



# Among Friends

DECEMBER, 2019



## From the Pastor's Desk

Greetings!

On December 17, 1903, Orville and Wilbur Wright made their first flight of an airplane at Kitty Hawk NC. On their 5<sup>th</sup> attempt, the plane under the control of Orville, embarked on a 12 second flight.

Wilbur rushed to the local telegraph office and sent the following message—WE HAVE FLOWN FOR 12 SECONDS—WE WILL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS.

Upon receiving the telegram their sister, Katherine went to the newspaper office, told the editor of her brother's new flying machine, and informed him, my brothers will be home for Christmas, if he would like to set up an interview.

He told her that was nice, and that he would be sure to put something in the paper regarding her brothers.

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, the local newspaper placed the following headline on the 6<sup>th</sup> page of the paper: "WRIGHT BROTHERS HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"

It was the most important story of the year—man's first flight—and the editor missed it!

I wonder if the same could be said about us when it comes to Christmas. Look all around... The trees are decorated—the music is festive—the season is right—it is Christmas and there are only a few shopping days left!

In all of our rushing around, in all of our gift buying, in all the things we have to do during this season—HAVE WE MISSED THE IDEA—Jesus has come to earth!

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**JANUARY**

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

**December 18**

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### From the Pastor's Desk (continued)

#### SPECIAL DATES

- First Sunday of Advent, 12/1
- Second Sunday of Advent, 12/8
- Third Sunday of Advent, 12/15
- First day of winter, 12/21
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, 12/22
- Christmas Eve, 12/24
- Christmas Day, 12/25
- New Year's Eve, 12/31



Deadline for submission of

**JANUARY** newsletter information is

**DECEMBER 18**

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

I saw this article and thought it might apply. I know I needed to be reminded. This is what we need to be reminded of:

***"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."  
Luke 2:10-11***

\*\*\*\*\*

A man came home from shopping the other day and said, "Well, that's it! I'm doing all my shopping online. Everyone is pushing and shoving at Wal-Mart, and everyone has an angry look on their faces." To which his wife replied, "Yes, and I bet you were one of those angry faces."

Folks, during this holiday season—remember what we are celebrating. The fact that Christ came to earth because of his great love for us, that alone should make you smile. There are people who don't know Christ, there are people that have had a very difficult year, there are people that are lonely, there are people having financial difficulties, there are people facing devastating illnesses—the fact is we don't know what other people are going through. As Christians, we need to be His example of love and joy, especially during the Christmas season.

If you see someone frowning, smile at them. If you see someone is in a hurry, let them go ahead of you. If someone needs help opening a door, open it for them. If someone is a dollar short, give it to them. Are you getting the idea? Folks, we need to show others the love of Christ.

So, the question is this: How are you doing so far? Do you have the peace that only God can give?

***"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."  
Luke 2:14***

\*\*\*\*\*

***Frank and I would like to wish everyone a joyous Christmas season. May the peace of the Lord fill you this special time of the year! Diane***



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FPC?

# THE SATURDAY CONCERT

This month's **Second Saturday Concert** (December 14) will feature members of the **Chamber Singers** from Slippery Rock Area High School.

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.

Join us for Christmas cookies and stay for the concert!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE



### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Adult Sunday School: The focus of our winter quarter is "honoring God." During December we will be studying David using scriptures from I Chronicles 15-17. Lessons focus on honoring God through worshiping and a "making a joyful noise", proclaiming our gratitude, building His kingdom, glorifying God for what He has done, and praying. All are welcome to come and study God's word.

### 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.

Sunday School classes for adults and children begin at 10:00 a.m.

## SERVING THIS MONTH



### PREACHING

12/1	Pastor Diane Whitman
12/8	Pastor Diane Whitman
12/15	Pastor Diane Whitman
12/22	Pastor Diane Whitman
12/29	Rev. Jim Campbell



### LITURGISTS

12/1	Michele Lagnese
12/8	Ruth Keith
12/15	Bill Kreuzer
12/22	Michele Lagnese
12/29	Ruth Keith



### GREETERS

12/1	Evelyn Vargo
12/8	Joanne Campbell and Lydia Frampton
12/15	Joanie West
12/22	Dave and Donna Walker
12/29	Evelyn Vargo



### PROJECTIONISTS

12/1	Benjamin Vukson
12/8	Jeremy Whitehouse
12/15	Benjamin Vukson
12/22	Jeremy Whitehouse
12/29	Benjamin Vukson



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 1**     **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.
  
- December 7**     **Presbyterian Women's Christmas Tea,** Community Center, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.
  
- December 8**     **WORSHIP SERVICE,** Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
  
- December 14**    **Second Saturday Concert,** Community Center, featuring members of the Slippery Rock High School Chamber Singers. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m., concert at 7:00 p.m.
  
- December 15**    **WORSHIP SERVICE,** Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
  
- December 18**    **Pre-school Christmas Program,** Worship Center, 10:00 a.m. All Friendship members are invited to attend.
  
- December 21**    **Kid's Club Christmas Caroling ,** meet at the Worship Center, 1:00 a.m. ALL are welcome to join the kids!
  
- December 22**    **WORSHIP SERVICE,** Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Pastor Diane Whitman will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.
  
- December 23**    **RINGING BELL** for Salvation Army Bell at Giant eagle.
  
- December 24**    **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE,** Worship Center, 6:00 p.m.

**December 29**     **WORSHIP SERVICE,** Worship Center, 11:00 a.m. Rev. Jim Campbell will lead the service. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m.

### LOOKING AHEAD:

**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.



## FOOD CUPBOARD STATISTICS

### Statistics for November, 2019

- Families: 156
- Total family members:360
- Adults: 171
- Children: 102
- Seniors: 87
- New families: 10
- Slippery Rock Boro:59 families
- Slippery Rock Area: 77 families
- Harrisville Area: 20 families
- 159 families received a turkey and everything to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner

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

### Wish list for Christmas:

- hot chocolate mix,
- marshmallows,
- sweet bread mix,
- sugar,
- oil,
- cake mix, icing.



## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**634...**the number of shoeboxes that were delivered to the Friendship Community Center Drop Off site this year. That's the most boxes we have received since we became a Drop Off point. Thank you to all who volunteered time at the center helping to receive and process the boxes. Thank you to the Kids Club who worked the center Friday night and processed a large amount of boxes (and their leaders Wendi Vukson and Nancy Natili).

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.

Included in that 634 shoeboxes (a new record for our collection site) the members of Friendship Presbyterian Church donated 21 shoeboxes this year and a donation was also received to help with shipping costs. Thank you to the congregation for your help!

Watch the weekly bulletin for more information on this offering. Envelopes will be made available for your donation.

## MEALS ON WHEELS



Presbyterian Women made Thanksgiving favors for Grove City Meals on Wheels at their November meeting. Favors are made throughout the year and are always appreciated by Meals on Wheels staff and clients.



The next delivery will be the first good weather week in March 2020. But now is the time to go through the wardrobe and look for good

quality spring and summer clothes that were not worn this past spring and summer. Empty hangers are available in the church cloak room.

## FEED MY SHEEP FOOD CUPBOARD



There may also be neighbors or friends who have recently retired from professional jobs that would be delighted to know about donating good quality clothing and accessories for women who are trying to help themselves in the work force.

A donation of \$490.51 was sent to the Feed My Sheep Food Cupboard following the Second Saturday Benefit Concert on November 9. Thank you to all those who donated, Old Towne Barbershop Harmony for performing and coordinating three other groups who performed, and the FPC session for donating the usual performers fee of \$100.

# Prayer List

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  
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  
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

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



*“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*

## HOPES AND FEARS

Sacred Christmas carols are a cherished tradition. But during sorrow and struggle, some lyrics may seem hard to swallow. “O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant”? Where is the joy when my loved one has just died? Where is the triumph if I’ve lost my job? “Silent night, holy night, all is calm ...”? Not in my house; I’m exhausted from the fighting. “The little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes”? Our baby screams with colic for hours on end.

Yet ... listen:

*And you beneath life’s crushing load,  
Whose forms are bending low ...  
Oh, rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing.*

—“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

*Truly, God reaches out to the happy and hurting alike. “The hopes and fears of all the years are met” — and gathered up — in the Babe of Bethlehem, who shares our joys and troubles. There are Christmas carols for us all.*

From Newsletter  
Newsletter,  
December 2012

## DECEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

Bessie Datt, 12/7  
Damien Frampton, 12/7  
Cindy Cross, 12/9  
Donna Grossman, 12/10  
Jesus Christ, 12/25  
Nancy Natili, 12/28

### ANNIVERSARY

Paul and Donna Yanosy,  
12/31

### REMEMBER OUR FRIENDS IN NURSING HOMES AND 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

# Yuletide

## GAMES

Enjoy the Christmas season with these games, centered around the theme of Jesus, our greatest gift.

### JESUS' BIRTH FROM A-Z

**What you need:**

- Paper
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (optional)



**What you do:**

Instruct players to think of as many Christmas-related words as they can that start with each letter of the alphabet. Start with A and give everyone a minute to brainstorm words for each letter. For example, M words include manger, Mary and miracle. If you get stuck, look at the Nativity accounts in Matthew 1 and 2, and also Luke 2. Players get a point for each word not repeated by others.

### PIN THE STAR ON THE MANGER

**What you need:**

- Butcher paper, poster board or plain wrapping paper
- Markers, paint or crayons
- Construction paper stars
- Tape
- Blindfold



**What you do:**

On large paper, draw a picture of a stable. Give each player a star cutout. Put a small + above the manger where the star led the shepherds and wise men to baby Jesus. Like in Pin the Tail on the Donkey, the blindfolded person who puts his or her star closest to the + wins.



# A Child is Born

*Jesus received many different names — even before he was born. Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) prophesies about four of these names.*

**Directions:** Unscramble the words on the name tags below. (Hint: The first letter is capitalized.)

MY NAME IS  
gyhMti  
\_\_\_\_\_

dGo  
\_\_\_\_\_

MY NAME IS  
lerWnofud  
\_\_\_\_\_

esnruooCl  
\_\_\_\_\_

MY NAME IS  
vrelEnsitga  
\_\_\_\_\_

eahFrt  
\_\_\_\_\_

MY NAME IS  
niPcre  
\_\_\_\_\_ of  
aPcee  
\_\_\_\_\_



Answers: Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace





FRIENDSHIP PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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*Submitted by  
Heather Datt*