

February  
2024



CHARLES TOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CT Press

## MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

As we head into February, we welcome the season of Lent, which begins on Wednesday, February 14. Yes, Valentine's Day. For couples it is one of the most important romantic days of the year. Many people go out to eat and go on special dates. It's a popular day on which to ask for someone's hand in marriage, as well. For those reasons, we are not going to have an evening Ash Wednesday service this year.

What we are doing is making space for the congregation and community to mark the start of the Lenten season. On Wednesday, February 14, I will be available in the sanctuary from 12 noon until 1pm to impose ashes on those who desire them. From 1pm-3pm, the sanctuary will be open for prayer. Penny will be playing music for some of that time.

During the years of the early Church, those who were interested in following Christ participated in a year-long class that started after Resurrection Sunday every year. During the forty days preceding Holy Week, these students were required to fast and pray, except for the Lord's Day, when they were permitted to break the fast. On Palm Sunday these students were baptized, and on the following Sunday, while celebrating the resurrection of Christ, they professed their faith and were welcomed into the Church.

Over time, those practices evolved into Lent, confirmation class, and Ash Wednesday. Not every church or denomination acknowledges this day. It is more common in liturgical churches, like ours, though Reformed denominations tend not to engage in practices leftover from before the Reformation.

The most interesting part of Ash Wednesday is where the ashes come from. The ashes are made from burning palms from the previous year's Palm Sunday. In a way, the practice connects us to the whole liturgical cycle.

Most important is this: Lent is about growing closer to Christ through self-denial. We make personal sacrifices during the season that are meant to draw us closer to Christ. Ash Wednesday helps to serve as a starting point for those sacrifices. Hopefully, they continue after Lent and Easter as we grow in our faith.

All are welcome to come receive ashes and/or spend time in prayer on Ash Wednesday.

Blessings,

Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.

### ***Silver Bells Sign-up***

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

***No music or ringing skill required!  
Please contact Penny for more info  
Or to Sign-up  
Penfylvfarm@aol.com  
304-725-5316 Church office***



***Charles Town Presbyterian Church***

### **Attitude of Gratitude**

It's not too soon to think about joining the Silverbells! The group will be resuming practice in March and would love more people to join in their ringing fellowship! This group is open to anyone over the age of 60 and no previous ringing skill required. The group meets Tuesday's at 1pm and there is a Basic music class at 12pm for anyone interested.

For more info contact Penny!



*Worship & Music*



**Know. Grow. Serve.**

*Charles Town Presbyterian Church*

***Hospitality Station Needs***

***Juice boxes, coffee pods, hot chocolate pods***

***Weekly- mini muffins, fruit,***

***Popular items- Wethers Candy, goldfish, Cheezeits,  
Breakfast bars***

***Contact Lazan or Penny for more info !***



**Hospitality Ministry**

The current theme at the Hospitality Station is "Love Like Jesus "

While the Station is a place to gather before worship on Sunday morning, we invite you to "Love Like Jesus " in all aspects of your life!

If you're interested in helping the Hospitality ministry , please contact Signe or Lazan.

Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

**Youth Group!**

Youth Group meets each Sunday  
from 2:30-4:00pm.

**Kid's Group!**

Kid's Group meets each Sunday  
from 4:00-5:30pm.

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).



**Souper Bowl of Caring!**

The children/youth will be stationed by the sanctuary exit following worship on Sunday, February 11th, 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.

## Session News

The session by Zoom met for its January stated meeting on Tuesday, January 16, and took the following actions:

- Installed elder Beth Pugh due to her immobilizing injury she sustained earlier this winter.
- Made the following annual appointments:  
Clerk of Session: Diane Mayhew  
Treasurer: Gordon Myers  
CNC Session Rep: Kathy Shue
- Approved the minutes of the stated November meeting of 11/21, the called session meeting from 11/26, and the annual congregational meeting of 1/14/24.
- Approved at their request, the membership transfer of Michael and Sharon Stevens to Bunker Hill Presbyterian Church.
- Authorized celebration of the Lord's Supper for the year.
- Resolved how the session will run the finance committee this year. Elder Mayhew agreed to meet with several people and form the committee.
- Marsha Dibbern agreed to help with homebound communion on February 2.
- Kathy Shue was appointed elder commissioner for the February meeting of Shenandoah Presbytery.

### Charles Town Presbyterian Church 2024 Elder Committee Assignments

Communicating with Technology	-	Beth Pugh
Discipleship and Family Ministry	-	Marsha Dibbern
Finance	-	Diane Mayhew
Mission and Outreach	-	Doyle Criswell
Personnel	-	Kathy Shue
Property	-	Gary Scott
		Diane Mayhew
Stewardship and Vision	-	Beth Pugh
		Patsy White
Worship and Music	—	Signe Garms
		Lazan Rogers



## Celebrations this month

### Birthdays

Heather Duncan  
Luella Mullens  
Nicholas Pizzuti  
Linda Snyder  
Mason Fowler  
Jeralene Tetro  
Molly Blue  
Ceil Frazier  
Rose Ann Glover  
Doug McDonough  
Marty Kable  
Joe Polvinale



Vera Reid  
Ron Rossi  
Bud Glover  
Steve Bossung  
Beth Pugh  
Eleanor Puster  
Kathy Shue  
Marsha Dibbern  
Angie LaVallee



### Anniversaries

Jim & Stella Bovard

## Sunday @ CTPC

10:30am-Worship Celebration FaceBook

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



## 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).

**Capital Campaign Update:** Dear Congregation Family, thank you for participating in our shared Sunday School Hour's facilities walkthrough which identified over 60 items that we could improve with your Capital Campaign contributions. There are a handful of items that don't cost us anything, and in 2024 you should look for some scheduled work days to help out in sharing your time to complete. For those wanting to make a difference sooner, you can contribute to the Capital Campaign now through your usual donation method or via the no-fee PayPal Giving Fund <https://paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3122728>.

*Charles Town Presbyterian Church*

*February 14th, 2024*



*Imposition of ashes 12-1pm*

*Sanctuary open for prayer  
1-3pm*

**What's so Amazing About Grace?** The Faithweavers invite you to join them in a ten week study of Phillip Yancey's book, What's so Amazing About Grace? Beginning January 7, the study will include a video portion followed by discussion, and will center around God giving grace to people unconditionally. The study will encompass [Bible stories](#), [anecdotes](#) from life, and accounts of historical events. The Faithweavers meet each Sunday from 9:00 - 10:00, and this study will be held in the "old" Voyagers room No. 104, beside the workroom and Pastor's office. Everyone is invited and welcome!

# CTPC

## You are invited:

It's for everyone,  
Our entire church  
Family!

Billiard tables are  
Also available for  
Those over 12 years  
Of age.

Arcade games are  
Available but require  
Individual payment.

Snacks and water  
Bottles will be  
Provided.

Bowling shoes are  
Provided by the  
Game Zone  
(must wear socks).

Come for fun and  
Fellowship!

## FAMILY BOWLING Party

at the Game Zone, Shepherd University

Fun  
Food  
Fellowship  
Free

*Where?*

Shepherd University

*When?*

Sunday, February 25,  
2024

3-5 PM

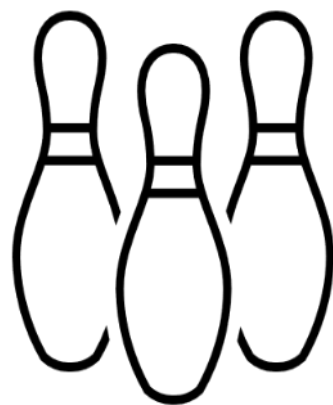
*Who?*

Youth/Families

Old/Young

Singles/couples

EVERYONE



## ONLINE GIVING

**Online giving** helps you to bring your offering before God in a simple, and secure way. You can choose from The Presbyterian Foundation, Facebook, or PayPal, each of which have a nominal fee that you can include as part of your gift. The Presbyterian Foundation fee does help the organization's mission, and you can easily use a mobile app (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on Google Play/AppStore) to set up for repeating or one time giving. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Donation options and tax information at [www.ctpres.org](http://www.ctpres.org) (<http://www.ctpres.org>).

**Worship Help Needed.** We need help running the technology used in worship each week. We are seeking two or three people to help run the PowerPoint slides and the camera for our live broadcast. These are fairly simple tasks, and we provide training. Please speak with Pastor John or Roger Snook if you can help.

### Seeking a nursery attendant:

Where—CTPC

When—every Sunday 10AM-noon

What—an aide for our current nursery attendant, Jordan, as she cares for children infant- Kindergarten

Why—to keep a safe environment for young children while parents (members or visitors) worship in our church sanctuary

Who—We seek a Christian individual 18 years or older who loves and respects children. This person should be gentle, warm, trustworthy, responsible, playful, nurturing, patient, and punctual.

This is a part time position. Hourly wage will be discussed when serious candidates apply. A background check will be required.

Email a resume to Charles Town Presbyterian Church: [ctpres@ctpres.org](mailto:ctpres@ctpres.org)

**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.



JCCM Food Pantry needs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated: spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, canned meat (vienna sausage, spam, chicken, tuna), canned beans, canned vegetables (not green beans/corn), soups (hearty and condensed), canned chili, rice (small bags), instant mashed potatoes, jelly and peanut butter, syrup, instant oatmeal, crackers, boxed pancake mix, cooking oil, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry detergent. Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry Coordinator, JCCM



**The flower chart for 2024** 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.



**Meals-on-Wheels** is in need of volunteers to help Monday—Friday for packing meals (8am-10am) and delivering meals (10am –Noon). We have five areas in Jefferson County that we deliver to and need drivers for all of them. Please call (304-725-1601) or stop by the kitchen of the Charles Town Presbyterian Church. We are open 8am-1pm.



Know. Grow. Serve.



**Life Line Screening**, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Charles Town Presbyterian Church on Thursday, March 30, 2023. A package of five screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered: **Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque), Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA), Atrial Fibrillation, Osteoporosis Risk.** An ultrasound is performed to measure the shin bone for abnormal bone mass density. This can help assess the risk of osteoporosis, a disease where bones become weak and brittle. These 5 vital screenings are offered for only \$139 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. Informational flyers located in the narthex and bulletin boards. Register by calling toll free 11-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at <https://llsa.social/HC>.