



The Pilgrim

From the Worship Committee...

Please mark your calendars for The Hanging of the Greens Service at 7:00 pm on Sunday November 27th. We encourage you to join us as we begin another Advent season with this beautiful service.

In preparation for the Hanging of the Greens service, if you have children K-12 who will be in attendance for this service and would like to participate as a reader (High School), wreath hanger (Middle School), or poinsettia carrier (Elementary School), please contact Karen Klahre.

A sign up sheet will be placed on the front pew in the sanctuary for the purchase of poinsettias and wreaths in honor or memory of a loved one or someone special. The sheet will be available November 6th through the 20th. The cost will be \$10.00 per poinsettia/wreath.

We are planning to have a Christmas Tree in the Fellowship Hall again this year and are asking each family to please bring an ornament(s) to help decorate the tree. There will be a box in the Fellowship Hall to drop off your ornaments before November 25th. They will be returned to you when the tree is taken down.

**WILSON'S MILLS
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

WILL CELEBRATE

CONSECRATION

SUNDAY

ON

NOVEMBER 6, 2011

AND

HANGING OF THE GREENS

ON

NOVEMBER 27, 2011

Worship Attendance

October 2 — 80
 October 9 — 62
 October 16 — 67
 October 23 — 35
 October 30 — 56

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9:45 A.M. Coffee
 10:00 A.M. Sunday
 School
 11:00 A.M. Worship

A Message from the Minister

My mother is a big believer in thank-you notes. While I always protested about writing them, I think she was on to something. Learning to practice the art of thanksgiving makes life better.

Lots of words can describe gratitude, but very simply, gratitude is the ability to "recognize the good." Practicing gratitude means recognizing the good that is already yours. If you've lost your job, but you still have your family and health, you have something to be grateful for. If you can't get around like you used to, but you have a good friend who will talk with you and laugh with you, you have something to be grateful for. If you've had a sad day but you still can hear beautiful music, you have something to be grateful for.

When you intentionally search for God's blessings, you will find how

much good there is in life. Of course there will always be things that we lack, and in reaching for gratitude no one is saying you ought to put on rose-colored glasses to pretend to be someone you are not. But most of us tend to focus so heavily on the deficiencies in our lives that we barely perceive the good that counterbalances them.

That is unfortunate because there is no limit to what we don't have, and if that is where we focus then our lives will be filled with endless dissatisfaction. However, when you live infused with gratitude, you find yourself unexpectedly giving thanks for anything or anyone who has helped you. Imagine a prayer of thanks popping out of your mouth when the driver in the car next to you lets you merge without protest, or when the water comes out of the faucet, or the apple

dumplings are delicious?

When gratitude is built in to our systems like that, it is a sign of a heart that has been made right and whole. Gratitude can't coexist with arrogance, resentment and selfishness. One Jewish teacher writes, "Gratitude rejoices with her sister joy, and is always ready to light a candle and have a party. Gratitude doesn't much like the old cronies of boredom, despair and taking life for granted."

So, this November, as we approach the named season of Thanksgiving, let's light a candle, have a party, and give thanks to God.

Lea can be contacted via email: wilsonsmillscc@gmail.com.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Jimmy Batten	Patricia Harris	Betty Parrish	Linda Uzzle
Cheryl Bryant	Lara Kelly	Curtis Ray	Sidney Wellons
Dorothy Byers	Ina Mae Lee	Chase Rudisill	Lou Williamson
Lydia Byrd	Taylor Multunas	Emmit Sugg	Jody Wiley
Annette Cobb	Peggy Norris	Patti Sydow	Gilliam Wilson
Tyler Dunn	Andy Parrish	Paul Sydow	Pete Yauch
Lyn Gard			

A REQUEST FOR PRAYER REQUESTS

At the end of the year, we will give ourselves a fresh start with our prayer list. If you have a name that you would like to be included, please complete one of the blue prayer request cards and give it to Lea or put it in the offering plate. We will post the cards on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. As you know, we do not include personal information on the prayer lists in the bulletin or in the newsletter. When you have questions about the nature of the prayer concern or who someone is on the prayer list, you will be able to get that information from the bulletin board. So, please make sure you have the individual's permission before including them on the prayer list. With prayer information being available in so many formats - the bulletin, on the bulletin board, on the email list, and on the web-site - we want to make sure that we respect any privacy preferences.

Acolyte scheduling update:

In an effort to help parents plan ahead, the worship committee will begin publishing two months of acolytes in the newsletter. Please verify that your child will be at church the Sunday he/she is scheduled. If not, please con-

tact Sarah Barnhart ASAP to arrange a switch ([919-632-3023](tel:919-632-3023) or sarahbarnhart@earthlink.net). Thanks for writing this very important act of service in your calendar. Please refer to calendar page for dates of service.

M & E would like to have your input on dispersing our tithing for the remainder of 2011. WMCC has already given \$4,000.00 to the Capital Campaign as part of our three year commitment. Our commitment will be fulfilled at the end of next year. It is amazing the good things that have been accomplished through this outreach. Also our church has provided support locally to families displaced by tornadoes and arson. As always your input is very much appreciated. Please provide the name, address, and contact person of the organization you are recommending and let me know if you have any questions. I will need the information before November 30. Thank you, Louise

Consecration Sunday News...

Join us on November 6th! We are looking forward to a great meal, great fellowship, and a great day of celebration. Our preacher for the day will be Rev. Jamie Brame. Jamie will be a familiar face to many of you. He is the church relations director at Christmount, and we are looking forward to having Jamie and his wife, Renae, lead us in worship.

Although he does not yet know it, we are also recruiting Jamie to take a congregational picture of us. You may remember that last year, we gathered on the front steps immediately after the worship service and had a brief photo shoot! Hoping you will all be smiling for the cameras as we celebrate what God is doing at WMCC!

WMCC is a place where everyone is welcome. It has made a difference in my life because I feel comfortable being myself around my church family, and I don't feel judged. I love going to LOGOS and talking about ways to spread God's love, and the food is good, too! When I am at LOGOS, I can always talk to my wonderful teachers about ways to bring God's love everywhere I go. This church means a lot to me and I can always feel at home here. WMCC is a loving place for people of all ages. I wish everybody had a place like this. --Nora Ragland

Recently, the subject of displaying the American flag, the state flag or the Christian flag in places of worship has been raised. A simple Google search reveals that the issue of displaying the American flag in churches is fairly widespread, particularly since 9/11. The two predominant themes seem to be: (1) displaying the flag is a sym-

bol of respect for the religious freedom that we enjoy in our country; and, (2) since we profess God as sovereign, claiming our highest allegiance, and since God's realm extends beyond the bounds of any one nation, embracing all nations, it is preferable that no national flag be displayed in a Christian place of worship.

This issue was discussed at the recent board meeting and it was agreed that the thoughts of the congregation should be explored before any decision is made. Therefore, please forward any thoughts that you have on this matter to the church office.

----- Consecration Sunday Letter -----

In November, WMCC will celebrate its sixth Consecration Sunday. Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

The Stewardship Focus Group (chaired by Linda Stephenson) will be implementing the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year. New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?" During morning

worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, ending with members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Stewardship Focus Group, the elders, and the deacons. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship. Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation.

—Trey Ragland,
WMCC Board Chairperson

November Worship Service

	November 6	November 13	November 20	November 27
Church Appointments	Ginny and Jimmy Batten, Shirley Betti, Rachel Park	Ginny and Jimmy Batten, Shirley Betti, Rachel Park	Ginny and Jimmy Batten, Shirley Betti, Rachel Park	Ginny and Jimmy Batten, Shirley Betti, Rachel Park
Elder	Kevin Daughtry	Ginger Lee	Linda Ramsey	Kevin Daughtry
Deacons	Trudy Carter Peter Wilson	Joe Slaton Rose Thompson	Carrie Ragland Whitley Stephenson	Jason Lawhorn Armando Mejia
Worship Leader	Travis Stephenson	Paula Bennett	Trey Ragland	Thomas Trogdon
Acolytes	Patrick McCarthy	Emily Dumonceaux	Kenli Esau	Angel Sauls (AM) Haden Hanes (PM)
Paraments	Green	Green	Green	Blue

NOVEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 LOGOS 5:30 PM	3 Book Study 10:00AM Handbells 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	4	5 Camp Caro- line Clean-up
6 Consecre- ation Sunday	7	8	9 LOGOS 5:30 PM	10 Book Study 10:00AM Handbells 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	11 Veteran's Day Craft Day 9:00 AM	12 Craft Day 9:00 AM
13 Board Meeting 12:00 PM	14 CMF 6:30 PM	15	16 LOGOS 5:30 PM	17 Book Study 10:00AM Handbells 6:00 PM Adult Bible Study 7:00 PM	18	19 Hopes and Dreams Tanksgiving
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 Hanging of the Greens 7:00 PM	28	29	30			

Post this page on the refrigerator!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 2 Matthew Jones | 8 Kenli Esau | 20 Jessica Lee |
| 3 John Twisdale | 9 Betsy Meldau | 20 Rose Thompson |
| 4 Deborah Butt | 9 Sherri Yaroch | 21 Chris Murray |
| 4 Keith Carter | 11 Jeff Hodge | 23 April Ryan |
| 4 Donna Harless | 14 Virginia Batten | 27 Sheree Murray |
| 7 Jessica Byrd | 17 Pete Yauch | 28 Mary Ann Yansom |
| 7 Morgan Eatmon | 18 Hannah Youngblood | 29 Sandra Sauls |
| 7 Jim Uzzle | | |

December Acolyte Schedule

- 4--Emily Ramsey
- 11--Tyler Dumonceaux
- 18--Kaylen Mejia
- 25--Sierra Kirk

