

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
**10:00 a.m. Worship**  
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour – Dining Room  
11:30 a.m. Book Study – Assembly Room  
11:30 a.m. Y-Fi Soup Sale – Dining Room  
5:30 p.m. Y-Fi Grows – Youth Room

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 9:00 a.m. Sewing – Fletcher Room

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts – Fletcher Room  
6:30 p.m. Session – Assembly Room  
7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous – Fletcher Room

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- 7:45 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study – Eat'n Park  
12:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous – Fletcher Room  
1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting – Assembly Room

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23 OFFICE CLOSED

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24 OFFICE CLOSED

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

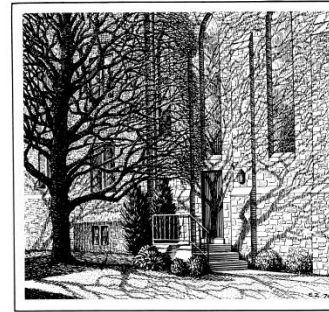
- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
**10:00 a.m. Worship**  
11:15 a.m. Coffee Hour – Dining Room



**Stewardship**  
*a way of life*

#### MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP

**COMMITTEE:** Our weekly church offerings are down significantly from this time last year. Please bring your pledges up to date when possible. Remember that contributions you may have made to the capital campaign are over and above the weekly offerings that support the church's ongoing missions and programs.



November 19 - 26, 2017

## FIRST VIEW: The News @ FPC



### A Brief Progress Report on our Capital Campaign!

#### Currently:

**138 Pledges totaling \$689,713!**

**Donations received toward the above totaling \$323,537 to date!**

#### Your Donations Hard at Work ...

- New Sound System Installed in Sanctuary
- Stained Glass Panels Removed for Refurbishing
- Masonry Work Begun this Week!

Work has begun on the masonry around the building this week. All week, teams of workers have been high up on lifts and down on ground level beginning this much needed repair to our building ... all thanks to your contributions! A lot is getting done, but there is more work to do.

When making a contribution to the capital campaign, please place your donation in an envelope and write on it "Capital Campaign" or write "Capital Campaign" on the memo line of the check. This is to insure it goes toward the proper account. Thank You! LuAnn Peters, Financial Secretary. Also, please visit our microsite for Celebrating the Journey ... you can reach this site either through our website and selecting the link or you can reach it directly by going to: <http://fpcthejourney.com/> You can become informed about the projects and process and even make a commitment online. Please take the time to visit this informative and important site!

## NEW MINISTER OF MUSIC / ORGANIST:

### DR. JOHN B. SALVESON

On Sunday, October 1, 2017, the Session of First Presbyterian Church unanimously approved the recommendation of the Minister of Music Search Committee to engage Dr. John B. Salvesson of Bloomington, Minnesota as our new Minister of Music / Organist. Dr. Salvesson currently serves in a similar position at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bloomington, Minnesota and will begin his tenure with us at the beginning of 2018. Members of the Search Committee are: Don White, chair; Vance Booher, Heather Crowe, Robin Jennings, Lee Matchett, Wendy McCann, Jeff Ruff and Dr. Martin Ankrum, ex officio.



**BEAR-Y CHRISTMAS** – The Board of Deacons Bear-y Christmas tree will be set up in the Dining Room during coffee hour. Bears will be available Sundays, November 26 and December 3. This year we will be helping Early Head Start families. Please come to coffee hour to choose your bear. You will need to bring your bear to the table to receive pertinent information to help you make your gift selection. Please make sure you sign the bear out so we know who has what child. **This year, we are asking each family to limit themselves to one child to**

**assist. We have only 43 children to provide for this year.** The amount you spend is entirely up to you. Gifts must be returned, **unwrapped**, and in a gift bag no later than Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Please staple your card onto your gift bag when returning your gift and place under the Christmas tree. Thank you for your continuous support in making a difference. Contact Deane Markle with any questions.

### Leadership Retreat Set for Saturday, January 13, 2018

The annual joint meeting of our Session and the Board of Deacons will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2018 from 9 a.m. – 12:00 noon. If you are a member of either board, please mark your calendars and plan to be present for this all-important gathering to plan for the coming year.



## Advent 2017 The Present and Coming King



**Join with your church family in preparing the way for Christ!**

### Sundays in Advent & Christmas Eve:

- December 3 – 10:00 a.m.** *“The Present and Coming King”*  
Communion Service (Dec. 3)  
Dr. Martin Ankrum preaching
- December 10 – 10 a.m.** *“Signs of the Kingdom”*  
Rev. Nicole Atkinson preaching
- December 17 - 10:00 a.m.** *“The Ministry of Jesus Christ”*  
Dr. Martin Ankrum preaching
- December 24 – 10:00 a.m.** *“The Night Before Christmas”*  
5:00 p.m. Children’s Service in the Sanctuary  
9:00 p.m. Communion Service in the Memorial Chapel  
11:00 p.m. The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols

### 3 Wednesdays –Dec. 6, 13 & 20 – 7 p.m. An Advent Series

Join us for a brief half-hour worship service for the Wednesdays of Advent in our Memorial Chapel. Guest musicians will bring their gifts and talents to accent the reading and preaching of the Advent texts and the prayers of the hopeful people of God. Take some time for meditation during this busy Advent season!

### “The Present & Coming King” - 2017 Advent Devotional

Each Advent season, Dr. Ankrum produces a daily devotional to assist the congregation in our observation of this holy time. The devotional will be mailed in mid-November. If you don’t receive one by the start of Advent, please ask an usher in worship for one or call the church office.

## Y-FI TOPICS

Y-Fi is our Sunday evening gathering for youth 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. Parents volunteer to bring dinner for 5:30p.m., then our growing time begins at 6:30 p.m. Pick up is at

8 p. m. This fall, our theme is “How to be a Christian...and a teenager.”

11/19 – “You Chose...Poorly: What do I do when I make bad choices?”

11/26 – No Y-Fi

12/3 – “What if...?”

Exploring the ‘Road Not Taken’”

12/10 – No Y-Fi

12/17 – Y-Fi Christmas

Party & Redstone Caroling (2:30 @ Atkinson Home; 8pm Pick up @ Redstone Highlands)

## Y-Fi\* Connections

\*Youth of First Presbyterian



**TODAY! @ 11:30am – Soup Sale!** Support our youth missions team as they raise money for their summer 2018 missions trip! Yummy varieties of soup,

all homemade, just in time to give you a break before cooking a Thanksgiving feast! Each container is only \$5 and has enough for two servings (unless you’re super hungry!)

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 11:30am – Confirmation Class!** Bring your journals and come ready to talk about ‘Sin & Forgiveness!’

**December 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 1pm – Gaming Day w/Geoff!** Join the group in a mission-oriented quest with unusual characters and fun problems to solve! Bring your own snacks. (Game finishes at 5pm...before Y-Fi)

**December 10<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30am – Y-Fi Serves!** Second Sunday Supper! Come and help us out with making supper for

our community! Lunch is provided. Pick up is at 4:15pm.



**December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30am – Y-Fi Serves!** Westmoreland County Food Bank... We will be getting together to help assemble food boxes for area senior citizens at the food bank. Meet at church. Pick up is at 12pm.

**OUR CHILDREN WILL BE HAVING A GREAT TIME GROWING IN FAITH!** Sunday School is so much fun and we can’t wait to see you there! Our new rotation workshops start today with the story of “Ruth.” Our workshops will be with Mrs. Hresko (Art), Mrs. Hines (Science), and Mrs. Sherman (Games.)

	K-1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Science (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room #1)	Games (Fletcher Room)	Art (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Class #1)
Nov. 26 <sup>th</sup>	Art (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Class #1)	Science (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room #1)	Games (Fletcher Room)
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Games (Fletcher Room)	Art (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Class #1)	Science (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room #1)
Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup> “David”	Large Group	Gathering	Storytelling Room (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room #1)
Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Large Group	Christmas Games	Fletcher Room

**TODAY – SPECIAL BOOK STUDY** How do we respond as individuals and as the church to the issue of racism? Join us for a discussion of “*Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*” by Debby Irving. We’ll have a monthly discussion on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month (we will skip December). Lunch will be provided at each discussion. We’ll meet from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Sign up during coffee hour or email Niki at [revnicoleatkinson@gmail.com](mailto:revnicoleatkinson@gmail.com).



## STEPHEN MINISTRIES

Spiritual gifts are gifts to give away. God gives them to us, and we use them to serve others. How are you using your gifts right now? Are you looking for a new way to use them? If your spiritual gifts include one or more of the following—faith, mercy, teaching the faith, encouragement, or knowing—consider Stephen Ministry, our congregation’s one-to-one caregiving ministry. This may be just what you’ve been looking for! **Contact Rev. Niki Atkinson (724-832-0150) or Sandy Beauregard (724-834-2247) to learn more about this ministry.** Our first training class will start this spring!





## Growing in Faith: Adult Classes

**THE FAITH & FAMILY GROUP** meets on the third floor of the CE Wing at 9 a.m. every Sunday during the academic year (Sept. – May) to discuss topics related to our faith and family relationships. The group is composed of young couples, singles and any in the church who are concerned about issues related to faith and family.

**MARTIN LUTHER ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE - SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9 A.M.**  
**ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE** is a well-attended Sunday morning adult education class that seeks to provide a greater understanding of the Christian faith through examination of the life and thought of a great theologian. Our group has studied Dietrich Bonhoeffer, John Calvin and Jonathan Edwards in the past. Our class is led by Dr. Ankrum.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY MORNING @ 7:45 A.M.: THE MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY** meets at Eat'n Park on Rt. 30 E. for a time of fellowship, study and, of course, breakfast. We are currently studying the Gospel of Luke.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIBLE?**

**JOIN US MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27 AT 7 P.M.**

**THE ASSEMBLY ROOM**

Many folks have a rudimentary knowledge about the scriptures, but would like to have more familiarity with God's Word ... If this is something you are interested in, please join us each month for **THE BIBLICAL BOOK OF THE MONTH CLASS**. Each month we survey one of the books of the Bible under the leadership of Dr. Ankrum. It is always helpful to have read the book prior to the class, but it is not a necessity. **Gather with us on Monday, November 27 at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Room for our survey of Paul's Letter to the Philippians.**

**THE LAST TUESDAY BOOK CLUB** is open to anyone who loves literature and loves to talk about it a bit. We gather on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. and discuss a pre-selected novel. **We will meet on Tuesday, November 28 this month.** We meet in the PW Lounge (near the chapel) of our church and usually meet for only an hour. This month our selection is: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.

**AN OPEN INVITATION** to members and friends of First Presbyterian Church to join the Monday Morning Sewing Circle that meets at 9:00 a.m. Monday mornings in the Fletcher Room. You don't have to be an expert tailor to hem the cotton flannelette baby receiving blankets or to sew the "little dresses for Africa". If you are interested, please contact Sylvia Carlson at 724-755-2288 for information. Membership at this church is not a requirement. Anyone is welcome.

## CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

### HELP SPREAD THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

Celebrate Christ's birth by helping others; this is the true Christmas spirit! We need lots of assistance to make this occasion a special day. **If you would like to help make deliveries, help prepare food, help serve and/or help clean-up, please sign up today in coffee hour or call the church office (724.832.0150).** This year we are asking for monetary contributions towards the purchase of the foodstuffs necessary to provide a tasty and nourishing dinner for our take-out and dine-in guests on Christmas Day. So, you may place your contribution in the offering plate on Sunday mornings with a note on the memo line that this is a Christmas Dinner contribution. We will still need people to bake cakes and provide apples and oranges and wrapped hard candy for the table decorations to help create a festive atmosphere for the people who come to the church for dinner. Please sign up at the table during coffee hour.

#### Contribution List

Cakes – 18; Apples and oranges - enough to decorate 10 or more tables; 7 dozen candy canes and other wrapped hard candy; Shopping bags & boxes  
**Please bring your cakes to the church by Dec. 24 ... all other donations need to be dropped off by noon on Dec. 22. You can also help by signing some Christmas cards during the coffee hour after the service. These cards will be distributed with the dinners on Christmas.**

**REDSTONE HIGHLANDS CAROLING EVENT: SUNDAY, DEC. 17 – 6:30 P.M.**  
Calling all children, parents, families, singles, members and friends of First Presbyterian Church! Come on out Sunday, December 17 to Redstone Highlands and spread a little Christmas cheer! We'll be gathering at 6:15 p.m. to ready ourselves and the Miller Chapel at Redstone for the caroling party at 6:30 p.m. This is always a highlight of the Christmas season for us and for the residents of Redstone!

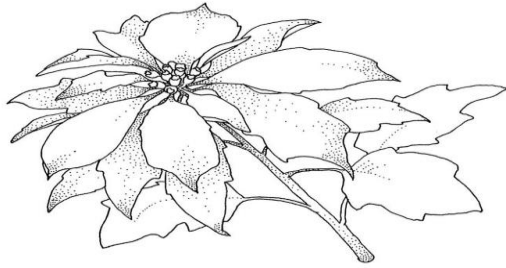
#### COMING IN 2018!!!

**JOHNSTOWN TOMAHAWKS GAME SUNDAY, MARCH 18 – 3:00 P.M.**

**SIGN UP SOON TO GUARANTEE A SEAT!!**

Celebrating its 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary season, the NAHL, boasting 24 teams across North America, prides itself on the development of student-athletes ages 16-20 with aspirations of advancing to collegiate and/or professional hockey. NHL players such as Patrick Kane, Phil Kessel, Brandon Saad and Ryan Miller came out of the NAHL. Join us for an afternoon of fun on Sunday, March 18 at 3:00 pm as the Johnstown Tomahawks take on the Northeast Generals (Hanover, MA)! We will meet at the church at 12:45pm, departing at 1:00pm for our trip to Johnstown. Tickets are \$12.00/EA. We'll take the church van and have overflow carpool to the Cambria County War Memorial Arena. Sign-up during coffee hour to reserve your tickets immediately (Chop, chop)!

# Christmas Poinsettia



twistynoodle.com

## Christmas Poinsettias For the Sanctuary!

### Prepaid Orders Due: Sunday, December 3, 2017

If you wish to place one or more plants in the Sanctuary for Christmas week services, including the Christmas Eve Festival of Lessons & Carols, please return this form to the church office with \$8 for each plant desired. You may, if you wish, place your poinsettias "In Memory Of" and/or "In Honor Of" loved ones. Deadline for orders is **Sunday, December 3, 2017.**

**Poinsettias may be picked up following the  
11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.**

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### POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias.

"In Memory of" \_\_\_\_\_

"In Honor of" \_\_\_\_\_



## 2017 Y-Fi Wreath Sale

**Help the Mission Fund of the First Presbyterian Church's Youth Group by purchasing a fragrant pine wreath.**

Our wreaths come in two sizes, each with two pinecones. Brighten a friend's, relative's or neighbor's life with a wreath this holiday season! They're ideal for businesses, too. **Wreaths will be available for pick-up at the church on Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-12:00pm, and Tuesday & Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am-4:00pm.**

*Use this form to place your prepaid order  
by November 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

*To ensure we receive your order on time, please do NOT put this form and payment in an offering envelope. Thank you!*

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I am excited to support the Youth of First Presbyterian Church of Greensburg! I understand that I must pick up my order on the above dates. I would like to order:

\_\_\_\_\_ of the 20-inch Wreath @ \$20.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of the 24-inch Wreath @ \$24.00 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Total due with order, by check or cash: \$\_\_\_\_\_

My name: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church - Youth Missions  
Thank you!**