Christmas Offering 2021

My friends, I wanted to put this front and foremost in this month's newsletter for several reasons, but the most important one is to invite you to..."Imagine God's Love Revealed" which is what the celebration of Advent and Christmas is all about. God's love revealed to us in a humble manger in the heart of a tiny babe.

But the second reason I really want to encourage you to give generously is because every bit — 100% — ALL of it — comes back into our Region - the Christian Church Capital Area Region - to sustain the ministry of close to 40 churches and their Ministers.

The Christmas Offering supports regional ministries. In 31 regions across the United States and Canada, ministers are nurtured, and congregations are provided opportunities for work and worship. Often recognized for the ministries of camps and conferences, regions also play a critical role in the preparation and authorization of ministerial ordination.

Your regional ministry works to:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new... and such much more!

As a member of our Regional Board, our Region like so many others, are struggling to keep the boat afloat, so I encourage you to generously give to this year's Christmas Offering.

Share God's Love Revealed,
Pastor Cheryl
ADVENT/CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Please sign in on Sign-Up Genius for the variety of ways to participate on Sundays

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 – 1ST Sunday of Advent

We begin this Advent season with a worship series entitled “Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born…Hope is Here,” (Psalm 25:1-10, Luke 21:25-36) Candle of Hope

• **Sunday Leadership:** Sally Coberly, Worship Leader & Communion Prep; Laura O’Toole, Elder at the Table; Devin Rambarran, Coffee Fellowship

TBA – Advent Candle lighters/Readers *(2 people)*

With our traditional Advent Wreath and readings, with carols and hanging of the greens, we begin the Advent season! THIS year, we get to celebrate in person this wonderful time of the year. Please mark your calendars to worship together on this 1st Sunday of Advent (Zooming will continue for those who can’t be with us in person).

HOLIDAY GREETING CARDS: With worship on Sunday, November 28, we will be signing Holiday Greeting Cards to be sent to the Afghan Refugees still being housed in military bases around the country. These will be generic cards offering them greetings during this holiday season.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 – 2ND Sunday of Advent


• **Sunday Leadership:** Wilsonia Cherry, Worship Leader; Laird Thomason, Elder at the Table; Cheryl Parsons, Advent Candle lighter/Reader *(NEED ONE MORE)*; TBA: Communion Prep; Coffee Fellowship Host & Sunday Duties

• We will have a "hands-on" Christmas project during worship this Sunday

• **FOLLOWING WORSHIP:** NC4 Round Table Conversation in Harlow Hall (along with Coffee Fellowship & Zoom ins)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

"Good News?" Zephaniah 3:14-20; Luke 3:7-18; Candle of Joy/Mary (pink)

• **Sunday Leadership:** Sally Coberly, Worship Leader; Anne-Marie Crawford, Elder; Patti Horrall, Communion Preparation; Patti Horrall & Sally Coberly -Advent Candle Lighter/Reader; TBA: Communion Prep, Coffee Fellowship Host & Sunday Duties

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

*Lessons and Carols Service led by our Choir, with special guest musician, Jon Nazdin*

Candle of Love

• **Sunday Leader:** TBA, Worship Leader; Laura O’Toole, Elder; TBA Communion Preparation; Cheryl
FRIDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE December 24, In-Person & Zoom Worship
7:00 P.M.
"Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here", Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

Leadership: All positions TBA

Sunday, December 26 - First Sunday after Christmas
Rev. Dr. Rosetta Robinson, Guest Preacher

Sally Coberly, Worship Leader & Communion Prep; TBA: All other positions

The Offices will be closed from Friday noon, December 24 until Tuesday, January 4, 2022.
In case of pastoral emergencies, Rev. Tatham can be reached at 301-335-7344.

Giving Thanks for 2022 Leadership
Elected November 14, 2021 Congregational Annual Meeting

**Officers Terms ending 12/31/2023**
- **Moderator**
  - Patti Horrall
- **Vice-Moderator**
  - Wilsonia Cherry
- **Clerk**
  - Laura O’Toole
- **Treasurer**
  - Nancy Solomon
- **Assistant Treasurer**
  - Anne-Marie Crawford
- **Financial Secretary**
  - Richard Sherman

**Assistant Financial Secretaries**
- Mary Rice; Yvonne McGee

**Elders**
Term ending 12/31/2022
- Anne-Marie Crawford; Dot Harper; Laura O’Toole; Jerry Rice
- Laird Thomason; Richard Sherman

Term ending 12/31/2023
- Yvonne McGee; Lydia Oladapo

**Members at Large**
Term ending 12/31/2023
- Cheryl Parsons; Rachel Solomon

**Church Trustees**
Term ending 12/31/2022
- Jewel Barlow; Ann McClure
UPDATING OUR PHOTO DIRECTORY

We would like to do an updated Photo Directory! But, instead of having “formal” photos made, we would like to ask you to send us YOUR choice of the photo you would like to have listed by your directory entry. Perhaps it’s a photo of you and family at the beach, or in matching T-shirts….maybe a photo of you and your favorite 4-legged companion or your favorite FB profile photo – YOU decide! We invite you to use a photo that gives others a hint of who you are beyond the typical “church picture.”

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, and we will have them available in the first couple of weeks of the new year. Please submit your photos to Priya at northchevychas58@gmail.com.
Since we are meeting in person this season we are purchasing a set number of red and white poinsettias to decorate the front hallway and Sanctuary.

If you would like to contribute to the Sanctuary decorations and do so in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out this form and return it to the Church office by **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8**.

Acknowledgements will be listed in the bulletins on Sunday, December 19th and Christmas Eve, December 24.

**No Individual Plants Will Be Designated**

IN MEMORY OF:

________________________________________________________

IN HONOR OF:

________________________________________________________

GIVEN BY:

________________________________________________________
GIVING FOR 2022
Stewardship

As a part of our Thanksgiving celebration on November 21 we did a special dedication in worship of the pledges and estimates of giving that we have received to date.

The reality of where we are this time and place, as we begin to regain momentum in both worship, staffing, programming and other areas that affect us financially, is that there are obvious increases in payroll, utilities and other maintenance costs.

And of course, there is MUCH work to be done in addressing the issues related to race, economic inequities, the environment – and so many other issues – virtually all exacerbated by the pandemic and as in need of our attention as much as ever.

The budget you approved at our Annual Congregational Meeting is what many churches call an “asking” budget... and the single most important line item on the income side of the budget is the Pledged Income. Our church has averaged, over the past years (pre-pandemic) about 14-20 pledges. We would LOVE to outdo that average this year! While our “official” pledge campaign was celebrated on November 21st, IT ISN’T TOO LATE to make your pledge for 2022.

As members of North Chevy Chase Christian Church we seal our commitment to God, to one another, and to our neighbor through our pledges in whatever amount is fair and just in our own hearts. If you have not yet offered your pledge for the support of God’s mission and ministry through our church, we hope you will do so before the end of the year. It’s easy to do. The pledge form is available on-line HERE and is totally confidential, encrypted and secure. Or you can contact Richard Sherman, 301-330-0315 or rmsalp@gmail.com or Mary Rice, mjriceis@aol.com. Or you can contact the church office (301-654-3631; northchevychase58@gmail.com) and request that a card be sent to you by mail.

One last note: beyond a pledge, many people are looking for a place to make a “year-end” donation to help with those pesky tax issues! Look no further! If you would like to make a one-time contribution to NC4 as a year-end GIFT, please let Mary or Richard know and they will help you with that contribution.
North Chevy Chase Christian Church  
Permanent Endowment Fund

What is an endowment fund? It is the financial representation of the collective decision and wisdom of all the generations that have helped build North Chevy Chase Christian Church. In making a contribution to the Permanent Endowment Fund you are honoring not only those who have gone before us, but you are investing in the guaranteed continuation of the ministry into the future.

Our Permanent Endowment Fund is invested in the Christian Church Foundation which has an excellent track record of portfolio management and cares greatly for those whose funds it manages. We also have the privilege of receiving up to a 4% distribution from the fund that is distributed according to our PEF Policy and has for the past 14 years returned to NC4 as much as $27,000+.

Contributions to the Permanent Endowment Fund are usually made through planned gifts: bequests, deferred giving instruments such as charitable trusts and gift annuities. Members may also make contributions any time simply by designating gifts such as stocks, bonds, real estate, tangible property and cash. Church members who include NC4 in their estate plans become members of our Legacy Circle.

If you have any questions about contributing to the Permanent Endowment Fund, please contact Rev. Tatham.

Another Note from Your Pastor

I have always enjoyed the story of King Arthur and his Roundtable. The story is told of King Arthur’s having a round table made so that none of his barons, when seated at it, could claim precedence over the others. The literary importance of the Round Table, especially in romances of the 13th century and afterward, lies in the fact that it served to provide the knights of Arthur’s court with a name and a collective personality.

I would like to invite you to be a part of an NC4 Roundtable. We already have the name and the collective personality, and OUR roundtable will give us the opportunity to hear all voices equally.

Patterned after the congregational conversations that we did virtually back in July, following worship we'll take the time to dialogue with each other about many things: the state of the church, our plans for fellowship and service, ideas for new and creative ways to worship. Guided by a set of "conversation starters" we'll join together in being the church in a new way! **THE FIRST ROUND TABLE WILL BE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, right after worship.** We'll adjourn to Harlow Hall which will be set up for us to gather coffee & goodies, and then around the round tables. We will have a TV/Computer set up so that those who join us by Zoom can
participate. Mark your calendars to be a part of the conversation!!

Pastor Cheryl

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

BIRTHDAYS & NEWS

12/7 Allanah George 12/12 Dot Harper
Charles McGee 12/17 Mary Rice
Lydia Oladapo 12/22 Dotlyn Wats
12/8 Arrey Takang 12/26 Anna Padbury
12/10 Emmanuel Oladapo 12/27 Chrissy (Sherman) Haines

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

CHURCH CALENDAR—If you need to schedule a meeting or are meeting vendors/workers here at the church PLEASE double check the church calendar posted on the Glass-way bulletin board or online at http://www.nc4disciples.org/calendar OREMAIL Priya in the church office (northchevychase58@gmail.com) and ask about available dates.

CHIMES—We would LOVE to have your articles, updates and information to put in the monthly CHIMES newsletter! Please be aware of the deadlines — THE 15TH OF THE MONTH. Information should be sent to northchevychase58@gmail.com

The Church Office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. MASKS REQUIRED.
Rev. Tatham is available in case of pastoral emergencies by calling 301-335-7344.

FOR UPDATES TO THE CHURCH CALENDAR
Please contact Priya Shingdia, Office Facility Manager at northchevychase58@gmail.com.

8