

# PRITCHARD CHURCH MESSENGER

APRIL 2025 | VOLUME 60 | ISSUE 4

We have been journeying through the Gospel of John since late February, and I hope you are seeing the signs of New Creation, not only in the fourth gospel, but also in your lives! We see in looking all the way back that we, each of us, are created to be CREATORS. We make art, we make music, we make delicious casseroles and baked goods. We are created to create.

This is a theological principle that we see demonstrated every day in real life. Ask children if they are artists and most say yes. Ask adults and most say no. But you are an artist, deep down, you make things. You may think you aren't good enough to be an artist, or that you aren't professional so it's not worth sharing. Art isn't about perfection; it is about expression. And each of us is invited to that expression. It is a reflection of the person inside of you, and what a wonderful chance to share with your church family!

And so we are setting up to work towards a new event for Pritchard: Creation Night. On Friday, May 2, we will gather and share our own creations. Maybe you love to bake - bring some cookies to share.

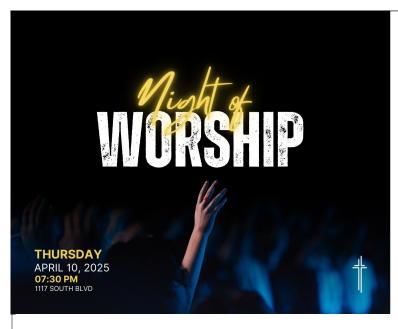
Maybe you love to write music - bring a song.

Maybe you enjoy painting, or home improvements, maybe you enjoy juggling, or makeup, or fashion... whatever you enjoy creating, please plan to bring some sample to share.

Look for more details throughout the month. We will need to know you are coming, so please sign up in Church Center. I am excited for this time of sharing our arts and artistry with one another. We will have coffee and other drinks, as well as some light snacks. We'll set up microphones and other places to share if we have any performances. I hope you will make plans and I hope you will share some of the beauty you have been cultivating in your life. Hope to see you there!

Chris Richardson

Lead Pastor



# **Pritchard's Knit Wit Ministry**

We would like to remind everyone that we have beautiful prayer shawls available to "gift" any family or friends who may appreciate a warm touch of comfort. Whether it be going through chemo treatment, grief of a loved one, or a prolonged illness - anything . . . anytime.

Each shawl is created with both love and prayers for the recipient. Please see the Church Office staff to select one or more of these shawls. Please sign our "registry" located in the prayer shawl room and indicate both the giver and the receiver for our records. If you have questions or you are interested in knitting, please contact Debra Huhnerkoch, Knit Wit's Ministry Coordinator, at **debrah3106@gmail.com** 

### Serve with Us!

The Pritchard Kids Ministry is growing weekly and this means we are in great need of volunteers to help during the worship hour. Volunteers will help with serving snacks, reading books, rocking nappers, playing Legos, Simon Says and more! Timeframe is 10:10 AM until 11:45 AM. Please consider taking part in this vital ministry to our little ones. If you are available and interested in volunteering, email Melissa today at **mwisor@pritchardchurch.com** 

# A Summary of the Pritchard Church Monthly Financial Report: FEBRUARY 2025

2025 Annual Budget: \$1,541,438 Weekly Needs to Meet Budget: \$29,643

	<u>February</u>	Year-to-Date
Revenue	\$ 93,190	\$ 169,208
Expenses	\$ 113,343	\$ 264,409
Net Income	\$ -20.153	\$ -95.201

A full copy of the Pritchard Church Financial Report can be requested by emailing Rusty Thomaston at **rthomaston@pritchardchurch.com** 

The church in 21<sup>st</sup> century America needs many things, but one thing we can't do without is money. Money is required if we are going to do the things God has called us to do. I say that because God has blessed American Christians more than most Christians in the world when it comes to finances. For some reason, He has chosen to entrust us with riches far beyond what most people in the world can fathom. Even those living below the poverty line in America are considered rich to most people in other countries.

The fact is that we must give not only of our time and talents, but also of our treasure (financial resources) if we are going to do what God has called us to do. And I believe that if the church is obediently giving, God will abundantly bless. I've seen it too many times to believe otherwise.

When you read the previous paragraph, what came to mind? I can think of 10,000 things that could have squiggled through your grey matter, but I want you to consider something. As you ponder what to give back to God (you realize that everything you have came from Him in the first place and He expects you to trust Him enough that you give some of it back to Him through His local church to be used for His purposes, don't you?) in terms of a financial gift, ask yourself this question: Will God take delight in this?

I'm reading Jeff Aderson's book *Plastic Donuts: Giving That Delights the Heart of God.* In it, Jeff challenges most of the common thinking about financial giving and introduces a Biblical view of giving that just may reshape your view of what it means to please God through your giving.

Like Mr. Anderson, I believe that once we see our gifts from God's perspective, our giving will never be the same.

Saved to Serve, Rusty

## We Express Our Love and Sympathy to...

- Robert and Ginger Thompson in the passing of her brother-in-law, Rev. John Rogers.
- Drew and Vickie Mayer in the passing of his father; Dana Fox and Leslie Mayer in the passing of their grandfather, Dr. Robert Mayer.
- Vern and Neva Sykes in the passing of his mother; Lane Sykes in the passing of her mother-in-law; Jordan Sykes, Lauren Black and Meredith Lawrence in the passing of their grandmother, Betty Sykes.
- Stan and Toni Littlejohn in the passing of his brother, Kendrick Littlejohn.
- Ann Duncan in the passing of her brother; Kim Jones and Wendy Duncan Smith in the passing of their uncle, Terry Little.
- Jane Harris in the passing of her sister, Mary Jo Hester.
- Robert and Lisia Shaw in the passing of their nephew, Matthew Lutz.



Jasper Evans	4/2
Count Fosdick	4/3
Joncie McCall	4/4
Charles Huffstetler	4/4
Edith Parker	4/5
Nancy Elder	4/10
Debra Morgan	4/11
Doris Fudo	4/13
Melissa Wisor	4/14
Garrett Elder	4/16
Rusty Thomaston	4/16

<b>-</b>	
Jean Freeman	4/20
Tanya Mazingo	4/21
Kelsie Elder	4/21
Meredith Lawrence	4/22
Ashley Sipe	4/24
Marilyn Billmeyer	4/24
Jorge Arroba	4/24
Debbie Price	4/25
Wes Livingston	4/25
Clay Sams	4/26
Paul Miner	4/27
Crystal Williams	4/28
Chris Hursey	4/28
Marshall Bessinger	4/29
Linda Grady	4/30
Jon Cecil	4/30

4/17

Doug Evans

# **Introducing the Church Center App!**

For the past year or so, we've been working on communicating more effectively with Pritchard Church members and guests. After careful consideration, we've decided to "go all in" with a church management software called Planning Center.

On the app, you can see what groups you're part of, upcoming churchwide events, and places you can serve. You will also be able to easily sign-up for volunteer needs, small group gatherings, and register for big events.

Here's how to get started:

- 1. Download the Church Center app.
- 2. Open the app and find Pritchard Church by searching our name "Pritchard Church" and our address "1117 South Blvd, Charlotte, NC."
- 3. Select Pritchard Church and provide your mobile phone number.
- 4. You'll receive a confirmation code after providing your phone number. Enter that code to confirm your number and you will be automatically logged in.
- 5. Upon logging in, you'll see a page with information about Pritchard Church. At the bottom, there will be a footer with different icons (currently they are Groups, Calendar and Sign-ups).
- 6. Select "Sign-ups." You'll be able to view the current sign-up opportunities. Select "Calendar" to view upcoming events. "Groups" will be where you find all groups with which you are connected.
- 7. Ta-da!

Contact Melissa Wisor **mwisor@pritchardchurch.com** if you run into any problems or have questions.





**②** 1117 South Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28203

 **③** 704-376-1571

 **⑤** 704-376-6304

Dial-A-Prayer: 704-334-2332 Child Development Center: 704-343-2944

www.pritchardchurch.com

**APRIL 13** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM



#### Tuesday, April 1

10:30 AM—Women on Mission

1:00-3:00 PM—Pickleball

2:00 PM—Afternoon Bible Study Group (Spence home)

#### Wednesday, April 2

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

6:30-9:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Thursday, April 3

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15 AM—Sunago Singers

#### Friday, April 4

#### Saturday, April 5

10:00 AM-12:00 Noon—Spring Fling

5:00-7:00 PM—More Than Conquerors

#### Sunday, April 6

9:00 AM—Children and Youth Programming

9:15 AM—Connect Groups

10:30 AM—Worship

#### Monday, April 7

#### Tuesday, April 8

10:00 AM-See 'n Sew

1:00-3:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Wednesday, April 9

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

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

6:30-9:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Thursday, April 10

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15 AM—Sunago Singers

7:30 PM—Worship Night

#### Friday, April 11

#### Saturday, April 12

5:00-7:00 PM—More Than Conquerors

#### Sunday, April 13...PALM SUNDAY

9:00 AM—Children and Youth Programming

9:15 AM—Connect Groups

10:30 AM—Worship

5:00-7:00 PM— All On the Table

#### Monday, April 14

6:30 PM— Deacons Meeting

#### **Tuesday, April 15**

1:00-3:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Wednesday, April 16

Pritchard Youth/Pritchard Kids Carowinds Fun Day

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

6:30-9:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Thursday, April 17

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15 AM—Sunago Singers

6:00 PM—Maundy Thursday Service

#### Friday, April 18...GOOD FRIDAY

#### Saturday, April 19

More Than Conquerors (CANCELLED)

#### Sunday, April 20....EASTER

9:00 AM—Children and Youth Programming

9:15 AM—Connect Groups

10:30 AM—Worship

#### Monday, April 21

CHURCH OFFICE/CAMPUS CLOSED

#### Tuesday, April 22

10:00 AM-12:00 PM—Volunteers to Crisis Assistance

1:00-3:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Wednesday, April 23

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

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

6:30-9:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Thursday, April 24

6:30 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast (Jonathan's in Matthews)

10:15 AM—Sunago Singers

#### Friday, April 25

#### Saturday, April 26

More Than Conquerors (CANCELLED)

#### Sunday, April 27

9:00 AM—Children and Youth Programming

9:15 AM—Connect Groups

10:30 AM—Worship

11:45 AM—Church Council Meeting

#### Monday, April 28

#### Tuesday, April 29

1:00-3:00 PM—Pickleball

#### Wednesday, April 30

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

8:30 AM—Women's Monthly Prayer Breakfast (Skyland)

6:30-8:00 PM—Adult Choir Rehearsal

6:30-9:00 PM—Pickleball