



PRITCHARD  
*at South End*

CHARLOTTE, NC

# MESSENGER

Volume 58 Issue 2

February 2023



Wednesday, February 22  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Linda Wallace Maguire (wife of former Pritchard Pastor Jack Maguire) will be sharing her stunning new novel entitled, *"I'll Be Seeing You" - the past comes alive and love never dies!*

Also, our very own Paul Miner will present a mini concert!

**COST:** \$10.00 (payable at the door). Lunch catered by Cracker Barrel.

**MENU:** Baked potato bar with all the fixins' and dessert.

RSVP to the Church Office or on Realm by: Wednesday, February 15

Wear your green as we'll be celebrating St. Patrick's Day!

The best place to be is *together* with the *sweet spirits!*



# Chris Richardson

*Pastor*

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

## The Patient Work of God

As many of you may have already picked up on, patience is not exactly my strongest virtue. When I was small, I would sprint through the cavernous halls of my childhood church, nearly causing catastrophe after catastrophe for the older adults that were trying to share the space. Like a racecar, I would dart in and out of traffic in those halls, knowing that wherever I was going, I needed to get there QUICK!

I've taken on all kinds of disciplines and prayers since: "God give me patience" I ask as I sit at the red light, or as I help the kids with math homework. Discipline has helped, slow work to get better results: exercise, Greek or Hebrew, writing, or studying. But at the root, I am still a 21st century person, caught in a culture of impatience and already short on the quality to begin with.

So when it comes to my calling and vocation, there is a certain irony in seeking to embrace the ways and the work of Jesus: the kingdom is like a garden, the kingdom is like a mustard seed, the kingdom is like a field of wheat interspersed with weeds. You can't rush it, and you can't cause it to do anything. God does the growing because God is the source.

I am excited to invite you to join us over the coming weeks and months leading to Easter. We're going to be embarking on a longer series, "The Agriculture of Jesus" starting at the beginning of February. We'll be considering and looking at the ways Jesus taught about kingdom growth and kingdom mindset. I want to invite you to come to our Ash Wednesday event. Details are in progress, but it will be a come and go type of thing. You'll probably want to allocate about 30 minutes or so for it and we'll have extended hours to hopefully accommodate schedules. And then I want to invite you to consider taking on a new discipline between Ash Wednesday and Easter, maybe a commitment to a richer prayer life, or to studying one of the Gospels in greater depth, or to \*gulp\* fasting. We'll have some printed packets to help walk you through it, but for now please be prayerfully considering: God where are you seeking to plant seeds and grow those seeds in my spiritual life? I'm so honored and delighted to be part of this church, and look forward to growing with you and with our Lord, together.

Pastor Chris



## Rev. Stan Heiser

Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care and Senior Adults

sheiser@pritchardchurch.com

### SummerFest May 15-19 "Attitude of Gratitude" (Philippians 2:5 NIV)

I am so happy to announce that SummerFest will take place May 15-19. Last year, we safely held our seniors favorite retreat at NC Baptist Coastal Retreat and Conference Center at Fort Caswell on Oak Island, NC. Our SummerFest team from across NC and which I am a member, are glad to share that we are excited about our key leaders, interest group leaders and entertainers that will be joining our events in May and August this year! You can find those names that I shared with you in the January newsletter. This will be a weeklong CELEBRATION like we have never presented before! It is time for you sign up for May. New this year, you must pay half of the total fee (\$182.50) when you register. Total cost for the week is \$365.00 per person. We only increased the program by \$25.00. Many have signed up already...it is time for you, too! Come, like so many before, and make your special memories with your experiences at SummerFest 2023!

### Sweet Spirits

Calling all adults 50 and above to attend our Sweet Spirits gathering Wednesday, February 22 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. We'll have great fellowship, a delicious meal from Cracker Barrel, a time of singing old timey songs, a special guest speaker and soloist. We'll be celebrating St. Patrick's Day and we ask that you wear green! You can find more information on the front of this newsletter. Reservation deadline is Wednesday, February 15 so we can turn our final number in to Cracker Barrel. Sign up on Realm, call the Church Office or see me down front (near Solomon Chapel) after worship each Sunday. Remember, the BEST place to be is TOGETHER with the Sweet Spirits!

### NC Baptist Aging Ministry 2022 Ministry Highlights



NCBAM strong! *"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." "For aging adults who are lonely, in frail health, and need help for the journey from the North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry, the march goes on."*

NCBAM received two major gifts in 2022. We were blessed to be the recipient of an annual tractor ride fundraiser that kicks off the Southeast Old Threshers' Reunion each summer at

(continued in the next column....)

Denton Farm Park. NCBAM received \$29,947 for Rampin' Up 2022! These funds were matched by 49 churches to purchase lumber for 62 wheelchair ramps built across the state. Ramps built in 2022 were up 34% over our last (pre-pandemic) Rampin' Up 2018.

The second gift NCBAM received was a grant from FEMA to improve the safety of countless older adults through the \$40,000 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant. We're so grateful for the trust FEMA has placed in NCBAM and in church volunteers by awarding us a second grant for \$78,000 to use in 2023-2024.

For the past seven years, it has been my privilege to serve as chairman of NCBAM AAIM. As I begin my eighth year, I look forward to getting back out live with our outstanding leadership team members from across the state of NC at our Aging Well Conferences March 16 (Cary), March 23 (Lewisville), and March 31 (Asheville). We hold our statewide NCBAM AAIM ROUNDUP at Griffith Baptist Church in Winston Salem May 2, then leading sessions at SummerFest at Fort Caswell in May and August.

NCBAM AAIM - North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry and Aging Adults Innovating Ministry offers "help for the journey" for all senior adults throughout all 100 counties of NC with the help of partnering churches, like Pritchard and volunteers from across all 100 counties. NCBAM is a jewel for the NC Baptist State Convention.



## Rev. Brack Ballard

Minister to Youth and College-Aged Students

bballard@pritchardchurch.com

Hello Pritchard family!

The spring semester is off and running! We have a big trip coming up in February! On Sundays we are playing games, eating food, building community, and diving into God's word. We are excited for the month of February and everything that will be in store!

Our Youth Winter Retreat will be held Saturday, February 18 (8:00 AM) - Monday, February 20 (2:00 PM). We have planned a weekend of relaxation, skiing/snowboarding (optional), Bible study, and fellowship! This retreat is designed specifically for Pritchard Youth. We have rented a private cabin that has an indoor pool, movie theater, and game room! We will engage in our Bible study/worship, meals and free time in the cabin and there is an option to ski/snowboard or hangout at the lodge in Gatlinburg, TN. All final payments were due January 31. This retreat has limited space - 20 students spots and 5 designated chaperone positions. Included in the cost: 2 nights at the cabin, ski/snowboard rental (bibs not included, add on cost), ski ticket and all meals.

SAVE-THE-DATE

# MEN'S RETREAT

FEBRUARY 17-19  
Cheraw State Park



COST: \$130.00 per person (includes all meals)  
Scholarships available  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 8

Inspirational program presented by  
Pastor Steve Chastain

Activities include golf, hiking, fishing, target shooting

Great food and fellowship!  
Make your reservation today for this special weekend!

## Pritchard's Thrift Store and WMU Mission Shoppe

*Shop.....Save.....Support*

### Report for 2022

We would like to thank those who have continued to support the WMU Mission Shoppe with their donations and/or shopping at the Thrift Store. We had the best year since the Thrift Store started in 2014 and we no longer have our yard sales. This year you helped us raise \$7,484.57 for the Baptist Men Local Project Fund.

We have many repeat customers that see our ad on Craigs List. We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to come and check us out also!

We are still using the National Kidney Foundation for pick-ups when they are needed. We would like to remind you that "The National Kidney Foundation is the leading organization in the U.S. dedicated to the awareness, prevention and treatment of kidney disease for hundreds of thousands of healthcare professionals, millions of patients and their families, and tens of millions of Americans at risk".

We ask that all clothes be either new, or gently used and that all other items be in good working order. Since we sell to the public and so does the Kidney Foundation, we need items that someone else is willing to purchase. We appreciate your desire to help with this important mission project. **Please note these are items we CANNOT take:** *TV's, entertainment centers, beds, mattresses, car seats, and magazines over 1 year old.*

We pray that you will continue to support the Baptist Men's Local Project Fund with your donations to the Thrift Store. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Farson or Nancy Elder.

THANK YOU  
for donating

thank  
you

Dear Pritchard Family,

Thank you for the love, support and prayers during the illness and death of my sister, Kathy. Thank you for the cards and encouraging words you gave me. I can feel the prayers for me and my family.

Love to everyone,  
Fifi Green

To my Pritchard family,

I wanted to thank each and every one of you for the way you have taken care of my family since the day we received Oakley's diagnosis. There are no words to express the gratitude I have for this church. You have shown up for us in every way possible and we have felt your love, your support, and your presence. The prayers have sustained us. The food has nourished us. The gifts have brought joy. The donations have made things possible that otherwise would not have been. Oakley does not know what is going on with her diagnosis – all she knows right now is that people at her church love her, care for her, and show up to make her feel special in big ways. Thank you for every way you have helped us the last couple of months – financially, physically, prayerfully. I will never forget how you have shown up for us and it will forever be my standard for what God's church should look like. I know you will continue to pray with us for Oakley – she is, after all, a princess in an unshakeable Kingdom.

Love,  
Haley, Oakley & Rawlings



## Adam Calderone

Recreation Director

acalderone@pritchardchurch.com

On January 25, Pritchard Recreation hosted our first ever **CMS Teacher Work Day Camp**. The idea was simple: provide a space for kids to come while they were out of school on a random Wednesday in January. Parents were able to drop their kids off for a full day of basketball, connect four, air hockey, and of course the class favorite, swamp ball (a modified dodgeball game). 22 kids attended, a successful turnout for our first ever event! Our next Teacher Work Day camp is scheduled for March 7!



*Look at all the pizza these kids went through!!!*

### Recreation Basketball

Recreation basketball is winding down and heading towards the playoffs. Wish all of our teams luck as we compete for a championship!



*Our Pritchard team excited after a big win!*

### Summer Camp Update:

Finalized dates will be out in February, with camps ranging from ages 5-11. With lots of different opportunities available for kids, they are sure to have a blast! Don't miss out!!

## Video Shoot

Parable Media will be on campus **February 26** to capture the life of Pritchard. They will visit Sunday Bible Study classes, capture our Worship Celebration as well as our members interacting with each other. We ask that you go about your business, as normal, and let them get the candid footage they need to make a great video. Why? We know that potential visitors research our church before they step foot onto our campus. We want their first impression of us to be great and to up to date. Photo rights and permission forms are available to members 18 years and younger. A Photo Release Form for children and youth needs to be filled out and either emailed or handed to Melissa Wisor. Persons that are above 18 years old are subject to having their video taken.

## Knit Wits

You ladies are so special using your talents to make prayer shawls, lap blankets and baby blankets. The response we're getting from the recipients are they are very comforting and they feel the prayers. This is such a special ministry and is blessing so many! Melissa Wisor shared with us, *"I wanted to let you know that I've started receiving feedback from some of the CDC families and they love their new blankets. We gave two more away last week and one yesterday."* As you can see, we are touching so many! Thank you for being a part of this ministry. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 22 following Sweet Spirits. Come join us!

Jean Milford and Nancy Parris

HAPPY  
*Anniversary!*

Congratulations to David Bailes who serves as our Minister of Music and Outreach. He joined our staff back on February 1, 2006. David has faithfully led us for 17 years in "singing and making melody" in our hearts to the Lord (Ephesians 5:19).

Congratulations also to James Phillips who handles Custodial and Maintenance at Pritchard. He came aboard on February 22, 1962. Yes, you read that right! James has been with us for 61 years!

We're celebrating another anniversary with Jeannie Sigmon who serves as our Accounting Assistant. We were blessed to hire her a year ago on February 28, 2022.

David, James and Jeannie - we appreciate each of you and the special ministry you bring to Pritchard. This month, we celebrate YOU! We love you!

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

# PRITCHARD PULPIT

**10:30 AM WORSHIP**

PASTOR CHRIS RICHARDSON

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

**SERMON:** "BETWEEN TREES"

**SCRIPTURE:** GENESIS 3, REVELATION 22

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

**SERMON:** "PAUL AND APOLLOS"

**SCRIPTURE:** 1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**

**SERMON:** "THE SEEDS OF THE KINGDOM"

**SCRIPTURE:** MARK 4:26-32

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

**SERMON:** "THE DNA OF FRUIT"

**SCRIPTURE:** LUKE 6:43-45

## Sanctuary Flowers

**Sunday, February 12**

The flowers on the altar table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Melissa Goforth. You are always in our hearts. They are placed by her parents, Buddy and Kathy Goforth.

**Sunday, February 26**

The flowers on the altar table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jean Ferguson, James and Eula Ferguson on their birthdays. They are placed by Reggie and Sarah Ferguson, and Susan Brown.

## Remembering Someone Special

If there is someone in your life you'd like to remember in a special way, consider placing flowers in the Sanctuary one Sunday. There are several dates available throughout the year. It's an easy and inexpensive gesture that the recipient always appreciates. Anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, milestones of any kind to remembering the loss of someone dear to your heart. Dates available: *March 2, 19, 26; April 30; May 7, 14, 21, 28; June 4, 18, 25; July 2, 16, 23, 30; August 6, 20, 27; September 3; October 8, 15, 22, 29; November 12, 19, 26.* Please call the Church Office to reserve your date today!



## From the Media Center by Katrina Gore

### LOVE THE WORLD

Enjoy reading about different parts of the world!

*Once upon an Irish Summer* by Lisa T. Bergren

Obsessed with the legendary pirate Grace O'Malley, American Fiona Burke arrives in Ireland to write her Ph.D. dissertation on the outlaw queen. When she accepts the help of O'Malley's handsome descendant, Rory, somebody tries to foil her research efforts. Will her Irish summer yield the information she needs? (IRELAND)

*Enchanted Isle* by Melanie Dobson

Jenny Winter enjoys the Lake District of England for two months to take pictures of the surrounding nature. Adrian Kemp is a local resident who shows her his father's deserted island amusement park. Together they uncover an unsolved murder. The two must now work together to restore this lost dream. (ENGLAND)

*Forgiving Paris* by Karen Kingsbury

Sure, Paris is romantic. But it's also the city where Ashley made her biggest mistake. So, when she and her husband return for their 20th wedding anniversary, her feelings are mixed. Will a "chance" meeting with an old friend shift her perspective--- and persuade her that God can bring blessings, even from our stumbles? (FRANCE)



### **Wednesday, February 1**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)  
10:00 AM-4:00 PM—Thrift Store open  
6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, February 2**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)  
7:00-8:00 PM—"Jesus on Trial" ZOOM Class

### **Friday, February 3**

### **Saturday, February 4**

4:15-5:15 PM—Overflow University (Williams Lounge)

### **Sunday, February 5**

9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School  
10:30 AM—Worship Celebration

### **Monday, February 6**

### **Tuesday, February 7**

10:30 AM—Women on Mission  
3:00 PM—Afternoon Bible Study (Spence home)  
6:30 PM—Zoom Fellowship/Bible study/Prayer Time

### **Wednesday, February 8**

#### **\*\*\*DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR MEN'S RETREAT**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)  
6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, February 9**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)  
10:15-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers  
6:30 PM—Endowment Committee Meeting (P200)  
7:00-8:00 PM—"Jesus on Trial" ZOOM Class

### **Friday, February 10**

### **Saturday, February 11**

4:15-5:15 PM—Overflow University (Williams Lounge)

### **Sunday, February 12**

9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School  
10:30 AM—Worship Celebration

### **Monday, February 13**

6:30 PM—Deacons Meeting (P200)

### **Tuesday, February 14**

10:00 AM—See and Sew  
6:30 PM—Zoom Fellowship/Bible Study/Prayer Time

### **Wednesday, February 15**

#### **\*\*\*DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR SWEET SPIRITS**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)  
10:00 AM-4:00 PM—Thrift Store open  
6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, February 16**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)  
10:15-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers  
7:00-8:00 PM—"Jesus on Trial" ZOOM Class

### **Friday, February 17**

4:00 PM—Men's Retreat in Cheraw, SC

### **Saturday, February 18**

8:00 AM—Youth leave for ski trip  
4:15-5:15 PM—Overflow University (Williams Lounge)

### **Sunday, February 19**

9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School  
10:30 AM—Worship Celebration  
1:00 PM—Men's Retreat concludes  
2:00 PM—Youth return from ski trip

### **Monday, February 20**

### **Tuesday, February 21**

6:30 PM—Zoom Fellowship/Bible study/Prayer Time

### **Wednesday, February 22**

6:30-7:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)  
11:00 AM-1:00 PM—Sweet Spirits Program/Lunch  
12:00-7:00 PM—Ash Wednesday event (Sanctuary)  
1:00 PM—Knit Wits  
6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, February 23**

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Americana)  
10:15-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers  
7:00-8:00 PM—"Jesus on Trial" ZOOM Class

### **Friday, February 24**

### **Saturday, February 25**

4:15-5:15 PM—Overflow University (Williams Lounge)

### **Sunday, February 26**

9:15-10:15 AM—Sunday School  
10:30 AM—Worship Celebration

### **Monday, February 27**

### **Tuesday, February 28**

10:00 AM—Volunteers to Crisis Assistance  
6:30 PM—Zoom Fellowship/Bible study/Prayer Time



# Stewardship Update: December 2022 Revenues and Expenses Summary

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Revenue	\$235,748	\$253,158	\$1,466,776	\$1,519,398
Expenses	\$126,947	\$121,106	\$1,368,919	\$1,519,398
Net Income	\$108,801	\$132,052	\$97,857	\$0.00

- Our actual revenue for the year was behind of our budget for the year by \$52,622.
- However, our actual expenses were \$150, 479 lower than the budget giving us a net income of \$97,857.
- Not knowing how the economy was going, we cut back on expenses which gave us the net income.

## We Express Our Love and Heartfelt Sympathy to:

- Marion McGaha in the passing of her sister; Marsha Sherrill, Don McGaha and Mitzi Mayhew in the passing of their aunt, Edie Blalock.
- Zeno Wall in the passing of his sister-in-law, Jean Page Wall.
- Becky Black and Carolyn Bolin in the passing of their cousin, Eddie Burgin.
- Fifi Green in the passing of her sister, Kathy Bell.
- Tim Stewart in the passing of his cousin, Donna Warren, and Donna's brother, Freddie Warren.

## Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are now available in the Gathering Place, Sanctuary, and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Williams Center. Boxes are not numbered, nor do they have individual names printed on them. You may also come by the Church Office during operating hours to pick up a box. New year! New start! Get your new box today!

## WELCOME

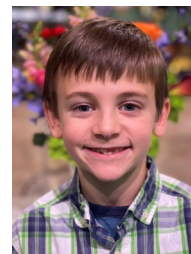
To Our New Members!



### By Statement:

Chris, Robin, Jack and Phoebe Richardson

DEACON: Russ Allen



### By Baptism:

Jackson Rogers

DEACON: Millie Creech

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Chris Richardson  
 Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care & Senior Adults.....Rev. Stan Heiser  
 Minister of Music & Outreach.....Rev. David Bailes  
 Minister to Youth & College Aged Students.....Rev. Brack Ballard  
 Minister to Children and Their Families.....Melissa Wisor  
 Administrator.....Doug Burkhart  
 Executive Assistant for Administration & Education.....Lynn Plyler  
 Office Assistant/Media Center Director.....Katrina Gore  
 Operations Assistant.....Madison Werner  
 Accounting Assistant.....Jeannie Sigmon  
 Maintenance.....James Phillips  
 Grounds Keeper.....Dewight Little  
 AV Director.....Joe Hicks  
 Recreation Director.....Adam Calderone



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