

# The View

Madison Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 2022

Dear Brother and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas is upon us! It is a joy this year to be with you – my new family in Christ – and also in the Madison community. One of the things I'll be doing this year is participating in the "Christmas Carol Read Aloud" at the Madison Library on December 10 from 2 til 5. I can't wait! I get to read the end – Stave 5 – when Scrooge is awakened, alive and overjoyed, and gets to make amends for his past life!

Scrooge has had a "shub", a turning; a "metanoia", a change of mind. His joy overflows at the opportunity to do good and to embrace those things he previously distained. While he can't undo the past, he can boldly affect the present and therefore the future and so he does.

He tips lavishly.

He compliments broadly.

He embraces both family and stranger on the street.

He accepts invitations to dine and provides resources so others can do the same.

He gives his employee a raise and raises the temperature in the room.

And he sees to the medical needs of the very least, Tiny Tim.

We may not be a Scrooge, but we probably all have had "scroogy" days. The great thing about Scrooge's actions is that they are actions. He was, as we know, of great good cheer upon awaking from his visions, but I will remind us that we don't have to feel good to do good, and we can make a difference in the lives of every single person we encounter this Christmas season just by having a generosity of spirit. In this way we herald the birth of Christ – the evidence of the great and generous heart of God.

God bless us, everyone, and may we, so blessed, be a blessing!

Comfort and Joy -

Pastor Karen

## Pastor Karen Contact Information

1. My Sabbath is Friday. I will not pick up calls or answer texts or emails on Fridays unless it's an emergency. Please do leave a message so I will know if your concern is urgent.
2. My cell is **540-414-3193**. Please do call or text anytime Sunday through Thursday between 9am and 7pm. If I am not available, I will call you back as soon as I am.
3. EMERGENCIES call **any time**. PLEASE call or text directly if you or your loved one goes to the hospital as soon as possible. Do not assume I know.
4. It is my intent to usually be in the office M, T, W from 9 to noon as we get started, do out visits in the afternoon, and have Thursday as a writing day – but this is not set in stone. I am HAPPY to make evening or weekend appointments for all of you who work! **My time will flex to accommodate you.**
5. If you want to drop by to see me instead of making an appointment, I will always be glad to see you. Just know you may have to wait if someone else has scheduled time with me.

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### Donna Kulesza, Church Administrator

I've met so many of you over the past month. Please reach out to me if I can help in any way. And remember to send me items to include for the Focus, the View or the weekly Bulletin. I am here to support you all at Madison Presbyterian Church.

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Christmas Music Sunday  
Presented by the Choir  
Sunday, December 11th

2023 Flower Calendar  
has been posted in the Narthex



## The Installation!

Many thanks to Elizabeth Ann and Andrew and the Choir, Ruth and Sam for the Native American pre-service music, Logan Lamar for opening us with the Call to Worship, Heidi Sage presenting the constitutional questions to the congregation, the Fellowship Team for such a wonderful reception and flowers, Donna for perfect bulletins, Valerie and Dana for technical ministry on mikes and broadcast, Jane Lamar for the pictures, and YOU for your presence!



Commission to Install from the Presbytery of the James included Ruling Elder Heidi Sage, Co-chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee; Rev. John Storey, HR, Pastor of Madison PC for 29 years; Rev. Dr. Floretta Barbee-Watkins, Lead Presbyter for Vision and Collaboration; Ruling Elder Dan Jor-danger, Moderator, POJ; Rev. Lynne Taylor Clements, Associate Pastor Westminster Charlottesville, and former intern of Madison PC; Rev. Kelly-Ann Rayle, Interim Pastor, River Road Presbyterian Church, Richmond; Rev. Patrick S. Pettit, Preacher, Guest of the Commission from Shenandoah Presbytery; Ruling Elder Pratt Cherry, River Road Presbyterian; Ruling Elder Rick Jenkins, Culpeper Presbyterian.

Stated Session Meeting Agenda

November 9, 7:00 – 8:30pm

The Stated Meeting of the Session of Madison Presbyterian Church was held at 7:00 on October 11, November 9, 2022 in the Fellowship Hall. Those present were Elders; Sue Strahan, John Quinley, Bill Pattie, Jean Pearson, Allan McLearn, Clarrisa Berry and Moderator; Karen Allamon. Elder Dana Edelman was excused. A quorum was present.

1. Gather with Scripture and Prayer:
2. Review and Approval of the Agenda: Jean made the motion, Allan seconded. The agenda was approved.
3. Pastor’s Report: Karen provided a written report of her activities for the month.
4. Clerk’s Report and Communications: The Minutes from October were reviewed and approved. Sue reminded the Session that we are required to review the roles annually. She will send the report created by a task force in 2020 for everyone to review. Sue also shared a report from Nick regarding Church locks and security cameras. There was much discussion but no motion for action. It was recommended that the Building and Grounds team develop a policy for keys. It was agreed that we need to re-key the outside doors. A commercial grade key pad lock should be considered on each building. It was suggested that a master list of keys should be created and monitored. The issue was tabled pending a functional policy.

6. Treasurer’s Report

Oct 2022	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$12,504	\$10,583	\$106,771	\$105,830
Expenses	\$13,746	\$13,419	\$ 69,950	\$134,190
Difference	\$(1242)	\$(2,836)	\$ 36,820	\$(28,360)

7. Area & Team Reports

a. **Administration:**

**Personnel:** No report

**Building:** No Building report. Clarissa reported that she met with Sandra (Susan Broyles?) regarding the plan to store some totes in one of our mechanical rooms. She needs to store them until Easter. This request was approved at the October meeting.

**Finance:** Allan reported on the proposed budget for 2023. The finance team was pleased to have requests from most all of the teams. The 2023 Proposed budget was reviewed. Clarissa moved that we accept the budget with one change, line 5306 move to a 5200 line item for clarity. Jean seconded the motion and the motion passed. Clarissa proposed that we consider a 2024 Capital Improvement campaign to cover the cost of anticipated repairs. Bill Pattie reminded us that we have a Maintenance Replacement account with \$53,490. There is also a Building Property fund with \$29,051.

Allan further reported the credit limit on our credit card has been increased to \$5,500.

**Stewardship:** Dedication Sunday is planned for 11/20.

b. **Congregational Life:** No report. Karen reviewed the plans for her installation service on 11/13

- c. **Witness:** No Team report.
  - d. **Communications:** No report.
9. Discussion of “*The Post Quarantine Church*” – what do we need to make our digital connection to the world better, was postponed.
  10. Continued Business: Jean reported on the POJ meeting she and Karen attended on our behalf.
  11. New Business: Bill Pattie presented a report from the Nominating Committee, identifying the three 2023-2025 candidates: Sue Strahan, Joan Corbin, Bobbi Carrol have agreed to serve. Jean proposed that the Annual Congregational meeting be on 11/27. Clarissa seconded the motion. Discussion included: our Annual Corporation meeting be held on the same day, presentation of the 2023 Budget, Names for new members of the Nominating committee will be raised from the floor. Bill reminded us that as he rotates off, a new session liaison needs to be elected. The motion carried.
  12. Next Stated Session Meeting: December 13.
  13. Prayer and Adjournment: Jean motioned to adjourn, Clarissa seconded, all in favor. The meeting was closed with prayer

## Counters January-March 2023

January 2023	February 2023	March 2023
Elizabeth Anne Storey	Sue Strahan	Heidi Sage
Nancy Preston	Sam Strahan	Allan McLearn

### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A PLEDGE

pledge (plej) *n* 1. A formal promise. 2. Something considered as security for payment of a debt or obligation

Of course, churches have financial needs, and hopefully they are aligned with the mission of making disciples. However, whether and how much an individual or family gives is not dependent upon the needs of the church.

Giving is a spiritual discipline and an aspect of our relationship with God. We do not give to the Church, but rather we give to God through the Church.

Our finance team certainly **HOPES** we all **LOVE** our church family with enough generosity to give **FAITHFULLY** in the coming year. We can each make that commitment by filling in a pledge card.

It's not too late to return a pledge card. In a still-sealed envelope you are writing a "thank you" letter, and sending a message of commitment between you and God. This pledge is a commitment to God and to ourselves to meet that pledge.

Stewardship letters with blank pledge cards are still available.

## Thanksgiving Dinner 2022

With 60 of us in attendance, everything was beautifully set up by our Fellowship Team, including Frank and Mary King, Eli Johnson, Joan and Gene Corbin, with special thanks to Joan who made the turkey, mashed potatoes, green beans, eggs, ham, and rolls !!!! Incredible Joan! Delicious sides and desserts were brought by the congregation. Thank you everyone for a delicious meal and wonderful fellowship!



*Sundays carbs don't count.  
Those are the Lords carbs and  
He wants you to be happy.*





**Birthday**  
 Angela Sadler 12/27  
 Sam Bartczak 12/28

**Anniversaries**  
 Lee & Pattie Rees 12/18  
 Matthew & Valerie McLearn 12/28

On Communion Sundays, the outside ring is Wine,  
 the inside is Juice




**Social Services Needs for December**

DECEMBER

“Foods” of the Month  
 Toiletries and Cleaning Supplies  
 Dish soap, laundry detergent, paper towels,  
 toilet paper, cleanser, deodorant, bath soap,  
 toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo or  
 feminine hygiene products

Please place your donations in the container in  
 the Fellowship Hall. Items will be delivered to  
 Madison Social Services to  
 help neighbors in need.

**From The Green Book (Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas Kostigen),**



Some tips for the Holiday season

**Wrapping Paper**

Cut back on wrapping waste by placing gifts in reusable bags or baskets. If you prefer traditional wrapping paper, try to find a brand with recycled content and then use any large pieces to wrap presents again next year. Between Thanksgiving and New Year’s, Americans produce an extra two billion pounds of garbage per week, much of which is gift packaging.

**Greeting Cards**

Purchase greeting cards made from recycled or tree-free materials. Americans send two billion holiday cards each year, so just a 1 percent reduction could save 15,000 trees.

**Giving Cash**

Don’t take the ATM receipt. ATM receipts are one of the top sources of litter on the planet. If everyone left their receipt in the machine (declined a paper receipt), it would save a roll of paper more than than two billion feet long, or enough to circle the equator 15 times.

**Collectors for December 2022 are Nick and Joyce Humphrey**

	<p>Madison Presbyterian Church          1236 Fishback Road          Madison, VA 22727          540.948.6972  <a href="http://www.madisonpresbyterian.com">www.madisonpresbyterian.com</a></p>	<p>Church Administrator: Donna Kulesza  <a href="mailto:office@madisonpresbyterian.com">office@madisonpresbyterian.com</a>          Pastor: Karen Allamon  <a href="mailto:pastorkaren@madisonpresbyterian.com">pastorkaren@madisonpresbyterian.com</a>          Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:00 – 1:00</p>
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**Blue Ridge Chorale**  
**Holiday Concert**

Culpeper United Methodist  
 Church

December 4, 2022 3:30PM  
 1233 Oaklawn Dr, Culpeper, VA 22701

**NEW LOCATION**



*2022*  
*Celebrate the Season*  
 With the  
 Orange Community  
 Chorus and Band

Chorus Concert Saturday December 17, 7:30pm Orange Presbyterian Church	Band Concert Sunday December 18, 3:30pm Orange County H.S.
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Admission is FREE



*The Madison Choral Society*  
 presents  
 its 34th Annual Christmas Concert

 *Joyous* 

*Christmas Tidings*



Ethan Wagner, Director

December 2, 2022 7:00 P.M.  
 St. Thomas's Episcopal Church  
 Orange, VA

December 4, 2022 4.30 P.M.  
 Mt. Carmel Church  
 Haywood, VA

Friends of the Library  
 invite you to an  
**Open House**  
 Featuring a live reading of  
 Charles Dickens'

**A CHRISTMAS  
 CAROL**

Saturday, December 10  
 Reading will begin at 2:00 P.M.  
 Madison County Library  
 402 N. Main Street, Madison, VA



Refreshments will be served. Donations welcomed.

Come and bring your friends to

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
 119 Caroline Street  
 Orange, VA

20th Annual

*'Messiah' Sing-Along*  
 Part One

**Thursday, December 15, 2022**

**7:30 pm**

Conducted by

**Alan Miller**

accompanied by strings and organ

scores available

Reception to follow - Donations appreciated



# December 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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				1	2 Card Group 10am	3
4 Advent Week 2 Communion Worship 10 AM Min for Stwdship AA 5:30	5	6	7 Book Club 11am	8	9 Card Group 10am	10
11 Advent Week 3 Worship 10 AM AA 5:30	12 Madison Quilt Guild 7:00	13 Session	14 Pres Women 10am	15 Garden Club 11-4	16 Card Group 10am	17
18 Advent Week 4 Worship 10 AM Joy Offering AA 5:30	19	20	21 Madison Women's Club 7:00	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 5PM
25 Christmas Worship 10am AA 5:30	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 4 Isaiah 11:1–10 Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19 Romans 15:4–13 Matthew 3:1–12

December 11 Isaiah 35:1–10 Psalm 146:5–10 or Luke 1:46–55 James 5:7–10 Matthew 11:2–11

December 18 Isaiah 7:10–16 Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19 Romans 1:1–7 Matthew 1:18–25

December 24 Isaiah 9:2–7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11–14 Luke 2:1–14 [15–20]

Christmas Day Isaiah 52:7–10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1–4 [5–12] John 1:1–14