



THE OLIVE BRANCH

Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

Ringoes, New Jersey

Upcoming Events

December

9-Movie night, *Polar Express*, 7:00 pm

16-17—Youth Lock in

17-Children's Christmas Play 5:00-7:00 pm

21-Westminster Guild 1:00 pm

24-Christmas Eve worship services, 5:30 & 7:30 pm

26-Christmas Holiday, Office closed.

January

2-New Year Holiday, Office closed.

Westminster Guild

The Westminster Guild will meet on December 21 at 1:00 pm instead of the usual 1:30.

It's the annual Christmas meeting, and everyone is asked to bring a short Christmas story or poem to share. All ladies of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

Children's Christmas Books

There are many wonderful Christian children's books for Christmas in our library. Some are currently being displayed above the children's section.

Christmas is a wonderful time to start a habit of reading books about the Bible and Jesus to your children. Check it out!

From The Pastor

"THE CHRISTMAS HOPE"

We can endure almost anything as long as we have hope, as long as we can believe there may come a change for the better. We can put up with privation; we can stand severe hardship; we can accept harsh confinement; we can live with discomfort; we can be patient through long illness.

Hope works in these ways:

Hope looks for the good in people instead of harping on the worst.

Hope opens doors where despair closes them.

Hope discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot.

Hope draws its power from a deep trust in God.

Hope regards small and large problems as challenges and opportunities.

Hope cherishes no illusions, nor does it yield to cynicism.

Hope sets big goals and is not frustrated by repeated difficulties or setbacks.

Hope pushes ahead when it would be easier to quit.

Christmas Season Worship Schedule

There will be two Christmas Eve worship services again this year, and one service on Christmas day, which falls on a Sunday this year.

The Christmas Eve services are

Hope puts up with modest gains, realizing that the longest journey starts with one step.

Hope accepts misunderstanding as the price for serving the greater good of others.

Hope lights a candle instead of cursing the darkness.

As we move through Advent to Christmas, may our prayer be:

We pray for the Savior's blessings,

That His special guiding hand
Might touch the lives this season
Of all people of this land,
So they will know that Christmas
Is more than just one day;
It's formed of love and caring
In a very special way.

We pray the Savior's promises
Might live through things we share,

That sparks might start from others

As his people show they care,
So Christian love will linger on
Long past the day of birth,
'til others know its meaning
All over this great earth.

Have a Blessed Advent,

Will

5:30 and 7:30 pm.

Christmas Musical

The youngsters of KMPC have been working very hard rehearsing for this year's Christmas musical.

The performance will be Saturday, December 17, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

Master Schedule

	9:00 Nursery	Jr. Church	9:00 Greeters	9:00 Offering Ushers	Coffee Break	Communion Prep	10:30 Nursery/Jr Church	10:30 Greeters Ushers	Pulpit Assistant
Dec 4	Skip & Terri Kell	Jennifer & Barry Bacon	Irene & Bob Harrison	Irene & Bob Harrison Margaret Case & Tracy McClelland	Terry & Pat Wright	Paul Mitzen	Kate Kennedy	Fred & Irene Kuhl	Roger DeLay
Dec 11	Lisa & Matt Koye	Kathleen & Greg Ruel	Darryl & Nancy Cronce	Darryl & Nancy Cronce Steve & Lori Wonsor	Linda Hults & Suzanne King	Carol Riggan	Angela & Alan Bodine	Karen & Roger DeLay	Pat Wright
Dec 18	Rod & Jana Jensen	Tracy McClelland & Michelle Carey	Glenn & Carol Riggan	Glenn & Carol Riggan Bob & Donna Trevithick	Christmas Play	Karin Stover	Jeff & Kristen Schott	Alan & Angela Bodine	Alan Bodine
Dec 25	Anthony & Beth Dell	Holiday service	Dave & Karla Gambrill	Dave & Karla Gambrill Gary & Eileen Vincent-Smith	Jennifer & Barry Bacon	Donna Trevithick	ONE SERVICE	ONE SERVICE	ONE SERVICE

December Calendar

The above calendar will fill out the rest of the year. We haven't included the January calendar this month, since many of the positions have yet to be assigned.

Speaking of the "master schedule," if you are assigned a particular Sunday, then find you are unable to be here, please obtain a substitute yourself. The easiest approach that most do is to ask the person(s) assigned to the next week to switch with you. When you agree to the switch, just let Barry know by email or phone so the bulletin can be changed before it's printed.

Once all the assignments for January are in, the January schedule will be emailed.

Are You An Usher or Greeter?

If you are an usher or greeter at either of the two Sunday worship services, we need a count—even if not exact—of the people attending the service. The stack of bulletins on the table in the front of the sanctuary have a form for the count.

Often the comment is made that once the greeter takes his or her seat, they don't see any late comers enter. That's OK, if the count was made just before sitting down, that's a lot more accurate count than the blank.

Why do we need a count? One of the measures of how we're doing as a congregation is the number of people who attend each week, and the total number for the year is reported in our annual report.

The count slip can be left on the table

or brought to the office and put on Barry's desk.

Decide who will do the count—or two or more count and come up with a figure to put on the form.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

Poinsettias Available

The poinsettia plants gracing the Sanctuary for Advent and Christmas are available for honoring or remembering relatives or friends.

The plants are \$10 each, and can be picked up after Christmas. Forms for the plants included in the December 4 bulletin, and are also available at the front and back of the church.

When the form is filled out, you can place the form and check in the collection plate or drop them off at the office. Please try to have the forms in by December 21.

The Olive Branch

The Olive Branch is published monthly by the Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church, Ringoes NJ. Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Submit articles to Barry Campbell by email to kirkpatrickchurch@earthlink.net, or in person. For information, call the church office at 908-782-1177.

PRAYER LIST – December 2011

Please contact a deacon to have names added/deleted to the prayer list.

KMPC Family:

Margaret C. (healing)
Doug C. (healing)
Irene K. (Parkinsons)
Gail K. (Parkinsons)
Grace C. (support)
Will K. (healing)
Ted M. (healing)
Fred K. (healing)
Margot E. (healing)
Chris C. (healing – cancer)
Thomas family (blessings)
Dorothy S. (healing)
Maureen K.
Caregivers (several within our congregation)
Elementary/High School/College
students & Teachers
KMPC Deacons/Session/PNC
Homebound members

Extended KMC family:

Troubled youth
Toby & Judy N.
George S. (healing)
Carl C. (healing)
Ryan A. (healing)
Jim (healing)
Donna (unemployed)
Jeff (troubled youth)
Charles P. (healing)
Tom H. & Son, Casey (healing)
Kathy H. (healing)
Jessica T.
Bobby T. (healing from injury)
Dan (cancer)
Andrea (cancer)
Greer F. (healing)
Cliff B. (healing)
Dan A. (als)
Felipe (viral meningitis)
Joan (cancer)
Military men & women
President Obama
U.S. & World situations
Unemployed

Christmas Movie Night

The movie *Polar Express* will be shown in the gym on December 9.

It's a great movie the entire family will enjoy. Popcorn and drinks are supplied, and you are encouraged to bring chairs, sleeping bags and blankets and enjoy the evening.

Christmas Giving Tree

Pick a Christmas Star or two from the Giving Tree, and bring back a new and unwrapped gift with the star attached. Place them under the tree by December 15.

The tree is located in the connector, and there are still plenty of stars on the tree. You still have plenty of time.