

Presbyterian Church of Washington
4834 South Point Road
Washington, MO 63090
636-239-3178
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www.presbywashmo.org



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. – Isaiah 9:2

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

For many of us Christmas is a time of tremendous expectation! We eagerly await the gathering of family, the exchange of gifts, the warm tidings, and an opportunity to give thanks for the incarnation of God in the birth of Jesus Christ, our savior. Many families will be counting the days until Christmas finally comes!

But for many of us, Christmas is a time of immense anxiety. Many of our families are torn asunder by grief, loss, anger, hurt and trauma. Many families will not gather this season, or they will only gather partially. Others will feel incredibly alone this holiday season. Many families and individuals will count the days until Christmas is over.

I know of many families that are also struggling with diverging opinions over the pandemic, masks and vaccines. Lines are being drawn even among the closest of families and divisions are running deepest during a time when Christ calls us together to reconcile. “You cannot be in our house or see our children unless you get vaccinated.” “I would rather not see you at all than get vaccinated or wear a mask.” Do these statements sound painfully familiar? Does it feel like your family is walking in darkness instead of celebrating the light of the Advent Season and the coming Christmas?

There is good news, dear friends. Though we feel as if we are stumbling around in darkness, wallowing our way through anger and hostility between people who are supposed to love each

other (and, guess what? We are ALL supposed to love each other!), there is still a light ready to shine on all of us! It’s coming! That light is the hope we all have in the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ, God’s son, Immanuel, God-With-Us. There is always hope to be found in Jesus. God came to us in Christ Jesus to give people hope. Hope that there is something more beautiful, something more precious, something more filled with joy, love, light and peace.

Jesus Christ and Christ’s birth are evidence of that hope. Though you may feel like you and your family are stumbling in the darkness, trying to find your way to reconciliation, peace and love, Christ came to offer us all hope that you and your family may experience some sense of healing and comfort.

So, as we continue to endure this pandemic, we continue to have hope that we will emerge from this dark time into the light. Even though our families, neighborhoods, communities and nation seem so hopelessly divided and dark, we have hope that God can accomplish the seemingly impossible: peaceful reconciliation. If not permanent reconciliation, at least a temporary peace-time at the one time of the year where we have the most hope of moving beyond our differences: Christmas.

Please join me in prayer that all families will have a taste of light this Christmas season.

Christmas Blessings to You All!
Pastor Pat

Pastor Pat on Vacation

Pastor Pat will be on vacation from Christmas Day through January 4. He will return to the office on Wednesday, January 5 and to the pulpit on January 9. Rev. Jocelyn Van Buskirk will be preaching during his absence. Please contact her during Pastor Pat's vacation with any pastoral emergencies.

Blue Christmas Service

Tuesday, December 21 at 7pm in the Zoom Room.

Blue Christmas, or Longest Night, is a service of worship designed for people suffering with pain, loss, isolation and grief in the Advent season. If you have experienced some form of loss in 2021, the first holiday season post-loss can be very challenging. We invite all those grieving this holiday season to this special worship service of healing.

Christmas Eve Service

Thank you to those who participated in our Christmas Eve service time poll. We had 57 responses. Here are the results:

5pm – 34 11pm – 9 Other/Out of Town – 14

As a result of the poll, session voted to move our Christmas Eve worship time to 5pm this year. The service will still be a candlelit service serving communion. We will sing carols, watch a readers' theater drama and hear the story of Christ's birth. Please invite your family!

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. The offering will be taken up on December 19th. If you give online, please make sure you designate the offering "Christmas Joy Offering." Thank you for your generosity.



CARES ACT FEDERAL TAX DEDUCTIONS

Do you qualify for a federal tax deduction of up to \$600 or \$300 for 2021? These deductions are available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

You qualify if:

You do NOT itemize deductions

You make a cash donation to any 501(c)3 charity (church) made by check, credit card, or debit card. If you are in the age group for the required minimum distribution from your IRA, it does not qualify.

People who are single and married individuals filing separate returns can claim a deduction of up to \$300. The maximum deduction increases to \$600 for married individuals filing a joint return.

If you have made a cash donation to the church as described above and do NOT itemize deductions, you already qualify. The church Wish List is another giving option. Hopefully, you can take advantage of the Cares Act deductions. Tax time is coming soon.

For more information about the Cares Act additional deductions for businesses check with your accountant and the Internet.

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

8a-2:15p

Hanging of the Greens

Thank you to everyone that helped us decorate the church for Christmas!



The PCW choir and youth would like to invite you to our worship on December 19 for our "*Homemade Christmas Cantata*." Our choir, along with bell choir and youth singers will present a beautiful story of Christmas told through song, instrumentals and readings. If you would like to be involved, you can join us for rehearsals on Wednesday evenings at 6PM in the sanctuary. We also need readers. If you are interested, please see the sign up sheet outside the church on the table. The last day to sign up to be a reader will be Sunday, December 12. We will do a run through of the Cantata the morning of Saturday, December 18th at 9AM in the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please email EmilyJ.Bugele@gmail.com or Aaron-bounds@gmail.com.

Thank you and have a blessed holiday season!

Aaron and Emily Bounds 🎵

Sunday School

Youth Group

Reminder, Youth Group meets every Wednesday at 6 pm.

Sunday School has kicked off and meets at 9 am every Sunday. All ages are welcomed as we have 2 classes for our younger kids, one for our teens/youth, and one for adults.



Meals on Wheels on Weekends

For four years, PCW has been delivering free meals to the hungry, disabled, and elderly of the community one to three weekends a month in the name of Christ. It has always been our vision and our prayer to one day provide free meals on *every weekend of the year*. The Mission Committee believes that we now have the funds and volunteers to make that vision a reality. If you would like to help make this prayer a reality, please talk to Pastor Pat or Jaime in the office. A volunteer form will be submitted soon in one of our weekly e-newsletters. We are looking for drivers, cooks, shoppers and packers. You can volunteer for once a month, occasional fill-in or more often!

Alternative Gift Market is Happening Now!

The Mission Committee is excited to offer the Alternative Gift Market again this year! We are planning in-person shopping at church on December 5th & 12th. There is also an online option using the catalogue, which we can help facilitate.

The word “alternative” implies “either/or,” but we would like to view the Market as “both/and.” Your gift helps provide resources both globally and locally. There are 28 causes in the Market catalogue that help people around the world, from alleviating hunger to helping the environment. But the Alternative Gift Market also gives a grant to a local non-profit of our choice. We have earmarked Harvest Table as the recipient of this grant. Last year Harvest Table received \$2000 to help feed the hungry in our community! Come to the Market and see how you can be part of our mission to help in all of God’s creation.

“As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame, so the Church is meant for mission, giving glory to God’s name. Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care, we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.” (STF 2237, Ruth Duck)

BAKE SALE

The Youth Group is hosting another fundraiser a bake sale on Dec. 19th. If you would like to donate baked goods or boxes to bake please let Craig or Ian know.

Congregational Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Congregation of PCW after worship on Sunday, December 12th. The 2021 Nominating Committee will be presenting their report. The Congregation will elect the new class of ruling elders for Session and the 2022 Nominating Committee.



The office
will be closed
December
23rd, 24th,
30th, 31st



Per Capita Will Remain the Same for 2022.
\$32.00 Per Member

Mask Requirement Lifted

On Monday, October 25, the Session voted to lift the mask requirement in the building. When the requirement was put into place, the Session voted to keep it in place until Franklin County dropped below 25 daily new cases per 100K for 14 consecutive days. Since that threshold was reached, the Session voted to stay true to their word and lift the requirement. Temperatures will also no longer be taken at the door on Sunday morning. The Session does wish to still encourage worshippers who are not vaccinated to wear a mask and anyone to stay home if they are not feeling well.





Church Life

Our PCW Church Life Committee congratulates our Trunk or Treat Co-Chairs for a very successful Trunk or Treat. Congratulations to our Co-Chairs Jaime Brinkmann, Katie Farrell and Heather Miller. It was a great event for the community youth. Church Life discussed the future of this event and the committee decided this was a better fit for Christian Education than Church Life.

Kitchen Safety and Cleanliness standards were discussed. Beth Bonney has taken the lead on this. Beth and/or Nancy will be asking to visit each committee to share these standards. Our kitchens needed a thorough cleaning which the Church Life Committee divided up and completed. It is our desire to make committee members aware of the safety and cleaning responsibilities when using the kitchen.

Anna Mae Boehmer explained to the group the procedure for keeping the candles burning. We discussed wicks, lighting techniques and closing procedures. Anna Mae continues to do an outstanding job keeping our candles flowing.

Church Life would like to consider a Fellowship outing for the spring. Our idea is to provide a signup list for specific items and host a brunch following church similar to our Church Picnic. Of course, we will be watching the pandemic numbers in our community before setting a date.

Please join us for coffee following our service. Please consider signing up to help with the Fellowship Table. At this time, coffee and water are available due to pandemic safety guidelines. Many thanks to Anna Mae for providing our weekly coffee. Signing up would require setting cups and condiments in the window between the kitchen and Fellowship Hall. The containers would need to be rinsed out afterwards.

Our Church Life Committee would like to wish you a wonderful Christmas season as well as a healthy and happy new year.



You Never Know What You Will

See Around PCW.

Oct. 17th Was Wear Something Gaudy Day!



The Presbyterian Cemetery



Even though the grass is no longer green the Cemetery looks so good at Christmas time. Our loved ones place Christmas flowers on the graves and the Christmas colors shine bright!

The upkeep of the cemetery continues through the year. The grass mowing cost is spread out through the whole year. It takes a substantial amount of money for the upkeep of the Cemetery. The board hires someone to mow and maintain the grounds. This care needs to be funded in some way. Financial contributions to the Cemetery provide for the vital upkeep of the grounds. Would you please consider making a contribution to support the upkeep and care of The Presbyterian Cemetery?

You will find a Cemetery envelope in your packet of church envelopes each quarter. The next envelope is dated "December". If you do not have envelopes, just make the check payable to The Presbyterian Cemetery and mail to the church or leave in the church office. Thank you to those who have made donations, your donations make a difference!

GIVING TREE

The Mission Committee is happy to announce the return of the Giving Tree. For Christmas 2021 we will be resuming the practice of filling the wish list of 2 families that are clients of the Pregnancy Assistance Center. Last year, through overwhelming support, we were able to purchase an amazing number of gifts for these families.

The tree will be up for the November 14th church service. If this is a new concept for you, we have the following instructions:

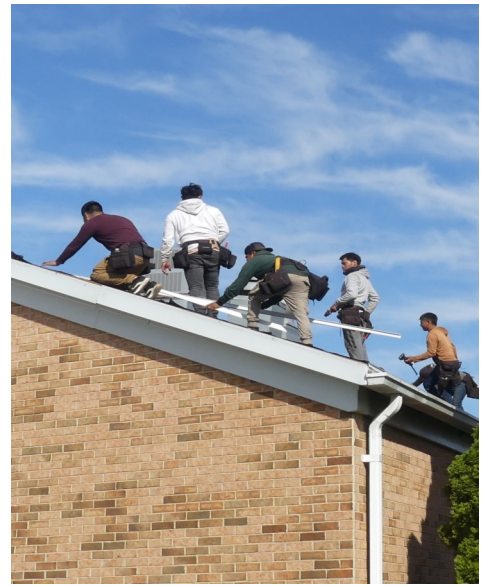
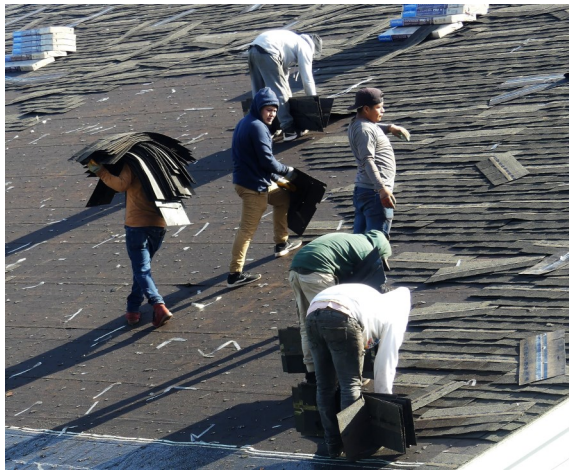
- ornaments placed on the tree will indicate the item needed to be purchased
- take 1 or as many as you desire
- please record the ornament(s) that you take on the roster located near the tree
- purchase the item and return it (unwrapped, please) to church
- please tape the ornament to the item



The deadline for returning the gifts is Sunday, December 12th, as Pregnancy Assistance Center will be collecting the gifts on Monday, December 13th.

If you are "attending" services online and prefer not to come in person to collect an ornament, you may send a monetary donation to the church office. Please designate the donation is for the Giving Tree. The money will be used to supplement the gift giving.

If you have any questions, contact Christy Eckert (314-703-5984) or Kathy Rogers (636-388-1065).





Presby Scrip Program

The PRESBY SCRIP PROGRAM will place our next order on **Sunday, December 5th**! The Scrip Program takes orders on the first Sunday of each month.

Whether you are at church for worship or watching it from home, just fill out your order form (see blank one below) and drop that off with your check by Sunday, December 5 in the Scrip Box in the church office or you can mail to the church. Your order can be personally delivered to you or it can be picked up at church the next Sunday.

This is the last Sunday to place your order for your Christmas Gift Cards.

Walmart, Walgreen's & Target gift cards are ALWAYS useful to have! Did you know that you can pay for prescriptions with Scrip gift cards at all three of these stores, and for online orders? You can get Gift Cards for most of the restaurants in town. Also, Big Lots has recently been added to the list of merchants! Gift Cards are especially great for that person that's a little more difficult to find just the right gift.

Our church has been doing this for over SIX years and we have made over \$12,000 of pure profit that helps us do lots of mission projects, many projects in our church **DEPEND** on this fundraising income. Please consider getting Scrip gift cards. Check out the more than 750 **NATIONWIDE** merchants and over 30 **LOCAL** merchants where you can enjoy hundreds of restaurant choices.

Thank you and please call us if you have any questions. Please feel free to use the Scrip Order form below or get a copy of it online at presbywashmo.org.

Presby Scrip Coordinators:

Gretchen Farrell, 314-578-1730

Kathy Froning, 636-667-1135

Becky Vogt, 636-667-1790



PRESBY SCRIP PROGRAM

Customer NAME: _____

Date: _____

Customer PHONE: _____

*****All Sales are Final ** No Returns ** No Refunds**

Merchant terms and conditions as well as additional forms are available at [The Presbyterian Church of Washington](#)

	Vendor	%	QTY	\$ Total
	AUTOMOTIVE			
•	BP \$50, \$100, \$250	1.5		
	Fisher's Phillips66 \$25, \$50, \$100	2		
	CLOTHING/DEPT.STORES			
•	JCPenny \$25, \$100	5		
•	Kohl's \$25, \$100	4		
•	Marshall's \$25, \$100	7		
•	Macy's \$25, \$100	10		
•	Maurice's \$20	7		
•	Ross Dress for Less \$25	8		
•	Sam's Club \$25, \$100, \$250	2.5		
•	Shoe Carnival \$25	5		
•	Target \$25, \$100	2.5		
•	Walmart \$25, \$100, \$250	2.5		
	DRUG STORES			
	Schroeder Drug \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50	5		
•	Walgreens \$25, \$100	5		
	GROCERY STORES			
	Frick's Market, Union \$25	5		
	Williams Bros.Meat Mkt. \$25	5		
•	Honey-Baked Ham \$25	12		
	HOME IMPROVEMENTS			
•	Ace Hardware \$25, \$100	4		
•	Lowe's \$25, \$100, \$500	4		
	MAIL ORDER-ONLINE			
•	Amazon \$25, \$100	2		
•	Barnes & Noble \$10, \$25, \$100	8		
•	iTunes \$15, \$25	5		
•	Lands End \$25, \$100	15		
•	LLBean \$25, \$100	16		
	SPECIALTY STORES			
•	Bass Pro Shop \$25, \$100	10		
•	Bath & Body Works \$10, \$25	12		
•	Bed, Bath and Beyond \$25, \$100	7		
•	Big Lots	4		
•	Cabela's \$25, \$100	10		
	Cinema One Plus \$20	5		
	Designer Threads \$25	15		
•	Dicks Sports \$25, \$,100	8		
	Fricke Photography \$20	5		
	Great 8 Cine \$10	10		
•	Hallmark \$25	4		
	Hillermann Nursery \$25, \$50	5		
	I.B.Nuts & Fruit Too \$20	10		
•	Jo-Ann Fabric \$25	6		
•	Michael's \$25	4		
•	Office Depot \$25	5		
•	Ulta Beauty \$25	6		
	Wolf Hollow \$20	5		

PAYMENT METHOD

If Cash, Amount

If Check, Amount

If Check, check number

Make checks payable to The Presbyterian Church

[illegible]

Sign when Receiving Order: _____

Filled by: _____

Date Received: _____

Wish List

The Wish List is composed of items or services which the committees, the Session and the pastor of our church feel would enhance our church facility and/or assist us in carrying out our mission. At present there is no money in our church budget for these wishes. In the event that any members or friends of our church desire to make a special gift to the church, now or in the future, for one of the listed projects, funds may be donated to the church for a designated "Wish". For further information, please contact the church office.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

	<u>Price Each</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Digital Piano		\$800.00
Organ Improvements		\$13,800.00
Media Shout Membership (yrly. fee)	\$149.00/yr.	Open
Choir Music Folders (40 x \$15)	\$15.00	\$600.00
Pieces of Choir Music	\$65 - \$75.00	\$600.00
2 Monitors (speakers) for choir feedback	\$500-\$800	\$1,600.00
Guest Musicians		\$500.00
Refurbish Handbells (3 Octaves)		\$1,500.00

YOUTH & CHILDREN

Camp Scholarships	\$500.00	Open
VBS Postcard/Postage	\$100.00	\$100.00
9 Square in the Air Game		\$800.00
Children Choir Robes		\$1,200.00

MISSION

OFFICE OPERATIONS

Copy Paper (Ongoing need)	\$6.00-15.00	Open
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PROPERTY

New Bell Chime		\$7,175.00
American, MO, & Presbyterian Flags	\$215.00	Open

CEMETERY

Tuck Point Entrance Pillars		\$5,500.00
Remove 5 Large Pine Trees		\$4,000.00
Plant Screening Trees (Arborvitae or Thuja)		\$1,800.00

Please submit the payment for your wish choice and dollar amount to Jaime Brinkmann in the church office. Checks should be made payable to the Presbyterian Church of Washington with the item in the memo line. Any excess funds left over because of price changes will be used to offset any other overages in price increases that may occur.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2nd - William Stahlhuth

5th - Tom Seener

6th - Michelle Zumsteg

6th - Marcy Su

14th - Karen Gruber

15th - Jean Weekley

22nd - Alicia Thater

24th - Barbara Schofield

25th - David Brunworth

26th - Dean Brown

28th - Kay Hazel

29th - Aneeta Brown

30th - Tom Kempf

MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS

Scott McCracken, Heather Miller, Jan Eade, Joy Kopp, Kay Hazel, Charlene Jackson, Vivian Marshall, Tom Kempf, Kathy Van Der Kamp, Jolene Patterson, Elda Seener

SOUTH POINTE: George Peters

CEDAR CREST: Dorothy Mutert, Connie Conrad,

GROUP HOMES: Lisa Conrad, Laura Fenner,

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:

Eddie & Sarah McGurthy & family

(daughter and son-in-law of Ollie & Virginia Whyte)

Patricia Hucke (daughter of Kay Hucke)

Pam Evangelist (sister of Sharon Fenner)

David Gruendler (brother of Laura Lawson)

Wendy Dennison (friend of Rebecca Brehe)

Grady Thayer (Grandson of Mark & Robbin Thayer)

Phyllis Rocco (Lois Kempf's Sister-in-Law)

Joann Ellenberger (Mother of Tom Ellenberger)

Bob Turnure (husband of Francie Turnure)

Loyd Gordy (Father of Beth Brehe)

Jan (Sister-in-Law of Lois Kempf)

Samantha (Friend of Lois Kempf)

Betsy Hazel (Daughter in Law of Kay Hazel)

Julie Vascoso (Niece of Virginia Boren)

Murray Hevert (Friend of Barbara Schofield)

Quinn Burton (Kelly Burton's Daughter)

Mary Henderson (Mother of Charlie Nienness)

Jane Blake (Friend of Kathy Froning & Mauri Truesdell)

Amanda Jones (Niece of Ollie and Virginia Whyte)

David Landgraff (friend of Francie Turnure)

Marsha Roy (Friend of Lois Kempf)

Mrs. Barth (Friend of Lois Kempf)

Jane Lohmyer (Sister of Barbara Hagan)

Michele (Virginia Boren's Great Niece)

Cherie Stormer (Friend of Lois Kempf)

Martin Seitz (Diane Brunworth's Brother)

Tony Alferness (Brother-in-Law of Pastor Pat)

Jeff Edwardh (Friend of Pastor Pat)

Family of Marilyn Carpenter (Mother of Kevin)

Family of Sue Brauer (Mother of Kevin Brauer & Scott Brauer)

Family of Nancy Wolford (John Anglin's Sister)

Gary Froning (Kathy's Husband)

Please be sure to update Jaime with any changes for the Prayer list by:
Email

OFFICE@PRESBYWASHMO.ORG

Calling the office 636-239-3178 or
by leaving a note on the desk.

December 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1 Youth Group 6p Choir 6p Al-Anon 6p	2 PFL 9a Book Club 10a Volleyball 6p Poinsettia Orders Due	3	4 MOW
5 Scrip Order Due	6 Volleyball 4:30	7 Circle of Unity 9a Volleyball 5:30	8 Youth Group 6p Choir 6p Al-Anon 6p	9 PFL 9a Book Club 10a Volleyball 6p	10	11
12 Congregation Mtg. 11:30a Alternative Gifts	13 Finance 12p Volleyball 4:30	14 Circle of Unity 9a Church Life 11am Volleyball 5:30 Cubs 6:15-7p	15 Youth Group 6p Choir 6p Al-Anon 6p	16 PFL 9a Book Club 10a Volleyball 6p	17	18 MOW Dress Rehearsal 9am
19 Christmas Cantana Youth Bake Sale	20 Volleyball 4:30 Session 7p	21 Circle of Unity 9a Volleyball 5:30 Blue Christmas 7p	22 Youth Group 6p Choir 6p Al-Anon 6p	23 Volleyball 6p Office Closed	24 Christmas Eve Service 5pm	25 Merry Christmas!
26	27 Volleyball 4:30	28 Circle of Unity 9a Volleyball 5:30 Cubs 6:15-7p	29 Youth Group 6p Choir 6p Al-Anon 6p	30 Volleyball 6p Office Closed	31	