

**January 28-
February 3,
2022**



CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CT Press

MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

As I sit to write this, the weather forecasters are hedging on how much snow we will get Friday into Saturday. On Saturday, we were supposed to have a leadership retreat with the church staff, the elders, the deacons, and the trustees. Since most of the last two years have felt like a “holding pattern” with regard to ministry, I was looking forward to this event serving as a kind of “kick start” for the future. Now, plans have changed.

But that is how life is. We can make all the plans we want, and then something changes.

The leadership retreat is necessary for one simple reason – the world has changed, and we are running to catch up. The pandemic has hastened many changes that were on the horizon for the world. For example, look how quickly everyone learned how to use technology like Zoom and apps like Door Dash. Because the world has changed, how we do ministry and share the good news of Jesus with others must adapt to a different world. And please note, I am not saying the message has changed. It most certainly has not. But we can’t use many of the outreach methods we employed even twenty years ago and expect people will respond the same way.

I am really looking forward to the leadership retreat, even though we have to postpone it. We have not been able to get together for two years, and when we last gathered, we came away from that time together excited for what might come next. Like the dubious weather forecast for the weekend, little did we know...

But we do have today. As Psalm 118:4 reminds us, “This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Maybe it snows. Perhaps plans get changed. Regardless of what happens, it will still be a day God has given us. What a gift! I guarantee I will have a tough time not complaining about my plans going awry, but I know I’ll get over it.

Whether the retreat was tomorrow, next week, or sometime in the spring, that is also be a day the Lord has given us. So, if we are snowed in, grab a cup of coffee, tea, or cocoa, put on a movie, and give thanks to the Lord for what he’s given.

Blessings,

Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.

Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries is excited to announce

Kid's Group!

As many of you know, we hosted a Pokémon-themed trading card event last Saturday the 15th. What you may not know, however, is that this was only the first of many events to come for our newly formed Kid's Group! Intended as a transitional space between our Sunday School and Youth Group ministries, we are launching weekly group events for our elementary and middle-school students! Each event will be two-to-three hours long and will be made up of two-thirds of the time that is focused on fellowship followed by a biblical or theological lesson that takes place in the last third. Our goal for these events is to create a "pre-youth-group" space for the Children of our congregation and the community that will organically feed into middle and high-school Youth Group as kids age up in order to avoid the loss of students that often occurs in the transition from Children's to Youth ministries, as well as the creation of a safe and fun space for students to fellowship with each other and explore their faith in a less formal setting than Sunday School. Here's a list of some of our upcoming events:



Saturday, January 29th, 4-6PM: ROBLOX Game Session. Hop onto Zoom and play ROBLOX games with us! Zoom link will be sent out via email to currently active children/parents. If you know a child that would like to join, email Garth at garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org to receive a link.



Saturday, February 5th, 4-6:30 PM: Movie Night. Come to the upstairs youth room for popcorn, snacks, and a viewing of Prince of Egypt, the critically acclaimed animated retelling of the story of Moses and the first part of the book of Exodus!



Saturday, February 12th, 4-6:30PM: Pokémon Party. Our second monthly Pokémon event will feature more free cards, more fun activities, supervised trading, premade decks to play the trading card game with, and the sequel to the Pokémon movie that we watched during the first event! If you have Pokémon cards and want to learn how to play the official game, or want help making a deck of your own, this is the perfect event for you. There may even be prizes for anyone who can beat Garth at the trading card game!



Souper Bowl of Caring! On Sunday, February 13, the children/youth will be stationed by the sanctuary exit following worship to collect donations for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring special offering. All of this offering will be given to Jefferson County Community Ministries' food pantry.



Hospice of the Panhandle celebrates Valentine's Day by thanking doctors, social workers, nursing home staff, pharmacists, funeral directors and other friends in the community who help them serve their patients. This year they will deliver boxes of individually-wrapped store bought snacks and are asking for donations of: granola bars, protein bars, snack-size packs of popcorn, chips, pretzels, snack cakes, brownies, cookies, single-serve packs of nuts and trail mix, hard candies, candy bars and packs of gum.

Your donations can be dropped off at the church office or in box located in the front of sanctuary by Sunday, February 6th. The donations will be delivered to Hospice of the Panhandle main office in Kearneysville on Monday, February 7th. Your donations appreciated.

Happy
VALENTINE'S

» — DAY — «

♪ MUSIC NOTES ♪ from Miss Penny

Sharing with you this week the lyrics
that go with my musical offering for Sunday.



God will make a way

God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me
He will be my guide
Hold me closely to His side
With love and strength for each new day
He will make a way
He will make a way

By a roadway in the wilderness
He'll lead me
Rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade
But His word will still remain
And He will do something new today.

God has a plan for us! And God will make a way!

Blessings! Penny

Celebrations this week

Sunday @ CTPC

Birthdays

Matthew Custer
Hollyn Rossi

Mary Burns
Heather Duncan



10:30am-Worship Celebration FaceBook

For a complete listing of all of the church activities, please click [here](#).



CTPC Zoom Meetings this week

To join any of the Zoom meetings listed below, please email the church office at ctpres.org for contact information.

The Faithweavers is a blended Sunday School class with in person and virtual options led by Margaret Kursey.

Mission & Outreach on Tuesday at 7pm.

Wednesday Bible Study at 4pm. We will continue our study of the book of Ezekiel.

Be the Light!

Jesus says be the light of the world; John 8:12

How can we do that? Well, we can start by modeling what Jesus did.

Together we can make a difference when it comes to being the “light of the world”.

This means showing kindness and compassion, lifting others up, and trying each day to do your best by living in a way that is pleasing to God.

Here are seven ways we can try.

1. Focus on doing right and don't be swayed.
2. Treat others as you want to be treated.
3. Practice humility.
4. Give thanks even during life's challenges.
5. Don't waiver in your beliefs.
6. Don't be afraid to put yourself out there.
7. Love and trust the Lord.

(Adapted from an article by Tracie Rollins)

Keep your light shining!

Mission and Outreach is looking for servers for the months of June, September, and December. We are now preparing meals for about fifty people. Get a friend to help you, and sign up for a month to bring food to people in our community who rely on this one meal a day. If you have any questions, please contact the committee members. (Patsy White, Kathy Shue, Diane Mayhew and Connie Casserley) This is an easy way to put yourself out there.

Important TAX NOTICE: To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2021 income tax return until you have accessed your on-line giving statement. If you need the office to print a hard copy of your contribution statement please call (304-725-5316) or email (ctpres@ctpres.org) the church office. Giving statements will be mailed to those without email by the end of January.

To access your giving statement go to servantkeeper.com/member-portal/ctpres/login#/, go to giving history, under “overview” click on the drop down dates and choose year (2021), and the option to print your statement needed for tax purposes.



Weekly Offering

Weekly Congregational Giving:

Needed to Meet

Expenses Budget: \$6,934

Sunday's Receipts: \$2,840;

Special Offerings: Sunday School—\$34; Hunger—\$20.

Checks can be mailed to: CTPC, PO Box 89, Charles Town, WV 25414

**For electronic giving,
please scan here:**



Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God. In addition to the no-fee Facebook

donations and nominal fee Paypal service, we set up online giving through the Presbyterian Foundation. **Money donated via any of these services gets deposited to our church bank account.** By going through the Foundation, the fee they charge actually helps the mission of their organization, which is to help Presbyterian churches to be excellent stewards of their gifts and resources. The exciting part about working with the foundation is that we are able to use a mobile app that is connected to our account. The app is called Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on the Google Play or Apple App Store. You can set up for weekly, monthly or one time giving! Note: If you were previously using the "Give Plus" app, that has been superseded by the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement as of January 31, 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you.

2022 Giving Envelopes are now available in the narthex for those attending in person worship. Call or email church office (304-725-5316 or ctpres@ctpres.org) if you would like to have envelopes mailed to you. If you give with a check, envelopes are not necessary. If giving with cash, please write your name on an envelope to enable us to credit your giving statement properly.

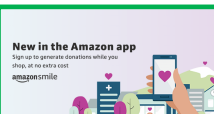


The flower chart for 2022 is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would like to donate your flowers for the deacons to

deliver to a shut-in or someone in the hospital, please call the church office.

For those who wish to continue with the Bible reading plan in 2022, you can access or download the document [here](https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/navigators-bible-reading-plan.pdf). This plan is a little different than the 2021 plan. The 2021 plan had only five readings per week, and we were able to finish the entire New Testament. The 2022 plan has two readings every day, and they are a little longer, but we will read through the whole Bible in a year. If you read through the 2021 plan, it is okay to use this plan but skip the New Testament readings. These are the readings from which Pastor John will do his daily devotions each morning on the church Facebook page.

<https://www.navigators.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/navigators-bible-reading-plan.pdf>



Want to help make a difference while you shop in the Amazon app, at no extra cost to you?

Simply follow the instructions below to select "Charles Town Presbyterian Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. They'll donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us. How it works:

1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
3. Select "Charles Town Presbyterian Church" as your charity
4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app



JCCM Food Pantry needs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated: Hot dogs, Ground beef, Eggs, Regular coffee (not instant), Microwave meals, Canned chili with beans, Shelf Stable/powdered milk, Pancake mix, Jelly, Rice/pasta sides, Boxed mashed potatoes, Flour, Powdered coffee creamer, Dish soap, Laundry detergent, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Shampoo/Conditioner, Body wash, Paper towels, Cat and dog food. Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry Coordinator, JCCM



Know. Grow. Serve.



Song of Solomon

