

The Berkeley Springs Presbyterian Church

Dec 9, 2018

97 – 101 S. Mercer St., P.O. Box 206, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Church Website: bspcwv.com Email: bspcwv@frontier.com

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Pastors Notes

Advent

Four weeks is a long time to wait until Christmas. Yet, that is the tradition in many churches. With Advent, we acknowledge that Christmas is coming, and that many people are busy getting ready to deck the halls and trim the table. In reality, it looks like very little is happening. Yes, there are many churches that simply do not decorate their sanctuaries or utter a Christmas carol until Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Many members wonder why they are being cheated out of their right to prepare for Christmas in their own ways. After all, the retail stores are all slicked out with Christmas banners, decorations, and Christmas music.

But Advent deserves its own time and observance. It remains a time of watchful waiting, For the faithful, we do not give up after waiting for world peace decade after decade. We still hope for promises of God in Christ. Advent reminds us that God is not done with us yet, and that God waits with us. So, if Advent refers to a coming, to what have we already come? Who comes with us, and blesses the one who watches and waits faithfully?

BOB

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Youth Bells
- Christmas Calendar
- Advent Decorations
- Missions
- Congregational Meeting
- Thank Offering

SESSION

Moderator - Robert Osborne

Clerk - John Marple

Class of 2018

Adrienne North

Bill North

Howard Shouffler

Class of 2019

Virginia Marple

John Marple

Paul Mock

Class of 2020

Raynette Mock

Paula Osborne

Anne Helmick



Christmas Mission Project

Christian Growth and Nurture Ministry combines with the Mission Ministry yearly to provide gifts and food to a family in need of our support. Anne Helmick has received names from the Paw Paw school district to support this year. As we receive more details that information will be shared with the congregation. Food for the Christmas meal, will be collected, along with other food. If you would like to contribute, bring your food contributions to the church. Dec. 14th, members of the Christian Growth and Nurture Ministry will be shopping for those gifts. Monetary contributions will go to pay for gifts (mostly clothing) and food as needed. Thank you for your support!

Thanksgiving Food Collection

Thank you to everyone that contributed towards the Thanksgiving Food Collection. Sunday, November 18th, the food: turkey, and everything needed for a Thanksgiving feast was delivered. Also, we provided extra canned goods, and many staples for the family. Anne relayed the news that the family was very appreciative! Thanks again!



Congratulations Audrey Helmick and Georgia Powell for your excellent scores on the English Language Arts and Mathematics tests. Certificates were presented at the Morgan County School Board Meeting.

MCIEC Food Pantry

Remember our ongoing contributions to the MCIEC Food Pantry. Monetary contributions are appreciated, and will be used to buy items fresh, in bulk, and as needed.

Church World Service Emergency Cleanup Buckets

Emergency Cleanup Bucket is an ongoing mission project for Church World Service. Items needed include a 5- gallon bucket (clean and not used for chemicals), sponges, cleaners, clotheslines and clothespins, and other specific items. Please check the church bulletin board, or call the church office, for detailed information on what is needed for these buckets.

Sunday School

The Middle School age children have started a new curriculum, *Seasons of the Spirit*. Younger children are continuing with *Growing in Grace and Gratitude*, starting with prophets, then continuing with the Christmas story, and Jesus's teachings. The theme for the Winter curriculum for the adults is *Our Love For God*. We always enjoy you joining us for this stimulating educational hour of Sunday School!

Christmas cards

As a convenience, you may drop your Christmas cards for regular attendees in our card exchange box in the narthex.



YOUTH GROUP

Our organist, Peggy Craig has been sharing her musical talents with our youth. During the past few weeks they have been learning to play the bells. We are looking forward to

hearing their upcoming performances!

December 9th, at 3 PM, the youth will be meeting to decorate our Christmas trees!

CALENDAR

DEC. 9TH

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

3 PM YOUTH DECORATE

DEC. 14TH SHOPPING

DEC. 24TH SERVICE

7 PM

DEC. 31ST SERVICE 5 PM

JAN. 6TH SESSION

Congregational Meeting

At the Congregational Meeting today, New Elders, Trustees, and Nominating Committee, for 2019, will be presented to the congregation. The nominations are Trustees Committee: Glenn Ryburn and John Marple serving a second term, Nominating Committee: Walker Williams, and Elders: Adrienne and Bill North each serving a second term.

Session will present their budget for the upcoming year. Please consider supporting the ministry of this church with your pledges of tithes and offerings. We continue to be grateful for the generosity of our members!

Thanksgiving meal and Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering

Nov 18th, the congregation enjoyed a delicious meal and program presented by the Presbyterian Women. Bob and Paula cooked two turkeys and a ham. Many members of the congregation provided casseroles, salads, and deserts. The Presbyterian Women provided a short devotional, and collected monies towards their Thank Offering, that goes to many missions around the world. Thank you Presbyterian Women!

ADVENT FLOWERS

Adrienne and Mary Lou have graciously decorated our sanctuary with Poinsettias, garlands, ribbons, and other items. If you would like to contribute to purchasing these items, or wish to take home after the holidays, contact the church office, or check the bulletin board in the educational building for detailed information.

Joan Holmes has been busy decorating our doors for the seasons, and most recently for the holidays. Be sure to thank Joan for her beautiful creations!

Thank you ladies for sharing your decorating talent with our church!

Online prayer group - A place for you to post prayer requests, only seen by people in our group. After posting your prayer request, it will immediately be sent to everyone in our group. If you would like to join, contact Virginia Marple.

Websites:

**Berkeley Springs Presbyteri-
an Church:**

www.bspcwv.com

Presbyterian Church USA:

www.pcusa.org

Shenandoah Presbytery:

www.shenpres.com

Massanetta Springs:

www.massanettasprings.org

**Growing Grace and Grati-
tude (curriculum children):**

www.pcusastore.com/
GGGdownloads

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7 PM

NEW YEARS EVE SERVICE 5 PM



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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE