SKIPWITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Love God
Follow Jesus
Serve Others



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Skipwith Pilot



Pastor's Message

Dear Skipwith Family,

November is a special time of year when we are reminded to pause, reflect, and give thanks for the many blessings God has placed in our lives. As we gather around tables with family and friends for Thanksgiving, we remember that gratitude is about more than a holiday or a meal. It is a way of living that recognizes God's presence and goodness in our lives, even when circumstances are difficult or life does not unfold as we had hoped.

The apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18 to "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Notice that Paul encourages us to give thanks in all circumstances—not necessarily for everything that happens, but to remember that even in the midst of life's challenges, we are never beyond the reach of God's love and grace.

As I begin to settle into my role at Skipwith, I am especially thankful for the spirit of fellowship, and the many ways you serve God and our neighbors. Whether it is through worship, prayer, caring for one another, supporting our local school, or filling our Free Little Food Pantry, I see evidence of God at work in and through this congregation. These acts of kindness may sometimes seem small, but they make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Thank you for being a church that seeks to share God's love with the community.

As November draws to a close, we will also begin another important season in the life of the Church: Advent. Beginning Sunday, November 29, we will enter this season of preparation and expectation as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. While the world around us may already be rushing toward Christmas, Advent invites us to slow down, make room in our hearts, and remember why we celebrate.

During Advent, we reflect on the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love. These are more than words we see on Christmas cards or decorations we place around our homes. They are gifts God offers us through Jesus Christ, and they are gifts we are called to share with others. In a world that often feels hurried, divided, and uncertain, the message of Advent reminds us that God has not abandoned us. Christ has come, Christ is with us, and Christ will come again.

My prayer for us this November is that we will carry hearts full of gratitude into a season filled with expectation. May we give thanks for the blessings we have received, look for opportunities to bless others, and prepare our hearts to welcome Christ anew. Let us not become so busy preparing for Christmas that we miss the opportunity to experience the wonder of Christ's coming.

I am grateful to be on this journey of faith with you. May God continue to bless Skipwith United Methodist Church and guide us as we seek to belong, grow in faith, and make a difference in the lives of others.

As always, I am blessed to be your pastor.
Pastor Jason



HARVEST TABLE

Sunday November 15th we will celebrate the fall harvest season by placing fresh fruits and vegetables along with canned items on and in front of the altar. All the items donated will go to the Lambs Basket Food Pantry and will be distributed to the clients as part of the Thanksgiving meal the pantry provides.Let's be generous in our giving as we enter this season of the year when we count our blessings and spend time celebrating with our loved ones.

Skipwith Pilot

NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 **10AM Sunday School** **11 AM Worship** 3:30 PM AA	2	3 **9 AM SOS Breakfast** 12 Noon AA 6 PM AA	4 **10:30 AM Bible Study**	5 **9 AM Lamb's Basket** 10 AM Dance **6 PM Choir**	6 12 Noon AA 6 PM NA	7 10 AM OA
8 **10AM Sunday School** **11 AM Worship** 3:30 PM AA	9	10 **10 AM Women In Faith** 12 Noon AA 6 PM AA	11 **10:30 AM Bible Study**	12 10 AM Dance **6 PM Choir**	13 12 Noon AA 6 PM NA	14 10 AM OA
15 **10AM Sunday School** **11 AM Worship** **12:15 PM Finance** 3:30 PM AA	16	17 12 Noon AA 6 PM AA	18 **10:30 AM Bible Study**	19 10 AM Dance **6 PM Choir**	20 12 Noon AA 6 PM NA	21 10 AM OA
22 **10AM Sunday School** **11 AM Worship** **12:15 PM Leadership Council** 3:30 PM AA	23	24 12 Noon AA 6 PM AA	25 **10:30 AM Bible Study**	26 **THANKSGIVING DAY**	27 12 Noon AA 6 PM NA	28 10 AM OA
29 **10AM Sunday School** **11 AM Worship** 3:30 PM AA	30					

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

The Skipwith United Women in Faith has set an ambitious plan to serve our community in 2026-27. We plan to support 11 community non-profits this year through volunteering and financial gifts. These mission projects include Safe Harbor (fighting human trafficking), Shineforth (formerly UFMS), Kroger gift cards, Skipwith Backpack program, Sylvia's Sisters (period poverty), Lamb's Basket, All God's Children Camp (summer week camp for children of incarcerated parents), Skipwith Elementary Clinic, Mercy Mall (Richmond area homeless), hygiene kits for Annual Conference, and Shalom Farms.We also become a source of support and friendships to each other through our secret prayer partners. Our vision statement is to serve our community to bring others closer to God. This is who we are, and our themes capture the very heart of UWF. Our work begins with women who lead with purpose knowing that our influence is a part of the foundation of the Skipwith community. Our purpose is the thread that connects every member and every project and reminds us of not only what we do, but who we are and who we serve. That is the power of UWF. Extraordinary things happen when dedicated women come together with a shared purpose. Skipwith UWF is a place where women are encouraged, challenged to grow, and truly belong. There is a spark, energy, and magic at our monthly meetings that happens when we come together with purpose. When we stay connected to that, we begin to see opportunities where others see obstacles as we live our faith. This year, we will build on our remarkable history and harness the collective energy of our circle. Great things are already happening!

Skipwith Pilot
Martha Worsham, Leader UWF

Finance Report

Reported figures as of September 30, 2026

Funds collected to date for FY 2026-2027: $53,938

Funds expended to date for FY 2026-2027: $32,610

Funds still required to meet current obligations:
$(21,328)
(negative is favorable)

Skipwith Pilot



Dedicate a Poinsettia to God's Glory and to beautify our sanctuary for Advent and Christmas, or simply donate the cost of a plant to our Building & Grounds Beautification in honor or memory of loved ones

Poinsettias, $13.00 each. Plants are in 6 1/2" pots, wrapped in foil.

Building and Grounds Beautification, $13.00 each unit, to be used for the church and/or grounds.

Please include the name/names of those you wish to dedicate your gift.
Also indicate if the gift is "in honor of" or "in memory of".

Be sure to include how many poinsettias you wish to order
or how many Building & Grounds unit you want to purchase.

Payment should accompany all forms. Make checks payable to Skipwith UMC
with "poinsettia" or "B&G" in the memo line.

ORDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY
DEADLINE TO ORDER IS DECEMBER 2



November 6 - Noah Nuckols
November 8 - Greg Lambert
November 9- Kristin Smith
November 9 - Curtis Miller
November 13 - Erin Graff Whitney
November 14 - Kim Burruss
November 15 - Eric Lauer
November 15 - Emily Curle Tranium
November 17 - Bill Ewing
November 22 - Beverly Eisaman
November 26 - Carol Moran Pfeffer

Helping Others

One of the ways that the United Women in Faith connect with two of our communtiy agencies is through having a representative on their guild board. Margie Houle works with Shineforth (formerly UMFS) and Monica White-Rivers works with Covenant Woods in the Memory Care unit. They attend monthly meetings for communication and support as well as give their time to numerous events. One of the major projects of Covenant Woods is to provide a Christmas stocking for the residents and staff of the Memory Care unit. Our congregation can support this effort by providing requested items to the special box outside the choir room. A full list of suggested items is with the box. Here are a few ideas:

Pens, small notepads, large print card games, 2027 small calendars, small devotionnals, pocket tissue packs, travel hand sanitizer, and costume jewelry. Thank you for making Christmas shine brighter for these residents!



Martha Worsham, Leader UWF

"Let the children come to Me; do not hinder them,for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Mark 10:14, ESV

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. The boxed are in the Narthex, please grab one or two and return them by Sunday November 15th. For questions/comments contact Sandy Parker (804-347-8538).



As in past years, we again have an opportunity through our Christmas Love Offering to show our gratitude to the very special individuals that make up our church Staff. Your monetary gifts in support of this Love Offering are greatly appreciated by our staff, and an excellent way to let them know how much we appreciate their hard work on our behalf. Checks (written to Skipwith UMC) or cash offerings should be placed in the special envelopes available in the Church office or located by the Sanctuary entrances. Envelopes may given to Tom Crane or placed in the Sunday offering plate. Your kind gift will be distributed as you indicate on the envelope. Please return your envelope by no later than Sunday, December 13. As always, your gifts are confidential. Thank you so much for your generosity.

SKIPWITH ELEMENTARY STORYBOOK TRICK OR TREATING EVENT



Thank you for all the donations of candy for Skipwith Elementary and to the folks that volunteered the day of the event. The school is so appreciative of our generous support!

Upcoming UWF Meetings

At the UWF November 10 meeting, we will learn from a guest speaker about the expanded program, Project Life, at Shineforth. This program prepares clients for independent living as they age out of the foster care system. We will also create ornaments for requested gifts for the Christmas Giving Tree for our Skipwith Elementary students, and we will write cards to our shut-in congregation members.

On December 8, we will have a holiday luncheon at Kitchen 33 at 11:30 AM. At that time, we will collect an offering for Safe Harbor. All women of the church are invited!

United Women in Faith

Martha Worsham, Leader, UWF