



Mineral Springs Methodist Church

Live for Jesus
Grow Disciples
Change Lives



Volume 44, No. 1

January 2025

Mineral Springs
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Chris Hartis
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Pam Brenwald
Administrator
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Check us out on the web...
www.mineralspringsmethodistchurch.com

Mears' Meanderings



A New Year has come Mineral Springs,

On January 5th we will celebrate Epiphany Sunday here at Mineral Springs.

There are a lot of traditions around the globe including...

Western Christianity (Catholic and Protestant traditions):

Epiphany commemorates the visit of the **Magi (Wise Men)** to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1-12). The Magi's visit symbolizes Jesus being revealed to the Gentiles, showing that His coming was for all people, not just the Jewish nation.

Eastern Christianity (Orthodox traditions):

Epiphany focuses on the **baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River** by John the Baptist. It highlights the manifestation of Jesus as the Son of God when the Holy Spirit descended like a dove, and God the Father's voice declared, "This is my beloved Son."

As we enter the New Year I need your help with an experiment that we will embark on as a community of faith. I have the privilege and the honor of being your minister and get to lead you in so many ways but the 'Body of Christ' needs to be led by Christ.

To do just that we are going to try an experiment this year that you are going to hear about very soon. **We call it, New Year. New Word.**

In this experiment, I need a word from every single one of you at Mineral Springs. Now, it's not a word you make up, but a Word from Scripture. It's about asking the Lord to highlight a text, verse, or passage from God's Word to guide the way for 2025. This will be a focusing word for you and us in 2025. We will begin this experiment and watch as the Lord speaks as only he can through the people called Mineral Springs.

Your brother in Christ,

Rev. L Alan Mears



AIR FORCE

Jay Connelley, Bradley Little

ARMY

Cody Guion, Marshall Little, Zack Wolfe
Staff Sergeant Ryan Toth, Army National Guard

MARINES

Patrick McCann, Caleb Simpson, Carson Outen,
Averi Lavoie, Connor McCann, Juan Hidalgo,
Sean Summers

CPL McCann, Patrick N.
Mals 36, Mag-36
FPO
AP 96372-7141
800 Division, Unit 37141

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Albany, GA 31704

LCPl McCann, Connor L
6423 McWhorter Rd
Waxhaw, NC 28173
Temporary

PFC Simpson, Caleb M
MCESG MSG School
27277 Browning Rd
Quantico, VA 22134

LCpl Hidalgo-Vega, Juan
HQHWRON (weather)
Unit 35202
FRO AP 96372-5202



Pastor Alan Mears, Robert Addington, Anne King
Marshall Enwright, Tyler & Shelley Catalano,
Violet Cook, Alyce & Jerry Griffin, Kristin Keener,
Kelly Smith, Leah VanNetta, Brad, Jerry & Dot Hartis,
Rusty Cook, Roy Gleason, Worth Whitaker, Dave
Hornberger, Holland Walker, Larry Dickerson, Cindy
Zidanic, Courtney, Drew & Hudson, Rich Wilson,
Doris Carpenter

LONG TERM PRAYER LIST:

Meg & Gloria Giddings, Don & Kathy McGinnis,
Rich Catalano, Wayne & Leila Maske, Sandy Strawn,
Denny Bryson, Bill Howie, Raymond Helms, Dot Cook,
Debbie Watkins, Lana Lamkin, Barbara Ballew,
Elizabeth & Cramer Phillips, Frances Sheppard,
Nell Starnes, James Helms, Benny Parker,
Melanie Brennan, Myckle Griffin, Barry Roberson,
Sydney Feddersen, Greg Horton, Cindy & Kate Zidanic,
Ruby King, Pat Harris, Mary Luther, Chris Lemmond,
Sue Thornton, Tammy Parker, Darlene Blackburn,
Dale Watts, Erika Perez, Matthew Stewart, Tom Ross,
Lisa Cox, Dave Pandoli, Frank Buchannon, Corbin Sikes,
Tammy Little, Wilburn (Bud) Cutshaw, Melinda Fisher,
Father Brad Smith, Kent & Nancy Shoe, David Broome,
Dale Hopkins, Elizabeth Brooks, Joyce Starnes,
Toby Holland, Shannon Gray, Cooper Knowles,
William Miles, Marsha Cundiff, Brandon Carver,
Mark McSheehan, Martha Robinson Kiker

CANCER PRAYER LIST:

Wayne Geddings, Donald Combs, Austin Combs,
Claire Howell, Danny Sanders, Marlene Reeck,
Jennifer Ross, Anne Carson, Caroleen Couick,
Sam Kosterman, Mandy Tetlow Coltre', David Gordon,
Venn Helms, Mary Engler, Annette Fox, Sara Porter,
Wyatt Cartertary, Gary Lane, Barbara McKim,
Kathy Dublin, Kathy Knight, Larry Bell,
Marie Harwood, Rusty Miller, Matthew Alcorn,
Nancy Tawney, Tom Pope, Johnny Penegar, Jeff Gross,
Evelyn Wilson, John Larry Fite, Loretta O'Neal,
Doris King, Linda Mosley-Hess, Robin Boehler,
Cathy Kalista, Terry Fallick, Peggy Bradley,
Melvin Glass, Lynn Stickleather, Dave Gray,
Betsy Huneycutt, Kevin Smith, Kathy Newman,
Donna Flanders, Doris Turner

*To update prayer list, please contact church office
704-843-5905|Email:*

mineralspringsmethodistchurch@gmail.com

METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Methodist Women's Fellowship will meet on Thursday January 9, 2025. We will meet at 9:30 for fellowship and our regular meeting at 10:00.

We pray that the past Christmas season brought a renewing into your life. Ready to follow Christ with a new spirit.

The Methodist Women are ready to jump into 2025 with our talented leadership.

We ended our year with our annual Christmas get together. Take-Away-Christmas-Game and our shared refreshments. I need to mention the patience of our fearless crafty person. Shelly was a gem attempting to teach us a Christmas craft. I think she completed 99% of the craft for us.

Thank you for supporting our Christmas Extravaganza booth. All our delicious homemade soup sold. Enjoy! Your support gives us the means for supporting our projects.

Blood Drive dates have been confirmed for 2025. January 20st is the first Drive, We need your help. 2:30 until 5:00 and 5:00 until closing. Call Becky

Don't forget our ongoing support of the Back Pack Ministry. Back Pack provides for Parkwood Middle School. Donations can be left in the FLC, Sanctuary Breezeway or the office. Please join us to provide for those who are in need.

A reminder about the Back Pack Ministry, please do not donate food in glass jars.

A reminder, we sell the best knives in the world along with flavoring. These things help us support our Mission Projects. Any time is tomato season....try our tomato slicer. Best in the world. Honest!

Thank you for your support.



PatsyBallard

Thomas & Kay Hinson

Thank You



Thank you for your outpouring of love and support during the holidays! The cards, gifts, sweets, and love offering are all reminders of how very special you are. We truly appreciate you and feel blessed to be a part of this church with you!

Your church staff



2025 January Church Leadership Mini Retreat

For our Leaders here at Mineral Springs we will be having a kickoff event on January 26th right after the service with a meal included. This Mini-Retreat will allow us to educate on what each committee and group does here at Mineral Springs as well as plan out the year calendar with our committees and groups. This is a great time for us to really focus on what the Lord has in store for us at Mineral Springs. The mini-retreat will be on January 26th following our services in the FLC.



Note from Chris

Happy New Year !!

Here we are at the beginning of a brand new year again. I hope and pray that each of us will make a commitment to draw closer to God this year.

I pray that you would find a place to plug into our Church and experience all that he has to offer.

Hope you all have a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. See ya on Sunday!!

In His Service,

Chris Hartis



YOUTH JANUARY 2025

Open Gym Wednesdays – 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th from 6-8pm
Sunday Night Youth Group- Sermon, Games –
5th, 12th, 19th & 26th from 6-8pm

High School Dinner is in February.

Middle School Night is January 22nd from 6-8pm

Open Gym- Wednesdays,

January 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th from 6-8 PM

Join us on Wednesday night for an open gym. This is a time where we simply play games and fellowship with one another. During this time, we play an organized game for half of the time (volleyball, kickball, dodgeball, etc.) and the remaining time is your choice. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to come check us out! This is open to ALL 6th-12th graders.

Sunday Night Youth Group,

January 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th 6-8 PM

Join us Sunday nights from 6-8pm in the FLC for a time of games, Bible study, dinner and games. This is a good time to get challenged and uplifted in your walk with God. This is open to ALL 6th-12th graders.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Joseph Adcock, Doris Carpenter, Pat Schmuckli, Wanda Stilwell |
| 2 | Brad McKee |
| 5 | DeAnna McCann, Tommy McLean, Marsha Strawn |
| 6 | Barry Robinson, Edward Robison Jr. |
| 8 | Kirk Kettwich, Maddi Young |
| 9 | Mike Goodwin, Janice Gregory |
| 10 | John Kalis |
| 12 | Mandy Mohor |
| 14 | Tom Ross |
| 15 | Mike Connelley, Sara Starner |
| 17 | Leslie Tucker |
| 18 | Dollie Starnes |
| 21 | Dawna Daniels, Joe Todd |
| 22 | Eric Zidanic |
| 23 | Katelyn Mears, Brian Smith |
| 24 | Santiago Cantoran, Kristie Kohler |
| 25 | Julia Ballard, Greg Horton |
| 26 | Samantha Lavoie, Dan Nickel |
| 27 | Dale Zaugg |
| 28 | Grace Ganey |
| 29 | Everleigh Brooks |
| 30 | Carl White |



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Fred & Betty Roach |
| 3 | Herman & Linda Hodges |
| 18 | Josh & Cheyenne Hammerstone |
| 20 | Worth & Dele Whitaker |
| 24 | George & Lynn Stone |
| 27 | John & Barbara Blair |

If your birthday or anniversary has been overlooked or you know someone whose name needs to be added, please call church office 704-843-5905

MINERAL SPRINGS YOUTH ORDER FORM



**WE HAVE LONG AND SHORT SLEEVE SHIRTS,
HOODIES AND HATS AVAILABLE.**

Call Josh with questions @ 931-206-2624. Cash, Check, Venmo, Paypal, Cashapp all accepted.

SHORT SLEEVE SHIRT \$12 EACH QTY_____

COLOR GREY FROST

SIZE _____

TOTAL \$_____

LONG SLEEVE SHIRT \$16 EACH QTY_____

COLOR GREY FROST

SIZE _____

TOTAL \$_____

HOODIES \$22 EACH QTY_____

COLOR ATHLETIC HEATHER

SIZE _____

TOTAL \$_____

HATS \$20 QTY_____

TOTAL \$_____

GRAND TOTAL \$_____



Welcome to 2025!!!

As a new year begins, we often feel the pressure to make new resolutions for changes in our lives. Some of these may be simply to spend less time on social media, while others may be bigger changes like significant health/exercise changes. In either case, some of these resolutions last several months, others several weeks, and finally some never make it past a few days, but seldom do our resolutions last a lifetime. Any change is hard. For that reason, I want to talk about ways to make more permanent changes in our lives by the way we perceive that change process.

Passion: first consider a change that you can be passionate about. If cycling isn't a passion, it a chore, so choosing something you can really get excited about is key. Are there others you like spending time with who are also interested in your new endeavor? If so, commitment to something new is easier when others support your vision.

Set SMART Goals:

SMART is an acronym for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-Specific.

Being clear and specific can help you eliminate outside noise that distracts you from your goal, while being able to measure your progress can help motivate you along the way.

Overcome Procrastination: Rome wasn't built in a day, but at some point, someone woke up and put their vision of a city to work and started carving stone. Talking about a plan isn't execution, its still just planning. Make copies and post them where you will see them listing small steps to get you started. Break the goal into smaller "bite sized" pieces.

Limit Destructing Self-Talk: We all say things to ourselves that are negative, like "Your so clumsy", when we stumble or trip, or "butterfingers" when we drop things. But it is different when your entire message to yourself is a running track of negative messages. "You're a failure at everything", "You can't do that", "You're not good at anything", or "You won't succeed", are all negative messages. Sure, we have doubts from time to time, but our head should not be filled with negative recordings. If so, getting some support to change those messages is key to success in life, and any goal you set.

Continued



Wellness Circle Continued

Making just a few of these changes as you begin considering new goals can clear the path for real change. Most of all, remember God loves you. He created you to be unique and special, just as you are. You are his child, and he wants nothing but the best for you. Jeremiah 29:11 says: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". In Luke 12:7 Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows. These two verses assure me that God wants me to succeed, and that he knows me better than anyone else ever could, because I am his creation.

Finally, if you are struggling in the new year, whether it's to make changes, or maybe feeling stuck in the past, please reach out. I am available to talk and will support you in working through those feelings. You can always reach me through the church office.

Blessings as we begin 2025 together
Rodney Little
Congregational Wellness Coordinator



Grief Support Group

The Grief Group will meet at 6:30pm on Monday, January 13th in the Wesley Room in the church office.



Cancer Support Group, on January 8th at 6:30pm, in the Christian Life Center.

SPRINGERS.....SPRINGERS.....SPRINGERS

It's a brand New Year and you are invited to be a part of the Springers. If you have thought about Springers and you think you are TOO YOUNG to be a part of this group. THINK AGAIN!!! Springers are a vibrant group that have knowledgeable meetings, food and fun every 4th Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m. We support MISSIONS, groups in the church and outside the church. Come be a part and you will find out what Springers really are all about. Just be 55 or older. See you in this New Year.



Happy New Year to All.....

A) 2025 GMC North Carolina Annual Conference is scheduled on June 25-28 in Winston Salem. We look forward to seeing you all in June at Annual Conference!

**Benton Convention Center
425 North Cherry St.
Winston-Salem, NC 27101**

B) The Final Version of the revised GMC Book of Doctrine and Discipline is issued. Email Pam if you want a copy.

C) Thank you for your continued support of Disaster Response! God is good & faithful!

To date the GMC has received donations from the following 20 states:

Alabama, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina. We have received a total of \$869,596.00. These funds are being used to purchase and distribute to those who need Hurricane Relief help.

D) Our friend and previous Mineral Springs Methodist Pastor, Tom Mabry, is now Senior Pastor at Shady Groove GM Church and has been named Director of Global Methodist Studies in Winston Salem, has joined the Hood faculty in the newly created position of Director of Global Methodist Studies. Mabry will lead Hood in seeking Approved Seminary Status from the Global Methodist Church, assist in recruiting both students and teaching faculty, provide counsel to the seminary as programs are finalized for Global Methodist students, and represent Hood in the Global Methodist community.

Mabry also chairs the NC Conference Leadership Team of the Global Methodist Church, formerly the conference episcopacy committee.

Continued



News from GMC Continued

E) December, 31, 2024, will bring major changes for the WCA (Wesley Covenant Association).

WCA will start transitioning to the Global Methodist Church in 2025. Here are several key points:

1. WCA “active operations” will conclude.
2. The WCA website will be maintained, particularly the REVIVE section, for local congregations, laity, and clergy, seeking information as well as legal, financial, and church multiplication resources.
3. Several regional WCA chapters will remain open in UMC Annual Conferences where there is pending litigation. The rest of the WCA chapters have completed their corporate dissolution. The Jurisdictional WCA Chapters will also complete corporate dissolution by the end of December.
4. A “custodial Board of Directors” will maintain the WCA corporation to fulfill our AfricaNOW commitments, sustain the WCA website, and care for legal and compliance matters throughout 2025.
5. Rev. Dr. Scott Field will conclude his role as WCA President on 12/31/24, the same date as the final issue of *WCA Outlook*.
6. These are simply the details of *MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!* The WCA has fulfilled its calling. We have been a transitional bridge across which so many have traveled (and will continue to travel) **to the Global Methodist Church.**

MISSIONS



Operation Reach-Out



Donations by our church family made it possible to deliver and help sort 500 pounds of food to Operation Reachout in Monroe on December 12th. These nonperishable food supplies will be used for residents of Union County.

This year we chose to share our Wish Wall donations to Western North Carolina where we partnered with Asheville Buncombe Christian Communities Ministries to help bring Christmas to victims of Hurricane Helena. Thanks to those who bought gifts from the wish walls or donated to the shopping fund for tags that were not taken. We were able to deliver approximately 700 gifts which were shared with approximately 140 children.

It took many hands to make this mission project possible. Once the gifts were purchased, they were sorted, packed in categorized boxes and loaded in the Scout Troop 18 trailer. On December 14th, our gifts were driven to Asheville, NC to the distribution center for Christmas Angel. Families of 2500+ children were expected to be recipients of the Joy of Christmas there between December 2nd and 24th.

Once again, Mineral Springs Methodist Church has met the needs of those who are less fortunate by serving others. Thank you to all those who made this possible locally and in the mountains.

The Mission Committee



Women's Bible Study, Wednesday, 10am in the Wesley room.

Men's Bible study, Thursdays, 6:30pm in the CLC.



Happy New Year Church Family!
We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas. We are getting ready to open registration for the 2025-2026 school year! We will take registrations from current preschool families and church members starting on January 27th. Please email Ms Tammy at mineralspringspreschool@gmail.com for registration information. We will then open registration to the public on February 10, if you have neighbors or friends who are looking for a wonderful Christ-centered preschool, please point them our way! For everyone who has asked about volunteering to read to our classes, we will be setting aside time each Tuesday starting Jan14th for you to come love on our littles. You will need to have a background check run and a Safe Sanctuary form signed and filed with Pam in the church office before you can volunteer. Please see Pam or Ms Tammy for information and the forms. There will be a calendar posted outside the preschool office in January to sign up. We can't wait to welcome y'all into the preschool and introduce you to the kids! You can share your favorite stories or we have some that you can choose from. Thanks to everyone for all the love and prayers and support that you all have showered over the preschool.

2025 JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Holiday	2	3 7pm AA mtg/CLC	4 9:30am Yoga
5 Epiphany 9:45am worship Sanct FLC 9:45 SPRING Kids/CLC 4-5pm Children's Choir 6-8pm Youth/FLC	6 6:30pm Pickelball FLC 6:30pm Pack 18 * CLC 7:30pm Troop 18 CLC	7 5-9pm Men's BB FLC 6:30pm AI-Anon CLC 7pm AA mtg/CLC	8 9am Sew Blessed/Epworth 10am Womens Bible Study Wesley 6pm Open Gym 6:30pm Pack 18 CLC 6:30 Cancer Support Asbury 7pm Adult	9 9:30am MSMW/Asbury 6:30pm Men's Bible Study/CLC	10 7pm AA mtg/CLC	11 9:30am Yoga Rental CLC
12 9:45am worship Sanct FLC 9:45 SPRING Kids/CLC 4-5pm Children's Choir 6-8pm Youth/FLC	13 6:30pm Pickelball FLC 6:30pm Pack 18 * CLC 7:30pm Troop 18 CLC	14 5-9pm Men's BB FLC 6:30pm AI-Anon CLC 7pm AA mtg/CLC	15 9am Sew Blessed/Epworth 10am Womens Bible Study Wesley 6pm Open Gym 7pm Adult Choir/Sanctuary VBS	16 6:30pm Men's Bible Study/CLC	17 7pm AA mtg/CLC	18 9:30am Yoga
19 9:45am worship Sanct FLC 9:45 SPRING Kids/CLC 4-5pm Children's Choir 6-8pm Youth/FLC	20 6:30pm Pickelball FLC 6:30pm Pack 18 * CLC 7:30pm Troop 18 CLC	21 5-9pm Men's BB FLC 6:30pm AI-Anon CLC 7pm AA mtg/CLC	22 9am Sew Blessed/Epworth 10am Womens Bible Study Wesley 6pm Open Gym 7pm Adult Choir/Sanctuary VBS	23 6:30pm Men's Bible Study/CLC	24 7pm AA mtg/CLC Scouts Lock in 4pm – Saturday 9am FLC	25 9:30am Yoga Scouts Lock in 9am FLC
26 9:45am worship Sanct FLC 9:45 SPRING Kids/CLC Leadership Retreat FLC 4-5pm Children's Choir 5pm Springer's 6-8pm Youth/FLC	27 6:30pm Pickelball FLC 6:30pm Pack 18 * CLC 6:30pm Grief Support Asbury 7:30pm Troop 18 CLC	28 5-9pm Men's BB FLC 6:30pm AI-Anon CLC 7pm AA mtg/CLC	29 9am Sew Blessed/Epworth 10am Womens Bible Study Wesley 6pm Open Gym 7pm Adult Choir/Sanctuary VBS	30 6:30pm Men's Bible Study/CLC	31 7pm AA mtg/CLC	

January 20th is the deadline for the February Pipeline.

Please send information to share to:

mineralspringsmethodistchurch@gmail.com

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Grow Disciples,
Change Lives



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LIVE GROW CHANGE

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