

## WESTMINSTER WINDOW

*1520 Rickwood Rd.*

*Florence, AL 35630*

I will instruct you and  
teach you in the way  
which you shall go: I will  
guide you with my eye.

—Psalm 32:8

God doesn't leave us alone to try to figure out life all by ourselves. The Bible says that He is closer to us than we could possibly imagine. In Psalm 139, King David tells us that God knows everything about us and is familiar with all our ways (Psalm 139:1-3). In today's promise, we read that God has committed Himself to teach us in the way we should go and guide us into what is best.

The New Living Translation says Psalm 32:8 this way... The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you. (NLT) May the promise of our Father's tender guidance bring a sense of rest and security to our hearts today. May we know that we are not alone in this life. Each step that we take is carefully guided by a loving Father who has only our best interests at heart.

God is everything that we need when we need him. He is our father, our brother, our savior, our friend, our healer, our redeemer and our teacher. Time and space would fail to speak of the many ways that the Triune God (Father, Son & Holy Spirit) watches over us every moment of our lives.



## February

2024



## February

**Bailey White**

**15**

**Sterling Mimbs**

**18**



Elaine Brooks, the most recent Elder, grew up in Northern Ohio where she met and married her late husband Bob, in 1963. During Bob's early training career with Sears, they moved often around the southern region, finally settling in Florence in 1976. Two of AL and the third in Florence. The child-  
 portant to them, consisting of school PTO, sports activities, dance, scouting, camping and British sports cars! Elaine's current interests are gardening, crafts, sewing, and the challenge of making or creating something!



their children were born in Selma, dren's activities were very im-

As the family matured and required more financial support, Elaine went to work for TVA as clerk/ receptionist for ten years. As they both retired around that time, Bob was diagnosed with a genetic neurological condition that affected balance and speech, which ultimately necessitated wheelchair care. They both were fortunate to find and travel with an Access Tour Group from Wyoming that allowed handicapped people to visit the National Parks out west. They were able to take about 6 or 7 trips, which was a blessing! Bob & Elaine's family consists of their son Rob (Sharman), daughter Melis-  
 sa Waddell (Erik), son Stewart, granddaughters Carson Brooks (age 22, student at Auburn-Pharmacy/ Nutrition) and Sadie Waddell (age 13, 7th grader at Muscle Shoals Middle school), and last but not least, Lucky (rescued Feist dog & good companion). Elaine hopes

That her caregiver concerns can make a difference at WPC!



Pray for the church leadership  
 to be discerning of  
**God's vision**  
 for this church



**SALLY PARKER** is returning as a 6 term Elder!

Sally & MQ met & married in Rock Hill, NC. She taught school while MQ worked for Bowater Paper Co. They felt the need to find a church and visited a Methodist church near their home. When they arrived they discovered the church had "early service", and therefore had already missed it. They then headed to the next nearest church, which happened to be a Presbyterian. They liked the church & the people, so that's how they became Presbyterians! They moved to Florence in 1975 where MQ accepted a job with Champion Paper & Sally began teaching in the Lauderdale Co. school system. MQ & Sally have 3 grown children who grew up at Westminster. Their 9 grandchildren are the apples of their eyes! They range in age of 11-25. They stay busy attending various school & sporting events, and love every minute of it!

Both have been retired for several years. MQ enjoys hunting and golfing. Sally enjoys volunteering, golfing and reading. They often golf together and Sally is still waiting to beat him!

MQ & Sally love Westminster & their church family! Sally asks the congregation for prayers for her & the other members of the Session as they work for the future of Westminster.



On Sunday, January 14, 2024, the Session met to discuss moving forward with pastoral leadership. Recognizing the immediate need for some stability for the congregation, the Session unanimously agreed to begin the process of obtaining temporary pastoral and worship leadership.

Following the guidelines from the Commission on Ministry we will contract temporarily with a pastor to provide pastoral and worship leadership. Duties will include leading regular and special worship services, administering sacraments, visitations, and supervision of church office activities.

Even though this is a temporary action, it is not an “overnight” process. At this time, it is the quickest way to give some normality to our services and a spiritual leader to meet our immediate needs.

We are a family in grief who are faced with transition. Please pray for Divine guidance as we move forward, and give thanks knowing our God is faithful.

In Christian Fellowship,

Members of Westminster’s Session of Elders:

Elaine Brooks

Susan Johnson

Sally Parker

Alonda Crosslin

Joe Littrell

Lud Seme

Brenda Gray

Paula Offutt

Nick Winn

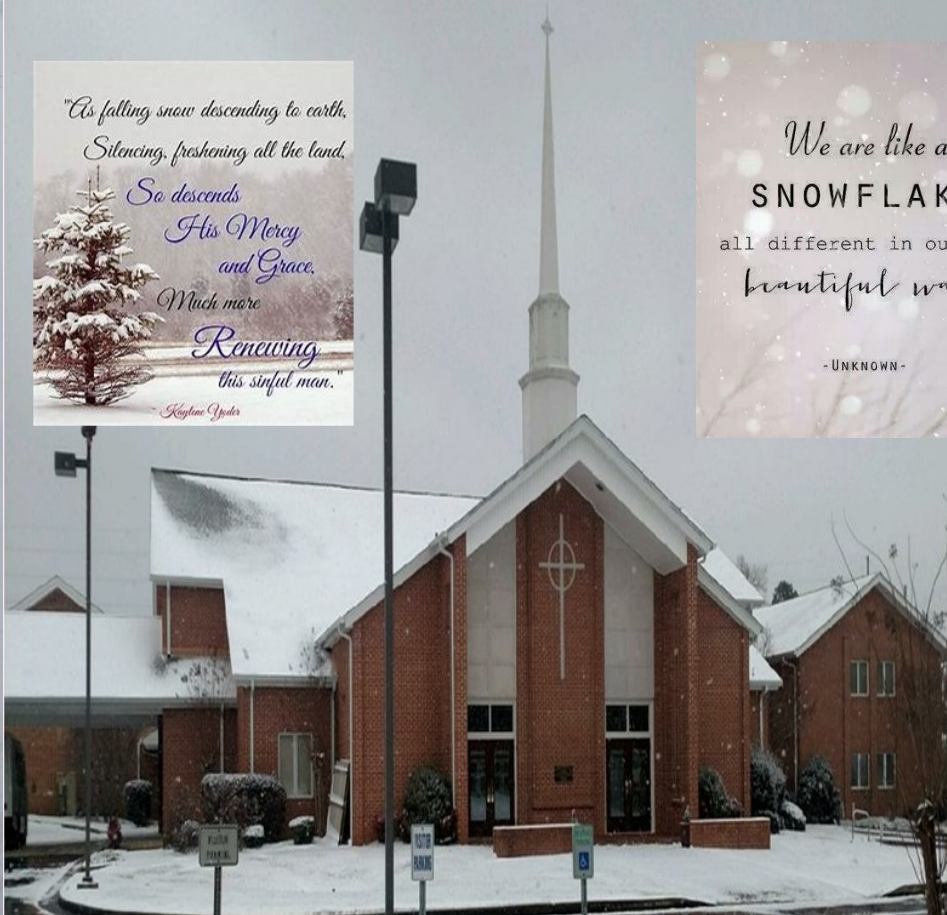
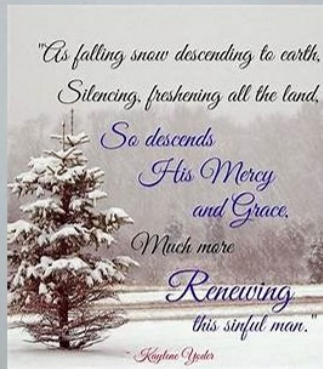
The church  
holds the key  
to revival.  
It is within  
our grasp.

BILLY GRAHAM





NEW YORK  
**SNOW STORM**







Audra, Weston, Korah & Ayla Heinitz



Home of John, Paula & Lacy Offutt





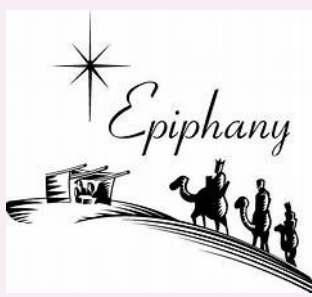
Sandra, Sterling, Wyatt & Stella Mimbs

Snowfall rouses your inner child  
to dream and play  
once more.

Angie Weiland-Crosby







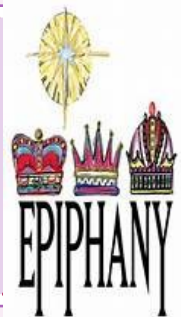
**THREE WISE MEN**

**Avery Guinn   Bob Moody   John Offutt**



**Patrick Smith**





**Epiphany**  
**Sunday**

Reflecting on the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus; who were following a new star that was "shining forth" hope.



**Immediate: Janice McKell, John Horton, Richard Williams, Bill Solomon (Dot's son), family of Lynda Hicks, Florence Duncan, Babs Moody, Jeremy Sylvester, Char Terry, & family of Rick McAdams(Carol Howdyshell).**

**At Home: Jean Blair**

**TN Assisted Living: Dot Solomon**



## Lynda (Wilson) Van Devender

June 16, 1947 ~ January 2, 2024 (age 76)

**Lynda Wilson Van Devender: A Legacy of Education and Compassion**

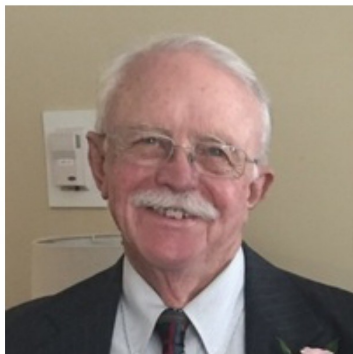
It is with great sorrow and loving remembrance that we announce the passing of Lynda Wilson Van Devender on January 2, 2024. A beloved mother, cherished educator, and friend to all. Lynda's radiant smile and quick wit brought light and warmth into the lives of everyone she met.

Lynda's ability to connect with people was extraordinary, often turning strangers into lifelong friends and pen pals through simple conversations in everyday places. This gift of connection was a hallmark of her personality, drawing people towards her with her warmth and genuine interest in their stories. Her life was rich with passions, including her love for animals, singing in the church choir, and bursting into song at any given moment. These joys were reflections of her vibrant spirit and generous heart.

Preceded in death by her husband, The Reverend Charles E. Van Devender, Jr., Lynda's legacy is carried on by her loving sons, Charles (Candice), Ladd (Michel), Drew (Kristen), and Bryan (Elizabeth); her cherished ten grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

### Richard Mill McAdams

written by Lynn McMillen | February 1, 2024 | 0 comment



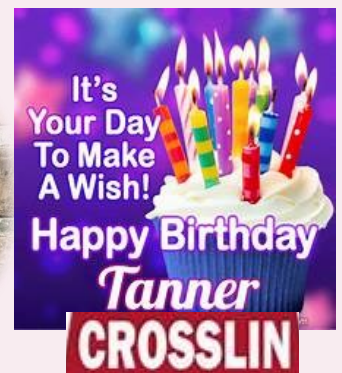
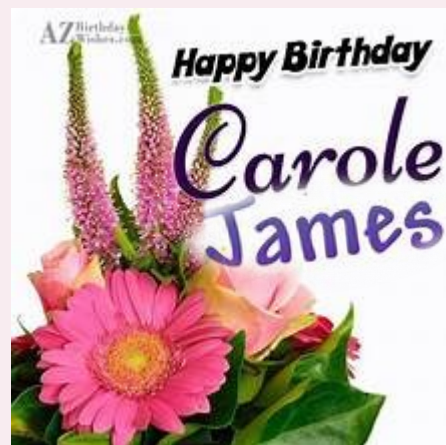
Mr. Richard Mill McAdams, age 86 of Florence, passed away at North Alabama Medical Center on January 29, 2024. Elkins Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Mr. McAdams is survived by his wife, Carol Howdyshell; daughter, Tamara McAdams; and siblings, Laura Shefty, Jamie McAdams, Wendy Koslowski, Dave McAdams, and Greg McAdams. He is preceded in death by his late wife, Kathryn McAdams; brother, Mikel McAdams; and parents, Verne and Amelia McAdams.

Mr. McAdams was a loving, caring man who had a compassionate heart for people. He hated injustice. In his free time, he loved to read and sail; traveling to new places and meeting new people was a great enjoyment to him.



**Happy 81st  
Birthday to  
Nick Winn!**





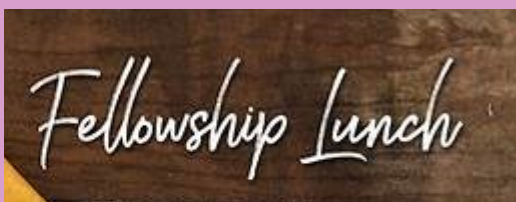


Don't feel sorry for or fear for your kids/grandkids because the world they are going to grow up in is not what it used to be. God created them and called them for the exact moment in time that they're in. Their life wasn't a coincidence or an accident. Raise them up to know the power they walk in as children of God. Train them up in the authority of His Word. Teach them to walk in faith knowing that God is in control. Empower them to know they can change the

world. Don't teach them to be fearful and disheartened by the state of the world but hopeful that they can do something about it. Every person in all of history has been placed in the time that they were in because of God's sovereign plan. He knew Daniel could handle the lions den. He knew David could handle Goliath. He knew Esther could handle Haman. He knew Peter could handle persecution. He knows that your child can handle whatever challenge they face in their life. He created them specifically for it! Don't be scared for your children, but be honored that God chose YOU to parent the generation that is facing the biggest challenges of our lifetime. Rise up to the challenge. Raise Daniels, Davids, Esthers and Peters! God isn't scratching His head wondering what He's going to do with this mess of a world. He has an army He's raising up to drive back the darkness and make Him known all over the earth. Don't let your fear steal the greatness God placed in them. I know it's hard to imagine them as anything besides our sweet little babies, and we just want to protect them from anything that could ever be hard on them, but they were born for



Jimmy & Faith Parker went to support their niece/ cousin, Katlyn !  
(Granddaughter of MQ & Sally Parker)



**WHEN:** Friday, February 16th @ 11:30

**WHERE:**







**Blair, Sandra,  
Lawrence & Andrea**

## **DID YOU KNOW THAT:**

- Psalm 118 is the middle chapter of the entire Bible?
- Psalm 117, before Psalm 118 is the shortest chapter in the Bible?
- Psalm 119, after Psalm 118 is the longest chapter in the Bible?
- The Bible has 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and 594 chapters after Psalm 118?
- If you add up all the chapters except Psalm 118, you get a total of 1188 chapters.
- 1188 or Psalm 118 verse 8 is the middle verse of the entire Bible?
- Should the central verse not have an important message? *"It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man."* Psalm 118:8.



We are grateful to have Dan Hendricks recently leading our service. Dan is a retired, ordained Presbyterian minister. He and his wife, Barb, have been attending WPC, and is an active part of the church family. Dan leads the Adult Sunday School class from 10:00-10:30 and always welcomes anyone to join the class!

Dan is currently serving as the president of the Alabama State Parks foundation. Thank you for sharing your God given talents and gifts of ministry!





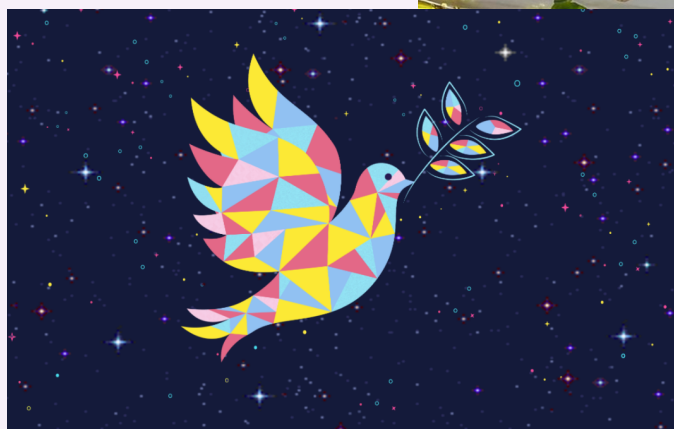
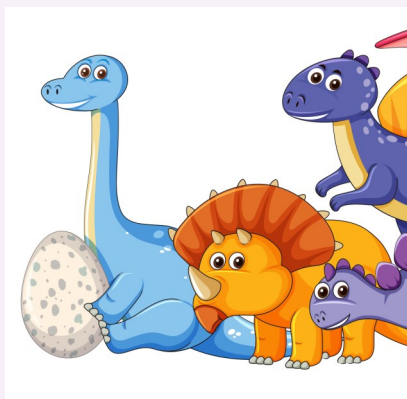
Arzetta Mimbs & Susan Johnson recently were on a Viking Cruise with stops in Rome , Naples, Sicily, Crete Greece, Ephesus Turkey, Athens Greece, Crete (Heraklion) Greece, Rhodes, and Istanbul Turkey.







**Happy 2nd Birth-  
day Aiden!**  
**(Avery Guinn's  
nephew)**



*May the God of hope fill you with all the joy  
and peace in believing, so that you may abound  
in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

— Romans 15:13

**Mail comments/  
articles to:**

**[Alondacr@gmail.com](mailto:Alondacr@gmail.com)**

**256-710-8662**