



## Prayers

*Prayers of thanksgiving for God's good gifts to us and great mercy for us.*

**Healing prayers** for Mileigh Hall, Veda Stoy, Pat Wiederaenders and Peter Perme.

**Prayers** for those who mourn, those who are homeless, and those who are unemployed, sick and discouraged.

**Prayers** for our Preschool staff and families.

**Prayers** for the missions we support locally and around the world.

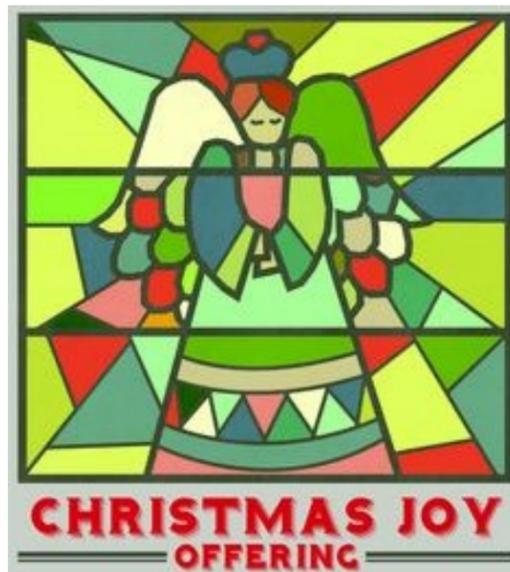
- \* Todd and Julie Hendry-Brazil
- \* Rivers of the World
- \* PCUSA World Missions
- \* Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
- \* Heartland Presbyterian Center/Camp
- \* Heartland Presbytery
- \* City Union Mission
- \* Kansas City Rescue Mission



**Ward Parkway Presbyterian Church**  
7406 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, Mo 64114  
Phone: 816-361-2200  
[www.wppresbyterian.org](http://www.wppresbyterian.org)

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## Joy Gift Offering



*Thank you to all who contributed to this year's Joy Gift offering. Our church raised \$409.29 to benefit Presbyterian clergy in crisis situations and racial/ethnic students at PCUSA colleges.*



# Ward Press

*Glorify God & Grow Disciples & Go Serve*

January 2014

### *Reflections from Pastor Connie*

Dear friends,

Lately, I've thought a lot about legacy. Advent for me was bookended by two major life events: the death of my father in mid-December and the baptism of little Maggie King at the end of the month. Both events were family and community gatherings—a time when those who needed to be there dropped everything to play their part in a milestone event. Both were reminders that each of us leaves a legacy to those who come after us. Each of us leaves a unique imprint on the world.

Every Thursday morning for more than 20 years, my father attended a Men's Prayer Breakfast at his Presbyterian church in Columbus, Georgia. Many of these men have been faithful to this group for a long time, so they are bonded to one another in ways not visible to the eye. On the Thursday morning before he died, my father attended his last Men's Prayer Breakfast. The speaker that day just happened to be a professor from my seminary. My professor is a man of intellect, wit and a radiant faith. That day, he spoke on leaving a legacy of faith. Knowing that my father was nearing the end of his life on earth, I prayed that he would receive a special blessing that morning—a reminder of God's great love for him.

After I returned to Kansas City, I wrote my professor to tell him that my father was present at the prayer breakfast just before he died. Here is part of his response to me:

"I remember your father well. We not only sat together, I prayed for him at the table before the program and my talk began. I knew he was sick but he was not complaining at all. No doubt it was the effect of your prayers that I sensed the Holy Spirit nudging me to pray for him. He is totally healed and in glory now. But you grieve, yet not like those who have no hope."

What a great reminder that God loves us, God hears us, and God cares for us all of the time. I am grateful for the legacy of faith, hope and perseverance I have received. I pray that each of you, no matter what you stage of life, will be bearers of hope and faith in the lives of others.

God's peace be with you in the new year.  
Connie

**Sunday Worship, 10:30am**  
**Christian Education, 9:30am**

**Office Hours M-Thurs 9am-1pm**  
**Friday 8-12pm**  
**816.361.2200**

**Email: [office@wppresbyterian.org](mailto:office@wppresbyterian.org)**

### **Church Staff**

**Pastor, Connie Happell**  
**Office Administrator, Tina Hill**  
**Choir Director, Joseph Hill**  
**Organist, Arthur Rinehart**  
**Accountant,**  
Ruth Meyers-Melching  
**Custodian, Scott Curry**  
**Preschool Directors, 816.361.2201**  
Kathy Montgomery  
Kim Manford

### **Our Officers**

#### Elders

**Worship: Steve Guthrie**  
**Fellowship & Hospitality:**  
Lynne Crossette  
**Mission and Stewardship:**  
Jim Durig  
**Personnel & Administration:**  
Steve Nelson  
**At Large: Diana Justus**  
**Operations: Bob Liepsner**  
**Clerk of Session: Mardy Cottrell**

#### Deacons

Jim Kurtz, Bob Rohlfing,  
Jane Coleman,  
Rosemary McDanel  
& Janet North

#### Trustees

Marlene Durig, James Lusk  
Mike Lochmann-Treasurer

## Preschool News



We had a wonderful time during our Christmas Program on December 18th. Listening to children sing is one of the many joys of Christmas! We want to thank all of the families and friends who attended and also thank the parents who provided beautiful Christmas cookies for our reception after the program.

During the month of December, our families donated new hats, underwear, gloves, mittens and socks to Cross Lines. We decorated a Christmas tree in the preschool office with these gifts and then delivered them after our program. We appreciate the all of the love and generosity from our parents.

Preschool resumes on January 6th and later that week, we will have a visit from "Laughing Matters" (mime, juggling, and other nonsense!). Their program is so much fun and very entertaining for our preschoolers.

We will host two Open Houses for prospective preschool families: January 14th and 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. If you know of a family looking for a Christian preschool experience, please let them know or have them call our office.

Enrollment for the 2014-2015 preschool year begins on January 26th & 27th for children of Ward Parkway Church families. We will enroll current families on February 3rd and 4th and then new families on February 10th & 11th.

There will be no school on Monday, January 20th, due to the observance of Martin Luther King's birthday. Our Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled during the last week of January.

**Happy New Year!** *Kim and Kathy*

## New Sermon Series



### Beginning January 12

Jesus said that we bring glory to God when our lives bear the fruit of faithful discipleship (John 15:8). In this sermon series, we will consider different ways that God calls us to be fruitful and what that might look like in our church and our lives today.



Ann Butler January 1  
Drew Smith January 3  
Steve Ferris January 8  
Frank Riley January 9  
Evan North January 12  
Robert Scott January 13  
James Lusk January 16  
Emily Box January 20  
Alex Happell January 23  
Wilma Holmes January 25  
Pat Wiederaenders January 25  
Emme Stoy January 25  
Tim Boles January 27  
Anna Leach January 28  
Ashlea Wirken January 29  
Milton Clarke January 31

## Adult Bible Study

### Cornerstone Adult Bible Study-Sundays at 9:25 am in Room 2

Beginning in January, the Cornerstone group will be taking an in-depth look at the *Gospel According to Luke*. Sometime in the first century, Luke (not one of the original disciples) decided to check into these stories of Jesus and to report them accurately. Come hear what he found out and see what it means for you today! Questions? Contact Mike Montgomery at 913-341-5694 or [p51monty@everestkc.net](mailto:p51monty@everestkc.net) or Karen Wiederaenders at 913-236-8976 or [kwiederaenders@att.net](mailto:kwiederaenders@att.net).



### *Ward Parkway Presbyterian Church Dinner for The Kansas City Rescue Mission*

We are cooking dinner for the guests at the Kansas City Rescue Mission on January 14, 2014. We need six volunteers to cook Chili Mac at home. The church will do the shopping and supply the ingredients. No experience necessary. No creativity required. Diners, Drive Ins and Dives will not be judging your work. The simple recipe will be supplied by the church. We will combine the chili and serve the guests at the Kansas City Rescue Mission on Tuesday, January 14, 2014. We will meet at the church at 3:00 pm, car pool to the mission, heat the food, prepare a salad and feed the hungry. Our inter denominational exchange observer Wata Chufil Lfff, who works with a Mr. S. Claus, a representative of the NSA (National Santa Administration) has requested that he be fully informed as to all who are helping out in this project. Apparently he is making a list. He regrets that he is under strict orders not to disclose the purpose of the aforesaid list at this time.) Contact Harriett Plowman at 816-753-4955 or [harplowman@gmail.com](mailto:harplowman@gmail.com).

## 2013 What a Year!

Our new organist, Arthur Rinehart, came to us from Shawnee Presbyterian Church in January. We are blessed by our musicians in Sunday worship and at special times like Good Friday, Easter and the Christmas Cantata.

We received eight new members in 2013 – Arthur and Carmen Rinehart, Martha Nell Guisinger, Warren Bell, Emily Lantz, Doris Bowman and Nick and Lara King. Margaret Kathrina (Maggie) King was baptized in December.

On Youth Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, our children and youth led the whole worship service and graduates Ben Rucker, Grace Guthrie, and Charlie Crossette and their families were recognized.

Youth@wppc, led by Candis Lochmann, Sarah Guthrie and Sean Stoy, met two Sunday evenings a month. Our children are growing in faith and in number.

Emme and Quinn Stoy, Katarina and Ben Hill, Emma Peck, and Jace Smith attended camp at Heartland Presbyterian Center in Parkville, MO. Summer camp is always a time of growth and fun. They all came home with new knowledge about their faith, loads of dirty clothes and wide smiles on their faces!

Twenty two children attended Vacation Bible School in July. We are grateful for the energy and efforts of 23 volunteers who made VBS a great success.

An Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk or Treat, the Turkey Bowl and lots of fellowship events kept us busy and connected this year. Oh, how we love to eat!! We owe great thanks to Lynne Crossette and her hospitality committee.

Thanks to many members and friends who contributed and to Bob Liepsner who chaired the Capital Campaign, the replacement of the HVAC system in the education wing became a reality.

Worship attendance remained stable. (I did the math and we have had average attendance of 52 worshipers.) Now that's not how many people we can get in the sanctuary so we will work to increase that number in 2014!! Let's invite family members, friends and neighbors to join us, okay?

Planned mission giving in 2013 was \$10,000. Beyond planned mission giving we also contribute to the denomination's One Great Hour of Sharing and the Joy Gift.

Now we move forward looking to 2014. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

*Mardy Cottrell*