

This Sunday's worship service will be streamed live over the internet at 10:30 a.m. and will be available to the public. It will be broadcast on FPC's YouTube Channel - "FPC Phoenixville".

The recorded version will be available for "anytime" viewing.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrmNs7JdvZNJpsNjs0Ds8vg>.

Morning Worship – First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021    10:30 a.m.

This Sunday, we focus on the years 1846-1896, the first 50 years of First Presbyterian Church's life as a congregation, as part of our Sesquicentennial year of celebration. The hymns chosen for this Sunday come from (approximately) that time period.



Prelude

Welcome

Sharing the Peace

Announcements

"People Look East"

arr. R. Raybold

Rev. Doug Hagler

Sarah Shulman

The Candle of Hope – Ellen Williams

Lighter: As we prepare for worship, we light the candle of hope.

Micah 4:3-4 (NRSV)

³ *God* shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore;

⁴ but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

* Hymn # 83

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744
MUSIC: Wilt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.

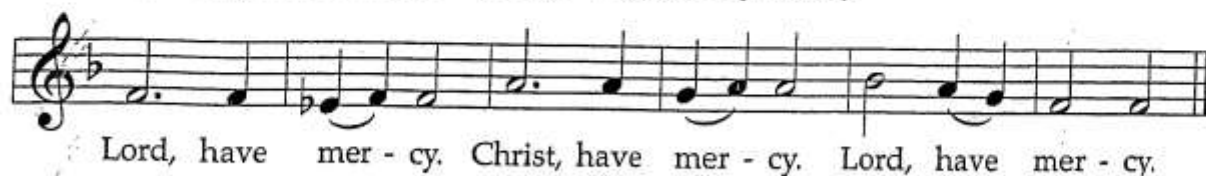
Confession and Pardon (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

2. *continued....*

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Music: "Kyrie Eleison" (*Page 4 of the hymnal*)



Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Leader: Now bless the Lord our God:

People: And praise God's glorious Name.

Leader: O give thanks unto the Lord, for God is good:

People: God's mercy endureth forever.

Music: Gloria in Excelsis

Refrain *f* *All*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and

peace to God's peo - ple on earth. *(.) Fine*

Stanza 1 *mf*

1 Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa -

ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

cresc. *f* *to Refrain*

praise you for your glo - ry.

The musical notation for the Refrain is a single staff in G major and 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp and a time signature of 4/4. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The tempo/mood is marked 'f' (forte) and 'All' (Allegro). The lyrics are written below the staff. The Refrain ends with a double bar line and a 'Fine' marking. The Stanza 1 notation is a single staff in G major and 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp and a time signature of 4/4. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The tempo/mood is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The lyrics are written below the staff. The Stanza 1 notation includes a 'cresc.' (crescendo) marking and a 'f' (forte) marking. The Stanza 1 notation ends with a double bar line and a 'to Refrain' marking.

Stanza 2 MEN

p

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sin of the world: have mer - cy, have mer - cy on

WOMEN

us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the
 Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Stanza 3

mp

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -
 lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the most high,
 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the
 glo - ry of the Fa - ther.

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Jacqui Busch

Leader: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Jacqui Busch

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety.

And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reading: Luke 21:25-36

²⁵"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap.

For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth.

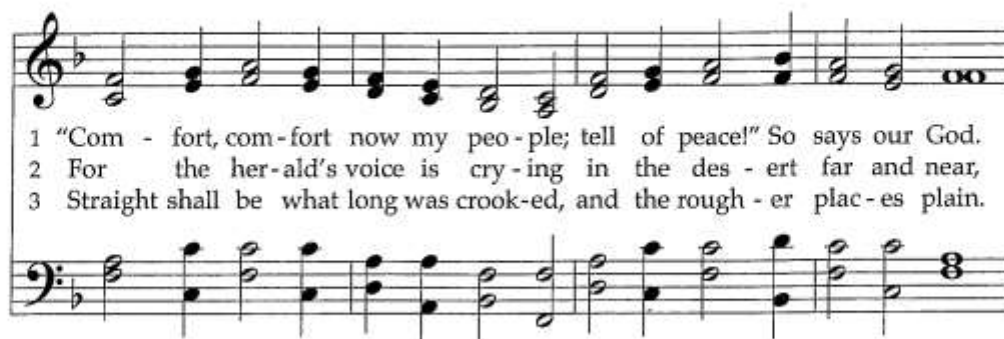
³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Sermon

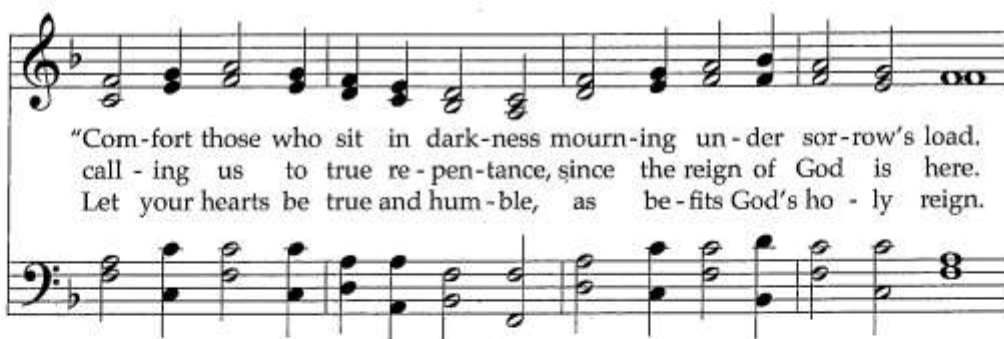
Rev. Doug Hagler

* Hymn # 87

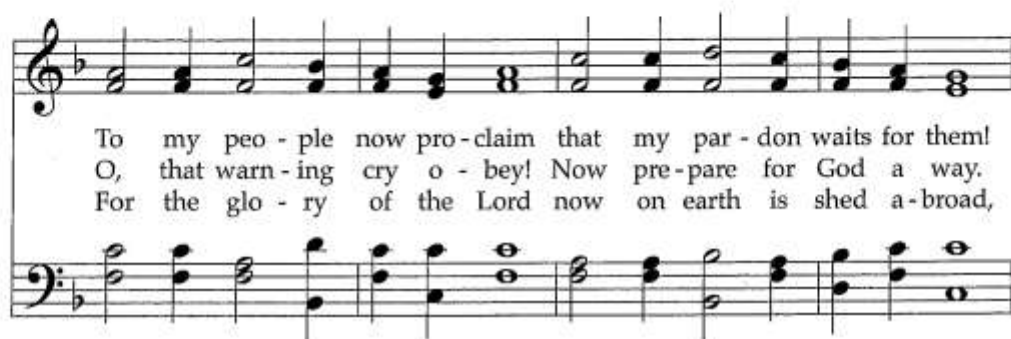
“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”



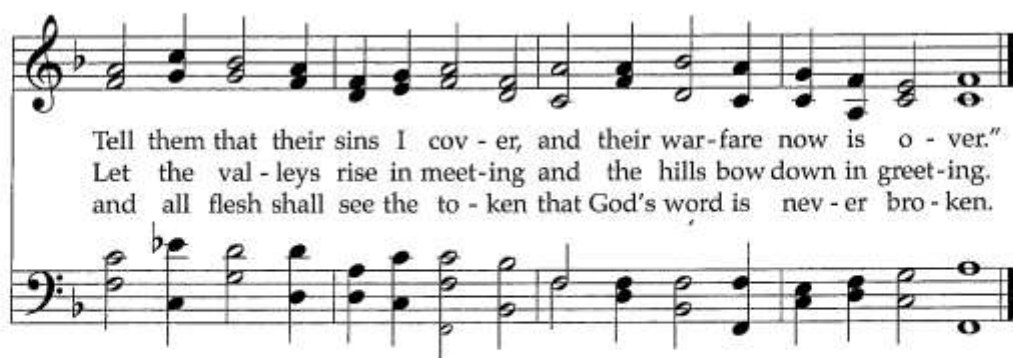
1 “Com - fort, com-fort now my peo-ple; tell of peace!” So says our God.
 2 For the her-ald’s voice is cry-ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook-ed, and the rough - er plac-es plain.



“Com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing un-der sor-row’s load,
 call-ing us to true re-pen-tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum-ble, as be-fits God’s ho - ly reign.



To my peo - ple now pro-claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn-ing cry o - bey! Now pre-pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a-broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war-fare now is o - ver.”
 Let the val - leys rise in meet-ing and the hills bow down in greet-ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God’s word is nev - er bro - ken.

TEXT: Johannes Olearius, 1671; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Leader: This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from north and from south from east and from west to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

Music: "The Lord be with you." (*Page 9 of the hymnal*)

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is for the Minister/Leader and the second for the People. The third staff is for the Minister/Leader and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Minister/Leader People

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Minister/Leader People

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Minister/Leader

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (*unison*)

From the PCUSA Book of Common Worship 1906

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty,
that we should, at all times and in all places, give thanks unto Thee,
O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Eternal God,
for all Thy bounties known and unknown;
but chiefly are we bound to praise Thee that Thou hast ransomed us from
eternal death, and given us the joyful hope of everlasting life
through Jesus Christ Thy Son, whom Thou didst send
into the world to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption.
Thee, God the Father Everlasting:
Thee, Only Begotten Son: Thee, Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
Holy, Blessed and Glorious Trinity:
we confess and praise with heart and mouth;
saying, with angels and archangels, and all the company of Heaven,

Music: "Holy, holy, holy" (*Page 9 of the hymnal*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff ends with a whole note, the second with a half note, the third with a half note, and the fourth with a whole note.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion (*unison*) *The Apostles' Creed* (*Hymnal pg. 35*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated
at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living
and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sung Amen (*Page 11 of the hymnal*)

A - men, a - men, a - men.

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the staff. The score ends with a double bar line.

Tithes and Offerings

Leader: The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,

People: the world, and those who live in it.

Leader: Freely you have received, freely give. Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

Offering Anthem *"Once He Came in Blessing"* arr. Mark Sedio

Once he came in blessing, all our sins redressing;

came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;

bore the cross to save us; hope and freedom gave us.

*Still he comes within us; still his voice would win us from the sins
that hurt us; would to truth convert us from our foolish error ere he
comes in terror.*

*Thus, if we have known him, thus, if we have known him, not ashamed
to own him, nor have spurned him coldly, but will trust him boldly,
He will then receive you, He will then receive you, heal you,
and forgive you.*

Those who then are loyal find a welcome royal.

*Come, then, O lord Jesus, from our sins release us;
let us here confess you, till in heaven we bless you.*

* Doxology (Hymn #606)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures
here below, Praise God above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

Elder: Chris Wittrock

(Please be seated)

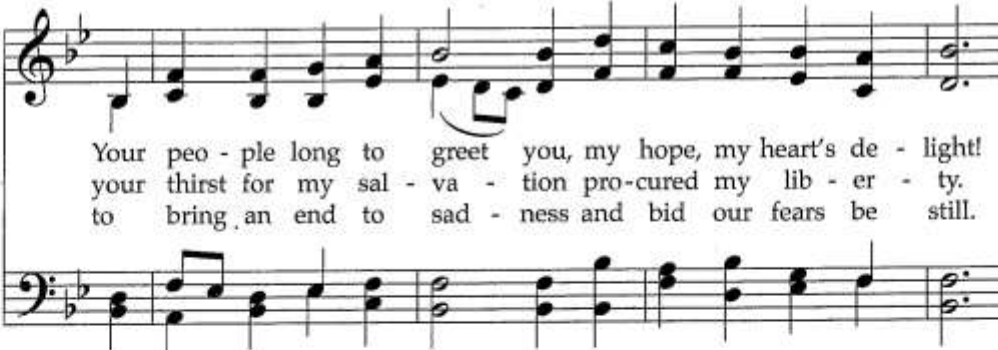
**The Lord's Prayer - Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this
day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

* Hymn # 104

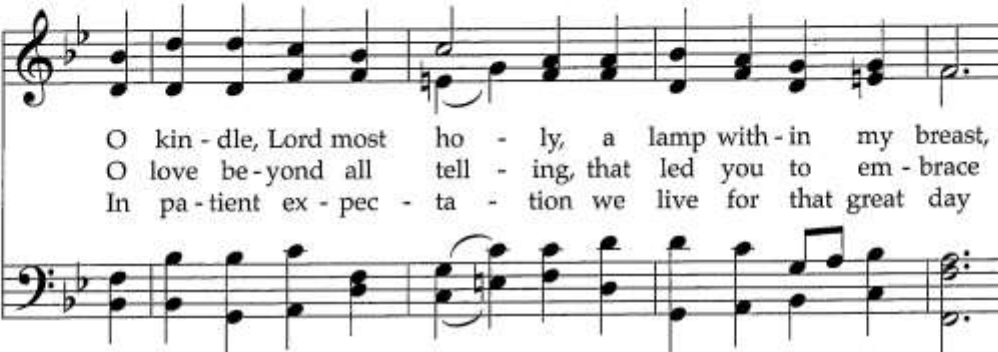
"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"



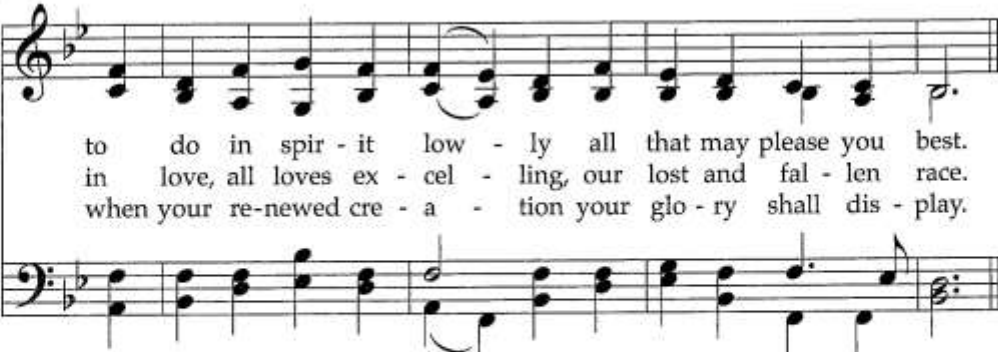
1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
 2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
 3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
 your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.
 to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with-in my breast,
 O love be-yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
 In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
 in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
 when your re-newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

TEXT: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. Catherine Winkworth and others, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1614; harm. William Henry Monk, 1861

* Benediction
Postlude

Rev. Doug Hagler
Praise Team

The poinsettia plants are in honor of our special friends.
The Deacons will deliver them to our friends after the worship service.



The Season of Advent is here!

2nd Sunday of Advent – December 5th

3rd Sunday of Advent – December 12th

4th Sunday of Advent – December 19th

Christmas Eve – Friday, December 24th

5:00 pm Family Service

9:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service

Christmas Caroling

Your Parish Life Committee cordially invites **children of all ages** to join us for an **intergenerational Christmas caroling** event, outside on the church steps on **Sunday, December 12th at 4:00pm.** (weather permitting.) Following a time of singing and making music together, we will warm up with cups of hot chocolate and treats. Plan to join us for a fun time as we celebrate the coming of Christmas!

Prayer Requests

Joys:

Concerns: Jodi

Prayer Chain & Prayer Requests

To request prayers, you can fill out a card in the worship service, drop a note off in the church office or email Amy at fpcprayerchain1@gmail.com and members will be lifting you up in prayer. You may also call Sue Smith at [\(610\) 933-8816](tel:6109338816) and she will forward your requests on to Amy. Anyone interested in being a Prayer Warrior should email Amy.

Book Club

The **Antiracism Book Club's** next meeting will be on Sunday, Nov. 28th at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to [Zoom](#) in to learn, listen, and chat.

News from the Finance Committee

Key financial numbers year to date through October are as follows:

- Pledges are \$ 9,551 short of our expected pledge income
- Non-pledges are \$ 4,356 short of our expected non-pledge income
- Expenses are \$ 24,039 less than had been expected
- The church received \$ 37,606 in Covid-19 grant funds
- Our year to date revenue to expense result is favorable at \$11,837, but if we had not received the Covid-19 federal grant and made savings in our operating expenses, our position would be \$61,646 less than it is

Sunday Morning Bible Study

The Bible Study group will be taking a look at Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* as the Advent study this year. The study will be guided by questions and Scripture references written by Alan Vermilye, but there is no need to purchase the study guide. All you need is a copy of *A Christmas Carol*--check your book shelves and contact Sue Casey if you need help locating a copy. This series will begin on November 28 and most likely run slightly into the new year. It is fine to "drop in" for a class or two if that is what will fit your schedule.

This class is by Zoom from 8:30 to 9:30 AM Sundays--allowing those attending church in person to get there on time. Contact Sue Casey for the Zoom link. skcinpa@aol.com,

Alternative Gift Cards

For the upcoming Christmas season, the MAC Committee will again be offering alternative gift cards. When purchasing these cards, you will be able to choose from among five mission-related organizations. Recipients will then see that a donation has been made to the selected organization in their names. The five organizations for this year are: Bethany Christian Services (Safe Families program), PACS, Beekeeping Program through Presbyterian Mission, Global Water Center (confronting the global water crisis), and a Blankets program.

Cards may be purchased for \$5 each following the worship service on Sundays or in the church office during the week.



CHRISTMAS STAR TREE



Thanks to all who have taken “stars” for gifts and dinner items for the eight families we are helping this year. There were only 22 stars left after the first day of the sign-up genius. Amazing! More stars will be added when each child has 3 gifts.

We forgot to mention the elves are available as “personal shoppers” for anyone who wants to participate but are too busy, just contact Jewell Baker or Sue Smith and they’ll tell the elves!

Remember, all items must be returned to the church by Sunday, December 5th! Santa’s helpers for MAC Committee

Pub Theology

The next Pub Theology will meet on Sunday, December 12th at 7:00 PM at The Foodery, (325 Bridge St, Phoenixville). Join Pastor Doug in a discussion of theological topics and current events over food and drinks. Listen, chat, and hash things out...it’s fun and thought-provoking!

2022 Pledge Campaign ... It’s Not Too Late

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who has completed and returned their pledge card for 2022.

If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please know that it is not too late!

Completed cards may be returned by mail, dropped off at the church office, or placed in the offering plate on Sunday morning.

If you need a pledge card, please call the church office (610-933-8816), or Lynne Williams (610-415-1581) and we will get a card to you.

Your generous and faithful offerings help to support the ministry and the many good works of First Presbyterian Church.

By completing your pledge card, you help the Finance Committee as they plan for the coming year.

Thank you for your commitment to our church.

The Stewardship Committee

Offering Envelope Boxes

Your 2022 offering envelope boxes are ready for you to pick up in the narthex. Please take a moment in the coming weeks to get yours. If you are unable to pick your envelopes, please call the church office and we will deliver or mail them to you.

Message from Stewardship and Finance

For contributions to be credited to your 2021 statement, offerings must be received by Sunday, Jan. 2, 2022. Contributions received after that date will be reflected in your 2022 statement. Thank you.

Parking Lot Appreciation

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered in the parking lot on Friday and Saturday evenings, May through October. With your help, we raised \$5,986.25 for the church, as we spent time together and got to meet many of our neighbors (including neighborhood pets).

We would also like to thank committee member Pam Bodam for organizing and scheduling for us each week. Job well done.

Scrip Gift Card Orders

Let the Stewardship Committee help you with your **Christmas shopping**, while at the same time provide you the opportunity to support our church. We are placing orders for **gift cards** every Wednesday, beginning **December 1**.

(Orders will be placed **12/1...12/8...12/15...and...12/22**)

If you would like to place an order, please call Lynne Williams at 610-415-1581 (home) or 610-955-4749 (cell).

You may mail your check to Lynne, drop it off at her home, (14 Schofield Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460), or see her at church on Sunday morning. Orders and checks must be received by the day before the orders are placed (**Nov. 30...Dec. 7...Dec. 14 & Dec. 21**). Please make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church DR".

You do not need to fill out an order form. We will do that for you.

Happy Christmas Shopping !!!

As always, thank you for continuing to support this program.

A Request from a Neighbor

A few FPC volunteers are getting to know some neighbors through Bridge of Hope and helping them avoid homelessness. One of the challenges is finding affordable housing in the Phoenixville area for a family with five children. The ideal need is for a 3-4 bedroom residence with a maximum rent of \$1500. Although this family does not have good credit, there are references available and a stable, secure income. If you have any leads on possible housing, please contact Pastor Doug.



New People to People Facebook Page!

Thanks to the expertise and creativity of Kristin Craven, the People to People ministry now has a presence on Facebook.

You can find the page at

<https://www.facebook.com/FPCPeopleToPeople>.

The Facebook page will be used to announce events, share information, and solicit volunteers for P2P activities. Please visit – and “Like” – the page, check in, post a comment or two, and also share it with friends! Many thanks to Kristin!

Thank you...Thank you...

A huge “Thank you” to each and every one who donated to help our neighbors in Mont Clare. We were able to give them \$1,850 in Lowes and Target gift cards to help them as they recover from the flooding caused by Hurricane Ida.

December Birthdays

Dec. 1: Grace Kennedy

Dec. 4: Joe Beregi, Nicholas Sinapius

Dec. 7: Sandy Lusch

Dec. 8: John Marosek

Dec. 10: Marian Bayus

Dec. 11: Kathy Bacon

Dec. 13: Chuck Heidel

Dec. 16: Jeff McLaughlin

Dec. 20: Lyra Morris

Dec. 24: George Cockerill Dec. 27: Aaron Skutch



This Week in the Life of the Church

Sunday, November 28th (*Childcare provided)

8:30 a.m. Bible Study with Sue Casey via Zoom

10:30 a.m. *WORSHIP SERVICE – In person and via YouTube

7:00 p.m. Book Study Group via Zoom

Monday, November 29th

6:30 p.m. Zumba class (fellowship hall)

Tuesday, November 30th

6:30 p.m. Zumba class (fellowship hall)

7:30 p.m. Session budget meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, December 1st

7:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal (choir room)

Thursday, December 2nd

9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (fellowship hall)

9:00 a.m. People to People Clothing ministry (fellowship hall)

10:00 a.m. People to People food ministry (kitchen)

7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal (choir room)

7:00 p.m. “We Are” virtual vigil via Zoom

Friday, December 3rd

9:00 a.m. Women, Infants & Children (fellowship hall)

Saturday, December 4th

9:30 a.m. Zumba class (fellowship hall)

Sunday, December 5th 2nd Sunday of Advent (*Childcare provided)

8:30 a.m. Bible Study with Sue Casey via Zoom

10:30 a.m. *WORSHIP SERVICE – In person and via YouTube

Rev. Douglas Hagler, Pastor145@comcast.net; 415-300-7912 (cell)
Diane Legnini, Director of Music; Sarah Shulman, Praise Team Leader
Maggie O'Malley, Communications Coordinator,
FPCcommunications@comcast.net
Sue Smith, Office Manager, secretaryfpc145@gmail.com
Church Telephone: 610-933-8816; Website: fpc-phoenixville.org
Church Treasurer: fpectreasurer145@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 10:00am – 4:00pm

Note: Pastor Doug's day off is Friday each week.

Please respect his day off unless there is an emergency.

Elders on Session

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| George Cockerill | 484-302-1227 |
| Jeanie Osterhoudt | 610-331-7835 |
| Becky Sinapius | 610-983-9644 |
| Lynne Williams | 610-415-1581 |
| Mike Eitl | 610-650-8011 |
| Kathryn Grocki | 610-933-6252 |
| Ron Williams | 610-505-1977 |
| Chris Wittrock | 610-662-1412 |
| Ken Brown | 610-933-6188 |
| Kevin Carrabine | 610-933-2318 |
| Ann Miller | 610-554-6391 |
| Roger Warwick | 610-458-7080 |
| Jewell Baker (Clerk) | 484-459-3585 |

Board of Deacons

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| Gail Landazuri | 610-608-5662 |
| Mona Sabia | 610-506-9925 |
| Barb White | 610-935-7242 |
| Pam Bodam | 610-496-1933 |
| Karen Drummond | 610-952-1242 |
| Paulette Mark | 610-935-2749 |
| Bob Wittrock | 610-662-1412 |
| Jen Johnson | 610-831-5466 |
| Gail Schnaedter | 610-666-5402 |
| Kathy Thais | 610-933-8983 |
| Ellen Williams | 484-988-0174 |