



P.O. Box 603
Waverly, TN 37185

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Waverly, TN
Permit No. 210

Return Service Requested

*If you would like to be removed
from the mailing list, please
contact the church office.*



December 18, 2024

Church Family,

On Sunday night, seven people received the sacrament of baptism: John Henry Lewis, Lucy Lewis, Clarke Lewis, Benton Lill, Richard Morris, Chris Pearson, and Nicole McLeod. Four of them are adults. Three are children. Three of them are a father and his children. Two of them belong to *No More Tears*. Each of them have been claimed by God in the waters of baptism. They are his children. He loves them. He is pleased with them. Thanks be to God!

Finley and Oliver Sternberg were dedicated to the Lord on Sunday, December 8th. They were brought forward by their parents, Cory and Karalee Sternberg. They were surrounded by a large, loving family and a large, loving church family. We all made promises. These boys are being pointed to Jesus.

The lives of Nancie and Ray Hesson were celebrated on Saturday, December 14th. The service was an offering of praise to God and a call to holy living. Our lives are richer for having shared them with Nancie and Ray. May this precious mother and son rest in peace and rise with Christ.

Bernadene Gray's home was severely damaged in the 2021 flood. Since then, the home was rebuilt. Last Thursday, she lost her home again. This time, to a fire. Bernadene and the guys are ok. They are in a motel. Her faith is strong. Her joy is untouched. She expects insurance to cover the cost. In the meantime, if you want to assist with necessities, you may give through WCN. Mark your gift *Bernadene*.

The 35th annual *Group Home Christmas Party* was pure joy. Friends from Group Homes joined us for a meal. We ate and sang and danced. We shared gifts and spent time with our friends. Connections were made. Silliness was rampant. Every person left with a smile. Thanks to Buddy Bishop, Caleb Conrad, Sheila Bishop, Kay McGranahan, John McGranahan, Candy Lee, and Delaina Aviles. See you at #36!

Pastor Kelsey led all ages in a *Christmas Workshop* last Wednesday. In addition to making ornaments to take home, we made cards and decorated cookies for people who are not as free to leave their homes. The cookies and cards have been delivered. Christmas blessings are being spread.

No More Tears held their first Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser/Silent Auction at WCN's campus. As part of the program, they honored WCN, among others, for supporting their cause. The event raised over \$5,000 to support guys in recovery. The money raised will go toward the purchase of a new vehicle to transport the guys to and from work, meetings, and church. I am continually impressed by the *NMT* leadership. Some of the employees sleep on couches in the homes so they can have more beds to welcome more guys.

The church schedule is heavy, which means the food schedule is heavy. Some of our requests for food were planned. Others were not. I realize that we are stretching our cooks and food preparers. Many apologies and many thanks to you. You are a blessing.

This Friday, some of our *Mission: Spain* team members will sell homemade desserts in front of *Cash Saver*. 10am-5pm or until we run out. First, if you'd like to make a dessert, we'd appreciate the help! You may bring them to the church Thursday or early Friday morning. Or you may bring them to *Cash Saver* Friday by 10am. Second, come buy a dessert. Pick something up for a Christmas party. One less thing to prepare. Third, help us get the word out!

Blue Christmas is this Saturday. It is a special service for those who feel blue during the holidays. The purpose is not to cheer you up or try to make you feel better. The purpose is to be real in the presence of the Lord. If you know someone who will benefit from this service, invite them. Bring them. It begins at 2pm because we want to include those who avoid driving after dark.

New Year's Family Communion is on New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1st, from 2-7pm. The building will be open. Refreshments will be available. Drop in. Come as a group or as an individual. You may meet with one of our pastors who will pray for you and serve communion. It is such a good way to begin a new year.

Pastor Janice is retiring, but she is not leaving us. Neither is she letting go of her *Engage Group* on Sunday mornings. She will retire at the end of December. We will host a Retirement Celebration for Pastor Janice on Sunday, January 5th at 5pm. Bring food. We will eat. You may bring cards and/or gifts of appreciation

A new round of Wednesday night *Immerse Groups* begins January 8th at 6:30pm. Nursery will be available. We will have groups for kids and teens, plus six adult group options. The list is enclosed. Please sign up for a group online or at the Connection Station.

This is your last letter in 2024. If you need to catch up on giving for the year, or if you would like to make a year-end gift, I encourage you to do so. There is no better investment than giving to God's work through Waverly Church of the Nazarene.

On January 5th, we begin a new sermon series. We will explore the "I AM" statements from Jesus in the Gospel of John. With a new year, many people focus on their identity. Your identity does not begin with who you are. It begins with the One who says, *I AM*.

I will sing with you Sunday. Have a Merry Christmas next week!

-Parson Brown

Upcoming...

- Dec 18: *Yuletide Wingding*, 5:30
- Dec 19: Teens: Christmas Party at Langstons, 5-8pm
- Dec 19-Jan 1: Church Office closed
- Dec 20: Dessert Sale at Cash Saver for Spain, 10-5
- Dec 21: *Blue Christmas* service, 2pm
- Dec 22: Kids Christmas Party, 10am
- Jan 1: *New Year's Family Communion*, 2-7pm
- Jan 5: Retirement Celebration for Pastor Janice, 5pm
- Jan 8: *New Immerse Groups* begin, 6:30

If you have a prayer need please email prayer@wcntn.com

Worship:

8:30 & 11am

Engage Groups:

10am

693 Airport Rd.

(931) 209-4000

wcntn.com



facebook.com/wcntn