



The Church Mouse

First Presbyterian Church

401 Main Street

Watsonstown, PA 17777

January 2020

servantchurch@windstream.net (570)538-1491 www.watsonstownpresby.org

Serving Christ, Community, and One Another Since 1872



Dear Friends,

Sherry shared a story about Children's Church with me the other day. One of the children asked her what the church would do now that I was retiring and leaving. This question has been very much on all of our minds. Her answer was a good one, "It will continue as it always has." Pastors come and go as do members but the church continues. The reason is that it is not our church or my church but it is God's church.

I would however like to suggest some concrete ways that you can prepare for this new chapter in the church's life.

1) Pray. Daily seek what God is doing by making this change. Listen to what God is saying and what God is doing. Pray for the leaders of this church. Their job will not be easy. Pray also for the staff; for Sherry, Chris, and Darlene.

2) Examine your own involvement. In what new way is God asking you to step up and get involved? There are things that I am doing that members will have to

take over. Can you help? People are already stepping up and that is great but there will be other needs.

3) Most importantly, remind yourselves that as the Bible so clearly says, "All things work together for good for those who love God". I believe this has been true during the 13 plus years I have served as your pastor and will continue to be true in the years to come.

It has been a great joy to be your pastor and your friend. I know the years to come will be challenging but I also know they will be filled with the joy of the Lord. I pray for you and thank God for each of you as I know you pray for me.

In Christ,

Pastor Paul

SERMONS FOR JANUARY

January 5 – Chris & the Chancel Choir

January 12 – "Isaiah's Call"

January 19 – "A Three Point Sermon"

January 26 – "Isaiah's Call, Part 2"

ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS



Adult Sunday School meets
Sunday morning at 9:30 am.



MEN'S BREAKFAST The Men's Breakfast meets Wednesdays
at 7:00 am.



Join Us for Bible Study A 4 week, post-Christmas Bible Study
will be held Monday evenings at 6:00 pm,
beginning January 6th.



Service of Communion Communion will be served on Sunday,
January 12th.



Family Fun Night Weigel's Crazy Bingo will be held
on Sunday, January 12th (weather
permitting) at 6:00 pm. Bring a wrapped
'white elephant' gift and have some fun
with your church family!



Women's Bible Study Women's Bible Study will meet on
Wednesday, January 15th at 7:00 pm. We are
studying The Ten Commandments. All women
of the church are welcome to attend.



Ordination Ordination and Installation
of New Officers will take place during
worship on January 19th.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING The Annual Congregational Dinner
and Meeting will be held on Sunday, January
26th.

The Bulletin Board

Wednesday, January 1
Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 5
Worship with the Choir
Sandie Fairman in the pulpit

Monday, January 6
Bible Study, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, January 8
Men's Breakfast, 7:00 am

Sunday, January 12
"Isaiah's Call"
Crazy Bingo, 6:00 pm

Monday, January 13
Bible Study, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, January 15
Men's Breakfast, 7:00 am
Women's Bible Study, 7:00 pm

Sunday, January 19
"A Three Point Sermon"
Ordination and Installation of Officers

Monday, January 20
Bible Study, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, January 22
Men's Breakfast, 7:00 am

Sunday, January 26
"Isaiah's Call, Part 2"
Congregational Meeting & Dinner

Monday, January 27
Bible Study, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, January 29
Men's Breakfast, 7:00 am



January 5

Greeter – Sandie & Wally Fairman

Lay Reader – Carl Bower

Communion – Carl & Pam Bower

January 12

Greeter –

Lay Reader – Wally Fairman

January 19

Greeter – Gwen Holmes & Gary Umstead

Lay Reader – Ruth Brouse

January 26

Greeter –

Lay Reader – Emilie Hogg



Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 2

Communion

Wednesday, February 26

Ash Wednesday



January 5 – Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalms 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:10-18

January 12 – Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalms 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

January 19 – Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalms 40:1-11; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

January 26 – Isaiah 6:1-4; Psalms 27:1, 4-9; 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23



Our prayers are with: Jim Moore, Ashley, Hunter & Hannah Wool, George Sherry, Greg Wesner, Donna Hoskins, Terri Hauck, Margie & Len Hampson, Kaci Stevenson, Eric Powell, Mark Trutt, Janet (Bair) Beckett, Rebecca Cotner, Laurie Smith (Paul's sister-in-law), Rhonda Snyder, Linda Zarzecki, Aaron Walker, Donna & Lawrence Walker, Roxie Trutt, Don Gresh, Glenn Walker, Alex Bartlett, Cliff Elmore, Pat Groover, Ella Novcarvis, Sandy Pick, Nancy Fisher, Al Patterson, Lu Reed, Ruth Walker, Betty & Vergie Heim, Kate Shade, Norma Bower, Ellen Malloney, John Marshall, Bonnie Catherman, Janet Reasner, Clair & Margaret Walker, Penny Clark, Paul Berger, Edith Umstead, Ace Elmore

Our Special Care List: Jeanne Becker, Jane Bergman, Peggy Calabro, Reba Dotson, Gladys Klapp, Eleanor Wagner, Shirley Willkow

Deployed Military: Stefan Armstrong

Ministries: Missionaries-Doug Orbaker, Juan & Shirley Ocasio; Neighbors Helping Neighbors; Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; Haven Ministries

✦ **Please give updates on the status of those on the list to Paul or Sherry.** ✦

⇒ **Per Capita for 2020 is \$36** ⇐



The Annual Congregational Dinner and Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th after worship. The Annual Report and new Directory will be available. Please plan to attend this important meeting.





BIRTHDAYS

January 4 - Janet Kling
 Elle Ann Seese
 January 6 - Stephanie Egli
 January 9 - Dale Ayers
 January 13 - Diana Johnson
 Bindy Seese
 January 15 - Joe Mallach
 January 18 - Riley Gruber
 January 21 - Paizli Brouse
 January 22 - Jane Bergman
 Chris Davis
 January 24 - Duane Griffin
 January 29 - Jean Hormell
 Pat Schuster
 Laura Smith



ANNIVERSARIES

January 20 - Craig & Janet Kling



- *Thanks to everyone that decorated the church for the holiday season and especially to Joy for organizing everything
- *Thanks to everyone that helped with the Congregational Christmas dinner, our table decorator, those who played Santa, the cooks, the servers, and the clean-up crew
- *Thanks to Chris, the choir, and the extra voices that sang at the group home

If you have not previously had offering envelopes for giving and would like a box, please contact Sherry or Emilie. The advantage of envelopes is an end of year report of your donations for tax purposes.



Help Us Enter the New Year

†God of all time, help us enter the New Year quietly, thoughtful of who we are to ourselves and to others, mindful that our steps make an impact and our words carry power.

†May we walk gently.

†May we speak only after we have listened well.

†Creator of all life, help us enter the New Year reverently, aware that you have endowed every creature and plant, every person and habitat with beauty and purpose.

†May we regard the world with tenderness.

†May we honor rather than destroy.

†Lover of all souls, help us enter the New Year joyfully, willing to laugh and dance and dream, remembering our many gifts with thanks and looking forward to blessings yet to come.

†May we welcome your lavish love.

†In this new year, may the grace and peace of Christ bless us now and in the days ahead.

- Vinita Hampton Wright; Offered by Douglas Ruschman












SESSION



Elders

Moderator - Rev. Paul A. Smith	570-742-3086
Clerk of Session - Ruth Brouse	570-490-0302
Stephan Armstrong	570-768-6906
Vicki Egli	570-538-1101
Emilie Hogg	570-437-2392
Kate Shade	570-538-2592
Gary Umstead	570-244-5504
John Williams	570-538-2524
Ruth Ann Williams	570-337-1741
Rick Wolfe	570-220-7106

JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3	4
5 AA- 7p	6  Adult Bible Study	7 AA- 7p	8  MEN'S BREAKFAST 7a	9	10	11
12 6pm  Family Fun Night AA- 7p	13  Adult Bible Study Watson town Guild	14 AA- 7p	15  Women's Bible Study 7p  MEN'S BREAKFAST 7a	16	17	18
19 AA- 7p	20  Adult Bible Study	21 AA- 7p	22  MEN'S BREAKFAST 7a	23	24	25
26 AA- 7p	27  Adult Bible Study	28 AA- 7p	29  MEN'S BREAKFAST 7a	30	31	

Per Capita for 2020 is \$36

Make a Noisemaker to Celebrate Special Days

You will need:

- empty kitchen matchbox (NO matches)
- foil
- tape
- dried beans or rice
- unsharpened pencil
- 2 rubber bands
- stickers, glue and glitter (optional)

How to make the noisemaker:

- Put beans or rice in the matchbox, so that it rattles when you shake it.
- Tape the box shut.
- Cover box with foil.
- Poke 2 small holes on opposite sides of the box near one end.
- Stick the pencil into one hole, through the box and out the other hole.
- Wrap rubber bands around the pencil on both sides of the box, so the pencil won't slip through the holes.
- If you want, you can decorate the box with stickers and glitter.

How to use:

- Hold the pencil and move your wrist to spin the box.
- Make lots of happy noise to celebrate special days throughout the year.



Special Times for the Israelites



"This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it ..." Exodus 12:14

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events. Below are some of the special days observed by the Israelites.

Use the code to find the name of the special day and the month of the Jewish year in which they are celebrated.

CODE:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFE DCBA

Season	Holiday	Month
1. End of Summer	(New Year)	
ILHS SZHSZMZS		GRSHIR
2. Fall	(Day of Atonement)	
BLN PRKKFI		GRSHIR
3. Fall	(Festival of Booths)	
HFPPLGS		GRHSIR
4. Winter	(Festival of Rededication)	
SZMFPPZS		PRHOVE
5. Winter	(Festival of Lots)	
KFIRN		ZWZI
6. Spring	(Feast of Unleavened Bread)	
KZHHLEVI		MRHZM
7. Spring	(Feast of Weeks/ Pentecost)	
HSZEF'LG		HREZM

Answers: 1. Rosh Hashanah; Tishri; 2. Yom Kippur; Tishri; 3. Sukkoth; Tishri; 4. Hanukkah; Kislev; 5. Purim; Adar; 6. Passover; Nisan; 7. Shavu'ot; Sivan