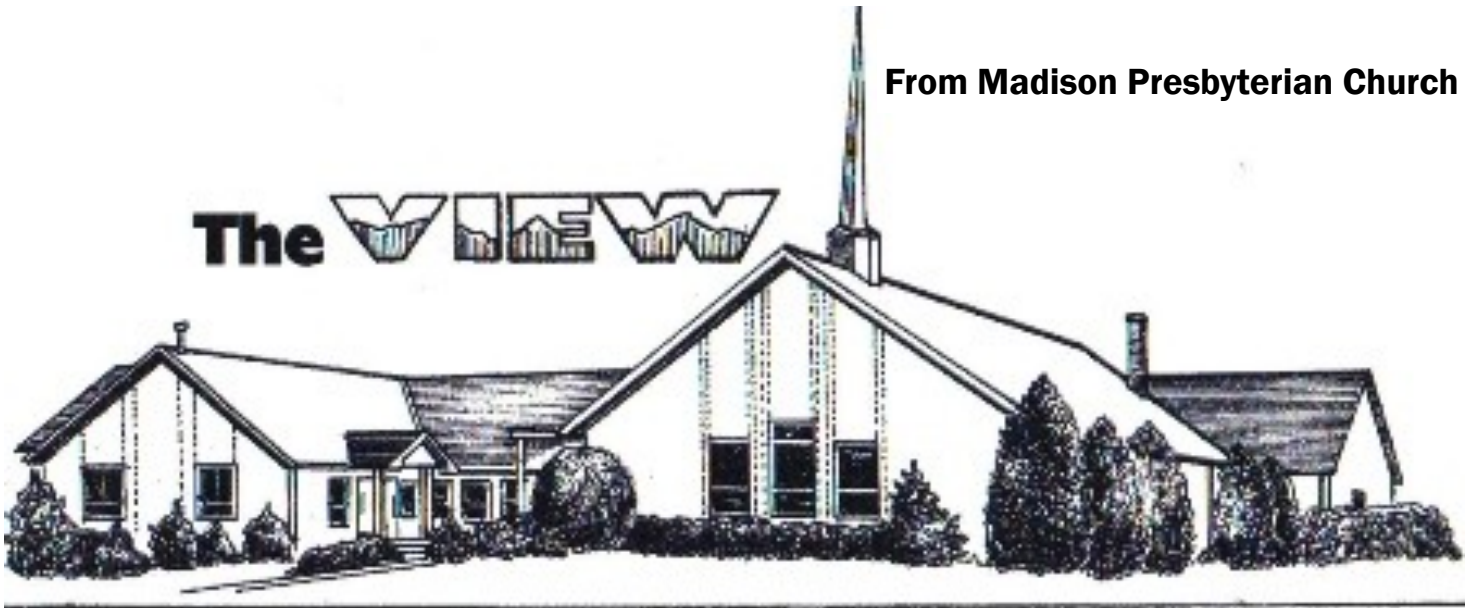


From Madison Presbyterian Church



From the Pastor

December 2018

### **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 McLearn will provide our Advent Wreath and we will be lighting a candle each Sunday centered on the theme of the day. Please invite a friend to attend worship on December 16th to be led in worship by the choir!

#### **Keep this holiday schedule handy:**

December 2 - 1st Sunday of Advent – **Hope**

10:00 am Morning Worship/Communion

5:30 pm Ecumenical study of Handel's *Messiah* at Beth Car Baptist.

Soup and sandwiches provided.

Begin YEAR A of the Revised Common Lectionary

December 4 — 9:00 am join in a fun and creative time, giving our worship space a seasonal feel — come help decorate the Sanctuary

December 9 - 2nd Sunday of Advent – **Peace**

10:00 am Morning Worship

5:30 pm Ecumenical study of Handel's *Messiah* at Oak Grove United Methodist Church.

Soup and sandwiches provided.

join in a fun and creative time,

giving our worship space a seasonal feeling

December 16 - 3rd Sunday of Advent - **Joy**

10:00 am Morning Worship

Choir Sunday

4 pm Literacy Council Christmas Hymn Sing at MPC

December 23 - 4th Sunday of Advent - **Love**

10:00 am Morning Worship

**Joy Gift Offering**

5:30 pm Ecumenical study of Handel's *Messiah* at MPC.

Soup and sandwiches provided.

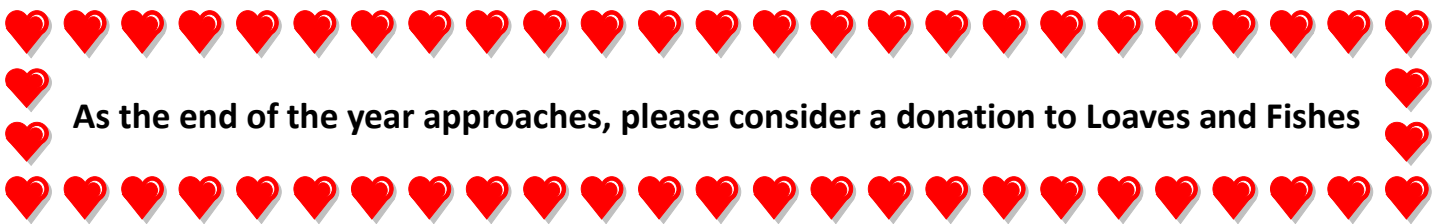
**Charitable Gifts Reminder**

The congregation's financial books for 2018 will be closed on Thursday, December 27. Any contributions you would like to be credited for the current year must be received by the office before that date.

**The Annual Literacy Council Christmas Hymn Sing** will be held this year at MPC at 4 pm on Sunday, December 16. 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.

**2018 Stewardship Season**

Our thanks are due to the Stewardship Team for another energetic and successful year of work reminding us to **Love One Another** *As of November 19, we have received 19 pledges toward our 2018 budget, totaling \$64,660. Thank you to all who have indicated their desire to contribute financially to our ministry and mission!*



**As the end of the year approaches, please consider a donation to Loaves and Fishes**

***The Wondrous Gift is Given!***

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.

## 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!

## Madison Presbyterian Church

Pastor: John Storey

Active Elders Serving on the Session

Class of 2018

|                |             |          |
|----------------|-------------|----------|
| Clarissa Berry | Art Pearson | Tom Rees |
|----------------|-------------|----------|

Class of 2019

|             |            |                                    |
|-------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| Bill Pattie | Frank King | Bettie Berry, Clerk of the Session |
|-------------|------------|------------------------------------|

Class of 2020

|            |                |  |
|------------|----------------|--|
| Kim Barnes | Sharon Weakley |  |
|------------|----------------|--|



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)

## 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!







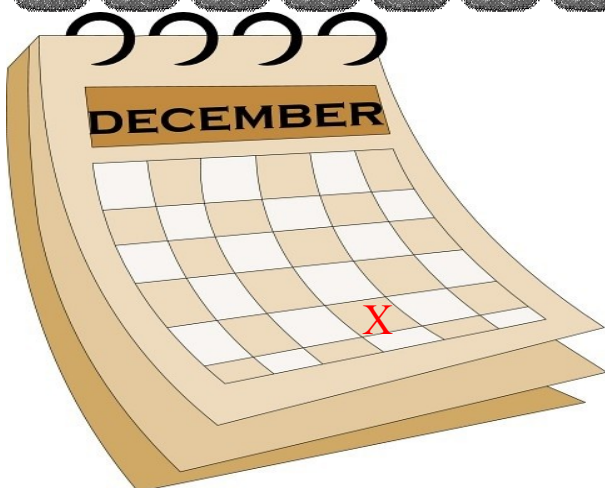
Thanks to the support of the congregation, we were able to send 53 boxes of gifts to children overseas. Thanks to those who volunteered at the relay center at our church we were able to send on a total of 447 boxes! Money was also donated to pay for the shipping. Thanks to all who donated and all who helped collect and transport!





# Breakfast Buzz

There will be no Breakfast Buzz for  
the month of December.



Please note . . . The Closing of  
the 2018 Fiscal Year will occur  
on Thursday, December 27th.

Thank you!



## *Messiah Sing Along*

*St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
119 Caroline Street, Orange, Va  
Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7:30 pm*

*Conducted by Alan Miller  
Accompanied by strings and organ—scores available  
Reception to follow  
Free, but donations appreciated*

*Get a real Handel on Christmas*





Sisters of the Sea  
Christmas Tea

Saturday, December  
15th @ 2p at Betty  
Maestri's Home



## NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Have something you want  
published in our  
Newsletter? Please  
contact me by email:

gcbc3.carroll@gmail.com  
or phone 540-948-9922.  
George Carroll

