

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MT. BETHEL AND PORTLAND

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Rev. John H. Heinsohn
Minister of Visitation

December 2021
Volume 8, Issue 12

As we approach the end of this calendar year, I am mindful of the many blessings we enjoy as a congregation. However, I do have a concern that needs to be shared with you. For several years prior to 2020, we were able to put some funds in reserve left over from the year-end finances. Last year, with the disruptions due to Covid, we ran a deficit and used some of those reserves to balance our expenses.

At the recent November's session meeting it became clear that we are going to face a significant deficit in our church finances for the year 2021, perhaps \$10,000. Since we have these reserves from recent previous years, we are not in crises yet. However, it should also be clear that we need to seek ways to enlarge our financial contributions for the future.

The deficit over the last two years can be traced to a couple of things: The lower worship attendance since March, 2020 is an obvious cause because many people only contribute when they come to church. Our worship attendance has gradually been increasing but it is not at the level of March 2020 and it will be some time before that level returns.

Another reason for the decline is the fact that several of our active people have died in the past year(s). Some others have either moved or their financial situation is uncertain. Also, we may have lost some contributors.

It has been a few years since we have said anything about church finances. I am sharing this information with you now to let you know that your contributions to the congregation are needed and very important to the church's ministry.

Throughout December, we are celebrating the Advent season with the nicely decorated sanctuary, poinsettias, advent wreath and special music. The Deacons are preparing the Advent Luncheon on Sunday, December 5th after the worship service. I am looking forward to our traditional Christmas Eve service starting at 9:30. The deacons will offer hot chocolate to those able to come early for the service. Please note the arrangements for these events elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Sunday morning Bible study on the Old Testament Patriarchs will continue each week at 9:15 except for the 26th.

May we all seek the Lord's blessing for our church and for each other during the busy days ahead.



1755 S. Delaware Drive

Mt. Bethel, PA 18343

(570) 897-6766

Email: cpcmbp@gmail.com

Website: mtbethelresbyterian.org



Worship Service:

10:30 a.m.

Sept. 12, 2021– June 5, 2022

9:30 a.m. June 12th – Sept. 11, 2022

Bible Study: 9:15 am

Holy Communion:

1st Sunday of the Month

Session Members:

Jonathan Rush – Clerk

Deb Llewellyn

Lillian Williams

Cher Mount

Suzy Armstrong

Mike Feeney



REMOTE WORSHIP

Below is the link for Rev. John's account for Zoom Worship on December 19, Christmas Eve (12/4) and December 26th.

The access code will be the same as it has been for each of the past few months. Here are the links:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81916811413?
pwd=bEgyMjRjdVJLV2lzTGVGekJLQmhVUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81916811413?pwd=bEgyMjRjdVJLV2lzTGVGekJLQmhVUT09)

Meeting ID: 819 1681 1413

Passcode: 743486

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,81916811413#,,,,*743486# US (New York)

+13017158592,,81916811413#,,,,

*743486# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 819 1681 1413

Passcode: 743486

Rev. Jenny will be using her account for Zoom on December 5th, 12th,

The access code will be the same as it has been for each of the past few months. Here are the links:

<https://zoom.us/j/216305804?pwd=NXVwajdXcXAzMjV0cFBsdC8ydjBzd09>

Meeting ID: 216 305 804

Password: 998322

You can also download the Zoom app for your Smartphone or tablet and use that same Meeting ID and Password to join.

If you would like to join via the phone, you can call 646-558-8656

When it asks for a meeting ID enter 216 305 804#

When it asks for a participant ID just enter #

When it asks for a password, enter 998322

UPCOMING EVENTS



The Women of Community Presbyterian will have their regular meeting on Thursday, December 9th (for December only) with a Bible study at 10am, business meeting at 11am, and then onto the Stroudsmoor Inn for lunch. Please note, this will be the final meeting for the year. We will resume in April.

Lehigh Presbytery's TOTAL Per Capita Commitment for 2022 is \$197,923.57 based on 4,589 members in 29 churches at \$43.13 per member.



The annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 23rd following worship



12/2—Hope Correll

12/2—Marion Pearce

12/9—May Nodzak

12/16—Jacob Seas

12/23—Tim Thiel



Prayerfully—Carole and Henry Deibel, Meixsell, May Nodzak, Olin Cramer, Marcia Pensack, Wendell Harford.

The pandemic caregivers—nurses, doctors, janitors, EMT's, our students and teachers, those who are helping feed the needy, those who have lost loved ones and incomes, our government leaders that they may prayerfully lead our country back to normalcy and our ministers.

Prayer requests are to be made to
Laura Bocko, Prayer Chain leader.
Laura's contact info is:
(610) 452-2620 (h)
laurabocko24@gmail.com

If you would like to participate in the prayer chain,
please contact Laura.





Readers/candle lighters:

November 28th—Joan and Kevin Correll.

December 5th— Melanie and Tim Thiel

December 12th— Rev. Jenny, Isaiah, and Mandela

December 19th—Suzy Armstrong, Sharon Potter

Advent luncheon, sponsored by our Deacons, will be held on Sunday, December 5th after worship.

Sign up sheets are in both foyers.



The deacons are purchasing poinsettias for Christmas and the congregation is welcome to list “in honor of/in memory of”. Slips are in both foyers. There is no charge for the honorarium or memorial.

Our Family Photo Album



On November 7th during worship, the Worship Committee honored those who served our country. They are Jonathan Rush, Mike Feeney, and Joe Cortright. Not pictured is Patrick Mount.

Following worship, a luncheon followed.



Through your generosity, 15 shoeboxes filled with trinkets, toys, crayons etc, were donated to Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child. The shoeboxes are shipped and then-given to needy children in remote corners of the globe.



Then A Sweet Song Played

*I was thinking today;
With a grateful tear.
What gift I should give;
To Jesus this year.
Then a sweet song played;
Like a gentle kiss.
A Christmas carol;
And it went like this.
I could hear my heart;
I could hear it sing.
A Christmas carol;
Ring a ling a ling.
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Just give him your heart;
Wrap it with a bow.
Just give Him your song;
For He loves you so. (yes He does)
Just give Him your time;
Sprinkle it with faith.
Just give Him your life;
Trusting in His grace.
Just give Him glory;
On His special day.*

*A merry Christmas;
A happy birthday. (Happy Birthday)
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Just give Him tomorrow;
Lay your burdens there.
Just trust in His promise;
Remember He cares. (He always will)
Just give Him your love;
Walking in His way.
Not just on Christmas ;
But every day.
Just give Him glory;
On His special day.
A merry Christmas;
A happy birthday. (Happy Birthday)
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
Ring a ling a ling,... a ling..., a ling....
(phase out)*

Words In brackets are spoken

(A Christmas Song)

By: Susan Y Nikitenko

Community Presbyterian Church

December 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1

2

3

4

5

Advent 2

Rev. Nichols

9:15 Bible Study

10:30 —Worship

6

AA 8:00 pm

7

8

9

Church Women
Mtg. 10:00 am

Communion 2:00 pm

10

11

12

Advent 3

Rev. Nichols

9:15 Bible Study

10:30 —Worship

13

AA 8:00 pm

14

15

Session
7:00 pm

16

17

18

19

Advent 4

Rev. Heinsohn

9:15 Bible Study

10:30 —Worship

20

AA 8:00 pm

21

22

23

24

Christmas Eve
worship
9:30 pm.

25



26

Rev. Heinsohn

10:30 —Worship

27

AA 8:00 pm

28

29

30

31