

The Messenger
Newsletter of Forest Park Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.)

The Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones, Interim Pastor
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53151

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Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday
thru Thursday



December



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DECEMBER 2019 CALENDAR		
Sun 12/1	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Scrip Orders Taken Choir Practice
Mon 12/2	6:30 –8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Wed 12/4	6:00 pm	PNC
Thur 12/5	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Study Deacons & Elders
Sun 12/8	9:30 am Following worship 6:00-8:00 pm 6:30 pm	Worship Choir Practice Congregational Meeting Troop 23 – Fellowship Hall Troop 53 Committee Mtg
Mon 12/9	6:30-8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Tues 12/10	5:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Wed 12/11	6:00 pm	PNC
Thur 12/12	1:30 pm 6:30 pm	Bible Study Worship & Music
Sun 12/15	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Choir Practice
Mon 12/16	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Wed 12/18	6:00 pm	PNC
Thur 12/19	1:30 om	Bible Study
Fri 12/20	11:30 am	Daylight Drivers
Sun 12/22	9:30 am Following worship	Worship - Communion Choir Practice
Tues 12/24	7:00 pm	Church Office Closed Christmas Eve Worship
Wed 12/25		Church Office Closed Merry Christmas
Sun 12/29	9:30 am Following worship	Worship – Mark Fraley Choir Practice
Tues 12/31		Church Office Closed

JANUARY 2020 CALENDAR		
Wed 1/1		Church Office Closed
Thu 1/2	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Study Deacons
Sun 1/5	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Scrip Orders Taken Choir Practice Undecorating
Mon 1/6	6:30-8:30 pm	Troop 53 Annual Report Submission Deadline
Wed 1/8	6:00 pm	PNC
Thurs 1/9	1:30 pm	Bible Study
Sun 1/12	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Communion Choir Practice
Mon 1/13	6:30-8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Tue 1/14	5:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Wed 1/15	6:00 pm	PNC
Thu 1/16	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Study Session
Fri 1/17	11:30 am	Daylight Drivers
Sun 1/19	9:30 am Following worship	Worship -Messenger Deadline Choir Practice
Mon 1/20	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Wed 1/22	6:00 pm	PNC
Thurs 1/23	1:30 pm	Bible Study
Sun 1/26	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Choir Practice
Mon 1/27	6:30-8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Wed 1/29	6:00 pm	PNC
Thurs 1/30	1:30 pm	Bible Study

December Birthdays

12/2 Emma Schumitsch
 12/3 Levi Reimer
 12/5 Kelly Reimer
 12/6 Mike Marr
 12/17 Casey Smith
 12/21 Diane Schumitsch
 12/25 Mary Hahn
 12/26 Steve Dolan
 12/28 Wendy Bennewitz



January Birthdays

1/2 Walt Piering
 1/2 Jimmy Pomeroy
 1/7 Debbie Haag
 1/11 Garrett Pomeroy
 1/13 Jessica Reimer
 1/19 Anthony Johannik
 1/19 Karl Powell
 1/20 Tracey Pomeroy
 1/22 Audrie DeGaro
 1/22 Carole Luecker
 1/22 Betty Marr
 1/30 Marilyn Puzach

Joy to the World!

In 1719, Isaac Watts, an English writer, penned the words to the popular Christmas Carol, "Joy to the World." He paraphrased the Psalm 96, 98, and Genesis 3. Originally, the lyrics were set to the tune from the Psalter. The tune we recognize today, was an arrangement by Mason Lowell in 1848. Lowell arranged the tunes from Handel's Messiah, the first 4 notes come from "Lift Up Your Heads" and the 3rd line recalls the arioso, "Comfort Ye." The tune is called Antioch and continues as one of our favorites carols.



As we celebrate 300 years of this carol, we will explore the tune and its themes throughout Advent and Christmas.

December 1st – Advent 1 – Hopeful Joy
"Prepare Him Room" – Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14

December 8th – Advent 2 – Loving Joy
"Repeat the Sounding Joy" – Isaiah 11:1-10, Matthew 3:1-15

December 15th – Advent 3 – Unabashed Joy
with the Bell Choir, "Make the Blessings Known" - Isaiah 7: 13-15, Matthew 1: 18-25

December 22nd – Advent 4 – Peaceful Joy –
With Sunday School/Youth Program
Communion – "Make the Nations Prove"

December 24th – Christmas Eve – Incarnate
Joy with Candle Light Service at 7pm – "The
Lord is Come" – Luke 2:1-20

Using a resource by Rev. Dr. Marcia McFee we will explore the many aspects of God's gift of Joy to the World, wrapped in swaddling cloths. We hope for the joy to help us in times of trouble. We learn to love the joyful gift from above through our redemption. We share the exuberant joy of being a Christian. We share the peace of Christ and the joy of being a child of God. We celebrate on Christmas Eve when the Lord becomes the incarnate Word, Emmanuel, God with us.

Come share in the journey of Advent as we prepare our hearts, minds, and the world to receive the joy of the Lord.

January in Worship

January 5th – Epiphany - Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12, Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; "According to the Gifts"

January 12th - Baptism of our Lord - Isaiah 42:1-9, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:13-17, Psalm 29; "Called and Baptized"

January 19th – *Isaiah 49:1-7, John 1:29-42, Psalm 40:1-12, *1 Corinthians 1:1-9; "Strengthen our Faith" – Lifelong Discipleship

January 26th - *Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 5-13, *1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23; "Healthy Family" – Ecclesial Health

Grace and Peace,

Bruce

Thank You For Giving to the Lord!

In December, we give thanks for the many gifts of God. We remember that God's gift of love is shared in our lives and in our faith community. We give thanks to those who share their God given talents. We give thanks to the church mice who ...

- ~ Made a commitment through making a pledge for 2020.
- ~ Provided Moments for Stewardship.
- ~ Provided for the Stewardship Luncheon.
- ~ Purchased items for the giving tree.
- ~ Supported Angel Tree.
- ~ Assisted with the Elder Training.
- ~ Help with the Hanging of the Greens.
- ~ Led worship for Deacon Sunday.
- ~ Participated in the Vitality Week.
- ~ Served on Committees.
- ~ Covered the office while Pam was out on medical leave.

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
GENEROUSLY

We give thanks for the precious gift of the Lord. We give thanks as Christians serve the Lord with their service. We give thanks for the ministry of Jesus in our community.



Liturgical colors, Just a whim?

For many years we have experienced what many refer to as purple (actually violet) as the color of vestments and paraments for both Advent and Lent to signify that we are in a season of penitence and longing. There has been a very slow perspective change (some things never change in any church family) that Advent, although a season of longing, does not carry with it the same feeling of sorrow and penitence as Lent. For this reason, we have seen the liturgical colors of the season of Advent go from violet to blue, particularly cerulean blue. This particular color, in its long history contains some similarities to violet in that it, too, is a difficult and expensive color to produce; and, therefore, reserved for royalty. "Why is that important", you ask? Good question.

The richness of violet was reserved for royalty, because only the royalty could afford to obtain production of it. Blue in all its vastness of hues has a similar history, especially cerulean blue. It, therefore, is often the color chosen to be used for Advent, because it differentiates between the perspective of sorrowful longing (Lent) and anticipation (expectant, as in pregnant) with the result of a joyous result - the birth of Christ. "Then why do we also see pink for one Sunday in Advent, in some churches?", you ask. Also, a good question.

Just as we have seen rose used in Lent for Laetare Sunday (relax, Lent is almost over), the rose color of the third week of Advent has been used for Gaudete Sunday (rejoice, the time is at hand).

While not all congregations of a particular religion necessarily agree with the above, it is, indeed, a perspective change that has evolved that can help us to identify a difference of attitude, perspective and expression between the seasons of Lent and Advent.

Jack

Undecorating

On Sunday **January 5th**, right after Church, we will gather to take down and put away our Christmas decorations. It will go quickly with everyone sharing their time and helping. Mark your calendars!

Scrip

December is our biggest ordering month of the year because of Christmas presents and there are a few additions including scrip offers for December only, smaller \$5 cards for stocking stuffers, etc.

Choir Takes a Holiday

The choir is taking one Sunday a month off. With the small choir and active schedules, this idea is an attempt to help to schedule time away. The tentative dates are:

December 15, January 19, February 16, March 15 - Lent 3, April 19 - Bright Sunday, and May 24 - Memorial Weekend.

The Bells may ring some of the Sunday's but if you'd like to provide other special music contact Jack Serwe, Elder Rick Pomeroy, or Rev. Bruce Jones.



Halloween Thank You

Thank you to everyone who brought their extra Halloween candy to church -30 (stuffed !) baggies were delivered along with the Fall gift bags of personal care items to the Women's Center in Waukesha.

Christmas Angel Tree

Information for the Christmas Angel Tree angel tags is being gathered and many of the tags have already been taken during the past few Sunday mornings. Please bring the gifts by Sunday, December 1st. Also a plate of 16 cookies would be a treat to the families. Let's share the joy of Christmas.

And thank you to all the people who have gotten a tag so far.

Karen Zobel

**Thank
You!**

Amazon Smiles

Will you be shopping Amazon for Christmas? If so, please go to smile.amazon.com and register Forest Park as your charity. By doing so Forest Park will receive 0.5% on all eligible purchases!!!! It is really easy!

Here is how you do it:

Instead of shopping on www.amazon.com, go to smile.amazon.com, select Forest Park Presbyterian Church (New Berlin, WI) as your organization and do your regular shopping. There is nothing different about the prices or the products, just a different web address. This is an easy way to support Forest Park, Be sure to let your family and friends know too!

Also, you can order Scrip and Scrip Now! to pay for your Amazon purchase and increase the benefit to FPPC.

April 1, 2020, "Census Day"

April 1, 2020, "Census Day" is just around the corner. Every ten years, we are required to count every single person living in the United States in order to allocate representation among the states and determine how over \$675 billion dollars in federal funds are allocated to states and local communities.

The U.S. Census Bureau, would like to partner with you and faith-based leaders to encourage Census education and engagement among all faith leaders and organizations to promote awareness of the 2020 Census.

Daylight Drivers

Daylight Drivers will meet on Friday,



December 20th at Red Lobster, 4645 S. 76th Street, Greenfield, WI @11:30am.

In January 17 is the third Friday. The Peachtree

Restaurant, 15419 W National Ave, New Berlin, WI @ 11:30am

Deacon on Call

The Deacon on call for December is Diane Schumitsch 414-248-9374. The Deacon on call for January is Bea Piering 262-781-2542.



If you know or hear of a prayer need and would like to have one started on the prayer chain, notify the Deacon on Call to initiate your request. If you cannot reach that Deacon, call Pam or Rev. Jones at the Church Office, or leave a message on the answering machine.

Save the date

*Last year's Gathering for a Cause was such a great success that we are doing it again this year. The next Gathering for a Cause will be held on Saturday, **February 29, 2020.***



Please put it on your calendar and plan on inviting family and friends. Our goal is to have

everyone bring at least 2 additional non-Forest Park friends to join us.

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected on Christmas Eve. This offering is one of the four special offerings collected by the PC-USA. Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. God has blessed the Church with incredible leadership in every time and place, but those leaders often need to be supported by their communities as well.

This Offering addresses the support needed by some of our leaders, including supporting leadership development for communities of color, and providing support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need.

\$1.2 million of gifts from 2018 are being used to provide critical financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need. \$1 million of gifts from 2018 are being used to provide education and leadership development skills at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

If you cannot serve on your assigned date, please arrange a substitute and notify the church office.

	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/24 Evening Service	12/29
Liturgist	Jim Gillespie	Mike Washic	Lee Tan	Sally Daugherty	Wendy Bennewitz	Jeff Krogmann
Head Usher	Gordon Willey	Ron Reuteler	Gary Stigler	Gordon Willey	Gary Stigler	Ron Reuteler
Ushers	Marne Willey Garrett Pomeroy	Jim & Sara Grant	Denine Dulde Cindy Stigler	Pat Janecek Art Reimer	Lauren & Luke Bennewitz	Joe DeGaro Howard & Sally Hasselkus
Hospitality	Daylight Drivers	Simpson	Stigler	Deacons		Reuteler

	1/5	1/12	1/19	1/26	2/2
Liturgist	Maureen Wise	Sylvia Larsen	Sara Grant	David Hermann	
Head Usher	Gordon Willey	Gary Stigler	Ron Reuteler	Gordon Willey	
Ushers	Cindy Barbieri Denine Dulde	Jim & Sara Grant	Anna Gillespie Nathan Tan	Marne Willey	
Hospitality	Janecek/Marr	Daylight Drivers	Simpson	Stigler	

Ushers	
Barbieri	262-782-6862
DeGaro	262-364-8123
Dulde	414-412-0149
Grant	262-786-5071
Hasselkus	262-786-3298
Hermann	414-744-0765
Janecek	414-241-0227
Reimer	262-679-9226
Reuteler	262-424-4378
Stigler	262-782-5153
Washic	262-789-9779
Willey	262-782-1112

Hospitality	
Janecek/Marr	
Daylight Drivers	
Deacons	
Reuteler	262-821-5046
Simpson	262-782-1937
Stigler	262-782-5153

