

# THE BRIDGE

JANUARY 2024

## OUR CORE VALUES AND DEFINITION

### 1. Follow Jesus

To follow Jesus is to accept the gifts of salvation and grace and to demonstrate the love of God through service to our community and the world by witnessing to the abundant life shared by the children of God.

(Reference scripture: Mark 12: 29-31)

### 2. Grow Spiritually

To grow spiritually is to be receptive to the Holy Spirit working in us and transforming the Body of Christ through the renewing gifts of prayer, study, and Christian fellowship (Reference scripture: Romans 12: 1-2)

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

We are a community of believers welcoming all to worship, pray, grow spiritually and to passionately pursue God's work.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Spreading God's way of life

2500 South Doby's Bridge Rd.

P.O. Box 1028  
Fort Mill, South Carolina  
29716

Office 803-547-5240  
www.DobysBridge.org

### Pastor:

Stephen M. Austin  
(828) 850-2241  
sma254@gmail.com

### Office Hours:

Monday & Tuesday  
9 am - 12 pm

Wednesday-Thursday  
12 pm - 3 pm

Or by appointment



## "The Paper Pulpit"

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Simple words. Short for "Have a Happy New Year." A sentence. More than a yell. Not a shout or even a wish, so much as an instruction. Think about it. Most of us say it thinking we hope you will have happy new year. But I take it more as good advice. We are to make of any new year, (or any day for that matter), what we choose.

Here's how it works.

1. Something happens.
2. I determine if it is important to me or not.
3. If it isn't important to us me let it go.
4. If it is important to me, I choose one of the following.
  - a. Let it affect my emotions and possibly shake my faith or
  - b. Strengthen my faith as I choose what emotion(s) I will entertain.
5. Is it the end or just possibly an beginning?
6. Is it an opportunity for my growth and self-determination?
7. Knowing I can only control myself, how do I not let it control me?
8. What are my greatest tools to control myself in this situation?
  - a. Self-awareness, resolve and/or determination, faith, wisdom, patience, a plan or
  - b. Fear, anger, blame, panic, escape, excuse, chaos?
9. I may not be able to stop the problem but I can try to mitigate how it affects me.

See how easy that is? Or at least see how it's better than running around agonizing while we wait for doom to hit?

Oh. And one more thing.

10. Don't just pray. Believe and trust in God. We may not escape what befalls us in life but we can rely on a God who receives us when we fail or fall. As the apostle Paul said, '**Be convinced**' that in the face of wall that threatens us, we are in God's love.

*Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

**-Romans 8:35-39**

My New Year's Solution,

*Steve*



**Thank you to our generous donors.** Your generosity allowed us to give 157 families groceries for Thanksgiving meals in addition to the food and personal hygiene items that they usually receive. The items we are requesting for January are Can goods and cleaning supplies

You can send your Tithes through PayPal or Mail  
[paypal.me/dbpchurch](https://paypal.me/dbpchurch)  
Mail to:  
Doby's Bridge Presbyterian Church  
2500 S. Doby's Bridge Road  
Fort Mill, SC 29715



**If you have a prayer request** or would like to be added to the DBPC prayer chain, please contact Heather Ford at [bhford@comporium.net](mailto:bhford@comporium.net)

Call/text Heather at 803-627-0352

If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary

"in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one or to remember a special occasion, you may reserve a Sunday by emailing

Torie Combs [dbpcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:dbpcsecretary@gmail.com)

Flowers each week will be mentioned in the Worship Bulletin.



Sonya Helms, Brenda Mason, Karen Costea, John Windle, Pat Fields, Bill Thrower, Gary Kidd, Tonya Griffin, Davey Lambert, Dot Wallace, Joan Gettys, Dorothy Kerr, Pam Houston, Ashton Rogers, Nancy Jenkins, Jesse Jacobs, Sarah Deason, Jennie Fisher, Dana Ward, Tony James, Laura Kimbrell, Tony, Lisa Varney, Mary Wilke, Petersen and Billie Metellas, Louise Blondo, Doris Williamson, Renae Farqua, Ariel Crabtree, Bob Lanum, Judy Mast, Claude Phillips, Debbie James, Karen Fronk and her husband Bob, Cathy Kerber, Sam Piaz, Kimberly Godfrey, Ronda Frazee, Jeff Pittman, Marty Lanum, Jan Flayerty, Kennedy Grace, Mary Anne Caputo, Dale Williams, Doug DeVoe, Brenda Shoda, Lisa Davis, Tyler Johnston, Matthew Combs, Robert, Shirley Stegall, Carolyn McMinn, Aunt Francis, Declan Wilford, Tom Merritt, Patsy Kimbrell, Dean Hughes, Gayle Dean, Jeannie Kidd, Hope Dabney, Kylie, Michael Monteith, Linda Kaylor, Edwin, Pat Whitley, **Scott Williams, Peggy Mills, Ruth Gragg, Arlene Blondo, Mike Blondo, Frances Duerr, Tonya Bailey, Pat Witley, and Cecil Reavis**

**Our Christmas love and sympathy to the family of Jane Watkins.**

# JANUARY

## Birthdays

4	SHELBY SAUNDERS
7	JENNIE STUART
7	DORIS WILLIAMSON
8	BILLY LUTHER
9	ROBBIE KIMBRELL
13	ASHTON POSTON
13	BEN HITCHENS
18	DONNA MCMILLAN
18	TORIE COMBS
22	PAT BAILEY
22	MARY PAT KERBER
23	DAX STEGALL
23	GRANT HAYES
24	CASEY STEGALL
24	PATSY KIMBRELL
25	JOSIE CHAVIS
30	WHITNY ADKINS
31	SUSAN MCKEOWN
31	MIKE BLONDO

### Special dates

- New Year's Day, *January 1, 2024*
- Epiphany, *January 6, 2024*
- Baptism of the Lord, *January 7, 2024*
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, *January 15, 2024*
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, *January 18-25, 2024*



# January

2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 6pm-9pm Hunnington Farms HOA Meeting	5	6 1pm Jane Watkins Visitation 2pm Funeral Service
7 <b>Communion</b> 10am Sunday School 11am Morning Worship	8 6:30pm Ladies Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm BSA Troop 157 7:30pm Hand Bell Practice	9 6:30pm Pack 157	10 CC HS Girl Scouts	11	12	13
14 <b>2nd Sunday Potluck</b> 10am Sunday School 11am Morning Worship	15 6:30pm Ladies Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm BSA Troop 157 7:30pm Hand Bell Practice	16 6:30pm Pack 157	17 CC HS Girl Scouts	18	19	20
21 10am Sunday School 11am Morning Worship <b>Dimes For Hunger</b>	22 6:00pm Session Meeting. 6:30pm Ladies Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm BSA Troop 157 7:30pm Hand Bell Practice	23 6:30pm Pack 157	24 CC HS Girl Scouts	25	26	27
28 10am Sunday School 11am Morning Worship	29 6:30pm Ladies Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm BSA Troop 157 7:30pm Hand Bell Practice	30 6:30pm Pack 157	31 CC HS Girl Scouts			

## Acolyte

1/7-Andrew Blondo  
1/14-Charlie Jackson  
1/21-Wesley Combs  
1/28-Andrew Blondo

## Reader/ Usher

1/7-Heather Ford  
1/14-Dale Richardson  
1/21-Linda Roche  
1/28-Bob Ford

## Elder of the Month

Marcie Bayne

# Myra Bryant Circle



Many thanks to all ladies who baked cookies and helped deliver them to our shut ins, police and fire departments. The recipients were so appreciative. God bless you for being a blessing to others!  
Judy Stegall



I would also like to thank Nicole Cooke for having her Cub Scout Den at Pack 157 make personalized Christmas cards to include with each cookie tin. They were a big hit.





# MISSIONS Committee

Heartfelt thanks to all members who donated to the Giving Tree for the Rock Hill Children's Attention Home. A whopping \$521.77 was raised! There will be many smiling faces at the home on Christmas morning. Thank you for your continued support!



## Myra Bryant Circle CHRISTMAS PARTY.

A good time was had by all at our annual Christmas party. Belinda Cockerill hosted us in her beautifully holiday decorated home. As Christmas music filled the air, we discovered our elf name and played a fun game of Left-Right....passing our wrapped ornaments around. We were even visited by Santa, who we insisted join us for our delicious brunch. Many thanks to our hostess and to Santa for stopping by!



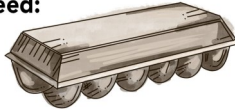
# FUN for the WHOLE FAMILY



Geodes look plain on the outside but contain beautiful crystals. Create these "rocks" to show how God makes us new on the inside.

### What you need:

- Clean cardboard egg carton
- Scissors (and adult help)
- Epsom salt
- Plastic zippered bags (one per color of dye)
- Food coloring
- Glue
- Paintbrush



### What you do:

1. Cut out the tops and bottoms of all the egg compartments so you can make 6 ball shapes.
2. In each bag, put 3 tablespoons of Epsom salt and a drop or two of food coloring. Seal and shake to mix.
3. With the paintbrush, spread glue inside two egg-carton halves. Sprinkle a spoonful of Epsom salt into those halves. Then close and shake.
4. Open your homemade geode and shake out excess salt.
5. Optional: Preserve the crystals with a coat of clear-drying glue.



## HAPPY NEW YOU!

Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.

JANUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
	God	night	word	in	love	Jesus
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ	a
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
saw	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is	many
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
he	again	through	earth	made	while	back
28	29	30	31			
new	if	and	creation			

- The second Monday \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- The last Monday \_ \_
- The 16th \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- One day before the 20th \_ \_
- The day before the first Friday \_ \_
- The last weekday of the second week \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
- The day after the 20th \_ \_
- The day after 18th \_ \_
- The first day of the second weekend \_
- The last Sunday \_ \_ \_
- The last day of the month \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Answers: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

# Christian Symbol




LATIN CROSS

The Latin cross is the simplest and most common form of the Christian cross, possibly dating from the second or third century. Roman Catholic and Orthodox Christians typically display a crucifix — an image of Jesus hanging on the cross — to remember his death for the sake of the world. Protestant churches often favor the empty cross, commemorating Jesus' resurrection.

**Bible Quiz**

In the book of Judges, the warrior Barak would go to battle only if a certain female leader went with him. Who was she?

- A. Rebekah
- B. Jael
- C. Michal
- D. Deborah



Answer: D (See Judges 4:1-10.)







**Doby's Bridge Presbyterian  
Church**

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