

*"Where there is no vision,
the people perish..."
Proverbs 29:18a*

Presbyterian Church of Washington
4834 South Point Road
Washington, MO 63090
636-239-3178
email: presby@yhti.net
www.presbywashmo.org

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR



"Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.'" ~ Luke 2:9-10

Dear Friends,

As the Advent and Christmas season begin, I am having difficulty feeling hopeful, peaceful or joyful. Perhaps you feel the same way that I do.

I used to enjoy watching the news. I used to look forward to listening to the latest headlines on the radio as I commuted to church. I used to frequently read news articles on my phone through the various apps I have installed. And, I used to do it energetically.

However, this year I find myself

hesitating to turn on the news. I listen to music in my car instead of talk radio. I ignore news notifications on my phone instead of reading the full articles. Our current political divisiveness, the violence here locally and around the world, the ugliness and hatred of people being lauded instead of beauty, truth and love...they all contribute to my malaise. The "bad news" has become too much for me. And, I honestly feel some fear for the future of our community, country and world.

But, I choose to place my hope in "Good News." Even if I can't find it on news broadcasts. Even if I don't hear it on talk radio, or read about it in print. The Christmas story provides a light that shines into all of our darkness. The Christmas Story is Good News.

When the Angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds, they were afraid. They were enveloped in darkness of night, and the Glory of the Lord at first frightened them. But, the Angel reassured them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people."

For...ALL...the people. The Good News of Jesus Christ being born into the world, the Good News of light

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overcoming darkness, the Good News of hope and peace and joy and love are not just Good News to us as believers. It is Good News for ALL people. It is Good News for citizen and immigrant alike. It is Good News here in Washington as well as around the world. It is Good News for all political affiliations. It is Good News for all races, creeds, denominations, classes, lifestyles, ages and any other classification we may envision.

It is Good News for me and for YOU. Despite all the negativity, fear, violence and hate we see/hear/read...Good News overcomes bad news. Light overcomes darkness. The Gospel overcomes.

Do not be afraid...or filled with despair...or hopeless...Good News of Great Joy is Here!

Christmas Blessings to you all!
Pastor Pat



Confirmation in December

Please continue to pray for the Confirmation Class all this school year. In December, confirmation will meet following worship on the 8th of the month. They will also attend the Congregational Meeting on December 8th as well. Pastor Pat teaches the class.

The Confirmation Class 2019-20

**Ada Montgomery
Adric Montgomery
Marilyn Napier
Lucas Struckhoff
Logan Struckhoff
Brooke Tucker
Matt Wanager**



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OUR CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Jesus Christ calls us to:

- ♦ *Enliven our spiritual lives by experiencing God among us,*
- ♦ *Grow in love for one another as children of God,*
- ♦ *Invite all to Share in our fellowship,*
- ♦ *Demonstrate God's love through service to others.*

CHURCH ELDERS

Name

Committees

Karen Ladd

jladd001@charter.net

David Brunworth

dbrunworth@hotmail.com

Tim Urban

tim.urban22@yahoo.com

John Anglin

johneanglin@gmail.com

Barbara Duemler

ribaduem@yahoo.com

Ian McCracken

ismccracken408@gmail.com

Jean Weekley

possumhawhill@aol.com

Bruce Wiese

ssswbw@charter.net

Christy Eckert

christyeckert@charter.net

Robert Eade

bobeade@aol.com

Joe Hagan

joerhagan@centurytel.net

Kay Hucke

kayhucke@gmail.com

Church Life

Finance

Mission/Outreach

Property (Chair)

Personnel (Chair)

Worship (Chair)

Clerk of Session

Worship

Christian Education (Chair)

Church Life

Mission/Outreach

Finance (Chair)

Personnel

Mission/Outreach (Chair)

Property

Finance

Personnel

Property

Finance

Mission/Outreach

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2019 Committee Members

Asterisk (*) Donates Session Members

Christian Education

Meets the 3rd Monday at 6pm

Ian McCracken* - Chair
Andy Wanager
Jocelyn VanBuskirk
Gerry Urban
Gary Brehe
Gretchen Farrell
Nancy Sebastian
Heather Miller
Jolene Patterson

Church Life

Meets the 2nd Tuesday 9:30am

Karen Ladd*
Jean Weekley*
Judy Bierbaum - Chair
Shirley Coulter
Jan Hardin
Anna Mae Boehmer
Sharon Wiese
Jan Eade
Linda Booher
Heather Miller
Sarah Spear
Barbara Hagan

Finance

Meets the 3rd Monday at 10am

Bruce Wiese* - Chair
Karen Ladd*
Kay Huckle*
Bob Eade*
Becky Vogt
Ed Bonney

Mission/Outreach

Meets the second Monday @ 11am

David Brunworth*
Jean Weekley*
Christy Eckert* - Chair
Kay Huckle*
Gretchen Farrell
Lois Kempf
Jolene Patterson
Pam Schwarzen
Debbie Bandy

Personnel

Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 6pm

Tim Urban* - Chair
Bruce Wiese*
Joe Hagan*
Mary Ellenberger
Gretchen Farrell
Roland Schwarzen

Property

David Brunworth* - Chair
Joe Hagan*
Bob Eade*
Roland Schwarzen
Steve Sebastian
Mary Ellenberger
Anna Mae Boehmer

Worship

John Anglin* - Chair	Judy Bierbaum
Anna Mae Boehmer	Tom Kempf
Karla Becker	Barbara Duemler*
Tom Ellenberger	

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DECEMBER COMMUNION LEADERS & SERVERS

DECEMBER 3 Preparer

John Anglin

Servers

Tim Urban
Jean Weekley
David Brunworth

DECEMBER USHERS

- 12/1 Kay Hucke &
Christy Eckert
- 12/8 Steve & Nancy Sebastian
- 12/15 Barbara Hagan &
Roland Schwarzen
- 12/22 Linda Booher &
Michele Zumsteg
- 12/24 TBD
- 12/29 June, Perry &
Jenny Bieg

DECEMBER SOUND TECHS

- 12/1 Ed Bonney
- 12/8 Ian McCracken
- 12/15 Joe Hagan
- 12/22 Tom Ellenberger
- 12/24 Ed Bonney
- 12/29 Jolene Patterson

WORSHIP LEADER
Mary Ellenberger

POWER POINT
Chris Brehe

DECEMBER GREETERS

- 12/1 Bruce & Sharon Wiese
- 12/8 Karen Ladd &
Nancy Klingert
- 12/15 Allen & Becky Vogt
- 12/22 Bob & Jan Eade
- 12/24 Tom & Lois Kempf
- 12/29 Ollie & Virginia
Whyte

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Marion Medical Mission

Water Well Project

The Mission/Outreach Committee set a goal this year to raise funds to pay for 3 water wells. Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends and successful coffee sales, we are able to provide funds for 4 wells for the 2019 campaign! Additionally, we have over \$300 in an escrow for the 2020 campaign!

Thanks to all.

This is a truly great mission project.

Christy Eckert



New Member Reception

Please join us for worship on Sunday, December 8th as we welcome six new members to our congregation. The new members that we celebrate with that day will be

Denise and Kevin Brauer
Scott Brauer
Aneeta and Dean Brown
Kay Hazel

Per Capita

The Presbytery set the Per Capital allocation for **2020 at \$32.00 per member.**

If you haven't paid your Per Capita for 2019 you can still do so. Just use a "Welcome" envelope available in the sanctuary. Please designate "Per Capita" on the outside of your envelope. The allocation for 2019 is \$31.00 per member.

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"Where's the Glory in the Story?"

"Glory be to God on high,"
sang the angels from the sky.
"Peace and Joy to all on earth,
come with This Infant's birth,"
spoke the angels.

The shepherds went to Bethle'm town
to see The Child to them made known.
They saw the tired family of three,
and too, a tired donkey.
But no angels.

There was nothing glorious 'bout the stable and hay;
nothing glorious about the way
Jesus entered the world. Glorious was the announcement
and its pronouncement
by the angels.

Glory belongs to God on high,
not to what happened to Jesus then and by-and-by.

Maybe we miss the glory
in Luke's Christmas story;
perhaps our peace and joy are weak
because it's not Him we seek:
We seek the angels.

Angels were messengers, not the miracle sought.
We need our Savior and the news the angels brought.

Jocelyn VanBuskirk

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Pastor Pat on Vacation

Pastor Pat will be on vacation from Christmas Day through January 7. He will return to the office on Wednesday, January 8 and to the pulpit on January 12. Rev. Jocelyn Van Buskirk will be preaching during his absence.

Please contact her during Pastor Pat's vacation with any pastoral emergencies.



Congregational Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Congregation of PCW after worship on Sunday, December 8th. The 2019 Nominating Committee will be presenting their report. The Congregation will elect the new class of ruling elders for Session and the 2020 Nominating Committee.

Warners' Warm-Up Coat Drive

Thank you to everyone at our church and our community for the overwhelming response to our 10th annual coat drive in our own Franklin County backyard! We collected 1317 coats this year with another 119 winter accessories that all go to nine local agencies that are in desperate need of them.

We couldn't be more happy for the generous support and I am so impressed at the two full coat boxes of donations just from our church alone. On our sorting day of Sunday, November 10th at our Church as we have been the host venue for ten years, we had about 40 people turn out to help sort for 2 1/2 hours, many high school kids and middle school kids from six local schools, including our seven youth from our Confirmation Class! We did a lot of great things for and with this coat drive and we look forward to doing it again next Fall.

Gretchen Farrell

He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth... LUKE 1:14

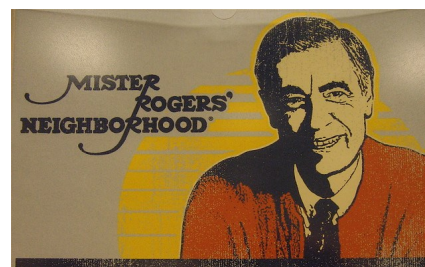
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“Reel Faith” Movie Club

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December’s “Reel Faith” movie is the 2019 film *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, based on the true story of a real-life friendship between television icon Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. The movie is rated PG. *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* opened in theaters on November 22nd. Watch *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* sometime in December and join us for “Reel Faith” Movie Club gathering at 7pm on Monday, December 16th at the church. For more information, contact Pastor Pat.



Christmas Eve

The theme of this year’s Christmas Eve worship service is “Christmas Voices,” a series of monologues written by Karen M. Leet. That night, we shall tell the story of God’s love in Jesus Christ, in Scripture and in song. We will also hear the voices of five significant participants in that original Christmas story. These “Christmas Voices” will give us a renewed perspective of that seem-



ingly ordinary night, when God came to earth to dwell with us. We will also celebrate The Lord’s Supper together as we anticipate the coming of Christ into the world. The service will begin at 11pm on Tuesday, December 24th.

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Van Der Kamp Memorial Library

On Sunday, December 1st, the church library was officially dedicated as "The Van Der Kamp Memorial Library." The new name is in honor of Jean and Ralph Van Der Kamp whose passion shaped and maintained the sacred space we know and love. Following worship that Sunday, there was a brief dedication service in and around the library with Van Der Kamp family members present.

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Please invite your friends and family for a very a very special morning on Sunday, December 15th. During our normal worship hour, PCW will present the one-act opera, "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Based on Italian folk tales of the Nativity and Epiphany, Gian Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors" is a retelling of the story of the Magi from the point of view of a young disabled boy named Amahl, who lives in poverty with his widowed mother near Bethlehem. The production is directed by our own John Anglin and stars members of the congregation and community. Our own choir, directed by Aaron Bounds, will play the role of the shepherds.

Potluck

The next potluck dinner will be Wednesday, December 11 at 5:30 p.m. The main dish will be ham.

Kate Hall will be sharing some of her quilts and stories, and sharing a book that has ended up reflecting perfectly a life philosophy that she now lives by.

Her quilts are a little unexpected, also reflecting that life philosophy. If you want to learn more, please plan on attending the December Potluck to see and hear for yourself, Quilts and Stories.



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Weekend Meals on Wheels

This month, Team A of the Meals on Wheels crew will be preparing Chicken Parmesan on Saturday, December 21st at 8:30 a.m. Please let Pastor Pat know if you would like to deliver meals. Cookies can also be donated at any time by putting them in the freezer marked "Meals on Wheels."



December 28 Harvest Table Event

Saturday, December 28, is our next Harvest Table event and last one for this calendar year. We are looking for volunteers to help out from 4pm-6:30pm and also for salad items that are listed on the sheets on the Narthex bulletin boards.

It is just a few days after Christmas Day and the Church Office will be closed most of that week, **so please plan to bring your items directly to St. Peter's UCC for the Harvest Table Event if you are volunteering** OR you will need to find someone with a church key to get the salad items into the Fellowship Hall kitchen by Friday at 5pm for me to collect for Saturday's event.

Please plan to help out any way you can!

Thank you!

Gretchen Farrell

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The Giving Tree is up!

We are once again working with the Pregnancy Assistance Center to help provide Christmas gifts to needy families in our area.

The giving tree is located just outside of the sanctuary. To participate, choose an ornament, sign your name on the sign up sheet, purchase the gift and return the gift, unwrapped with the ornament attached, to the box next to the tree by Sunday, December 15th at the latest.

If you have any questions please contact Pamela Kellermann 636-239-7958. Thank you for caring and sharing. People working together make good things happen.

Volunteers Needed

Washington Meals on Wheels is urgently in need of additional volunteer drivers to deliver meals to homebound clients within the community.

If can help we would like to hear from you. Please call Karen Chrisco (636-432-1870) or Susan Harms (636-359-1452).

Washington Civic Chorus

The annual Christmas Concert of the Washington Civic Chorus will be Sunday, December 1st at 3:00 p.m. The concert will be at St. Peter's United Church of Christ, Washington, MO, Fifth and Market Streets.

Christmas Joy Offering

Envelopes for collection of Christmas Joy Offerings will be in the pews on Sunday, December 15. This offering supports retired church workers and helps to educate and develop racial ethnic leaders. The offering will be taken during the December 22nd service of worship. Please see the upcoming bulletin insert for more information.

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PRES-BITS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 2	Bill Stahlhuth
December 5	Tom Seener
December 6	Marcy Ritchey
	Michele Zumsteg
December 10	James Jackson
December 14	Karen Gruber
December 15	Jean Weekley
December 22	Alicia Thater
December 24	Barbara Schofield
December 25	David Brunworth
December 26	Marilyn Jerry
December 28	David Brune
December 29	Kay Hazel
December 30	Tom Kempf
December 31	Steven Henderson

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PRES-BITS NEWSLETTER

MEMBERS WITH CONTINUING NEEDS



Laura Fenner, Lisa Conrad, Allen Vogt,
Scott McCracken, Heather Miller, Jim Jackson,
Laura Evans, Jocelyn VanBuskirk

SOUTH POINTE: George Peters

CEDAR CREST: Dorothy Mutert, Lorene Brunworth,
Connie Conrad

FRIENDS OF THE CHURCH REQUESTING PRAYERS:

Eddie & Sarah McGurthy & family (daughter and son-in-law of
Ollie & Virginia Whyte)

Pam Evangelist (sister of Sharon Fenner)

JoAnne Hagedorn (friend of Sharon Fenner and Shirley Coulter)

Marjorie Hines (grandmother of Miles & Ian McCracken)

Vicki Turner (friend of Tom & Lois Kempf)

Mary Rinne (friend of the Fenners)

Emma Venginnit (client of Tom Kempf)

Lydia Disbro (great granddaughter of Laura Evans)

Kay Beckmann (friend of Lois Kempf)

Barb Roach (friend of Nancy Thater, Mauri Truesdell & Susan Benedict)

Diana Hayes (daughter of Barbara Schofield)

Tom Jett (cousin-in-law of Mauri Truesdell & Kathy Froning)

Greg Butler (son-in-law of the Kempfs)

Helen Boggs (sister of Sid Thayer)

Lila Blose (aunt of Beth Brehe)

Diana Brinker (niece of Anna Mae Boehmer)

David Gruendler (brother of Laura Lawson)

Arlene Moll (mother of Pam Kellermann)

Quinn Burton (daughter of Kelly Burton)

Norma Klemme (friend of the Fenners and the Friends Foundation)

Mary Washabaugh (former member)

The Confirmation Class of 2020

Oliver Jones (brother of Virginia Whyte)






Debbie Neller (stepdaughter of Kay Hucke)

Jane Kitt (aunt of Nancy Thater)

Shari Voepel (Emmaus Homes caregiver)



December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Van Der Kamp Library Dedication 11:30a Alternative Gift Market 11:30a Staff Meeting noon	2 Session 7pm	3 Adult Study 10am Yoga 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:15pm Boy Scouts 7pm	4 Youth/Children's Choir 8pm Youth Open Gym 7pm Adult Choir 6:30pm	5 Prayer for Life 9am Adult Study 10am F/H Rental 5pm Franklin Co. Singles 7pm	6 Bridge 7pm	7 
8 Confirmation Class 11:30am Congregational Meeting 11:30am	9 Madrigals in F/H	10 Madrigals in F/H Church Life 8:30am Yoga 5:30pm Personnel 8pm Cub Scouts 6:15pm Boy Scouts 7pm	11 Madrigals in F/H Potluck 5:30pm Y/C Choir 8pm Adult Choir 6:30pm	12 Madrigals Prayer for Life 9am Book Study 10am	13 Madrigals Bridge 7pm	14 Madrigals Session Room Rental 3pm
15 "Amahl & The Night Visitors" 10:15am Youth Mission 5pm	16 Finance 10am Movie Night 7pm	17 Yoga 5:30pm Cub Scouts 6:15pm Boy Scouts 7pm	18 Y/C Choir 8pm Adult Choir 6:30pm	19 Prayer For Life 9am Circle 10am Fr Co. Volleyball 5pm	20 Bridge 7pm	21 Meals on Wheels 8:30am
22 	23	24  Service 11pm	25 	26 Fr. Co. Volleyball 5pm	27 Rehearsal Dinner 5:30pm	28 Wedding 2pm Harvest Table 3pm
29	30 Christian Ed 6pm	31 				

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Christ is all and in all.”
Colossians 3:11

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LIKE us on Facebook!

