Announcements

December Birthdays

Dec 1st - Betheny Nieters, Michael Thomas

Dec 2nd - Judy Eckley

Dec 4th - Donna Holder, Terry Wood

Dec 5th - Mary Reed

Dec 7th - Doug Williams

Dec11th - Lillian Koehler, Marilyn Montville

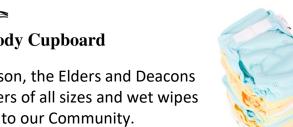
Dec 12th - Joyce Skoric

Dec 14th - Nancy Brown, Norma Wheeler

Dec 21st - Bob Wolf

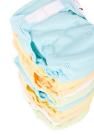
Dec 25th - Lynette Barsness

Dec 31st - Wayne Jones



Cody Cupboard

This Christmas season, the Elders and Deacons would ask for Diapers of all sizes and wet wipes to donate to our Community. Thank You all for your support!



Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be available to purchase for \$17.00 today after worship!

Presbyterian Women Christmas Celebration

Saturday, December 9 at Noon

Please bring a dish to share. Wear your favorite Christmas sweater and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship. If you wish, bring a gift for Serenity House (new, gender

neutral baby item) or a gift for Toys for Tots (new, unwrapped toy). Please RSVP to Joyce Skoric or Nancy Horn.



Congregational Life: Christmas Brunch

Please plan to attend a Christmas brunch following worship service on Sunday, December 10th.

We will say "Welcome back, Pastor Pat and Debbie" with plenty of food and fellowship

December Wednesday Night Dinners

December 6th & December 20th in Buswell Hall at 5:30pm





- Kiddo's December 3rd at 10:30am
- Youth Group December 3rd at 5:30pm. Location to be announced. Dinner will be provided.

Save the date!

- What? Study of the book of Daniel for adults
- When? Sunday, January 7th 11:00 to 12:00 after Worship Service
- Where? Church Parlor
- Bring? Your Bible, your questions and your desire to learn more about Daniel





- Pledges create the financial foundation of our church
- Our budget, through pledging, determines the year's activities and our outreach as a church!

Please do not forget to fulfill pledges by the end of 2023! We have received 68% of the pledged income for 2023

Received \$172,526 \$253,240 Pledged Amount Short (\$80,714)

Thank you!



December 3rd, 2023 1st Sunday of Advent

Praise Music

"Lord, Reign In Me" "Be Unto Your Name" "Indescribable"

Please fill out attendance form and pass it along your row

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

Awake, people of God, and stay alert for Christ's coming. Grace to you and peace from God who sent Jesus to us.

> Make your ways known to us, O God. Show us once more your awesome presence.

We are all God's people; no one is excluded.

Come together as God's family for worship and prayer.

Let the mountains quake before you, mighty God. Let the national tremble in awe and reverence.

Praise the One who grants us the gift of life. Give thanks for God's continuing faithfulness.

> Heaven and earth will pass away, But the Word of God is true for all times and places.

Advent Candle Lighting Cathy Aardema & Jennifer Chanley

Unison Advent Prayer

Come, O God, with Your light. Enrich us with spiritual gifts that transcend disappointments, and let your presence spill out of us in generous compassion. Come, O Jesus, and reveal to us again the power and glory that you embody. We anxiously anticipate the impact Your word makes on our lives, and the lives of those we touch. Lord, reign in us, and rule our hearts.

Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Hymn #2

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Awesome God, we confess the sin of our separation from you. We have blamed you for hiding from us, rather than admitting we have failed to see you in the thousands of ways you are revealing yourself every day. We have not called on you, and we have not listened for your call to us. Without you, we have become tiny islands of self-concern. Our links with the rest of your children are stretched and broken. O God, we long for that loving community in which your reign is acknowledged and your purposes are served. Move us to that place, we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen

Gloria Patri

Call to Offering

Offertory "Who Is This King?" *Jim McNeill*

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Children's Time

Hymn "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" Hymn #308

Scripture Reading Isaiah 64:1-9 Mark 13:24-37

Sermon "Rumble Strips" (Mark 13:1-23, 24-27)

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Order of Communion "In the Bleak Midwinter"

Closing Hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Hymn #9

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction & Blessing

Postlude

Ushers: Cathy Aardema & Patti Smith
Music Director: Wendy Corr
Accompanist: Tim Schoessler
Message: Pat Montgomery

Isaiah 64:1-9 (NIV)

- ¹ Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!
- ² As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil,
- come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you!
- ³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.
- ⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived,
- no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.
- ⁵ You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways.

But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry.

How then can we be saved?

⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;

we all shrivel up like a leaf,

and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

⁷ No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins.

⁸ Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

⁹ Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD; do not remember our sins forever.

Oh, look on us, we pray, for we are all your people.

Mark 13:24-37 (NIV)

- ²⁴ "But in those days, following that distress,
- "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light;
- ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'
- ²⁶ "At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.
- ²⁷ And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.
- ²⁸ "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near.

- ²⁹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door.
- ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.
- ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

The Day and Hour Unknown

- ³² "But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.
- ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come.
- ³⁴ It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.
- ³⁵ "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn.
- ³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping.
- ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!'"











