

THE LAMP

A Newsletter of The Juniata Valley Shared Ministry

NOVEMBER 2020

www.jvsm.org and www.facebook.com/jvsm2016



THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

I just figured out today that Thanksgiving is exactly four weeks away!

Where did the time go?

Where did fall go?

So much has changed since last year at this time! As individuals, as the church, as a nation and a world, we have been through so much. Our minds are still whirling and we are exhausted, uncertain and when we take time to think about, confused as to where to turn.

What word does God bring to us in this Thanksgiving season? I turn to one of my favorite texts in the Bible: *For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.*

It's hard to see a plan in all that has unfolded in 2020 – it's hard to see hope. But let's take a moment and think:

- *during this time of pandemic we've spent more time with our families and perhaps appreciate them more than ever
- *we've found new ways to connect with one another and show care and concern when we can't be face to face
- *we've found an exciting new role for technology in our worship, our meetings and our bible studies
- *we've been reminded that we, as individuals, and as a nation still have work to do on our understanding and tendency to judge people based on race (or disability, or age)

The past days and the days coming, have and will be challenging. As I sit here this morning, a contentious election is just a few days away. Now more than ever, the church will need to lead the way in showing people how to get along, respect, listen and care for everyone – regardless of whether we agree with them or not.

We need to come together! What brings us together is not a political party, a stance on masks, or social distancing. What brings us together is the One in whom we believe. The One in whom we are called: love our neighbor as ourselves. We come together with thanksgiving – because God is here! God does have a plan! And it is a plan for our good, for hope!

As we move into these days of Thanksgiving and Advent, I challenge you:

- *to give thanks for all the blessings that God has given you
- *to be kind to each other and patient
- *to focus on what we share in common, rather than our differences
- *to pray for our churches, our nation and our world
- *to see clearly what we have gained/learned this year

THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED:

Above all, let us be instruments of God’s peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy. Amen.

HIGHLAND

11 Church Road
Newport, PA 17074

E-mail:

hupcsecretary@embarqmail.com

Phone #: (717) 567-9577

Pastor

Rev. Nancy McClure

Clerk of Session

Patricia Shutt

Church Secretary

Linda Bitting

Church Treasurer

Kathy Smith

Financial Secretary

Dennis Tressler

ELDERS ON SESSION

Donald Barlup

Cindy McHenry

Nancy Campbell

Janice Zaring

Kathy Smith

Joyce Heintzelman

James Turner

Patricia Shutt

Cecile Willet

DEACONS

Darlene Adams

Linda Bitting

Jessica Bryson

Becky Wudtke

Kim Drum

Austin Neidigh

Elaine Buffington

Courtney Archibald

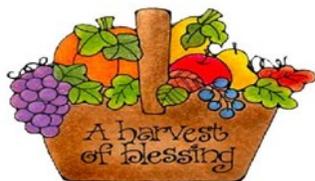
Karen Turner

HIGHLAND UNITED



| | | |
|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nov. 1 | Jeri Hall | |
| 2 | George Yohn | |
| 4 | Peggy Heisey | ANNIVERSARIES |
| 5 | Thomas McHenry | Nov. 14 |
| 6 | David McHenry | 19 |
| 8 | William McHenry | 24 |
| 9 | Blaize Cook | Allen and Jeri Hall |
| 10 | Stuart McHenry | Donald and Nancy McClure |
| 12 | Darlene Shaffer | Crea and Janet Clark |
| 16 | Ashton McIntyre | |
| 21 | Edward Baugh | |
| 22 | Linda Bitting | |
| 23 | Christine Turner Cooney | |
| 26 | Eleanor Barlup | |

TREASURER VOLUNTEER NEEDED: Highland is looking for a volunteer to take over the job as Treasurer. Please see or call Kathy Smith if interested 717-645-1015,



NOVEMBER 8TH OUR YOUTH WILL BE COLLECTING FOOD FOR THE PERRY COUNTY FOOD BANK at Mutzabaugh’s.

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

HIGHLAND UNITED FINANCES:



| <u>Date</u> | <u>G. Fund</u> | <u>B. Fund</u> | <u>Mission</u> | <u>K. Ministry</u> | <u>Per Capita</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 10/04/20 | \$ 1,368.00 | \$ 250.00 | \$ 45.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 162.00 |
| 10/11/20 | \$ 876.00 | \$ 75.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| 10/18/20 | \$ 1,315.00 | \$ 100.00 | \$ 50.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| 10/25/20 | <u>\$ 1,032.25</u> | <u>\$ 205.00</u> | <u>\$ 50.00</u> | <u>\$ 91.00</u> | <u>\$ 0.00</u> |
| TOTALS | \$ 4,591.25 | \$ 630.00 | \$ 145.00 | \$ 91.00 | \$ 162.00 |

Per Capita Assessment for 2020 is for 111 members @ \$27.20/member-\$3,019.20. Total given to date for 2020—\$768.54.

OCTOBER MISSIONS Camp Krislund—\$145.00
SEPTEMBER MISSIONS Presbytery Church USA—\$125.00



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Want to participate in Bible study –but don’t want to leave the house on these chilly Saturday mornings? Then join us for a special ADVENT BIBLE STUDY beginning December 5th at 8:30am via zoom. We will be focusing on the Christmas story in the light of the times in which we live (pandemic, post-election). Can we have Christmas in the midst of hard times? Can Christmas still be joyful with all that is going on?

THE ANSWER IS YES!!! So grab a cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate and join us for three Saturday mornings – December 5, 12, and 19 at 8:30am. Zoom links will be sent out via email and snail mail. If you do not receive the link please contact the church office.

ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER: The Annual Turkey Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, November 19th at Highland!. The orders will all be take outs. Pre-orders will be accepted at \$13.00/meal. Help is needed. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex or you can call Kathy Smith at 717-645-1015 to volunteer.

SOUP AND TURKEY PIES FOR SALE: Highland is selling the following: Soups—Turkey Corn, Turkey Rice and Ham and Bean for \$6.00 each. Also, Turkey Pies for \$6.00 each. Please see Linda Bitting or Kathy Smith if you would to purchase any soup or pies.

ADVENT MISSION PROJECT: There will be a couple of opportunities for the congregation to reach out during the Christmas season to those in need. Details are being finalized by both the deacons and the mission committee, so stay tuned.

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED



ADVENT SCHEDULE:

11/29 First Sunday of Advent

12/5 ZOOM ADVENT BIBLE STUDY...grab a cup of coffee, build a fire in the fire place and join us via zoom at 8:30am for our three week Advent study. We'll be talking about Advent in this post-election/pandemic era. Can Christmas still be Christmas? Does the hope of Christmas stand up to all that is going on in our world?

12/6, 13, 20 WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10AM each Sunday and zooming worship.

12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 6PM

Link for this service will be forthcoming

HIGHLAND'S MISSION MOMENTS:

OCTOBERFEST was a great success. The "Caring Crafters" raised over \$1200. Thanks to Joyce Heintzelman for great leadership. All the vendors left very good reviews and hopes that we continue this annual event. If anyone, crafter or not, and would like to join our wonderful fellowship group contact Joyce for information. Thanks to all who donated crafts and to everyone who supported us.

PERRY COUNTY FOOD BANK (is Highland's organization for our November mission giving). Did you know that in August alone, 1670 individuals were served by the Perry County Food Bank? This is actually down from 2576 people last year in August. But this doesn't mean the need has lessened! It is felt that some people who do need are staying away from distribution sites because of COVID. HUPC's mission work, both through food collections and monetary donations, continues to support this vital work. The Mission Committee will strive to bring you facts about The Perry County Food Bank each month. A reminder that a container is in the narthex for food donations, please help fill it up.

CHRISTMAS COOKIES: The Mission Committee is considering bringing back Highland's annual cookie sale. (the one that Happy Highlanders did under the leadership of Tammy Lutz). This was always a very profitable fundraiser with lots of fellowship. Please contact Janice Zaring 717-567-2201 or email jzgrandma10@comcast.net or Joyce Heintzelman 717-582-2531 or email joycie1951@outlook.com if you are willing to help bake cookies, sell cookies (Dec. 5), or donate ingredients needed to make these confectionary delights. We need to know ASAP so we can move on it.

Please complete and drop in the offering plate if you can help with the following:

Bake Cookies: _____

Sell Cookies: _____

Donate Ingredients: _____

Cut-off date will be November 22.

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED



/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE AT HIGHLAND

- November 1st** “It’s Too Good to be True” Pre-k through third grade: will explore the story of a man who found out that God seems too good to be true! 4th-12th graders: will be making plans to receive donations for the blessings box, talk about what it means to be disciples
- November 8th** “It a Whale of a Tale” Pre-k through 3rd grade: will be exploring the story of Jonah: 4-8th grade: will be collecting food for the Perry County Food Bank at Mutzabaugh’s
- November 15th** “Talking to the Walls” Pre-K – third grade: Jeremiah and talking to the walls: 4-8th grade: Helping prepare for the turkey supper
- November 22nd** “Thanksgiving” All ages will be focusing on giving thanks to God
- November 29th** “Advent is Here” All ages will be in Clark Hall making their own Advent wreaths! Including making candles!

PERRY VALLEY

PERRY VALLEY

301 Old Ferry
Road
Millerstown, PA
17062

E-mail:

pcpv@pa.net

Church Secretary

Sharon Delancey

Church Treasurer

Lori Comp

Clerk of Session

Pro Tempe

Director of Sunday School

Sharon Delancey

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PRAYER CONCERNS: Bob Sweger, Dave Foose, Helen Herr Atticks, Bob Miller, Jane Ann Baney, all of our Church family, our community and country.



HARVEST HOME IN NOVEMBER 15TH! Please bring your donations to the church by November 14th at 9:00am so the deacons can set up our harvest home display.

PERRY VALLEY CONTINUED

Perry Valley

Financial Secretary

Peg Bolton
Sally Tengeres
Doris LaForce

**ELDERS ON SES-
SION**

Linda Fleisher
Russ LaForce
Doris LaForce
Sharon Delancey

DEACONS

Linda Sanderson
Nancy Sweger



ADVENT STARTS IN JUST FOUR WEEKS AND PERRY VALLEY IS READY TO CELEBRATE!

11/29 First Sunday of Advent
Decorating the sanctuary after worship with coffee hour.
Deacons will be working on cards and gift bags for our shut-ins
12/5 ZOOM ADVENT BIBLE STUDY...grab a cup of coffee, build a fire in the fire place and join us via zoom at 8:30am for our three week Advent study. We'll be talking about Advent in this post election/pandemic era. Can Christmas still be Christmas? Does the hope of Christmas stand up to all that is going on in our world?

12/6, 13, 20 WORSHIP SERVICES AT 8:45AM each Sunday.
12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP AT PERRY VALLEY 10PM

WESTMINSTER UNITED

WESTMINSTER

3rd and Lemon Streets
Mifflintown, PA 17059

E-mail:

westmin-sterupc@gmail.com

Clerk of Session

Gabe Book

Church Secretary

Judy Armstrong

Church Treasurer

Sunday School

Superintendent

John Shirk

Sunday School Treasurer

Diane Marshall

ELDERS ON

SESSION

Aaron Geedey
Shelly Horning
Deb Heisey
Rich Swab
Jan Manbeck
Gabe Book

Nov. Birthdays: 4 Jeff Abram 5 Barbie Marshall 7 Charles Bryner 8 Dave Doray 11 Destiny Trout 19 Bill Eichenberger 23 Bob Gill 25 Michelle Parks, Rob Digon 27 Laney Dowling

Nov. Anniversaries: 5 Rob and Polly Digon 19 Don and Nancy McClure



HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS - (These are the foods that are hard for us to get): Turkeys, Turkey Breasts, Hams (3-5 lbs.), canned Sweet Potatoes, and Fruit Cocktail. A donation of \$20.00 will purchase one complete meal!



Have you noticed the blessings box outside the church? It has been placed there with small items that the people in our neighborhood may be in need of during these hard times. So far we're finding snack items the most popular. If you wish to donate item – there is a box in the fellowship hall you can place items in.

THANK YOU: “A big thank you to all who donated items to the “Deacon’s Women’s Purse Project.” All donations were given to Shelter Services in Mifflin County and they very much appreciated receiving our donation.”

WESTMINSTER UNITED CONTINUED



COMMUNITY OUTREACH: Anyone needing meals for shut-ins, please call one of the Deacons.



CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL has resumed for all ages each Sunday morning. Shelly Horning and Chris Fisher are ready and waiting for the children and youth of our church each Sunday morning at 9:30 am.



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AGAIN THIS YEAR THE FOOD PANTRY will join forces with the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis, and **YOU** to bring Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to as many Juniata County families living in poverty as possible. When the Boy Scouts come to your door in November for their annual food drive, please give generously. If you can help us to start stockpiling the following foods for the holidays, we would really appreciate it. Our goal is to provide 800 meals: 400 for Thanksgiving and 400 for Christmas.

A SEXTON IS NEEDED AT WESTMINSTER – Position is open to either a church member or member of the community. If interested, please contact Jane Shirk at 717-953-5310.

WESTMINSTER UNITED CONTINUED



MANSE REPORT: The Trustees have met and continue to work on collecting information based on the discussion at the congregational meeting. The manse has been 'mothballed' to allow time to answer all the questions and to make the best decision for the future of our church.

ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR the Deacons will be sponsoring Harvest Home. We will be distributing grocery bags on November 1st and ask that they be returned with items for the Food Pantry on November 22nd. This is a very worthwhile project and we thank you very much for all your help.



NOVEMBER 22ND you are invited to remain after worship as we join together to decorate our church for Christmas. There will be snacks available in the fellowship hall and then we'll make our church shine with the hope of Christmas. We will be practicing social distancing (families working in the same area of the church) and are asking folks to wear masks as much as possible.



ADVENT SEASON AT WESTMINSTER:

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JUNIATA VALLEY SHARED MINISTRY



Please keep in prayer our church members and our friends:

Colton Cook, Angie Barlup, Peg Tressler, Sherry Rolston, Robert Rolston, Jason Barlup, Martha Beatty (at William Penn, Lewistown), Fred Marshall (at Locust Grove), Bob Sweger, David Foose, Robbie Lauver, Jan Landis, Barry Cornell, Eddi Kay Gill, Eleanor Stallman, George Yohn, Bob Mikesell, Bob Miller, Jane Ann Baney, Glenda Dillman, Cathy Frankenbach (Pastor Nancy's sister), Mark Campbell, Teedie Frankenbach (Pastor Nancy's mother), Jane Fogleman, Jane Shirk, Norma Parker, Joe Benner, Rich Brunner and Steve Adams.

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THANK YOU: "A big thank you to all who donated items to the "Deacon's Women's Purse Project." All donations were given to Shelter Services in Mifflin County and they very much appreciated receiving our donation."



HARVEST HOME DATES SET FOR OUR CHURCHES:

November 15th is Harvest Home day at Perry Valley and November 22 is at Westminster. Please bring your bags for canned goods to church with you that weekend. Perry Valley folks are asked to have their bags in the sanctuary by November 14th. HIGHLAND UNITED is supporting the Perry County Food bank through a food collection at Mutzabaugh's on November 8th. The youth of the church will be there collecting for several hours.



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JUNIATA VALLEY SHARED MINISTRY CONTINUED



LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT

Plans are falling into place for Advent 2020! All three of our churches are planning worship, study and mission opportunities that you will be able to join in – in person or via zoom. Please note, that any in-person plans may change as we move through the weeks and we will keep you posted of any changes.



Each Sunday in Advent in person worship will take place as follows: 8:45 Perry Valley, 10am Highland 11am Westminster. ZOOM SERVICE will be streamed from the Highland Sanctuary at 10am.



Each of our churches will have Advent wreaths and families from the church will be lighting candles each week. IF YOU ARE ZOOMING—you are encouraged to set up your own Advent wreath and light the candles with us each week.



Each of our churches are making plans to reach out to the needy and shut-ins in our community.
 Highland: gift bags for shut-ins, Christmas cards to veterans, cookies for shut-ins
 Perry Valley: gift bags for shut-ins, gifts for children through Join Hands
 Westminster: gifts for children in the community, outreach to shut ins
PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR CHURCH BULLETIN FOR MORE DETAILS.

JVSM NOVEMBER CALENDAR

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|---|------------|--|
| <i>1</i> | <i>2 Deacons— H 6:30</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>4 Session H 6:30 Zoom</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>7 Bible Study— W 8:30 a.m. Session PV 10:30</i> |
| <i>8 H Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. and Zoom Worship AT 10:00 a.m. and Zoom 8:45 a.m. PV 11:00 a.m. W</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>10 Deacons W 6:00 Trustees W 7:00</i> | <i>11 Worship/ Mission H Zoom 6:00</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>14 Harvest Home items due PV Church Officer Training at H at 9:00</i> |
| <i>15 H Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. H and Zoom 8:45 a.m. PV 11:00 a.m. W Harvest Home PV</i> | <i>16 TURKEY</i> | <i>17 SUPPER</i> | <i>18 Session W 6:30 PREP</i> | <i>19 Turkey Dinner 10:30— 6:00</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>21</i> |
| <i>22 H Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. H and Zoom 8:45 a.m. PV 11:00 a.m. W Harvest Home W Decorate Church W</i> | <i>23</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>26 THANKS- GIVING</i> | <i>27</i> | <i>28</i> |
| <i>29 H Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. H and Zoom 8:45 a.m. PV 11:00 a.m. W Decorate Sanctuary PV Coffee Hour PV</i> | <i>30</i> | | | | | |

Highland United Presbyterian Church

11 Church Road

Newport, PA 17074