



Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

January 2025

THE OLIVE BRANCH



January Events

- 1 Happy New Year!
Office Closed Holiday
- 5 9:30am Communion
Annual Reports Due to Admin.
- 6 Epiphany
- 7 6:30pm Deacons Mtg
- 12 Baptism of our Lord
10:30am Session Meeting
1pm FriendsGiving Luncheon
- 14 6:30pm Boy Scout Cmte Mtg
- 24 VIP Deadline
- 25 11am Grocery Giveaway
- 27 Olive Branch Deadline

Weekly

- Sun 9:30am Worship
- Mon 6:30pm Boy Scouts
7pm Pastor's Bible Study
- Tue 8:00pm AA
- Wed 7:30am Men's Bible Study
7:00pm Bell Rehearsal
- Thu 9:30am Ladies Bible Study
8:00pm AA
- Sat 4:00pm AA

View our [calendar](#) on our website

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation will be held on Sunday, January 26th after worship.



Pastor's Ponderings

Joy to the World! The Lord has come!

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Make a joyful noise before the King. Psalm 98

As I usually do, I start the new year in reflection of the previous year. The word that best describes this past year is **gratitude** for all the blessings 2024 brought.

I am grateful to live in this bucolic area that offers an abundance of opportunities to witness God's world. From the views from the high vantage points that overlook fields and farms, to watching the Delaware River roll by as it holds a rich history (including of the forming of the early Presbyterian Churches on the riverbanks), to seeing farm animals and weaving through the people at the Hunterdon County Fair, to tasting good Jersey wine at the nearby vineyards, to being awed at the majestic Music Mountain Theatre, there is such a wide variety of ways to enjoy God's world and God's people.

I am grateful for the years this church has stood as a beacon of hope through many decades. I am grateful for the honor of worshipping with you, praying with and for you, hearing your stories that are funny, joyful, and filled with fond memories of people who have passed. I have heard and read the stories (and recipes) of those who paved the way and stood tall in this church when the world has been harsh.

Most especially, I am grateful for the people of Kirkpatrick Memorial. I give thanks to God and you, for those who have opened their hearts and homes with unconditional love and support.

Kirkpatrick Memorial has been a source of hope and healing for many, especially those who struggle with food insecurity. It has embraced the depth of understanding of our lives and the world as God intended that comes from hearing and studying God's Word. Jesus, and I, thank you for your contribution to the nearby communities.

While reengaging in a post-Covid world, this congregation has held its breath hoping for renewal to bring back the times when the church was filled with giggling teens, children's laughter, and adults enjoying the deep friendships that come from living through many years together. We all pray that the new life the church will bring will carry it through another generation-and many generations beyond.

Continued on next page

Food Ministry

Saturday, December 21st in the cold and wind, we gave out 20 bags of food, turkeys or hams, bread, and butter for our Christmas Grocery Giveaway. Thank you to everyone who helped us with donations for our Grocery Giveaways this year: Athletes in Action, Women's Auxiliary of the Amwell Valley Firehouse, the First Baptist Church of Lambertville, Living Waters Lutheran Church, Larson's Corner Presbyterian Church, Flemington ShopRite, Boy Scout Troop 65, South Hunterdon Regional High School, Main Street Bagels in Flemington, members of the community, and our congregation both here and afar.

Pastor's Ponderings...continued from previous page

In 1719, Isaac Watts wrote *Joy to the World* using Psalm 98 as his inspiration. The Psalm encourages all of creation to rejoice in the goodness and mercy of God. It encourages us to give uninhibited praises to God with our voices, with trumpets and harps (keyboards, guitars, drums and bells), and with "rocks, hills and plains [we] repeat the sounding joy". God is the Creator of all, so rejoicing in all of creation, including each other is appropriate. Whenever this hymn sung it encourages and reminds us to joyfully and repeatedly receive the newborn King.

My prayer is that as we continue down this journey of life together, we embrace with gratitude all the world and all it has in it. Most importantly, that we embrace the gift God has given in the incarnation of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

In Christ's love, with a grateful heart,
Pastor Barbara

Epiphany Sunday

The church's twelve-day long Christmas season ends on January 6th, the Day of Epiphany, which falls on a Monday. On Sunday, January 5, we will celebrate the manifestation of Christ in the world, as told through the story of the Magi, and we will celebrate Communion together.

Epiphany Monday

We will begin a new study about the making of the Bible. Understanding the who, what, where and why gives us a depth of understanding for the "deep dives" into the Word of God. The study will be on Monday nights at 7:00 pm in the library and on Zoom. It is a great way to begin studying the Bible as well as those who have studied in great depth, but who want to explore the history of the Bible.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85881121128>

January 2025 Sunday Volunteers

Date	Preaching	Liturgist	Nursery / Jr Church	Coffee Break	Communion
Christmas 1 12/29/2024	Pastor Barbara	Betty R.			No Communion
Epiphany 1/5/2024	Pastor Barbara	Don R.			Communion
Epiphany 2 1/12/24	Pastor Barbara				No Communion
Epiphany 3 1/19/2024	Pastor Barbara				No Communion
Epiphany 4 Annual Mtg 1/26/24	Pastor Barbara				No Communion
Worship service, Annual Meeting, & lunch					

Friends Giving January 12th, 2025

Our Fellowship and Outreach Committee is pulling together with the other river churches, Mount Airy, Stockton, Lambertville, and Titusville to hold another Friends Giving on January 12th. We were inspired to do this based on the fun experience we had last year, but also to use it as a way to help local families in need. We will ask everyone to bring a dish to share, and also a Walmart gift card, or monetary donation, that will be used to support the chosen families. There will be a process in determining which families will receive these gifts which will include the local churches, schools and social workers. Our goal is to help the ones who truly need it!

The Titusville Church has a large room that can hold up to 120ish people and it is on the ground floor so it's easily accessible to everyone. Rather than doing it like last year with the Thanksgiving type feast we decided that people can make whatever they want. To avoid having too much of any one thing we thought it best if we, our church, responds to this group message and shares what we are bringing. It can be anything from a main course, side dish, or dessert.

We realize that it is a very busy time of year but please try to save the date and join us in this community spirited outreach. If you have any questions feel free to reach out.

I'll start the menu.....

- 1.Pot roast with gravy - Tracy McClelland
- 2.Chicken Casserole - Bev Kaminski
- 3.Pot of meatballs and sausage - Norma Zimmerman
- 4.Dessert - Kathy Lovett
- 5.Salad with assortment of dressings—Pastor Barb



Deacon's January 2025 Prayer List

KMPC Family

Angela B (cancer)
Barry C family (grief)
Bart and Norma
Betsy P (healing)
Chris/Jess W (baby) – Wonsor's son/
DIL
Dave M
Esther
Erik Z
Glenn M (cancer) --Tracy
Karen S
Karol (continued prayers)
Laura --Susan's niece
Stef --Lynn's daughter
Steve L (healing)
Tracy M (healing)

Caregivers

Families suffering with addictions
Homebound members & Shut-Ins
Hospice

Assisted living/ Care Center

Chuck & Jean M
Dorothy S
Irene K
Millie W

Extended KMPC Family

Brad (bladder cancer-hospice) –
Kim F
Carol
Cindy --Pat's Niece
Clare (broken wrist) – Kim F
Dave (health issues) – Jim D brother
Edward G (cancer)
Jackie --Betsy P daughter

Jean (brain tumor) Chris
Jen (health Issues}
Irene H
Keith P (healing)
Linda (cancer)
Mary (throat cancer)– Kim F
Megan (drug addition) --Kathy's
niece
Nancy F. (Health issues) --Kathy's
friend
Natalie --Steve L sister
Prall family (grief) – Kim F
Robbie (grief-passed from brain
cancer) --Lanie's friend
Ryan & Tessa A (healing &
prayers for baby)
Sherri B. (healing, lupus)
Steve F (Parkinson's)
Tracy's Dad

Families of Natural Disasters

First Responders
Those affected by hurricanes
Military Men & Women and their
Families
President & Congress
Prisoners
Refugees
Shooting Victims
Travelers
Troubled youth
U.S. & World Situations
Unemployed
Victims of Violence
People with illnesses/disease
People of Ukraine
Victims of War



Dotty Stirrup	Jan. 1
Danielle Mundhenk	Jan. 2
Irene Kuhl	Jan. 13
Mike Stover	Jan. 13
Janis Little	Jan. 16
Terry Wright	Jan. 16
Elizabeth Kadezabek	Jan. 18
Lynn Hutchinson	Jan. 19
Jamie Lyn Quinn	Jan. 19
David Fulper	Jan. 20
David Verbeyst	Jan. 20
Terri Ferrell	Jan. 30



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

It is with sadness that we share the news that Mildred Grace Wolfe, age 95 years, of Hillsborough Township, NJ, died peacefully on Monday, December 16, 2024, at Foothill Acres Care Center.

Family and friends will gather on Monday, January 13, 2025, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Chapel of Wright & Ford Family Funeral Home, 38 State Highway 31, Flemington, NJ.

A life celebration service officiated by Rev. David Errickson will take place at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home, and to which all are welcome. Burial will follow at Rosemont Cemetery, Rosemont, NJ, and again, all are welcome to join the family for this precious moment.

You are encouraged to visit Mildred's permanent life celebration site at www.wrightfamily.com to light a candle of hope, leave messages of condolence, share words of comfort and recollection, and post photographs of her life.

Holiday Centerpiece Class



December 8th Holiday Wreath Class was a great success with wonderful take home centerpieces. Thank you so much to Abby for leading this class.

Photo credit: Pat P

Thank you to this choir of singers for their beautiful offering of "Joy to the World" during the Third Sunday of Advent.

Photo credit: Mike K



MISSION NEWS

*Dear Pastor Barbara and all our friends at
Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church,
We were so delighted and powerfully encouraged to
receive your very generous gifts of many boots for
the children of our single mothers! It is such a
wonderful expression of God's love to them all at
Christmas, and what a joy to see our storehouse
filled to overflowing with your great kindness!*

*"FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN,
TO US A SON IS GIVEN,
& THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE ON HIS SHOULDERS,
AND HE WILL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR,
MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER,
PRINCE OF PEACE" ISAIAH 9:6*

*May the Lord bless you all at Christmas and
in the New Year!
From all at
Friendship Center for New Beginnings*

