renovations and repairs to the Education Building as suggested by the session and diaconate during the officer retreat walk-through of the property which included bathrooms, painting, cleaning, potential roof leak, ceiling and wall repairs, windows, landscaping, exterior pressure washing, and painting. The committee will begin getting quotes for repairs.

#### Stewardship and Finance

Jim Furr stated that new financial software is being researched to replace the current outdated software. He also reported that due to C19 there was no Annual Financial Review for Year ending 2020. S&F will begin conducting an Annual Financial Review for 2021. S&F made the motion to approve the Review Committee. The motion was approved.

Motion: To approve Jim Furr, Steve Mullis, Tom Rice, and Debbie Garrou (insurance procedures) to conduct WPC's Annual Financial Review for the Year ending 2021.

#### Worship

Mary Murray presented the following motion from the Worship Committee. The motion was approved.

Motion: Holy Week Services be held in person at WPC the week of April 11-15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. Rev. John Frye will preach at the noon Maundy Thursday service and pre-packaged communion elements will be served.

The Lord's Supper will also be served at the 5:30-7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service on April 14<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that a

reminder should always be in the bulletin for the benefit of guests, distinguishing the red wine from the white grape juice during the celebration of the Lord's Supper at WPC. The motion concerning the postlude was made and approved.

Motion: As the Postlude is a part of our worship, we ask the congregation and choir to be seated as the music is played. If you need to leave before the Postlude is finished, we ask that you do so quietly so that others may listen.

#### Christian Action

Judy Waldrop noted that Girl Scout Sunday will be changed from March 13<sup>th</sup> to March 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### Communications

Jeff Jacumin mentioned that the Communications Committee would be meeting the next day with new committee members and one of the things to be discussed would be the contract with the internet server and potentially changing to a new platform once the new website is completed. A discussion on including S&F a new platform would allow the financial software to interface on the website would be welcomed. Their discussions will continue, and updates will be provided to the Session.

#### Outreach

Willie Pascal, no additional report.

#### Fellowship

Marian Hartman reported that the committee had met and were preparing to start the drive through meals again on March 2. Coron and members of the committee would like to have a brief survey available to the congregation to provide the committee with feedback about favorite meals, how the Wednesday Fellowship Dinners can improve, and what the congregation wants the ministry to look like.

#### Missions

Debra Garrou presented the information from Samaritan's Purse on sponsoring an Afghan refugee family for 90 days. The session discussed the long-range plan for the family, commitment from the church, needed resources, community engagement, and

anticipated outcome of the project. All members of the Afghan Refugee Family (ARF) Task Force are going through an intensive training process and instruction on receiving a family. Every action they take must be documented and they are meeting with other sponsoring agents who also answer their concerns.

Motion: WPC will apply to host an Afghan Refugee Family at the Tron House going through Samaritan's Purse and utilizing Federal Funding. Additional funding would be received through the church, any other applicable government programs, and funds from the Mission Committee Budget.

The motion, from committee was unanimously accepted on faith and with the understanding that Missions would proceed with a plan to engage the session, the congregation, and the community throughout the process in order to have everyone prepared to welcome and love this potential new family.

In addition, the Valdese Rotary Club asked WPC to participate in *STOP HUNGAR NOW*, a food packaging event that plans to send 35,000 meals of beans and rice for Haiti.

#### Nominating and Endowment

Mary-Louise Hatley reported that all but three of the required members of Nominating Committee were slated for approval. Once the remaining positions are filled it will be ready to present to the congregation for approval at a Congregational Meeting in March or early April.

#### Personnel

David Fletcher had no additional report.

#### Diaconate

Teresa Jacumin, no additional report.

With business concluded and adjournment voted, the Stated Session Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. at which time the officers stood, held hands, and prayed together with Rev. John Frye. The next Stated Meeting of Session will be at 6:00 p.m., Sunday, March 27, 2022.

Submitted by  
Linda Rostan, Clerk of Session

WPC YOUTH WILL HOST A FUNDRAISER:



**PORK BBQ**

**PLATE DINNER**

**MAY 14**

**4-6 PM**

**\$10 PLATES** INCLUDE SLAW & BAKED BEANS

PROCEEDS WILL HELP FUND THE WPC YOUTH SUMMER BEACH TRIP TO THE OUTERBANKS

- BBQ WILL BE MADE BY A MASTER BBQ JUDGE WHO KNOWS HOW IT "OUGHT TO BE"



# Attention Graduates!

The Christian Action Committee would like to recognize you for all your accomplishments during worship on Sunday, May 22, 2022. This will include all graduates regardless of age: high school, college, or graduate school. If you wish to be recognized, we must have your information in to the church office as soon as possible. A short write-up on you will be in an upcoming Herald and in the Graduate Sunday bulletin. Parents are encouraged to work with their son/daughter in turning in their summary as soon as possible. Use additional pages, if needed.

Name of Graduate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

School Graduating From: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree/Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Accomplishments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Clubs/Honors: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Sports: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special Recognitions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

College/Future Plans: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Waldensian Presbyterian Church**  
**109 Main Street E**  
**Valdese, NC 28690**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Permit No. 12  
Valdese, NC

\*\*\*Return Service Requested



## **MINISTERS & SUPPORT**

---

Interim Pastor. . . . . Rev. Dr. John Frye  
Director of Christian Education. . . . . Jason Adams  
Director of Music. . . . . Laurie Nicholson  
Organist. . . . . Carla Sperry  
Office Manager. . . . . Rita Spivey  
Financial Secretary. . . . . Kela Cannon  
Kitchen Coordinator. . . . . Coron Jordan  
Part-Time Maintenance. . . . . Fred Smith  
Church Treasurer. . . . . John Heilman  
Clerk of Session. . . . . Linda Rostan