

POINTS Newsletter



2024

FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SHIPPENSBURG PA

The Presbyterian Church
12 South Prince Street
Shippensburg, PA 17257
Phone (717) 532-5039

Church Office Email:
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Pastor's Newsletter

It is incredible how quickly the year has passed. Now, the leaves, in the colors of the fall season, are showing how glorious our Creator was when He fashioned the earth. Now, the Thanksgiving and Christmas season is even more quickly approaching. It is the season of giving and receiving, a time to think about those who are less fortunate and those who have lost a lifetime of building homes that would feel a sense of joy around the Christmas season. The Bible teaches that giving and receiving are acts of worship and gratitude to God, who is the greatest giver of all. The Bible also promises that whoever gives generously and faithfully will be blessed and refreshed by God, who will repay them for what they do.

When it comes to lending a helping hand to those in need, the pages of the Bible provide profound wisdom, reminding us of our duty to support and uplift our fellow human beings. Read these words from Matthew 25:35. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in.:" A challenging verse for us to consider in the quest to actively seek out opportunities to help those who are less fortunate, showing them the love and care of Christ through practical acts of kindness.

Let us consider one more verse from Galatians 6:2: "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ." This verse teaches us the importance of bearing each other's burdens and supporting each other through difficult times. As followers of Christ, Paul reminds us that we are called to be in community and to help and support one another actively, and by sharing the load, we show the love of Christ and fulfill His command to love one another as He has loved us. This brings me

to share what the church has voted to support on December 15th. Our very own talented duo of Beth Trez is leading the way, and Jonathan Parsons is close behind.

On the evening of December 15th, we will sponsor a hurricane relief benefit concert, supporting a community outside of Asheville, North Carolina, where Hurricane Helene cut bridges in half, took homes, vehicles, and appliances, and glued them to riverbanks and trees. People are already exhausted, losing wages, and small business owners are losing their dreams. All one has to do is read the news on the scale and cost of recovery. There are more than 7,000 locations with road damage, including 654 bridges. Many of the counties that have received an outpouring of donations from water to food to clothing are now asking for donors to shift to financial support. It becomes easy to forget the tragedies of the world, especially when out of sight becomes out of mind. However, as the body of Christ, we should not forget that tragedies such as the one from Hurricane Helene will take years before any semblance of life returns. This is where we come in. So, why this community? Easy. One of our sister ECO churches has ties to this community, and to which supplies have already been collected and sent in recent days.

So, what can you do? Plenty! Support the benefit. Volunteer to bake cookies or serve hot chocolate. Volunteer to give someone who doesn't drive at night a ride. Volunteer to be a greeter. Volunteer to be outside to answer questions. Volunteer to invite people to Christmas Eve. I think you get the message! It's not for us but for the glory of God. We have much to be thankful for in this season of giving and receiving! Look for the postcards and flyers soon. God bless you all during this season!
Pastor Gary

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Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 15th
7:00PM



Silent Night and Candle Light

Join Dr. Beth Trez (Piano) and Jonathan Parsons (Organ/Vocals) for an evening of Christmas music and fellowship. The first part of the concert will feature the Christmas Story as told in the Gospel of Luke, through Scripture and unique variations of Christmas carols. The second part of the concert will feature secular Christmas music. An intermission will take place between the two parts of the concert with FREE homemade cookies and hot chocolate.

Concert admission is at the door: \$20/adults, \$10/children ages 5-12, FREE/children under age 5
50% of all proceeds will be donated directly to those affected by the flooding in Asheville, NC from Hurricane Helene.
We hope that you will join us for this beautiful, musical event, supporting an amazing cause!

(717) 532-5039

www.presbyship.org

Shippensburg Presbyterian Church

12 S. Prince St.,
Shippensburg, PA

HELP SUPPORT THE BULADEAN COMMUNITY CENTER NEAR ASHEVILLE, NC



Dave & Andrea Cauffman are helping coordinate donations for the Buladean Community Center (near Asheville, NC) over the next few weeks in support of their friends who live in the area.

The Community Center is in need of the following items:

**PAPER PLATES
PLASTIC UTENSILS
BATTERIES
BATTERY POWERED RADIOS
FLASHLIGHTS
WATER JUGS
GAS JUGS
GLOVES FOR DEBRIS CLEAN UP**

**BUTANE STICK LIGHTERS
PROPANE STOVES
PROPANE (GREEN CANISTER)
CAN OPENERS - OLD STYLE
DOG FOOD
ALUMINUM FOIL
COOLERS
FIRST AID KITS**

Items can be brought to the church and placed in the Assembly Room. Monetary donations will also be accepted using the donation box on the front pew.





November

- 1 - Carol Himmelright
- 5 - Randy Coover
- 6 - Patti Rebok
- 13 - Sharon Engle
- 15 - Amy Jackson
- 20 - Britt Sloan
- 23 - Kitty Dugan
- 24 - Vicki Shoap
- 28 - Janessa Naugle
- 29 - Robert King



**The Newsletter POINTS
Deadline will be 9:00a.m.
Monday, December 23rd.
For the months of January
and February 2025**



There will be a Service of Holy Communion on The First Sunday of Advent, December 1st, 10:30a.m. and Christmas Eve. Tuesday, December 24th, 5:00p.m.



December

- 8 - Carrie Eaton
- 11 - Dan Kuhn
- 14 - Morgan Coover
- 22 - Natalie Shenk
- 24 - Kelsey Gordon
Cathy Shenk
Sophia Wewer
- 26 - Ken Shoap

Anniversaries

- 29 - Ian & Kristin Wewer
- 31 - Pastor Mike & Karen Miller

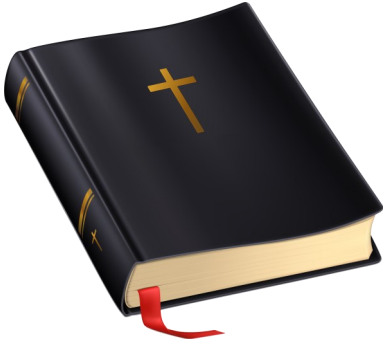


There will be a Congregational Meeting on **Sunday, November 10th**, immediately after the Worship Service.

**The following names
have been nominated to
serve on Session:
Bob King, Ben Sloan and
Tambrey Strickland.**

Sunday Small Group

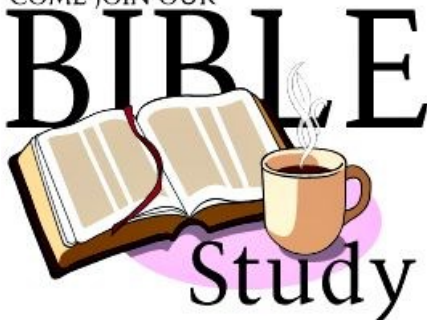
Come join us for our small group study on Sunday mornings at 9:15a.m.



The Adult small group will continue going through the book “What Happens Next with Max Lucado” a Bible Study on the End Times. Then beginning on November 24th we will be going through “Who Needs Christmas with Andy Stanley”

There will be no Sunday School Classes on Sunday, December 22nd. The Adult Class will resume on Sunday, January 12th after Pastor Gary returns from vacation.

COME JOIN OUR



Women’s Bible Study News:

We will be meeting on Tuesday, November 12th at 1:00 PM in Galbreath Hall. Please note the new time as we hope that this might encourage others to join us. Our study continues with Max Lucado’s Ten Women of

the Bible, digging deeper into the lives of such women as Rahab, Abigail, Esther, and Mary. Come, spend time exploring God’s good Word and fellowshiping with others on the same journey.

We invite you to join us as we dig deeper into God’s Word to learn from the life, experiences, and choices of these amazing women who responded bravely when chosen.

There will be a Healing Service on Sunday, November 10th, 10:30a.m.



Church Family and Friends Christmas Breakfast

Sunday, December 22nd

9:15 – 10:15 AM

Community Room

Celebrate the season with caring fellowship, good conversation,
and great food!

There will be no Sunday School Classes on that day

Christmas Eve. Candlelight Service

**We will be having a Christmas Evening
Candlelight Communion Service on**

**Tuesday, December
24th
at 5:00p.m.**



Advent calendars will be available for the children in our congregation on Sunday, November 24th, as will devotions for the Advent season for our youth. There should be extra calendars for anyone wishing to share one with grandchildren or friends.

Stewardship Corner Update
by Vicki Shoap, Treasurer

The third quarter financial report for our church is as follows:

Financial status of Operating Fund as of September 30, 2024:

Beginning Op Fund balance 1/1/24:	\$ 50,695.89
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Year to date Offering Income to Operating Fund:	\$ 70,916.29
Reimbursements & Contributions to specific items:	1,125.00
Trust Income to Operating Fund:	12,586.50
Other Income (interest & dividends):	16,083.83
Total Income (Op Fund) as of 9/30/24:	\$ 100,711.62

Year to date Expenses to Operating/Reserve Funds	123,517.67
Difference: Gain (Loss)	(22,806.05)

Transfers from other funds	0.00
Transfers – to Operating Reserve	0.00
Funds used from Operating Reserve:	0.00
Total Transfers:	0.00

Balance of Operating Fund as of 9/30/24: \$ 27,889.84
(Beginning Balance, Difference: gain (loss), Transfers)

<u>Fund Balances as of 9/30/24:</u>	
Operating Fund	\$ 27,889.84
Operating Reserve Fund	134,328.07
Benevolence Fund	6,131.58
Capital Fund	532,681.68
Memorial Fund	28,892.56
Designated Gifts Fund	37,162.61
Total Funds	\$ 767,086.34

Pastor Gary will be on vacation
Monday, December 30th - Sunday, January 5th.
The guest preacher for Sunday, January 5th TBA.



Margy Furry

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Please turn in all 2024 offerings to the church no later than December 31st. You can either mail them with a postmark no later than December 31st, or you may drop them off at the office no later than this, but to be included in the current year, it must be delivered in one of these two ways.

The Office Administrator will be on Vacation
Wednesday, November 27th and Monday, December 2nd.
&
Tuesday, December 24th, Thursday, December 26th and Monday & Tuesday, December 30-31st.

(Please have all items for the December 1st bulletin into to Diane by 9:00a.m. Monday, November 25th.)

(And all items are due for the December 29th bulletin and Christmas Eve. bulletin by 9:00a.m. Monday, December 23rd.)



The Church Office will be closed on the following dates:
Monday, November 11th
Thursday & Friday, November 28th & 29th.
Wednesday, December 25th & Wednesday, January 1st.



Please use this form to order Poinsettias.
The potted plants will beautify our sanctuary on Sunday,
December 15th & 22nd.

*Deadline: Your order must be in to the church office no later
than Monday, November 11th.*

(Please return this form with your payment to the church office)

Each Potted Plant will be: \$13.00

Name: _____

Red: _____ White: _____

Total number of plants x \$13.00 = \$ _____ Enclosed

Please write your message exactly how you would like it to appear in the bulletin:

November Meetings and Events

4 - Love Our Town Meeting: 6:30p.m. (Community Room)

10 - Healing Service: 10:30a.m.

Congregational Meeting (Immediately after Worship Service)

11 - Church Office Closed

12 - Women's Bible Study: 1:00p.m. (Galbreath)

14 - Session Meeting: 7:00p.m. (Galbreath)

27 - Office Administrator on Vacation

28 & 29 - Church Office Closed

December Meetings and Events

1 - First Sunday of Advent Communion: 10:30a.m.

2 - Office Administrator on Vacation

15 - Christmas Concert: 7:00p.m.

22 - Christmas Breakfast: 9:15a.m.

23 - POINTS Deadline: 9:00a.m.

24 - Christmas Eve. Candlelight Service: 5:00p.m.

25 & Jan. 1st - Church Office Closed

30 – Jan. 5th - Pastor Gary on Vacation

24 & 26, 30 & 31 - Office Administrator on Vacation