



PRITCHARD
at South End

CHARLOTTE, NC

MESSENGER

Volume 58 Issue 11

November 2023



Adore
HIM

CHRISTMAS AT PRITCHARD CHURCH

DECEMBER 3

10:30 AM | Morning Worship
A message of **HOPE**

DECEMBER 10

10:30 AM | Morning Worship
A message of **LOVE**

DECEMBER 17

10:30 AM | Adore Him! Classic Music of Christmas
A celebration of **JOY** through music.

DECEMBER 24

10:00 AM | Christmas Eve Morning Celebration
A special morning of worship, a message of **PEACE**
& pancake breakfast for the family. *Location: Fellowship Hall.*

5:00 PM | Christmas Eve Candlelight Celebration
An evening of worship and reflection as we **Adore Him!**

Who will you invite to experience Christmas at Pritchard Church?



PRITCHARD PULPIT

10:30 AM WORSHIP
DR. CHRIS RICHARDSON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
SERMON: "KETUVIM - JOB"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12
SERMON: "KETUVIM - ECCLESIASTES"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19
SERMON: "KETUVIM - ESTHER"

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26
SERMON: "KETUVIM - DANIEL"
GUEST PREACHER: MRS. GRACE SYKES

Staff Anniversaries

Join us as we celebrate 35 years with Rev. Stan Heiser! Stan joined our team back on November 1, 1988. He serves as our Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care and Senior Adults.

We also celebrate 5 years with Doug Burkhart who joined our team November 5, 2018. Doug fills many rolls as our Administrator, Finance Manager and works diligently with the CDC.

Stan and Doug, we appreciate your hard work, dedication and love for Pritchard. You give 110% in everything you do for us no matter the day or time. We love you both and are so very grateful for your service.

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

Attention All Committees!

On Sunday, January 7 at 9:15 AM, we'll be convening all the committees for their first meeting of 2024. Staff will serve breakfast and our goal of that first meeting is to get off to a strong start for 2024. As you begin to think about your committee for 2024, I would encourage you to dream big! What would we do if time and money were not an issue? How could we serve our community and reach them with the love of Christ? How does your particular committee fit into that picture?

At this first meeting we plan to think big, and then establish tentative meeting times and intervals, establish committee chairs, and establish the top 3 goals for each committee in the new year. Please make every effort to attend, as we all know a strong start for the year is essential to being the kind of church we all hope to be.

From the Media Center by Katrina Gore



Author
Terri Blackstock

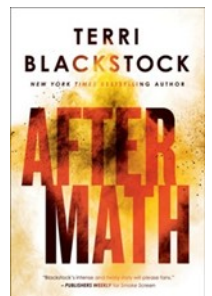
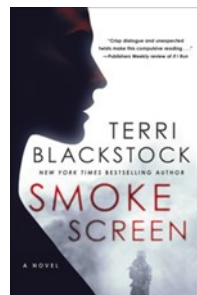
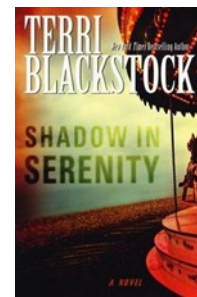
Terri hopes to leave her readers knowing they are not alone and that life's trials DO have a purpose.

Favorite Verses: Jeremiah 29:11 and Ephesians 3:20. *"I have a plan for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* (NIV)

With over 30 years as a novelist, Terri's imagination remains one of her most successful attributes. She has a gift of weaving faith and hope into her novels with page-turning plots that challenge her readers.

Terri Blackstock is a New York Times best-selling author, with over seven million copies sold worldwide. She is also the winner of several awards.

We have terrific books in the Media Center written by Terri, such as Shadow in Serenity, Aftermath, and Smokescreen. Stop by on Sundays before worship or anytime Monday-Friday during office hours.





Dr. Chris Richardson

Pastor

crichardson@pritchardchurch.com

One of my favorites, and let's be honest that's all of you, but one of my favorites emailed me asking if there was anything to do for Israel, beyond praying. I'm writing this on a Thursday, less than a week after the attacks began. My heart is troubled, like many of yours. My spirit is saddened. The images are too much.

Our modern temptation is not to dwell in sadness and grief. Our modern temptation is to decide. DECIDE! Right now. And then act in some way. Whether by posting online or going somewhere or doing something. We feel the urgent need to act.

We talked about this some in my "Celebration of Discipline" class. These temptations come from a mistake about who is actually in charge of the universe. We tend to think that if we stop fretting or judging or proclaiming that somehow the earth will fall off its axis and the rotation will cease. Scripture reminds us that "in the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, and the Word was God... through him all things were made." Jesus is on the throne. He created all things, including you and me. That means I am not on the throne, and that means the same for you.

Our urgency to act and to decide comes from believing that we can alter events halfway around the world. We can't. But those events can alter us. They can malform us if we focus on them. Strangely, they can malform us if we do not properly grieve. They can misalign our hearts if we cry out for vengeance. They can break us if we allow them, turning us into the kind of people who thirst for violence, instead of peacemakers.

God gives us grief and he captures our tears. God hears our cry. God is the savior of the broken hearted. He gives us the chance to pray. It may not feel adequate, and that's because it is not. It isn't adequate because we have thought things are our job which are not our job. We ought to grieve, we ought to pray, and we must do so from a position of Jesus on the throne, and us before the throne. Prayer is adequate when we realize it is a refuge, a source of strength, a safe place to cry out to our Father in heaven.

Chris



Rev. Stan Heiser

Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care and Senior Adults

sheiser@pritchardchurch.com

Sweet Spirits Presents Ken Turner - "Living Legend," Dove and Grammy Award Winner, Bass Singer Extraordinaire

Once again, we extend a call to all adults 50 and above to attend our next Sweet Spirits gathering on Wednesday, November 15 for fellowship, a delicious meal, a time of singing old timey songs, and a farewell concert, given by our good friend, Ken Turner. Ken is a member of the SC Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame. His professional singing career began in 1960 when he joined the Palmetto State Quartet. In 1968, he moved to the Dixie Echoes and sang with them until he joined the famous Blackwood Brothers Quartet as bass singer in 1971. He sang with the Blackwoods for over 30 years, traveling with them to over 52 countries. Ken appeared on several television programs with Dinah Shore, Barbara Mandrell, the cast of Hee Haw, and The Tom Snyder Show, just to name a few. Ken is a fun loving entertainer known both for his musical and vocal talents and for his impersonations and humorous antics on stage. Ken, and his wife Judy, have a special ministry they started back in 2000 in the Dominican Republic. They helped build a school there, as well as provide a water pump so children could have a cool drink of water. Throughout their ministry, they have made 60 trips to churches in the Caribbean Islands carrying Bibles, critical necessities, medicine and toys to children. On one trip alone, they distributed over 10,000 Bibles and booklets. People have come from all over the world to hear Ken's rich (how low his voice can go) inspirational voice. We will be blessed once more here at Pritchard as Ken sings the old gospel songs that hold a special spot in each of our hearts.

Sweet Spirits meet each month at 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM in our Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$10.00 per person and is payable at the door. Sign-up on Realm or see me on Sunday mornings after worship down front by the Chapel. Reservation deadline is Thursday, November 9 so that we can turn in our final count to Cracker Barrel. REMEMBER....the BEST place to be is TOGETHER with YOU and the Sweet Spirits!

Tuesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer Time

Come join us on ZOOM each Tuesday night at 6:45 PM for fellowship, Bible study at 7:00 PM and concluding with prayer time at 7:30 PM. See E-Connect each Monday for sign-in instructions.



Welcome

Matt Higgins

Matt joins our team as Pritchard's Kitchen and Facilities Manager. He loves spending time in the mountains fly fishing and making memories with his 14-year-old son, Fischer. In his free time, you can find him at the gym working out or cooking up special meals for friends and family.

When you see Matt on campus, make sure to give him a warm Pritchard welcome! We're so happy to have him here!

Connect Group Request

The Connect Group, "More Than Conquerors" that meets weekly on Saturday evenings at Pritchard, has requested prepared meals to serve their guests. If you would like to provide a store bought or homecooked meal, please contact Gary (612-327-9992) or Debra (612-387-6895) Huhnerkoch to express your interest. You are encouraged to stay and visit with this wonderful group of people over dinner!

Preparing for Christmas

Join us at 5:00 PM on Monday, November 20 as we prepare our Sanctuary for the Christmas season! This is always a special time for our folks! Candles, ornaments, lights, greenery, and the nativity - all beautiful decorations highlighting the thrill and wonder of Jesus being born in the flesh! We look forward to seeing YOU for the joy and festivity of the season!





Adam Calderone

Recreation Director

acalderone@pritchardchurch.com

November, a time for giving thanks. I am reminded of this every year around this time, as we shift our focus towards Thanksgiving. This year, I am placing extra emphasis on what is known as Giving Tuesday. Giving Tuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving and is a fixture in the non-profit space. It shifts focus away from Black Friday and Cyber Monday, and instead highlights this day to think about ways to give back. Donating items, volunteering, giving a gift to someone you love, running the local 5k that supports the community, the list goes on and on! We can all improve in this area and find a new way of giving.

Youth Basketball season is here! The IMPACT Youth Basketball League has officially started and practices are now under way. Churches across the region including Pritchard, Myers Park Baptist, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Providence United Methodist, and many more have started their practices. Kids ranging in age from 5 all the way up to 17 will take the month of November to improve their skills, work on teamwork, and prepare for their first games in December.

Games begin on December 2! What better way to kick off the start of the season than watching the boys play, while also attending our first ever Merry Market! Come for the Christmas festivities, stay for the basketball, what could be better than that?! We are still looking for a few volunteers to help on Saturdays throughout the winter season. Help with greeting, spreading awareness about upcoming events here at Pritchard, being a "floater" in the facility, and helping people with whatever other needs they have. Not into sports? No problem! No knowledge of sports is needed. All are welcome, please contact me if interested in helping out.



Melissa Wisor

Minister to Children and Their Families

mwisor@pritchardchurch.com

Your Pritchard Kids will be focusing on giving back during the month of November. On November 5, during Kids Connection, they will assemble blessing bags. Blessing bags are bags filled with essential items that families can take and hand to anyone in need. It's a great and easy way to share the love of Christ to those in our community.



Happening on November 12, the Pritchard Kids will be preparing Thanksgiving Food Boxes for Charlotte Rescue Mission. The boxes will be delivered on November 17. We always appreciate those who want to support our mission's projects. Please contact me if you would like to donate any items.

Lastly, our Pritchard Kids' moms will enjoy dinner together on November 16 at 6:00 PM.



**BOXES ARE
READY TO
BE FILLED!**



**Empty boxes are available in the
Gathering Place.
Return the filled boxes to the Church
Office between November 12 and 19.**



Rev. Brack Ballard

*Minister to Youth
and College-Aged Students*

bballard@pritchardchurch.com

November is an exciting time for Pritchard Youth as we embrace the spirit of Thanksgiving and fellowship! Here's what we have planned: Fall Family Fellowship - Saturday, November 18 at the Grady Homestead, Annual Turkey Bowling - Sunday, November 19 during our time of youth group from 9:00-10:10 AM.

Our youth have been engaged in studying the prophets alongside Pastor Chris's sermons. Sunday mornings are brimming with energy featuring games, Bible study, and small group discussions. Stay updated with our weekly events by following us on our private Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pritchardyouth>) and Instagram page (@pritchardyouth).

Many of our youth are preparing for final exams and mid-terms. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they study and participate in various extracurricular activities. We have youth involved in dance, rugby, jujitsu, basketball, field hockey and more! They'd love your support, so let us know if you'd like to attend one of their events - your presence means the world to them. Your involvement plays a vital role in nurturing the spiritual growth of our young members. Thank you for being an integral part of our Pritchard Church family.



Mrs. Kim Govan

Child Development Center Director

pritchardcdcdirector@pritchardchurch.com

Happy fall everyone! We have had a very successful start to the new "school year." Everyone moved over to their new classrooms in August, and we have had some new friendly faces join us as well. We are bracing ourselves for the holidays now. We will have lots of pumpkins, turkeys, fall colors and parties popping up right around the corner.

We have successfully completed fall pictures! Everyone did such a great job. I know that you are looking forward to getting them back as much as we are. The class pictures are always the most entertaining. It's so fun when you can very clearly see personalities in print! We highlighted those personalities in our costume parade on October 26 in the courtyard.

I have thoroughly enjoyed becoming a part of the Pritchard CDC family. I look forward to getting to know you and your children better in the days to come. Please drop by the office if you ever have any questions.



Charming Craft Merchants, Local Vendors,
Festive Music and More!

DECEMBER 2
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Follow us on social media
@merrymarketclt

'Tis the season to be *Merry*

scan for
**FREE
TICKETS**





Wednesday, November 1

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

Thursday, November 2

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)
 10:00-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers
 12:00 PM—Connect Group: Celebration of Discipline

Friday, November 3

6:30 PM—Connect Group Bonfire (off campus)

Saturday, November 4

5:00 PM—Connect Group: More Than Conquerors
 ***REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR
 BEFORE GOING TO BED!***

Sunday, November 5...DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

9:15 AM—Connect Groups
 9:15 AM—H.I.S. Connect Group Social
 10:30 AM—Worship Celebration
 11:45 AM—Youth Choir

Monday, November 6

Tuesday, November 7

10:30 AM—Women on Mission
 1:00 PM—Pickleball
 3:00 PM—Afternoon Bible Study Group (Spence home)
 7:00 PM—ZOOM Bible Study/Prayer Time

Wednesday, November 8

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

Thursday, November 9

10:00-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers
 12:00 PM—Connect Group: Celebration of Discipline

Friday, November 10

Saturday, November 11

NO CONNECT GROUP: More Than Conquerors

Sunday, November 12

9:15 AM—Connect Groups
 10:30 AM—Worship Celebration
 11:45 AM—Youth Choir

Monday, November 13

6:30 PM—Deacons Meeting (Williams Center Lounge)

Tuesday, November 14

10:00 AM—See 'n Sew
 1:00 PM—Pickleball
 7:00 PM—ZOOM Bible Study/Prayer Time

Wednesday, November 15

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)
 10:00 AM-4:00 PM—Thrift Store open
 11:00 AM-1:00 PM—Sweet Spirits Program/Lunch
 6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal
 6:30 PM—Pickleball

Thursday, November 16

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)
 10:00-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers

Friday, November 17

8:45 AM-7:30 PM—Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theater

Saturday, November 18

5:00 PM—Connect Group: More Than Conquerors
 TBA—Youth Bonfire at the Grady Homestead

Sunday, November 19

9:15 AM—Connect Groups
 9:00 AM—Youth Turkey Bowling
 10:30 AM—Worship Celebration
 11:45 AM—Youth Choir

Monday, November 20

5:00 PM—Sanctuary Decorating for Christmas

Tuesday, November 21

10:00 AM—Volunteers to Crisis Assistance
 1:00 PM—Pickleball

NO ZOOM Bible Study/Prayer Time

Wednesday, November 22

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Tryon House)
 6:30 PM—Pickleball

***NO ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL ***

Thursday, November 23...THANKSGIVING

CHURCH OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED



Friday, November 24

CHURCH OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED

Saturday, November 25

5:00 PM—Connect Group: More Than Conquerors

Sunday, November 26

9:15 AM—Connect Groups
 10:30 AM—Worship Celebration
 11:45 AM—Youth Choir

Monday, November 27

Tuesday, November 28

10:00 AM—Volunteers to Crisis Assistance
 1:00 PM—Pickleball

Wednesday, November 29

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

6:30 PM—Pickleball

Thursday, November 30

10:00-11:15 AM—Sunago Singers

Stewardship Update:

September 2023 Revenues and Expenses Summary

	<u>Month To Date Actual</u>	<u>Month To Date Budget</u>	<u>Year To Date Actual</u>	<u>Year To Date Budget</u>
Revenue	\$136,804	\$120,263	\$1,057,891	\$1,082,368
Expenses	\$131,548	\$123,980	\$ 988,676	\$1,095,144
Net Income	\$ 5,256	\$ -3,717	\$ 69,215	\$ -12,776

Year-to-date actual net income is \$69,215 compared to \$-12,776 for the budget, giving us a net difference of \$81,990 to the good.



WELCOME

To Our New Member!

By Baptism: Lauren Neumayer
DEACON: Gary Huhnerkoch

Ridgecrest Donation

A huge shout out to McComb Group of Charlotte for once again making a nice donation to our Ridgecrest account in memory of Bob Gore, Jr. Each year, they host the "Bob Gore Memorial Golf Tournament" and make this contribution in his name.

We Express Our Love and Heartfelt Sympathy to:

- Skip and Sheila Williams in the passing of his father; Nick, Crystal and Amber in the passing of their grandfather, Durwood Williams.
- The family and friends in the passing of Judy Vick.
- Jennifer Bone in the passing of her grandfather; Kelsey Strange and Lily Bone in the passing of their great grandfather.
- Nona Thompson and family in the passing of her husband, Cecil King.



Willena Kiser	11/1	Shelby Strickland	11/20
Casey Elias	11/2	Adam Knepp	11/20
Susan Slayton	11/3	Rob Beatty	11/23
Richard Grady	11/3	Malcolm Bottoms	11/24
Melody Chang	11/3	Dan Thompson	11/28
Brack Ballard	11/6	Lauren Wall	11/28
Diana Hercules	11/6	Rosemary Goodman	11/29
Ann Teague	11/8	Linda Franklin	11/29
Lane Sykes	11/9	Savannah Jessup	11/29
James Iddings	11/11	Stan Littlejohn	11/29
Christie Thomas	11/12	Lisia Shaw	11/30
Jeff Rogers	11/14	Kelsey Strange	11/30
Larry Branton	11/15		
Elizabeth Jaro	11/16		
Lynn Kisiah	11/16		
Sarah Ferguson	11/16		
Rhys Erickson	11/16		
Melinda Beardsworth	11/17		

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....	Dr. 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
Accounting Assistant.....	Jeannie Sigmon
Kitchen and Facilities Manager.....	Matt Higgins
Recreation Director.....	Adam Calderone
Maintenance.....	James Phillips



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☎ 704-376-1571 📠 704-376-6304

Dial-A-Prayer: 704-334-2332

Child Development Center: 704-343-2944

www.pritchardchurch.com