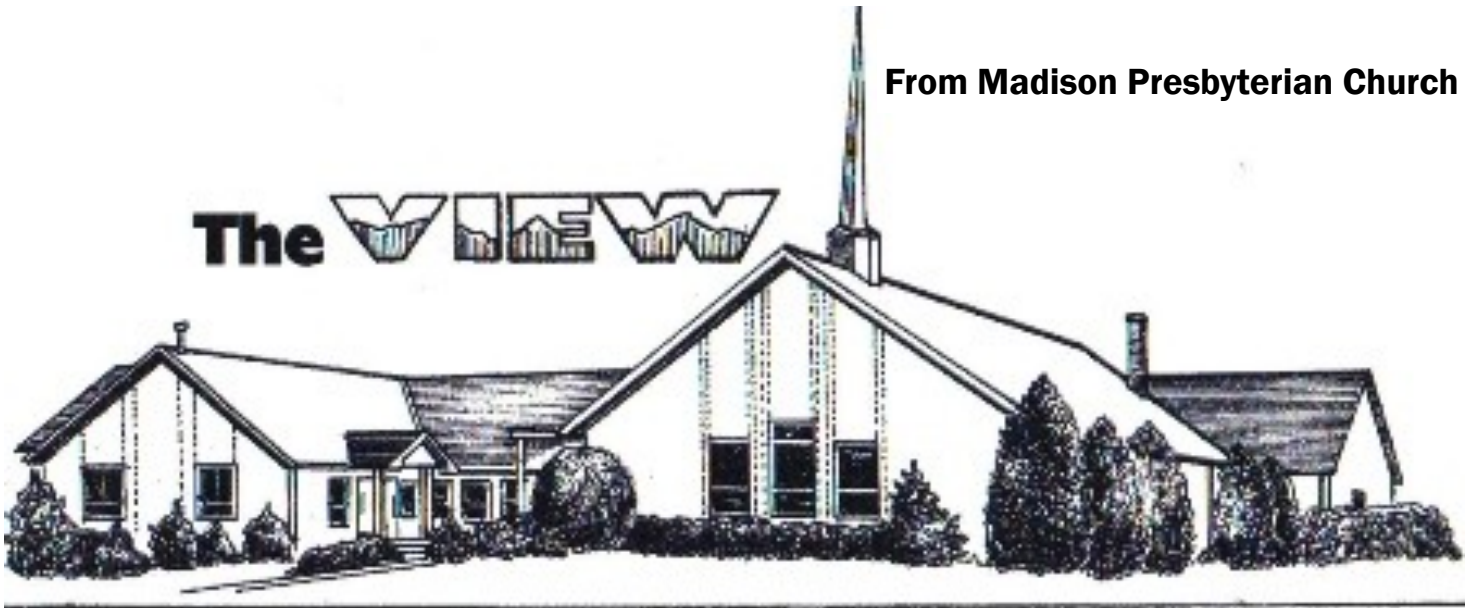


From Madison Presbyterian Church



From the Pastor

December 2017

### **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

This season is a special time in our church as we prepare for and celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The sanctuary will be decorated with the traditional greenery (with the help of volunteers) and special services are planned. Mary Linda McLearen will provide our Advent Wreath and we will be lighting a candle each Sunday centered on the theme of the day. Please invite a special friend to attend worship on December 17!

**December 3 - 1st Sunday of Advent – Hope**

10:00 am Morning Worship/Communion

11:00 am Lunch and Advent Wreath making (Christian Ed Team)

begin YEAR B of the Revised Common Lectionary

**December 10 - 2nd Sunday of Advent – Peace**

10:00 am Morning Worship

**December 17 - 3rd Sunday of Advent - Joy**

10:00 am Morning Worship

Choir Sunday – *Christmas Canticles*

**December 24 - 4th Sunday of Advent - Love**

10:00 am Morning Worship

Joy Gift Offering

**December 24- Christmas Eve**

7 pm Candlelight Communion Service

The Church Financial Books will be closed on Thursday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Any transactions (donations or requisitions) received after that date will be recorded in the New Year. If there are any suggestions for missions distribution at the end of the year, please speak to a Session member or a member of the Finance Team.

**December 25** - Christmas Day

**December 31** - New Year's Eve

10:00 am Morning Worship

8 pm bring your favorite finger food to share and drop in at the Fellowship Hall for fellowship and table games



### **Poinsettias**

It is our custom to use 6 inch potted Poinsettias in our Sanctuary decoration for Christmas. This year we have the opportunity to contribute to the cost of these plants by donating \$8.54. If you would like to participate, please make your check payable to Madison Presbyterian Church, or place the amount in a clearly marked envelope and either mail it to the office or place it in the offering plate by December 17. Also, you are invited to include a note dedicating the plant "in honor of" or "in memory of" a special person(s). After the Christmas Eve Service, you will be able to take the plant home to enjoy!

### ***Out of Gratitude, We Give***

A Presbyterian tradition for seventy years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

The receipts from the Joy Offering are distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs to retired church workers and to the National Ministries Division of the General Assembly Council to support eight Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. Please keep this special opportunity for giving in your Christmas plans.

### **December Foods of the Month**

**Toiletries and Cleaning Supplies:** Dish soap laundry detergent, paper towels toilet paper, cleanser, deodorant, bath soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and shampoo. Please bring in your donations and place them in the container provided in the Narthex. Donations are then given to Madison Social Services for distribution to those in Need

Thank You!



The Madison Choral Society  
proudly announces its 2017  
Christmas concert:  
"Christmas Around the  
World"

featuring beautiful Christmas car-  
ols from several different coun-  
tries. The program will include an  
audience sing-a-long, and the  
beautiful "And the Glory of the  
Lord" from Handel's "Messiah".  
Concerts are:

Friday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m.  
in St. Thomas' Episcopal  
Church: 119 Caroline St, Orange,  
VA. 540-672-3761, and  
Sunday, December 3 at 4:30 p.m.  
in Mt. Carmel Church: 1735 W.  
Hoover Road, Haywood, VA. 540-  
923-5146.

*The Madison Choral Society*  
*presents*  
**Christmas**  
*Around the World*

*Lauren Estes, Artistic Director*

<b>December 1, 2017</b> <b>7:00 P.M.</b> <b>St. Thomas's</b> <b>Episcopal Church</b> <b>Orange, VA</b>	<b>December 3, 2017</b> <b>4:30 P.M.</b> <b>Mt. Carmel</b> <b>Church</b> <b>Haywood, VA</b>
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### Operation Christmas Child

Thanks to the support of the congregation, we were able to send 44 boxes of gifts to children overseas. Money was also donated to pay for the shipping. Thanks to all who donated and all who helped collect and transport!

**The Annual Literacy Council Christmas Hymn Sing** will be held at MPC this year at 4 pm on Sunday, December 12. Several area choirs will lead us in singing some of our favorite carols. An offering for the work of the Council will be received and refreshments will be provided afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.



You are the *light*  
of the world.

A city set on a *hill*  
cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5:14

**2017 Stewardship Season**

Our thanks are due to the Stewardship Team for another energetic and successful year of work reminding us to ***Let Your Light Shine***. As of November , we have received 23 pledges toward our 2018 budget, totaling \$ 71,660. Thank you to all who have indicated their desire to contribute financially to our ministry and mission!

**Madison Presbyterian Church**

Pastor: John Storey

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.    Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Church Office Hours: Monday — Thursday 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p .m.

Church Administrator: Carol Johnson

Phone Number: 540-948-6972

E-mail: [madisonpresb@verizon.net](mailto:madisonpresb@verizon.net)

Website: [MadisonPresbyterian.com](http://MadisonPresbyterian.com)





# ***BREAKFAST BUZZ***

***Join us Friday December 15th at 9:00 a.m.***

***We will enjoy breakfast and some  
Christmas memories.***



**LUNCH AND  
ADVENT WREATH MAKING**  
**SUNDAY DEC 3RD**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**ALL ARE INVITED TO A SOUP LUNCH**  
**AND ADVENT WREATH MAKING.**