

First Presbyterian News

December & January 2021 2022

401 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka, In. 46544

Greetings to my fellow FPC family and friends!

The Advent season is a season of waiting, but our whole life should be an Advent season. What this means is that whether our times on earth are good or bad, happy or sad, we should always wait patiently and be ready for Christ's return in our daily lives.

In the days of Ahaz as king of Judah, there was a political tension among Southern Judah, Northern Israel and Syria. The alliance of Pekah, King of Israel with Rezin, King of Syria threatened King Ahaz with invasion of Judah if Ahaz would not help them against Assyria.

In this desperate situation, God sent the prophet Isaiah to King Ahaz and spoke through the prophet, "Take heed, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint [because of their threat]" (Isaiah 7:4). Isaiah assured the king that God would be with Ahaz, and encouraged him to trust God.

The LORD spoke to the king, saying, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God" (Isaiah 7:11a). Did the king ask for a sign when God offered? Unfortunately, the king refused to receive a divine sign. King Ahaz trusted his enemy Assyria to deliver him from his troubles with Israel and Syria rather than risk trusting God.

After the king's rejection, Isaiah replied with a following message, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:13-14).

Whether King Ahaz would admit this divine sign or not, God would be with Israel. Isaiah's prophecy was partially fulfilled with the birth of Isaiah's son, Maher-shalal-has-baz (Ref. Isaiah 8:1-4). Judah would escape Assyrian captivity. However, Isaiah's prophecy ultimately was fulfilled after the birth of Christ, which took 700 years of waiting.

When King Ahaz ruled over Judah, it was such a difficult time for the people of Israel due to the political disaster, social disorder, and moral corruption. However, even in the midst of chaos, God spoke through a prophet to his people, Israel, that the Messiah would come and restore God's relationship with his people. God fulfilled his promise by sending his Son Jesus – Immanuel, which means "God with us".

In the midst of all crises, true hope comes by our faith in Jesus who is always with us and wants to turn our darkness into light, our conflict into peace, our despair into joy.

How should we live our lives until Christ returns?

Celebrating Advent means being able to wait patiently and live faithfully until Christ returns. As we continue to anticipate Christ's glorious return during this Advent season, may your hearts be filled with hope, peace, joy and love.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Pastor Daniel



Joy Offering

The Joy Offering will be received during the Advent and Christmas season. Fifty percent of this Offering will be used to honor the faithfulness of current and retired church workers and their families in critical financial emergency, a health-care crisis or even assistance to pastors affected by natural disasters.



The other fifty percent will make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. You will find an Offering envelope in your Offering envelope box and by the Offering plate by the middle door to the sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The Mission Committee

Deacon's Christmas Shopping is scheduled for Dec 4th at JC Penny's. At the writing of this article we are still trying to determine the time 8 am or 9 am. There will be an announcement as soon as we know for sure. If you feel comfortable coming out and shopping, please sign up on the clipboard. We are committed to 50 kids, and there is still time to donate if you have not already done so. Envelopes are in the pews or your envelope box. Please mark "Christmas Shopping" on the check if you could.

Advent Fellowship
With Covid still being a thing, we felt it best to scale back the progressive dinner this year, and instead will have a fellowship time, games, a desert bar and maybe sing some Carols.
DATE IS NOW DECEMBER 18TH AT 6:30 pm.
We have some fun things planned and hope you can join us.

The Christmas Card bulletin board is done and ready for your personal touch. Please share photos, cards or messages with your church family.
Pastor Daniel has made special activity sheets for the children for the four weeks of Advent. Copies can be found clipped to clipboards found on a front pew.

Our Chrismon Tree
Symbols decorating the sanctuary tree are called "Chrismons", a name taken from the words "Christ" and "monogram." A Chrismon is a monogram of Christ and a symbol that conveys an inner meaning of the Gospel itself ---reflections of the holy Christian faith. Please pick up a flyer for more details.
(they are under the tree)



Please send information for the February news letter to Sue Rice by January 17th. suce@aol.com Thank you.

Greetings from the Worship and Music committee

We hope everyone had a joy filled Thanksgiving. We have so many people and things to be thankful for.

We so appreciate all who have volunteered as worship leaders and ushers this past year. We do need a few more people for ushers for the year 2022.

Ushers for December 26th and January 2nd are very much needed.

Christmas Eve service will begin at 7pm with the Hand bell choir directed by Judy Green.

The choir loft will be filled with many voices to help lead us in traditional carols and songs.

(If you like to sing and would like to join in the "joyous chorus," rehearsals will be before worship on Sunday, December 19 at 9 and then early before Christmas eve service. Let Chris

clwucko@sbcglobal.net or Alan acamren34@gmail.com know, the sooner the better) Desheng Huang will be directing the choir.

We will gather at our own church on December 26. I will be giving the message (Pastor Daniel has a personal day) "Christmas songs and their stories".

On January 2, Epiphany Sunday, as this is the first Sunday of the year, there is room for volunteer helpers.

Are there any bread bakers in our congratulations? If so, your help with baking the communion bread would be a great help.

Our congregation has been a blessing to the church and our community. Thank you all again, may the Lord bless you all, Judy Sulak Worship and Music



After service on January 2nd, we will be taking down decorations. Please think about sticking around to help out.

| Date | Worship Leader | | Usher |
|-------|----------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| 12/5 | Pam Camren | Communion | Ethan DeMaegd |
| 12/12 | Alan Camren | | Greg Phillips, Carol Polk |
| 12/19 | John Rice | | Mike Green |
| 12/24 | John Rice | | Neil Seufert |
| 12/26 | Judy Sulak | | Carole Polk, Greg Phillips |
| 1/2 | Judy Sulak | Communion | |
| 1/9 | Pam Camren | | Carole Polk |
| 1/16 | Dyan Phillips | | Neil Seufert |
| 1/23 | Janna McLean | | Michael Green |
| 1/30 | Judy Sulak | | |

TODDLER ROOM SCHEDULE 2021
DECEMBER JUDY G./ CAROLE
JANUARY DARLENE



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Daniel Cho

vision80cho@gmail.com

Office Manager

fpcmishawaka@gmail.com

Financial Secretary Joan Horvath

joanfpcmishawaka@gmail.com

Custodian John McLean

jmmclem52@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Pastor hours: Tuesday thru Thursday 9 to noon

Secretary hours: will vary, if you need to contact office please use email or leave a message. In emergency contact Daniel.

Financial Secretary hours: Monday & Thursday 9 to noon

Custodian hours: Monday thru Friday 6 am to 11am

Contact us at (574) 259-7874 or fpcmishawaka@gmail.com

OUR MAIL ADDRESS: First Presbyterian Church-Mishawaka
P.O. Box 744 Mishawaka, Indiana 46546

MAC Mishawaka Alliance of Care

NOTES FROM THE MAC FOOD PANTRY BOARD MEETING
Pantry director, Shelia, reports that the number of clients is ever increasing. On a monthly basis the pantry serves around 180 families and 600 individuals. Each month the number of new family clients averages out to be about 30. There has been speculation that the pantry may see/need some changes coming in 2022.

The members here at FPC are always so giving, thank you.
Respectfully submitted, Janet Freeman

Church Officers and Committees

Session: Greg Phillips, John Martz, Chris Wukovits, Mary Ann Dentino, Judy Sulak

Board of Deacons:

Carole Polk Moderator, Bill Bellairs, Tom Camren, Pam Martz, Jenn Frey, Jim Stanz

Facilities / Operations John Martz

Chair Book Club: Judy Green

Clerk of Session: Teresa Primmer

Chair Christian Education:

Chris Wukovits

Chair Finance: Ron May,

Chair Mission and Evangelism:

Mary Ann Dentino,

Chair Newsletter: Sue Rice

Chair Personnel: Greg Phillips

Chair Prayer Chain: Lynett Heritz

Presbyterian Women: Darlene

Seufert and Chris Wukovits

Chair Special Gifts: Sue Rice

Chair Stewardship: Ron May,

Treasurer: John Rice

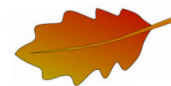
Chair Worship and Music: Judy

Sulak

Thanksgiving baskets were delivered to fourteen families from Battell School on Sunday, November 21.

The families received a voucher for a ham or turkey in addition to all the trimmings for their Thanksgiving dinner including pumpkin pie. Thank you to the generous members of our congregation for bringing the groceries, pies, rolls and donations for the vouchers. You are providing a reason for these families to be thankful and know they are loved. Thank you also to those that delivered the baskets to the families.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all!!



Our *Grinch* advent book study is over. A big thank you for the fellowship shared. And my all your hearts be forever 3 sizes bigger and filled with blessings.

Our annual mitten tree is up and ready to be decorated. If while you are out shopping you see some cute or trendy mittens, hats, scarfs bring them on in and decorate our tree.

All items are given to Battell School for the kids who need them.



BOOK CLUB

Join us the 3rd Sunday of each month as we discuss our monthly choice. Contact Judy Green for the details, mtcgjag@aol.com or check the Sunday bulletins.

December 19, *Christmas Day in the Morning* by Pearl S Buck. Judy Green will lead discussion, Hosting TBA.

January 23 (Date Change), *The Madness of Crowds* by Louise Penny. Dyan will host and Darlene will lead.

If you want to host or lead we have openings just let me know. Thank you.

Church Secretary, Nancy Adams unexpectedly passed away last week. Her funeral will take place on November 27th at 2:00 pm here at First Presbyterian Church.
Pastor Daniel Cho will officiate.
Nancy will be missed, please remember her family and her kitties in your prayers.

Nancilee Adams

Niles - Nancilee "Nancy" Adams of Niles passed away Nov. 16, 2021.

Nancy was born in Chicago on June 11, 1948. She was the daughter of James Caryl and Beryl Jean (Kitch) Adams.

Nancy loved to play euchre and always tried for the big win at casinos.
She loved her feline family.

Nancy is survived by her brother Rich (Dawn) Adams of Okemos. She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother James Christopher of California; and a sister Marcy Lynn of Niles.

Memorial Services will take place at 2 p.m. Nov. 27 at First Presbyterian Church, 401 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka IN.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Nancy's name may be made to The Humane Society. Online condolences to the family may be made at www.halbritterwickens.com
Halbritter Wickens Funeral Home 615 E. Main St., Niles has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Volunteers are needed to greet on Sunday mornings. If you have a friendly face, a ready smile and can direct visitors up the stairs please contact Bill Bellairs. He has immediate openings.

Volunteers are needed to usher. A new list is being put together for 2022, please contact Darlene or Judy S. to get your spot. The duties require you to work on Sunday mornings, with some walking involved.

Want to play with some of the children of the church? Sign up to occupy the toddler room in 2022! See sign up sheet in lobby to have fun.

Masks are still required at FPC. Mary Ann and Jae have several ready to go. Contact one of them if you would like a new stylish face covering.

The Nominating Committee has filled volunteer positions,
For the Deacons, Bill Bellairs and Angela Bellinger for 3 year terms,
Carole Polk is taking over Tom Camren's last year.

For Session, Mary Watt is taking the Personnel opening for 3 years.

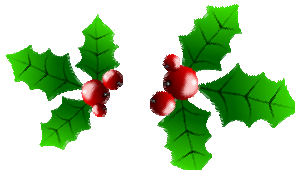




For Nominating: Teresa Primmer, Anna Bowers, Michael Green.



Worship 10 am

December

Fellowship 11 am

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|
|  | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 8/9 am JC Penney's Deacon's Shopping 4:30 PM Wedding |
| 5 <i>Communion</i> <i>Peace Advent Candle lit</i> | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 <i>Joy Advent Candle lit</i> | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 6:30 pm Deacon's Fellowship at church |
| 19 <i>Love Advent Candle lit</i> JOY Offering collected  | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23  | 24 <i>office closed</i> 7 PM <i>Christmas</i> <i>Eve Service</i> Joy Offering collected <i>Jesus Advent</i> <i>candle lit</i> | 25 Hope Christmas Day Love Joy Peace   |
| 26 Special "Christmas Songs and their stories" | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 <i>office closed</i> | |



January 2nd Epiphany Sunday and January 9th Baptism of the Lord

Presbyterian Women

Circle meetings in December: Ruth Circle will meet on the 16th. (a week early due to holiday) at Judy Green's, Elizabeth Circle, 20th at Chris Wukovits' home.

January special dates are 8th...Winter Gathering at 10am. Please bring a dish to share.
PWCT will meet at 9am.

- 17th...Kitchen clean up at 10am
- 17th Elizabeth Circle 7pm at the church
- 20th Ruth Circle 7pm place TBA

Darlene Seufert and Chris Wukovits

2022 UPPER ROOM DATES

- MARCH 11 & 12 sale days 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- JUNE 4 sale day 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- SEPTEMBER 10 sale day 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- OCTOBER 15 sale day 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Watch for Pop-up Sales at fpcmishawaka.net

