

NOVEMBER 8, 2021 | VOL. 12

Messages from the Mountaintop

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
ABINGDON PRESBYTERY

Hospitality Goes Both Ways

Written by Rev. Ann Elyse Van Winkle

Dear Friends,

This week, I joined the congregation at Wytheville Presbyterian church for worship, and we talked about what we need to do to get ready for a party. We've got to have a location, set up decorations and put out yummy food, and get dressed in our party clothes. Finally, we've got to bring the right attitude along with us, so that we can enjoy the party.

In the same way, as Christians, we are called to prepare for the wedding feast in God's kingdom. Sure, we can RSVP "yes" and call it a day, but how much better will the party be if we pull out all the stops? Jesus has laid out a banquet for us, and it's now our job to make sure our neighbors know that they're invited. It's our job to prepare our hearts and minds, to put on the clothing of Christ, so that we can be ready and take part fully.

So friends, what are you doing to prepare? Are you clothing yourselves with compassion, mercy, and love? Are you making room at the table, so that your neighbor feels comfortable and welcome? Are you getting your heart right, so that you can enjoy the feast?

In Christ,
Ann Elyse

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And make sure to like us on
[Facebook!](#)



Wytheville has options to attend worship in person or listen on the radio. Some tune in from the parking lot!



Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- November 11–Presbytery Assembly, Wytheville
 - Assembly will start at 9:30 AM, in person and via Zoom
- November 20-CLP gathering, Walnut Grove

We Pray:

- For those with COVID, and those who continue to work on the front lines of the pandemic
- For the churches in our presbytery

It's Assembly Time!

November 11 @ Wytheville, starting at 9:30 am

Highlights of Upcoming Business:

- Worship led by Wild Goose Christian Community
- Lifting up two congregations who have received synod grants
- Welcoming a new minister into our presbytery
- Voting on the budget for 2022
- Receiving a report from the Way Forward Commission

There are many great and wonderful items on our docket, with plenty of room to celebrate the ongoing, vibrant work of Abingdon Presbytery. We look forward to our gathering, and to seeing you there!

Can't attend in person? Here's the info for Zoom:

- Meeting ID: 824 5804 7236
- Meeting Password: 504530

Let's Talk LUNCH:

Lunch will be provided by Open Door Cafe of Wytheville. This amazing restaurant strives to feed everyone in the community, no matter what they can afford. Even those who don't have any money can receive a full, hot meal.

All of the money that we collect for lunch will go straight to Open Door Cafe for their continued ministry within the community of Wytheville. So stay for lunch and fellowship, and support feeding those in need.

The recommended donation is \$8, payable by cash or check made out to Open Door.





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A Special Request

From Wild Goose Christian Community

Prayerfully Consider Supporting Wild Goose:

Dear Church Leaders of Abingdon Presbytery,

On behalf of the Administrative Commission of the Wild Goose Christian Community, we invite you to become a mission partner with this creative and vital ministry [Wild Goose](#). Each week on a Tuesday night, worshipers gather in the quiet countryside of Indian Valley, settle in rocking chairs forming a circle, and work out their own faith in Jesus our Christ. They bring their dreams and questions, reflect upon their spiritual journeys and seek to find meaning and hope in a setting and structure different from traditional “church.” Wild Goose revels in welcoming folks who wish to worship and learn and serve in a way differently structured from the traditional Sunday morning practices.

By giving to Wild Goose as a mission partner, you join in this effort to provide a safe and nurturing spiritual environment for inclusive worship with a diverse community of the faithful.

As Jesus taught, any gift is a good gift. We ask you to make your gift a regular part of your mission giving – monthly, quarterly, yearly. You can give through our [website](#) and click “GIVE NOW.” We also ask your church to pray for us often and we invite you to visit us on a Tuesday night.

We appreciate your generosity. May God bless all our ministries to be faithful “in a time such as this.”

Peace and joy,

Wild Goose Administrative Commission

Co-chair Rev. Hugh Matlack

Co-Chair Rev. Tony Palubicki