



Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

December 2022

THE OLIVE BRANCH



December Events

- 4 Advent 2**
Bells of Kirkpatrick ringing
- 6 6:30 Deacons Mtg in Library**
- 11 Advent 3**
15 Olive Branch Deadline
- 16 Assemble Food Baskets
- 17 11:00 Grocery Giveaway
- 18 Advent 4**
Session Meeting
- 24 5:30 Christmas Eve Worship
- 25 Happy Birthday Jesus
Online worship only
- 26 Office Closed
- 31 New Year's Eve

Weekly

- Sun 9:30am Worship in-person
& via Zoom
- Mon 6:30pm Boy Scouts
- Tue 8:00pm AA
- Wed 7:30am Men's Bible Study
7:00pm Bell Rehearsal
- Thu 9:30am Ladies Bible Study
8:00pm AA
- Fri Office Closed
- Sat 4:00pm AA

Annual Reports are due into the office no later than **Sunday, January 1, 2023**. The Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 29, 2023**.

Advent Wreath Lighters

Thank you for volunteering.

Nov. 27– Linda & Frank Hults

Dec. 4 - Lori & Steve Wonsor

Dec. 11 - Bev & Ellie

Dec. 18 - Nancy & Darryl Cronic

Dec. 24—Pat & Terry Wright

From the Pastor

After Annunciation

This is the irrational season

when love blooms free and wild.

*Had Mary been filled with reason
there'd have been no room for the Child.*

Madeleine L'Engle

We're entering a time of year when our cultural customs tend to overwhelm our spiritual intentions. Advent, which begins November 27th, is a time of preparation for Christ's coming. In the ancient church, advent was a time of repentance and restraint, a time of purification in order to receive Christ's presence anew. Thus we hang purple during advent just as we do in Lent.

In our time Advent is frequently cast aside in favor of 'The Holidays'. 'The Holidays' in our market driven consumer oriented society are also a time of preparation. But unlike the Advent of old we are now pressured to indulge ourselves at a frenetic pace. All around us we receive the message that Christmas is the time when WE get what WE want.

I'm often given to wonder about the reason we of faith are so susceptible to the materialistic voices of our culture at this time of year. Perhaps its easier to substitute something concrete like a tree or a party or a present or a string of lights than it is to really and truly wrap our minds around the Mystery becoming flesh in the person of a little child.

In the Incarnation God acted freely, wildly by surprising us with a gift we never wanted but one we desperately needed: God present with us in the person of Jesus Christ.

On the whole I think our contemporary tendency to go overboard isn't a bad thing in and of itself. One might say with truth that God went entirely overboard in coming to live with us. Perhaps what need to do in Advent is to reflect the irrational quantity of love which God lavished upon us that first time around.

So as you move through these Advent days why not let yourself go just a bit? Let yourself go in love, let yourself go in compassion, let yourself go in service, above all let yourself go in prayer. Thus having made room for the child, 'The Holidays' might turn out to be Christmas after all!

Yours in Christ's Service,
Pastor Marie



Christmas Eve Worship

Our Candlelight Christmas Eve worship service will be held in-person and via Zoom on December 24, 2023 at 5:30pm. Please have your own candles ready at home and join us for this meaningful worship service on the holiest night of the year. The Zoom information for the service is below:

Topic: Christmas Eve Worship Service

Time: Dec 24, 2021 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81577790221?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81577790221?pwd=TXdEbjBlc2thWkxzVDRISSySzZaUT09)

[pwd=TXdEbjBlc2thWkxzVDRISSySzZaUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81577790221?pwd=TXdEbjBlc2thWkxzVDRISSySzZaUT09)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 815 7779 0221



A great hug from old friends that have not seen each other in a while.



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!



Photos from Norma Case tast Sunday as they watched the KMPC service from there living room. Their son Brian was there, and Great grandson Bradley prepared the communion and served it to them. How sweet is that.



Our Boy Scout Troop #65 will be participating in two fundraisers over the holidays: Wreaths Across America and ShopRite Gift Cards. We can help them by sponsoring (purchasing) wreaths that will be laid on the graves of veterans at Rosemont Cemetery on December 17th and by purchasing gift cards that can be used at any ShopRite store. The forms for both programs are attached. Once completed please drop them off for Chris in the church office or give them to Roger Pickard. Thanks for your help in supporting the scouts in our troop.



Session November Update:

The session met in Library on November 20th at 11AM for our monthly meeting. Pastor Marie called the meeting to order, and Elder Linda Hults did the devotions and prayer.

Minutes from October meeting were approved.
Don Reilly filled in as clerk of session for this Month.

There is a sign up list to be a Worship Leader with Pastor Marie. Signups for September and October are:
November 27th Steve Little
December 4th Jim Danner
December 11th Steve Little
December 18th Don Reilly
December 25th Merry Christmas Video service recording
January 1st Mike Kurti

We are looking for more signups for Worship Leader with Pastor Marie and there is a link printed in the Mid-Week bulletin and Olive Branch. Worship leaders volunteers can be from the Session, Deacons or congregation. A worship Leader reads all announcements and the First Reading of Scripture and prayer.

We have hired a new custodian that will start soon. More information to come.

We have faithfully Celebrated Communion every week of November.
No updating for covid protocol

It was agreed on Christmas Eve Service being held at 5:30PM in person and zoom. Christmas Day we are working on presenting a pre-recorded service created through Presbytery. More information will be reported soon. Pastor Marie will be off on January 1st and there will be a substitute for our morning service. Chris will be out of the office on all Friday's through December.

Discernment Process: Report was approved by Church Development committee, will be considered at 12/03/22 COM meeting. Hopefully we will be able to begin forming a PNC after 12/3/22
Session discussed our financial future.

Discussion on the Samuel Ayres Scholarship and a meeting in Somerville on 12/7 with Roger P and Don Reilly

Updates were given on all committees.

We continue to look for a replacement for Karen Shipman as Clerk of Session.

Next stated Session meeting – Sunday December 18th at 11AM after church. Roger Pickard will do opening devotions

Motion to adjourn meeting and closing prayer

Respectfully submitted, Norma Zimmerman

Deacon's December 2022 Prayer List

KMPC Family

Bart and Norma
Ben D. (military transfer)
Chuck & Jean Mundhenk
Corliss & Family
Danny S (non hodgkins lymphoma)Debi N
Dorothy S. (healing)
Erik Z
John S (health)
Scott Lanie B's husband
Steve &Terri F. (healing)
Shawn and Anthony
Caregivers
Families suffering with addictions
Homebound members & Shut-Ins
Hospice Patients
Teachers & /Students

Assisted living/ Care Center

Barry C
Irene K
Phyllis P
Millie W

Extended KMPC Family

Alice (healing)
Amy F. (healing)
Angela Bodine (cancer)
Charlotte's Family (grieving)
Vance (liver cancer) Karen D
Deanna (chemo) Jeanne M friend
Denise and John (both cancer)
Kathy's cousin
Edward G (cancer) Godown
Ellen (healing) Betty
Franklin (Cancer)
Howard (Parkinson) Betty
Jackie -- Betsy P Daughter
Jackson (Lyme disease) Bev
Jean (Brain tumor) Chris
Jen (Health Issues – Betsy P
Joey (brain aneurysm) Ferrell
Kayla (cancer) Dave C's granddaughter
Keith P (healing)
Kitty (blood clots) Paul's sister

Larry (liver cancer) Ferrell
Lisa & Eric (house flooded) Lynn H
Lolly H.(brain tumor) Debbie N friend
Mary (cancer)
Nancy (heart attack & leg amputation) Paul's sister
Nancy F. (Health issues) Kathy's Friend
Natalie (Steve L sister)
Linda (Cancer)
Melissa (cancer) Bev's Friend
Richard B. Sr. (Healing, diabetes)- Dorothy
Ron and Sandy P (healing)
Sally B. (Jessica R Mom) Chris
Sandra H. (healing)
Sherri B. (healing, lupus) – Richard's daughter
Toby & Judy N. (healing, Safety)
Tom (Lymphoma)
Families of Natural Disasters
First Responders
Military Men & Women and their Families
President & Congress
Prisoners
Refugees
Shooting Victims
Tracy's M. Dad
Troubled youth
U.S. & World Situations
Unemployed
Victims of Violence
People with flu and virus
People of Ukraine
Veterans and their families



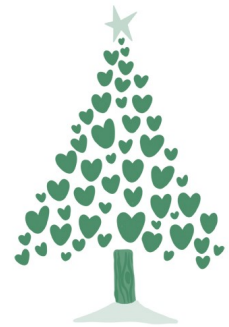
Joyce George	Dec 5
Steven Esock	Dec 10
Janice Jarrett	Dec 11
Brian Mundhenk	Dec 12
Keira McDaniels	Dec 13
Luke Verbeyst	Dec 14
Chris Bittenmaster	Dec 14
Tiffany Perangelo	Dec 15
Frank Hults	Dec 18
James Danner	Dec 19
Mohamed Al-Daqa	Dec 21
Bev Kaminski	Dec 21
Jesus Christ	Dec 25
Lori Wonsor	Dec 27
Kim Fulper	Dec 28
Michael Quinn	Dec 28
Mikayla Fulper	Dec 29



Congratulations to Jamie & Joshua who welcomed Wesley Chase into the world on Monday, Nov. 21. Congratulations to Grandparents Pat and Roger as well. God bless you all.

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

This is what community care looks like





&

TRPOOP
Ringoes Boy Scout Troop 65

Full Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Qty. _____

_____ @ \$25.00= \$ _____

_____ @ \$50.00= \$ _____

_____ @ \$100.00= \$ _____

RINGOES, NEW JERSEY

The troop will earn 5% of the sales to be used towards Scouting purposes.

Make Checks Payable to "Ringoes Troop 65"

Note: These cards are active cards and Troop 65 will not be responsible for any lost cards



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Wreath Sponsorship Form



Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. For quicker processing and the convenience of paying with a credit card, debit card, Google Pay, or PayPal, wreaths may be sponsored as grave specific requests online by scanning the QR Code above or visiting <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/NJ0273P>. If you prefer to pay with a check, please complete this form and mail it along with your check to the address in the box on the right. Thank you for your support!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:

Wreaths Across America
 PO Box 249
 Columbia Falls, ME 04823

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.
Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

Sponsorship Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor" card = If you wish to send a physical honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, please see "In Honor" section below. The \$2 fee is required for this mailing.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		Grand Total	

GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THIS FORM

In Honor of:

Below, please provide email or mailing address of "In Honor of" recipient so we can notify them of your sponsorship in their honor. If you have a specific message, please write it on the back of this sheet.

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____

In Memory of:

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Below, please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service: _____

Rank: _____

State: _____

Please note, ALL sponsored wreaths are shipped directly to the location and NO wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Location ID: NJRCRN Sponsorship Group ID: NJ0273P

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash: _____ Total: _____ Date Received: _____

Total No. Checks: _____ Reconciled: _____

MO: _____

Entered: _____

GEN: _____

MISSION NEWS

As you may already know, last year in September, Pastor Toby Nelson suffered a heart attack while in Thibodaux La. He along with a team of EMS personnel were tending to the needs of people devastated by category 4 Hurricane Ida, which struck on August 29th of last year. After a year of "doing almost nothing but sitting on his couch recovering". Toby says his strength is back, he is doing well and he reports "My Heart is Joyful"!! Sadly, his wife Judy continues to decline from Alzheimer's disease. She is currently in a care facility. Below is a e email update from last year from Toby.

Toby Nelson <tobynelson46@aol.com>
Sun, Sep 5, 2021 at 3:07 PM

Dear friends,

"Ohhh, my body hurts," I moaned as I rolled off my cot at 5:30 this morning. Yesterday, I stretched muscles and joints that have not moved in a while. A team member sat on his cot next to mine and heard my complaint. She told me that if I wake up in the morning with aches and pains, it is rigor mortis setting in. That is dark humor and jesting that medical types use.

We are located in a town I can't pronounce, Thibodaux, Louisiana. This state has the highest infection rate in the country and the lowest vaccination rate. Only 30% of the residents have been vaccinated. Most of those with Covid in the hospital were never jabbed. Most will die. This is a testimony to the determination of our medical team to serve in Covid hotspot. Since we are working in a Covid hospital, we wear personal protective equipment (PPE).

Today is incredibly busy. The heat is approaching 1000 degrees and the humidity is wearing me down. I'm sweating, thirsty, and tired. I'm really hungry. We have only been working six hours and have 10 to go.

On my way to lunch, I walked past a scared looking young mother holding a cute infant. The spirit prompted me to turn around and talk to her. However, I was so starved that I was ready to eat my n95 face mask. I remembered my doctor telling me I still had 25 pounds to lose. Reluctantly, I figured I will survive another hour without eating.

"Hi, how old is your child," I asked. Her bowed head lifts and her face brightens as she recognizes me as a chaplain.

"He is 18 months," she answers.

"What is your child's name?"

"His name is Gabriel," she replied.

"Wow, what a great name," I say. "What brings you to the hospital?"

"My son has cancer," she said. I looked more closely at Gabriel. His eyes were sunken and he has a bald head. I should have noticed those conditions a minute earlier.

"Please, tell me more," I asked. She said her son had a form of cancer I had never heard of. His cherub face rested against her neck. The rest of his body was bundled securely in a sack.

"Oh, my heart aches for you and your son," I said. I paused for a moment. "May I pray a blessing on him?"

She eagerly agreed by nodding her head up and down. I reach out my hand and let it hover an inch over his head.

"Lord, you made Gabriel," I started. "You love this precious boy. Heal him of this dreaded condition, give him a long life. Protect him, guide him to have a great purpose in life. Raise him to honor his parents and love You. In Jesus name, we pray, Amen."

I have 15 to 25 of these sacred conversations each day. Hurricane Ida may have destroyed homes for a hundred miles, but this has become holy ground.

I am privileged to serve among heroes who willingly put themselves at high risk to treat others who have made poor choices.

Oh, if you read my last post about the tormenting images from the Katrina Hurricane, I have had surprisingly few of those flashbacks. Thank you for your prayers that are protecting me. I can feel them. More tomorrow.

Padre

MISSION NEWS



Dear Praying Friends;

For those of you who have a long history with us in our ministries here in Papua, I wanted to share a highlight of a ministry that we started 34 years ago. We began the Hatam Bible School in 1988, training pastors and their wives. After serving at the school for 15 years we entrusted the ministry to the local Hatam Church Council. We have been encouraged to see the growth and faithful service of the school since it was nationalized.....and were thrilled to participate in the graduation ceremony of 340 students this past week. This is the first graduation that they have had in the past 12 years, so the group is sizeable.

Thank you for entrusting us with the Hatam tribal ministry all of these years. These graduates are pastors, Youth Group leaders, Sunday School teachers, Elders and Deacons in their churches. They are the future of the vital Hatam ministries here in Papua. Your partnership with us has made this a reality!

Continuing On.....in Him,

Walter & Diane

