



<i>Gayle Arehart</i>	<i>January 3</i>
<i>Mary Brown</i>	<i>January 4</i>
<i>Tawnya Riley</i>	<i>January 4</i>
<i>Helen Cash</i>	<i>January 6</i>
<i>Tim Holcomb</i>	<i>January 6</i>
<i>Sonya Harmon</i>	<i>January 7</i>
<i>Thomas Madison</i>	<i>January 15</i>
<i>Sonya Harris</i>	<i>January 17</i>
<i>Aubri Harris</i>	<i>January 18</i>
<i>Ashleigh Horst</i>	<i>January 23</i>
<i>Linda Lipscomb</i>	<i>January 23</i>
<i>Nancy Holcomb</i>	<i>January 31</i>

**Be THE CHURCH**  
everyone. everywhere. everyday.



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# JANUARY 2026

# inTouch

NEWSLETTER OF WHITE HILL CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

## CHURCHevents

JANUARY 1, 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

\*TUESDAY, JAN 6; Ladies Fellowship  
@ Noon

\*SUNDAY, JAN 18; CHURCH BOARD  
RETREAT (after Worship Service) @  
DAPS

\*SATURDAY, JAN 24; MEN'S PRAYER  
BREAKFAST @ 7:30am

KINGDOM KIDS & YOUTH  
MINISTRIES meet every Wednesday  
from 6-7:30pm

WORSHIP, STUDY & PRAYER - every  
Wednesday from 6-7:30pm

## JUST Athought

From Pastor John Piper:

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Cor 5:17*

“Christianity means change is possible. Deep, fundamental change. It is possible to become tenderhearted when you had been callous and insensitive. It is possible to stop being dominated by bitterness and anger. It is possible to become a loving person, no matter what your background has been.

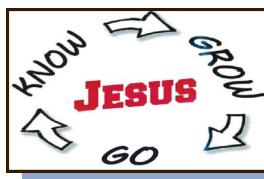
The Bible assumes that God is the decisive factor in making us what we should be. With wonderful bluntness, the Bible says,

*“Put away . . . all malice” and be  
“tenderhearted” Ephesians 4:31-32*

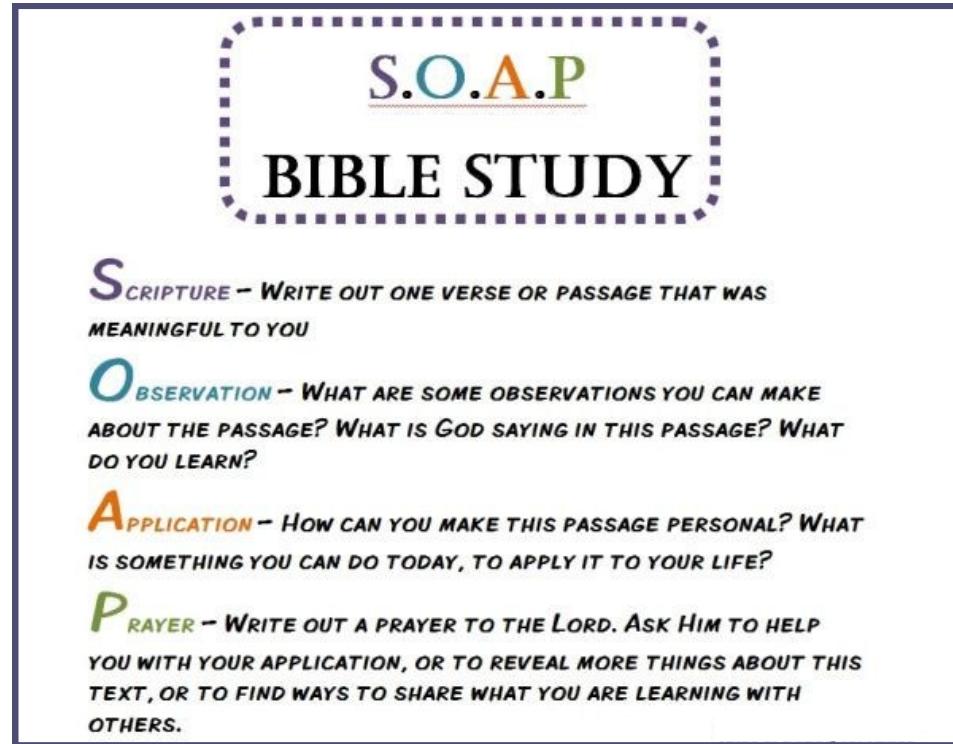
It does not say, “If you can . . .”, “If your parents were tenderhearted . . .”, or “If you have not been terribly abused . . .”. It says, “Be . . . tenderhearted.”

This is wonderfully freeing. It frees us from the terrible fatalism that says change is impossible for me. It frees me from mechanistic views that make my background my destiny.

(continued on next page)



## READINGplan



**S**CRIPTURE - WRITE OUT ONE VERSE OR PASSAGE THAT WAS MEANINGFUL TO YOU

**O**BSERVATION - WHAT ARE SOME OBSERVATIONS YOU CAN MAKE ABOUT THE PASSAGE? WHAT IS GOD SAYING IN THIS PASSAGE? WHAT DO YOU LEARN?

**A**PPPLICATION - HOW CAN YOU MAKE THIS PASSAGE PERSONAL? WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO TODAY, TO APPLY IT TO YOUR LIFE?

**P**RAYER - WRITE OUT A PRAYER TO THE LORD. ASK HIM TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR APPLICATION, OR TO REVEAL MORE THINGS ABOUT THIS TEXT, OR TO FIND WAYS TO SHARE WHAT YOU ARE LEARNING WITH OTHERS.

### January

- 1 - Gen. 1-2; Luke 1
- 2 - Gen. 3-5; Luke 2
- 3 - Gen. 6-8; Luke 3
- 4 - Gen. 9-11; Luke 4
- 5 - Gen. 12-14; Luke 5
- 6 - Gen. 15-17; Luke 6
- 7 - Gen. 18-19; Ps. 3; Luke 7
- 8 - Gen. 20-22; Luke 8
- 9 - Gen. 23-24; Luke 9
- 10 - Gen. 25-26; Ps. 6; Luke 10
- 11 - Gen. 27-28; Ps. 4; Luke 11
- 12 - Gen. 29-30; Luke 12
- 13 - Gen. 31-33; Luke 13
- 14 - Gen. 34-36; Luke 14
- 15 - Gen. 37-38; Ps. 7; Luke 15
- 16 - Gen. 39-41; Luke 16

- 17 - Gen. 42-43; Ps. 5; Luke 17
- 18 - Gen. 44-46; Luke 18
- 19 - Gen. 47-48; Ps. 10; Luke 19
- 20 - Gen. 49-50; Ps. 8; Luke 20
- 21 - Ex. 1-2; Ps. 88; Luke 21
- 22 - Ex. 3-5; Luke 22
- 23 - Ex. 6-8; Luke 23
- 24 - Ex. 9-11; Luke 24
- 25 - Ex. 12-13; Ps. 21; Acts 1
- 26 - Ex. 14-16; Acts 2
- 27 - Ex. 17-20; Acts 3
- 28 - Ex. 21-22; Ps. 12; Acts 4
- 29 - Ex. 23-24; Ps. 14; Acts 5
- 30 - Ex. 25-27; Acts 6
- 31 - Ex. 28-29; Acts 7

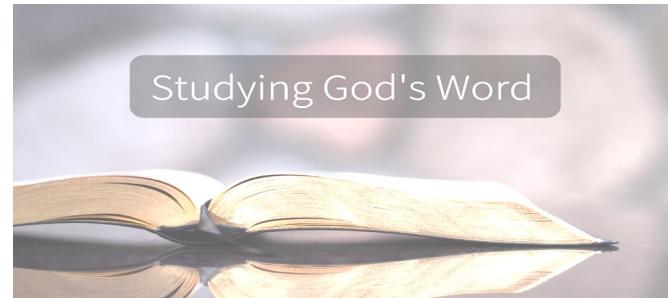
## SUNDAY MORNING studies 9:00am



**FOUNDATIONS**  
Location: Prayer Room  
Teacher: Dave Chappell



**YOUNG ADULT CLASS**  
Location: Balcony  
Teachers: Dirk & Cyndi Smiley



**STUDYING GOD'S WORD**  
Location: Family Life Center  
Teacher: Lane Thomas

JOIN US EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT!

6-7:30PM

KINGDOM KIDS! YOUTH MINISTRIES!

# WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

And WORSHIP, STUDY & PRAYER!!

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU HERE!!!

## FOR THE RECORD December 2025

OFFERING	\$ 39,955.02
BUILDING/PRINCIPAL	\$ 640.00
USE OF FAMILY LIFE CENTER	\$ 100.00
FRYS	\$ 200.00
PASTOR WANZALA	\$ 600.00
TRAINING2SEND	\$ 350.00
REPRIEVE	\$ 10,800.00
HEBRONS	\$ 200.00
24.14 WORLD	\$ 100.00
ROBIN'S NEST	\$ 200.00
ABIGAIL & FRANK ZHAO	\$ 318.00

**Mortgage Loan Balance as of 12/31/2025**  
**\$274,898.53**

## JUST A thought

*continued*

And God's commands always come with freeing, life-changing truth to believe. For example:

***“Call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven” Matthew 23:9***

God adopted us as his children. We have a new Father and family. This breaks the fatalistic forces of our “family-of-origin.”

***“Be imitators of God, as loved children.” Ephesians 5:1***

We are loved children. Love!” is the command and being loved by God is the power.

***“Be tenderhearted and forgiving just as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32***

God has forgiven us and what God did in Christ is powerful and makes change possible. Being tenderhearted has more to do with what God has done for you than what others did to you. This kind of command means you can change.

***“Walk in love, as Christ loved [you]”. Ephesians 5:2***

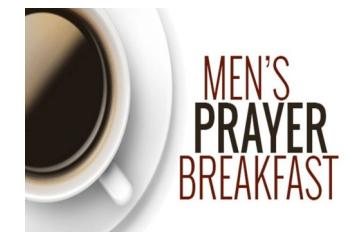
Christ loved you and gave himself up for you. The command comes with life-changing truth. His command to love is just as surely possible for me as his promise of love is true for me.

Don't be a fatalist. Be a Christian. Change is possible. God is alive. Christ is risen. The promises are true.”

## IN this LIFE



TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 6 @  
NOON



SATURDAY, JANUARY 24  
@ 7:30 AM

# CHURCH BOARD MEETING minutes

December 1, 2025

**PRESENT:** Sharon Moore, Jennifer Slack, Sandra Miller, Carolyn Grant, Rusty Riley, Tawnya Riley, Ken Slack, David Chappell, Butch Gaddy, Jim Chappell, Hannah Smith

**Absent:** George Kennedy, Danny Grant, Cassidy Stutes, David Thompson, Mitch Moore, Jimmy Madison, Virginia Hebron

**Guests:** Dirk Smiley, Lane Thomas

Meeting called to order 6:05p

Tawnya Riley opened with prayer

**Board Minutes** - Motion made to approve as presented:

Board Meeting 10/6/25

Congregational Business Meeting 11/9/25

motion seconded; vote taken, motion carried

**Financial Reports:** presented as information – through 11/30/25

**Sharing & Prayer:**

Affordable Christmas Market through Love Inc update & other Love Inc events slatted in December

Combined service with area churches scheduled for 12/14/25

Christmas Eve Service, 12/24/25 @ 7p

**Ministry Teams Reports:**

Fellowship – Jen Slack reporting:

Christmas Dinner immediately after service on 12/14/25

Finance – Sharon Moore reporting:

Discussion on refinancing of building loan needed by April 2026

Current rate 3.1%

Original payoff target was 20 years

Possible competitive bids

Outreach – Rusty Riley reporting:

Fundraiser at DAPs for Robin's Nest slated for 12/5/25

Congregational collection over next few Sundays for Robin's Nest

Spiritual Formation – no report

Stewards – no report

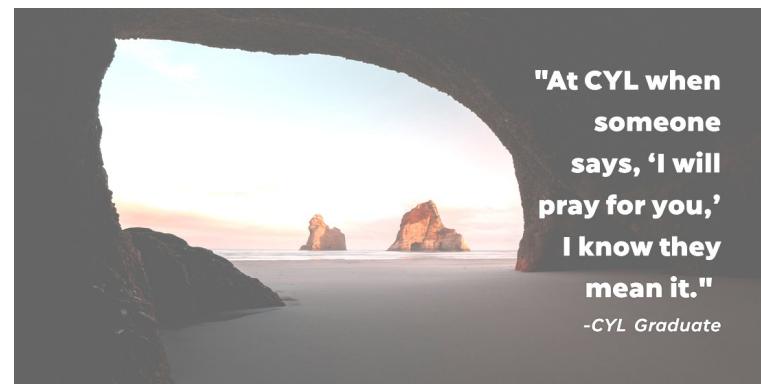
Worship – no report

**2026 Slate of Board & Ministry Team Members / Nominees** – Tawnya Riley reporting:

Slate presented & amended

Motion made to accepted amended slated, motion seconded, motion carried

Our recent graduation was a joyful celebration of how far each Neighbor has come. It was a moment to honor not only the accomplishments achieved, but also the resilience and determination it took to get there. We are incredibly proud of every graduate and grateful to the mentors, volunteers, and supporters who walked alongside them throughout the year. As we reflect on this season, we give thanks for the lives impacted and look forward with hope to the continued growth and transformation that lies ahead.



As we close out the year, we invite you to prayerfully consider a monthly or end-of-year gift to help sustain and grow this life-changing work. Your generosity and faithful partnership make it possible for us to continue serving individuals and families in our community with hope, dignity, and Christ-centered support. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and financial investment, and we ask that you continue to walk alongside us as we look ahead to the year to come.



# MINISTRY Update



Staunton  
Waynesboro  
Augusta

## Recent Events

Over the past year, our *Change Your Life* classes have been a powerful journey of growth, perseverance, and transformation. Participants committed to showing up week after week, doing the hard work of learning new skills, setting goals, and building healthy habits. Through meaningful discussions, implementation of practical tools, and supportive relationships, we witnessed individuals gain confidence, discover their strengths, and take courageous steps toward lasting change.



## CHURCH BOARD MEETING minutes continued

### Denominational Transition Update:

Legal Assistance – representatives from White Hill met with local attorney on deed & title for District Office requirements

#### Next Steps:

Group needed to work on polity revamp

Once we leave the Brethren denomination, White Hill will become “unincorporated”

Polity update needed, dropping “of the Brethren” in our name in order to obtain new “Incorporated” status

Meeting in February 2026 with congregation to discuss affiliation or Independent

Step # 7 “Blessing Forward” service planned for a Sunday in January 2026

### Topics from visitors:

Lane Thomas – Building Fund Loan

More info to congregation on status of loan

\*February 2026 Congregational Business Meeting will be a good opportunity

Refinancing due in April 2026 – will be at a higher interest rate

Possible Fund Drive?

\*Ideas on extra giving toward Building Fund by congregation

Dirk Smiley – *CommUNITY Communion Gathering*

Date: September 26, 2026 @ Expo in Fishersville, VA

Vision given to Dirk for churches throughout Augusta County, Waynesboro & Staunton to gather for a day of communion

### Chair notes / information items:

Board retreat scheduled for Sun, January 18, 2026, immediately after worship service @ DAPs

Sun, January 25 rain date

Congregational Business Meeting – Sun, 2/8/26

Direction of Ministry Teams/Structure of Church Board

Sandra Miller closed with prayer

Meeting adjourned 7:29p

Respectfully submitted

Tawnya Riley /Asst Church Clerk

# CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING *minutes*

DECEMBER 7, 2025

## Purpose of meeting:

Approval of 2026 Slate of Church Officers

Ken Slack called the meeting to order at 12:05p with prayer (served as Moderator)

## Approval of tellers:

Tim Holcomb, Rusty Riley

Motion made to approve 2026 Slate of Officers as presented, motion seconded, motion carried.

## Brief Update on Transition from Brethren Denomination:

Representatives from White Hill met with a local attorney for deed & title requirements

Last step, # 7 will occur in January 2026 (date tbd) – “Blessing Forward” Sunday service with District Representatives present.

Ken closed in prayer

Meeting adjourned at 12:20p

Respectfully submitted by,

Tawnya Riley

Assistant Church Clerk



## SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2026

**MODERATOR,** \_\_\_\_\_

**BOARD CHAIR,** Ken Slack

**BOARD VICE CHAIR,** David Thompson

**WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM**

**Chair,** George Kennedy

**Secretary,** Sandra Miller

**Vice Chair,** Danny Grant

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION TEAM**

**Chair,** Cassidy Stutes

**Secretary,** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice Chair,** David Thompson

**FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY TEAM**

**Chair,** Jennifer Slack

**Secretary,** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice Chair,** Hannah Smith

**OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM**

**Chair,** Rusty Riley

**Secretary,** Autumn Kennedy

**Vice Chair,** Carolyn Grant

**STEWARDS MINISTRY TEAM**

**Chair,** Mitch Moore

**Secretary,** Ralph Prater

**Vice Chair,** Sam Beard

**FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM**

**Chair,** Sharon Moore

**Secretary,** Butch Gaddy

**Vice Chair,** Virginia Hebron

**CHURCH CLERK,** \_\_\_\_\_

**ASSISTANT CHURCH CLERK,** Tawnya Riley

**GIFTS & DISCERNMENT**

**Tawnya Riley**

**Nancy Thomas**

**George Sinclair**

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

**Aron Thompson**

**Mitch Moore**

**Jimmy Madison**

**Ralph Prater**