

Westminster Window

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www.westminsterpcusa.net



Thanksgiving is just around the corner and holiday or not, I always try to focus on gratitude. Today I am giving thanks for the Westminster family. Each of you has been so special to me and Paul and we are thankful.

Thank you for your gift for Pastor Appreciation Month. I can enjoy shopping for books and not feel guilty about spending MORE money on books when I have a large stack at home I haven't even read.

Thank you for being so affirming of my stepping out trying new things. I have rarely incorporated anything different into my sermons. Because of your encouragement, I now think "outside the box" looking for new, creative ways to present the message. I can see that it improves the way in which we communicate--you listen better and I talk better. Finally, thank you for your love. Thank you for the hugs and smiles and laughter. When I first came to Westminster, someone told me, "We will learn to laugh again. Right now, we are sad but we will learn to experience joy and laughter again." And have you ever! Thanks be to God!!

In gratitude, Susan

In Everything Give Thanks.....1 Thessalonians 5:18



- Paula Offutt 1
- Carly James 12
- Charles Anderson 20
- Joyce Horton 23
- Alonda Crosslin 28

Pre-School
THANKSGIVING FOOD BOXES
for families in need

Thurs, Nov 14th deadline for collections

We will be collecting Thanksgiving dinner items to donate to the 60+ families of WPC Head-start program. We will provide each family with a turkey and a bag filled with items to help prepare a Thanksgiving meal. We are asking for the following donations:
 Instant Potatoes, gravy mix, can green beans, can kernel corn, jello mix, can of fruit cocktail, cornbread mix, cake mix and tub of frosting.



You can provide each of these items or just get several of one thing. We will have collection boxes in the Narthex. "For I was hungry and you gave Me food;"

Matthew 25:35



Church Membership



We rejoice with Dan & Barbara Hendricks on their decision to join the WPC Family! They have been very active over the last couple of years, but made their commitment to God & WPC to show their love & support at a time when WPC is going through a transition .

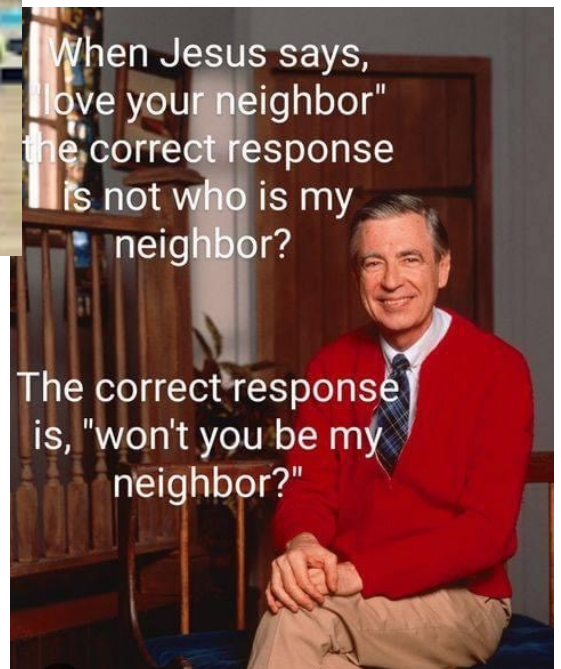


Nick & Sue Winn's Y-Dance class showed their support of Breast Cancer Awareness by wearing pink !



When Jesus says, "love your neighbor" the correct response is not who is my neighbor?

The correct response is, "won't you be my neighbor?"

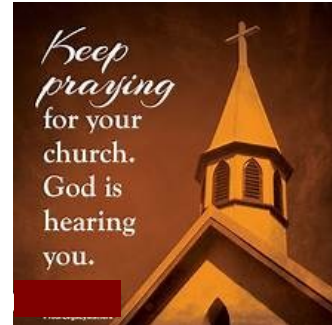




IMMEDIATE: Nick Winn V, John Horton, John & Ann Freeman, Don Sylvester (Avery's uncle), Char Terry, Jeremy Sylvester, Richard Williams, Nick Winn V, and unnamed prayer requests. Continue to pray for Montreat and those affected by Hurricane Helene. And our Pastoral Search Committee.

At Home: Jean Blair, Carole James

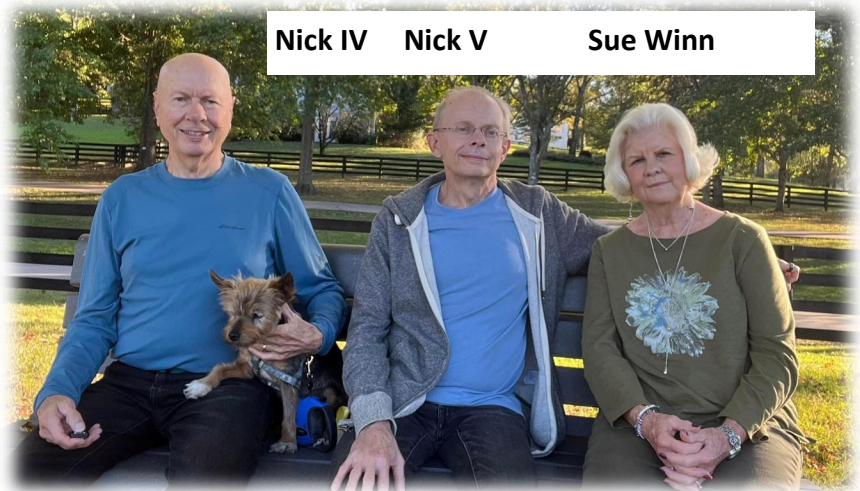
TN Senior Living: Dot Solomon



Nick Winn V

I want to thank everyone for the birthday wishes and I also want to thank everyone for all the love and support over the last 3 weeks. For those of you who do not know. Three weeks ago I was admitted to the hospital where I found out I had a brain tumor and I had surgery to have it removed. A week later I learned I had a type of brain cancer that comes back very quickly. So later this week I start my treatments of chemo and radiation to try and help prevent another tumor from forming. As you can imagine my life had been turned upside down. But I've learned a lot from this diagnosis. This is something you cannot handle by yourself. I've had to let go depending on myself. Prior to my surgery about four months ago I lost the ability to drive and haven't driven since. I've had to depend on a lot of people to help me get through some of the simplest tasks that we take for granted that we can do ourselves.

My perspective on life has completely changed. I've been overwhelmed with gratitude for the kindness and love that has been shown to me during this time. As for my prognosis let's just say I'm very thankful for each day that I've been given. I have completely turned this over to God. The reason I wanted to share all this is that I hope I can encourage someone who's going through a difficult time. No matter how hard things seem if you look hard enough, you can see good and positive things coming together. Sometimes God allows things to happen to us to bring us where He wants us. Yesterday, my son and daughter-in-law came over for my birthday and we carved a pumpkin together, which was a fun time and I want to share a picture of that.





WHEN: Thurs, Nov 14th

7:00 am– 7:00 pm

WHERE: Talladega Children's Home
905 Ashland Hwy, Talladega, AL

WHY: To deliver school supplies & help
work around the center for half
day.



This will be a great fellowship opportunity while doing a great service for the Children's Home! They said they would have duties to match each of our physical limitations, such as deskwork, washing cars to yardwork! Please sign up in the Narthex so we can let them know how many of us to expect!

There are many opportunities for individuals, youth groups, and adult groups to volunteer together on our campus. We have activities to match every age and physical ability. Opportunities include:

- Working on campus projects such as painting, light construction or landscaping.
- Volunteering in the office to help with general administrative tasks.
- Helping at a special event on or off campus.
- General cleaning and groundskeeping: Tight budgets each year have forced us to cut back spending in many areas, and we could use the help. Various buildings may need dusting, window and floor cleaning, and more. We also need help with weeding, cleaning grounds, and landscaping projects.
- Groups are also needed to wash the interior and exterior of our agency vehicles that transport our children. We need supplies and labor for these types of projects.

Historic
SHEFFIELD
TROLLEY TOURS



WHEN: Sun, Dec 8th 1:30

\$15 limited seating, so get your name on the sign-up sheet in Narthax so Alonda can get our tickets before they sell out!

Explore the rich history of Sheffield on an enlightening two-hour trolley tour guided by historian Jimmy Austin! What a great WPC Fellowship opportunity ! Don't miss it!



MQ & Sally Parker's Grands!

The twins, Emalyn & Katlyn, celebrated their 12th birthday!



Grandson, Grant Jones celebrated his 16th birthday!



Spending time with the oldest granddaughters, Anna Kate & Faith!

We should be lifting each other up and cheering each other on, not trying to outshine one another. The sky would be awfully dark with just one star.

Stacie

EVERY WOMAN WHO HAS WALKED WITH GOD HAS A STORY TO TELL!

- ☞ SARAH will tell you: Nothing is too hard for God.
- ☞ HAGAR will tell you: God sees you.
- ☞ RAHAB will tell you: Your past doesn't define you; God can use anyone.
- ☞ HANNAH will tell you: God answers prayers.
- ☞ RUTH will tell you: It's not over until God says it's over.
- ☞ ESTHER will tell you: Trust God! He will exalt you in His timing.

Amen, praise Him.

Nov 17

We will dedicate
our Pledge pkts to
God's Glory!



Why did God create evil? The answer struck me to the core of my soul! A professor at the university asked his students the following question: - Everything that exists was created by God? One student bravely answered: - Yes, created by God. - Did God create everything? - a professor asked. "Yes, sir," replied the student. The professor asked : - If God created everything, then God created evil, since it exists. And according to the principle that our deeds define ourselves, then God is evil. The student became silent after hearing such an answer. The professor was very pleased with himself. He boasted to students for proving once again that faith in God is a myth. Another student raised his hand and said: - Can I ask you a question, professor? "Of course," replied the professor. A student got up and asked: - Professor, is cold a thing? - What kind of question? Of course it exists. Have you ever been cold? Students laughed at the young man's question. The young man answered: - Actually, sir, cold doesn't exist. According to the laws of physics, what we consider cold is actually the absence of heat. A person or object can be studied on whether it has or transmits energy. Absolute zero (-460 degrees Fahrenheit) is a complete absence of heat. All matter becomes inert and unable to react at this temperature. Cold does not exist. We created this word to describe what we feel in the absence of heat. A student continued: - Professor, does darkness exist? — Of course it exists. - You're wrong again, sir. Darkness also does not exist. Darkness is actually the absence of light. We can study the light but not the darkness. We can use Newton's prism to spread white light across multiple colors and explore the different wavelengths of each color. You can't measure darkness. A simple ray of light can break into the world of darkness and illuminate it. How can you tell how dark a certain space is? You measure how much light is present. Isn't it so? Darkness is a term man uses to describe what happens in the absence of light. In the end, the young man asked the professor: - Sir. does evil exist? This time it was uncertain, the professor answered: - Of course, as I said before. We see him every day. Cruelty, numerous crimes and violence throughout the world. These examples are nothing but a manifestation of evil. To this, the student answered: - Evil does not exist, sir, or at least it does not exist for itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is like darkness and cold—a man-made word to describe the absence of God. God did not create evil. Evil is not faith or love, which exist as light and warmth. Evil is the result of the absence of Divine love in the human heart. It's the kind of cold that comes when there is no heat, or the kind of darkness that comes when there's no light.

Member
Spotlight
Charles C. Anderson, Sr,



Early Life

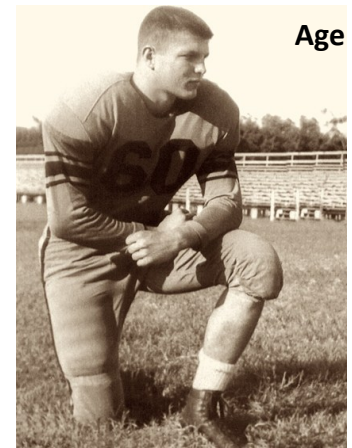
Charles Anderson was born in 1934 in Florence Alabama. His father, Clyde W. Anderson, dropped out of school at the age of 14, following his father's death. To support his family, Clyde Anderson built a newsstand made from piano boxes, and began selling newspapers. The newsstand became successful and Clyde moved to a storefront. Clyde's son, Charles, grew up learning his father's business as a paper carrier at age nine and later working in the newsstand during high school.



Age 4

Education

Charles graduated from Coffee High School and was the football team co-captain. While attending Florence State Teachers College (now University of North Alabama) he worked in the family business and at Reynolds Metals Company. He earned a B.S. degree in 1956 with a major in marketing and a minor in economics.



Age 16

Career

In 1956 Charles began working fulltime in the family business, which consisted of two newsstands and three wholesale trucks that distributed magazines and books in the North Alabama area. He was joined in the business in 1963 by his younger brother, Joel. In the early years the company's newsstands sold fireworks during the Christmas season. The fireworks business later expanded to include wholesale. In 1962 Charles began a new business, importing fireworks and other merchandise. In 1964 Charles formed a sourcing company in Hong Kong that is today one of the largest exporters of fireworks from China. Charles was one of the first business leaders in the U.S. to receive an invitation to trade with China in 1972, immediately after President Nixon's visit. All business segments grew rapidly in the 1970s and 1980s. In 1992 the company's bookstores, Books-A-Million, Inc., became a public company. Under Charles' leadership, four separate companies have emerged: Anderson Media, one of the leading in-store merchandisers in Walmart; TNT Fireworks, the largest distributor and merchandiser of fireworks in the U.S.; Books-A-Million, the second largest bookstore chain in the nation; and Anderson Press, a book publisher focusing on the numismatic and sports market.



Great Wall in 1973

After decades at the helm, Charles Anderson now serves as chairman emeritus of the companies founded by the Anderson family.

Charles and his wife, Hilda, who passed away in 2020, have four sons, Charles Jr., Terry, Clyde and Harold. His sons learned the family businesses, developed a strong work ethic, and now each serve as CEOs of the businesses. Under their leadership the businesses have grown substantially. The family, together with three other local families, purchased First Southern Bank in 2017, of which Charles serves as Chairman.



2002 Annecy, France

With Hilda & Four Sons at
80th birthday in 2014



Civic Affairs and Philanthropy

Mr. Anderson served on the board of First National Bank of Florence for over twenty years serving on both the loan and investment committees. A dedicated leader in his community and beyond, Mr. Anderson has served on the boards of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center, Heritage Trust Fund, and was a charter member of the Shoals Economic Development Authority Board. He was University of North Alabama Alumni of the Year in 1979. A longtime supporter of the Salvation Army, Mr. Anderson served on its National Advisory Board. He was inducted into the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2002, into the Alabama Academy of Honor in 2011 and into the Florence Walk of Honor in 2016. He was inducted into the Horatio Alger Association in 2015. He was named the 2016 Shoals Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the year. He is a member of the University of Alabama President's Cabinet and the President's Cabinet at the University of North Alabama, his alma mater. In December of 2018 he was the recipient of an honorary doctorate degree from the University of North Alabama. With a shared interest in education, Mr. Anderson and his family have made many contributions to universities, schools and other charitable causes.

November 2023 Elected as an Honorary Life Fellow of the American Numismatic Society – Fellows (including Honorary Life Fellows) are limited to 225 in number.

NONAGENARIAN

Happy 90th!

Happy Birthday to an amazing 90 year old who has known the wonderment of a changing world. So much has changed in your lifetime, but 90 years ago one of the most amazing advancements of modern society came into the world... you!





- CHURCH FAMILY - THANKSGIVING DINNER



W H E N: Wed, Nov 20 @ 5:30 pm

W H E R E: Parlor/Courtyard

W H A T: A sign-up sheet will be in Narthex if
you'd like to bring a dish

Every experience God
gives us, every person He
puts into our lives, is the
perfect preparation for a
future only He can see.

--Corrie ten Boom

"God won't give you more than you can handle..." Odd, I can't seem to find that verse. I'm guessing Job would take exception to that cliché. So would Joseph. Paul did. "We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself..." II Corinthians 1:8 Why would God allow him to experience hurt more than he could handle? Read on. "...so that we might not rely on ourselves but on God." II Corinthians 1:9 Truth? Cancer is more than you can handle. So is infidelity. So is caregiving. So is rejection. So is death and loss and grief and prodigal children and 101 other life struggles. God doesn't expect YOU to handle it. He expects you to hand it over to HIM. He doesn't want you relying on your strength, but on His. If we keep walking around thinking "God won't give me more than I can handle," we're setting ourselves up for heavenly disappointment. Good news? He beckons for your burdens, "Cast your cares upon Me..." I Peter 5:7 You will never know relief until you do.



The Women's Service Group will meet in the "old Session" room (down the hall from the Parlor) on Tuesday, Nov. 19th at 1:00 p.m. All women of the church are cordially invited.



Sally Parker

Florence Duncan

Elaine Brooks

Sara Reed

The ladies have been working on "fidget" blankets for local nursing homes.

Susan Johnson & Linda Seme worked on sprucing up bulletin boards around the church





Congratulations, **Colby!**

Congratulations to Colby, Brenda Gray's grandson & Joe Littrell's Best Buddy, for receiving the Most Valuable Player of the game award in a recent baseball tournament in Cullman!



Some of our WPC members have volunteered to take other members to Doctor appointments, grocery shopping, etc. If you are in need of a complementary ride, call Billie Sylvester in the church office M-TH 9:00-12:00. Please schedule your ride at least a few days before to ensure our volunteers adjust their schedule. 256-766-3841.



REACHING OUT



On Sunday, November 10, Westminster will be receiving a special offering for our Salvation Army Teens Christmas program. This provides gifts for disadvantaged teens in the area. Although these gifts are distributed by the Salvation Army, Westminster is the sole provider. Years ago our own Frances Moody saw this need. Westminster has been fulfilling her vision ever since. Please help by participating in this special offering. On October 19, Westminster served 112 lunches and many seconds at the Community Soup Kitchen. Thank you, Elaine Brooks, Susan Johnson, Paula Offutt, Susan and Paul Parker, and Sally Parker for cooking and serving these meals. Also, at this time, Westminster distributed some handmade toboggans to those that were needing a warm hat for the coming winter. On a recent Sunday, Susan shared that she had visited The Help Center. She told of items most needed. WOW! Did you ever come through! Bags of food items, household supplies, fresh tomatoes, diapers, and winter clothing were delivered to The Help Center. Galatians 2:10 Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.



The Fellowship Luncheon Group will not meet in November, but stay tuned for details about our December Luncheon at the Enchanted Gatherings Tea Room at [126 N. Court St.](#) in downtown Florence, date and time TBA soon.

**DEAR GOD, I WANT
TO SAY THANK YOU.**

Thank You for keeping my faith strong even when I face challenges.

Thank You for guiding me when the path is unclear.

Thank You for lifting me up when I feel weighed down.

Thank You for filling me with joy even in sorrow.

Thank You for being my light when the world seems dark.

Thank You for being my refuge when the storms come.

Thank You for reminding me of Your promises when I doubt.
In Jesus' name, Amen.



Alonda Crosslin celebrated her daughter Kyndall's 24th birthday in Gatlingburg!



**Send comments/
articles to:
Alondacr@gmail.com
256-710-8662**