

# Midweek Message



## **Midweek E-mail from First Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, New York December 19, 2018**

Claud Schuckers, Building and Grounds Manager, and Musician

When I volunteered to write the Midweek Message, I did so with some trepidation. Writing projects have always been my scholastic downfall, never completing them until the last minute or later. Of course, I am true to form typing this in on Wednesday afternoon while Peggy patiently waits.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole First Presbyterian Church and ACP community for your acceptance of me as an individual and your appreciation of my efforts. I can unequivocally say this is the best job I have ever had. I can bear witness to the awesomeness of working somewhere you enjoy. I am extraordinarily grateful for this.

Several years ago I came to the realization that my plans and expectations of the future were generally misguided and things really rarely turn out the way you think they will, a recipe for continual frustration. I began a different approach without plans and expectations. I hypothesized that perhaps there are only choices and that possibly there is always an Ideal or “right choice”. I decided to run the experiment and with a leap of faith, I have been intending only to do the next right thing. It is not easy to do and has required practice. However, I have noticed that as I intend to do the next right thing, I constantly find myself in the right place at the right time and it is obvious. That is how I ended up here.

In manufacturing if you run a process three times with the same predicted results, you have validated that the process works. I can bear witness that following a path delineated by ideal choices has resulted in the best life experience I have ever had. It would be interesting to know if others share the same experience.

I could expound on how ideal choices present themselves or the synchronicities that become evident, but that really is a different discussion and Peggy is still patiently waiting. Suffice to say, I feel very much like I am in the right place at the right time, that we are all on a very spiritual journey together, and that we have been blessed with some awesome resources with which to accomplish the next right thing. I am looking forward to working with all of you in that endeavor.

Merry Christmas.  
Claud

### **REMEMBERING YOU IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Lucy Miller's son Paul; Catherine Willard's sister Nancy; Russ Thompson's brother Jim; Bridgette Winters brother Mike; Robert Johnson; Laurie; Julie Dudgeon; and those traveling over the holidays or those who have a blue Christmas. Also, please give thanks to the many volunteers and people who work behind the scenes to take care of folks over the sometimes *not so perfect* Christmas time.

**ACP Family for October:** Lillian and Landon and their Grandma and Grandpa

**Staff Member:** Danielle Kent

*If you need a ride to church or a doctor's appointment, would like a visit from the Pastor, could use support from our Casserole and Cookie Crew, or would like to let us know about a prayer concern, please let the church office know. The Member Care Committee is ready to help you out.*

### **Sunday, December 23th**

Sunday School Breakfast at 9:30 am  
*Special Christmas Homecoming Breakfast*  
Worship in the Sanctuary at 10:30 am

## Christmas Eve Service

Musical Prelude 8:45 pm  
Worship Service 9:00 pm  
Communion will be served.

### Worship Leaders for Sunday, December 23rd

Greeter: Rosie Hagel

Ushers: Judy and Paul Bentley, Lynne Gruel and Joanne Nelson

### Worship Leaders for Christmas Eve

Greeter: Paul Bentley

Ushers: Donna Beal, Pat Kinney, Craig Butler, and Bill Johnston

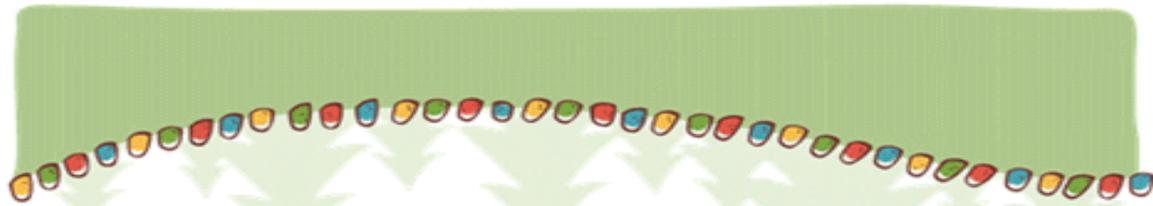
### Worship Leaders for December 30<sup>th</sup>

Greeter: Joanne Nelson

Ushers: Mark Naeser and Bill Johnston

## Coming Soon!

**The Mission Committee** has started a new mission opportunity for members. Monday we hosted the first of what we hope will be monthly breakfasts for the guests of the **UCan City Mission**. Bob Battaglin, Bruce Archibald and Jim Kullberg were the hosts. We provided a scrambled egg and sausage meal for about 20 people and they were very grateful to have something other than cold cereal and day old bread. We plan to continue this in the new year and will be providing an opportunity for men to sign up to help. It takes only a couple hours and finishes up by 8 am. If you are interested in helping out talk with Jim Kullberg.



**Homecoming Breakfast – Youth Group Fundraiser  
December 23, 9:30 am**

*The youth are raising money for this summer's  
Presbyterian Church (USA) Youth Trienium*

Bring your family! Bring your friends!

Menu – Breakfast sandwiches, Hashbrowns, Fruit,  
Milk, Coffee, Juice

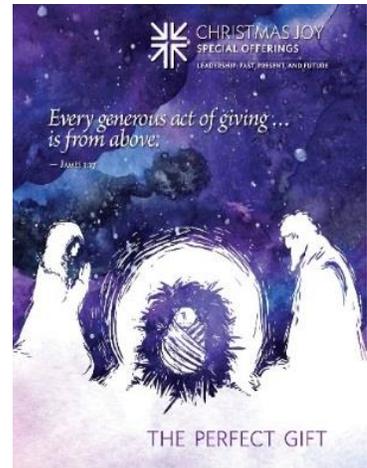
Suggested Donation of \$5.00

**Merry Christmas**



## Offerings:

**The Christmas Joy offering** will be collected during the Worship Service on **December 23**. There will be envelopes in the Sanctuary at that time, and we have some in the office if you would like to pick one up earlier. Also, we still have pledge cards available. It's not too late to put those in too.



## Casting Call for The ABC's of Christmas

The Christmas story is dramatic; a remarkable cast of characters, lush scenery, lots of movement, heroes and villains, visions and dreams. What more could you ask for? No wonder generations of congregations, big and small, have been creating Christmas pageants and plays. That is why over the four Sundays of Advent, with the help of the children, we will be *setting the Christmas Stage*, getting ready for our Christmas drama on December 23, **The ABC's of Christmas**.

So parents, we need your **HELP**. Please listen to the Carol of the Day at home during the week before we meet Sunday morning. The children will be leading it in worship. You can find them on most streaming services.

Worshipping With Kids - **December 23, 2018**

CAROL OF THE DAY: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

This Sunday we will be putting it all together: the scene has been set, the chorus has been gathered, and the main characters cast. So it's time to "perform" **The ABC's of Christmas**.

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" retells the story of Christ's birth with simple language. The refrain is easy to learn and the song is just fun to sing. So come Sunday ready to stomp and clap, proclaiming "Jesus Christ is Born!"

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR

Church Business Hours:

Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

December 19 – TON Christmas Party 3:15 pm

December 20 – Aging and Saging 12:00 pm

December 20 – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

December 23 – Homecoming Breakfast 9:30 am

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service 8:45 pm Prelude 9:00 pm Service

December 30 – Worship in the Chapel 10:30 am

December 30 – Youth Group New Year's Eve, Eve game night

*Church Office Will Be Closed on December 25, 26, and January 1*