

FIRST
Presbyterian
Church
Parkersburg, WV



first things
FIRST
Bi-monthly newsletter of First Presbyterian Church

December
2020

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Patricia Jarvis
- Stated Supply Pastor

Amy Sinclair
- Director of Music

Elder Chris Alfred
- Director of Finance

Judi Echard
- Office Secretary

Larry Wiseman
- Sexton

OFFICE HOURS
Tuesday-Thursday: 10 - 3

Special Dates

- First Day of Winter - Dec. 21
- Christmas Eve - Dec. 24
- **Christmas Day - Dec. 25**
- New Years Eve - Dec. 31

*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 Sheen

seek first
the
Kingdom
of
God
Matthew 6:33

Missions Project

You may still make contributions to the Christmas missions project **through December 8**.



- * Children's Home Society: New children's pajamas - a list of sizes is available at the church, or by e-mail;
- * Washington County Children Services: Individual gifts for children - please contact **Barbara Lucas** at **304-485-0023** or **304-580-1274** for specific wish list items.

Cash donations or gift cards are also accepted for both groups. Mail to Chris Alfred at the church and designate which mission(s) you wish to support.

BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Deacons Outreach for Homebound

The Deacons will collect cards and small holiday items for our homebound members and friends **through December 16**. They will be delivered before Christmas to help send Holiday cheer to these special folks. Address lists are available upon request in case you wish to mail your Christmas cards.

Suggested Items

- ◆ Christmas Cards
- ◆ Soft Holiday Candy
- ◆ Lip Balm/Hand Cream
- ◆ Christmas Socks
- ◆ Boxes of Little Debbie Cakes
- ◆ Small Word Search or Crossword Puzzle Books (Large Print)



If you have questions, contact Tiffany Gibson, 304-488-4088

December Celebrations



| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Jim Houck | 11th |
| Isabel Lynch | 12th |
| Connor Buchanan | 17th |
| Cole Dennison | 18th |
| Barbara Farrell | 21st |
| Debbie Foley | 22nd |
| Jean Pearcy | 24th |
| Bob Tebay | 30th |

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Norm & Judy Smith | 22nd |
| Lloyd & Sandy Cowell | 27th |

In Christian Sympathy

Irene E. White - November 2
Dawn R. DeBerry - November 19

FIRST
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Church
1341 Juliana Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101



Phone: 304-422-5426
Fax: 304-428-0372
E-mail: office@fpcpbwgw.org

Visit us at:

www.fpcpbwgw.org

[Facebook.com/fpcpbwgw](#)

WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sunday Worship:
8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School - 9:15

Children's Church: ages 3-10

Nursery: birth - kindergarten



FROM THE
CHURCH
OFFICE

CHURCH DATES

Communion

December 6 & 24

Deacons

Mon., Dec. 7 - 6 p.m.

Admin. Committee

Tues., Dec. 15 - 6 p.m.

Session

Tues., Dec. 22 - 6 p.m.

Christmas Day Dinner

Fri., Dec. 24 - 11:30 a.m.

NEWS ARTICLE DEADLINES
15TH DAY OF EACH MONTH



O COME, LET US ADORE HIM!

Just when everything is bearing down on us to such an extent that we can scarcely withstand it, the Christmas message comes to tell us that all our ideas are wrong, and that what we take to be evil and dark is really good and light because it comes from God. Our eyes are at fault, that is all.

God is in the manger, wealth in poverty, light in darkness, succor in abandonment. No evil can befall us; whatever men may do to us, they cannot but serve the God who is secretly revealed as love and rules the world and our lives.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *God Is in the Manger*

ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Like everything else in this challenging year, the annual 2020 community Christmas outreach will take on a new look. It has always been the mission of First Presbyterian, through this event, to share the message of Christmas with those around us. But in this year of unprecedented upheaval, tragedy, loss and financial hardship, it is even more imperative that Christ – his hope, love, peace and joy – be experienced by all.



Christmas Dinner

In 2020 we will continue to provide free Christmas Day meals to folks in our community. However, it will not be a meal shared in Stevenson Hall, but will be available only through delivery or drive in carry-out.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be asking for donations of food or baked goods. **We are asking only for monetary donations** this year in order to purchase all necessary items.

We will also need several hands-on volunteers to help prepare the food, package the meals, and deliver them.



If you feel that you are able to be a volunteer without putting yourself at risk, please contact the church to sign up. We, of course, will practice all health protocols and social distancing in order to keep everyone safe.

To volunteer, call the church office, **304-422-5426**, or sign up on the church website, www.fpcpbwgw.org. Monetary donations may be mailed to the church, 1341 Juliana St., Parkersburg, WV 26101.

We hope you will do whatever you can to help us make this year's Christmas Day Dinner possible, shining the light of Christ upon those who are hurting and in desperate need of the hope and love only He can provide.