

February 11-17,
2022



MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

I often tell the congregation that participation in a committee can be really rewarding experience and a source of spiritual growth. What many people may not realize is that since I am a member of the Shenandoah Presbytery (ministers are not members of congregations), I am encouraged to serve on one of the various committees of the presbytery. For the past few years, I have served on the Committee for New Congregational Development. In our meeting this week, I heard about something unique and exciting: Dog Church. It is a ministry of one of the congregations in Staunton. Once a week, people who love their doggos gather to walk their dogs together. It also serves as a playdate for the dogs. Before they walk the dogs, there is scripture reading, prayer, and often small group discussion. Dog Church attracts people from outside the congregation that hosts the group.

That got me thinking. How hard would it be for the members of our congregation to combine our passions with our faith? I know the prospect of leading a small group may seem daunting, but we can train people to lead such a group. Here are some examples of the kinds of groups we could easily create:

Dog Church. See above. We have many dog lovers in our midst.

Walking. The name for this group practically writes itself, "Walking by Faith."

Music. And even this is a broad category. Classical, country, praise, and so on. Listen to some music together and then have a short Bible reading and prayer time.

Running. Like the walking group, but for those insane people who love to run.

Bicycling. I'll lead this one, if there is interest.

Cooking. We already have a supper group, but I'm sure there are people who would love to cook together!

Stock Market/Investing. This is a hobby for some, and what a great way to learn this hobby from others.

Any passion or hobby can connect to a small group. It is a very creative way we could do outreach. If you are interested in this, please do these two things: First, pray about this. There is a little work involved and it is a commitment. Second, let me know. I will help you develop the skills and format that suits your group. We can also work together on how to spread the word.

For those who think this is a great idea but can't think of how they might do this, please be in prayer for those who will take this step of faith.

Remember, our mission as Christians and as a congregation is to make disciples. Combining this mission with one of our passions is great and fun way to help people outside of the faith connect with other Christians in a relaxed environment that can give them a safe place to share their questions, all while engaging in a shared passion.

Blessings,

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 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! This 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.

Tools for a Growing Faith

All are welcome to join us for this six-week study during Lent. Each week will focus on a different topic that is integral to personal discipleship and spiritual growth. This series will be led by Pastor John and Garth Stevens-Jennings. Participants are welcome to attend one, several, or all of the meetings. While the whole series will be of benefit to all who attend, if there are one or two topics that stand out, it is fine to attend only those weeks.

We will meet in the church parlor on Saturdays at 10am.

March 5	Worship
March 12	Scripture
March 19	Prayer and Fasting
March 26	Study, meditation, solitude
April 2	Spiritual Gifts and Service
April 9	Sharing Our Faith

Questions? Email Pastor John at jbethard@ctpres.org, or Garth at garthstevensjennings@ctpres.org. We will follow the most recent pandemic guidelines adopted by the session.

🎵 MUSIC NOTES 🎵 from Miss Penny

“Attitude of Gratitude!”



I often wonder what this world would be like if everyone was just grateful ! Take a few minutes to think and pray about that.

In keeping with my "Attitude of Gratitude", I'd like to welcome two people into our music ministry fold!

Anna Current has joined our Geneva Ringers. She relocated to this area several months ago from Texas. The next time our Geneva's ring, please be sure to say hello and introduce yourself to her!

Gordon Myers has just joined our Glory Singers. Currently residing in Lovettsville, he has been worshiping with us for quite some time and felt the call to music ministry.

As we continue to move through this pandemic, I hope more people receive the call to join us! Our music ministry needs YOUR gift in music !

Always Grateful!

Blessings,

Penny



Ash Wednesday Service. Please join us for our Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 2nd, at 7:00pm. The offering received will be divided between Church World Services and the Mission and Outreach Committee.

Celebrations this week

Birthdays

Molly Blue

Ceil Frazier

Doug McDonough

Marty Kable

Joe Polvinale

Vera Reid

Ron Rossi

Garth Stevens-Jennings



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.
- **Technology & Communications** on Monday at 7pm.
- **Session Meeting** Tuesday at 7pm.
- **Wednesday Bible Study** at 4pm. We will continue our study of the book of Ezekiel.
- **READ Book Study News.** The Racial Equality and Discipleship group. Meetings are on forth Saturdays begin at 10am.

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#/,](http://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: \$9,176; On-

Line Giving—\$950; Special Offerings: Loose—\$27; Sunday School—\$53; Hunger—\$161; Help Fund—\$80; Memorial—\$20; Initial—\$3.

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.

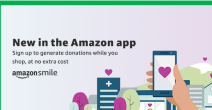


The flower chart for 2022 is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would

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.

MAY MY EYES FLOW WITH TEARS DAY AND NIGHT

Y.14:17

Jeremiah



I HAVE LOVED YOU, MY PEOPLE, WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE.

Mandy Grace '14

ministry-to-children.com