Center Presbyterian Church 211 Center St. Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Center Church Weekly E-Blurb

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December 11, 2022 Edition



Prayers this week

Prayers for Becky Arblaster, Julie Powell's neighbor, for her continued cancer treatments.

Ed Ford is now back home and could use continued prayers for him.

Mack Porter is asking for prayers for his sister, Leslie. Her health has deteriorated and the family will have to make some difficult decisions going forward for her. Please keep Leslie and her family in your prayers.

Benjamin Irwin who was a student and was coming to church a few years ago is fighting cancer now and could use a lot of prayers as he goes through radiation every day.

Lara Mumaw is asking prayers for my friend's brother Earnie Zilka. Here is the update on Earnie, he had several jaw surgeries to fix his broken jaw from his track accident and is doing well.

Please keep Denise Brydon in your prayers she is still recovering at home.

Please keep Mike and Sandy Montgomery's neighbor, Bev in your prayers.

Robyn Gregg's daughter, Lindsay is having some health issues and is asking for continued prayers.

Bill Mills is asking for prayers for his great-grandson, Liam is in Cleveland Clinic with a head infection.

Please keep Dean, the father of one of Heather Runtas' cheerleaders in your prayers. He is battling multiple brain tumors and is now going to Hospice. They don't expect him to have much time left. This has been really hard on the family. Please keep them in your prayers as well. God Bless.

Carol Lambert is asking for prayers for Don Downing, he used to be a principle at Slippery Rock and Moraine Elementary schools, he is having severe heart problems and has been in the hospital for the past 3 weeks.

Julie Powell's friend, Rita's, leukemia is back, and she will be going through stem cell replacement surgery later this month and then will be hospitalized and isolated for a while afterwards. Please pray for her surgery to be successful and her spirits to remain positive.

Please keep a teammate of Lyla Runtas who was hit by a car on Rt. 228 on Tuesday evening and is recovering from serious injuries she is still touch and go. Please keep her family in your prayers as well.

Please keep Lorrie Homa's good friend's mother in your prayers she is In ICU with pneumonia. She just came off the ventilator but still has a way to go for recovery.

New This Week Prayers

Jody Sperry's nephew, Ben is now home. Please continue to pray for his recovery.

Robert Wilson is having hip surgery Tuesday, December 6th. Please keep him in your prayers for a successful surgery and a quick recovery.

Mary Decker's great-grandson was born and is finally home but has a long way to go. Please keep them in your prayers as he was born pre-mature and has a lot of care ahead of him.

Please keep Beth Thompson in your prayers she fell and broke her collarbone. No surgery is needed but continue prayers for quick healing and recovery.

Robyn Gregg is asking for prayers for Lindsay. She is having difficulties with her kidneys and awaiting decision from oncologist if surgery will be needed.

Please remember to update your prayers as needed. We would like to keep everyone up to date on the status.

Slippery Rock	P D	November Stats 2022					
Families	101	Total Fai	nily Mem	bers 175			
Adults	76	Children	23	Seniors	74	New Families	13
Slippery Rock Boro33Slippery Rock AreaOut/Area Emergency/New Family0					56	Harrisville Area	12
Wish List:	Sugar, Stuffing Mix, Cranberry Sauce						

Thank you to one and all for your generous support. We could not help our friends and neighbors without you.

If you know someone who is in need of our help, please give them our contact number. Contact number: 724-421-5274

December 11, 2022

Pastor Bill's Weekly Message

This week is Joy Sunday!

We will have Joy in seeing the children in worship sharing their play.

We will hear the word "Joy" in the scriptures, liturgy and hymns.

We will light the third candle of the Advent Wreath.

This is known as the Joy Candle.



Come and you will experience much Joy in Worship!

Below is our ENTIRE bulletin for Dec. 11th.

God bless you, and see you in church or online, during Advent! *Rev. William C. Mamaw II*

Prelude: Lo, How A Rose E're Blooming John Innes

Welcome and Announcements

Introit Christmas Is For Giving

Joseph Hopkins

Lighting of Advent Wreath

"The Shepherd's Candle"

- Kasey and Owen Yeager

*Reading/ Prayer/ Lighting of Candle

During Lighting of Candle:

All Sing - #169 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verse 3Only! - <u>"Hymns For the Family of God"</u>

Praise Sentences

- L: Lord, we thank You for each smile, each laugh, each moment of warmth, each flicker of light.
- P: God continues to offer joy.
- L: Though we wonder what the future holds,
- P: God's joy abides.
- L: Lord, amidst the relentless cheer of this Advent season—the trees and the twinkles and the music and the gifts, open our hearts, minds and eyes to see Your joy this Advent season!

Opening Hymn - Ding Dong Merrily on High Screen Only

Opening Prayer

Lord, on this third Sunday of Advent, let us remember that the news of Jesus' birth has the power to bring us great joy.

Our joy isn't dependent on what is going on in our life, in our world, or the people that we are with. Our joy comes from You.

Remind us that the same joy that flooded the hearts of the shepherds, still has the power to overwhelm our hearts with rejoicing.

Father, you offer that same joy to us now if we know You, and recognize Jesus as our Savior and Lord.

Forgive us for our lack of joy, and our poor attitudes and hurtful words.

Flood our hearts with joy this Advent season as we reflect on the best and most special gift that You gave us, on that very first Christmas, in Jesus Christ.

(Brief Moment of Silent Confession)

Pastor's Amen

Church Song of Response

Time with Children

"Children's Christmas Play"

Scripture Luke 1:46-56

⁴⁶ And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me holy is his name. ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors." ⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

Choir Anthem

Scripture Luke 2: 8-14

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

Message "The Shepherd's Candle"

<u>Reflection Hymn – "While Shepherd's Watched Their Flocks" - Verses 1-4 only.</u>

Presbyterian Blue Hymnal

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn – #8 "Lift Up Your Heads"

Presbyterian Blue Hymnal

Benediction Response- The First Nowell (Hymn #56 Refrain Only)Postlude:While Shepherds Watched Their FlocksGordon Young



Calvin

Our service at the church will begin at 6:30 pm.

So, I want to arrive and be in my seat by 6:25, right?

WRONG!

At Christmas Eve Service, something special starts us off early.

David Mruk has some beautiful selections of music for the Prelude, and that starts at 6:20.

At 6:20, the live streaming will be starting as well!

I think it would be a good idea to plan on coming to the church for 6:15.

If you do not, you may miss some beautiful music, and also be seen coming into the sanctuary on the camera.

Please share this with friends, neighbors, and family who may be coming!

** BYE!

What a beautiful and busy time of year! The fall colors were amazing this year and now as winter is approaching, we are looking forward to Thanksgiving this Thursday. Pastor Bill has been talking about things we can be thankful for in our church family and church building. There are so many things coming up from now until the end of December and Worship & Music would like to give you some things to be thankful for and look forward to in the next few weeks.

Nov 27th is the first Sunday of Advent. We will be having Communion that day. The orchestra will be playing for the morning service. And Pastor Bill will begin his Advent sermon series. The theme is **"Flames for the Faithful".** Each Sunday during Advent he plans to have someone light an Advent candle and we will hear about what that candle represents.

Dec. 11 Shepherds Candle

Dec. 18 Angels Candle

Some other things will be happening in our services as we go through December.

Dec. 11 The Youth choir is planning something very special, and you won't want to miss this!

Dec. 18 The Handbells will play the prelude and the Adult Choir will share a beautiful cantata.

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve is on Saturday this year -

at 6:20pm the evening will begin with some special preludes

at 6:30pm the service of Lessons & Carols will begin

Dec. 25 Christmas morning we get to celebrate Christmas together at usual time of 10:30am.

Pastor Bill will have a message for us, there will be some special music, and lots of singing for all to enjoy.

Also, during December, there are several other musical events that you might enjoy and several of our church family will be participating in these events.

There will be several handbell choirs performing along with a well-known handbell soloist.

Saturday, Dec 10 at 7:00pm ACTS Choir & Orchestra will present the Christmas Cantata "Shout the Good News" at Mt. Chestnut Presby, Butler

Sunday, Dec 11 at 3:00pm ACTS Choir & Orchestra will present the Christmas Cantata "Shout the Good News" here at Center Presby

There is a lot going on in our church and neighboring towns in the next few weeks. So, if you are getting a bit stressed or tired of shopping, may we recommend spending some quiet time meditating on the message of Advent and Christmas through God's word in our services and the beautiful music that is right here at our fingertips. Come let us adore Him!



Presented by ACTS Choir and Orchestra

> Saturday, December 10, 2022 Mt. Chestnut Presbyterian Church Butler, Pa. PERFORMANCE TIME 7:00 p.m.



Sunday, December 11, 2022 Center Presbyterian Church Slippery Rock, Pa. PERFORMANCE TIME 3:00 p.m.

> Contact us at: Website – www.adoringchristthrusong.com Facebook - Adoring Christ Thru Song Director – Kate Cotter

k.s.eberle@gmail.com or 724-496-0118