

THE LAMP

A Newsletter of The Juniata Valley Shared Ministry

JANUARY 2021

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



THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR



Good Riddance! Adios! Bye, Bye! We were all so done with 2020 by the time January 1st rolled around. We were filled with the fervent hope that 2021 would be a better year.

Well, it may well be a better year. But as I sit here at my desk, I can tell you our new year has already had some bumps. Yesterday's events in Washington, are at best, disturbing. No matter who you support, what your cause -violence is NEVER the answer. In addition to the events of yesterday, our first responders, doctors, nurses, nursing home workers and so many more continue to be front line on the battle with COVID. The Westminster church lost two long-time members this past couple of weeks, and of course, our beloved sister church closed its doors.

So much for 2021 being better.

HOLD ON!! STOP RIGHT THERE! Maybe one of the lessons we need to learn is that hard things – are life. The question isn't whether we're going to have tough times, but how we respond to them. Our churches are doing an awesome job responding faithfully and positively to all that is going on. I am so proud of all of you.

In the last months – meals have been delivered, Christmas stockings or gift bags were sent to shut-ins, gifts were provided for needy children and many things are being planned as we head into winter of 2021:

- Valentine's baskets for nursing home staff
- meals for teachers and staff
- cards for teachers and staff
- encouraging our first responders
- continued support for our food banks

And the list goes on.

I invite you to walk through 2021 – as we walked through 2020 – with the sure and certain hope that **GOD IS WITH US**. If we keep our hearts tuned to God, put our trust in Him – we will be strengthened, we will be led, we will be blessed.

To that end I encourage all of you to make time for weekly worship (either via zoom or in-person), join in with Bible study, find ways to connect with others, reach out to others and ask for help if you need it.

Our JVSM family is here, we are ready to support you, reach out to our community and share the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed.

GOD BLESS US, EVERY ONE

Pastor Nancy



HIGHLAND

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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



Jan. 2	Pam Adams	
10	Robert Rolston	
12	Glenda Dillman	
15	Gwen Babski	
25	Mary Horting	
26	Pat Shutt	
27	James Myers	
29	Kimberlee Drum	
	Sean Robinson	
30	Wilma Klingensmith	
		ANNIVERSARIES
		Jan. 1 Robert and Nancy Campbell
		25 Richard and Wendy Brunner



Saturday morning Bible Study resumes this Saturday via zoom. We will be finishing up the book "Incarnation" and our theme this week is 'The Light of the World.' Links for Bible Study remain the same. See you at

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

FROM THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Sending a **BIG THANK YOU TO TERRY HELLER** for coming to our rescue during the December 16th Snow Storm. Always a job Well Done!



The Highland Deacons are planning for our annual GIFTS FROM THE HEART ministry. The collection bin will be outside the front door on Feb 16, 18, 19 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or you can bring things into the church anytime during the month of February., Thank you!



All sorts of exciting plans are in the works for Sunday School for our children and youth. Please keep an eye on your emails, snail mails and text messages. I'll give you a couple of hints: food, music, building things.

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>
12/22/20	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 3,715.00
12/27/20	\$ 570.00	\$ 130.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 725.00
TOTALS	\$ 3,870.00	\$ 480.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 4,440.00

Per Capita Assessment for 2020 is for 111 members @ \$27.20/member-\$3,019.20. Total given for 2020—\$606.54.

DECEMBER MISSIONS Bethesda Mission—\$75.00
NOVEMBER MISSIONS Perry County Food Bank—\$195.00

OLD FASHIONED COOKIE BAKE AND SALE:

IT WAS A HARD DECISION! Should we do a Cookie Sale? Will we have enough help to pull this off? What if nobody wants to come out to buy? Sure glad we decided to take a Chance!! We had soooo many cookies!! Some of you spent hours making cookies in your home. Some spent hours mixing, rolling, cutting, and decorating Sand Tarts and other confectionery delights at the Church. For many of you baking is just not your “thing”, but still wanting to help out by donating Flour, Sugar, Butter, Eggs, Sprinkles or Money to purchase whatever supplies were needed. Volunteers helped fill Cookie Samplers and Sand Tart containers to sell. My heart is so happy to announce the Mission Committee along with some pretty Awesome Parishioners made/sold \$1,135.00 in cookies.

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH! We are hoping to use that money to construct a “Little Free Library” at Highland. Approval needs to first be given by the Property Committee, then Session, then we can design and construct ours hopefully by Summer. If you are wondering about a Little Free Library, there is one in Millerstown. Please go check it out. Because we did so well with the Cookie Sale in December, we are considering doing it again in time for Easter. I am confident this can become another Highland United Presbyterian Annual event.

Thank you all so very much. Janice Zaring, Chairman of Missions



The Session at Highland was thrilled to welcome the transfer of several members from the Perry Valley church. Those welcomed by letter of transfer were: Abi Worthy, Doris and Russ LaForce, Denny, Lori and Bethany Comp, Peg and Ken Bolton, Sharon Delancey, Linda and Jerry Sanderson, Gayle and Tom Ulsh and.....

Welcome to the Highland Family.

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

MISSION



The mission committee is busy working on exciting plans to reach out to our community in Christ's name. Keep reading to find out how YOU CAN BE A PART OF CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

OUR BLESSINGS BOX NEEDS DONATIONS: For many people times continue to be hard as they experience lay-offs or reduction in hours. Please help us fill our blessings box. We need canned goods, pasta, bottle drinks, snack items etc. You can drop your donations off at the church Tuesdays from 8-12, Thursdays 8-2 and Fridays 8-12 or on Sunday mornings.

HERSHEY BARS ARE NEEDED: We are reaching out to support our health care workers at our nursing homes. With your help, the mission committee wants to create thank you baskets for the caregivers. We need 1.55 ounce Hershey bars and they can be dropped off at the church during Linda's regular working hours. Donations will be accepted until January 24.

CHRISTMAS CARDS ARE A HIT!! I just wanted to give an update on the cards for Christmas at Perry Village. When we requested your help to flood the locked down residents with cards, our hope was to get enough to give each resident 2 or 3 cards to cheer them up. OUR AMAZING COMMUNITY GAVE OVER 4,000 CHRISTMAS CARDS TO PERRY VILLAGE THIS CHRISTMAS!! One resident asked, "who are these cards from?", to which the nurse answered, "your friends!" The resident thought for a moment and innocently, and a bit confused, said, "but all my friends are dead!", to which her nurse quickly answered, "well, now you have new friends!". Excitedly, with a wide smile, she answered, "Well, then, I have to send cards back to them!" Seeing a resident smile right now...priceless. Many residents had to be moved from their regular rooms and into quarantine rooms when they tested positive, and then back to their regular room when they recovered. They all tried insisting they bring their Christmas cards with them when changing rooms. It brought them so much much joy, and hope, strength and optimism. They cherish your cards. DID YOU KNOW THAT HIGHLAND UNITED sent over 200 cards to Perry Village over the Christmas season. The residents were so blessed by all the cards they received from the local community. THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO TOOK PART.

FOOD BANK INFORMATION: The Food Bank is always looking for volunteers to help with:

- sorting and storing food in the warehouse;
- stocking the shelves in our store;
- assisting families with their shopping;
- assisting with the bagging of food
- checking out customers after shopping
- assisting customers with carrying their food to their cars
- clerical and office work

Volunteers usually work during one of two shifts? mornings 8:30 to 12:00 and afternoons 12:30 to 3:00. The hours are flexible and we will try to accommodate your schedules.

Distributions are the 3rd Saturday of each month. At the New Bloomfield site, on the Friday morning before the distribution, groups can come to help pack the food boxes for that weekend.

If interested in any of these opportunities, contact the Food Bank for further information at 717-582-9978.

PERRY VALLEY

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Road

Millerstown, PA
17062

E-mail:

pcpv@pa.net

Church Secretary

Sharon Delancy

Church Treasurer

Lori Comp

Clerk of Session

Pro Tempe

Director of Sunday School

Sharon Delancy

Financial Secretary

Peg Bolton

Sally Tengeres

Doris LaForce

ELDERS ON SESSION

Linda Fleisher

Russ LaForce

Doris LaForce

Sharon Delancy

DEACONS

Linda Sanderson

Nancy Sweger

Sally Tengeres

PERRY VALLEY

On December 27th, 2020 the 130 year ministry of the Perry Valley church came to an end. Hearts are broken, tears are being shed – but Perry Valley will always be in our hearts. This little church, more than any church I have ever known embodied ‘family.’ We celebrated joys (baptisms, weddings) we worshipped together, mourned together. We laughed with each other, we cried with each other – but above all we loved each other. Several of the Perry Valley folks have already decided to transfer their membership to the Highland Church – where the amazing heart of Perry Valley will be welcomed and added to the ministry at Highland United.

The Presbytery continues to work with the session to make sure members get the mementos they have asked for, to share with our sister churches anything they can use from our building and to honor the legacy of our wonderful church.

We are still a family, albeit in a different location – the bonds of love that we have for each other live on. And new relationships and opportunities lay before as we continue to be committed to be a family proclaiming the Good News.

MEMENTO PICK UP: A date will be set for folks to come pick up the items they have requested. We are still working to confirm a date and we will be in touch as soon as we know a time and date.

PERRY VALLEY FAMILY: Both Highland and Westminster are waiting to welcome you with open arms. As in-person worship resumes please plan to join us either at 9:30 at Highland or 11am at Westminster.

WESTMINSTER

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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

Kathy Brown

WESTMINSTER UNITED

Jan. Birthdays: 12 Bob Zeak 13 Jeff Dowling 15 Janice Swab 20 Judd Parks
27 Terry Dolin 28 Gabriel Digon 30 Tyson Keister 31 Barbara Koppenhaver

Jan. Anniversaries: NONE



ANYONE NEEDING MEALS FOR SHUT-INS, PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE DEACONS



We mourn the loss of Martha Beatty and Fred Marshall. Please keep both families in your prayers. Graveside services were held for both Martha and Fred.



In these times of distancing and zooming, Westminster continues to reach out to each other. Meals are being provided for Bob and Eddi Kaye, Christmas stockings were distributed to the shut-ins, cards and flowers are being sent. We celebrate the deacons and the mission committee who have worked so hard to coordinate these efforts.

WESTMINSTER UNITED CONTINUED



Saturday morning Bible Study resumes this Saturday via zoom. We will be finishing up the book "Incarnation" and our theme this week is 'The Light of the World.' Links for Bible Study remain the same. See you at 8:30am.



The session is forming a committee to consider the future of our manse. The committee will have representatives from the congregation, session and trustees. Many of you had great questions and ideas. We are looking for two people to become part of this short term committee. If you are willing to be part of this team please contact Pastor Nancy.

THANK YOU: "My sincere thank you to Westminster Sunday School for the Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated. Best wishes to all for a better year in 2021."

Judy Armstrong

THANK YOU so much to the Deacons of Westminster for the stocking filled with "goodies." Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated."

Judy Armstrong

THANK YOU: "Dear Deacons.....thank you for your generous check as it will go toward our son's medical bills. We are so thankful God spared Tyson's life. We are grateful for all of the prayers that have been and continue to be answered. Blessings to you and we again thank you deeply."

Sincerely,

Mark, Heather, Tyson & Willow Aurand

JUNIATA VALLEY SHARED MINISTRY



Please keep in prayer our church members and our friends:

Colton Cook, Peg Tressler, Sherry Rolston, Robert Rolston, Jason Barlup, David Foose, Robbie Lauver, Barry Cornell, Eddi Kay Gill, Eleanor Stallman, George Yohn, Bob Mikesell, Jane Ann Baney, Glenda Dillman, Mark Campbell, Jane Fogleman, Jane Shirk, Norma Parker, Joe Benner, Rich Brunner, Bob Gill, Beatty Family, Marshall Family and Steve Adams.



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JVSM JANUARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 WUPC Worship via ZOOM 9:30	4	5	6 Worship/Mission HUPC Zoom 6:00	7	8	9 Bible Study— 8:30 a.m. ZOOM
10 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 WUPC Worship via ZOOM 9:30	11	12 Trustees WUPC 2:00	13	14 Session WUPC 6:30	15	16 Bible Study— 8:30 a.m. ZOOM
17 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 WUPC Worship via ZOOM 9:30	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 WUPC Worship via ZOOM 9:30 WUPC Sunday School 9:30 WUPC Worship TBA	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 HUPC Adult SS 8:30 HUPC Worship 9:30 WUPC Worship via ZOOM 9:30 WUPC Sunday School 9:30 WUPC Worship TBA						

Highland United Presbyterian Church

11 Church Road

Newport, PA 17074