Trunk or Treat!

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An Early American Christmas Celebration!
Presented by the Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra

This year, the Chancel Choir along with an eight member chamber orchestra, will present a special Christmas Cantata during our worship at 10:30am on December 13th. We will celebrate the traditions of early American musicians: New England style, shape note traditions, Appalachia traditions, Moravians, Shakers, traditional American carols, and African American spirituals. The work, created and arranged by Tim Sharp, is entitled "An Early American Service of Lessons and Carols." This is a truly unique work for the Christmas season and should have something for everyone. Invites friends and family to come celebrate the season with us in this special service!

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

Office Hours M-F
9:00am - 1:00pm
816.361.2200
Email: office@wppresbyterian.org

Church Staff
Pastor, Connie Happell
Office Administrator, Tina Hill
Choir Director, Joseph Hill
Organist, Dr. Arthur Rinehart
Bookkeeper, Chuck Keneye
 Custodian, Scott Curry
Preschool Directors, Kim Manford
Leslie Bullington

Officers
Elders
Worship: Diana Justus
Fellowship & Hospitality: Lynne Crossette
Mission and Stewardship: Bob Liepsner
Personnel & Administration: Steve Nelson
Adult Discipleship: James Lusk
Youth Discipleship: Sean Stoy
Operations: Steve Guthrie
At Large: Mardy Cottrell
Clerk of Session: Karen Wiederaenders

Deacons
Warren Bell, Jim Kurtz,
Shirley Lyle, Rosemary McDanel,
Susan Stewart & Pat Wiederaenders

Trusting
James Lusk,
Jean Hunter
Tom Stewart-Treasurer

Reflections from Pastor Connie

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. Colossians 2:6-7

Dear Ward Parkway Presbyterian friends,
Talk of "the holidays" is everywhere. We are rushing headlong into the string of days that begin with a turkey and end with the arrival of a new year. How will this "holiday season" be different from the last? What has changed in your life since last year? "The holidays" bring demands, opportunities and perhaps even sadness or regret. In what state of heart and mind do you find yourself this year? It is my prayer for you that you will enter this season with a heart filled with gratitude to God and others. In Eugene's Peterson's lively translation of the bible, The Message, he hears Paul saying that "Thanksgiving is our delight" (Ephesians 5:4). We are always giving thanks to God for the blessings of the day and God's faithfulness in the storms of the night.

In the coming weeks, we will be singing some of our favorite hymns in worship. These hymns poetically and musically express bedrock themes of our Christian faith. They lift our hearts and minds in praise and thanks. One of my favorite hymns of thanksgiving is "Let All Things Now Living" by Katherine Davis.

Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us,
his light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

May a song of thanksgiving be always in your heart through the days of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Connie

Save the Dates
Sunday, November 22 - Hanging of the Greens after worship
Sunday, December 6 - Caroling to homebound members and Angel Tree deadline
Sunday, December 13 - Choir Cantata during worship
Tuesday, December 15 - Preschool Christmas Program
Sunday, December 20 - Children's Nativity during worship
Thursday December 24 - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm

Glorify God Grow Disciples Go Serve
November/December 2015

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**Prayers and Concerns**

*For peace in our troubled world
*For those grieving the loss of loved ones, including the Durig, Bowman and Smith families
*For the recipients of our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes – that they will know the gift of Jesus Christ through our gifts
*For the leadership of our church and preschool
*For the Lord to use each of us to reach people with the gospel this Advent and Christmas season.
*For our missionaries: Karla Koll (Costa Rica), Hendrys (Brazil), Kansas City Rescue Mission, City Union Rescue Mission and Heartland Camp

**In Loving Memory**

Marlene Durig
October 3, 1937 - October 14, 2015
Vall Bowman
December 9, 1921 - October 24, 2015
Carol Smith
August 20, 1918 - November 3, 2015

**Happy Birthday!**

* Ethel Hahn - November 2
* Doris McCool - November 2
* Charlie Crossette - November 10
* Bev Reeves-Dudley - November 11
* Danny Edwards - November 22
* Steve Nelson - November 25
* Jace Smith - November 26
* Emily Lantz - December 3
* Quinn Stay - December 7
* Mike Montgomery - December 12
* Noelle Stoffel - December 13
* Debbie Babb - December 22
* Brendan North - December 24

**Adult Christian Education**

Coming to the CORNERSTONE Bible Study Group: "The Story". This study teaches how the story of Scripture intersects with the story of your life. "The Story" will open your eyes to GOD’s master plan unfolding in the lives of the Bible’s characters as well as in your own life. Experience the joy that comes as you align your story with GOD’s. Join us for this DVD and discussion study in the Holy Grounds Room at 9:25, beginning January 10, 2016. The study will be led by Karen Wiederaenders and Mike Montgomery. Call Mike if you have any questions @ 913-341-5694

**Preschool News**

We are loving this warm Fall weather!! The children are enjoying the time outside on the playground. The firetrucks provided lots of entertainment for our students. This is always a fun activity!! Thanksgiving is right around the corner, so our classrooms will be holding “Thanksgiving Feasts” for the children. This is always an exciting time. We will hold our annual Christmas programs on Tuesday, December 15th. We will hold two programs back-to-back. Our younger Preschool 1 & Preschool 2 classes will have their program at 9:15, and our Pre-K classes will have their program at 10:15. This is a little different than we have done in years past, so we are looking forward to seeing how it goes. Christmas break will begin at the conclusion of the Christmas Programs on the 15th, and we will resume Preschool on Monday, January 4th. This is a little different than we have done in years past, so we are looking forward to seeing how it goes. Christmas break will begin at the conclusion of the Christmas Programs on the 15th, and we will resume Preschool on Monday, January 4th. We are looking forward to this holiday season and viewing it through the eyes of 100+ Preschoolers. Kim & Leslie

**Operation Christmas Child**

Thank you Ward Parkway Presbyterian for sharing the love of Christ with 18 children in need!

**Christmas Joy Offering December 20**

This Advent season, we reflect upon God’s promise of salvation. Made to each of us, and kept with the birth of Jesus, this promise has changed countless lives. Through Christmas Joy Offering we make and keep two promises of our own: to church workers through the assistance in their time of need and to racial ethnic education and leadership development. Each of these promises has the power to change lives. Please give generously on December 20.

**Building Reconstruction**

Thanks to Mike Montgomery, Steve and Hans Guthrie, Jean Hunter and Kim Manford for your devotion to the reconstruction of our south building.

**Women’s Circle & Cross-Lines**

Women’s Circle will have their Christmas party on Thursday, December 10 at Shirley Lytle’s home. Please bring cookies for Cross-Lines. Questions? Call Shirley Lytle.

**Women’s Circle packing lunches for Cross-Lines.**

**Angel Tree.**

A Ministry of Prison Fellowship

Purchase an Angel Tree gift for child in need. This Christmas season, Midwest Foster Care and Adoption Association is delivering the Christmas experience to neglected and abused children and the families caring for them. With our help, they will bring them will bring holiday cheer to over 1100 children. Choose an angel from the tree in the narthex and return your wrapped gift by Sunday, December 6. Questions? Call Rosemary McDaneld.