

Rock "905"

The monthly newsletter of
Rock Lake Presbyterian Church
905 Village Drive, South Charleston, WV 25309



"...on this rock I will build my church..."

Matthew 16:18

December 2022



WORSHIP

As we journey from Thanksgiving to 2023 . . .

Patricia began a class on November 27 following worship, and another is planned for December 4. Coffee cake, coffee, and juice will be available. The birth stories of Jesus as reported in the gospels will be studied together. You will learn new things that you thought you already knew and be surprised at

things you hadn't noticed before! What better way to begin the Holy season of Advent than by delving into the Word.

By now you should have picked up your Advent Kit for the year, have your candles arranged on a little dish and experienced the devotionals for the week. As we journey toward that glorious day of the birth of our Savior, we hope that these have helped you come closer to the true meaning of Christmas. Gratitude is a wonderful thing and so often we lose sight of what we already have.



This is a new Chrismon placed on this year's tree to go with the theme of "It's a Wonderful Life". The Advent kits were distributed this year and they are filled with lots of ways for us to celebrate Advent as we travel toward Christmas. We will be placing bells on the clothesline in the sanctuary through this season with those things for which we are grateful. Join us in worship and participate in this journey. A Time of Gratitude.

The sanctuary is decorated with the vision of Christmas. Thanks to all those who helped make it so. The schedule of worship leaders for

December are:

December 4 – The Reverend Ravi Isaiah

December 11 – The Reverend Ravi Isaiah

December 18 – Cantata and collection of the Joy Offering

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service – The Reverend Dr. Patricia Jarvis

December 25 – Virtual Worship service – The Reverend Dr. Patricia Jarvis – It is hoped that you and your family will join us sometime during that day to worship the Lord.

January 1 - The Rev. Dr. Patricia Jarvis

Remember if you cannot attend in-person worship there are several ways to link to the Rock Lake Presbyterian Church online service:

From your computer or smartphone, simply click the following link during or after the broadcast:

<http://rebrand.ly/n2uc6x2>

The link above is also posted on our Facebook page. You can reach the Facebook page with this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Rock-Lake-Presbyterian-Church-195172942357/>

If you have a smart TV, you may open the YouTube app, and subscribe to Rock Lake Presbyterian Church.

WISHING A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and A VERY PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

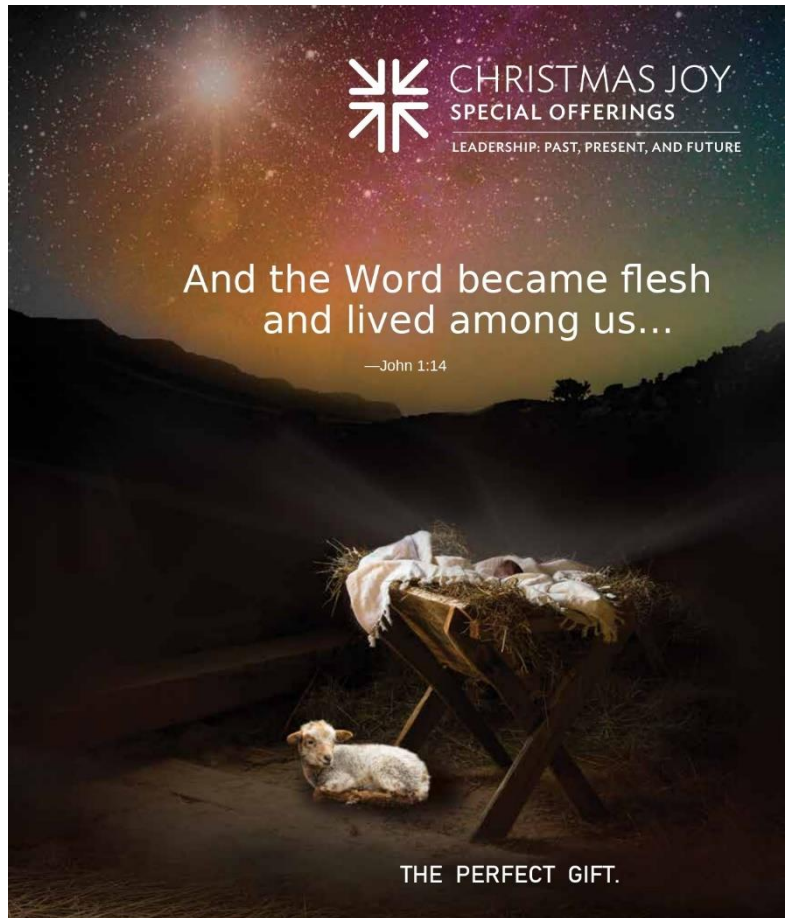


Perfect Gift December 4 - December 18, 2022

By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.

We will celebrate the 2022 Christmas Joy Offering December 4 through December 18. When you contribute to this offering, you may use the Christmas Joy Offering envelopes in the pews or on the collection plate tables. If you use a general giving blue envelope, please write 'Christmas Joy' on the envelope. Thank you for your generosity!





December 18, 10:00 am

What do **Mary, Joseph, the Innkeeper, the Birth, and the Star** have to tell us about Christmas?

Find out as the Rock Lake Choir shares these messages in a musical presentation during worship on December 18. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your Advent preparation.



First Presbyterian Church, 16 Leon Sullivan Way, in Charleston has held Hope Village for over a decade. This is not a fund-raising venture for the Church, rather we seek out vendors who are lifting their artisans out of poverty, marginalization, and sex trafficking. We obtain beautiful, hand-crafted items on consignment, sell them and return the proceeds to the vendors. The vendors we use pay a living wage to the artisans, and support programs to educate and train others to engage in work that empowers them.

Hope Village is here! This favorite event is held in the Activities Building. Please spread the word!

Dec. 1, 2, 3 – 10am to 3pm

Dec. 4 after worship – 3pm





Food Offering Sunday is Back!

Don't forget that each Communion Sunday is 'Food Offering' Sunday. A good reminder: on Sundays that we share the Lord's Supper, we also remember to share food with people who are less fortunate. You may leave your offering in the red wagon in the Narthex. All the collected food will go to Heart & Hand.



Bridgeview Food Ministry

The Bridgeview Food Ministry is temporarily on hold until around the first Sunday in January (due to holidays). We will keep you updated in the bulletin and newsletter.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers



Our deepest sympathy to the family of James S. "Jim" Canterbury, 69, who passed away Wednesday, September 28, 2022 from a sudden illness. He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Ruth; daughter Kristin Henney (Bryan) of Raleigh, NC and son Scott Canterbury of Charlotte, NC. Jim was a graduate of South Charleston High School, West Virginia Tech University, and Marshall University. He and his wife are members of Rock Lake Presbyterian Church. To read his obituary, please go to:

<https://snodgrassfuneral.com/james-s-jim-canterbury/>



- | | | | |
|----|----------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Judy Powers | 18 | Trenton Straight |
| 2 | Judy Hardin | 19 | Sandy McNeely |
| 5 | Kelly Straight | 21 | Don Straight |
| 6 | Kim LaCount | 22 | David Bradley |
| 9 | Jeff Ray | 26 | Billy Estill |
| 13 | Eric Hamilton | 26 | Chris Rogillio |
| 14 | Amber Ray | 27 | Connie Dent |
| 17 | Angie Bradley | 27 | Riley Thornhill |



- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|----|-------------------|
| 5 | Jim & Connie Musgrave | 17 | Carl & Jean Smith |
|---|-----------------------|----|-------------------|

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## NURTURING FAITH IDEAS

Please use these suggested scriptures, questions, and activities to help you explore your faith.

### **December 4 – Second Sunday of Advent: Read Romans 15:4-13**

The holiday season is often filled with occasions for hospitality and celebration. As we prepare to welcome the birth of our Lord, how are you also “welcoming one another” (verse 7)? How might we seek the sort of unity and reconciliation Paul encourages between the Jews and Gentile in our own communities today?

### **December 11 – Third Sunday of Advent: Read James 5:7-10**

Patience is consistently listed as one of the great virtues, and Paul calls it a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22). Why is it so hard to be patient? What are you waiting for even now; how can you pray about that this week?

### **December 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent: Read Isaiah 7:10-16**

This prophecy from Isaiah likely referred to a young woman who was there before Ahaz, but Christians have long held the tradition that it also anticipates Jesus. Have you ever asked God for a sign? How might the Spirit use the same event to speak different messages to people? Where have you witnessed the Spirit speaking to you lately?

### **December 25 – Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day: Read Luke 2:1-20**

Merry Christmas! What good news do you have to share with others this holy day? What treasures are you pondering in your heart? Let us pray together for peace and joy in our world!

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WE ARE
CALLED TO PROCLAIM
THE GOOD NEWS
OF THE LORD, OUR GOD;

WE ARE
CHALLENGED TO FOLLOW
THE EXAMPLE OF
JESUS CHRIST;

AND WE ARE
CHARGED TO PROVIDE
FELLOWSHIP
WHERE ALL CAN FIND
RENEWAL AND FULFILLMENT
THROUGH THE WORK OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Mission Statement for Rock Lake Presbyterian Church
Adopted May 8, 2007

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## Christmas Quiz

We've heard the Christmas story so many times. But how much of it is true, and how much of it is tradition? Here's a little quiz to help us sort things out.

1. How many wise men were there?
  - a. Three
  - b. Two
  - c. Four
  - d. We don't know
2. Who were the wise men, anyway? What was their job?
  - a. Eastern kings
  - b. Magicians
  - c. Academics
  - d. Astrologers
3. How did Mary get to Bethlehem?
  - a. She and Joseph walked
  - b. Riding on a donkey
  - c. Nobody knows
4. What is a "heavenly host"?
  - a. A choir of angels
  - b. A group of saints
  - c. An army
  - d. Nobody knows
5. How many angels spoke to the shepherds?
  - a. A multitude
  - b. One
  - c. Two
  - d. Nobody knows
6. What song did the angels sing?
  - a. Joy to the World
  - b. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
  - c. Glory to God
  - d. None of these
7. When did the baby Jesus cry?
  - a. When he opened the presents from the wise men
  - b. When he was hungry
  - c. When the cattle started lowing
  - d. He didn't cry at all ("...the little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.")
  - e. We don't know
8. What did the innkeeper say to Mary and Joseph?
  - a. Come in, you're very welcome
  - b. I can give you the honeymoon suite
  - c. The inn is full, but there's a stable out back
  - d. There's no room at the inn.
9. Where was Jesus born?
  - a. In a stable
  - b. In an inn
  - c. In a house
  - d. We don't know
10. When Mary was told she was going to have a baby, were she and Joseph
  - a. Just good friends?
  - b. Recently married?
  - c. Engage to be married?

11. Which animals were there when Jesus was born?
- |            |          |
|------------|----------|
| a. Donkeys | d. Goats |
| b. Cows    | e. None  |
| c. Sheep   |          |
12. When the wise men brought their gifts to Jesus, where did they find him?
- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| a. In a house  | c. In a manger   |
| b. In a stable | d. None of these |

*Answers are on the last page.*



**NOTES**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated the first Sunday of each month. For those who attend in-person worship service, we are serving communion in the traditional manner. If you are participating at home, please prepare your elements beforehand.

A wonderful way to help your church is to be an Audio-Visual (AV) team member. RLPC is planning to have a third AV team formed to give the existing two AV teams a little break. We have good checklist documentation and will train you. Call Scott Hamilton at 304 746-5457(H) or Ken Schmidt at 304 768-8565(H) or 304 881-2408.

If you have a name change or a change to your mailing address or email address, please notify the church office at [rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com) or 304-768-4141. We would like to keep our Directory current.

**CENTS-ABILITY OFFERING**



From the PCUSA website:

“Cents-Ability is one way that families, congregations, and presbyteries can support the battle against hunger and poverty. Every member is invited to contribute a few cents at every meal. Funds are then used to support local hunger ministries, as well as national and international projects through the Presbyterian Hunger Program.”

In our congregation, the Cents-Ability offering is collected on the last Sunday of months containing five Sundays. The next offering will be collected Sunday, January 29, 2023. Proceeds will go to Heart & Hand. Please remember people who are less fortunate by donating to this, and all Cents-Ability offerings.



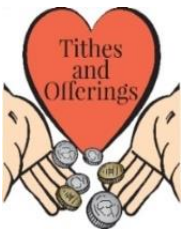
Through the Kroger Community Rewards Program, Kroger will donate to RLPC 5% of all grocery/pharmacy purchases YOU make just by using your Kroger Plus Card. Please sign up for this FREE profitable program for RLPC. You only have to open an account and register your Kroger Plus Card online at: [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com).

OR

You can simply telephone Kroger Community Rewards at 1-800-576-4377. They will assist you with registering your Kroger Plus Card. You will need to have handy either your Kroger Plus Card number or your alternate ID (your telephone number).



|                 |              |                      |             |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|
| October Income  | \$ 13,259.67 | Year to Date Income  | \$99,439.91 |
| October Expense | \$ 8,315.86  | Year to Date Expense | \$91,947.19 |



Since RLPC is now open for in-person worship on Sundays, we want to welcome everyone! We understand that there are some who are uncomfortable attending in-person worship and hope that you are able to watch the service on YouTube. We appreciate your continued gifts to the church. There are several ways that you may make a donation. By logging onto the church website at [www.rlpc.org](http://www.rlpc.org) you can give through PayPal. Also, outside the choir room is a mailbox where you can drop your offering. Or you can send a check by mail to the church's address: 905 Village Drive, South Charleston, WV 25309.

Please contact Judy Hardin for further information. (304)768-4141.

**WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK**

You will find on the *Home Page* of the church's web site [www.rlpc.org](http://www.rlpc.org) the link to the current Sunday worship bulletin. <http://rebrand.ly/n2uc6x2> will take you to the latest worship experience available on YouTube plus past services.

<https://www.facebook.com/Rock-Lake-Presbyterian-Church-195172942357/> will take you to Rock Lake's Facebook page. Please like us on Facebook!

Please be aware if you are not computer savvy or would just like a CD of the entire service or the sermon, contact the church office (304) 768-4141 and one will be made available to you.







## November 2022 Session Digest

WORSHIP (W): The estimated November 6 communicants were 48. Remember, we have returned to our traditional distribution of the elements. The next communion will be celebrated on December 4.

**If you are joining worship at home that day, please remember to prepare your elements in advance.**

We hope you will return to in-person worship as soon as possible!

The December worship schedule is in an article elsewhere in this newsletter.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE (A&F): Through October 2022 YTD, expenditures are about \$7,500 less than income. The Nominating Committee has no nominees for session, and is running out of potential nominees. If you have been contacted and declined, we ask you to prayerfully reconsider. Also, I am preparing a waiver request to submit to presbytery. The request is to waive the six year limit on consecutive years of service in the event that an elder wishes to continue serving beyond six years.

CHRISTIAN NURTURE (CN): Patricia is planning on offering a class, 'Birth Stories in the Gospels' on November 27 and December 4 following worship. Refreshments will be provided.

MISSION & SERVICE (M&S): The Christmas Joy offering will be December 4 through December 18. See 'A Perfect Gift' elsewhere in this newsletter.

PROPERTY (P): The renter in the rental property has terminated her agreement, and left by November 1, 2022.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE (CC): The next brunch potluck is December 11 after worship. We will meet in the parlor for this potluck, and invite participants to bring a dish to share. But the most important ingredient is YOU!

OTHER: Session and Pollen8 have been in discussion about upgrading the kitchen for Pollen8 to use for a 'catering kitchen' business. Pollen8 will pay for most of the project, with yard sale proceeds offsetting a portion of the cost. We are very close to agreement on a Memorandum of Understanding.

Pollen8 expects to finalize the hollow property purchase before the end of the year.

With Christ's Peace,

Ken



## 2023 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

As of this writing (November 30, 2022), with 10 families responding, the 2022 total commitment is \$49,120. Of these families, 5 have increased their commitments from 2022!

Thank you to all members and friends who have returned commitments for 2023.

If you have not yet responded, won't you please take a few moments to prayerfully consider how you can help Rock Lake Church *Shine Christ's Light* by supporting our ministries!

Returning your commitment card will reduce the number of follow-up contacts which the Stewardship Task Force must make.

We need to hear from all our members and friends so we can plan for 2023. If you need a commitment card, please call Ken Schmidt (304-768-8565 or 304-881-2408).

Please join us in worship each Sunday in the sanctuary.

If you cannot attend in person, subscribe to Rock Lake Presbyterian Church on YouTube.

Worship each Sunday is at 10:00 am ET.

If you need a printed bulletin, call the church office at 304-768-4141 between 9:30 and 11:30 am ET, Monday through Friday.

***And may God bless you this Advent season!***

Ken Schmidt, chair, Stewardship Task Force

## A note from your Nominating Committee...

We still seek two nominees for the 2025 session class, and a nominee for the 2023 session class.

Is the Holy Spirit's still, small voice calling you to get involved? Have you served on session in the PAST, but haven't recently? Or have you never served on session, but are being called now?

If the Lord is calling you to action, BE **BOLD!** Call one of the nominating committee members listed below for information.

If you have a person in mind who would be I-D-E-A-L, won't you share that person's name with us?

And please pray for those we have contacted, and for us as we seek to discern God's will for this part of Christ's body.

Your nominating committee,

Linda Hunt 304-546-4974

Ron Rogillio 304-541-1243

Judy Powers 304-549-8562

Ken Schmidt 304-881-2408

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Answers to the Christmas Quiz:

1. D Nobody knows. The Bible mentions three gifts, but doesn't mention how many wise men brought them.
2. C/D They were men who studied the natural sciences, including the stars.
3. C The Bible doesn't say how they got there. There's no mention of a donkey.
4. C Elsewhere in the Bible, the words "heavenly host" refer to an army.
5. B Only one angel spoke. According to Luke 2:10 "...The angel said to them..."
6. None of these, not even C. They sang "Glory to God in highest heaven."
7. E We don't know. But he was a human baby and was bound to cry sometime.
8. Trick question. There's no mention of an innkeeper in the Gospel accounts.
9. D We don't know. The Bible doesn't say where he was born. All it says is he was laid in a manger.
10. C They were engaged to be married.
11. E The Bible doesn't mention any animals at all.
12. A In a house.

Thank you to Pam Ferrell for the challenging quiz!!

Rock Lake Presbyterian Church

December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00 am Church Office Open 1:00 pm Handwork for Mission(P) 6:30 pm Grandparents & Friends Bridge (P)	2 9:00 am Church Office Open 6:00 pm Foundation to Freedom (NA) (P)	3 8:30 am Manna Meal Work  COOKIES
4 10:00 am RLPC Worship (live and online) 	5 9:00 am Church Office Open 2:30 pm Amethyst Group (P)	6 8:30 am Manna Meal Work 9:00 am Church Office Open	7 9:00 am Church Office Open 	8 9:00 am Church Office Open 1:00 pm Handwork for Mission (P)	9 9:00 am Church Office Open 6:00 pm Foundation to Freedom (NA) (P)	10 8:30 am Manna Meal Work 
11 10:00 am RLPC Worship (live and online) 	12 9:00 am Church Office Open 2:30 pm Amethyst Group (P)	13 8:30 am Manna Meal Work 9:00 am Church Office Open 9:30 am Carbidie Old-Timers 	14 9:00 am Church Office Open 	15 9:00 am Church Office Open 1:00 pm Handwork for Mission (P) 	16 9:00 am Church Office Open 6:00 pm Foundation to Freedom (NA) (P)	17 8:30 am Manna Meal Work 
18 10:00 am RLPC Worship (live and online) 	19 9:00 am Church Office Open 2:30 pm Amethyst Group (P)	20 8:30 am Manna Meal Work 9:00 am Church Office Open 6:30 pm Session Meeting 	21 9:00 am Church Office Open 	22 9:00 am Church Office Open 1:00 pm Handwork for Mission(P) All Decked Out 	23 Church Office Closed 6:00 pm Foundation to Freedom (NA) (P) 	24 8:30 am Manna Meal Work 8:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship 
25 10:00 am RLPC Worship (live and online)  Christmas Day Worship Service	26 Church Office Closed 2:30 pm Amethyst Group (P)  HOME <small>THE</small> HOLIDAYS	27 9:00 am Church Office Open 8:30 am Manna Meal Work	28 9:00 am Church Office Open 	29 9:00 am Church Office Open 1:00 pm Handwork for Mission (P)	30 9:00 am Church Office Open 6:00 pm Foundation to Freedom (NA) (P)	31 8:30 am Manna Meal Work  <i>New Year's Eve</i>



Rock Lake Presbyterian Church
 905 Village Drive
 South Charleston, WV 25309

«AddressBlock»

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Patricia Jarvis	Pastor
Sandy McNeely	Church Secretary
Judy Hardin	Treasurer
Marilyn Padon	Music Director
Pam Ferrell	Organist/Accompanist

ROCK LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 905 VILLAGE DRIVE
 SOUTH CHARLESTON, WV 25309
 304-768-4141
 EMAIL: rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com
 WEBSITE: www.rlpc.org

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 Rock Lake Presbyterian Church

The Session

Class of 2022
 Scott Hamilton 304-746-5457
 John Haynes 304-345-7388

Class of 2023
 John Solberg 304-415-1704

Class of 2025
 Mary Wagner 304-552-1627
 Ken Schmidt 304-881-2408

Committee Chairs

Christian Nurture	John Haynes
Congregational Care	John Haynes
Administration/Finance	Scott Hamilton
Property	John Solberg
Worship	Mary Wagner
Mission & Service	Ken Schmidt