

February 4-10,
2022



CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CT Press

MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

Look at the picture at the bottom of my column. I call that my "Joy Jar." Throughout the year, I fill it with positive, good, and happy moments that I want to remember and to be thankful for when the year ends. Every New Year's Eve, I empty the jar, which is usually quite full, and joyfully remember many of the good things that happened in the previous twelve months. This practice helps me to stay positive and thankful.

I find it extremely easy to be negative. If I'm not careful, I find myself focusing on the negative and not the positive. During the pandemic, especially, it's been so easy to look only at the negative. Negative thoughts can be toxic. Soon, if we aren't careful, we expect everything to be negative. What a downer!

In Philippians 4:8, the apostle Paul says this, ***"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."*** We live in a world full of harsh realities. It can be a cold and evil place. As followers of Christ, however, we have something great and unbelievable – life in Christ! By faith we know we belong to him, not only for this life, but for all eternity! It is an amazing and great hope that all Christians have held to for centuries.

As we go through each day, it can be tempting to let the darkness of the world overtake who we are. The negative sneaks in and robs us of joy and hope. So how do we move from focusing on the negative to focusing on the good? We need to develop habits and tools that helps us have a Philippians 4:8 mindset.

That's what my Joy Jar does for me. It is not an original idea, and I wish I could remember from where I got it, but I forget. I think I may have shared about this habit before, and I apologize if I'm being redundant. Given all the negativity in the world, I thought we could take a moment to focus on a positive habit that generates joy and thankfulness.

Blessings and Joy,
Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.

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

Kid's Group!

Join us for our newly formed Kid's Group! Intended as a transitional space between our Sunday School and Youth Group ministries, we have launched 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, 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!



souperbowl.org

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.

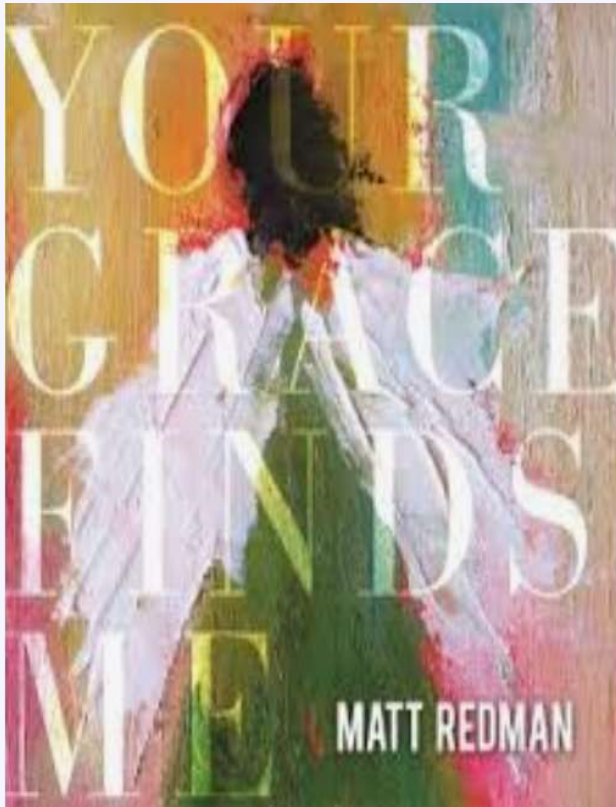
Your donations can be dropped off at the church office or in box located in the front of sanctuary by this Sunday, February 6th. The donations will be delivered to Hospice of the Panhandle main office in Kearneysville on Monday, February 7th. Your donations appreciated.

Happy
VALENTINE'S

» — DAY — «

🎵 MUSIC NOTES 🎵 from Miss Penny

This week's special music is a piano piece that is a blend of 2 songs- "Your Grace Finds Me" with "Grace Greater Than Our Sin". Here are the lyrics from...



Blessings!

Penny

It's there in the newborn cry
It's there in the light of every sunrise
It's there in the shadows of this light
Your great grace

It's there on the mountaintop
It's there in the everyday and the mundane
There in the sorrow and the dancing
Your great grace
Oh, such grace

*From the creation to the cross
Then from the cross into eternity
Your grace finds me
Yes, Your grace finds me*

There on a wedding day
There in the weeping by the graveside
There in the very breath we breathe
Your great grace

Same for the rich and poor
Same for the saint and for the sinner
Enough for this whole wide world
Your great grace
Oh, such grace

*From the creation to the cross
Then from the cross into eternity
Your grace finds me
Yes, Your grace finds me*

*There in the darkest night of the soul
There in the sweetest songs of victory
Your grace finds me
Yes, Your grace finds me
Your great grace
Oh, such grace*

Your great grace
Oh, such grace

So I'm breathing in Your grace
And I'm breathing out Your praise
I'm breathing in Your grace
Forever I'll be

Breathing in Your grace
And I'm breathing out Your praise
I'm breathing in Your grace
And I'm breathing out Your praise
Breathing in Your grace
For our God, for our God

Yes, Your grace finds me
Yes, Your grace finds me

Celebrations this week

Birthdays

Luella Mullens
Nicholas Pizzuti
Linda Snyder

Mason Fowler
Haley Harrison
Pat Hetzinger



Sunday @ CTPC

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.
- **Stewardship & Vision** on Monday at 7pm.
- **Deacons Meeting** 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: \$4,735;

Special Offerings: Sunday School—\$41; Hunger—\$5; Facility Use—\$75; Help Fund—\$268; Memorial—\$325.

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.

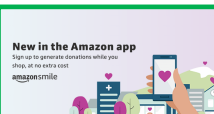


The flower chart for 2022 is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would like to donate your flowers for the deacons to

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, shelf stable/powdered milk, jelly, powdered coffee creamer, salt, sugar, cooking oil, dish soap, laundry detergent, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, paper towels, cat and dog food. Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry Coordinator, JCCM



Know. Grow. Serve.



Just as a bird hovers over its nest to protect its young, so I, the Almighty, will protect Jerusalem and defend it... 31:5

ISAIAH

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse...

