



Among Friends

JANUARY, 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings!

There were a group of first graders who got together and decided to write their own version of the Nativity Story. It was more modern than the traditional story we read about in scripture. They included all the familiar people in the story: Joseph, the shepherds and the angel. But Mary was nowhere to be found.

Suddenly, from behind the bales of hay, Mary could be heard moaning and groaning. Mary was in labor and she was letting everyone know. Soon the doctor arrived in his white coat and a stethoscope was hanging from his neck. Joseph quickly took the doctor to Mary. Joseph then began to pace back and forth. After a few moments, the "doctor" emerges with a big smile on his face and announced, "Congratulations, it's a God!"

Another Christmas has come and gone; however, the fact remains, a baby was born over 2000 years ago and that baby was God.

***"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
(John 3:16)***

God has given us the greatest gift ever given. He has given us the only gift that we will ever need. He loves us so much that He gave his one and only Son that we might have eternal life. Knowing this fact, will it change how we live in 2020? Will you be nicer to others? Will you give more to others? Will you be more considerate of others?



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FEBRUARY

**Newsletter
Deadline**

January 22

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SPECIAL DATES IN JANUARY

- New Year's Day,
January 1
- Epiphany, January 6
- Baptism of the Lord,
January 12
- Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity,
January 18 - 25
- Martin Luther King Jr.
Day, January 20



Deadline for
submission of
FEBRUARY newsletter
information is
JANUARY 22.

Submit to:

Sue Datt via

"Snail Mail"
324 S. Main St.
Harrisville, PA 16038

E-mail:
[ratsbatuti@
zoominternet.net](mailto:ratsbatuti@zoominternet.net)

Phone:
724-991-5863

From the Pastor's Desk (continued)

God so loved the world; let's never forget that! Never forget that that baby was God. Christmas was a time to remember that Jesus came as a baby. The new year is a time to remember that God came to save us.

I want to wish everyone a "Holy New Year."

Love, Diane



SLIPPERY ROCK COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL

The children presented their Christmas program for family and friends on Wednesday, December 18. It was a real joy to see the children present a Christmas tableau depicting the Bethlehem manger scene and to hear their beautiful voices sing songs about the baby Jesus. Thank you to the teachers for their wonderful work with these children.



(Actual photos can be seen on the Slippery Rock Community Nursery School Facebook page.)

Also thank you to Cindy Cross and Michele Whitehouse who took time to read to the children on a recent morning. Thanks also to Cindy Cross and Roy Peffer who serve on the preschool board of directors.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Following December's lessons about David and his desire to build a temple for the Ark of the Covenant, January's lessons explore Solomon's dedication to the temple as he provides a place for the ark, offers blessings to God for fulfilling His promise to David, and calls people to keep God's commandments. All lessons are based on I Kings 8. All are welcome to join us at 10:00 a.m. for Bible study, discussion and sharing.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL:

The Children's Sunday school class continues to study the different parts of the Bible, the books in each section, and the major events in each book.



UPCOMING EVENTS



- January 5** **COMMUNION AND WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
- January 8** **FPC PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**, Sunday School room, 1:00 p.m. Karen Peffer and Bernie Rihel will serve as hostesses. (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TIME AND LOCATION OF MEETING.)
- January 11** **Session Meeting**, Community Center, 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of planning for 2020 and other church business. Lunch will be provided.
- January 11** **Second Saturday Concert**, Community Center, featuring the music of Ken Metrick. Refreshments begin at 6:30 p.m., the concert will follow at 7:00 p.m.
- January 12** **WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
- January 19** **WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
- January 26** **WORSHIP SERVICE**, Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FPC?

THE SATURDAY CONCERT



This month's **Second Saturday Concert (January 11)** will feature the country gospel music of **KEN METRICK**. Ken has entertained and inspired members of the Friendship Presbyterian Church and numerous local audiences for many years. We are looking forward to him returning for this concert!

The concert will be held at the Community Center.

Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the concert starting at 7:00 p.m.

COME FOR REFRESHMENTS AND SETTLE IN FOR THE CONCERT!

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!!



SERVING THIS MONTH



PREACHING

1/5	Pastor Diane Whitman
1/12	Pastor Diane Whitman
1/19	Pastor Diane Whitman
1/26	Pastor Diane Whitman



LITURGISTS

1/5	Bill Kreuzer
1/12	Michele Lagnese
1/19	Ruth Keith
1/26	Bill Kreuzer



GREETERS

1/5	Heather Datt
1/12	Joanne Campbell
1/19	Evelyn Vargo
1/26	Joanie West



PROJECTIONISTS

1/5	Benjamin Vukson
1/12	Jeremy Whitehouse
1/19	Benjamin Vukson
1/26	Jeremy Whitehouse

MISSIONS

across the street & around the world

FEED MY SHEEP FOOD CUPBOARD

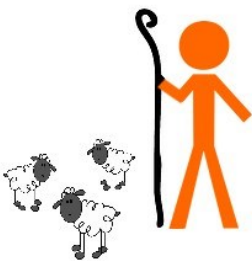
Statistics for December, 2019

- Families: 136
- Total family members: 321
- Adults: 153
- Children: 87
- Seniors: 81
- New families: 7
- Slippery Rock Boro: 47 families
- Slippery Rock Area: 67 families
- Harrisville Area: 22 families
- 163 families received a ham and "fixins" for a holiday celebration

Thank you to one and all for your generous support. We could not help our friends and neighbors without you.

Wish list for January:

- personal items



Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

John 21:15

Mission Updates: We are a small church but we are a very busy one when it comes to sharing with "the very least of these". Here is where your time and efforts have been at work these past few months. Thank you!

Christmas Family: Thank you for all the generous contributions of gifts for the 2019 Christmas family. Thanks also to the youth group who wrapped the gifts and to Joan West for coordinating this project.

Adult Sunday School sent donations to several local organizations working in our local community including: Feed My Sheep Food Bank, Moniteau Food Cupboard, Slippery Rock Salvation Army, Slippery Rock and Harrisville Fire Departments and the Alpha Omega Center. The money donated comes from weekly offerings which are also used to purchase our Sunday School education materials and the Our Daily Bread devotionals available to all in the church vestibule. Sunday School offerings also sponsor a child through Child Fund International.

Friendship Presbyterian Women donated money to SR Salvation Army and the New Castle City Rescue Mission. The group also supports Hunger Fund and Least Coin, projects of Presbyterian USA Women.

"Ringing the Bell" Thank you to all who came out to ring the bell for the Salvation Army on December 23 on behalf of our church. Thank you to Doris Allison who coordinated this and who also works with the Salvation Army by counting and depositing the donations for the season. Thanks also to Ruth Keith for helping with counting the donations.

Christmas Joy Offering will be received the last Sunday of December. Envelopes will be placed in the weekly bulletin.

Prayer List

*“Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.”
James 5:16*

Anne D. (Missionary to India)
Sally Alben
Jane Allison
Carly Atkisson
Zachary Barto
Candy Boulanger
Kayla Brundige
Martie Cooper
Ruth Cooper
The Cooperstown
Congregation
Kathy Reimers Cratty
Kay Curtis
Bessie Datt
Heather Datt
Winnie Davis
The Family of Dennis Dickey
Jim Dickey
Mark Doerr
Bertha Durnell
Randy Durnell
Blanche, English
Jennifer Gilliland
Harry and Janny Graham
Donna Grossman

Rick Grossman
David Hall
John Hines
Nancy Huntington
Timothy James
Jennie Jamieson
Rev. William Jamieson
Graham Larimore
Lisa Leach and Family
Ed Lind
Joe Lowers
Kevin Michael
Randy Morgan
Jessie Myers
David Parker
Karen Piper
Bill and Chris Schroeder
Micheal Scott
Helen Taggart
Bonnie Trowbridge
Joe Vivelo
Seth Vogan
Donna Walker
Jeremy (God will know
which one).

Our military at home and
abroad
Persecuted Christians
around the world,
Alpha Omega (SR)
Pregnancy Center
Feed My Sheep Food
Cupboard
Beaver Butler Presbytery
The PCUSA
The Church of Jesus
Christ



*Please continue to pray
for Friendship
Presbyterian Church
as we continue into the
future.*

WINTER GIFT

“God ... does great things beyond our knowing. He says to the snow, ‘Fall to the earth’; likewise to his heavy, drenching rain. He shuts up all humankind indoors, so that all people may know his work” (Job 37:5-7, NABRE).

Snow, ice and cold can make winter a hassle. “Snow days” due to a blizzard may thrill students but usually inconvenience parents. But now and then, winter blankets the earth so heavily that it seems to quiet everything. We’re granted permission to hunker down at home, snuggle close with family or pets, enjoy a book or movie, make cocoa or cookies, and rest. It’s like a surprise sabbath — the gift of grace-time — when no one’s expected to get out the door or the driveway.

Perhaps indeed, as Job declared, God sees fit on such days to put our busyness on hold and shut us all indoors so we pause and remember his work — his place — in our lives. Praise God for snow days!

—Heidi Mann

JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

Philip Frampton, 1/13
Sue Datt, 1/14
Rachel Alleio, 1/21
Cindy Tuskan, 1/31

ANNIVERSARIES

Ray and Wendi Vukson,
1/23

REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS IN NURSING HOMES & SENIOR LIVING

Bessie Datt
Orchard Manor
20 Orchard Dr.
Grove City, PA 16127

Bertha Durnell
Lowrie Place
100 Stirling Village Drive
Butler, PA 16001

Jessie Myers
Grove Manor
435 North Broad Street
Grove City, PA 16127

Helen Taggart
Orchard Manor
20 Orchard Dr.
Grove City, PA 16127



JUST FOR FUN

“STEP” INTO THE NEW YEAR

Make this craft to remember God's many blessings.



What you need:

- Small stones
- Permanent markers
- Foil pan and cooking spray
- Drop cloth
- Gloves
- Quick-set concrete (and adult help)
- Bucket and paint stirrer

What you do:

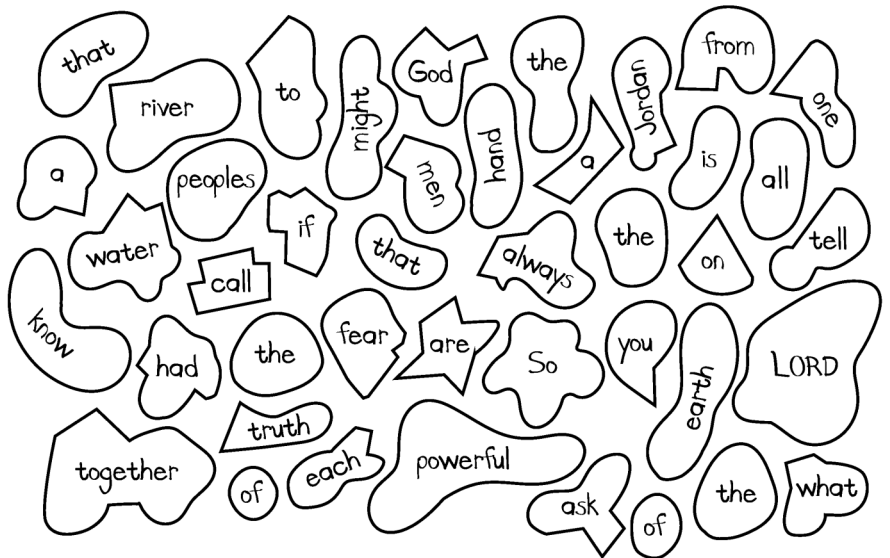
1. After reflecting on the past year, use markers to decorate stones with memorable words, dates and drawings.
2. Spray pan with cooking spray. Set pan outside on a drop cloth.
3. Wearing gloves, mix concrete in a bucket, according to instructions.
4. Pour concrete into pan. Smooth top with paint stirrer.
5. Press in stones, handprints and other decorations.
6. Let dry completely. Remove from pan.
7. Place the stepping-stone outside as a reminder of God's continued goodness.



Reminder rocks

When Joshua and the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they set up stones for a special reason.

Directions: Shade all the rocks that aren't completely rounded. Unscramble the remaining rocks to reveal a message from Joshua 4:24, NIV.



So _____ the _____ the
 _____ the
 _____ the _____ .

JOSHUA 4:24, NIV

Answer: So that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful. Joshua 4:24, NIV





FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
877 Franklin Road
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Goodbye 2019
Welcome
2020

SUBMITTED BY
HEATHER DATT