

Berryville Presbyterian Church



www.berryvillepresbyterian.org

Winter Double Issue 2016

Dear Friends,

Monty Python was a British comedy troupe renowned for their quirky skits and unique way of seeing and pointing out humor in the world. In the late 1960's and early 1970's they produced a popular sketch comedy show aired by the BBC called Monty Python's Flying Circus. I never really go into it when it they started airing in the States in the early 1980's, but my brother did. The one enduring memory I have of the show is it's beginning montage. The show would start with a goofy animation drawn by one of the cast members with a brief voiceover announcing, "And now for something completely different." And with that the show would launch into a variety of sketches.

"And now for something completely different", I don't know about you but these words are resonating with me this week. For a while now our nation has been wrapped up in a political season that for my money has been way too divisive and polarizing. This past Election Day, one candidate lost and another won but my Facebook Feed has been filled with continued divisiveness and polarization. No one party is responsible for it. It has come and is coming from all sides of the political divide, though to describe it as a divide may be understating things a bit. The weight of it though leaves me longing for something completely different. I long for a season when we seek to understand one another even in our differences. I long for a season when we seek to see the good in one another even in the midst of our

differences. I long for a season when we will endeavor to love one another in spite of our difference.

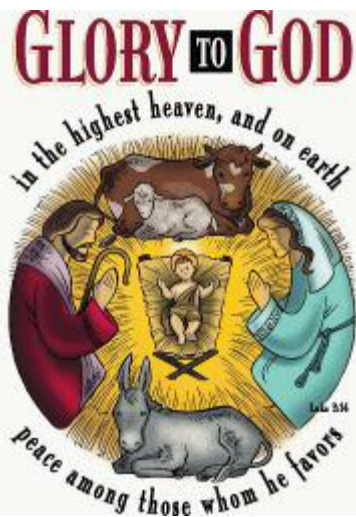
Friends, God is good; God is good all the time. We find ourselves on the brink of just such a season, for Advent has come. In Advent, we hear the Prophets cry out to a worn out and broken Israel saying God is doing something new. In Advent, we hear God speak his promise of redemption. In Advent, we hear about the hungry being filled with good things and a light that shines into the darkness. We need to be filled with good things. We need God's light to shine showing us the way of love that promises renewal and redemption for all of creation.

Friends, God is good; God is good all the time. Advent is here and with it a promise that not only can things be completely different, but we can be completely different.

I encourage you to join us throughout the season of Advent. Together we will share in the light and love of a Savior who came to make all things new.

Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and good will to all.

Rev. Jonathan W. Bunker, *Pastor*



Mark Your Calendars!

- ◆ Dec. 2nd, Tree –Trimming & Fellowship
- ◆ Dec. 5th, Poinsettia Orders Due
- ◆ Dec. 14th, Christmas Family Donations Due
- ◆ Dec. 17th, Bunkers' Open House
- ◆ Dec. 18th, Children's Pageant
- ◆ Dec. 24th, Candlelight Service
- ◆ Dec. 25th, Lessons & Carols

And much more —see inside!



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Blessing by Jan L. Richardson

From all that is broken,
let there be beauty.
From what is torn, jagged,
ripped, frayed,
let there be
not just mendings
but mendings unimagined.
May the God in whom
nothing is wasted
gather up every scrap,
every shred, and shard,
and make of them
new paths,
doorways,
worlds.

Submitted by Patti Washington



Recently someone asked me, "When was the last time you read something that really changed your life?" While contemplating my answer, my thoughts kept returning to the PW/Horizons Bible Study written by Judy Yates Siker that our Women's Circle prayerfully engages in every month.

Each of the study's nine lessons explores the question, "Who is Jesus?" as seen through a different theological lens beginning with the Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John; books of Paul (Acts), Hebrews, and expanding into Judaism and Islam. Then finally concluding with contemporary cultural interpretations.

Throughout the lessons we are encouraged to read and listen with "fresh, new eyes and ears." We always begin by sharing prayers and lighting the Christ Candle. Different participants each month share an insightful story or poem as well as lead the Least Coin Collection. Miraculously, every month the readings fit perfectly into our day's lesson as though programmed ahead of time!

We warmly invite anyone to join us on this journey to expand your understanding of Jesus. Your book awaits you! The best part is to see how your faith and friendships will grow!

Patti Washington
540-554-9006

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We are all gearing up for the excitement of Advent! Preparations for our annual Christmas pageant are underway and the plans are very exciting. If you'd like to be part of the excitement, all you have to do is let us know. There is a job or role for all. This year's pageant, "The Christmas Story" is being written and staged by Betsy Arnett, so we are guaranteed a wonderful event. If you'd like more information about this year's pageant, just call the church office for details.



BOOK CLUB

The BPC book club meets the 3rd Wednesday evening of the month at a group member's home. The group generally picks a book that has piqued the interest of one or more of the group's members. So if you'd like to be encouraged and motivated to read more, consider joining us. This month we met at the home of Cathy Dickey on Wednesday, November 16th and discussed "The Last Lecture" by Randy Pausch. All agreed it was a touching and refreshing story. Our next book is "The Aviator's Wife" by Melanie Benjamin. All you need to do is secure a copy and start reading! Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 18th. For more information call Cathy Dickey at 539-2056.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Tree-Trimming
& Fellowship

December 2nd @ 6:00 p.m.

The graphic features a green Christmas tree with a yellow star on top, decorated with red and white ornaments and yellow lights. Blue snowflakes are scattered around the tree. A red ribbon is at the bottom.



Christmas Eve
Candlelight
Communion
Service

December 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

The graphic shows a lit candle in a glass holder against a dark blue background. The text is written in a white, elegant cursive font.

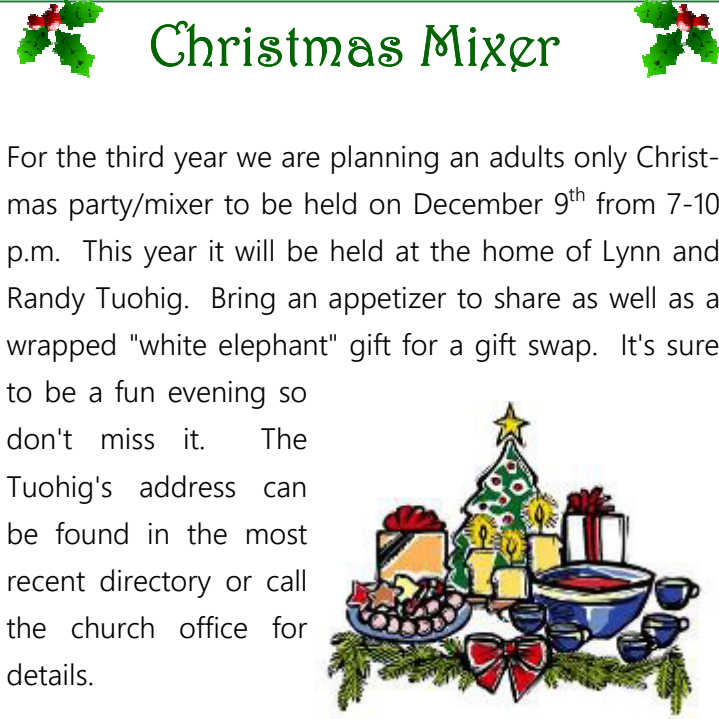
The knitting group is alive and well!

Currently we meet on the second Thursday of the month. If you would like to attend please just come, all are welcome no matter which craft you like or would like to learn.



Angel

Angel, which means "messenger" in both Hebrew and Greek, is a spirit-being God created to perform tasks for him. In the Bible, angels appear in human form (always as men) to deliver divine messages. Angels appear separately to Joseph and Mary, announcing Jesus' upcoming birth, and "a multitude of the heavenly host" (Luke 2:13) tells shepherds of the Savior's arrival. Scripture offers little information about angels, though we know some rebelled against God. Among the holy angels, categories include cherubim and seraphim.



Christmas Mixer

For the third year we are planning an adults only Christmas party/mixer to be held on December 9th from 7-10 p.m. This year it will be held at the home of Lynn and Randy Tuohig. Bring an appetizer to share as well as a wrapped "white elephant" gift for a gift swap. It's sure to be a fun evening so don't miss it. The Tuohig's address can be found in the most recent directory or call the church office for details.

The graphic shows a small Christmas tree, wrapped gifts, a bowl of appetizers, and a blue and white serving dish.



Christmas
Day
Service

Sunday,
December 25th
Worship at
11:00 a.m.

The graphic features a Christmas tree decorated with yellow flowers, red poinsettias, and lit candles in holders.

December 2016



The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ~Luke 2:10-14

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 6p Tree Trimming & Fellowship	3 8a Men's Breakfast
4 Advent 2 Communion 4 Cents A Meal Offering 8:30a Worship 9:30a Children & Youth Sunday School 9:45a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11a Worship 12p Youth Group shopping trip	5 Poinsettia Deadline 7p Committee Mtgs.	6	7 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	8 10a Hooks & Needles with Love	9 7p Adult Mixer (Tuohig's Home)	10
11 Advent 3 8:30a Worship 9:30a Children & Youth Sunday School 9:45a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11a Worship	12	13 7p Joint Deacon & Session Mtg.	14 Christmas Family Donations Due! 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	15	16	17 10a Pageant Rehearsal 2-4p Annual Open House at the Bunkers
18 Advent 4 11a Worship 6:30p Evening Christmas Program & reception 	19	20	21 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	22 10a Shop for Christmas Family Food Baskets	23 11a Deliver Christmas Family Food Baskets	24 Christmas Eve Communion 7p Service of Candlelight Commu 
25 Christmas Day 11a Service of Lessons & Carols	26	27	28 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	29	30	31



December Volunteers



	December 4 2 Advent	December 11 3 Advent	December 18 4 Advent	December 24 Christmas Eve	December 25 Christmas Day
Altar Flowers	Dodson Family: Given to the Glory of God	Tuohig Family: Given to the Glory of God	Advent Wreath Poinsettias	Advent Wreath Poinsettias	Advent Wreath Poinsettias
Lay Readers	Stephanie Lederhouse	Camilla Welsh	Zach Rosen		Patti Washington
Ushers	Maloney Family	Maloney Family	Maloney Family		Maloney Family
Nursery Attendants	Emily Braithwaite	Megan Hicks	Kim Braithwaite		



- 03 Ellen Hicks
- 05 Laura Daniels
- 05 Joanne DiStefano
- 06 Jon Harden
- 10 Owen Swisher
- 11 Grace Wilson
Brandon Phillips
- 12 Connie Mason
- 16 Tamara Hansen
Beth Kosiorek
Chris Rosen
Susan Godfrey
- 18 Caroline Ghaffari
- 22 Jessica Skinner
- 30 Doni Hays



- 18 Bill & Susan Daniels
- 19 Ronald & Wanda Jones
- 20 Mark & Stacey Smith
- 24 John & Sandra Fanning



- 01 Sandra J. Fanning
Mary Nagelvoort
- 02 Shelby Grubbs
- 04 Ann Tiedemann
- 05 Michael Fields
- 08 Travis Stevenson
- 13 Ron Jones
- 14 Joyce Edmonds
- 15 Nancy Duke
- 16 Chase Ervin
- 22 Laurel Tucker
- 24 James Green
- 25 Megan Hicks
- 27 RYANNE STEVENSON
- 28 Baldwin
- 28 John Kizer





Advent-Christmas Schedule

November 27th: 1st Sunday of Advent. Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Friday, December 2nd: 6 p.m. Tree trimming & fellowship

Sunday, December 4th: 2nd Sunday of Advent. Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and collection of the 4 Cents-A-Meal Hunger Offering.

12 p.m. Youth Group Shopping Trip

Monday, December 5th: Deadline for ordering Poinsettias (*we will continue to take donations for ICARE throughout the season*).

Friday, December 9th: 7 p.m. Adult Christmas Mixer at the home of Randy & Lynn Tuohig.

Sunday, December 11th: 3rd Sunday of Advent. Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 14th: deadline for Christmas Family Donations.

Saturday, December 17th: 2-4 p.m. Annual Open House at the Bunkers.

Sunday, December 18th: 4th Sunday of Advent Worship at 11 a.m. featuring the Children's Christmas Pageant. (*No 8:30 Service*).

Evening Christmas Program at 6:30 p.m., featuring our Sanctuary and Bell Choirs. Program concludes with candle light singing of Silent Night and a reception hosted by the Fellowship Committee will follow.

Thursday, December 22nd: 10 a.m. Shopping for Christmas Family Food Baskets.

Friday, December 23rd: 11 a.m. Deliver Christmas Family gift and food baskets.

Saturday, December 24th: 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion

Sunday December 25th: 11 a.m. Worship Service of Lessons & Carols (*No 8:30 service*)

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
Noel Hallelujah Merry Christmas Happy New Year

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 11a Worship	2 7p Committee Mtgs.	3	4 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	5	6  EPIPHANY	7 8a Men's Breakfast
8 8:30a Worship 9:30a Children & Youth Sunday School 9:45a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11a Worship & Ordination of Officers 5:30p Youth Group	9	10 7p Deacons' Mtg.	11 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	12 10a Hooks & Needles with Love	13	14
15 8:30a Worship 9:30a Children & Youth Sunday School 9:45a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11a Worship 12p Congregational Mtg.	16 WATTS	17 12:30 Town & Country Garden Club 7p Session Mtg.	18 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir 7p Book Club (off-site)	19 Signpost Deadline	20	21
22 Pulpit Swap WATTS	23 10a Woman's Circle	24	25 12p Clarke Co. Rotary 6p Bell Choir 7p Choir	26	27	28
29 8:30a Worship 9:30a Children & Youth Sunday School 9:45a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Fellowship 11a Worship	30	31	<i>"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." ~Proverbs 3:5-6</i>			

Berryville Presbyterian Church

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E-mail: info@berryvillepresbyterian.org
www.berryvillepresbyterian.org

Sunday Church Schedule

8:30 am Worship
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Fellowship
11:00 am Worship

Church Office Hours: M-F, 9am-2pm

Staff & Leadership

Rev. Jonathan Bunker, *Pastor*
jonathan@berryvillepresbyterian.org

Beth Rogers, *Administrative Assistant*
beth@berryvillepresbyterian.org

Marie Mawby, *Music Director/Organist*

Katy Cox, *Bell Choir Director*

Session

Alma Brown, *Worship*
Cathy Dickey, *Christian Education*
Bruce Elmore, *Long-Range Planning*
Jim Green, *Stewardship*
Stephanie Lederhouse, *Clerk of Session*
Marna Swisher, *Witness*

Deacons

Karla Atkins, *Service*
Mindy Lindsay, *Finance*
Philip Shenk, *Property*
Camilla Welsh, *Fellowship*
Charles Wakeley, *Ushering*
Sue Windisch, *Technology*

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Coming in January 2017

- ◆ January 1st, New Year's Day, one service only at 11 a.m.
- ◆ January 8th during the 11 a.m. service, Ordination of Officers
- ◆ January 16th—January 23rd WATTS
- ◆ January 22nd—Pulpit Swap, one service only at 11 a.m.

Community Potluck at the Enders Fire Hall following the service

Articles for the February issue of "Signpost" are due in to the Church Office January 19th