

January  
2023



## MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

### Happy New Year!

There are two things I am very excited about as we start 2023!

First, I am starting a new message series in worship on Sunday, January 8. It is called, **“Outrageous Sayings of Jesus.”** Jesus made some very controversial statements during his ministry, and we will look at a different one each Sunday until Palm Sunday on April 2. Here is part of the section we will look at on January 8, from Matthew 5:

*Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.*

There are some verses around that we will also consider because context matters, but this was a wild statement. It still is. We will look closely at the things Jesus said and what they mean for us as faithful Christians in 2023.

Second, my weekly Bible study is making a switch. Wednesday Bible Study will meet via Zoom **every Wednesday from 12noon until 1pm**, beginning on Wednesday, January 11th. For those who wish, they could join us from work, if that's allowed by their employer. We will be studying the gospel of Luke. I am hoping this time change will make Bible Study more available to everyone. Here is the Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96202042739>.

The turning of the page into a new year is always a good time to make changes. The stress of the holidays is behind us, and we are usually less busy. That allows us the chance to start good new habits and shed bad ones. This is why people change their diets and fitness habits in January. It's the whole “new year, new me” thing that people like to do.

This works regarding our spiritual lives. We can use the new month and new year to adopt habits like more prayer and/or more personal Bible study. It might mean scrolling through social media less, or bingeing less on streaming services. I find it helpful to think of things like this as an appointment with Jesus. If need be, I put it on my calendar. If you are wanting to find more or go deeper in your relationship with Christ, the New Year is a great time to do so.

Happy New Year!



Know. Grow. Serve.

## 🎵 MUSIC NOTES 🎵 from Miss Penny

### Attitude of Gratitude

Music Ministry and Fellowship are teaming up  
to bring you CTPC's Got Talent!

Join us Sunday, February 19th, after worship with your favorite soup and/sandwich for a potluck soup and sandwich luncheon followed by a talent show.

Wondering what talent you have? This talent show isn't just for the musically inclined.

If you can make balloon animals, fold napkins creatively, dance, read poetry, do a comedy sketch, then You've Got Talent!

Be creative! And share your unique talent with your church family.

Sign-up sheets for the luncheon and talent show will appear in the sanctuary mid January. Feel free to contact me for any info!

New Year Blessings for all,

Penny

# CTPC's Got Talent

## Sunday February 19th

*Immediately Following Worship*

Soup n Sandwich Luncheon  
Followed by

# Talent Show

### Silver Bells Sign-up

*If you are 60 + please join us for  
Fun ringing fellowship!*

*Our 1st practice will be Tuesday, January 17th at 1pm*

*No music or ringing skill required!*

*Please contact Penny for more info*

*Or to Sign-up*

*Penfvfarm@aol.com*

*304-725-5316 Church office*



*Charles Town Presbyterian Church*

## Celebrations this month

### Birthdays



James MacKenzie

Bea Miller

John Bethard

Larry Lloyd

Summer Burns

Noah Portrey

Carina Snook

Mason Noland

Georgie Wilson

Nancy Lloyd

Charley Amos

Signe Garms

Shawn Pitcock

Sydney Fulbright

Mark Stafford

Matthew Custer

Hollyn Rossi

Mary Burns

Judy Miller

### Anniversaries

Dick & Denise Burns

## Sunday @ CTPC

10:30am-Worship Celebration FaceBook

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



[Donate](#)



**Ordination and Installation** of deacons and elders for the class of 2025 will take place during worship on Sunday, January 8th. Those to be ordained and installed are: Deacons: Judy Edwards, Sue Flanagan, Debbie Henshaw, Brooks Kursey; Deacon 2023: Tommy Morgan; Elders: Doyle Criswell, Marsha Dibbern, Lazan Rogers.

**Congregational Meeting.** The session has called for the annual congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, January 8th. We will hear brief reports from committees, and review the 2023 budget. Following the meeting you are invited to stay and help take down decorations.



## CTPC Zoom Meetings

To join any of the Zoom meetings listed below, please email the church office at [ctpres.org](mailto: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](mailto:gary3042795296@gmail.com) or James Mackenzie at email: [mackenzie48708@gmail.com](mailto:mackenzie48708@gmail.com).

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](mailto:garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org)).





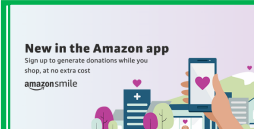
**Save Lives By Giving** to the Blanket Offering for Church World Service will be collected on Sunday, January 15th. Help fight hunger and malnutrition, meet emergency needs, nurture sustainable development, assist refugees and displaced persons, and help address the root causes of poverty and powerlessness.

## 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 Six-cents-a-meal offering**, is collected on the 4th Sunday each month, and goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program. To contribute to this offering please note on memo line: hunger offering. Thank you.



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



**The flower chart for 2023** 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.

**2023 Giving Envelopes** are now available in the narthex. 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.

**IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE:** To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2022 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 or email the church office. Giving statements have been mailed to those without email.



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



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