



MEADOWS PRESBYTERIAN POST

NOVEMBER 2025

Dear Meadows Family,

This fall, our stewardship season comes at a pivotal time in the life of our congregation. We've completed a season of visioning to discern where God is leading Meadows, and we are navigating how to respond faithfully.

Our theme, *"For Such a Time as This: Rooted and Rising,"* calls us to see stewardship not merely as financial support, but as courageous participation in God's unfolding story. We are invited to invest — not just in buildings or programs — but in the future God is building through us.

Beginning November 2nd, we'll journey through a 3-part sermon series exploring what it means to be:

Rooted in Grace - remembering that every good gift comes from God's hand, and that our stewardship begins with gratitude, not obligation, as we trust the One who has sustained us through wilderness and blessing alike.

Growing in Trust - opening our hands in generosity, discovering the freedom that comes when we trust God more than our own security, learning that where our treasure is, there our hearts will also be.

Planting for Tomorrow - investing in a future we cannot yet see, planting and building with shared hope in God's unfolding promise.

God has placed us where we are for such a time as this. Like Nehemiah rebuilding Jerusalem's walls, we stand at a threshold moment — called to rise, build, and live out God's love.

"I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good... And they said, 'Let us rise up and build.' So they strengthened their hands for the good work."

— *Nehemiah 2:18*

May we faithfully step out to serve God with what we have, trusting in His power to do extraordinary things through us.

In His Love,

Rebecca Lees

Elder for Stewardship



NOVEMBER EVENTS

MEADOWS YOUTH

**NOV
2**

YOUTH GROUP
4-5:30PM

**NOV
9**

PICKLEBALL
TBD

**NOV
16**

YOUTH GROUP
4-5:30PM

**NOV
23**

**THANKSGIVING
LUNCH**
AFTER CHURCH

NO YOUTH GROUP NOVEMBER 30!





ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

NOVEMBER 2025 DEADLINE SCHEDULE

In-house monitors—entries due by Tuesday for the upcoming Sunday

Newsletter articles: Monday, November 17th

Committee Minutes Due the Thursday morning before the Session Meeting

I am working hard making sure our Meadows Church Directory is up-to-date and ready for the new year. Emails were sent out to everyone asking for changes, etc. If you have not responded, please do so **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15th to insure a spot.**

The Meadows Team wishes everyone a very blessed Thanksgiving. As we celebrate this season of Thanksgiving, we lift up every member of our congregation—may their homes be filled with peace, their hearts with joy, and their lives with God's abundant grace.



SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUF WIEDERSEHEN, GOODBYE

It is with mixed feelings that I bid goodbye to my church family. I am moving to a retirement facility in Rochester, NY, to be near my husband Hal Green's family. At age 90, it is time to make this move, and I am looking forward to this next phase of my life, one with fewer responsibilities and more time to explore new opportunities.

On the plus side, I will be able to stream Meadows' services and keep in touch with my church family through calls, emails, and sharing personal narratives via attachments.

My new address is 1471 Long Pond Road, Apt. 311, Rochester, NY 14626. My mobile phone is the same: 814-442-1310. I will no longer have a land line. My email is pairadox99@aol.com.

And so, I bid adieu to you and you and you.

Mary Alice Green



“Thanks to generous community members like YOU, our staff is thriving and our Kindness Community continues to grow.”

Please consider having your next coffee gathering at Kindness Café.
They now have 2 locations—

480 Rugby Road, Charlottesville VA
151 McIntire Park Drive, Charlottesville VA

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS — UPCOMING STUDIES

Ephesians: Building a Community in Christ

Beginning Sunday, November 16th, the adult Sunday school class will start a 12-week study of Ephesians by John Stott. This series will explore Paul’s message of unity in Christ and address overcoming barriers within families, churches, and communities.

Stott writes, “We long to belong. We crave unity. We want to be loved and respected by others. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians is about uniting all things in Christ. Here we learn how to break down what separates us from God, as well as what causes disconnection within families, in churches and between racial and ethnic groups.” All are welcome to join as we examine God’s vision for His church. For more information, contact Sudie Althisar at sudieincville@mac.com.



Christmas Shopping Opportunity

Saturday and Sunday, November 22nd (9:00 am—3:00 pm) and 23rd (noon—2:00 pm), ***South Plains Presbyterian Church*** in Keswick Va will host a Fair Trade Gift Market in Kirk Hall to display and sell gifts and crafts made by artisans from around the world. Fair Trade international food items are also available to purchase. The full financial benefit of this Gift Market returns to the individual artisans through Fair Trade organizations. The public is invited to join with South Plains for this annual event.

410 Black Cat Road, Keswick, Virginia 22947
southplainspc@gmail.com
(434) 293-4112



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Please see the letter from Tom Goodrich and Session that went out Wednesday, October 29th.

Dear Church Family,

After several weeks of conversation and prayer, we are writing to follow up on Session's vote in August to affiliate with the Fellowship Community within the PC(USA).

Between the two town halls, and numerous other meetings and individual conversations, much has been said. Session has sought to listen with care, to weigh all that has been expressed, both by those who have been dismayed and those who are delighted with this decision. It is clear that passionate convictions lie deeply within the hearts of the Meadows congregation. We thank the Lord for the honesty, passion, humility, and love at the center of our common life. At our most recent Session meeting, this past Monday night (Oct 27th), the elders reaffirmed the decision to affiliate with The Fellowship Community. The vote was by ballot and tallied 9 votes in favor and 4 against.

Session invites you to continue praying with us for wisdom, peace, and a renewed love for God's plan and purpose for our congregation as we seek to follow faithfully where He leads. We believe that God can do "exceedingly, abundantly, above all we can ask or imagine" (*Ephesians 3:20*). Thus, it is our prayer that through this season, He will work to draw us deeper into the heart of Christ and into the love He has for this world and for one another.

May we each seek to "walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which we have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," (*Ephesians 4:1-3*).

Together with you in Christ,

Pastor Tom Goodrich and Meadows Session



SHOE BOXES ARE HERE!!!! BUT ONLY A FEW LEFT!!

It's that time of year again already!!! They say as you get older time seems to go faster. It seems to me it was just last week that we collected shoe boxes. I guess age has caught up with me for sure!!!

These boxes not only put a smile on the faces of children who maybe have never received a gift, but they also introduce to many young lives the love of Christ. In many cases, this is something very new to them and has been known to introduce entire families to the Good News!

The shoe boxes are available for pick up. There is both information and suggestions in each box that you'll find helpful. Please be sure to read the information carefully. The deadline for dropping off the full boxes is **Wednesday, November 19th.**

Along with the gift suggestions is a list of items NOT to include. This is very important. One new item has been added to this list. This year please **DO NOT SEND SOAP.** It is very important that you are familiar with this list.

The donation amount is still \$10.00 per box. If you are paying by check, please detach the postage paid envelope from the brochure in the box, fill out the form and indicate the number of boxes you are paying for, insert your check and mail.

If you prefer to pay by credit card, scan the QR code and follow the instructions. It is preferred that you not put payment in your shoe box(es).

Please pray for the child who will be receiving each box as you pack. You may want to include a note or have your child draw a picture to include. Let me know if you would like a coloring sheet for your child to fill out.

Now it's time to SHOP. Merry shoe box time!

If you have questions, I will be available after church to try to answer them. You can also email me at mrsbap@aol.com or by cell, 434-996-5996.

Thank you for participating in Operation Christmas Child.

Linda Powell



Co-Pastor Nominating Committee

Progress and Gratitude in Our Journey

The CPNC is making significant progress in the search for our next co-pastor. We have carefully reviewed numerous applications from candidates representing a wide geographic range and diverse backgrounds. This broad pool reflects both referrals from the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) and individuals who have independently sought out Meadows as a potential spiritual home.

We are excited to announce that, thanks to the implementation of new audio-visual technology, we can now conduct initial “in-person” interviews from the comfort and convenience of our own Conference Room. This advancement allows us to connect with candidates more effectively and efficiently during this important selection process.

As we continue this journey, we deeply appreciate your ongoing prayers for wisdom, insight, and stamina. Your support means so much as we seek God’s guidance in finding the right person to join our pastoral team.

Barbara Crispens

Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon

Our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon will be held Sunday, November 23rd shortly after worship. All are welcome and encouraged to bring a dish to share. Meadows will supply the main course and all paper products, etc. Stay tuned for more information soon.





Charles' Corner"

By Dr. Charles Pickell
"For the Living of These Days"
A Boy's Lunch

The hungry crowd, more than five thousand, was getting restless. It was lunchtime and there was nothing to eat. All of a sudden Andrew found a boy in the crowd, "there's a boy here with five loaves and two fish!" he said and brought him to Jesus.

That's not much help with five thousand to feed! Many people react that way in the face of need. So much to be done—but what can I do, I'm nobody?

The boy with the food may have been carrying it for his mother and father, brothers and sisters—enough for their outing, that's all!

Yet this boy who never dreamed that the spotlight would shine on him, became the most important person in the crowd.

When he gave his fish and bread to Jesus, everything changed. The fish and bread were miraculously multiplied, the crowd was fed, and twelve baskets full were left over!

That's how God works!

God doesn't look for important people, powerful people, rich people to accomplish his purposes.

God uses people, ordinary people, who will offer what they have so he can multiply it for the common good.

I often hear people say, "I can't do anything," "I don't have influence," "I don't have any skills," "I'm just an ordinary person."

Not all have the same gifts, or the same measure of gifts, but each has some gift God can use. When offered to God, our gifts, our talents, our abilities, are blessed and multiplied.

It is fascinating how often the Bible reveals God's use of small things; the widow's mite, a boy's lunch.

What gift can you offer God?



MEADOWS MINISTRIES AT A GLANCE

November 2025

Saturday, November 1st

8:30 am – Men's Breakfast

Sunday, November 2nd

9:15 am – Choir Rehearsal

9:15 am – Youth and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship Service

4:00 pm – Youth Group

Monday, November 3rd

9:00 am – Schola in Sanctuary

5:15 pm – 9:30 pm – Men's Bible Study

6:30 pm – 9:00 pm – Women's Bible Study

5:45 pm – 7:15 pm – Handbell Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 4th

10:00 am – Joy Group

Wednesday, November 5th

12:00 Noon – Men's Bible Study via Zoom

7:00 pm – Nominating Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 6th

12:00 Noon – "Pray In Place"

4:30 pm - 5:45 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 7th

Office Closed

Saturday, November 8th

8:45 am – 3:00 pm - Faith Build – Habitat

10:00 am – Nurture Committee Meeting

Sunday, November 9th

9:15 am – Choir Rehearsal

9:15 am – Youth and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am – Worship Service

4:00 pm – Youth Group Gathering



Monday, November 10th

11:30 am – Outreach Committee Meeting
5:00 pm – B&G Committee Meeting
5:15 pm – 9:30 pm – Men’s Bible Study
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm – Women’s Bible Study
7:00 pm – Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 11th

11:30 am – Veteran’s Day Program (Schola)
11:45 am – MS Society Meeting
6:00 pm - Capernaum

Wednesday, November 12th

11:00 am – Prayer Shawl Group
12:00 pm – Men’s Bible Study via Zoom
6:30 pm – CE Committee Meeting
7:00 pm – Lydia Circle

Thursday, November 13th

8:30 am – Monticello Garden Club
12:00 Noon – “Pray In Place”
3:30 pm – Finance Committee Meeting
4:30 pm - 5:45 pm – Choir Rehearsal
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm – Handbell Rehearsal

Friday, November 14th

Meadows Office Closed

Saturday, November 15th

12:00 noon—5:00 pm—Fellowship Hall Reserved
No events planned

Sunday, November 16th

9:15 am – Choir Rehearsal
9:15 am – Youth and Adult Sunday School
10:30 am — Worship Service
4:00 pm – Youth Group Meeting

Monday, November 17th

12:15 pm – Faith Circle
5:15 pm – 9:30 pm – Men’s Bible Study
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm – Women’s Bible Study
7:15 pm - Session

Tuesday, November 18th

6:00 pm – Hope Circle
6:00 pm – Capernaum



Wednesday, November 19th

12:00 pm – Men's Bible Study via Zoom

4:30 pm - 5:45 pm – Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm – Handbell Rehearsal

7:00 pm – Nominating Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 20th

12:00 Noon – “Pray In Place”

6:00 pm – Fellowship Hall Reserved

Friday, November 21st

Youth Christian Concert (more info to come)

Meadows Office Closed

Saturday, November 22nd

No activities planned

Sunday, November 23rd

9:15 am – Choir Rehearsal

9:15 am – Youth and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am — Worship Service

12:00 noon – Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon

Monday, November 24th

No activities planned

Tuesday, November 25th

5:00 pm – Salvation Army

Wednesday, November 26th

No activities

Thursday, November 27th

Office closed – Happy Thanksgiving

Friday, November 28th

Meadows Office Closed

Saturday, November 29th

No activities

Sunday, November 30th

9:15 am – Choir Rehearsal

9:15 am – Youth and Adult Sunday School

10:30 am — Worship Service



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Shannon Wilson	1st	Elizabeth Sly	19th
Courtney Vale	1st	Don Vale	19th
Lydia Cox	2nd	Keith Harford	20th
Carson Joyce	3rd	Caroline Ornee	20th
Chad Morgan	3rd	Stella Bowman	21st
Susan Mathis	10th	Darcy Vale	22nd
Eliza Saunders	10th	Wendy Bolen	26th
Sarah Payne	13th	Cris Widder	26th
Denise Dierolf	15th	Carolyn Elam	28th
John Barclay	16th	Lisa Pinchback	28th
Brenda Hicks	16th	Karen Hinrichs	29th
Jonathan Theobald	16th		
Kendall Madigan	17th		

