



Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

December 2025

THE OLIVE BRANCH



December Events

- 2 6:30 Deacons Mtg in Library
- 7 **Advent 2 Peace**
9:30am Communion
1^{pm} Christmas Ornament Craft
- 9 6:30 Scout's Committee Mtg
- 14 **Advent 3 Joy**
11:00 Centerpiece Class
- 16 7:00 Session Meeting
- 17 6:30pm Troop 61 in gym
- 20 11:00 Grocery Giveaway
- 21 **Advent 4 Love**
- 22 Olive Branch Info Due
Vip Info Due
- 24 **5:30** Christmas Eve Worship
- 25 Happy Birthday Jesus
- 25 & 26 Office Closed
- 28 Rev. Spildooren presiding
- 31 New Year's Eve

Weekly

- Sun 9:30am Worship
- Mon 6:30pm Troop 65
6:30pm Pastor Bible Study
- Tue 8:00pm AA
- Wed 7:30am Men's Book Study
5:30pm DTAA Basketball
6:00pm Bell Rehearsal
7:00pm Band Rehearsal
- Thu 9:30am Ladies Bible Study
8:00pm AA
- Sat 4:00pm AA

Staff Vacations:

Chris K.: Mon., Dec. 1, and
Thursdays in Dec: Dec 4, 11, 18
Pastor Barbara: December 28 -
January 3 (

View our [calendar](#) on our website

Annual Reports are due
into the office no later
than **Sunday, January 4,
2026**. The Annual
Meeting will be held on
**Sunday, January 25,
2026**.

Pastor's Ponderings

Greetings friends in Christ,

December arrives with a mix of wonder and weariness. The days grow shorter, the nights stretch long, and all around us lights sparkle, reminding us that Christmas is almost here. In the church, we stand in the season of Advent—a time when we lean forward in hope, preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ.

This year, as always, Advent reminds us that God meets us in the middle of real life. Christ does not wait for the world to be perfect before entering it. He comes into the ordinary, the messy, the uncertain. He comes into the quiet, into the longing, into the prayer whispered in the dark. "The light shines in the darkness," John tells us, "and the darkness did not overcome it." That is the promise that steadies us in December.

As we light the Advent candles—Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love—we are not only remembering a story long ago; we are practicing trust for today. We are choosing to believe that God is still at work. Hope still rises. Peace is still possible. Joy still breaks through our hearts, (and she enjoys a good petting). Love still wins.

In the coming weeks, our sanctuary will fill with carols, candlelight, and the familiar rhythms of the season. I invite you to breathe deeply and let these moments restore you. Take time to notice God's presence in small things: the kindness of a friend, the excitement of children, a quiet snowfall, or even the stillness that comes when you pause for prayer.

And as Christmas Eve draws near, we will gather once more to hear the astonishing news: "*Unto to you is born this day...a Savior.*" A Savior not for a different world, but for **this** one—our world, with its joys and its sorrows, its beauty and its deep need.

May this December be a month of grace for you. May Christ meet you with comfort where you are hurting, strength where you are weary, and joy where you least expect it. And may the light of Christ shine in you and through you, bringing blessing to all you meet.

Wishing you a peaceful Advent and a blessed Christmas,

Pastor Barbara



Christmas Eve Worship

Our Christmas Eve worship service will be held in-person and via Zoom on December 24, 2025 at 5:30pm. ALL are welcome, especially children! Celebrate Jesus' birth with carols and Bible readings. The Zoom information for the service is below:

Topic: Christmas Eve Worship Service

Time: Dec 24, 2024 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81577790221?pwd=TXdEbjBle2thWkxzVDRISSySsZaUT09>

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 815 7779 0221



Bundles of Blessings -- KMPC Deacons are once again collecting gifts for children and families for Christmas. Please visit the Christmas Tree in the connector for details.

Dec. 14th: Christmas Table Flower Arrangement Class : Abby Danner will be leading a class for making a table arrangement for the Holidays. The cost will be \$45 per person and include fresh flowers in the arrangement as well a light lunch with beverage prior to the class. Lunch will be served at 11 just prior to class. Class size is limited to 15 people. To sign up for this event, please contact Norma through email at enzimmerman@comcast.net. There will be more updates for people as they sign up with items to bring, etc. Any additional questions just email Norma.

On Sunday, November 9th, Pastor Barbara and Session made the following announcement.

Pastor Barbara, Presbytery's Committee on Ministry and Session have entered into a revised Covenant Agreement and have agreed that Pastor Barbara will work part time next year. The new agreement takes effect January 1, 2026. Under the agreement, the Pastor will focus on preaching on Sundays, visiting the sick and shut ins, teaching an adult bible study and will moderate session meetings. The remaining administrative duties of the church will be overseen by our staff and elders in a similar fashion as has been done in the past.

The congregation should see little effect because of this change and Pastor Barbara will be here for us as she has been for the past two years. Pastor Barbara has spent the past few months praying about this change and believes it is the right decision for the church.

Any questions can be directed to the Pastor, Steve Little or Don Reilly.

Come join us for Sunday Worship

If you cannot join us in person at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning in the sanctuary, please join us via Zoom.

Topic: Sunday Worship Service

Time: 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/673176006>

Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 673 176 006

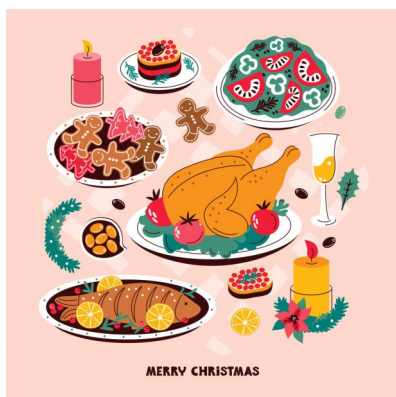
Please share the link with friends, neighbors, relatives -- online worship can be a great outreach for us!

Food Ministry

Saturday, Nov. 22, was our **Thanksgiving Grocery Giveaway**. We gave away 33 bags of food plus turkeys, pies, bread and butter. Thank you to all the organizations and individuals that helped us: Athlete's in Action, Boy Scout troop 65, individuals in the community, and our wonderful congregation.

Our next Giveaway will be our Christmas Grocery Giveaway on Dec. 20. We will again hope to give everyone all the fixings for a Christmas dinner.

Thank you for supporting this much needed ministry in our community.



CHRISTMAS BASKETS

As we give thanks to Jesus for our many blessings this year, let us honor him by serving others. As Christmas Day approaches and you go shopping for ingredients to create that special family meal, please keep in mind that not every family in our community is as fortunate. The Deacons are asking our church family to help meet the needs of our community this year by picking up a few extra food items that will be made into Christmas food baskets. Please take this shopping list with you as a friendly reminder. Anything on the following list would be greatly appreciated:

- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Cereal
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Apple Sauce
- Rice
- Beans
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- Boxed Potato Dishes
- Frozen Turkey/Ham/Oven Roaster
- Turkey/Chicken/Pork Gravy
- Canned Fruit
- Cranberry Sauce
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Soup
- Tuna Fish
- Cookie &/or Brownie Mixes (not refrigerated)



If you are able to donate, please leave the items in the bin outside the Connector marked "Deacons Food Drive" **before Dec. 15th** Thank you for your support!



Bible Study will be held on Zoom at 6:30pm on Mondays.

Month's Topic: Finding Ourselves at the Manger

All are welcome.

Zoom address is available on our website or you can email pastorbarbara@kirkpartickchurch.org for the invite link.

December 2025 Sunday Volunteers

Date	Preaching	Liturgist	Wreath Lighters	Nursery / Jr Church	Coffee Break	Communion
Advent 2 12/7/2025	Pastor Barbara				<i>please volunteer</i>	Communion
Advent 3 12/14/2025	Pastor Barbara				<i>please volunteer</i>	No Communion
Advent 4 12/21/2025	Pastor Barbara				<i>please volunteer</i>	No Communion
5:30 p.m. Xmas Eve 12/24/24	Carols & Lessons					No Communion
12/28/2024	Pastor Mark Spildooren					No Communion

Staff Vacation: Chris K.: Monday, Dec. 1, and Thursdays in Dec: Dec 4, 11, 18

Pastor Barbara: December 28 - January 3

Deacon's December 2025 Prayer List

C Family

Angie B (Healing)
Chris/Jess W (Grief)
Chuck M. (Healing)
Dave M
Erik Z (God's Guidance, Healing)
Jack J. (Gods guidance, Healing)
Jeanne M. (Peace and Comfort)
Kuhl Family (Grief)
Lynn H. (God's guidance)
Lori (Healing)
Steve L (Healing)
Norma C (Healing)
Norma Z. (Healing)
Pat W (Healing)
Marilyn C (Healing)
Ben D (God's guidance)

Caregivers

Families, Homebound, Hospice

Assisted living/ Homebound

Chuck & Jean M
Dorothy S
Bart and Norma

Extended KMPC Family

Angie's sister (Grief)
Beverly Kathy L's friend (Cancer, Healing)
Cary - Steve L's friend (Grief)
Cindy - Pat W's niece (God's guidance, Healing)
Denny - Lanie's brother in law (Healing)
Edward G - Jan G's son (Healing)
Ed Newton - (Healing)

Gerry - Steve L's friend (Healing)
Jan - Linda H's friend (Healing)
Jean - Chris K's (brain tumor)
John - Steve L's friend (treatment for his blood clots)
Karen - Sue K's friend (Healing)
Karol - Susan B's sister (Gods Guidance, Healing)
Leslie - Steve L's friend (Healing)
Lorraine - Kim F's friend (Healing)
Megan - Kathy L's niece (Healing)
Pam H. - Tracy's friend (Peace, comfort, and overall healing)
Patrick - Steve L's friend (Healing)
Patty - Sharyn D's friend (Healing)
Ray D. - (Healing)
Ruth - Steve L. family (Healing)
Shelly - Pat W.'s friend (Cancer, Healing)
Stef - Lynn H.'s daughter (Peace)
Steve F - (Parkinsons)
Steve - Steve L's friend(Healing)
Sylvia - Steve 's sister(Healing)
Tiffany and family - Lynn H's friend (Grief)
Tommy - Steve L's friend (Healing)
Union Line employees (Grief, God's guidance)
Val- (Overall healing)

U.S. and World Situations

Children affected by war
Christians in Nigeria
First Responders
Military Men & Women and their

Families

Those affected by hurricanes; fires; economic distress; illnesses; and disease
Those suffering with economic distress
President & Congress
Prisoners
Refugees
Shooting Victims
Students and Teachers
Travelers
Troubled youth
U.S. & World Situations
Unemployed
Victims of Violence and war
World Peace



Please contact us to have names added or deleted at admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org

**DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

Joyce George	Dec 5
Steven Esock	Dec 10
Janice Jarrett	Dec 11
Brian Mundhenk	Dec 12
Luke Verbeyst	Dec 14
Chris Bittenmaster	Dec 14
Frank Hults	Dec 18
James R. Danner	Dec 19
Bev Kaminski	Dec 21
Jesus Christ	Dec 25
Lori Wonsor	Dec 27
Lisa MacDade	Dec 27
Kim Fulper	Dec 28



Many hands make light work.

Thank you to all who helped
decorate the sanctuary.



Thank you to Mike K. for submitting the photos.

Please join us for a

Women's Christmas Gathering

Wednesday
December 10 Start 6 PM

IN CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST!

GUEST SPEAKER, JULIE HENNING,
SINGING, FELLOWSHIP, AND DELICIOUS FOOD

COFFEE AND TEA WILL BE PROVIDED

**PLEASE BRING AN HOR D'OEUVRE,
DESSERT OR A SIDE DISH TO SHARE**

First Presbyterian Church
31 North Union Street
Lambertville N J

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL
THE CHURCH AT 609-397-0650

Blood Drive **Living Waters Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall
11 Old York Road
Ringoes, NJ 08551

Monday, December 8, 2025
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:
livingwaterslutheran to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Give a gift, get a gift! Give blood 12/8-18 & get a \$15
Amazon Gift Card by email! rcblood.org/gifts



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

Schedule your blood donation appointment today!

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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