



PRITCHARD  
*at South End*

CHARLOTTE, NC

# MESSENGER

Volume 55 Issue 9 *(no publications April, May, June)*

December 2020



*Christmas  
Eve*  
*at Pritchard*

December 24 | 5:00 PM | Pritchard Sanctuary

  **OVERFLOW**  
SOUTH END



## **Rev. Bobby Morrow**

### **Pastor**

[bmorrow@pritchardchurch.com](mailto:bmorrow@pritchardchurch.com)

We are entering another season of Advent. We anticipate the celebration of the coming of the Christ Child, the promised covenant of God. As everything else in 2020, you may be anticipating that this year's celebration will be different. If you haven't chosen to be back in worship with us, you may be enjoying the beauty of our Sanctuary through your computer or television. You may not be able to gather with family as is your tradition and it may change your level of excitement. I do want to encourage you to be fully connected during December. Those who have worshipped in person with us can attest to the fact that our people have been great about being safety conscious. They are wearing masks, sitting socially distanced and refraining from shaking hands and hugging. I would love to encourage more of you to join us on Sundays in person. We also have the Saturday night option now of Overflow. The same precautions are being used there and we have been very pleased with the results. I can tell you without hesitation, you will receive more blessing being there in person than you will watching at home.

We will be looking at God's Covenant, God's Comfort, God's Compassion, God's Community and God's Christ during our worship together. There is just something so comforting about returning to the story of God's love for us expressed so deeply through his gift of His Son to us. In a year where everything has been different, we need something that has not changed. We need something that is the same, familiar and encouraging. We need to be reminded of a message that has survived wars, earthquakes, and pandemics before, and will this time, too.

Our God is not surprised by anything that is happening now in our world. Many of us can't believe some of the evil that is now in our world. We can't believe the level of sin we see openly expressed in so many people's lives. We are shocked by the level of hatred expressed toward those who have differing opinions on today's issues. We are surprised that so many not only don't believe in Jesus, but they are also openly hostile towards those who do. God has seen it all before. Remember, He destroyed the world once before because there was a level of sin He would not tolerate. Our God remains in control.

Christmas gives us a chance to celebrate together the plan He implemented to save us. No matter what this world throws our way we do not fear because we are His! The world needs this message and the only ones sharing it is us, Christians. I pray that this is going to be a great time of celebration for you regardless of whether it is what is traditional or brand new for you. Let's get excited about a message that is 2000 years old and still brings the only hope for our future. I hope to see many of you celebrating with us this Christmas season.

In His Love,  
Bobby Morrow





**Rev. Stan Heiser**  
**Associate Pastor,**  
**Pastoral Care & Senior Adults**  
 sheiser@pritchardchurch.com

### Summerfest 2021

It's time to start making plans to attend one of our two weeks...May 17-21 or August 9-13, 2021. Or do as some and attend both weeks!

You may be asking yourself *"What is SummerFest?"* SummerFest is a five-day, four-night retreat for adults 50 and above, that happens twice a year at Fort Caswell on Oak Island, NC. The two weeks include times for worship, entertainment, classes that are of interest to adults (Bible studies, fishing off the pier, art class, jewelry making, Fancy Finds Road Show for furniture refinishing class, water aerobics, and special classes from NCBAM), meeting new friends, sharing laughs, riding adult size tricycles/bicycles all over campus, swimming in the Atlantic Ocean or Fort Caswell's Olympic size swimming pool, visiting special places in the Southport Community, a ferry boat ride over to Fort Fisher and Carolina Beach where we pick up some homemade Brett's Donuts, delicious meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) served right on campus, the sights and sounds of being at the mouth of the Cape Fear River and the Atlantic Ocean, just across from Bald Head Island and Southport on the mainland. The cost for each week is \$340.00 per person which includes your lodging for four nights, meals for five days, conference registration (which covers speakers, entertainers, special interest classes), and transportation to/from on a rental mini bus if you prefer not to drive yourself.

### Who will be leading us this year?

- Mike Cogdill – Proclaimer for our worship services both weeks each morning at 11:00 AM.
- Mark Cabaniss – Worship Leader/Choir Director each morning at 11:00 AM, Tuesday night entertainer for both weeks.
- Larry Keesler – Pianist once again for both weeks.

### Entertainers:

- May 17 – Scott Mason (Raleigh, NC TV Personality)
- August 9 - Nixon Blevins and Gage
- May 18 and August 10 – Mark Cabaniss in concert
- May 19 and August 11 – Marcus Hamilton ("Dennis the Menace" Cartoonist)
- May 20 and August 12 – Communion by water front at sunset led by Doug Cole (SummerFest Leadership Team).

We'll have a Silent Auction again to support our Endowment Funds that help underwrite and keep down the expenses of our SummerFest programs each year.

Our theme for the week is "THE GIFT" (2 Corinthians 9:15). If you have any questions, please contact me. You can sign up on Realm or contact the Church Office at 704-376-1571. This just might make a special Christmas gift! I hope you will join us for SummerFest...a life changing week at Fort Caswell!

### "Once There Was A Star"

"Once There Was A Star" is a video I narrated in December 2019 for NCBAM's Christmas video greeting card. This video has become the most watched of all the NCBAM videos. As people are viewing it again this year, some have already said the story about "A Star" is bringing them comfort, hope and encouragement as we continue to go through the pandemic/Covid-19, and into a new year and decade. If you haven't seen it or you would like to see it again, go to [www.ncbam.org](http://www.ncbam.org) and pull up resources, go down to NCBAM Video Library and the first video is "Once There Was A Star". I hope it will be meaningful to you, too! Here are the words of the poem -

## "Once There Was A Star"

*Before the garment hem. Before the fish.  
 Before the bread.*

*Before the footprints on the waters face.  
 Before the nails. Before the cross....there was a Star.*

*Brilliant, Vibrant, Glorious...  
 It announced. It called. It drew men from distances.  
 They came. They sought. They asked.  
 There was a Star.  
 Compelling them. Calling them. Captivating them.*

*Bearing tokens of adoration. Gold for a high King.  
 Frankincense to a worthy God.  
 Myrrh for a future power.*

*And still...their deeper gifts  
 Sacrifice, humility, worship.  
 There....there they found what gave  
 their hearts their life and journey purpose.  
 The Star...its light.*

**A SON!**

*A radiant and magnificent Son.  
 Brighter than the darkness filling up the night.  
 A Son who still calls, still invites, still captivates.  
 And still....using...stars!*

Merry Christmas to you from the Heiser Family,  
 Stan, Donna, Lindsey, Shannon and Rob



**Sherry Shaw**  
**Minister to Children & Families**  
 sshaw@pritchardchurch.com

### Pritchard Kids and Overflow Kids

#### Birthday Party for Jesus -

We will have our Birthday Party for Jesus December 5 and 6 through our Saturday Overflow Kids and Sunday morning Bible study. **This is a FREE event, but I need an RSVP to know how much to prepare.** Please RSVP by December 1.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Sleepover -

January 8-9 (6:00 PM Friday to 10:00 AM Saturday). Cost is \$10 (covers meals, materials and snacks). Please RSVP by January 2. This is an overnight slumber party for our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls. We will be discussing purity, caring for our bodies and how to deal with mean girls.

#### Bible Discoverers -

We have been going on an Adventure of Discovery in our Bible study time. This month we will be looking at the events leading up to Jesus' birth. Come join us Saturdays at 4:45 PM or Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM.

### Christmas Cards

Due to fewer people coming on campus because of Covid, we will **not** have our Children in Action Post Office to mail your Christmas cards this year.

### Operation Christmas Child

Many thanks to those who filled a box for Operation Christmas Child. A total of 62 boxes were delivered by James Phillips to Samaritan's Purse. We are no longer accepting boxes. If you have one you haven't turned in yet, please take it directly to Samaritan's Purse.

## Stewardship Update

### Revenues & Expenses – Summary OCTOBER 2020

	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenues	\$115,608	\$122,349	\$1,163,282	\$1,303,598
Total Expenses	\$134,051	\$144,269	\$1,120,183	\$1,295,991
Net Total	\$(18,443)	\$(21,476)	\$43,099	\$7,607

Pritchard Memorial showed a loss of \$18,443 for the month of October. Our year-to-date net total is a positive \$43,099.



**Rev. Brack Ballard**  
**Minister to Youth  
 and College-Aged Students**  
 bballard@pritchardchurch.com

Hello Pritchard Family!

First, I want to share the exciting news that two individuals from our youth family will be baptized soon! Noah Henderson accepted his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, into his heart on Thursday, November 5. Also, one of our volunteers, Amanda Berkman, has rededicated her life! We rejoice in the Lord and ask that you would keep them in your prayers!

Our youth have some exciting things to look forward to in December! First, we are having our Christmas party on Saturday, December 19! We will continue our normal schedule the first two weeks of December (the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>) as we engage in a study called, "Best Christmas Ever!"

Our college ministry continues to thrive through community and fellowship. We will be getting together on the evening of December 5 after Overflow and on December 20 via Zoom to continue our study of Daniel, "Fire and Faithfulness."

Thank you for your support and prayers for our ministries at Pritchard. If you know or meet any 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade or college-aged students, please send them my way, so we can get them connected to the wonderful things going on here at Pritchard!

Blessings, Brack Ballard

### End-of-Year Titles and Offerings

This is the season of giving and many of you may want to make year-end contributions. For your contribution to be credited and included on your 2020 statement, it must be placed in Sunday's offering or delivered to the Church Office by December 31. Contributions received after December 31, even with a December date on the check, will be recorded in 2021.

Your 2020 contribution statements will be emailed or placed in the mail no later than January 31. All inquiries, with respect to omissions or discrepancies, should be brought to the accounting office and each concern will be promptly investigated.

Thanks in advance for your generosity that allows Pritchard to make a difference in the lives of many.



**Rev. David Bailes**  
**Minister of Music**  
**and Outreach**  
 dbailes@pritchardchurch.com

### Music/Worship Ministry

The Advent/Christmas season is here! Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Who would have thought that this year's celebration of the season would be so much different than ever before? Just as Covid-19 has had a profound effect on virtually every facet of life, it has also had a major impact on our music/worship celebrations. We would normally be anticipating a Broadway-style Christmas musical or a full scale worship concert-style presentation. We would be looking forward to the participation of our children's choir, youth choir, handbells, orchestra and Sunago singers singing and playing music of the season.

Covid has caused a major adjustment in, but not the elimination of, the sharing the music of Advent/Christmas! We are excited that we will share multiple virtual choir videos during the season. We will also have special solos and live instrumental selections. Of course, we will share in the beauty of the decorated Sanctuary and the Advent Candle lighting/reading.

So be encouraged! Covid has thrown a lot at us, but it will not defeat the joyful celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the Lord!



DECEMBER

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 5th 12th 19th

4:45 PM – 6:15 PM **Overflow Kids & Youth**

5:05 PM – 6:05 PM **Overflow Service (Overflow Center)**

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 24th

5:00 PM **Christmas Eve Service (Pritchard Sanctuary)**

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 27th

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM **Pritchard/Overflow Kids, Youth & Adult Bible Study**

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM **Sunday Morning Celebration (Pritchard Sanctuary)**

December 26th there will be NO Overflow Kids, Youth & service. In lieu of Overflow Saturday night, everyone is invited to join us Sunday morning at Pritchard!



**OVERFLOW**  
 SOUTH END

## Save the Dates: 2021

For 2021, Overflow will start back Saturday, January 9.

PLEASE SAVE Saturday, January 23 for a big NEW YEAR kick-off **after the service**.

This will be a big CHURCHWIDE Overflow/Pritchard Celebration with food trucks to kick-off the new year!

**INVITE FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**

# PRITCHARD PULPIT

## 10:30 AM WORSHIP

REV. BOBBY MORROW

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

**SERMON:** "GOD'S COVENANT"

**SCRIPTURE:** MALACHI 3:1

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

**SERMON:** "GOD'S COMFORT"

**SCRIPTURE:** ISAIAH 40:1, JOHN 14:1-6

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

**SERMON:** "GOD'S COMPASSION"

**SCRIPTURE:** ISAIAH 4:13, EPHESIANS 2:4-5

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

**SERMON:** "GOD'S COMMUNITY"

**SCRIPTURE:** HEBREWS 10:24-25

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

**SERMON:** "WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE TREE COMES DOWN?"

# Sanctuary Flowers

## Sunday, December 13

The flowers resting on the Sanctuary piano are placed in loving memory of Jerry Rogers, devoted husband of Elaine Rogers, organist, pianist, and Music Associate for many years here at Pritchard. The location is meant to acknowledge the 50+ years of music they made together for us in this place, as well as how God is honored through family and song. The four generations of Rogers now at Pritchard still miss his voice, and we place these flowers in grateful remembrance of his impact on and guidance during our lives.

## Poinsettias

The poinsettias that decorate the Sanctuary in December are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Amon and Imogene Baucom. They are placed by the families of Chip Baucom and Angela Livingston.

## Remembering Someone Special

Is there a particular month or day that's a special time for you or your family? Maybe a milestone birthday or anniversary? Maybe you want to honor someone special? Or remember a loved one? If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary on one of the following open dates in 2021, please contact Lynn or Katrina in the Church Office.

*January 3, 10, 17; February 7, 21; March 7, 14; April 18, 25;  
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; June 27; July 4, 18, 25; August 15, 29;  
September 5, 12; October 10, 17, 24, 31; November 21.*

## From the Media Center by Katrina Gore

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!

Remember the Reason for the Season! Wishing all a Merry Christmas!



### Silent Night Holy Night by Colleen Coble

**Silent Night** - As Christmas day nears, Bree Matthews and her faithful search-and-rescue dog Samson follow the trail of a troubling mystery into the snowy forests of Rock Harbor. Bree Matthews and her husband are preparing for Christmas guests when word arrives that a parachuter has disappeared in the North Woods, along Lake Superior's icy shore. Bree and Samson plunge into the search. Will this snowy, silent night search lead Bree and Samson to the missing girl?

**Holy Night** - One sinister phone call has derailed their Christmas wedding. Will it keep them apart forever? Leia and Bane are looking forward to their long-awaited Christmas wedding on the beach. Everything is going as planned until Leia's phone rings. A muffled voice informs Leia that her sister has been kidnapped and will be killed unless Leia calls off the wedding without explanation and no police. If she disobeys instructions and tells Bane, she will risk her beloved sister's life. Will he ever trust her again if she lies to him now?

**The Twelve Teas of Christmas** by Emilie Barnes - Brimming with inspiration this book is the perfect way to enjoy the season. A time of memories with family and friends can be yours with creative entertaining and decorating ideas, delicious menus with easy-to-follow instructions, and sentimental stories about best-loved Christmas customs.

**The Christmas Child** by Max Lucado - Why would someone steal the Christ child from a manger scene? And what could this possibly have to do with me? A Chicago journalist finds himself in a small Texas town on Christmas Eve. On a lonely quest, he encounters old faces and new facts...a hand-carved manger, a father's guilt, a young girl's faith. This trip into the past holds the key to his future.

**CHECK OUT OUR CHRISTMAS-THEMED BOOKS!**





#### **Tuesday, December 1**

10:30 AM—Women on Mission

3:00 PM—Afternoon Bible Study Group

#### **Wednesday, December 2**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House)

2:00-6:00 PM—Fine Arts Piano and Dance

6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM)

7:00 PM—Bible Study led by Bobby Morrow (ZOOM)

#### **Thursday, December 3**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)

#### **Friday, December 4**

#### **Saturday, December 5**

11:00-11:45 AM—Fine Arts Dance

4:45 PM-6:15 PM—Overflow Kids "Birthday Party for Jesus"

5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service

4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Youth (Loft)

6:30 PM—Agape Ministry Meet Up

#### **Sunday, December 6**

8:00 AM—Corporate Prayer Time

9:15 AM—Sunday School

9:15 AM—Pritchard Kids "Birthday Party for Jesus"

10:30 AM—Worship Service

#### **Monday, December 7**

4:00-8:00 PM—Fine Arts Dance

#### **Tuesday, December 8**

#### **Wednesday, December 9**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House)

2:00-6:00 PM—Fine Arts Piano and Dance

6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM)

7:00 PM—Bible Study led by Kristen Tucker (ZOOM)

#### **Thursday, December 10**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)

#### **Friday, December 11**

#### **Saturday, December 12**

11:00-11:45 AM—Fine Arts Dance

4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Kids

5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service

4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Youth (Loft)

#### **Sunday, December 13**

8:00 AM—Corporate Prayer Time

9:15 AM—Sunday School

9:15 AM—Agape Ministry Sunday School

10:30 AM—Worship Service

#### **Monday, December 14**

4:00-8:00 PM—Fine Arts Dance

6:00 PM—Deacons Meeting

#### **Tuesday, December 15**

#### **Wednesday, December 16**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House)

2:00-6:00 PM—Fine Arts Piano and Dance

6:30-7:00 PM—Fellowship (ZOOM)

7:00 PM—Bible Study led by Stan Heiser (ZOOM)

#### **Thursday, December 17**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)

#### **Friday, December 18**

#### **Saturday, December 19**

11:00-11:45 AM—Fine Arts Dance

4:45 PM-6:15 PM—Overflow Kids

5:05-6:15 PM—Overflow Service

4:45-6:15 PM—Overflow Youth Christmas Party (Loft)

#### **Sunday, December 20**

8:00 AM—Corporate Prayer Time

9:15 AM—Sunday School

10:30 AM—Worship Service

6:00-9:00 PM—Agape Ministry (College Age) (ZOOM)

#### **Monday, December 21**

#### **Tuesday, December 22**

#### **Wednesday, December 23**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House)

NO BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER MEETING (CHRISTMAS BREAK)

#### **Thursday, December 24**

5:00 PM—Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Service

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

#### **Friday, December 25....CHRISTMAS DAY**

CHURCH CAMPUS CLOSED/NO ACTIVITIES



#### **Saturday, December 26**

NO OVERFLOW SERVICE OR ACTIVITIES/CAMPUS CLOSED

#### **Sunday, December 27**

8:00 AM—Corporate Prayer Time

9:15 AM—Sunday School

10:30 AM—Worship Service

#### **Monday, December 28**

#### **Tuesday, December 29**

#### **Wednesday, December 30**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Carolina Steak House)

NO BIBLE STUDY/PRAYER MEETING (NEW YEAR'S BREAK)

#### **Thursday, December 31**

## Notes of Thanks

Dear Pritchard Family,

*All of us in the Walker family would like to say thank you to each and every one of you for your continued thoughts, prayers and cards. It means so much to Myra and I to keep being reminded that we are not forgotten during this time of turmoil and her sickness - that God does work through prayers and members like you. Myra not being able to attend and participate in the fellowship is extremely difficult for her, but when I read these cards and scriptures to her that you so lovingly send - just for that one small moment in time - it brings her so much happiness. Please keep us in your prayers and thoughts; and hopefully some day we will be able to visit again. May God Bless each of you!*

Love,

Terry, Myra, Matthew and Madison

*Thank you for your many thoughts and prayers for my sister, Doris Rogers, who recently passed away. Please continue to remember her daughter, son-in-law and grandson.*

Elaine Rogers

Dear Church Family,

*Thank you so much for all your cards, notes of encouragement and especially your prayers over the past few months. It means a lot to have a church family like you.*

Linda and Larry Robinson

## Office Staff Anniversaries

Congratulations to Lynn Plyler who is celebrating 29 years on Pritchard's staff. Stan Heiser hired her as our Receptionist on December 2, 1991 and she now serves as our Executive Assistant for Administration and Education. We love and appreciate you, Lynn!

*"We give thanks to God always for you...."*  
1 Thessalonians 1:2

## We Express Our Love and Sympathy to:

- ~ David and Hope Riggins in the passing of his mother, and Bob Riggins in the passing of his grandmother, Barbara Riggins.
- ~ Craig Poole and family in the passing of his wife, Faye Poole.
- ~ Sandy and Delane Bryant in the passing of her mother, Betty Graham.
- ~ Maxine Drake and family in the passing of her aunt, cousin and college roommate.
- ~ The family and friends in the passing of Norma Mace.
- ~ Marion McGaha and family in the passing of her brother-in-law.
- ~ Mike Upchurch and family in the passing of his father-in-law, Jack Youngs.

## Birth Announcement

Pritchard celebrates the birth of Rhys Harmon Erickson, son of Clayton and Caitlin Erickson, born November 16, 2020. He weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21" long. Big sister is Charlie. Grandparents are Mac and Meg McCormick.

## Welcome to Our New Members!



### By Baptism:

Noah Henderson



### Rededication/Baptism:

Amanda Berkman

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	Rev. Bobby Morrow
Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care & Senior Adults.....	Rev. Stan Heiser
Minister of Music & Outreach.....	Rev. David Bailes
Associate Pastor, Spiritual Development & Communication.....	Rev. Kristen Tucker
Minister to Children & Families.....	Sherry Shaw
Minister to Youth & College Aged Students.....	Rev. Brack Ballard
Administrator.....	Doug Burkhart
Executive Assistant for Administration & Education.....	Lynn Plyler
Office Assistant/Media Center Director.....	Katrina Gore
Accounting Clerk.....	Cindy Gamwell
Maintenance.....	James Phillips
Chef.....	Qunita Dashiell
Grounds Keeper.....	Dewight Little
AV Director.....	Joe Hicks



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