The Communicator

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 2025
Monthly Newsletter

Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others

PRESBYERIAN WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS TEA

Thursday, December 4, 1 p.m. in the Davidson River Hall –
All B-DRPC women are invited!

B-DRPC CONCERT SERIES Presents the B-DRPC Chancel Choir accompanied by a Chamber Orchestra – "A Glorious Christmas"

Sunday, December 7, 11 a.m. during the Worship Service (One Service at 11 a.m. only)

OUR NEXT MONTHLY COMMUNITY-WIDE DINNER

Tuesday, December 16, 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. (Please note time change)
Menu: Ham Bean Soup, Corn Bread, Salad, & Dessert.
All are welcome. Let's Build Community Around the Table!

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m. with dinner and fellowship to follow.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION SERVICE

Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, 7 p.m.

2025 MINISTRY TEAMS SPOTLIGHT

ADMINISTRATION/FACILITIES DIVISION **Personnel Ministry Team** Freddie Hart, Chair/Lead Elder Richard Black, Elder Frank Porter, Elder Keith Thompson, Staff **Property Ministry Team** Richard Black, Chair/Lead Elder Carlton Ward, Elder Gregg Hall, Staff **Interior Design Subcommittee** Janet Saucier, Chair	**CHURCH FAMILY DIVISION** **Membership Ministry Team** Richard Clark, Chair/Lead Elder Freddie Hart, Elder **Church Family Fellowship Ministry Team** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder **Kitchen Subcommittee** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder	**OUTREACH DIVISION** **Outreach Ministry Team** John Allemeier, Chair/Lead Elder Gary Seacat, Elder Richard Black, Elder
FINANCE DIVISION **Finance Ministry Team** Frank Porter, Chair/Lead Elder John Allemeier, Elder Frank Anderson, Elder **Generosity Ministry Team** Frank Anderson, Chair/Elder Keith Thompson, Staff	**COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION** **Publicity Ministry Team** Janice Hiner, Chair/Lead Elder Carlton Ward, Elder Tammy Nye, Staff **Information Technology Subcommittee** Frank Anderson, Chair/Elder Tammy Nye, Staff **Photographer** Frank Porter	**PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL DIVISION** **Preschool Ministry Team** Hayden Pollack, Chair/Lead Elder Frank Anderson, Elder Casey Barrow, Staff Keith Thompson, Staff
CARE GIVING DIVISION **Board of Deacons** Ann Hinze, Chair **Memorial Reception Chairs** Ann Hinze, Janet Saucier, Peggy Padgett	**SPIRITUAL LIFE DIVISION** **Worship Ministry Team** Janice Hiner, Chair/Lead Elder Gary Seacat, Elder Michael Helman, Staff Keith Thompson, Staff **Christian Education Ministry Team** Hayden Pollack, Chair/Lead Elder Frank Anderson, Elder Rick Clark, Elder **Earth Care Subcommittee** Judith West, Chair	**STANDING COMMITTES OF THE SESSION** **Committee on Ministry** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Elder **Garden of Remembrance Trustees** John Stroup, Chair **Nominating Committee** Ginny Bradford, Chair/Lead Elder Janice Hiner, Elder

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church

Glorifying God, Growing in Christ, Giving to Others

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church
249 East Main St
Brevard, NC 28712
(828) 884-2645, churchoffice@bdrpc.org
www.bdrpc.org

Monthly Scripture:

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the
shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem
and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made
known to us." 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and
Joseph and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this,
they made known what had been told them about this child,

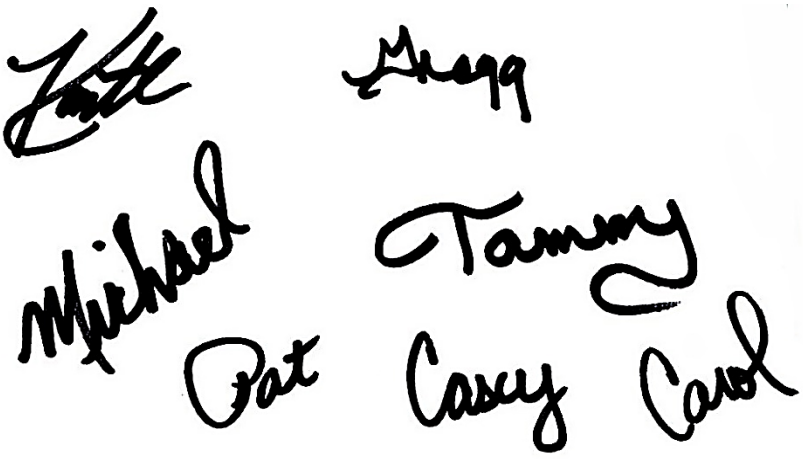
Luke 2:15-17

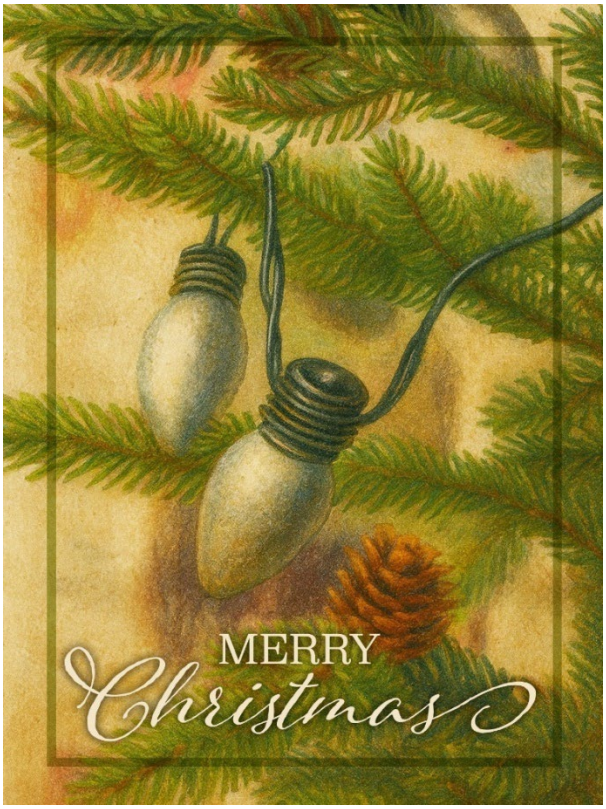
December Preaching Schedule

December 7, 2025	Chancel Choir accompanied by Chamber Orchestra Presents: "A Glorious Christmas!"	One Service at 11 a.m. *2nd Sunday of Advent*
December 14, 2025	Dr. Keith Thompson	Luke 1:26-38 *3rd Sunday of Advent*
December 21, 2025	Dr. Keith Thompson	Luke 1:39-45 *Daily Change Offering* *4th Sunday of Advent*
December 24, 2025	Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service	7 p.m.
December 28, 2025	Lessons in Carols	*1st Sunday of Christmas*

The Church Office will be Closed for Christmas, on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and December 26, 2025.

Merry Christmas!
From Your B-DRPC Staff:





Music Ministry

On Sunday, December 7, at 11 a.m., the B-DRPC Chancel Choir will present a program entitled "A Glorious Christmas." The Choir will be accompanied by a chamber orchestra. The angel's message of "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" will be in each of the pieces they will present. Music by Haydn and John Rutter as well as carol arrangements by Lloyd Larson, Douglas Wagner, and Michael Helman will be included. Please note that there will be **only one worship service on Sunday, December 7 at 11 a.m.** and the service will include the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All are invited to this special music presentation and be sure to bring a friend!

2025-2026 Concert Series

Asheville Jazz Orchestra - Sunday, February 15 at 3 PM

For almost 20 years the Asheville Jazz Orchestra (AJO) has brought the energy and excitement of live jazz to western North Carolina! From the dance-floor favorites of the Swing Era to timeless classics by legends like Count Basie and Buddy Rich, the AJO's performances are a celebration of jazz at its finest. Adding a modern twist, the band also showcases fresh, original compositions crafted by its talented members. Whether you're a jazz enthusiast or a newcomer to the genre, the AJO promises an unforgettable musical experience.

Furman University Ensembles - Sunday, April 12 at 4 p.m.

Belle Voci (Beautiful Voices) is a treble choir that seeks to share music that not only expresses the art of beautiful singing but hopes that the language of music can be a connection to help find our common humanity, and to create a supportive and nurturing community of artists and scholars. They are conducted by Dr. Stephen Gusukuma, Director of Choral Activities at Furman University.

Hartness and Gladden String Quartets are the flagship ensembles of the Furman University Department of Music's Chamber Music Program. Generously supported by the Hartness and Gladden families, these quartets are selected each fall through a competitive audition process. Members perform together throughout the academic year, receive scholarships in recognition of their commitment and artistry, and are coached by Stephan Fillare, Director of Orchestral Activities at Furman University.

To keep our concerts free for our members and the public, we are asking you to be a sponsor of the series. Sponsorship levels can be found below. Consider being a patron of the arts here at B-DRPC.

Bronze Level - $50 - $100 Silver Level - $101 - $250
Gold Level - $251 - $500 Platinum Level - $501 - $750

***An Additional Concert Opportunity** Brevard Philharmonic Strings - Sunday, March 15 at 3 p.m.* The annual chamber music concert is a cornerstone of every Brevard Philharmonic season. Past year's concertgoers have delighted in the unique intimacy this accessible musical experience provides for both audience and musicians. This year's concert, Chamber Orchestra, held at Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church, promises to be even more awe inspiring. This is a ticketed event and tickets can be purchased by going to the Philharmonic's website: brevardphilharmonic.org.

Outreach Ministry Team

B-DRPC Ringing the Bells!

Brevard-Davidson River Presbyterian Church will be ringing at Ingles at both doors Thursday, December 4, Friday, December 5 & Saturday, December 6! We will be ringing in two-hour shifts from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

If you plan on donating to The Salvation Army, please consider coming by to drop your donation in our kettles while saying hello to all our B-DRPC ringers!

Thank you for Giving!

In late October, during the federal government shutdown, an urgent request for food donations was issued by Sharing House, who had seen a huge uptick in foot traffic caused by the increase in food insecurity. In response to this request, our congregation donated over 600 pounds of food over the past four weeks! Sharing House has expressed sincere appreciation for our congregation's generosity; it's a true testament to our commitment to "Giving to Others". In addition to this outpouring of generosity, our congregation donated several Scout Troop 703 hams to Bread of Life (1), Sharing House (11), and The Haven (1). Thank you for being so generous!

Community Dinner Recipe

Chocolate Dream Dessert

Pastry:
1 cup flour
1 stick butter, softened
1 cup finely chopped pecans
Combine flour, butter, and nuts. Spread in 9x13 baking pan. Press the mixture down with a glass bottom or another smooth item. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Let it cool.

First layer:
Mix together and spread on baked pastry: 1 cup confectioners' sugar, 1 package 8-ounce cream cheese softened, 1 cup whipped topping from a large carton. Beat sugar and cream cheese together. Add and mix whipped topping with a spoon.

Second Layer:
1 package instant vanilla pudding, 1 package instant chocolate pudding, and 2 cups of milk. Whisk mixes with milk until thick. Spread on top of the first layer.

Third Layer:
Spread with remaining whipped topping from the first large carton used in the first layer. Sprinkle with a finely grated chocolate bar.

Presbyterian Women

CHRISTMAS TEA: The Presbyterian Women invite all women from our congregation to join them for their Annual Christmas Tea on Thursday, December 4, at 1 p.m. in Davidson River Hall.

All women in the church are invited and encouraged to attend WOW & our Women's Circles which meet the first Thursday of each month!!!

WOW (Women on Wednesdays)

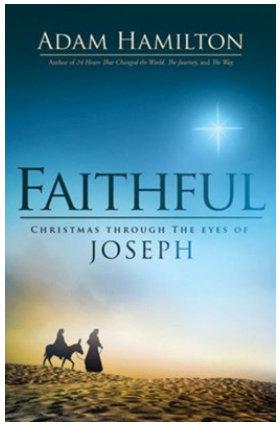
WOW will have three advent events from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m., Wednesday, December 3, members bring a Christmas memory to share. We will meet in the lounge; Wednesday, December 10, we will meet in the choir room for a Carol Sing; Wednesday, December 17, Christmas Brunch at Barb Colmery's.

Women on Wednesdays will begin a new study in the new year beginning January 7. Bob Edmunds will lead us in an 8-week study: "Trouble: Right Here In River City: The Seven Churches Of Revelation Then And Now". WOW is an ecumenical group of women, meeting Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Church Lounge. All women are invited to attend. Call Ellie Mercer 828-577-4959 for more information.

Christian Education Ministry Team

***Our Sunday School Offering**
For December goes to Bread of Life*

Faith & Life Class Advent Study



All are invited to join the Faith and Life Sunday School Class for an Advent study beginning December 7 at 9:45 a.m. in Davidson River Room, just off Davidson River Hall. In "Faithful - Christmas Through the Eyes Of Joseph," the class will follow the journey of an unknown carpenter, Joseph, who became the earthly father of Jesus. He faced a situation much like our own – encountering life circumstances he didn't choose or understand. Yet Joseph's actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's plan of salvation for humanity

Come join the group around the table for this engaging study led by Larry Sitton and based on a DVD and book by Adam Hamilton.

Christian Education Ministry Team Cont.

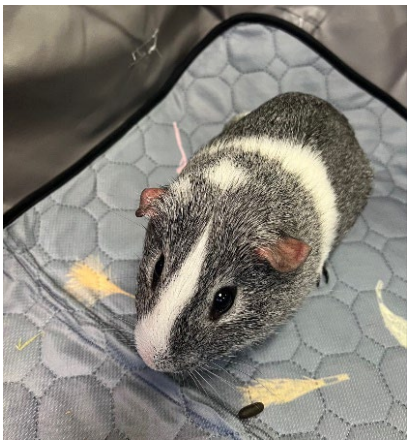
The Christian Education Ministry Team would like to recognize and thank Sara Kellar for her years of service to our church and ministry team. Sarah is taking a well-deserved retirement from CEMT after serving on the ministry team for 10 years, including several years as the Lead Elder/Chair. At our November meeting members of CE discussed and reflected on the value of Sara's contributions to Christian Education at B-DRPC over the years. Her faithfulness and dedication, and her long-time involvement in the Faith and Life class have provided wisdom, and an inspiring example for us all to follow as we go forward with our work in Christian Education. Thank you, Sara!

Sara Kellar with members of Christian Ed in 2023

Preschool Ministry Team

Thank you to all who purchased Wreaths for the Preschool Fundraiser! The wreaths will be available for pick up after church on Sun November 30, and at the preschool on December 1. The team would like to issue a special thank you to Ann Hollingsworth and Main Street Ltd for providing the beautiful bows at no cost, and to Chelsea Gray, Parent Liaison, for her leadership in coordinating the fundraiser. All proceeds from Wreath Sales will benefit the B-DRPC Preschool.

There will be a Preschool Christmas Program on December 17, at 5:30 p.m. with Dinner and Fellowship to follow.



Meet Pickles!

Pickles is a guinea pig, and is B-DRPC Preschool's official class pet. His cage has wheels so he spends time in each classroom, rotating weekly. He is a polite, charming, and beloved member of the B-DRPC Preschool family!

Christmas Joy Offering 2025

CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

For those of us who gather in Advent expectation, we know that the only perfect gift ever given was the one we received in Jesus Christ. Finding that perfect gift is hard, often laborious work. If you're like me, you seriously worry that your loved one won't like the gift, or they might find the gift to be unsatisfactory – so much worry leading up to Christmas. Yet, our congregation knows that our collective gifts through the Christmas Joy Offering celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ, the "perfect gift" from a gracious God. Indeed, there is only one perfect gift.

Think back on those people in your life who have truly developed your faith. It may be a pastor or Christian educator, a youth minister or Sunday school teacher. Devoted and caring leaders have led many of us in the way of Christ. Church workers have shaped our faith, and they have been God's gifts among us. As we celebrate Christ's coming and think of the profound impact these individuals have had on us, the Christmas Joy Offering provides a way for us to offer a gift in response, especially for those church workers who find themselves in times where they need assistance to pay bills or receive life-saving medical treatment. Our gifts through the Christmas Joy Offering support these people who give so much of themselves to Christ's church.

Even as we support our current and former church leaders and their families, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Menaul School in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, Texas; and Stillman College, a Historically Black College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, are sustained through the generosity of Presbyterians, which means a brighter future and enhanced opportunities for those students to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come. When you give to the Christmas Joy Offering, You help sustain these promises and uplift our siblings in Christ by reducing their burdens and opening new paths of opportunity.

Despite the worry and consternation of this busy season, we can never match God's perfect gift in Jesus, but through the Christmas Joy Offering, we *can* testify to who we have known God to be. Our perfect gift comes from above. Our gifts reflect our generous God. Our gifts support leaders in our Church and world – past, present, and future.

DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm	2 Bell Choir 5:15 pm	3 WOW, 9 a.m. Christian Ed, 3 pm Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	4 **Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea 1 pm**	5	6 Choir and Chamber Ensemble Rehearsal 10 am
7 Worship – 11 am Only Communion **"A Glorious Christmas"** **Chancel Choir w/ Chamber Orchestra**	8 Staff Meeting 1:15 pm Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm Finance MT, 2 pm Membership MT 3 pm	9 Earth Care Sub Comm.,11 am Bell Choir, 5:15 pm	10 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am Outreach MT 10:30 am Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	11	12	13
14 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am **Special Music with the Westminster Bells**	15 Shawl Ministry 1:30 pm	16 **Community-Wide Dinner, 5:00 pm**	17 WOW, (Women on Wednesdays), 9 am PWP Christmas Program, 5:30 pm Chancel Choir 6:30 pm	18	19	20
21 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am **Daily Change Offering**	22 Staff Meeting 1:15 pm	23	24 **Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion Service 7 p.m.**	25 	26	27
28 Worship – 8:30 am & 11 am **Lessons in Carols**	29	30	31 	**(Office Closed New Year's Day)** **MT = Ministry Team** **Bell Choir = Westminster Ringers**		

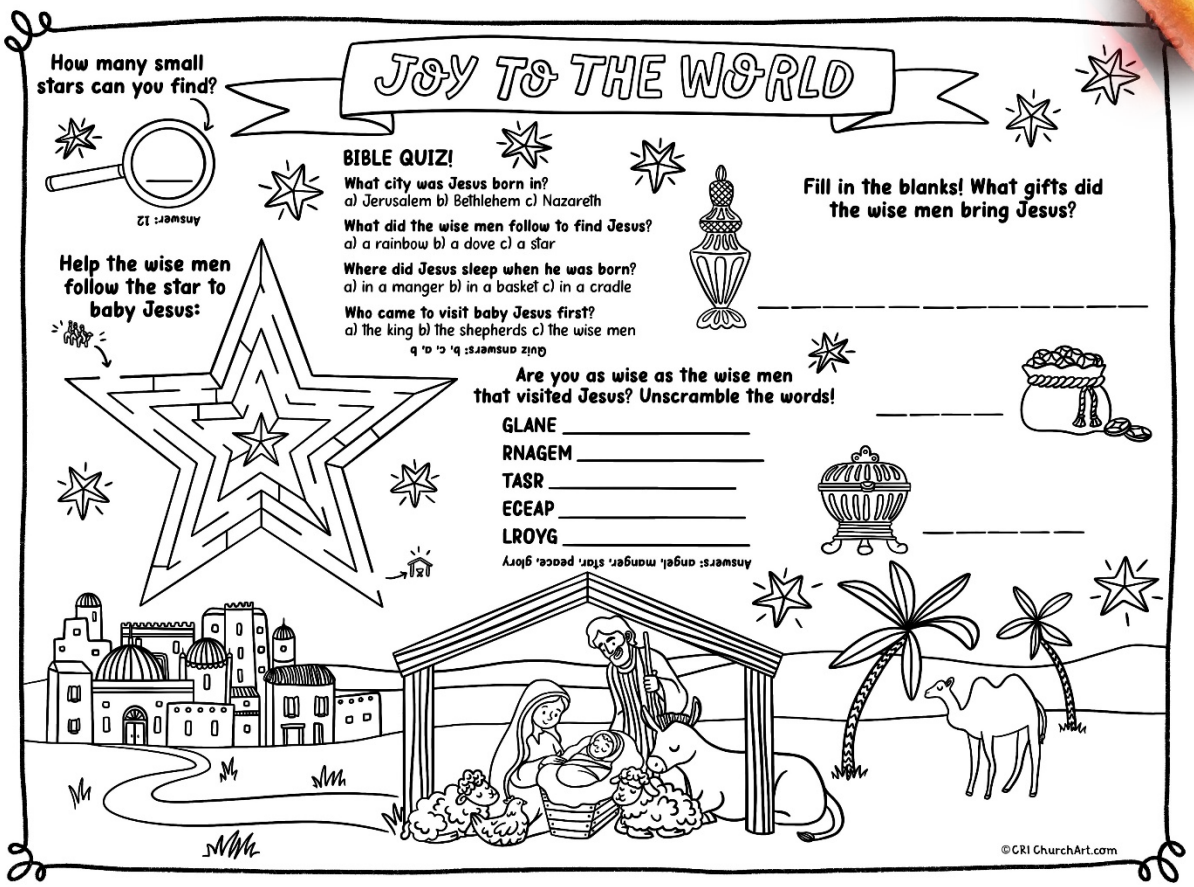
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- John & Kristine Candler – December 1st
- Don & Zoob Gentle – December 1st
- Mark & Missy Ellenberger – December 2nd
- Fred Schenberg – December 2nd
- Nita Padgett – December 4th
- Joan Munn – December 10th
- Sam & Lynn McManus – December 12th
- Jenny Pritchett – December 12th
- Beth Gillespie – December 13th
- Debbie Loeb – December 16th
- Hayden Pollack – December 17th
- Kathi Clark – December 17th
- Peggy Padgett – December 19th
- Sara Kellar – December 19th
- Noah Landreth – December 19th
- Chloe Huggins – December 20th
- Steve Lawlis – December 21st
- Phillip & Patti Jerme – December 22nd
- Karl & Joan Munn – December 22nd
- Carroll Sitton – December 22nd
- Eddie Wade – December 22nd
- Bill & Rosalie Hale – December 23rd
- Joe Smith – December 23rd
- Jim & Sue Heglar – December 24th
- Eleanora Burchill – December 25th
- Gary Nye – December 26th
- Steve Bergner – December 26th
- Nancy Tuttle – December 26th
- Woody Dyches & Kathe Harris – December 27t
- Matt & Jodi Huggins – December 27th
- George Simpson – December 27th
- Nancy Davidson – December 28th
- Mindy Buford – December 28th
- Peggy Bakos – December 28th
- Glenn Cutler – December 29th
- Eva Cavros – December 30th
- Sophia Robbins – December 30th
- Jim Heglar – December 31st

JUST FOR FUN

RIDDLE:

Who says "Oh, Oh, Oh!"?



Answer:

Santa Walking Backwards.