

We welcome all to the community of Jesus: to connect, to learn, to worship, to serve. We are an ecumenical congregation in a Presbyterian Church (USA) form.

# The Relay

Alamance Presbyterian Church • 4000 Presbyterian Road • Greensboro, North Carolina, 27406 • 336.697.0488 • [www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org)

CONTENTS	PAGE
CHILDREN	8-9
THE PASTOR'S DESK	6
FOOD THOUGHTS	14
ITEMS OF INTEREST	2-3
MEMORIAL GIFTS	15
MUSICAL NOTES	7
POINSETTIA ORDER FORM	12
VETERANS DAY PHOTOS	2
WOMEN'S WORK	4
<b>THE BACK PEW</b>	<b>16</b>
Volunteer schedules, hours of operation, etc.	

## Current Officers

The Session is the governing body of our congregation. Our officers are called Elders. They serve a three-year term, called a "class."

Stated meeting is on the **fourth Sunday of each month, at 6 p.m.** in the Scott-Monroe-Anderson room — unless otherwise noted.

### Class of 2019:

Harold Alexander  
Allison Brown  
Ken Carraway  
Dana Smith  
Tommie Lynn Sullivan

### Class of 2020:

Clint Aydelette  
Elizabeth Hadley  
Lee Shores  
Sara Strandberg  
Kirby Ward

### Class of 2021:

Pam Dixon  
Randy Maness  
Wendy Mills  
Keith Morris  
Gary Trull

### Youth Elder:

Nick Purvis

## December Doings: Christmas Cards

### A Christmas Card Mailbox

One of greatest joys of the Christmas season is find a stack of Christmas cards in your mailbox.



Have you noticed that Christmas cards cost a lot more to mail than they used to? Maybe you have even cut back on the number of cards you send. Between the actual cards and the cost of postage, you might spend a few hundred dollars sending cards.

Well, here at Alamance, we want to help with that! We want to give you a break; and help out dedicated postal workers, who work double and triple shifts during the holidays.

Starting on, November 28, look for a Christmas Card Mailbox in the Thin Place Gallery. Bring Christmas cards for church members, and drop them in an alphabetized mailing system.

You may stop by to retrieve *your* cards anytime during the season. If you visit a friend or neighbor, take their cards with you! Every effort will be made to ensure that each card finds its way to its intended recipient.

This might save us all a little Christmas money. It is also an opportunity to reach out to more church members. Consider using the money you save on postage to send a few more cards. Consider adding our homebound members to your mailing

list. Yet another possibility would be to add your savings in postage to your Christmas offerings to the church!

## Honor Cards

2019 is the 32nd anniversary of the Honor Card, designed by artist William "Bill" Mangum. Since 1988, the program has raised more than \$8 million for people in need.

For a minimum \$5 donation per card, buyers receive a beautiful card, to be given in honor of the person receiving the card – and 100% of the donation goes directly to help the homeless and hungry in their town. In Greensboro, donations go to the Greensboro Urban Ministry.

The theme of this year's card is "I'll Stand By You." Two people, one with an arm resting on the other's shoulder, walk through snow past a house with a light in the window.

Expenses for producing the card are underwritten by William Mangum, an anonymous donor, and the Wells Fargo Foundation. Alamance Presbyterian Church has 100 of the cards for purchase!

Won't you consider honoring someone in this beautiful way? See Lynn in the church office for yours — or stop by the Thin Place on **Sunday, December 1** after morning worship.



## December Birthdays

- 1 Elaine Carlson
- 2 Toby Jobe
- 3 Jack Oliver
- 4 Lillie Snider
- 6 Ethel Allred, Kathy Kirkman
- 8 Jay Busby, Paul Camp, Laura Fogleman (105)
- 11 Mary Beard
- 12 Darren Stevens
- 13 Michael Holt, Carol Sharpe, Sara Strandberg
- 14 JoAnn Camp
- 15 Gabby Brown, Avlynn Carraway, Beth Dyson
- 16 Mike Lynch
- 17 Lisa Benton, Tommie Lynn Sullivan
- 18 Alex Ford
- 20 Christopher Skerlak
- 22 Kelsey Ford, Wilma Grubb
- 25 Kitty Wells
- 27 Patsy Sharpe
- 28 Lee Shores
- 29 Zach Hadley, Morgan Haynes, Heather Lane, Larry Reynolds



## Monthly Mission Offering

The Missions Ministry Team meets on **third Wed. each month**, at **5 p.m.**, in the New Scott-Monroe-Anderson room. The team chooses recipients of special missions offerings for each month of the year.

Use the little Missions envelope in the pews to make a donation to special missions. Or, simply designate that cause on your check. Designated missions (subject to change, as need arises):

- **December:** Greensboro Urban Ministry Honor Card
- **January:** Erin Padgett Atkinson, and Wycliffe Bible Ministry

## Honoring Our Veterans

The Town of Pleasant Garden held its annual Veterans Day ceremony on Sunday, November 10. An impressive number of local notables and service organizations collaborated to present an inspirational program, honoring many in the community who had served or are serving in the U.S. military. Twelve veterans in particular — from World War 11, the Korean Conflict, and the Viet Nam Conflict — were singled out for special recognition of their service to our country.

Among them were these APC members:

- **Jim Hunter**, AETM 3rd Class, U.S. Navy (WWII)
- **Lewis K. May**, Petty Officer 3C, U.S. Navy (Korea)
- **Harvey Starr**, Corporal Signal Corps, U.S. Army (Korea)
- **Gene Carroll**, Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air Force (Korea)
- **Norman Causey**, Sergeant 1st Calvary and General MacArthur's Honor Guard, U.S. Army (Korea)

The Honorable Jon Hardister, NC House Majority Whip; and Keifer Wynn, Manager, U.S. Congressman Mark Walker's office; awarded certificates and a North Carolina flag flown over the state capitol building to each of the service men honored at the event.

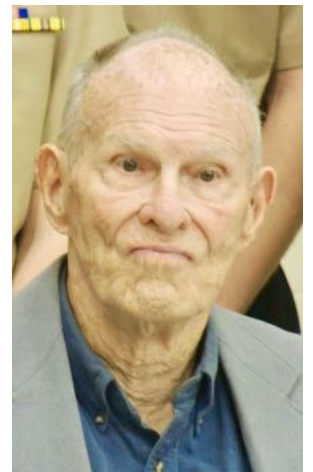
Gene Carroll, Lewis May, and Harvey Starr were present at the event, held at the Pleasant Garden Elementary School. Jim Hunter and Norman Causey were visited in their homes later that afternoon by Rep. Hardister.



Lewis K. May



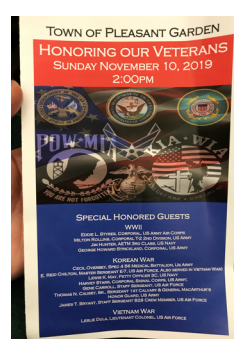
Jim Hunter, Jon Hardister



Harvey Starr



Gene Carroll



Norman Causey, Jon

## Knit, Pray, Love Ministry

Can you share your skills, to make prayer shawls and/or chemo or baby caps? Use your favorite patterns — or try something new.

Knit, Pray, Love meets on the **third Tuesday** of each month at **7:15 p.m.**, in the Parlor.

There's very little risk in joining KPL: the only commitment is to make a shawl or cap and leave your gift with Linda Aydelette or in the closet in the Parlor. Right now, the KPL stock of shawls is greatly diminished.

At present, the ministry only asks for finished items. They do not need donations of thread, or string, or yarn, or rope.

Any questions? Contact Linda Aydelette via e-mail, or see her at church.

([linda.aydelette@gmail.com](mailto:linda.aydelette@gmail.com))

## Year-end donations

To claim a charitable contribution donation for 2019, donors must **deliver** or **mail (and postmark)** checks on or before **December 31, 2019**. Checks personally delivered to the office **after December 31** will not qualify for deductions for 2019 — even if the check is dated 2019.

Checks **written, mailed and postmarked** in 2019 will be deductible, even if they are not received until 2020.

The church offices will be closed **Monday, Dec. 23, 2019 - Friday, Dec. 27**. Any personally-delivered checks during this time should be placed in Jeanine Rossi's mailbox in the workroom.



## Time for Bluebirds

Lewis May, Honorary Mayor of Alamance, says that **now** is the time to install bluebird houses, to attract the birds to your property. Bluebirds offer excellent natural insect control. It's their main source of nutrition.

Bluebirds are territorial. They come back to the same place for years, when suitable nesting sites are available. They prefer the edges of open grasslands for their nest boxes.

Bluebirds scout for homes before they migrate for the winter. Upon their return, in February or March, mating pairs immediately start a family (or two, or more, each season).

Females build nests in a place that the pair selected together. They don't mind old nesting materials in their chosen spot — they re-use the materials to build a new nest.

See Mayor May to buy boxes, well constructed, reasonably priced (\$15 each). A portion of each purchase is donated to the Operating Fund of the church.

## Upcoming Events List

- ★ **December 1:** First Sunday of Advent.
- ★ **December 8:** Second Sunday of Advent; Special music program.
- ★ **December 14:** Cookies and Photos with Santa L.I.F.T. fundraiser
- ★ **December 15:** Third Sunday of Advent. *Follow the Star* in the evening; begins at **5 p.m.**
- ★ **December 22:** Fourth Sunday of Advent. Poinsettias in the sanctuary.
- ★ **December 24:** Christmas Eve Candlelight service, **7 p.m.** Communion will be served.
- ★ **December 25:** Christmas Day.
- ★ Church offices closed **Dec. 23-27**.
- ★ **December 31:** Year-end tax donation deadline. Checks must be received or postmarked **on or before Dec. 31** to be counted as donations for 2019.
- ★ **January 1, 2020:** Church offices closed for New Year's Day.

## Congregational Meeting

There will be a Called Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary, on Sunday, December 15, 2019, immediately following worship. Purpose of the meeting: To receive the report of the Nominating Team, and to elect officers for the Class of 2022.

## CDC Christmas Program

The Alamance Presbyterian Child Development Center invites you to its Christmas program, on Friday, December 13, at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. The 3's, Jr-K, and Pre-K classes will perform Christmas songs. Our school-agers will perform a Nativity play.

Light refreshments will be served, after the performance.

The center will be closed **December 24- 26**; and on **January 1**. Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!





<https://diningforwomen.org>

All women are invited to join the *Dining For Women* APC chapter. Commune with other women of the church! Bring your sister, mother, daughter, friend, neighbor. Bring a dish to share, and a donation equivalent to what you would spend if you went out to eat. No donation is too small.

**When:** Second Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m., except in June, July, and August.

**Where:** Coble House Center for Outreach.

**What to bring:** A covered dish to share, and a monetary donation to *Dining for Women*.

**How it works:** Women gather to eat, to socialize, to learn about a different grantee, to make a donation (equal to what would have been spent dining out, or whatever you wish to give), and to help women in extreme poverty better themselves.

Members sign up to host: set up for the meal, prepare beverages, etc. — since DFW meets at the Coble House, hosts don't have to clean their own homes first!

For more about Dining for Women, check their website: <https://diningforwomen.org>. Or, contact Kathy Fay with your questions ([kathyefay@gmail.com](mailto:kathyefay@gmail.com)).

## Presbyterian Women of Alamance Presbyterian Church

Six circles of women meet regularly. Together, they form the Presbyterian Women of Alamance Presbyterian Church. All dates, times, and meeting places are subject to change, as needed.

**Agapé:** Meets on **second Tuesday** at **11 a.m.** to go out and eat; **12:30 p.m.** in the Uffman classroom.

**JoAnn Camp:** Meets at **6:30 p.m. on second Tuesdays**, usually in members' homes.

**L.I.F.T. (Ladies in Fellowship Together):** meets **every Sunday** as a Sunday school class, **9-9:50 a.m.**, in the Community Room. Circle meeting is the second Sunday of each month.

**Martha Brown:** Meets at **1 p.m. on the second Wednesday** (on weeks when second Tuesday and second Wednesday happen in the same week), in the Coble House.

**Mary, Martha, Lydia, and Ruth:** Meets at **11 a.m. on the second Tuesday**, (when second Tuesday and second Wednesday happen in the same week), in the Parlor.

**Red Hat:** Group decides monthly where and when to meet.

The PW of APC meets together as a group in January, at an annual Gathering. They meet together with other Salem Presbytery PW groups at a Spring Gathering and a Fall Gathering.

The website [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org) has more information — or contact Brenda Bayne ([bjbusa@aol.com](mailto:bjbusa@aol.com)) with your questions.

## L.I.F.T.: Ladies in Fellowship Together Invites You!

Please join us for the 2019-2020 L.I.F.T. Sunday school adventure, on **Sundays** at **9 a.m.** in the Uffman classroom (top level, middle building) Class will study the *More to Be™* podcast series. Podcasts are available on MoretoBe.com, iTunes, Stitcher, and Spotify.

The *More to Be* focus is on helping people “on-the-go” to think biblically and live transformed: not *doing* more, but *being* more. Any woman is welcome to Join the class, anytime!

- **Dec.1:** Podcast #111 – *Be the Mentor* Part 2  
<https://www.moretobe.com/2018/01/mentor-part-2-podcast-111/>
- **December 8:** L.I.F.T. circle meeting
- **December 15:** Podcast #112 – *Be the Mentor* Part 3  
<https://www.moretobe.com/2018/01/mentor-part-3-podcast-112/>



[www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org)

# Cookies and Photos with Santa

You will receive  
a digital copy of  
your photo



You will receive  
a digital copy of  
your photo

Ladies in Fellowship Together (L.I.F.T.) invites you to  
join them for **cookie decorating and reindeer games!**

**Pictures with Santa are \$10.**

**Time: 2-4 p.m.**

**Location: Alamance Presbyterian Church**

**Date: Saturday, December 14, 2019**

Proceeds from this event will support a L.I.F.T. charity.



## Live-streaming Worship Services

It's now possible to look and listen to Sunday morning worship at Alamance live, on-line. A few steps before you start are simple to accomplish:

1. Go to our website, [www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org). Scroll down the homepage for the *Live Sunday Worship & Info* box. Choose that option, to go to the *Worship* page. (Or, go to *Connect* at the **top** of the page, and choose *Worship* from the drop-down list.)
2. On the *Worship* page, the box for *Worship Live Streaming* is on the **top right** of your screen. It sends you to the Livestream page for Alamance Presbyterian Church ([www.livestream.com](http://www.livestream.com)).
3. ***Before you can access the live streaming service***, you'll be required to open an account with Livestream, either with your e-mail or your Facebook account. The Livestream site will prompt you to enter your e-mail. It will then send you an e-mail that will instruct you how to enter a password of your own choosing.
4. On the Alamance Presbyterian Church website, the *Worship Live Streaming* page has all the recorded services still available; and options for services still to come. (The not-yet-happened ones are listed so you can log in on those Sundays at **10:15 a.m.** to experience worship with the rest of the congregation, as it unfolds in real time.)

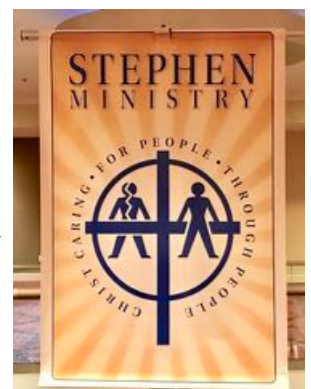
## Stephen Ministry Rebooted

After more than 10 years, Alamance Presbyterian Church has rejoined the Stephen Ministry, a "distinctly Christian caregiving ministry."

Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers — called Stephen Ministers — to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.

A Stephen Minister usually provides care to one person at a time, meeting with that person once a week for about an hour. Twice a month, Stephen Ministers gather with their Stephen Leaders for supervision and continuing education.

Contact our APC Stephen Leaders to ask your questions (Becky Brinkley, 336.269.6096, [ranb2005@gmail.com](mailto:ranb2005@gmail.com); Lee Shores, 336.202.8410, [shoresr@gcsnc.com](mailto:shoresr@gcsnc.com).)



## Ministry Musings

### Greetings, Family!

'Tis the season once again! You know: the season of gift planning, and buying, and wrapping, and giving? The season of constantly cleaning the house and changing the sheets for guests? The season of going to the grocery store every five minutes because you somehow keep managing to forget that ONE item on your shopping list that will make the meal perfect? The season of cookie exchanges, holiday concerts, Salvation Army bell-ringing, house decorating, caroling; and exhaustive travel that ends with you bedding down on your cousin's sister-in-law's 6-year-old's mattress? Joy to the world, indeed!

Too often, Advent morphs from a holy season of expectation into a frenetic season of obligation. We can commit ourselves to so many

events and activities that we get overwhelmed and forget to make room for God to show up; and before we know it, Christmas is over and New Year's is over and all we've gotten out of it is a few sugar rushes from one too many cookies.

But this isn't what this season is supposed to be about. As UCC Pastor Quinn Caldwell writes, "The Christmas season is a time when churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike tend to experience strong spiritual longings. Whatever the longing looks like on the outside, for most of us, deep down it's a longing for an experience of something holy, something beautiful. Something like God."

So, this Advent, give in to your longing. Take an evening to look at the night sky and think about gestation. Say a prayer for the world's children each time you open a door

on your Advent calendar. Put on *Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord* from **Godspell** and dance around your house throwing tinsel. Bake really yummy cookies and share them with someone you don't like.

There are a million tiny ways to invite God to be present in our lives this season, but it's hard to welcome the Divine when we're so darn busy.

Slow down. Breathe deep. Practice silence. And in doing so, I hope you'll be able to hear the still small voice that empowers you to reflect on the miracle at the center of this season and that it will bring you joy and peace and rest.

Until next month,

*Pastor Jess*



"Prepare ye the bulletins of the Lord!" — your church staff hard at work



## Musically Speaking ...

### Advent Music: Lessons & Carols

The **Sunday, December 8** worship service features special music by the Adult Choir and guest accompanists who play various instruments extremely well; as Alamance celebrates the season of Advent, and looks forward to Christmas Day.

The music is an exciting blend of traditional Advent carols and two brand-new pieces, fresh off the presses in 2019. It promises to be a moving introduction to the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

Contact Katie Hensley at [katie@alamancechurch.org](mailto:katie@alamancechurch.org) for information about music at APC.



### Adult Choir

The APC Adult Choir rehearses on **Wednesday evenings**, in the choir loft, from **7-8:30 p.m.**

Singers perform anthems during worship, and lead the congregation in singing hymns and responses.

This musical ministry is open to anyone of high school age or older. Ability to read music is helpful but not required. We help each other to be our best selves.

**A request:** The choir meets **9-9:45 a.m.** in the sanctuary, **each Sunday**, to rehearse music — and to hold devotions. Please, wait until **after 9:45** to enter the sanctuary. If you come into that space for a time of quiet personal prayer, please maintain silence.

## Worship Arts Team

Worship Arts Team of the Session of Alamance Presbyterian Church meets on the **third Sunday of each month, at 2:30 p.m.**, in the Uffman classroom. The team oversees the worship calendar for the year, and recommends ways to improve the worship experience for the entire congregation.

Do you have an interest in how worship is shaped? Could God be calling you to join this ministry team? Contact Lead Pastor Kyle Goodman for more information ([kyle@alamancechurch.org](mailto:kyle@alamancechurch.org)).

## Follow the Star

Join us on a journey through the Nativity story as you find your way to the Christ child. *Follow the Star* happens on **Sunday, December 15, starting at 5 p.m.** Look out for wandering wise men, stupefied shepherds, and irritable innkeepers — among other characters.

This year, pay attention to how things might look from the point of view of the women in the story.

At the end, there's celebration aplenty for the wonderful news of the Messiah's birth.



## Carol-grams 2019

Help make someone's holiday warm and bright! Sign up a friend or family member to receive a visit by members of the APC choir, in caroling glee. Carol-grams will be delivered on **Saturday, December 7**, in the **afternoon**.

This second annual fundraiser helps to sustain our Resident Artist program. Carol-grams are \$25 per stop. Contact Director of Music Katie Hensley to schedule your Carol-gram. E-mail her with details about where to send a choir group, and when ([katie@alamancechurch.org](mailto:katie@alamancechurch.org)) — or phone her at the church (336.697.0488 ext. 129).



## Children's worship and fellowship

Join us for one or all! ALL children are welcome, whether they attend church regularly, occasionally, or just stop by to check us out.

The APC Children's Ministry at Alamance Presbyterian Church strives to provide a safe and loving church community where children will learn who Jesus is, experience his love, and grow to become his followers.

### Sunday school

All children from PreK-5th grade meet together from **9-9:50 a.m. each Sunday during the school year**. The curriculum is *Godly Play*. The Godly Play space is on the lower level of the Grant building.

### Children's Church

Joy Thomas, Dir. of Children's Ministries, and helpers lead this worship. Children are ALWAYS welcome in the sanctuary — Children's Church is offered for children to stay through a children's message, then leave for a lesson of their own. They return after the sermon to continue worship.

Childcare is provided for infants through 3-year-olds, in a nursery in the Education Building, staffed by approved volunteers.

### Kids R.O.C.K.

**Kids Reaching Out to Christ's Kingdom** is a fellowship group for 2nd-5th grades. Kids R.O.C.K. meets from **5-6:30 p.m. every Sunday during the school year**, for a simple meal and a program that explores Christian life from a child's perspective.

### Kids J.A.M.

**Kids, Jesus, Art, and Music**, a worship arts ministry, meets in the Music Room on the lower level of

the sanctuary building, **from 5:15-5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays** (before Open Door fellowship) during the school year. Kids J.A.M. is for ages K-5th grade, **free of cost**, and open to all children.

Adult volunteers and children come together to make friends, sing songs, play instruments, get moving, create art, have fun, and spread the love of Jesus out into the world.

Students at the Child Development Center can be picked up from their classrooms and escorted to the music room, and parents can pick up from there at **5:45!**

Contact Katie Hensley, Dir. of Music, or Joy Thomas, Dir. of Children's Ministries, to find out how to volunteer.

- **December 4:** Christmas preparations
- **December 11:** Christmas preparations
- **December 18:** Christmas party



## New Chrismons

During Children's Church on November 24, children made some new Chrismons for the sanctuary.

Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help Christians remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. Chrismons are often used on Christmas trees in churches and in Christian homes.

Jere Kiser explained the custom during the Children's Message, then led a session of crafting while the congregation heard Dr. Goodman's message about neighborliness and kindness to strangers.

When children returned to the sanctuary, they bore with them their beautiful creations of white and gold: butterflies, to symbolize the resurrected life of Jesus the Christ.

Here are some photographs of the children hard at work:







## Card Construction and children's crafts

During Kids J.A.M. on November 20, children made Thanksgiving and Christmas cards, to include with each Food Pantry family's cart for those holidays. The charming artistic creations were further enhanced by hand-written messages from each child, in the card he or she made.



Kids J.A.M. also does other sorts of crafts throughout the year, and plays games, and learns music. This fellowship group is open to children in grades K-5 — you don't have to be a church member to attend!

Kids J.A.M. meets on **Wednesdays, from 5:15-5:45 p.m.**, just before Open Door fellowship supper starts.



## ALAMANCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### GUIDELINES FOR THE NOMINATION & ELECTION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Adopted November 28, 1999 by the Session.

The following is an attempt to keep the nomination and election process as democratic as possible, to honor the biblical witness for church office and to adhere to the requirements of the *Book of Order* for the PC(USA). **These guidelines are not requirements that cannot be adapted. These guidelines are to serve as general rules for the congregation, the Nominating Ministry Team and the Session to use in recommending and nominating officers.**

**GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATING NEW OFFICERS:** Our congregation is beginning the process of officer nomination for the 2022 class of officers of the Session. We encourage all members to make recommendations for the Nominating Ministry Team to consider. *Please use the ballot boxes distributed around the facilities.* These guidelines were adopted by the Session for use in nominating new officers:

A person living in the same household as a member of, or who is a member of the Nominating Ministry Team, may not be nominated for the slate of officers, unless the member of the Team removes himself/herself from the Team. Anyone can be nominated from the floor.

1. A person who has been an officer must be off the Session for at least one year before he or she can be installed again as an officer.
2. Only persons who have manifested a willingness to serve will be considered.
3. A person should be a member of Alamance Presbyterian Church for approximately one year to be considered for nomination.
4. A member should be supporting the annual operating budget of the church (i.e. contributes to the Undesignated, Current Expense, Benevolence or Building & Capital Improvement funds).
5. Faithfulness in attendance at church services will be considered in the nominating process. Attendance includes regular worship, participation in Bible studies and church school classes, service on ministry teams, etc.
6. Two persons from immediate families should not serve on the Session simultaneously.
7. Recognizing the need to involve new persons in leadership positions, some of those nominated should be persons who have previously served, and some should be new persons.
8. Employees of the church and/or their spouses should not be considered for service as Elder.

The word “guidelines” is used for these statements rather than “requirements” because we believe that the Nominating Ministry Team should have some latitude in its decisions.

#### WHAT ARE ELDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR?

##### **Biblical basis: Exodus 18:13-27**

Elders were created to discern God’s will and direction for the church, and to provide leadership. They must faithfully resolve conflict. The Elders will play an important role in the long-range planning, fund raising and growth of the church.

Elders at Alamance are responsible for:

Education, Evangelism & Assimilation,  
Music & Worship, Church Finance, Personnel,  
Building & Grounds maintenance

#### CONSIDERATIONS IN SELECTING ELDERS INCLUDE:

Willingness to serve  
Regular worship attendance  
Support of the church financially  
Christian growth – prayer & study (Bible studies, church school and special services)  
Service to the church (teaching, ministry teams, Senior or Youth leaders)  
Service to the community (Greensboro Urban Ministry, Alamance Food Pantry, Scouts, civic organizations, or other volunteer activities)



## Congregational Meeting

There will be a Called Congregational Meeting in the sanctuary on **Sunday, January 5, 2020, immediately following worship.** Purpose of the meeting is to receive the report of the Nominating Team, and to elect officers for the Class of 2022.

See the facing page for the guidelines followed by the Nominating Team of the Session of Alamance Presbyterian Church. Members of that team are tasked to nominate members of the church to the position of Elder who will strive, so far as they are able, to follow God's will in the care and instruction of this particular congregation.

If you are asked to serve a three-year term as a Ruling Elder, part of the Session, the governing board of this congregation, consider prayerfully if God is calling you to this commitment. Members of the Class of 2022 will serve on the Session from January, 2020 until December, 2022.



## Who Is Your Neighbor?

Whenever in doubt, just be kind.

## An Old Story, in New Words

The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word.  
The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one.

Everything was created through him, nothing — not one thing! —  
came into being without him.

What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by.  
The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn't put it out.

There once was a man, his name John, sent by God to point out the way to  
the Life-Light. He came to show everyone where to look, who to believe in.  
John was not himself the Light; he was there to show the way to the Light.

The Life-Light was the real thing: Every person entering Life he brings into  
Light. He was in the world, the world was there through him, and yet the  
world didn't even notice.

He came to his own people, but they didn't want him.

But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and  
would do what he said, he made to be their true selves, their child-of-God  
selves. These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten,  
not sex-begotten.

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We  
saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like  
Son, generous inside and out, true from start to finish.

- *John 1:1-14, The Message*

# Christmas Poinsettias: December 22, 2019

Please print names exactly as you would like to have them acknowledged  
in the Christmas Poinsettia bulletin insert on **Sunday, December 22, 2019.**

Poinsettias cost **\$14 each**. Please make checks payable to Alamance Presbyterian Church.  
Return this form & money to the church office. Deadline to turn in orders is **Friday, December 13.**

In MEMORY of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In HONOR of \_\_\_\_\_

Person Ordering \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Person picking up poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_

Number poinsettias ordered

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## Christmas Memorial and Honor Gifts 2019

During the Advent season, you may remember your loved ones by purchasing a poinsettia,  
or you may choose to give to a fund of the church that is in need of donations.

If you would like to remember your loved ones by giving to a church-designated fund,  
please print the names below exactly as you wish to have them acknowledged  
in the Christmas Memorials bulletin insert on **Sunday, December 22, 2019.**

Return this form & money in offering plate or to the church office by **Friday, December 13.**

Please make checks payable to Alamance Presbyterian Church.

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Fund: \_\_\_\_\_







## VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

*Ring a bell...help change a life*

Sign up to ring bells at the Elmsley Street Walmart! The pharmacy door is the only one APC will man this year, **Monday-Saturday, through Dec. 24, 10a-8p.** First day of ringing is the day after Thanksgiving, **Friday, November 29.** Two-hour shifts begin at **10 a.m.**, end at **8 p.m.** (No ringing on Sundays).

Youth are encouraged to participate, with adult supervision. Neighbors and friends welcome to ring, too.

Go to <https://signup.com/go/RSiVriw> to sign up for your shift(s)!

## Flowers for the sanctuary

There is a goodly number of open dates to provide flowers for worship, in 2020. Cost of two arrangements for the sanctuary is \$80, if you rely on the church office to order them for you from Corum's Greenhouse and Florist in Pleasant Garden. Or, you may provide your own flowers, from your own garden or from another florist.

You may keep the flowers after worship, or entrust the Presbyterian Women to distribute them to those in the community who need a bit of cheer — or you may distribute them yourself. If you donate the flowers, your gift is tax-deductible.

## Over 80s Luncheon

On November 3, Alamance honored its members over the age of 80 with a luncheon in Brown Fellowship Hall. "Thanks!" to our Youth for serving the meal that the Culinary Arts Team cooked.

Another hearty "thank you" goes to the Historical Room Team for their display — and to Linda Aydelette for so beautifully decorating the space and the tables.



## Feeding Our Fractured Friends

Meal Train is a free-to-use website for setting up schedules for the hospitable among us to make and deliver meals to those who are temporarily unable to fend for themselves — usually because of illness, or recovery from surgery.

A sponsor sets up a “train” and invites others to provide food. Each train is assigned a unique website link, with dates and times, and any special dietary instructions.

It is very convenient for donors to sign themselves up. Those of us who are not “computer savvy” can always request help from the church office to sign up.

Once on the site, you’ll set up an account, so that you can receive e-mail reminders. It is a secure site: **Meal Train does not share your information with anyone else.**

Sponsors typically share the link with their friends, and on the church Facebook page. Upon request, the church office sends the link by e-mail to our All APC distribution list.

Not on the list? E-mail your desire to be on that mailing list to Lynn Barnes, ([lynn@alamancechurch.org](mailto:lynn@alamancechurch.org)).

## Potter’s House

Since July of 2004, APC has served supper to hungry guests at Potter’s House on the **third Saturday of each odd-numbered month.**

When our Greensboro Urban Ministry contract is renewed for this local hunger-relief mission work, these will be the **2020** dates to serve: **January 18, March 21, May 16, July 18, September 19, and November 21.**

The work is intense, but not long. Arrive at **6 p.m.** to set up for the meal. Serve food from **7-7:45 p.m.** We clean up and are out the door by **8:15 p.m.**



## Way to Go, SEMS!

Southeast Guilford Middle School has already donated 1,050 pounds of food through the *Food Bus* program this school year.

Prepackaged, unopened milk and juice; fresh fruits; and other such items that students don’t eat at lunch each day are collected by the

Adaptive Curriculum classes. Those students collect the food, bag and weigh it, then donate it to the APC Food Pantry.

Students in the Adaptive class also do “food bus math” and graph the weekly totals.

## APC Food Pantry

Since 2010, this church has offered groceries to up to 30 hungry families each week. Distribution is on **Saturday mornings, from 10:30-11:30.** Set-up for the week’s distribution starts well before then.

One **Tuesday** each month, we pick up food from Second Harvest Food Bank in Winston-Salem. Every **Wednesday**, volunteers pack grocery bags and put them in carts for that week’s guests.

This mission has priority to use Brown Fellowship Hall. That’s why events are not scheduled there on Saturday mornings.

**We need volunteers to help with distribution to our guests, each Saturday morning!**

You can now schedule your own workdays at <http://signup.com/go/h2b6xy>.

## Special Collections

Each month, the APC Food Pantry designates specific food items to be donated. Place your items in the big box in the Gathering Place, or make special arrangements to deliver food.

Here’s a list of the specific items wanted for each month of the year:

- **December:** Soups
- **January:** Canned beans
- **February:** Rice
- **March:** Peanut butter, jelly
- **April:** Canned fruits
- **May:** Canned vegetables
- **June:** Macaroni-and-cheese
- **July:** Crackers
- **August:** Canned pasta
- **September:** Cereal, oatmeal
- **October:** Canned meats
- **November:** Dry pasta, sauce



## Memorials and Honoraria

**To the Operating Fund:** In memory of Lester Dyson by John & Beth Dyson, Nancy Durham, Willie & Glenda Goncharow, Ed & Catherine Roberson, Lynne Herndon, James & Jane Pendry, the Alamance Community Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary, T.E.C. Industrial, Marty Ballew, Eleanor Dawkins, the Bessemer High School Class of '53, the family of Ray Sparks, Celyn Holt. In memory of Bill Kirkman Jr. by the North Carolina Hereford Association, William & Sheila Dyson. In memory of Mae Hobbs by Harriet Beckwith. In memory of Gladys Forsyth by Lynne Forrest. In memory of Kenneth F. Carraway and in honor of Marie Hodgins, on their birthday by Allen & Kathy Dick. In honor and memory of all veterans by Clint & Linda Aydelette. In honor of Clint & Linda Aydelette, for placing flags in the cemetery by Harold & Barbara Alexander. In honor of Tim Hobbs, by an admirer.

**To the Food Pantry Ministry:** In memory of Lester Dyson by Jackie Fogleman, Brad & Barbara Reece. In memory of Linda Carraway by Allen & Kathy Dick. In honor of Albert & Jan Smith's 50th wedding anniversary by Jackie Fogleman.

**To the Building Improvement Fund:** In honor of Bill Routh by the Sherlie Andrew Sunday school class.

**To the Cemetery Care Fund:** In memory of Lester Dyson by Loretta Allred, Floyd and Laura Fogleman and family; John & Debbie Troxler.

## A Note

Holding a funeral at Alamance Presbyterian Church? Remember to inform the church office! The staff can help with your plans — and alert you of events already planned for that date and time. If another funeral or graveside service is already scheduled for the same time and place, the first funeral scheduled will receive precedence.

Several Bereavement Teams help with refreshments at the time of the funeral. The church office can inform the teams that you'd like their aid.

Cemetery regulations, cemetery privileges with membership, and a roster of graves (through the year 2000) are all posted on our website,

**[www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org)**. Look under "Learn" in the header bar.

## Thank You Note

Thank you, all who made the Over 80s luncheon such a lovely occasion! The food was absolutely delicious; the servers were wonderful; the decorations were amazing. And, it was so nice to be able to just sit and visit with each other for a long chunk of time.

I love you all,

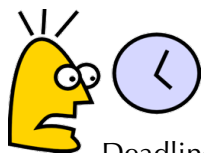
*Jean Poe*



## The Colombarium

The newest addition to our ancient cemetery is complete! This restful little garden is located immediately to the north of the sanctuary. Benches and thoughtful planting make it a pleasant place to sit and contemplate eternity.

Many, many thanks are offered to Tim Hobbs and his team, for the planning and follow-through of the monumental task of this much-needed option for the cemetery.



## Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the **January, 2020** issue of ***The Relay***, our church newsletter, is **Monday, December 16**. Post your articles by "snail mail," by e-mail ([lynn@alamancechurch.org](mailto:lynn@alamancechurch.org)), phone the office (697-0488 x 121) — or hitch up your wagon and drive to the church to deliver it in person.



## Connect with Us Electronically

**"Like us" on Facebook** We maintain several pages on the social media site Facebook. "Like" the pages to receive automatic notice on your own Facebook wall.

### ... and check our website!

The church website is found at [www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org).

## Coffee hour



**December 1: Hadley**  
**December 8: Sullivan**  
**December 15: Burgess**  
**December 22: Irwin**  
**December 29: Monroe**

## Sunday Morning Volunteers

### Ushers/Greeters

#### 1st Sunday

Jon Garrett, Patty Starr  
Side Door: Pat Lovell

#### 2nd Sunday

Ada Nelson, Patty and Cayce Church  
Side Door: Birdie and Nora Church

#### 3rd Sunday

Jackie Fogleman  
Side door: Jean Poe

#### 4th Sunday & 5th Sunday

Dena Fail, Leta Pillion  
Side door: JoAnn Camp

### Offering Collectors

#### 1st Sunday

Graham Dail, Tina Garrett  
 Lee Shores, Tommie Lynn Sullivan

#### 2nd Sunday

Naomi Church, Pam Dixon,  
 Tony Sizemore, Gary Trull

#### 3rd Sunday

Nick Purvis, Albert Smith,  
 Steve Starr, Kirby Ward

#### 4th Sunday & 5th Sunday

Harold Alexander, Bobby Jobe,  
 Willie Goncharow, Ed Gonzalez

## ALAMANCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS INCLUSIVE, ECLECTIC, AND REFORMED.

We are an ecumenical congregation in a Presbyterian Church (USA) form.

### CHURCH STAFF

**Rev. Dr. Kyle Goodman**, Lead Pastor

**Rev. Jessica Rigel**, Associate Pastor  
 for Discipleship

**Andrew Long**, Youth Director

**Katie Hensley**, Director of Music

**Rebecca Oden**, Accompanist

**Joy Thomas**, Dir., Children's Ministries

**Jeanine Rossi**, Financial Manager

**Lynn Barnes**, Administrative Assistant

**Jane Preston**, Director,  
 Child Development Center

**Keri Rojas**, Asst. Director, CDC

**Missionary: Erin Padgett Atkinson**,  
 Linguist, Wycliffe Bible Translators

### Alamance Presbyterian Church

4000 Presbyterian Road  
 Greensboro, NC 27406  
 (336)-697-0488

[www.alamancechurch.org](http://www.alamancechurch.org)  
[info@alamancechurch.org](mailto:info@alamancechurch.org)

## Hours of Operation

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,  
 and Friday:**

**8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday:**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

Finance Manager Jeanine Rossi  
 will be in office **9a-5p M-Th**,  
 and **9a-12 noon** on **Fridays**.

**Telephone #:**

**336.697.0488**

Church offices  
 will be C - L - O - S - E - D

**Monday, Dec. 23 - Friday, Dec. 27, 2019**

for Christmas;

and **Wed., Jan. 1, 2020** for New Year's Day.