

THE OLIVE BRANCH

December 2023

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Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

December Events

- 3 **Advent 1 Hope**
- 5 6:30 Deacons Mtg in Library
- **10 Advent 2 Peace**
- 15 Olive Branch Deadline
- 15 Assemble Food Baskets
- 16 11:00 Grocery Giveaway
- 17 Advent 3 Joy
- 19 7:00 Session Meeting
- 24 Advent 4 Love No 9:30 worship 5:30 Christmas Eve Worship
- 25 Happy Birthday Jesus
- 26 Office Closed
- 31 New Year's Eve

Weeklv

5
9:30am Worship in-person
& via Zoom
6:30pm Boy Scouts
8:00pm AA
7:30am Men's Bible Study
7:00pm Bell Rehearsal
9:30am Ladies Bible Study
8:00pm AA
Office Closed
4:00pm AA

View our calendar on our website

Annual Reports are due into the office no later than Sunday, January 1, 2024. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

Advent Wreath Lighters Thank you for volunteering. Dec. 3 - Lori & Steve Wonsor Dec. 10 - Bev K & Family Dec. 17 - Pat & Terry Wright

From the Pastor

Greetings!

It is an honor for me to have been chosen to be your new Pastor here at Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church. I am joyfully beginning to know some of you and look forward to meeting and knowing you all. My office door will be always open if you have time to stop by, share some of your history, the church's history, or special tips about Ringoes. I appreciate your time and wisdom. Hunterdon County is new to me and while I have heard how beautiful it is, I didn't realize just how beautiful it is until I have had the blessing of driving through it.

The church calendar has begun a new year with the beginning of Advent, a time in which we wait with eager anticipation for the celebration of Christ's birth into the hurting world. God's providential timing for me to begin serving here at the beginning of Advent is amazing as I look forward to finding new experiences for us all to get closer to God. I love to see people realize, as I grow in my own spiritual connection to God and others, to know how deep and wide and God's love for the world and for each one of us. The culmination of the Advent season ends with Christmas, a time in which we can praise God and joyfully know the proof of God's Love as shown through the birth of Christ.

Some background information about me and our family - Jack and I were both born and raised in Monmouth County. We met when we were freshmen at Shore Regional High School, began dating at the end of high school, and went our separate ways during college. We were married 27 years later and have been married for 21 years. I was a teacher of the deaf, am an author of a children's book, have done motivational speaking in schools, and have been a full time mom to Brandon and Lexey Booth, who are now grown, and love being Nana to Naima and Nicodemus Booth. Our son, Kyle, passed away in November of 2018, just before he turned 30.

In 2004, I graduated from Princeton Seminary in 2004, and earned my DMin at Drew University Theological School focusing in the areas of Worship, Preaching and Spirituality. I have served as a Hospice Chaplain, an Interim Pastor, and a Solo Pastor.

Jack is an author, a visiting scholar at Columbia University, and has taught at UPenn and Rutgers specializing in Global Security. We both love to walk, watch Jeopardy, read, and travel.

We have lived in Lakeland, Florida for the past several years, where I served as the Pastor at Florida Presbyterian Homes. We decided to not continued on page 4



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From the Pastor continued

retire in Florida, but instead, decided to move back to New Jersey to be near our families. In May, we sold the house, packed up and moved with our two Australian Shepherds to the Jersey Shore. I was feeling God's pull to continue with active service in ministry and was very blessed to be called to KMPC. We will be moving into the manse after Christmas. We both look forward to seeing what God has planned for our journey together here, and especially getting to know you.

May God bless you during this time of Advent, with hope, peace, joy and love.

Grace and Peace to you and your loved ones,

Pastor Barbara

Session November update:

The session met by Zoom on November 8th at 7PM with Rev. Beth Scibienski as moderator for our monthly meeting. Rev. Scibienski called the meeting to order, and Roger Pickard opened with prayer. We welcome Rev. Dr. Barbara Diane Booth Jarmon to KMPC on November 19th.

Worship Assistant Sign up for: Nov 19th Roger Pickard Nov 26th Jim Danner

Volunteers needed for Worship assistant please sign up on the link printed in the Mid-Week announcements and Olive Branch. We also need people to volunteer for coffee hour. Paul Mitten so graciously makes the coffee every week for us. Please sign up to bring a light snack for all to enjoy. Coffee hour is now in the gym each week.

Fellowship Committee will have a reception during coffee hour to welcome Pastor Barbara Booth-Jarmon

We will be having a baptism on November 12th and there will no communion.

We are still working on our list of keys to church. If you have keys please let Norma Zimmerman or Linda Hults know.

We have faithfully Celebrated Communion Sept. 24th and October 8th.

It is agreed that we will be having one Christmas service this year and that would be Christmas Eve at 5:30. It will be a format of Carols and lessons.

All committees gave updates on what is taking place.

- Christian Education committee is growing with Kim Fulper and Tracy McClelland joining Linda Hults and Jim Danner. They are beginning to work on ideas of starting youth group.
- Scouts are inquiring about any projects we may need done in the church.
- We are working on reviewing Membership of KMPC for active and in-active members Membership is low and we need to pray for growth in numbers.
- On November 26th KMKPC will be hosting an event with the River Churches gathering called FriendsGiving. Rev. Morgan of Mt. Airy Presbyterian church will be leading this event. All interested in coming from KMPC should please RSVP With either Chris in Office or Norma Zimmerman enzimmerman@comcast.net

Next stated Session meeting - Tuesday, Dec. 19th at 7PM

Motion to adjourn meeting and closing prayer

Respectfully submitted, Norma Zimmerman

I would like to thank all who attended the **Friendsgiving Feast** yesterday, Sunday the 26th. I tried to keep count but I know it was over 65 people, and three children playing and having fun. That was such a welcoming sight to see. Thank you to the Fellowship Ministry committee and to Elders, Roger Pickard (Pat) and Jim Danner (Sharyn) for being there and helping to clean set up and clean up. It was so wonderful to come together and praise God at this most loving time of year. In His Service, Norma Zimmerman

<u>Christmas Eve Worship</u>

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?pwd=TXdEbjBlc2thWkxzVDRlRSsySzZaUT09

Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 815 7779 0221

December 2023 Sunday Volunteers								
Date	Preaching	Worship Assist	Wreath Lighters	Nursery / Jr Church	Coffee Break	Communion		
Advent 1 12/3/2023	Pastor Barbara Booth-Jarmon		Steve/Lori Wonsor		please volunteer	Yes		
Advent 2 12/10/23	Pastor Barbara Booth-Jarmon		Bev Kaminski and family	Linda Hults	please volunteer	Yes		
Advent 3 12/17/23	Pastor Barbara Booth-Jarmon		Pat/Terry Wright		please volunteer	Yes		
Advent 4 12/24/23	No regular Sunday Service				please volunteer	N/A		
5:30 p.m. Xmas Eve 12/24/23	Carols & Lessons					NO		
12/31/2023	Pastor Barbara Booth-Jarmon							



Christmas Eve Bulletin Dedications: This year, due to fiscal and supplier issues, M&W will not be making poinsettias available for purchase. If you would like a memorial or dedication included in our Christmas Eve bulletin, please fill out the forms that will be here in the church or send your memorial information to the office. We will be happy to accept an "at-will" donation attached to your form for our KMPC food ministry in memory of or to honor your loved one!

Office Admin Off on Fridays. Chris, our office administrator, will be taking off Fridays for the remainder of the year. She will not be checking or replying to emails on Fridays until January.





Food Ministry

Thanksgiving Food Basket Prep



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. A nything 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!

Saturday, November 18, was our **Thanksgiving Grocery Giveaway.** We gave out 25 bags of food on Lambertville and they were all given out by 11:10. We did 9 in Ringoes. On Monday we gave out another 9. (A family that we have helped for many years didn't come to get their bag. I hope that means that they don't need one anymore.) Therefore, we gave out 43 bags. We had prepared 45 bags of food.

Thank you to everyone who donated food or money. We did spend a little over \$1000 in order to buy food. I would also like to thank ShopRite of Flemington for donating 40 pies, Living Waters Lutheran Church, Larison's Corner Presbyterian Church, Athletes in Action, the faculty at South Hunterdon Regional High School, the Women's Auxiliary at the Amwell Firehouse for all their donations. Thank you to Brownie Troop 81201 for their donations and packing up the bagsI I would also like to thank my team of helpers that shop, volunteer to help on giveaway Saturdays, fill the Blessing Box when needed, put up and take down signs, and order food for the food ministry.

I wish everyone could see how grateful the recipients are when they receive the food. Our Christmas Grocery Giveaway is December 16.

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



Deacon's December 2023 Prayer List

KMPC Family

Angela Bodine (cancer) Alan Bodine (testing) Bart and Norma Dorothy S. (healing) Erik Z Glenn M (cancer) Tracy John S (health) Scott, Lanie B's husband Stef - Lynn's daughter 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 Chuck & Jean Mundhenk Irene K Millie W **Extended KMPC Family** Debbie Sue B Edward G (cancer) Godown Howard (Parkinson)Betty Jackie -- Betsy P Daughter Jean (Brain tumor) Chris Jen (Health Issues – Joey (brain aneurysm) Ferrell Karol Susan's sister Kevin Stanford (pancreatic cancer) Keith P (healing) Linda (Cancer) Larry (liver cancer) Ferrell Mary (cancer) Mary Jo cancer Sue B. cousin Melissa Hults Nancy F. (Health issues) Kathy's Friend Natalie (Steve L sister) Richard B. Sr. (Healing, diabetes)-Sara (horse accident) Terri F. Sherri B. (healing, lupus) -Richard's daughter Tom (Lymphoma) The Terry family loss of their mother Sue B Tracy's M. Dad Vance Hayes family Families of Natural Disasters

First Responders Military Men & Women and their Families President & Congress Prisoners Refugees Shooting Victims Travel Blessings Troubled youth U.S. & World Situations Unemployed Victims of Violence People with flu and virus People of Ukraine





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



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

Fun at FriendsGiving 2023



























