

THE LAMP

A Newsletter of The Juniata Valley Shared Ministry

DECEMBER 2021

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



WALKING THE CHRISTMAS STORY (worship and Bible study schedule for Advent)

As we continue through Advent we will be walking the Christmas story together. On the first Sunday of Advent we spent some time in Nazareth and learned more about how very important Mary is in the story and what she can teach us today.

There are two different opportunities to join us in the journey: the first is Bible study where we view the entire video and have time for questions and discussion, the second is worship each Sunday morning, where clips of the videos are shown and the sermon focuses us on the lessons we can learn on each stop in our journey. Below is the schedule for both Bible study and Worship.

- 12/4** Bible Study: Joseph of Bethlehem
8:30am at Westminster
- 12/5** Worship: 9:30 at Highland and Via zoom Lessons from Joseph
Worship: 11:00am at Westminster Lessons from Joseph
- 12/11** Bible Study Elizabeth
8:30am at Highland
- 12/12** Worship: 9:30 at Highland and Via zoom Lessons from Elizabeth
Sacrament of Holy Communion
Worship: 11:00am at Westminster Lessons from Elizabeth
- 12/18** Bible Study From Nazareth to Bethlehem
8:30am at Westminster
- 12/19** Worship: 9:30 at Highland and Via zoom Nazareth to Bethlehem
Worship: 11:00am at Westminster Nazareth to Bethlehem
- 12/24** CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP The Manger
6:00pm Highland
8:00pm Westminster
- 12/26** REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Worship: 9:30 at Highland and Via zoom
Worship: 11:00am at Westminster

HIGHLAND UNITED



THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

We've just begun our Advent journey together and it's wonderful to have so many of you joining with us as we literally journey through the Christmas story. It's interesting getting to see what Mary's home might have looked like, the church that been built on top of the spot where Gabriel came to Mary. In coming weeks we're going to spend time in Bethlehem, actually see the fields that the shepherds would have been using for their flocks, discovering what the stable and the manger might have looked like and actually walking part of the road that Mary and Joseph might have taken as they walked from Nazareth to Bethlehem.

As I've been reading (as many of you are) "The Journey" by Adam Hamilton, many things have struck me, but one in particular has really stuck with me: "Christmas is not YOUR birthday."

It is so easy to get swept up in all the Christmas activities; baking, shopping, wrapping, parties – all of which are fine in and of themselves – that we lose sight of the FACT that this day is about Jesus' birthday. The focus is not on what we want, or what other people say they want, or what everyone defines as Christmas – it's really about how we honor the birthday of the Son of God.

Many pieces of our Christmas traditions started out pointing to Jesus – but as time has gone on have gotten lost in translation. The tree – ever-green (never dying) filled with lights for one who is the light of the world. Gifts – reminding us of the gift given to us in Christ Jesus. Wreaths reminding us of the crown of thorns that would one day rest on his head.

I guess what I'd like you to think about this year – is how can you make Christmas Jesus' birthday? How can you give your traditional family gatherings a deeper meaning?



ZOOM LINKS:

THIS IS THE BIBLE STUDY LINK: Saturday 8:30am <https://zoom.us/j/96734419425?pwd=SV1JVXBDSEVST3o0SWdZd2J0dk9odz09>

Meeting ID: [967 3441 9425](#) Passcode: 288147
Dial by your location [+1 646 876 9923](#) US (New York)

WORSHIP LINK INCLUDING CHRISTMAS EVE AT 6PM 9:30am Sunday Worship
<https://zoom.us/j/912154723?pwd=cHI2eVJBVWM0azV4U0MzZ1NtdHEzUT09>

Meeting ID: 912 154 723 Password: 664159

IF YOU ARE USING A CELL OR LAND LINE: [+1 929 205 6099](#) Meeting ID: 912 154 723

Adult Sunday School (8:30am)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/619915621?pwd=NFN3ZzRPSWRGM2ZpVmhmQWFRWWkdKUT09>

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

HIGHLAND UNITED FINANCES:



| <u>Date</u> | <u>G. Fund</u> | <u>B. Fund</u> | <u>Mission</u> | <u>Adult SS</u> | <u>K. Ministry</u> | <u>Per Capita</u> | <u>Totals</u> |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 07/04/21 | \$ 2,267.00 | \$ 475.00 | \$ 180.00 | \$ 8.00 | \$ 200.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 3,130.00 |
| 07/11/21 | \$ 1,466.00 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 5.00 | \$ 18.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 1,499.00 |
| 07/18/21 | \$ 1,171.00 | \$ 75.00 | \$ 30.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 48.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 1,324.00 |
| 07/25/21 | \$ 852.00 | \$ 180.00 | \$ 305.00 | \$ 11.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 1,348.00 |
| TOTALS | \$ 5,756.00 | \$ 740.00 | \$ 520.00 | \$ 37.00 | \$ 248.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 7,301.00 |

Per Capita Assessment for 2021 is for 116 members @ \$27.26/member-\$3,162.16.
 Total given to date for 2021—\$1,279.14.

JULY MISSIONS Perry County Animal Rescue—\$520.00
JUNE MISSIONS Newport Ministerium/State Police —\$220.00

UPDATED INFORMATION WILL BE ADDED TO NEXT NEWSLETTER

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

Becky Wudtke

Financial Secretary

Dennis Tressler



| | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Dec. 1 | Beatrice Myers Donald McClure | |
| 4 | Janet Clark Colby Little | Anniversaries |
| 6 | Carrol Hench | |
| 8 | Dennis Tressler | Dec. 4 Christopher and Jeniffer Bates |
| 11 | Linda Barlup | 7 Ken and Peg Bolton |
| 12 | Darla Page Becky Wudtke | 19 David and Marjory Miller |
| 14 | Laurie Zaring | 24 William and Betty Baker |
| 16 | David Patton | 27 James and Karen Turner |
| 24 | Shirley Weibley Judy Landis | |
| 27 | Amos Miller | |

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

ELDERS ON SESSION

Nancy Campbell
 Janice Zaring
 Joyce Heintzelman
 James Turner
 Patricia Shutt
 Cecile Willet
 Dennis Tressler
 Abigail Worthy
 Becky Wudtke

DEACONS

Darlene Adams
 Linda Bitting
 Jessica Bryson
 Kim Drum
 Elaine Buffington
 Michelle Byers
 Melissa Neidigh
 Wendy Brunner
 Susan Robinson

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Cookies and stockings and bells and trees are filling up Highland as we move into the Advent Season!

WE WILL BE SUPPORTING BETHESDA MISSION IN A COUPLE OF WAYS THIS ADVENT. The Deacons are collecting socks and long underwear for the men at the men's shelter. Some of the stockings you all made will be heading down to the women's shelter!

HIGHLAND WILL BE DONATING COOKIES FOR THE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN NEWPORT... stop by and have a cookie!

WALKING THE CHRISTMAS STORY! Each Sunday we will be walking through the Christmas story during worship. On 12/5 we'll be focused on Bethlehem and Joseph, 12/12 Ein Karem and the Magnificat, 12/19 we'll walk with Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem and on 12/24 we'll be going to the manger. Join us each Sunday at 9:30am.

SEE CALENDAR ON FRONT PAGE FOR ALL THE WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY EVENTS DURING ADVENT.



DECEMBER MISSION PROJECT: The weather outside can be frightful during the winter months! While we are warm inside at our homes and our jobs, there are those who work outside in the winter elements. Our church ministry has been supporting the Bethesda Mission in a variety of ways. Bethesda provides hot meals and a warm and safe place to sleep for those experiencing homelessness. The Deacons want to support Bethesda and the men who work out in the elements during the winter months. While you are out holiday shopping those clearance sales after the holidays, we ask that you think about our mission project. We will be collecting items to support the men who work outdoors in the winter months. The items most needed are warm socks, winter work gloves and long underwear. Blankets can also be given. * Warm socks (men's shoe sizes) * Long underwear - sizes XL and up.



Thank you for all your magazines! Your magazines supports Ronald McDonald House.

HIGHLAND UNITED CONTINUED

JIMMY KENAVAN is finally at a rehab center. He will have 6 more weeks off his feet (no weight bearing on ankle). Then, at least 6 weeks of therapy to get him walking again. He won't likely be home until mid to late February. He is at:

Spring Creek Rehab, 1205 S. 28th St., Room 109 Harrisburg, PA 17111

He should be there for the remainder of his recovery. Any cards would be greatly appreciated.

2021 TURKEY DINNER: The 2021 Take Out Only Turkey Dinner was a huge success. We served 1200 meals. Thanks to EVERYONE who assisted in MANY ways. Highland members and friends came together and gave of their time and talents. A special **THANK YOU** to the Butcher's, Rolston, and Kraft Families who made significant donations to the dinner expenses. **A JOB WELL DONE CHURCH FAMILY!**

Blessings,
Kathy Smith, Chairman
Highland Kitchen Ministry



Bob and I take this opportunity to thank y'all for your prayers, cards, and other acts of kindness while he was hospitalized in Rock Island, Illinois. After returning home from the Mississippi River Cruise he was again hospitalized here for three days. He is now home and continuing his recovery. It is comforting to belong to a church family who really cares about others.

Fondly, Nancy Campbell

ONE STOP SHOPPING EVENT AT HIGHLAND UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



DECEMBER 11TH FROM 9:00AM-2PM
A COMBINING OF OUR COOKIE SALE WITH DIRECT SALE VENDORS

Please remember we need your donation of Cookies by Friday morning, December 10 by 9:00 am. This year we are also selling Pies. If you would be willing to donate a pie/s—anything but pumpkin (we are expecting a donation of 6 pumpkin pies). Please contact Janice 717-275-6625 or Joyce Heintzelman at 717-636-0992.

WESTMINSTER

3rd and Lemon Streets
Mifflintown, PA 17059

E-mail:

westminsterupc@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

Diane Marshall

Jan Manbeck

Gabe Book

Kathy Brown

DEACONS

BJ Doray

Chris Fisher

Barbara Koppenhaver

Marie McNaught

Michelle Parks

Beth Stoner

TRUSTEES

JR Bair

Dick Crozier

Jane Shirk

Mike Stoner

Petey Swab

WESTMINSTER UNITED

December Lector: Kit Parks

December Counters: Diane Marshall and Dick Crozier

December Closer: Dick Crozier

CHILD CARE FOR DECEMBER:

12/5 Diane Marshall and Heather McClure **12/12** Gabe and Emily Book **12/19** Shelly Horning and Jody Satzler **12/26** Meghan Geedey and Cassett Trout

Dec. Birthdays: **1** Donald McClure **12** Meghan Geedey **16** David Patton **20** Petey Crater **25** Jill Steward **31** Joy Abram

Dec. Anniversaries: **21** Aaron and Meghan Geedey **27** Joe and Connie Benner

UPCOMING MEETING DATES: **12/7** Deacons 6:00 p.m. **12/14** Trustees 2:00 p.m. **12/15** Finance 7:00 p.m.

THE CENTRAL PA WORLD HUNGER ASSOCIATION will be having their 48th Annual Meat Canning Project at the Chief Logan Fire Company in Lewistown, PA (formally East Derry Fire Co.) on February 7-10, 2022. MCC has set up new Covid guidelines for the 2022 canning year:

--no host families for housing the canner boys. --larger breaks between canning projects.

--fewer canning sites. --maximum of 5 rounds per day (less meat canned per day).

--if masks are to be worn, it will be decided at the time of canning and the Covid 19 mandates will continue to be monitored.

We will not know until January if we are grinding or cutting the meat canned this year. We will be canning 30,000 pounds of chicken this year. We have about ¼ of the money needed to complete our project as the price of chicken and turkey are both around \$2.00 per pound. All of our money comes from donations. If you or a group from your church are willing to be part of our project this year, please contact Jesse Diem at 717-348-9577, Sylvanus Peachey at 717-935-2511, or Jonathan Coldren at 717-250-6840 as soon as possible. If you were planning to be a walk-in, you will need to call and get a time. If you cannot physically take part in our project due to Covid, you can help by supporting the project financially by sending your donation to: Central Pennsylvania World Hunger Association, P.O. Box 76, Belleville, PA 17004

WESTMINSTER UNITED CONTINUED



THE SESSION HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOR DECEMBER 12 FOLLOWING WORSHIP for the purpose of electing church officers and updating Pastor Nancy's terms of call.

WALKING THE CHRISTMAS STORY! Each Sunday we will be walking through the Christmas story during worship. On 12/5 we'll be focused on Bethlehem and Joseph, 12/12 Ein Karem and the Magnificat, 12/19 we'll walk with Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem and on 12/24 we'll be going to the manger. Join us each Sunday at 11am.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP WILL TAKE PLACE AT 8PM. Join us for music, prayer, communion and God's word proclaimed as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

SEE CALENDAR ON FRONT PAGE FOR ALL THE WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY EVENTS DURING ADVENT.

WESTMINSTER HAS BEEN BUSY GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY THIS ADVENT SEASON: Thank you to everyone who has given gifts and money to support the Derek Fry family and our angel tree kids! Also to everyone who is keeping our Blessings Box stocked!

AT THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE SESSION the session decided to return 10% of what the church made on the sale of the manse back into the community. Twelve different organizations will receive a check for \$500 from our church. Some of those organizations are Lend-A-Hand, Juniata County Library, Bethesda Mission, CJMES, The DeLauter Center, Abuse Network and more.



HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS: TURKEYS, TURKEY BREASTS, HAM (3-5 LBS.), A DONATION OF \$20 WILL PURCHASE ONE COMPLETE MEAL!

ANYONE NEEDING MEALS PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE DEACONS: Michelle Parks, Marie McNaught, Beth Stoner, Chris Fisher, Barb Koppenhaver, or BJ Doray



MISSION DECEMBER: The Derek Fry Fund

JUNIATA VALLEY SHARED MINISTRY



PASTOR NANCY'S OFFICE HOURS

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1st and 3rd week | (Tuesday and Thursday) | at Highland United |
| 2nd and 4th week | (Thursday only) | at Highland United |
| 1st and 3rd week | (Wednesday only) | at Westminster |
| 2nd and 4th week | (Tuesday and Wednesday) | at Westminster |

SECRETARY'S HOURS:

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Highland United: | Tuesday 8:00-12:00 | Thursday 8:00-2:00 | Friday 8:00-12:00 |
| Westminster: | Wednesday 8:00-5:00 | Friday 7:30-12:30 | |

Please keep in prayer our church members and our friends:

Colton Cook, Jason Barlup, Diana Landis, Barry Cornell, Eddi Kay Gill, George Yohn, Glenda Dillman, Jimmy Kenavan, Margaret Bryner (at Ohesson Manor), Lauver Family, CJ Bryan, Bob Campbell, Wilma Klingensmith, Emily Reeser, Cookie Little and Charles Ebling and all those fighting cancer, dementia, and COVID.

JIMMY KENAVAN is finally at a rehab center. He will have 6 more weeks off his feet (no weight bearing on ankle). Then, at least 6 weeks of therapy to get him walking again. He won't likely be home until mid to late February. He is at:

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He should be there for the remainder of his recovery. Any cards would be greatly appreciated.

JVSM DECEMBER CALENDAR

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----|---|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 <i>Night Club</i> 5:30-7:00 | 2 | 3 | 4 <i>Bible Study @ Westminster @ 8:30</i> |
| 5 <i>HUPC Adult SS 8:30</i> <i>HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom</i> <i>9:30 SS (W)</i> <i>WUPC 11:00</i> | 6 | 7 <i>Trustees (W) 2:00</i> <i>Deacons (W) 6:00</i> | 8 | 9 <i>Blain/Ickesburg Lions Club Dinner @ 6:00</i> | 10 | 11 <i>Bible Study @ Highland @ 8:30</i> <i>One Stop Shopping 9:00—2:00</i> |
| 12 <i>HUPC Adult SS 8:30</i> <i>HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom</i> <i>9:30 SS (W)</i> <i>WUPC Worship 11:00</i> CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AT (W) | 13 | 14 <i>Admin (H) 6:00</i> | 15 <i>Finance (W) @ 7:00</i> | 16 | 17 | 18 <i>Bible Study @ Westminster @ 8:30</i> |
| 19 <i>HUPC Adult SS 8:30</i> <i>HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom</i> <i>9:30 SS (W)</i> <i>WUPC Worship 11:00</i> | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 <i>Christmas Eve 6:00 (H) 8:00 (W)</i> | 25 <i>Christmas Day</i> |
| 26 <i>HUPC Adult SS 8:30</i> <i>HUPC Worship 9:30 and Zoom</i> <i>9:30 SS (W)</i> <i>WUPC Worship 11:00</i> | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 <i>New Years Eve</i> | |

Highland United Presbyterian Church

11 Church Road

Newport, PA 17074