



Presbyterian Press



A Publication of the First Presbyterian Church

December 2020



What's Coming Up!



December 6th - 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 13th - 3rd Sunday of Advent

December 20th - 4th Sunday of Advent

December 21st - First day of Winter

December 24th - Christmas Eve

December 25th - Nativity of the Lord
Christmas Day

December 27th - 1st Sunday of Christmas

December 31st - New Year's Eve



Prayer group every
Tuesday at 10:00 AM

Sunday Worship
Church School 9:30 AM
Worship 10:45
Live on WPDX Radio, 109.4 FM or 750 AM

<http://www.facebook.com/fpcclarksburg/>
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5517202769>.
password: 3046226831

If you would like to order
poinsettias for Christmas, they are
\$9. Forms will be in the bulletins
until December 6th. Please fill out a
form and drop it in the collection or
call the office @ (304)-622-6831.



Bible Study
Wednesdays at 3:30

December Scriptures and Sermons



S E R M O N *Series*

Dec. 6 2nd Sunday in Advent (Communion)

Scriptures: * Isaiah 40:1-11
Luke 1:5-25

Sermon Title: "Elizabeth & Zachariah"

Theme: In our modern, "Just Do It," times, one of the hardest things we must do is to wait. The story of Elizabeth and Zachariah, the parents of John the Baptist, remind us of the importance of waiting for God's plan to unfold.

Dec. 13 3rd Sunday in Advent

Scriptures: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
*John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon Title: "Let the Witness Speak"

Theme: Before the coming of Christ, there was the voice of John the Baptist preparing the way. That is the way God chooses to come to us. First through a human voice. We did not come to faith on our own. Someone had to tell us about the love of Jesus. Someone had to be a witness to what they had seen of God. We too are called to be witnesses, to tell what we have seen.



Dec. 20 4th Sunday in Advent

Scriptures: 2 Samuel 7:1-11
* Luke 1:26-38

Sermon Title: "With God, Nothing Is Impossible"

Theme: Today we meet two of the most important characters in the Christmas story, Mary and Elizabeth. Mary is afraid that she is too young to be of use to God. Elizabeth is sure that she is too old to doing anything worthwhile. God uses them both in the most powerful way!



Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Service (12:30 p.m.)

Rev. John F. Koerner
Rev. Charla Waters Koerner Appearing as Mary and Joseph

Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Service (11:00 p.m.)

Rev. James A. Harris Holy Communion celebrated



Dec. 27 1st Sunday after Christmas

Scriptures: Isaiah 61:10-62:3
* Luke 2:22-40

Sermon Title: "Carry the Best with You"

Theme: As we move forward past Christmas and into a new year, let us not forget to bring the best of what we received with us. Let us not forget to take the gift of the Christ child with us into what is to come.

First Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 5:30 p.m.



- Jeff Mitchell has stepped down as coordinator of the work camp task force. A huge thank you to Jeff for his great work over the past several years. If you or someone you know is willing to take on this responsibility so that this great mission can continue, please let Pastor John know.
- With the upsurge in the Covid-19 cases, Terra is not doing the young kids Sunday afternoon program for a couple of weeks.
- In keeping with the Governor's order, everyone is wearing a mask during worship at all times.
- We will have two Christmas Eve worship services, one at 12:30 p.m. and one at 11:00 p.m. with communion served at the late one.
- Annual staff reviews were conducted. We are thankful for the great work that our staff is doing and we appreciate them very much!
- At his request, Lance's job description has been changed from 5.5 to 6 hours per week for church cleaning.
- Update on progress on fund for better video broadcasting equipment in Donna Smith's name. Bryon, Ginger, and Pastor John met with the video operator at First Fairmont and looked at their set-up. We will continue to research possibilities and costs.
- We received \$1000.00 from Meadowbrook Children's Charity toward our Hygiene Kit mission. We also received a number of donations from the congregation. The task force and the youth group put together 40 kits Sunday, November 15.
- Elected Jeep Wilson to be our commissioner to presbytery for the November 19th meeting.
- We will order poinsettias for Christmas.
- We will invite new deacons and new session members to our December 16th meeting.
- Because of the Covid-19, most places that normally would take our leftover yard sale items are not accepting anything. Amy has been given permission to take a bit more time, divide the leftover items into lots or palettes and auction them off.

Pastor's Report:

Hospital visits: 1 **Other significant Pastoral visits:** 17 almost all by phone

Wedding: 10-23-2020 Bryan Paul Bruno and Amanda Wilson Garrett

No funerals or baptisms to report

Sacrament of Communion: Was celebrated on November 1 serving 28

Home communion was not served because of the pandemic.

Pastor's Discretionary Fund 2020 -

MONTH	REQUESTS	COMPLETED	AMT PLEDGED	AMT DISBURSED
January	20	20	\$1,654.65	\$1,654.65
February	16	16	\$1,356.78	\$1,356.78
March	11	11	\$1,150.00	\$1,150.00
April	4	4	\$427.23	\$427.23
May	0	0	0	0
June	3	3	\$297.29	\$297.29
July	4	4	\$400.00	\$400.00
August	7	7	\$684.00	\$684.00
Sept	17	15	\$1,685.00	\$1,485.00
October	12	12	\$1,200.00	\$1200.00
Total				\$8654.95



Announcement:

Jeanne Harris is looking for people willing to provide special music, either vocal or instrumental. Please give Jeanne your suggestions and help.

Her number is 304-669-9191 and her email is jagapelove50@gmail.com



Pastor John's Jottings



Help us be church. During this time of Covid-19, lockdowns, and social distancing we have to learn new ways to be the church. Our ability to use Facebook live-stream for worship has been a great gift. Praise God! At the same time, it is harder for people to feel connected. We are working on that and welcome your ideas for how we can all participate more fully and still be safe and well.

We plan to have two Christmas Eve Candlelight Services this year. The first one will be at 12:30 in the afternoon and the second one will be at 11:00 at night. Communion will be celebrated at the 11:00 service. The 12:30 service is a new time for us. Last year we had a good turnout at 3:00 p.m., but the concern has been raised about people who are on shift work that were not able to make either service. So we moved that service to 12:30 p.m. We hope that maybe some of the people who are here at the church preparing for the Christmas dinner will be able to just stay for the service. We also think that those who only work half a day on Christmas Eve, might find the 12:30 service convenient.

So this is where you can help us. Charla and I are talking about doing a skit as Mary and Joseph for the 12:30 service. This is such a familiar story and we are looking for some new approaches and new ideas to bring it to life. We are asking you to prayerfully consider what you hear God saying to us in the passage from Luke 2 and then give us some feedback on the following questions. Will you help us in this way?

What about Mary and Joseph do you find inspiring and worthy of imitating?

What do you think was hardest for them? What was most exciting?

If you had been in their place, what might you have done?

The Bible tells us very little about the characters of Mary and Joseph. We know that they were faithful and devoted, but little beyond that. Was Joseph older and rather grumpy? Did Mary wear rose-colored glasses? Did they complain about their parents? Did Joseph make jokes about his mother-in-law? Did Mary tease Joseph about being too cautious and overly serious? Did Joseph dream of becoming a famous carpenter and building palaces? What did Mary dream about? Did they talk to each other about how this baby would change their lives? Can you imagine them telling each other “knock, knock jokes”?

We would like to hear from you. This is your chance to be part of the sermon. Help us write this skit, tell us what you think.

John: johnkoerner75@yahoo.com

304-534-2324

Charla: charla.w.k@gmail.com

681-753-1209

Hope and Confidence and Peace,

Jdm

The Advent wreath is a symbol of watchfulness and increasing joy as we anticipate Jesus' birth. The wreath's circular shape symbolizes eternity, or life without end. The candles remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World — he brought light and life to a dark world (see John 1:4-5). On each of the four Sundays of Advent, we light a new candle. As the light grows, so do our hope and joy



Luke 4:4-14



⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for, see- I am bringing you good news of great joy, for all people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find the child wrapped in bands of cloth, lying in a manger."

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace, among those whom he favors!"



Children's Moments

- December 6- Harris family
- December 13-Corsini family
- December 20-Morrison family
- December 27-Terra Burnett



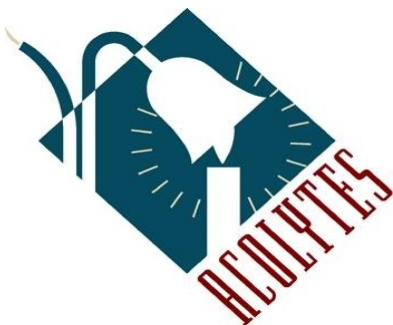
Worship Leaders

Worship Leaders

- December 6-Jenna Bennet
- December 13- Loria Cavallo
- December 20- Ginger Delawder
- December 27- Dick Ogden

Deacon Greeters

- December 6- Dottie Rinehart
- December 13- Loria Cavallo
- December 20- Andrea Myerberg
- December 24-Dottie Rinehart
- December 27- Loria Cavallo



Acolytes

- December 6 -Amelia and Kierra Harris
- December 13-Hannah Burnett & Gia Corsini
- December 20- Bradley Burnett and Anthony Corsini
- December 27-Bradley & Hannah Burnett

Jennifer Wetzel

Jack Wright

*Special Prayers
For Those in Need*



Charles Adkins
Sarah Arnold
Eddie Cox
Jeremy Cox
Debbie Cunningham
Angie Fowler
Mark Freeman
Carol Lee Griffin
Yvonne Gump
Derek Hardman
Bob & Janice Hardman
Robbie Hood
Doug Linton
Nora McLean
John Michome
Lillian Mick
Gary Mitchell
Bob & Mary Moore (aunt of Sandi Nuzum)
Robin Morris
Nickolas Nardone
Kenneth Oldaker
Wilma Oldaker
Susan Orr (Carole's Sister)
Amy Pack
Donna Pitzer
Jo Plybon
Joey Rogers
Susie Saunders
Everett Schiffra
Melanie Simmons
Bonnie Smith
Chuck Smith
Donna Swann
John Wamsley

Kathy Langley	December 2
Lynn Sherlock	December 2
Bill Davisson	December 3
Eric Leuliette	December 4
Rev. Bruce Macbeth	December 4
Edna Merriott	December 9
Robert Hardman	December 12
Susie Saunders	December 12
David Nuzum	December 13
Steve Goff	December 22
Noelle Woodburn	December 25
Daniel Johnson	December 27
Lewis Clark	December 29
Kandy Atkinson	December 31
Jared Nuzum	December 31

We have openings for flowers in the
reredos for
December Call
the office:
304-622-6831.



OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Phone: 304-622-6831
Fax:304-622-6831
www.clarksburfpc.org



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

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Parish Associates

Rev. Charla Waters Koerner
Rev. James A. Harris

Session

Jenna Bennett, Clerk
Ginger Delawder, Asst.Clerk

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angeleyes1177@hotmail.com

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Jeanne Harris
Phone: 304-669-9191
Jagapelove50@gmail.com

Organist

Dr. Mary Kay Devono

Church Treasurers

Wayne Northy Jenna Bennett
Chuck Leuliette Dave Allman

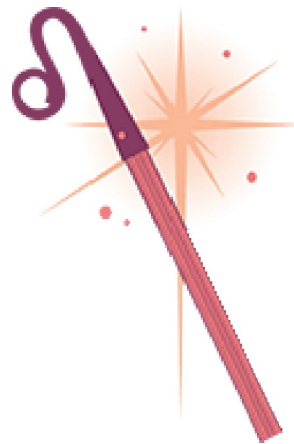


Nursery Attendant

Ashleigh Burnett

Church Secretary

Cathy Libert
CburgFPCSecretary@yahoo.com



The simple
shepherds
heard the voice of an angel
and found their Lamb;
the wise men
saw the light of a star
and found their wisdom.

—Fulton J. Sheen



The staff of First Presbyterian Church would like to wish everyone a blessed and healthy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!!