



# THE Link

December 2017

*The news on what's happening in the life of Cameron Presbyterian Church.*

## Linda Seiberling Receives PW Honorary Life Membership



Linda Ayers Seiberling is the 2017 recipient of the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership. Worship and Celebration Committee Chair Dawn Barber (at right, above) announced the award after worship on November 19. The congregation enjoyed a soup and sandwich luncheon in Linda's honor after the announcement. Find more photos and a description of Linda's service to church and community on page 7.

Photo by Cathy McRae

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## A Candles and Carols Service for Christmas Eve



Ken Haynes (above) sang "O Holy Night" to his own guitar accompaniment



David Seiberling (above left) played the Prelude to the service with his trombone students Jason Wise (center) and Ryan Hoag.



The "Stories of Christmas" that wove together the service's carols were narrated by Juanita Harbour (right), Cathy McRae (above), Julie Oksendahl (left), Sharon Shaw and Dawn Barber. Ed Thomas read from "Christmas in Harmony" by Philip Gulley.



As the service concluded, each member of the congregation lit a candle in the front of the church, then joined a circle around the sanctuary's perimeter. All sang "Silent Night" until everyone had lit a candle; Rev. Dudley then pronounced the Christmas benediction.



## Where Is the Baby?



Like most people, I don't usually remember much about sermons I hear in worship. But I still remember the main point of a sermon I heard the Sunday after Christmas about ten years ago.

Our extended family was enjoying an after-Christmas vacation in the mountains of Tennessee. When Sunday came around, we found a small Presbyterian Church in the nearby town of La Follette and went to church together. I do not remember the text the after-Christmas guest preacher used, but I do remember the focus of his sermon. He urged us all to keep Christ, not only in Christmas, but in our whole year. He kept asking "Where is the baby?" He wondered if we packed Jesus up with the ornaments, or tossed him out with the discarded wrapping paper, or threw him to the side of the street with the dried-out Christmas tree. He remarked how easy it is to focus on Christ during the wonderful season of Christmas, but to forget him when it's business as usual in the new year.

The preacher's question "Where is the baby?" stayed with me that week and followed me home. In fact, as we packed up Christmas decorations after our family trip that year, I kept one small object out of the boxes destined for the attic – a small clay figure of a baby in a manger. It remains in our living room year round now.

That figure reminds me that the centerpiece of Christmas—the baby Jesus—is not something to be enjoyed for a few weeks and then put aside. Instead, the gift of Christmas is a lasting gift. Emmanuel brings God to us not only on Sunday in worship, but also on Monday morning as we go to work or school or face another round of medical tests at the hospital. When we receive the gift of Jesus, it is not "the thought that counts," but what counts is the reality of Jesus in our lives.

As I finish my first month of interim ministry with

you at Cameron Presbyterian Church, what will we do with the baby in the New Year? Will Jesus be on the sidelines as we get going with the business of installing elders and receiving new members, designing our Sunday School schedule and holding our annual congregational meeting? Will faith be kind of a nice background for the activities on our calendar? Or will the reality of "God with us" be the central motivation for everything that we do together?

As we change worship banners at church and pack away Christmas decorations at home, don't lose sight of the baby!

- Rev Kathryn Dudley

## Our Vision

*In response to feedback from our growing and changing congregation, we envision fulfilling our mission by:*

- *Enhancing our facilities*
- *Expanding our programs*
- *Attracting and inspiring through worship*
- *Serving faithfully through our missions*



Coffee Talk is back. Come chat with Rev. Dudley and fellow CPC members!



Come  
Join Us!

## Just Look What a Blanket Can Do ...

During the month of Advent, we were invited to contribute funds for blankets to the World Church Service Blanket Tree (seen in the background here). On December 3, the first day we hung blanket ornaments on the tree to signal our commitment, Rick Welch and Phil Keith gave the congregation a vivid, fast-moving demonstration of the many uses a \$10 blanket can have for a refugee or other person in distress.



Above, Rick Welch and Phil Keith prepare for the blanket demo with their volunteer Refugee Bear. Below, the blanket in its traditional function as warm covering. But it can also provide a stretcher in an emergency (below right)). Other uses include creating a privacy screen, a carrier for possessions, or a shelter from the sun.



### January

Matthew Cooper	Jan. 2
Mary Rush	Jan. 2
Kay Paul	Jan. 6
Bill Emerson	Jan. 11
Zachary Bettini	Jan. 12
Carol Thomas	Jan. 13
Erika Chase	Jan. 14
Claire Cameron	Jan. 27
Lois Frazelle	Jan. 27

### February

Norma Loase	Feb. 1
Barbara Peiker	Feb. 7
Debbie Peele	Feb. 9
Jennifer Ethridge	Feb. 12
Larry Allen	Feb. 13
Lois Hendrickson	Feb. 15

## Adult Sunday School Topics for January

- January 7 - Selecting Topics for Spring (Jim Leiby & Terry Kerr)
- January 14 - The Immigration Debate (Terry Kerr)
- January 21 - The Book of Job (Jim Leiby)
- January 28 - The Three Major Prophets (Art Munguia)





## Commissioners Decide to Hire New Town Police Officer

The town Board of Commissioners has voted to hire a full-time police officer to replace Robby Mays, who left the position several weeks ago.

Commissioner David Seiberling will head a committee of Cameron residents whose purpose is to draw up a job description for the new officer. The committee had not met as of publication time but is expected to have a report for the Board's January meeting.

## Recipe Corner ...

*Food and fellowship are important in the life of our church, and many of us have wished we could reproduce other members' home-cooked dishes that we enjoy on special occasions. So from time to time, as space permits, we'll share recipes for food that has been offered at a special occasion in our Fellowship Hall. This soup was among the many delicious options at the luncheon honoring Linda Seiberling.*

## Tomato Marsala Bisque

¼ cup butter  
 1 yellow onion, diced  
 1 ½ cups Marsala wine  
 1 28-oz can low or no sodium tomato sauce  
 2 28-oz cans diced tomatoes  
 14 oz. low sodium chicken broth  
 2 cups heavy cream  
 salt & pepper to taste

## Dewberry Drop Will Be at Elementary School

The December 31 Dewberry Drop will take place at Cameron Elementary School this year. Musicians from the New Horizons Band will begin playing at 6:30 p.m., when hot chocolate will be available. Following the 7 p.m. Dewberry Drop, there will be refreshments including hot soup and cookies served in the school cafeteria. Come and welcome 2018!

## At Phillips Memorial Park ...

Beginning in January, on the first Saturday of each month the Park Committee will have "stick pick-up" between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. Anyone wanting to help is welcome to come. Remember to wear some garden gloves and dress for the weather.

Young trees recently planted at the park by Sarah Hillmer and Fred Lazorçak: five maples and a tulip poplar.



Melt butter in a large pot, add onion and Marsala and simmer until reduced by at least half. Add tomato sauce, diced tomatoes and chicken broth. Bring to simmer and cook for 1 hour. Blend with immersion blender (or strain solids into stand blender or food processor) until smooth. Add heavy cream and simmer for 10 minutes — do not boil. Season to taste.

## Elders

### Class of 2017

**Terry Kerr - Chair, Christian Education**  
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### Class of 2018

**Cathy McRae - Clerk of Session**  
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### Class of 2019

**Shan Chase - Chair, Mission & Outreach**  
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**Linda Seiberling - Chair, Worship**  
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**Kathy Oldham - Co-Chair, Budget and Finance**  
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## Cake and Carols



"Cake and Carols" after worship on December 3 featured home-made finger sandwiches and desserts (above) while congregants enjoyed Christmas music played by guitarist (and new Cameron resident) Melissa Camden (right).



## Pastor Nominating Committee Formed

A Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) was elected during a special Congregational Meeting on November 12. It's members are Rose Cooper, Phillip Keith, Christie Allen, Tom Shaw, and Terry Kerr. They have met once to discuss the process, but no actions were taken. They must undergo formal orientation before proceeding any further. This orientation session will most likely take place in January.

# Church Honors Linda Seiberling with Award, Luncheon



Linda was surprised November 19 when her sister, Betty Pendleton (left), arrived to join the celebration.

*Juanita Harbour shared the following about Linda as part of the Honorary Life Membership Award presentation.*

It is with great pride that we honor one of the women of Cameron Presbyterian Church. We, our schools and our community have been blessed by this person's talents, creativity and industriousness. This person is Linda Ayers Seiberling.

Linda grew up on an apple farm in Stuart, Virginia. She graduated from UNC Greensboro with a BS in child development and received a Masters in Elementary Education from Fayetteville State University. Her first teaching job was in Stokes County; later, she taught in Moore and Lee Counties. A devoted teacher, Linda has helped many young children.

After her marriage to David Seiberling in 1976, they moved to Carthage and Dave became the band director for Union Pines High School and some county elementary schools. Linda and Dave have a son, Ellis, who is a professional musician living in New Orleans.

In 1979 they moved to Cameron, bought the Lillian Cole house, and soon joined the Cameron Presbyterian Church. Linda has been very active, serving on various committees and the Session. In her first Session term she joined the Worship Committee, which oversaw planning and completion of the sanctuary and choir loft remodeling. At the present time she is chair of the Worship Committee, which has done an excellent job getting supply pastors.

Linda organized the Cameron Quilting Clan, which made the banners hung in the front of our church to display liturgical colors for ordinary time. Her contributions to the

- Women of the Church include:
- \* Fair Trade Coffee Project;
  - \* Chair of Special Giving (Birthday and Thank Offering);
  - \* "Little Dresses for Africa" Projects (which produced more than 150 dresses, using Linda's assembly system and instructions).

Linda continues to serve as a volunteer at the Moore Free and Charitable Clinic. In 2016, she helped organize a fund-raising lasagne supper for the Clinic; it raised approximately \$2,800.

She also serves her local community. She is past chair of Cameron Planning Board and serves on the Phillips Memorial Park Committee, where she has helped organize and execute fund-raisers for park improvements and has donated quilts to be raffled at fund-raising events.

Linda also helped to organize the yoga sessions in our fellowship hall by providing the DVDs on which the sessions are based.



The Guest of Honor's table at the soup and sandwich luncheon was decorated with a spectacular floral arrangement in colors of the season. Congratulations, Linda!



# “What Child Is This?”--Christmas Cantata Fills Church with Music

Photos by David Seiberling

Composer Joel Raney’s cantata was a joyous celebration of the season on December 17, a performance enriched by the Moore Brass ensemble (right) and several soloists including Rose Cooper (below). Our sanctuary choir, led by Music Director Mary Rush, has been rehearsing this piece since early fall.



Moore Brass players (above, from left): Chris Dunn, trumpet; Kim Clark, horn; Davis Clark, tuba; Chris Shaw, trombone, and Rob Hill, trumpet.

Terry Keith (below right) narrated as well as singing in the choir.

Interim Pastor Kathryn Dudley (below center) welcomed the audience.



Meaghan Dwyer (left) did a great job with her solo, “Who Would Send a Baby?”



Cheryl Bacon (below left) accompanied the choir’s “English Advent Carol” on the bassoon.







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## Can You Find the Hidden Books of the Bible?

**Read the following paragraph and see if you can find the name of 16 books of the Bible that are hidden in the text.**

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. YES, THERE WILL BE SOME REALLY EASY ONES TO SPOT. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. One little lady says she brews a cup of tea, so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now for there are really 16 names of books of the Bible.

*—from CRUISING QUIZZES by Rev. Reid Cooke, who was chaplain aboard MS Prinsendam in November 2016 when Dot and Rex McDonald sailed on her Journey to the New World cruise.*

*The Link needs your news! Please send items of interest to our church community to Sandy Leiby (sleiby@yahoo.com) or call 910-245-2535.*

