



Rockfish Presbyterian Church  
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Pastor: Louie V. Andrews  
[WWW.ROCKFISHPRESBYTERIAN.ORG](http://WWW.ROCKFISHPRESBYTERIAN.ORG)

# Spreading the Word

Volume 13 Issue 1

January 2012

## Welcome Dr. Louie V. Andrews

### New Elders Serve on the Session

With heartfelt appreciation to God, we welcome Dr. Louie Andrews to the pulpit to begin what we pray is the beginning of many wonderful years serving as our pastor. We look forward to having Louie lead us in worship for the first time on January 15, and we are sure that under his leadership, Rockfish Presbyterian Church will continue to be a light in the valley, welcoming all to our flock. We know that Louie and his wife, Deb, will quickly feel at home at RPC. Thanks be to God!

Dear Rockfish Congregation:

Deb and I are excited to be on the move to Nellysford, Virginia. We plan to be worshiping with you on Sunday, January 8, 2012.

Blessings for the New Year.

Your pastor, Louie Andrews

The Presbyterian Church is governed by ruling elders who compose the Session. At Rockfish the Session has 12 elders in three classes. Those who begin in January are Jane Andrews, and Al Gale. Lynne Carson and Walt Nichols, current members of the Session, were elected for a second three-year term. Sue Fulton was previously elected to fill the one year term of Carolyn Fletcher during 2012. Sue Nichols was elected to serve as one of the trustees of the congregation. We welcome these individuals and give thanks for their faithfulness and willingness to provide leadership to the congregation.



At the same time, we express deep appreciation to those who have completed their term of service: Katy Gale and Perry Hopkins. God has blessed this congregation through their leadership, wisdom, and service.

### Christmas Pageant

Please join the children of Rockfish Presbyterian as they present their Annual Christmas Pageant in honor of Three Kings' Day. King Harold will make a special guest appearance along with all the usual favorites. The play will be presented on Sunday, January 8th, in between the first and second services at about 9:45. Guest angels and sheep are welcome!



### Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 22

The annual Congregational meeting of Rockfish Presbyterian Church will follow a combined 10 AM service of worship on Sunday, 1/22/12. The purpose of this Congregational meeting is to present the 2012 budget approved by Session, hear highlights of the statistical report from the Clerk of Session, hear and act upon the slate of candidates for the 2012 Nominating Committee, and to correct the pension portion of the terms of call for Rev. Louie Andrews.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Bill Nevill	01
Sarah Armstrong	03
Katy Gale	03
Ray Koon	03
Matt Martin	03
Daisy Lawrence	04
Mary Jane Winter	05
Rich Leukroth	08
Alice Lawrence	13
Carolyn Borgman	15
Roger Elliott	17
Justin Crandall	22
Helen Eisenhart	22
Zoe Ogilvie	26
Barbara Porter	29
Marie Borgman	31
Ellen MacColl	31

## THIS PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

### A Former Pastor's Perspective

For many it is a new year, only because the calendar says so, but for you at Rockfish, this is very much a new year and marks the beginning of a new chapter. For me on January 5, I turn 65. What is next? I do not know, but I look back over these past 14 months with deep gratitude for the privilege of being part of your life. I have cherished your friendship, your gifts for ministry, your eagerness to grow in faith and service, and especially your great heart which embraced me as your temporary pastor.

Thank you for Sunday, December 11, for your kind words of appreciation, the stunning hand-knitted stole, the lovely reception, your Christmas cards, notes, and many other personal expressions. I treasure them all!

I also give thanks for the unfolding joy of serving again as a pastor after a gap of nearly 30 years. Following seminary, I became the first woman ordained by Norfolk Presbytery as the pastor of a congregation. Both the church and I thrived. Then I returned to Union Seminary and served on the administrative staff until my position was suddenly eliminated in 2008. I looked to a new ministry with Interim Pastor training, and after many months, came God's call to Rockfish. I promised to serve you, God's people, "with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love." Thank you for your confidence in me, for your patience and kindness, and for all that we have shared during this year together.

You were not content to simply "mark time" while the Pastor Nominating Committee pursued its required process. By God's grace you have become a stronger church, deepening your mission in the community and beyond, embracing new people, welcoming all with Christ's great love, dealing with each other with grace and graciousness, and caring for one another in times of need. You have vision and energy, a love for music and worship that centers your life, a passion for outreach and service, and a deep commitment to your children and youth.

While no longer your pastor, I'm glad to be among the "friends of the congregation." I hold you in my heart. I rejoice in your call to Louie Andrews and in all that lies ahead. I rejoice in your faith and friendship, and most of all, I rejoice in the God whose hand is upon our lives and who leads us into this new year and into all the years to come.

Mary Jane Winter



**STW NEWSLETTER :**  
**JAMIE HEARD**

**WEBSITE:**

The deadline for the **February** newsletter will be **Monday, January 23.**

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## What Community Service Feels Like to our Families

The Gentry family lit the advent candle for the Christmas Eve Children's Service. This edition of Spreading the Word also shows them busy at work at the Nelson County Pantry for the dispersing of Christmas food bags, just as they were in November for the Thanksgiving distribution. I asked what it was like for them to work at the Pantry. Middle schooler's, Sabina and Matt spoke first:

Sabina:

It's really cool to help people and to see their faces light up when we are helping. I think it was hard work, but it was fun, too. I liked to see the little kids when they saw "Santa" handing out toys and letting the children sit on his lap. The reason I enjoyed it was that we were helping people and also having a chance to meet them, too. Being kind felt good.

Matt,

I thought in my mind, this is going to be hard work, and I was right! The people I helped were happy and cheerful. I saw so many familiar faces in line and also helping. The children were all trying to grab a toy and sit on Santa's lap before they left. I enjoyed helping the community. It makes you feel great because you **are** helping your community. It helps you build trust, faith, and confidence in your community.

Anne,

I think it has been a wonderful project at the church for the children to create those "children's food bags" and then go and help give them away. I liked helping at the Nelson Pantry because it is so well organized in distributing the food and people seem to appreciate the help so much. It is nice to carry the bags of food to the car and have a little conversation with someone along the way. It was a special part of Christmas for me this year.

Richard,

All four of us had a very fulfilling experience and will be going back again soon.

### Bountiful Gifts for Needy Nelson County Children and Adults

Once again during the holiday season RPC members gave generously from the heart to meet the needs of needy children and mentally disabled adults in Nelson County.

Seventy-nine children, ranging in age from one year to 18 years old, were provided with appropriate gifts (at least one clothing item and one toy) from specified wish lists, valued at \$50 per child, for an overall total from the church community of over \$3,950.

There were fifteen children provided through the Headstart program, operated in Nelson County by Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA). The guidance counselor at Tye River Elementary in Arrington provided the names of 25 children. The guidance counselor at Rockfish River Elementary in Afton provided the names of 30 children. Nine other children were referred directly to the church. No child was turned down; all needs were met. The Care Bear program in past years has served approximately 50-55 children, so this year had an increase of 24 more children than usual.

I would like to give you a sense of what was on some of the wish lists. One mother asked simply for "a good Christmas for her children," stating that she has been unable to work because of a car accident. Warm quilts or blankets were on the lists for five children in one family, as well as food. Little girls asked for pretty dresses, hair bows and Barbie dolls. Little boys asked for sweatshirts with name/logo of a favorite sports team and balls of various sports. Family board games and books also made some lists.

Thanks to the following people who helped with the Care Bear program: Diana Garland, Jamie Heard, Lynne Carson, Betty Wrenn, Sally Wright, Kelley Alexander, Dorothy Stuart, Ann Iverson, and Nan Varnadoe.

In addition, the 42 mentally disabled adults who attend the Horizon House day program, operated by Region Ten Community Services Board in Lovings-ton, were remembered by church members. The set guideline was to provide a \$20 donation for each client so that Horizon House staff could shop for them. Church members exceeded this expectation by contributing a total of \$950, or \$22.62 per person.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to these two heart-warming programs which bring such joy to the givers as well as the receivers!

*Jane Francis, Care Bear Chair*



## Senior Luncheons

I am happy to inform everyone that we will continue to provide lunch, on the fourth Thursdays of the month, to our Nelson County Senior Citizens. The first luncheon will be January 26, which will be planned by Jeanne and Dave Lawson. Our sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the church narthex.

I do want to call your attention to the beautiful thank you card the Senior Group sent our church. Please take the time to see how appreciative they are to you for making this a reality. **WITHOUT YOU, THERE WOULD BE NO LUNCHEONS!!**

*Submitted by Pat Frink*

## Good and Faithful Servants

The last Saturday before Christmas Eve found the Nelson County Pantry a very festive place with Santa and many elves happily distributing turkeys and hams and all the trimmings needed for a happy holiday. Eleven Rockfish Presbyterian Elves distributed food: Jill Averitt and her children, Savannah and Quinn, along with their cousins Maddy and Sophie, put Beanie Babies donated by Liz Leukroth into each children's bag RPC Sunday School students had prepared; Anne Gentry handed out organic eggs while her husband Richard and children Matthew and Sabina carried large frozen turkeys and canned hams out to the cars. Leslie Buchanan and Nancy Johnson also carried family bags to cars and stayed late to put things in order after the Pantry closed. (See more pictures on Page 5.)



It was a fitting culmination to months of hard work by RPC families to make certain children's bags would be ready early for Thanksgiving and Christmas, work that included raising enough money to buy the wholesome food needed by county children. A full month was spent creating Christmas ornaments, origami doves, and cards and baking Christmas cookies to sell at the bazaar, along with paintings by Zoe Ogilvie and Alice Murphy who donated every penny of her profit to the Children's Food Pantry for the third consecutive year. \$1300.00 dollars was raised the first Sunday. But on December 3rd the youngsters continued selling their remaining cards and crafts. Sophie and Ethan Ogilvie "manned" the tables during that event. The results sent by e:mail to the families that read:

"Last Sunday's total was \$330.00 which, combined with some paid IOUs and the auctioned paintings brings us up to \$1,904.00, only \$96.00 short of Quinn's goal of \$2,000.00! How's that for Kids leading our goal setting! When Quinn first announced the goal of \$2,000.00 the morning of the first Sunday some of us smiled and looked at each other knowingly. We told him he might want to be more realistic, etc., that times had changed, etc., banks were going bankrupt, the stock market was unstable, perhaps he might be too high, etc., all the et ceteras that adults imprison themselves within, but he

just looked at us quizzically and became very still. He could not wrap his mind around the fear and limitation, so he held the goal silently to appease his elders, and the money poured in from the great law of generosity that sits at our hearth and hearts and moves through our congregation warming the wooden pews Sunday after Sunday."

Jill Averitt responded the next day saying that Richard had printed out that email during the night and posted it on their refrigerator with a note that read:

"I am humbled by your fearless ambition, Quinn! Nice work and thanks for reminding me to be **BOLD!**" He admitted to Jill that he was one of the adults trying to talk Quinn into setting a lesser goal. I was another. We wanted to spare him and the other youngsters imagined disappointment.

But you, Dear Readers, had a plan of your own, and your great generosity was as fearless as Quinn's. And that has made all the difference. Thank you for being **BOLD! NOW WE CAN ALL STEP BOLDLY FORWARD TOGETHER INTO 2012 FULFILLING THE COMMANDMENT TO "FEED MY SHEEP!"** Well done, Thou Good and Faithful Servants.

*Submitted by Olivia Ellis*

## An invitation to Join our Greeting Team

Have you noticed your friends greeting people as they come into church on Sundays? The Hospitality Mission Team implemented our greeter service during the last few months as a method of welcoming people to our church and answering any questions they may have.



Would you like to volunteer as a greeter? Here are the requirements:

- Arrive 20 minutes prior to the service;
- Wear a smile; and
- Give everyone a warm welcome.

We have two options for signing up. One is to use our new system on the website: [SignUpGenius.com](http://SignUpGenius.com). Click on the tab labeled "Find a Sign Up" and enter [gbeddow@verizon.net](mailto:gbeddow@verizon.net) in the space requesting the creator's email address. Click on "Rockfish Presbyterian Church" and you'll be taken to our signup page. Just follow the simple instructions and scroll down the page to choose an available date(s). That's it!

If you're not comfortable or able to sign up on line, just send Gloria Beddow an email at [gbeddow@verizon.net](mailto:gbeddow@verizon.net) or call her at 434 361-1326 and she'll help sign you up.

The Hospitality Mission Team has received so much positive feedback, from both visitors and members, indicating how much they appreciate being welcomed. We hope many of you will enjoy an opportunity to help "Spread the light in the valley".

Please note that you do not need to be a member to participate!

*Submitted by Gloria Beddows*

## Wood Ministry

Things are heating up in the wood ministry. In addition to keeping our regular clients warm, we've received a number of requests for deliveries from social service agencies. We've also been blessed with a number of donations of cut and uncut wood from folks who have heard about our ministry. Fortunately, we've had several members join with us and their contributions have been invaluable.



To keep up with the workload we're often meeting several times a week, so there are multiple opportunities to join with us if you have the time and need a good workout. We could especially use the services of another full-size pickup for collections and deliveries. Call Sam Alexander at 361-1608 or e-mail [sjalex505@yahoo.com](mailto:sjalex505@yahoo.com) if you'd like to help.

## Children's Food Pantry



## Session Highlights

At their stated meeting on December 13, 2011, the Session.

- Heard a very positive report from the Stewardship Committee regarding increased pledges and new pledges.
- Received and adopted the 2012 budget, noting increased giving had allowed for increases in the areas of Christian education and mission.
- Approved the new Form of Government (nFOG) changes recommended by RPC nFOG Task Force, which will be presented to the Congregation for their approval at the 1/22/12 Congregational meeting.
- Sustained the examination of Elders-elect: Jane Andrews and Al Gale (class of 2014) and Sue Fulton (class of 2012).
- Approved the recommendations for the placement of the speakers for the new organ.
- Approved the Worship Ministry Team's recommendations for pulpit supply and combined services: 12/25/11- Roger Elliott and 1/1/12- Rev. Gay Lee Einstein, as well as the 2012 Communion dates.
- Approved the Nominating Committee recommendations for the leadership of the Ministry Teams and received the slate for the 2012 Nominating Committee to be elected by the congregation at the 1/22/12 annual meeting.

*Submitted by Nancy Nevill*

**The Church Office Gets a Face Lift**  
**A BIG thank you to the many hands that contributed**  
**their time and energy to spruce up the offices!**



# January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service <b>Five Cents a Meal Offering</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible	<b>4</b> 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	<b>5</b> Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Second Worship Service	<b>9</b> 7:00 p.m. Mission Mtg	<b>10</b> 7:00 p.m. Worship Meeting	<b>11</b> 10:30 Knitting and Nurture 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	<b>12</b> Noon—Men's group lunch 3:00 p.m. Stewardship Meeting 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Food Packing for the Pantry 11:00 a.m. Second Worship Service	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	<b>19</b> Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00 a.m. Food Distribution at the Pantry
<b>22</b> 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service Emergency Relief Offering	<b>23</b> Spreading The Word Articles Due	<b>24</b> 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting	<b>25</b> 10:30 Knitting and Nurture 4:30 p.m. Adult Choir	<b>26</b> Noon—Men's group lunch 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir to Grades 4 6:30 p.m. Children's Choir Grades 5-6 7:30 p.m. Early Service Musicians	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Second Worship Service	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				