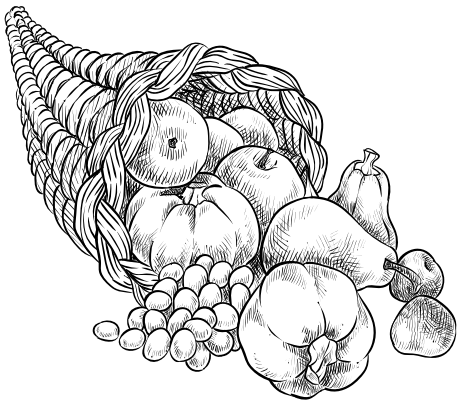




November 2025

INSIGHTS

The Newsletter of Mitchells Presbyterian Church

Looking ahead:

- NOV. 2ND** - COMMUNION
- ALL SAINTS DAY
- SESSION MEETING
- DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
(fall back)
- NOV. 23RD** - FIRST FRUITS - 11 A.M.
- NOV. 30TH** - THANKSGIVING LEFTOVER
LUNCHEON - 12 P.M.
- DEC. 14TH** - HYMN SING - 11 A.M.
- BLUE CHRISTMAS & TREE OF
LIGHTS SERVICE - 7 P.M.
- DEC. 24TH** - CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - 7 P.M.

Contact Us:

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Website:
mitchellspresbyterian.org

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mitchellspresbyterian@gmail.com

Pastor's Email:
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GriefShare:
mpcgriefshare@gmail.com



USHERS:

Allyson &
Kathy Thorpe



A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

At the January 2025 Session meeting, I advised the Session that I would be willing to serve as Treasurer through Dec. 31, 2026. I will be retiring from practice as of Dec. 31, 2026 and in conjunction with that retirement I will no longer have access to either the hardware or software that I have utilized to maintain the Church's financial records. In addition, and more importantly, I am ready to step aside as Treasurer.

If you, or anyone you know, are interested in serving as Treasurer, effective no later than Jan. 1, 2027, please contact Patrick (moderator of Session) or Steve Hicks (clerk of session).

I will obviously be available to assist with any transition.

I appreciate your assistance and support.

--Ron Evans

Spotlight on: Mitchells Presbyterian Church with Rev. Kerry

Kerry here, writing about my time at [Mitchells Presbyterian Church](#). If you are not familiar with Mitchells, Virginia, it is east of Culpeper. If you are not familiar with Culpeper, then it is time for some day trips around the presbytery!

Mitchells' building stands in the midst of farm country, looking as if it were placed there on purpose (of course it was!). I was driving on a narrow country road at the time, so I thought it was best not to try to snap a photo! I do have other photos!!

The building presents itself visually as a wonderful country church, sidewalk to the front door, trees in the front yard, a cemetery to the left, and parking to the right. When you see the fellowship hall, it is a bit more modern-looking but fits in well with the original structure. Stepping inside, the narthex matches the building perfectly.

Step into the sanctuary, and the view changes. Stone walls and chandeliers, deep colors in the carpet and woodwork; relief work in the ceiling; stained-glass windows on the side. I considered going outside to see if I had been in the wrong building, but it was indeed the right place! More affirmation came from those coming to worship and those milling about the fellowship hall. Simple hospitality! I have come to expect hospitality wherever in the James that I find myself, and it is always there.

Their pastor had prepared a wonderfully detailed outline for the service scripted for all participants. I believe he thinks, as I do, that we are called to prepare our lay leaders to handle an entire worship service, almost making the pastor "unnecessary!" I know this is not so, but I do know that they have a good and trusting pastor, one who cares for them even when he is not with them.

The service is recorded and goes out on social media. The lay leaders and the choir are full participants in the service, which must be a blessing to all who are present either in person or from a distance. Their choir was great to hear, but the choir member did say to me, quietly, "Keep an eye on those three (men) in the back row!" I was not sure what I was in for, but I did notice them being rowdy in the hallway! However, they were perfect angels in the choir.

Following worship was a time for fellowship and snacks. For me, it was a time to meet more of the Mitchells' family and just enjoy the day. Like all of the churches I have visited in the past, I am hopeful to be back, just as a "guest," and see Mitchells from the pews.

I am thankful for this Sunday to be with a sister church and siblings in Christ. May God continue to minister to Mitchells and through Mitchells, as God has done yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Till my next journey,

Rev. Kerry Foster

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

At the September meeting of the Session, a proposal to install an aluminum fence to enclose the new section of the cemetery beyond the existing cemetery was approved. Thank you to Scott Mitchell for conducting the research, preparing the bid, and securing the order and install of the fence. The land beyond the current cemetery was donated over 30 years ago for this purpose and we are thrilled to see the project come together after so many years. We also welcome Scott to the cemetery committee.

If you have any questions regarding the cemetery or would like to discuss reservations, please see one of the cemetery committee members.

Sincerely,

John Clatterbuck
Ron Evans
Brett Massey
Scott Mitchell
Vicky Tidman



Did you know the monthly newsletter isn't just for committee news? If you have a favorite verse, quote, joys, announcements, shout-outs, etc., please email: mस्कaffy2@gmail.com by the 25th. Please state in the email if your submission is to remain anonymous.

SHAWL MINISTRIES, DORCA'S DAUGHTERS

Greetings from the ladies of the shawl ministry. We want to send a reminder that there are shawls and quilts available to be blessed if you know of someone who would like to receive a blanket. There are items available in various sizes, lap blankets, and baby blankets. Members are always working on new projects. In the coming year we will be planning more meeting dates and may include some evening times to include additional participants. This ministry is an opportunity to share in the community and help others during times of need or celebration in their lives. Contact one of our members if you have any questions.

Blessings,

Vickie Wallace
Linda Brooks
Vicky Tidman



Please join us for the *Grief Share* meeting on **November 17, 2025, at 6:00 PM** at the church. You may register by contacting one of the Grief Share facilitators or registering on-line. Thank you, Graeme Tidman, Vicky Tidman, Pastor Patrick Lane.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you ALL for the Get Well Prayers and Wishes. For all the cards, phone calls, food and visits.

This past year has been a challenge. Your love and support has made it easier.

Thank You! Thank You!

Bill and Janet

Worship Committee

The Holiday Season is almost upon us again and there are lots of events occurring in the next couple months. Here are a few highlights –

For the ALL SAINTS Service Sunday, Nov 2, please be sure to get the names and dates of life of those you'd like remembered to Patrick as soon as possible. The FIRST FRUITS Service will be held on Sunday, Nov 23. Following the service, we're asking for volunteers to help decorate the Sanctuary for the holiday season. The first ADVENT Sunday will be on Nov 30. Patrick will put together a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who would like to sign up for Advent readings. On Sunday Dec 14, we are planning on incorporating a CHRISTMAS HYMN SING during the regular 11AM service. Patrick will be polling the congregation to pick their 5 favorite hymns from a list he has compiled. With Mary Scott's wonderful music selections for our Choir and the additional hymns, it should be quite the melodious service! That same evening, we will have a BLUE CHRISTMAS service starting at 7PM followed by the lighting of the TREE OF LIGHTS. Rounding out the season with the Great Christmas Decoration Clean Up following the worship service on Jan 11. Attached with the newsletter are flyers going over all the details for these events or feel free to ask one of the Worship Committee members if you have questions or need more information. Blessings to all for a Joyous Holiday Season!

Pastor Patrick Lane
Hazel Eakin
Janet Miller
Susan Wohlleben
Roxy & Scott Mitchell



Fall Book Study

Thursday Mornings

6 Sessions

October 9th

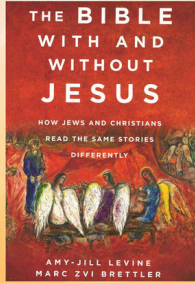
October 16th

October 23rd

October 30th

November 6th

November 13th



Please sign up for a participant book

If you'd like to help cover the cost - participant books are \$18



MONTHLY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Free support group for anyone with a cancer diagnosis. All cancers and genders are welcome!



LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 6PM

Elevate Culpeper, 107B E Davis St
Questions? Call/text 571-606-0026

Stop in for some
Theolo-Tea

Mondays 3:30pm

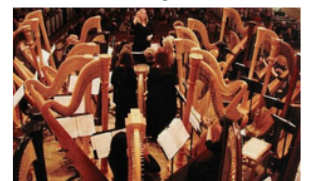
at Mitchells Presbyterian Church



Come by for tea time, where you can chat with the pastor, pray for what's on your heart, discuss theological topics, or just sip and sit.

The Culpeper Baptist Church 2025 Concert Series. All concerts are free and take place in the church sanctuary.

**American Youth
Harp Ensemble
Saturday, December 6
4:00 p.m.**



The Story of Ian and Beti Turner

How can one describe a couple like Ian and Beti? She is a darling and he a daredevil—or perhaps he is the darling and she the daredevil. Their personalities are so intertwined that it is difficult to assign these roles definitively to just one or the other.

Ian was born in Stony Stratford, a town outside London, England. His father's military career saw him posted to Cyprus in the Middle East, where he received an education at The American Academy, Larnaca, Cyprus, an elite Presbyterian Missionary School. This environment exposed him to multiple languages, including Greek, Turkish, and Armenian, broadening his perspective and shaping his character. Beti, on the other hand, was born in Wales and, after moving to England, attended the village school where her father was the headmaster. Even as a child, Beti was driven by a desire to become an architect, revealing her ambition and creativity from an early age.

After World War II many people relocated to newly built communities outside London. Beti took on a role as a kindergarten teacher and moved into a new apartment complex. It was there that she met Ian, who had also recently moved in. Their connection was immediate, and just a few months after meeting, they were married and began their journey together.

Ian and Beti embraced life wholeheartedly, often taking risks and pursuing their interests with enthusiasm. Ian, while dedicating up to six hours a day practicing classical guitar, earned a degree in theoretical physics. He held as many as 25 patents related to computer hard drives. Beti continued teaching kindergarten but expanded her expertise over time to include computer science, photography, and design projects. Their approach to life was marked by doing everything in excess and constantly seeking new adventures.



The couple came of age during the 1970s, a period characterized by young couples moving beyond traditional domestic roles. Ian and Beti shared a passion for British theater acting and became deeply involved in British rally racing, becoming sponsored by The Allard Motor Company. Beti distinguished herself as one of the few female co-drivers among international competitors. Parenthood, (the couple have two daughters,) encouraged an end to their involvement in rally racing.

Ian's position at Xerox Research UK brought them to the United States. His American high school diploma proved valuable for his work in the country. Ian and Beti eventually moved with their two daughters to sunny California. Throughout these transitions, they remained committed to raising their daughters and enjoying leisure time aboard their boat, Turn-Style—a playful nod to their family name, Turner, and their sense of style.

After 20 years of this lifestyle, they adopted a baby son, and, soon afterwards, transitioned to New England. There they maintained a home and employment for the next 20 years, with Beti doing website design, and Ian becoming involved in secretive technical research.

As they contemplated retirement, a colleague suggested the charming town of Culpeper, Virginia. After relocating, Ian and Beti visited a different church each Sunday until they settled at Culpeper Presbyterian. Eventually, they found their way to our family at Mitchells Presbyterian Church. Recently, Ian and Beti downsized to their retirement home, where they now enjoy a gentle, domesticated life. Together, they cherish a wealth of remarkable journeys and memories from their adventurous years.



R.A.C. INTERNATIONAL RALLY OF GREAT BRITAIN 1970
A FOSTER & SHEPPINGTON photograph

FIRST FRUITS WORSHIP

SUNDAY **23** AT 11:00 AM

NOVEMBER

Come set the table, and join in giving thanks for blessing we've received throughout the year



Christmas Hymn Sing

As we worship this Sunday morning, we will be singing some of your favorite Christmas hymns, and YOU have the opportunity to pick which hymns we sing. Pick up a voting card in the fellowship hall, and select your FIVE favorites! Drop your selections in the pastor's mail box, and come join this joyful service, as we share the hope, peace, and wonder of Christmas in song.

December 14th,
11AM Worship



Blue Christmas & Tree of Lights Service

12/14/2025 7PM

MITCHELLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
12229 MITCHELL RD
MITCHELLS, VA 22729

A BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE IS A SPECIAL GATHERING HELD FOR THOSE WHO MAY FIND THE HOLIDAY SEASON CHALLENGING. THIS SERVICE PROVIDES A QUIET, COMFORTING SPACE FOR ANYONE EXPERIENCING GRIEF, LOSS, LONELINESS, OR SIMPLY FEELING OVERWHELMED BY THE FESTIVITIES. BY EMBRACING MOMENTS OF SILENCE, CANDLE LIGHTING, AND PEACEFUL MUSIC, IT ACKNOWLEDGES THE DARKER EMOTIONS THAT CAN ARISE DURING THIS TIME OF YEAR. THE SERVICE CREATES AN ENVIRONMENT TO HONOR OUR FEELINGS AND FIND SOLACE AND HOPE, WITHIN A COMMUNITY. JOIN US TO EXPERIENCE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE GENTLE COMFORT OF SHARED COMPANY, AS WE REMEMBER THOSE WE LOVE IN SERVICE AND THROUGH OUR TREE OF LIGHTS.

Joy To The World

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE
DECEMBER 24TH

7:00PM



November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Scott Mitchell
2 Kim Hicks	3	4	5	6	7 Jonathan Weaver	8 Caitlyn Weaver Leeah Tidman
9	10	11 Debbie Settle Ann Elyse Hicks	12 Tabbithia Weaver	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Susan Wohlleben Robert Norris	21	22
23 Seth Massey	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

The entire page is framed by a decorative border of holly leaves and red berries. At the top and bottom corners, there are larger, more elaborate decorations featuring holly leaves, red berries, and gold bells tied with pink bows.

Tree Lighting Ceremony
Mitchells Presbyterian Church
Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

We will have our Tree of Lights ceremony on the church grounds Sunday evening, December 14th. This tradition began in 1997 and has continued each year. A white light will be in memory of a loved one; a red light will be to honor a loved one. Each light will be a minimum of \$10.00; however, you may contribute as you wish. Again this year, all proceeds will go to Mitchells Presbyterian Church for the continued ministry of the church.

If you would like to place a light on our Tree of Lights, please fill out the bottom of this form to include with your check made payable to Mitchells Presbyterian Church. You may place these in the collection plate or mail to the address below. Checks and forms must be received by December 7, 2025. The list of donors will be in the January MPC Newsletter and will be read before lighting the tree. Copies of this form will be available in the Narthex and Fellowship hall.

Mail to:

Tree of Lights
Mitchells Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 98
Mitchells, VA 22729

Given by: _____

Memory/Honor of: _____

Memory/Honor of: _____

Memory/Honor of: _____