

The Messenger

November 2014



The Presbyterian Church

Of Johnstown

Minister's Message



Psalm 100 reads, *“Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.”*(NIV)

Ultimately, the 100th Psalm was written for the people of Israel. Prior to this psalm, God had urged His people that, "When you come into the Promised Land and settle down in your warm homes and have plenty to eat – don't forget Me. Remember that I am the one who led you out of the wilderness and brought you into a land flowing with milk and honey." However, it takes only a brief review of the history of Israel's relationship to God to discover that it is one that is filled with the need for constant reminders – reminders about who the source of all things really is.

We are not so different from the people of Israel. We are about to enter into the last couple of months of the year. This is traditionally a time when we celebrate the holidays. Most of us realize that the basis for the holidays we celebrate are rooted in one form or another in a belief in God and his provision – not only his provision of food and shelter, but in sending Jesus Christ so that we might have life. Yet, with shopping, travel, holiday parties, and so on – we are easily distracted from spending any significant time being focused on God at all and certainly not on “his faithfulness through all generations” in meeting our needs. In so doing, we not only deprive ourselves of joy and gladness, but we fail to demonstrate the power of God in our lives to those around us.

Psalm 100 and this time of year is an opportunity for us to reorient our perspective. It is addressed to “all the earth” and “all generations.” It is a message to every person in every era and every stage of life. It is a message about where our priorities should rest. In just 5 short verses in this Psalm – 4 times the finger points squarely at the Lord – even using the word “LORD” as the one to whom and toward whom all attention should flow. Perhaps as we begin to enter into a season that usually drains our energy from so much “busy-ness,” we can pause and reflect on all that God has done for us and reorient our approach to the holidays through the lens of responding to his faithfulness and keeping the focus on Him.



A Note from the Clerk...

I Thessalonians 5:17-18 Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Session met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 in the conference room. Pastor Kevin opened the meeting with prayer.

Rhonda Piper, Chair of Christian Education, reports that Jr. Church (pre-school through grade 4) is fully staffed. They are studying Jesus' Disciples.

Jeanne Voigt, Chair of Congregational Care, plans to have the Mitten Tree drive for the Food Pantry begin in mid-November. Jeanne will be contacting elders to take communion to those having health or age issues that prevent them from attending church on Communion Sundays.

Fellowship Committee Chair, Karen Blair and her team have begun planning a Progressive Dinner scheduled for February 14, 2015. On January 15, 2015 there will be Father/kid bowling after church – pizza provided.

Chair of the Membership Committee, Cille Childers, has begun updating the membership list.

Bob Pardee, the Mission Committee chair, told us that Salvation Army asked to put a kettle outside the church – Session does not think this is something we want to do.

Rhonda Piper and the Nominating Committee are looking to replace two elders on Session. We thank Rhonda and Bob Pardee for their years of service. Please consider with an open heart if you are asked to serve in some capacity.

Personnel Committee met with Pastor Kevin and Marie Richards. We find that they are both exceeding our expectations in meeting their position requirements. We will meet with our organist and cleaning lady in the next month.

Property Chair, Lee Mansell has been working to keep the rental properties in good repair.

The Stewardship Committee Chair, Scott Lockwood has filled out the paperwork for a Presbytery loan for the Oregon St. property.

Jeremy Derenberger, and his team planned the Kirkin' o' the Tartan celebration on Reformation Sunday. What a thrill to hear those bagpipes and drum playing Amazing Grace.

Our next Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00PM. Leadership night will be Tuesday, November 18, 2014 at 7:00pm. Please plan to attend if you are already or want to be involved with one of the committees.

Thanking God for all of you, Diane Frazier



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 Sunday School 9:15am Adult SS and Confirmation Class 9:30 kids SS 10:30 Worship Service and communion	3 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	4 9am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 1pm Tabitha 5:30 TOPS	5	6	7	8
9 Sunday School 9:15am Adult SS and Confirmation Class 9:30 kids SS 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Chili lunch	10 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	11 9am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 1pm Tabitha 5:30 TOPS 7pm Session	12	13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:15am Adult SS and Confirmation Class 9:30 kids SS 10:30 Worship Service	17 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	18 9am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 1pm Tabitha 5:30 TOPS 7pm Leadership Night	19 1pm Elizabeth Circle @ the Hot Spot	20	21	22 Holiday Craft Show 10-4
23 Sunday School 9:15am Adult SS 9:30 kids SS 10:30 Worship Service & Confirmation	24 4pm Prayer Walk at the Bike Path *weather permitting	25 9am Tuesday Morning Bible Study 1pm Tabitha 5:30 TOPS	26	27	28	29
30 Sunday School 9:15am Adult SS 9:30 kids SS 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Street Church						

Volunteer Ministries for November

FLOWERS:

- 2nd Lewie & Alice Main in honor of Lincoln Daniel Derenberger's 1st birthday.
9th
16th John & Penny Replogle in honor of all children.
23rd Jim & Pat Blair and Mike & Barbara Derenburger thanking God for ALL of our many blessings.
30th Jim & Pat Blair to the Glory of God and for the Joys of Advent.

GREETERS:

- 2nd Kevin & Rhonda Piper
9th Jeanne Voigt
16th the Irwin Family
23rd Marie, Phoebe, & Charlie Richards
30th Jim & Pat Blair

ACOLYTES:

- 2nd Emma Kisner
9th Grace Almendinger
16th Megan Miller
23rd Charlie Richards
30th Emma Kisner

NURSERY:

- 2nd Angela Muller
9th Jamie Pardee
16th Phoebe Richards
23rd Mike & Sabrina Schirtzinger
30th

JUNIOR CHURCH:

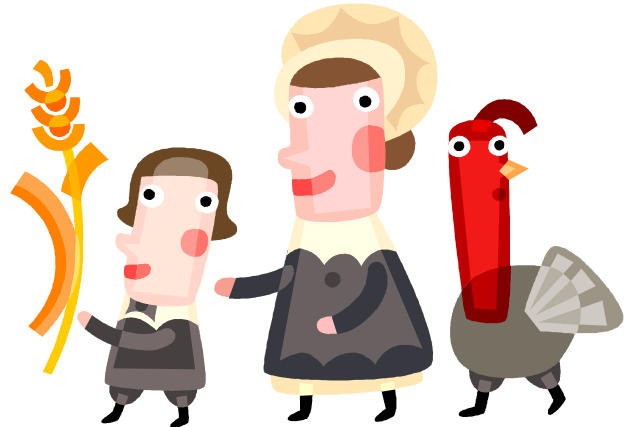
- 2nd Marie & Phoebe Richards
9th Kris Almendinger
16th Marilyn LeClair
23rd Kathy & Haley Trimble
30th

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

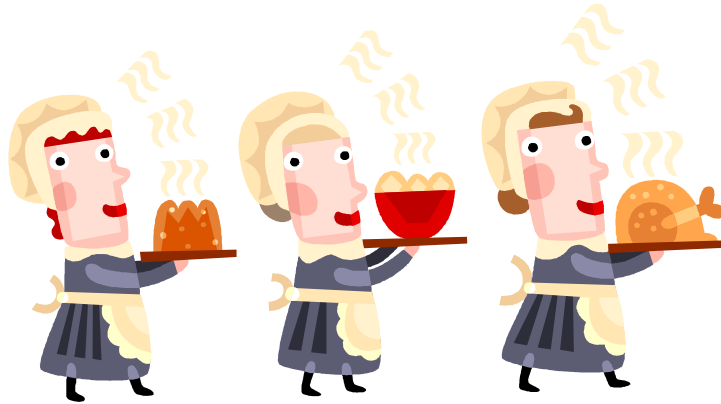
- 2nd Pastor Kevin
9th Barbara Derenburger
16th Marci Parpart
23rd Pat Blair
30th Jenny Cartwright

WORSHIP LEADER:

- 2nd Jeanne Voigt
9th Heather Mansell
16th Rhonda Piper
23rd Jeremy Derenberger
30th Cille Childers



Birthdays and Anniversaries



1 Lincoln Derenberger

3 Turney Williamson

5 Keymell Cartwright

6 Rhonda Piper

12 Alice Neibarger

14 Dan Wittmer

15 Dianne Alexander
Monica Piper

16 Molly McCartney
Kerry Fleming

18 Joan Crawford

21 Wyatt Schirtzinger

25 Nicholas Willeke

26 Lee & Karen Mansell
Mike & Laurie Mooney

Our Church Groups



Leadership Night

The Church Committees meet at the church once a month, at 7pm. There is a brief meeting in the sanctuary and then the committees split off into individual groups

We would love to see you join one of our committees; it is never too late to join.

Next meeting: November 18th at 7:00pm



ELIZABETH CIRCLE

This group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Hot Spot coffee house. The group has a short bible study and plenty of fellowship time. Come and see what we are all about!

Next meeting: November 19th at 1:00pm



Tabitha Sewing Circle

The sewing Circle meets each Tuesday at 1:00pm in our sewing room (off the Fellowship Hall). The group makes lap quilts and baby quilts, which are donated to local charities.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Our Tuesday morning Bible study group meets at the church on Tuesday from 9am-10am. We welcome any new faces.



Women's Association

The Women's Association is selling their cookbooks and brooms. The new price is \$5 for the cookbooks, and \$8 for the brooms. You can purchase these through Norma Johnson, or bring the money into the office during office hours.



PRAYER CHAIN

Please send all prayer chain requests to Carolyn Friedberg.

The email address is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com.

Church Happenings



Holiday Craft Show

The church will host a craft show on November 22nd from 10:00am to 4:00pm. We will have crafts, food, and local vendors. The cost to be a vendor is \$25/spot. For more information or to reserve a table please call the church during business hours, 967-7541.



Adult Choir

The adult choir has begun practice. Practices are held on Wednesdays from 7:45p8:30pm. We always welcome new members to our choir. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bob Pardee.



COME TO CHURCH - STAY FOR LUNCH

The JPC Women's Association will host a chili lunch on Sunday, November 9. We will provide chili, hotdogs, cookies, etc. This is a fundraiser for the women's association where we provide food for funerals and programs for JPC women like the Spring Fling, Fall Brunch and Angel Program. Your support and donation will be appreciated. No need to cook - just come eat and enjoy!



"Hanging of the Greens"

Please mark your calendar now for MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24 at 6:30 for our annual start of the Christmas Season as family and friends gather to decorate our church for the arrival of "The King Of Kings". We are depending on all of you to help, as it is a job that is only made easier by you helping! We need friends of all ages and some with some muscle too!

Don't just read this and forget. Mark your calendar now - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24 24 at 6:30 and plan to join in on the fun! Thank- you in advance. We are counting on you!



COMING IN MID-NOVEMBER
THE MITTEN TREE!



PRESCHOOL PONDERINGS

Looking To Reduce Your Taxes?

Did you know that as an IRS-recognized 501c3 not-for-profit tax exempt organization, donations made to the Johnstown Christian Preschool may entitle you to a deduction on your income taxes?

With recent mandates as to what and how the preschool must serve snacks to the students, this is an area that can put a strain on the school's budget. Gift cards to local food stores are an effective way for the school to make purchases for snacks, as they can be used when items are on sale.

Also, some employers have programs in place where they will match their employees' charitable contributions, and this is an additional way to assist the Johnstown Christian Preschool in the ministry they provide to the children and the families of the children that attend the preschool. As with any charitable donation, it is always best to consult a tax professional to confirm the deductibility of the donation.

Donations can be made through The Presbyterian Church of Johnstown (be sure to mark your check appropriately) or directly to the preschool. Questions can be directed to Jane Muller, Treasurer.



Operation Christmas Child

We will collect Christmas shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child again this year. Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, which is run by Franklin Graham. Since 1993, over 113 million children in 150 countries have had the opportunities to hear the Gospel through shoeboxes packed by people like you. In just the last five years, they are aware that over 1 million children prayed to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

There are pamphlets in the Narthex that share the details of what can and cannot be included in a shoebox. You may choose the age of the child and whether it should go to a girl or a boy. A donation of \$7 per box is requested to help mitigate the cost of shipping the boxes around the world. You may also choose to wrap your box if you'd like. Please be sure to put a rubber-band around your shoebox too.

Another option that has been offered the last few years is to print your label for the child off of the Samaritans Purse website. www.samaritanspurse.org. If you go this route to put a label on the box vs. writing one out from a pamphlet, you are supposed to receive an email about where your box was delivered.

There are also prayer bookmarks in the Narthex. Please take one and pray for this ministry. The collection date is November 16th. If you have any questions, please see Katie Miller. Thank you for your participation in this ministry!

Angels Retired

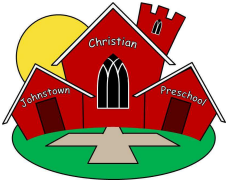


We are already planning for the Christmas season, which will be here before you know it. It is with great appreciation and regret that we are retiring our Christmas Angels as they have become too fragile. Please know we are researching new ideas for the front of our church that will be beautiful and easy to maintain and assemble. Look forward to some Christmas surprises!

Treasurer Position



We are happy to announce that Scott Kisner has agreed to assume the responsibility of the Treasurer position. Scott has an accounting background and is familiar with the accounting software that the church uses. A big thank you goes to Scott for volunteering to do this important position.



Preschool Thanksgiving Program

The children and preschool staff are busy preparing for the Thanksgiving Program on November 16th. The 3 & 4 year old classes will entertain their families at 2pm in the church sanctuary. The Pre-K classes will have a program at 4pm. Some of the songs will be “Jesus Loves You”, “Ten Little Turkeys”, “We are Thankful”, and “Turkey Turky”. Refreshments will be served immediately following the program by the JPC Mission Committee.

Food Pantry



The Food Pantry needs articles for the Thanksgiving boxes that they make for each family. They are in need of stuffing, cranberries, salad dressing, juice, and yams. The deadline for bringing the food into the church is Sunday November 9th. Anything that you can bring is very much appreciated.

Thank you,
Karen & George Dreisbach

Missed a sermon?



Were you traveling? Feeling ill? Or simply wanting to hear one of Pastor Kevin's sermons again? They are now being posted on the Presbyterian Church of Johnstown website. Simply:

1. Go to www.thejpc.org
2. Select the RESOURCE tab
3. Select the SERMONS tab and choose the sermon you want to hear.



These are a few pictures from the Kirkin' O' the Tartan service and potluck. More pictures may be found on our Facebook page.

1. Kevin and Jim wearing their colors.
2. Columbus Division of Fire Pipes and Drums
3. Jim & Lee presenting their tartans for blessing.





Notes and Thanks

Church Family,

Thank you so much for your involvement with the JDRF walk. Donations and prayers are much appreciated in that we raised our goal for the year. The weather was cold, but there was a great turn out for the event. I thank you all again for your donations and prayers, the kindness is extremely appreciated. I am so blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church family.

God bless,

Madison Ashbrook

Dear JPC Congregation,

I wanted to write a quick note to say thank you for the recognition and the gift for Pastor Appreciation Sunday. It was incredibly thoughtful and generous of you all, and I was very much surprised by it. I didn't realize that this day existed, and more than that, I (and my family) already feel very appreciated and welcomed into this church family. I continue to be amazed at the support and care that happens within this church, and I want you to know that I truly see the love and grace of God in all of you and in all that you do. I am very blessed that God called me to this place. So... on behalf of my family and me... once again - THANK YOU!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Kevin

To the youth that worked raking my leaves on Sunday,

I thank you for the excellent job of cleaning up my yard. The leaves gathered so nicely since it has not rained and packed them on the ground. It is so nice to have friends as they are the closest things to angels this side of heaven. I live next door to Don and Dolly Orr at 62 N Oregon Street.

Thank you so much,

Betty Disbennett

Thank You,

The leaf Army came!

They swooped in and they swooped out-

And the leaves were gone in two adjacent yards-

Thanks to the youth group!

Thank you, thank you!

From Dolly & Don Orr and their neighbor

Prayer Chain Requests for October 2014

JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com

CONTINUED PRAYERS

- Our Governmental Leaders.
- ISIL threat
- The Ebola outbreak in Africa

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISES

- Marilyn and Steve LeClair and Marilyn's son Eston Wenger will be going on their medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic on November 20 through November 26.

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

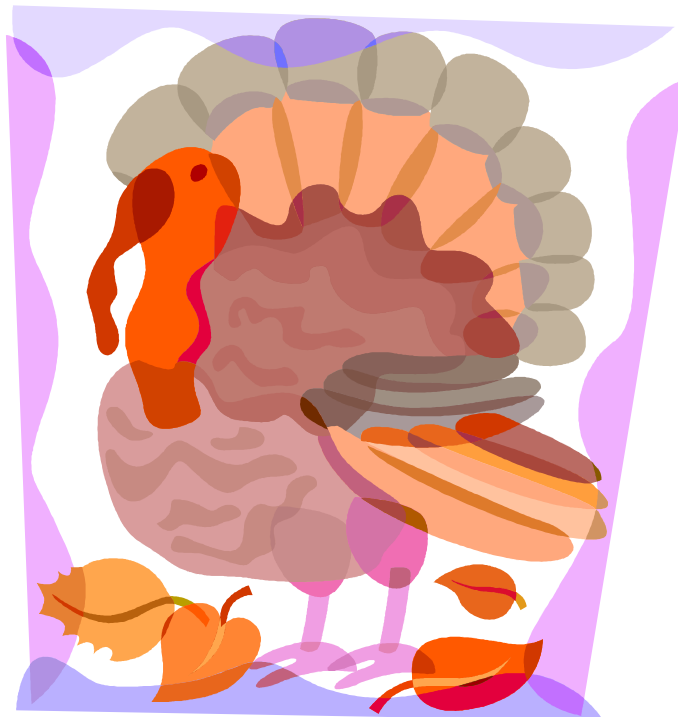
- Don Orr has had some surgeries for dermatological issues.
- Cathy Neff had surgery Sept 23 to repair an injury of her left ankle.
- Margaret Bobo, neighbor and friend of Maxinde Pardee, had a stroke July 26.
- Brian Eckstein, Brandon and Adam Eckstein's father is now home and progressing. He has returned to work.
- Stacey Harris, age 38, formerly of Johnstown, currently of North Carolina, has been diagnosed with Lyme Disease.
- Ron Goodman, Jane Muller's brother-in-law, has the latter stages of Parkinson's disease.
- Mike Robinson who is paralyzed from the waist down as a result of a tree falling on him.
- Maxine Pardee myasthenia gravis and extreme pain.
- Rev. Edward Carlson, Maxine Pardee's son-in-law, has serious medical issues.
- Megan Carlson, Maxine Pardee's granddaughter, has a work-related back injury.
- Margie Wheaten, Betty Ford's daughter, is in a nursing facility in Newark because of her Parkinson's.
- Barbara Haines, a former member of this church, has a serious autoimmune disorder. There has been some improvement.
- Norma Duncan needs continued prayer. Her conditions have been causing additional trouble. It has been gratifying to see her well enough to attend church on occasion.
- Margie Wheaten, Betty Ford's daughter, is in a nursing facility because of her Parkinson's.
- Gloria Miller, friend of Kaye Cook, has severe kidney disorder.
- Debbie Berona, daughter of Gloria Miller, has been experiencing severe pain and arthritis.
- Judy Schultz, Suzy Sayer's mother, recovering from neck and back surgery.
- Jeff Dunlap, son of Jeanette Dunlap, had surgery on his bowel October 23. He will be off work for 2 to 3 months.
- Mike Spangler, Marie Fleming's brother-in-law, has Stevens-Johnston Syndrome. It is a rare, serious skin disorder resulting from a reaction to a drug.
- Arika Sayer had another concussion the week of October 13.

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING OF CANCER:

- Victoria Boals, New Albany High student has been getting chemo treatments for a brain tumor. Her doctors have changed their minds and do not consider her terminal. In January she will have another MRI to decide whether or not to continue chemo treatments.
- Joe Urdock has colon cancer.
- Megan Johnson Cervi, daughter of Bill Johnson, is having treatment for two areas of melanoma cancer.
- Charles “Copper” Thacker has advanced lung cancer.
- Sharon Johnson, friend of Hazel Almendinger, went back into the hospital for a complete breast removal. Her daughter and granddaughter, both have cancer.
- Rod Lunt, friend of the Almendingers grandson Matt in Kansas, has melanoma
- Turney Williamson has chronic leukemia.
- Carol Holbrook, friend of Kaye Cook, has breast cancer. She has had surgery.
- Lea Ann Snyder, friend of Roger & Donna Heines, Barbara & Bill Mitchell, and Phyllis Kraner, has cancer throughout her body.

THOSE SHUT IN OR CONFINED TO THEIR HOMES:

- Roy H. Sarbaugh, Carol Hoff’s father
- Alice Neibarger, New Albany Gardens and Care Center, Columbus, OH 43230
- Arthur Miller, Kathy Trimble’s father, has dementia.
- Betty Ford, Presidential Center, 524 James Way, Marion, OH 43302
- Lawrence Bishop at Sharonbrooke Senior Living Center in Newark.
- Cecil and Maryann Grimes, brother and sister-in-law to Maxine Pardee, are having difficulty caring for each other. Maryann has a lung condition and Cecil has worsening Alzheimer’s disease.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Office hours & Contacts

Pastor Kevin will be in the office Monday through Thursday.

Marie's hours are Monday–Friday from 9am to Noon.

Our phone number is 967-7541

Pastor Kevin's email address is pastorkevin@thejpc.org

Our email is johnstownpres@gmail.com

Prayer Chain email is JPCPrayerRequest@hotmail.com

www.thejpc.org

We present to you many opportunities to get involved in the church life. There are sign-up sheets for ministry involvement that need volunteers in our foyer. Take a chance and sign up! You will be blessed. Here are the names to contact if you have any questions.

Flowers for Worship:	contact the Office
Greeters:	contact Karen Blair
Acolytes:	contact Marie Richards
Nursery & Jr. Church:	contact Rhonda Piper
Children's Message:	contact Marianne Derenberger
Special Music:	contact Marilyn LeClair
Property Maintenance:	contact Lee Mansell
Church Sign:	contact Marie Richards
Wedding Coordinator:	contact Sally Uhde

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY



If you signed up to place flowers in our chancel for a special remembrance on Sunday mornings, please don't forget to put your \$17.00 donation for cut flowers, or \$25.00 for Planters in an envelope marked "Flowers" and place it in the offertory plate on that Sunday, or before. We appreciate the beauty of your generous donation and hope to know your tender "remembrances" and make them as special to our church family as they are to you. You may take the flowers home after the Sunday morning service.

Finances

Monthly financial information may be picked up or viewed in the church office.

