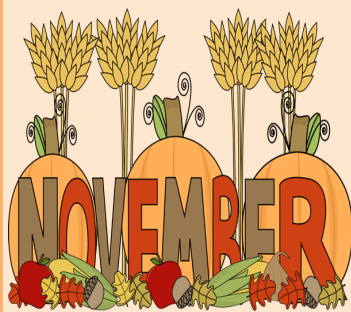


November
2022



CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CT Press

MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

235th Homecoming Jubilee!

Let me answer the question on everyone's mind: Yes, there will be cake!

On Sunday, November 6, we are celebrating the 235th anniversary of Charles Town Presbyterian Church. Our 235th Homecoming Jubilee begins with special Sunday School classes for all ages. Garth Stevens-Jennings will lead a combined class for all children, while all adults are invited to a special class in the sanctuary to learn about the history of our congregation.

There will also be time for a little fellowship during and following the Sunday School hour. As we had hoped, there are many people attending the Jubilee, and it will be wonderful to connect with many people.

Worship will be incredibly special. I do not want to give too much away, but there will be some wonderful moments. There will be special music from our vocal and bell choirs. We will hear some testimonies from church members. The Reverend Bronwen Boswell will deliver the message for the morning. Bronwen is the general presbyter and stated clerk of Shenandoah Presbytery, and she looks forward to spending the day with us.

Following worship, we will share a catered lunch. Thanks to the generosity of several individuals, there is no charge for the meal. Following the meal, there will be a short, fun program that will celebrate our faith and history.

All of this has been made possible by the direction of the 235th planning committee, which has been led by Margaret Kursey. A lengthy list of individuals have helped get the building and property in excellent shape over the past two months. We could not do this without the commitment of so many people. My thanks to all of you!

This Jubilee is not simply about our history. This is a celebration to remember that for almost two and a half centuries, God has been faithful to the congregation of Charles Town Presbyterian Church. To him alone belongs the glory!

See you on the 6th!

Blessings,
Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.



Christmas Mission Project

For 2022, the Mission and Outreach committee decided to shift direction with our Christmas mission project. For decades, we have participated with the Shoebox ministry run by Samaritan's Purse. Support for that has waned over recent years, so the committee decided to take a break and do something different.

For 2022, the committee has decided to help two families headed by single parents. One family has three children, the other two. Both families struggle to make ends meet, and they have a particularly challenging time at the holidays. Additionally, both parents have had medical issues, making it hard for them to work consistently and provide for their children as they would like.

We are going to raise money for both families, and give them gift cards to stores the parents would like to shop at. Last year, we did all the shopping for one family that had an emergency need. And while that is fun for us, giving the parents gift cards empowers the parents to have more control over the situation. Plus, they know their children better than we do. They get to shop for their children, which is an immense joy for many parents. In addition to the gift cards, we'd like to give each family Christmas-themed gift baskets with small gifts that will brighten their Christmas. My family will be contributing wrapping paper for both families, so we don't end up giving them forty rolls of wrapping paper. We want to give them things that might go into stockings, or make the season more fun – candy canes, small chocolates, hot chocolate mix, etc. You get the idea.

The goal for this project is ambitious: \$2000, which we will split between the families. That may seem like a lot of money, but many of us spend far more than that on just our own household at Christmas. The baskets will be in the sanctuary beginning Sunday, November 6. Checks for this project should be marked "Christmas Mission" in the memo.

What I love about this year's project is that it is local. We are making an impact on people in our community. It builds relationships and demonstrates the love of Christ in a practical way that will bless people in big ways.

For the Mission and Outreach Committee,

Pastor John

Welcome new members—from left to right: Chris & Sherry Clark, Christian & Lynn Pechuekonis, Hartley & Jeraline Tetro, and Howard & Judy Miller. Not pictured Michelle Anderson.



Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Kid's Group!

Kid's Group meets each Sunday from 3-5PM. I look forward to seeing you there!

Any questions, please feel free to contact Garth Steven-Jennings (304-725-5316 or garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org).

Session News

At the October stated meeting of the session, the elders took the following actions:

- Received a letter from the office of Mission Engagement and Support from the denomination.
- Received as corrected, the minutes of the September 20 stated meeting, and the October 12 & 16 called meetings of the session.
- By unanimous vote, reinstated the secretary's health insurance coverage with the Board of Pensions, beginning January 1. Due to the secretary's husband's ongoing medical treatment, he must retire, and the astronomical cost of keeping the entire family on her husband's health insurance creates an unbelievable hardship for them. Several years ago, the session voted to remove the secretary from the Board of Pensions coverage as a cost-saving measure for the church.
- After lengthy discussion, approved the 2023 ministry funding and expense plan. This is also known as the budget, but unlike a traditional budget, the income is not fixed, and some of the expenses are educated estimates. Hence, "budget" is actually shorthand for, "ministry funding and expense plan."
- Recommended that the pastor's terms of call for 2023 be presented at a called meeting of the congregation on Sunday, November 20, following worship. Copies of the terms of call will be available beginning October 30.
- By unanimous vote, upon recommendation of the worship and music committee, approved the following schedule of services for the holidays:
 - Christmas Eve – 5pm
 - Christmas Day – 11am (no Sunday School)
 - New Year's Day – 11am (no Sunday School)
- After discussing upcoming events, the meeting adjourned with prayer.

🎵 MUSIC NOTES 🎵 from Miss Penny



Can you believe that Advent begins in a month?!

Our Music Ministry Team has been working so hard on the 235th Homecoming Jubilee and other worship celebrations that we will have to "Hurry Up and Slow Down "!

I am currently planning our special "Comfort and Joy" service that will be Sunday, December 11th, and I need YOUR help!

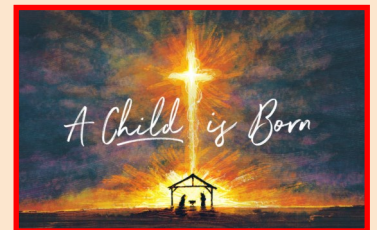
If you would like to share your gift of singing, instrument or reading in a special way, please let me know asap. Your gift of solo, duets, etc. will bring Comfort and Joy to the service.

Let us HURRY UP! so we can SLOW DOWN and embrace and enjoy what lies ahead.

Blessings!
Penny

Upcoming in November/December

- November 6th: 235th Homecoming Jubilee
- November 20th: Congregational Meeting following worship
- November 23rd: Thanksgiving Eve. Worship Service 7:00pm
- November 24th: Happy Thanksgiving! OFFICE CLOSED
- November 25th: OFFICE CLOSED
- November 27th: Advent Festival following worship 11:30am
- December 3rd: Charles Town Christmas parade (see Patsy White)
- December 11th: Comfort and Joy Service at 4:00pm (snow date December 18th)
- December 23rd: Office Closed
- December 24th: Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm
- December 25th: No Sunday School, worship 11:00am—Merry Christmas
- December 26th: Office Closed
- December 30th: Office Closed—Happy New Year!
- January 1st: No Sunday School, worship 11:00am—Happy New Year!



Celebrations this month

Birthdays

Matthew Henshaw

Tracey Owens

Ruth Scott

Roberta Churchill

George Karos

Penny Liston

Quentein LaVallee

Cy Staniec

June Adams



Betsy Wall

Susie Moreland

Allen Peacher

Shirley Ferguson

Kylee Low

Mary Via

Anniversaries

Marty & Carol Kable

Dan & Linda Hart

Ken & Kathy Reim

Sunday @ CTPC

10:30am-Worship Celebration FaceBook

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



Donate



CTPC Zoom Meetings

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.
- **Yokefellows Sunday School Class.** The Class will begin with a short business meeting from 8:45 am to 9:00 am at which time prayers will be offered for class members, family and friends who are ill or otherwise in distress. At 9:00am until 9:35 am a lesson will be taught by the class teacher from the Adult Bible Studies series. Anyone wishing to visit the class on ZOOM should contact the following class members to receive a ZOOM "invite": Gary Scott at email: gary3042795296@gmail.com or James Mackenzie at email: mackenzie48708@gmail.com.

Mission and Outreach News! Thanks to everyone who participated in the collection of socks for Community Ministries. Items will be greatly appreciated.

We have started filling in the calendar for the Friendship meal 2023. It may seem early, but the new year is just around the corner. We still are looking for servers for these months: March 4 th, May 6th, June 3rd, July 1st, September 2nd, and December 2nd. If you can help on any of those dates please let Patsy White (304-671-4408) or Kathy Shue (703-868-7676) know.

Also the annual Christmas parade is on Saturday, December 3rd. There will be a sign up sheet on the piano in the front of the church. Check the list and sign up to donate hotdogs, rolls, hot chocolate and plain tortilla chips. This is a chance for us to greet the community and serve some free food. It is always a fun day!

Children's Thanksgiving Offering. This Thanksgiving we ask you to remember children and families experiencing pain, hunger, hopelessness, separation from loved ones. The Apostle Paul teaches us that part of living together in community is reaching out to our brothers and sisters when they face hardships, temptation, or sorrow. Four ministries started by leaders in the Presbyterian Church serve our communities and address the needs of thousands of children each year. By participating in the Thanksgiving Offering Program, our congregation will sustain the valuable services provided by: Edmarc Hospice for Children; Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands; Presbyterian Home & Family Services and the Family Alliance. The Thanksgiving Offering will be collected on Sunday, November 20th, and Wednesday, November 23rd. Note memo line "Thanksgiving offering". As always, thank you for your generosity.

ONLINE GIVING

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.



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.

New in the Amazon app

Sign up to generate donations while you shop, at no extra cost



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.

Happy Thanksgiving