

December 2012
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The Messenger December, 2012



The Presbyterian Church Of Johnstown

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

More than I can remember in recent times, the last couple of weeks seemed to have pushed some very important elements together demanding our attention. First of all, I am thinking of how important we have focused on the veterans lately and then secondly, arriving at Thanksgiving expressing our gratitude to the Lord for all He has given us in our faith.

In the first segment so many heroes come to mind, but the thing about them is, they do not want to be called heroes. So we will just remember and be grateful and call them fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers, uncles and aunts and so many other things.

Several of my brothers were involved in what was called the resistance to the German Nazi occupation of my county of birth, Denmark during WW2. One of them was recruited at the age of 13 and almost got caught and would have been executed for his involvement, but he managed to escape capture. Another brother was involved in blowing up railroad tracks so that the Germans could not get their train with Danish food to the battle front to feed their soldiers. Their experiences marked them for life, especially the 13 year old who never really recovered.

So we put aside time and remember that God's love heals and urges us forward towards things that will bring us through the pain to victory over the evil that tells that it is justified in breaking what is so precious to us all. We express our gratitude to the people, the heroes, and we thank God for the reality that all these men and women fought so that we can go about life in our daily routine.

Thanksgiving this year had in it this element of gifts given us, gifts that were not deserved but offered by the free and the brave who gave all they could. So celebrate the holiday with your family and enjoy. We are the fortunate ones and we know it.

God bless you all!

Pastor Oluf

A Note from the Clerk...



Luke 2:10-11 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good tidings of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

Session met on Tuesday, November 13, at 7pm in the Conference Room. Pastor Oluf opened the meeting with the reading of a passage from Quiet Moments and a prayer. We're very glad that Pastor Oluf is recovering from shingles and back at work.

Good news! Jim Blair made a presentation to the Session regarding the completion of the basement renovation project. We thank Jim for all the work he has put into the planning and development of this project. Session voted to approve the funds to go ahead with Phase 1 of the project, which will put up walls, complete wiring and take the basement to the point where it can be used. Phase 2 will be the finishing of the area and will be completed as funds become available. Please support every effort to raise money to finish this project and give generously as you are able.

More good news! The Mission Study team has completed the Mission Study Report and it has been approved by the Committee on Ministry. Session has selected the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee, subject to approval by the congregation at the special Congregational Meeting on December 9.

Wishing you and yours all the blessings of this Christmas season, Diane Frazier

VOLUNTEER MINISTRIES FOR DECEMBER

POINSETTIAS DONATED BY:

The Miller Family in Honor of the Birth of Jesus.
Gregg, Barb, Jeremy, & David Butt in Memory of Mary K. Elizabeth Butt.
Gale & Brenda Schaile in Memory of parents; Hazel Chase, and Darrell & Virginia Blair.
The Cartwright Family in Honor of Family near and far.
Jim & Pat Blair in Honor of First Responders.
Mike & Barbara Derenburger in Honor of Our Parents and Grandparents.
Nancy Venard in Memory of Ed Venard.
Steven & Marilyn LeClair in Honor of Winifred LeClair, and in Memory of Jodie O'Dell.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Johnson To The Glory of God.
Don & Dolly Orr in Honor of Our Savior's Birth.
Ken & Jean Weaver in Memory of Carl & Lulu Weaver, and Carl & Ruth Walker.
The Mooney Family in Memory of Raymond Celmer and Clarence Stoneburner.
Scott & Linda Lockwood in Honor of the Birth of Jesus Christ Our Lord and Savior.
Carol Hoff in Honor of the Hoff Family in Valdosta, Georgia.
Kevin & Rhonda Piper in memory of Mildred Piper and John & Joyce Keeran.
Tom & Margaret Jolley in memory of their loved ones.
The Muller Family to the glory of our lord Jesus.
Norma Duncan & Family in memory of John Duncan.
Carolyn Whitesel in memory of Lowell Whitesel and Betty Whitesel.
The Voigt Family in memory of Betty & Bob Doughten.
Alice & Lewie Main in memory of loved ones.
Oluf & Betty Kongshaug in memory of Carl & Estrid Kongshaug and in memory of Keith & Marian Irwin.

ACOLYTES

December 2 nd	Phoebe Richards
December 9 th	Moriah Fleming
December 16 th	Phoebe Richards
December 23 rd	Wesley Cox
December 24 th early	Orion & Lyra Irwin
December 24 th late	Heather & David Mansell
December 30 th	Sidney Blair

WORSHIP LEADERS

December 2 nd	Linda Lockwood
December 9 th	teen leader
December 16 th	Jeanne Voigt
December 23 rd	Karen Blair
December 30 th	Diane Frazier

GREETERS

December 2 nd	The Richards Family
December 9 th	The Fleming Family
December 16 th	Bob & Micki Maibach
December 23 rd	The Cox Family
December 24 th early	The Cox Family
December 24 th late	The Mosely Family
December 30 th	open

NURSERY

December 2 nd	Haley Trimble
December 9 th	Gale Schaile
December 16 th	Madison Blair
December 23 rd	Adeline Almendinger
December 24 th early	open-see Rhonda if interested
December 24 th late	nursery will not be provided
December 30 th	open

JR. CHURCH

December 2 nd	Carrie Almendinger
December 9 th	
December 16 th	No Jr. Church/Xmas program
December 23 rd	Dani Cox
December 30 th	

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

December 2 nd	Rev. Oluf
December 9 th	Rev. Oluf
December 16 th	Rev. Oluf
December 23 rd	Rev. Oluf
December 30 th	Rev. Oluf

KIDS PAGE

Jr Choir Program:

The Jr. Choir will perform their Christmas Program for you at Sunday Service on December 16th. Dress Rehearsal will be on Friday December 14th.

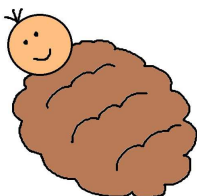
Youth Group Activities:

December 2nd from 4-9-Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo. Meet at the church and bring \$\$ for dinner.
December 16th from 6pm-8pm-Christmas Party for both middle and highschool groups.

Bible Verse:

"And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11

Baby Jesus In A Blanket



Baby Jesus In A Blanket

Ingredients:

Croissants
Hot Dogs
Cheese

Take the raw croissants and unfold it.
Put some cheese and half a hot dog on it.
Cook it according to the croissant baking time.

Now you have baby Jesus in a blanket!

Christmas Quiz

Who was baby Jesus Mom & Dad?

Who came to Mary and told her that she would have a son? _____

What gifts did the wise men bring?

Baby Jesus was born in a _____.

What did the wise men follow to get to baby Jesus?

Why did baby Jesus come into the world?





Birthdays and Anniversaries in December

2 nd	Chuck Booher	18 th	Gale Schaile
5 th	Sabrina Schirtzinger Delaney Childers Troy Willeke	20 th	Karen Mansell John Alexander Jim Frazier Brenda Schaile
9 th	Tami Ashbrook		Jim & Diane Frazier
11 th	Troy & Crissy Willeke	23 rd	Sharon Jones
12 th	Jacob Hill Bob Maibach	24 th	Roy & Mona Hilderman
14 th	Barbara Jo Sole	27 th	Scott Lockwood Madison Neff
16 th	Austin Alexander	30 th	Adeline Almendinger Kim Hill
17 th	Ray & Susie Speck		

HAPPY YOU DAY!!!

The Fellowship Committee is beginning Happy You Day.

After church once a month we will be celebrating our members birthdays and anniversaries.

We will celebrate with cookies and lemonade for **all**.

We will have a special table just for our celebrants with cupcakes just for them.

December's Happy You Day will be on December 16th.

December 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Communion Sunday 4pm Youth Group- Columbus zoo	3 4pm Prayer Walk	4 9am Bible Study 1pm Tabitha Circle 5:30 TOPS	5 5:15 Jr. Choir & Bells 7:30 Adult Choir	6 6:30pm Angel Program 	7	8
9 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service and Kisner baptism	10 4pm Prayer Walk	11 9am Bible Study 1pm Tabitha Circle 5:30 TOPS 7:15 Session Mtg	12 5:15 Jr. Choir/Bells 7:30 Adult choir	13 6pm Girl Scouts	14 Jr. Choir dress rehearsal	15
16 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service and Jr. Choir Christmas program 	17 4pm Prayer Walk 6-7:30 Girl Scouts 7pm Fellowship Committee Mtg	18 9am Bible Study 1pm Tabitha Circle 5:30pm TOPS	19 1pm Elizabeth Circle @ Hot Spot 5:15 Jr. Choir & Bells 7:30 Adult Choir	20 6pm Girl Scouts	21 6pm Cookie Assembly	22
23 9:15am Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	24 4pm Prayer Walk 7pm Worship Service 11pm Worship Service & Communion	25 Christmas Day 	26 5:15 Jr. Choir & Bells 7:30 Adult Choir	27	28	29 Progressive Dinner 6pm-?
30	31					

Our Church Groups



Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, at 7pm in the choir room. We would love to see you there. It is never too late to join this committee!!!

Here are a few of our upcoming events:

- November 11th is Happy You Day.
- November 30th is the Women of Faith Christmas event here at the church. 6:30pm-10:30pm
- Keep the date!!! December 29th we are having a progressive dinner.

Tabitha Circle



Tabitha Circle is continuing to meet on Tuesdays **at 1:00 PM to 2:45 PM**. It is a time of working together, making lap covers, baby quilts, cutting out squares. So if you can use a scissor, tie a knot, use a sewing machine or just need some extra fellowship you are welcome to come. We have lunch together once a month. Please come and see if this is a ministry in which you would like to get involved in.

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!

Christmas Cookies Needed

Your help is needed again this year in baking and donating 3 or 4 dozen cookies each. These cookies are needed for the prisoner ministry at the Licking County Jail. If you don't want to bake cookies but would like to help, you can donate money and we will get someone to bake them for you.



The cookies will be needed before 6pm on Friday, December 21st at the church. If you are free and can help with the assembling of the plates, your help would be appreciated.

There is a sign- up sheet in the narthex or you can call Norma Johnson.

Thanks again to those who have helped in the past!

The Elizabeth Circle

Tuesday Morning Bible Study



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

Youth Group

December 2nd 4:00-9:00pm Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo. Meet at the church bring \$\$ for dinner.

December 16th 6:00-8:00pm Christmas party for both middle school and high school at the church.

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.

Church Happenings

Progressive Dinner



The Fellowship Committee is putting on a Progressive Dinner on December 29th. We will go to four different homes. Each of these homes will provide one course of the dinner.

- Chris & Karen Blair's home with appetizers
- Bob & Micki Maibach's home for soup and salad
- Melanie Main hosting at Lewie & Alice Main's home for the main dish
- Darren & Marie Richards' home for drinks and dessert

We will have more information and times as this nears and there will be an RSVP date of December 9th. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board outside the church office under Sign-up opportunities. The teens will provide free babysitting at the church during this event.



ANGEL PROGRAM COMING DECEMBER 6, 2012 6:30P.M. MUSIC BY APOGEE

Our Angel Program is for the women of our church and their friends. Every December women gather to celebrate their faith and the advent season. Save the date for a most inspirational evening!



Youth Group News

The Youth Group has their delicious candy for sale. Candy can be purchased before or after Sunday service or by stopping in the church office during regular hours.

Each bag is \$5 and we have:

white chocolate with peanut
white chocolate with pretzel
chocolate with peanut
chocolate with pretzel
chocolate with coconut
chocolate with raisin

Thank you to everyone who helped us make this delicious candy! We had about 40 kids and adults this year.

Mission Opportunity

Looking to renew your spirit? Want to see more of the world? Love getting exotic vaccines? Consider a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. The dates have been set for April 13-20, 2013, and the cost is \$900. Please contact Lee Mansell or Melanie Main soon if you are interested.

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS



The Christmas parties for the school will be held on December 17th and 18th. Christmas break will be December 19th-January 2nd. School resumes on January 3rd. The JCP follows the Johnstown school calendar.

The Pre-School Board is asking for your help in alleviating some of their costs. The Pre-School is asking for non-perishable items and basic school supplies. These items can be purchased and returned to the box outside the Pre-School office. Thank you for your help!!!

Multi-grain Cheerios	Animal crackers	Lucky Charms
Cheez-it crackers	Regular Graham Crackers	100% apple juice
Whole grain goldfish	Cheese crackers with peanut butter	
Strawberry frosted Mini Wheats		
Blueberry frosted Mini Wheats	Chocolate chip granola bars	Bag pretzels
Jar regular apple sauce	Cinnamon Toast Crunch	Box Tissues
Ream copy paper	Chips Ahoy Chocolate Chip cookies (Other brands OK)	

To Our Church Family,

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year. You're in our thoughts and prayers. I greatly appreciated the opportunity to 'break in' the new organ and play for two services. It's hard to believe that 52 years ago I started playing on the Hammond Organ, never imagining I would have the privilege of playing the replacement.

See you in the spring,
God Bless,
John and Margie



CHOIR NOTES

The Adult Choir would like to welcome Dick Uhde back. We love having new and returning members!
It is never too late to join us. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm at the church.

College Students

The High School Sunday School class would like to invite any returning college students to join the class on Sundays mornings. Come and share your college experiences with us.

Food Pantry

On December 23rd we ask that you celebrate Jesus Birthday by bringing a canned item and placing it under our tree. We will be giving our Sunday-School classes small bags to decorate and fill. Thank you for all of your donations to the food pantry!

Understanding Our Church Finances #3

In this monthly article on understanding our church finances, I am going to touch on how to interpret all of the numbers you see in the weekly bulletin.

In the weekly bulletin, you will see a financial status report on the Current fund that looks something like this.

Weekly Income

Week of October 7, 2012	\$5,466.90
Needed	\$3,340.73

Operating Funds Through August 31, 2012

Budget	\$110,728.00
As of January 1, 2012	-\$7,625.71
Income	\$108,371.08
Expenses	\$96,937.20
Available Funds	\$3,808.17

The Weekly Income shows that on October 7, your donations for the Current Fund totaled \$5,466.90. This compares to an average weekly need of \$3,340.73 which is determined by dividing the annual budget by 52 weeks in the year. On October 7, you donated more than our average weekly need. On other weeks, you may have donated less than our average need. The weekly donation amount will vary significantly depending on when members who give once a month turn in their donation and when other monthly income is received such as rent from the two tenants.

The Operating Funds through August 31, 2012 is a more accurate measure of our financial status, but it does not come as frequently and can lag by 1 to 1 ½ months depending on when our Treasurer can complete the monthly reports. For example, we have the report for the end of August on October 7 because it is too soon for the September report to be ready.

The budget of \$110,728.00 represents the average need from January 1 through August 31 based on the budget. A more accurate measure of our status is to look at the Available Funds which is reported as \$3,808.17 for the end of August. When this number is positive, we have received more money that we have spent so far this year. The \$3,808.17 is determined by adding the total donations (\$108,371.08) to our status at the beginning of the year (-\$7,625.71) which equals \$100,745.37. We then subtract our expenses so far this year (\$96,937.20) to get the Available Funds amount of \$3,808.17. We must keep in mind that our expenses can vary each month just as our donations can vary each month. This is the reason you may see we have more money in the Current Fund than needed on one month and less money than needed on the next month. Your Stewardship Committee monitors these changes and tracks this against previous years to project our status towards the end of the year. If we become concerned that your donations will not meet our needs by a large amount, we come before you to ask for your additional support. Earlier this year, we did ask for additional support and you responded generously. Thank you. We want to be able to do God's work without having to limit what we can do because of unavailable funds.

I hope this gives you a better understanding of the numbers you see in the bulletin. As always, I extend a standing invitation to meet with you if you wish to dig deeper into the Church's finances.

Your Servant, Scott Lockwood

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Office hours & Contacts

Pastor Oluf's hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9am to 2pm

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

Our phone number is 967-7541

Pastor Oluf's email address is pastor_oluf@thejpc.org

Our email is johnstownpres@gmail.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
Ushers:	contact John Alexander
Nursery & Jr. Church:	contact Rhonda Piper
Children's Message:	contact Marianne Derenberger
Special Music:	contact Norma Clark
Property Maintenance:	contact Ray Speck
Church Sign:	contact Tami Ashbrook
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.

Mission Statement Committee Members:

Karen Blair 614-562-7055 the5blairs@embarqmail.com
Jenny Cartwright 614-746-3885 jcartwright@johnstown.k12.oh.us
Jim Frazier 740-967-9192 frazja45@hotmail.com
Linda Lockwood 740-967-3487 scottnlinda@columbus.rr.com
Melanie Main 614-395-8059 mmmain@hotmail.com
Lee Mansell 614-582-3266 manselloh5@earthlink.net
Jane Muller 740-967-7391 jane@mullerpipeorgan.com
Alison Speck 740-404-5719 speck.alison@gmail.com
Mark Trimble 740-924-3132 kmtrim@earthlink.net
Jeanne Voigt 740-967-8968 voigt11@embarqmail.com

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS AND UPDATES FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2012

THOSE SUFFERING LOSS:

Margaret Newell, Kevin and Dale Piper's aunt passed away. Margaret lived in Massachusetts with her family. Pray for peace and comfort for her entire family.

Kathy Stafford's brother passed away. Pray for the family as they travel to NY for the funeral, and for their comfort.

JOYS/THANKSGIVINGS/SUPPORT:

Wyatt Schirtzinger was born 11/21 at 5:02 am. He weighed 8 lb. 1 oz. and 21 inches long. Congrats to Sabrina and Mike and grandparents Kevin and Rhonda Piper.

PRAYERS FOR ILLNESS, SURGERY, EMERGENCIES:

Pastor Oluf needs continue prayers of healing as he recovers from the painful bout of shingles.

Greg Miller, cousin of Linda Lockwood, has returned home from the nursing facility. Greg contracted pneumonia around Christmas last year, hospitalized & contracted MRSA in his lungs. He is on oxygen and using a walker, this is very good news for him and for his family.

Betty Ford continues her recovery from hip replacement surgery. She has returned home.

Scott Lockwood was to have surgery 11/13 to repair his lumbar spine and fuse 3 vertebrae. The surgery was postponed and is in the process of being rescheduled. Please continue prayers for him and Linda as he awaits surgery.

Cloetta Lockwood, mother of Scott, has recovered from her cold/virus and is doing well as can be expected.

Alice Neibarger is improving from her long bout with pneumonia. She is in good spirits but still in the nursing care area of New Albany Gardens rather than in her own small apartment there.

Ruth Alexander, John's mother, has heart problems & underwent surgery (9/25) and is now healing nicely. She is 90 years of age and healing is slower.

Jim Weeks, brother of a friend of Alice Main, who has battled prostate cancer in the past and now has bladder cancer.

The tumor has been removed but he is facing more surgery. Pray for healing.

Margaret and Tom Jolley are both slowly improving at home. Margaret has now been able to get out of the house.

Please continue to pray for their health.

Norma Duncan, is suffering from multiple illnesses. Pray for the Lord's guidance in some medical decisions she is facing.

Amy Joyce, Katie Miller's sister-in-law's sister. When they removed her spleen, it was the size of a football. It was confirmed that Amy has large diffuse b-cell lymphoma – stage 4. She has begun chemotherapy. Please continue to pray for her strength and healing.

Dan Thompson of Alexandria, a friend of the Alexander's, was cutting a tree and was hit by a branch and fell. He underwent brain surgery and has a 50% chance of survival. His jugular vein was nicked and he is at great risk for a stroke and heart attack. He is 36 and has small children and a wife. Pray for his family as they will need much support during the coming days and months.

Jim Kissel, Jamie Pardee's father is suffering from cancer. He has been put under Hospice care. Pray for the peace of the Lord to be with him and Jamie, Bob, Annika, and the entire Kissel family.

Brenda Schaile, her heart is in atrial fibrillation and she is in the hospital. Pray that her medicine works and she is able to return home soon.

Haley Trimble had surgery for acute appendicitis. The surgery went well and she is home doing well.

THOSE SHUT IN OR CONFINED TO THEIR HOMES:

Roy H. Sarbaugh

Alice Neibarger

Betty Ford

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Norma Duncan - multiple health issues

Ron Goodman (brother-in-law to Jane Muller)

Katherine Kissel, grandmother of Jaime Pardee

Steve Miles (friend of the Almendinger's)

Gary Weaver (Ken Weaver's brother)

John Dalton, Northridge parent

Ellen Howell (sister of Hazel Almendinger)

Jane, Aunt of Susie Speck, stroke

Mike Robison, paralyzed from the waist down.

CONTINUE PRAYERS FOR HEALING OF CANCER:

Stacy Sayer

Susie Harrison (Aunt to Dani Cox)

Bob Thomas (of Johnstown)

Northridge resident, Val Kauahi

Colton Zigo, Northridge HS Senior

Carol Stires

Jim Kissel, Jamie Pardee's Father, Stage 4

Amy Williams (Charlie Parker's daughter)

Marilyn Parker (needs recurrent checkups)

Betty Scully (friend of the Weaver's)

Mary Bowles

Kathy, Roger & Carl -- Susie Speck's cousins

Submitted by Rhonda Piper

Hello!

The Presbyterian Church of Johnstown is on-line at the jpc.org. Come see what is happening by checking out our website.

Our church newsletter will now be available to you on our web-page. We will also be sending our newsletter by e-mail beginning in January. By doing this we will be able to reach out to more of our community and save our church financially.

We want to stay in touch, so please send the church office your e-mail address if we do not have it. We are aware that there are a few of you who do not have e-mail, so to continue receiving our newsletter by US mail, please contact the office. We can be reached at johnstownpres@gmail.com, or at (740)967-7541.