

# THE HERALD

January 2023

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Let us take a moment to give thanks to God for the many blessings we had through 2022, as well as the companionship God gave us during the hard times. As we move into the new year, here is a portion of the Prayer of Commitment we spoke at our service on January 1<sup>st</sup>:

In gratitude, and with hope, I commit:

to express Christ's love in what I say and what I do  
to participate in and support the common life of a congregation,  
to lift people up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,  
to study Scripture and discern what God is telling me through it,  
to demonstrate that my faith actually changes how I live,  
to follow Christ's example in serving others  
to be God's coworker in creating peaceful, just, free human societies,  
and in restoring the natural world to God's design  
to build up the church to reflect the image of God,  
and to hold it accountable when it reflects human pride or idolatry  
to be thoughtful and intentional about my faith and how it is expressed, in the church, at work,  
in my home, in my relationships, and in the world.

As we leave the time of Christmas and enter the time of Epiphany, we will again be receiving Star Words in worship. What was your Star Word from last year and in what ways has that word been a guiding star throughout 2022? In what areas of your life can this year's Star Word move you towards something new?

This month, Marsha and I will be working on compiling the 2022 Annual Report, which you should receive the week of January 15<sup>th</sup>. The congregational meeting to accept the report and approve the included budget and terms of call will be on Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>, after worship.

Please stay warm and safe as we continue to move throughout winter and navigate the weather.

Blessings,  
Pastor Erica



## JANUARY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

- 05 – Alexis Hunzeker
- 07 – Isaiah Guillatt
- 08 – Amanda Miller
- 10 – Karen Griffin Sieber
- 12 – Missy Bahr
- 14 – Barbara Crawford
- 15 – Miley Smith
- 17 – Patty Doering
- 19 – Randy Smith
- 20 – James Robertson
- 22 – Jane Bitney
- 22 – Elisabeth Wahlgren
- 23 – Patty Wahlgren
- 27 – Phyllis Foreman
- 28 – DeMari Holt
- 28 – Sharon Wells

**THANK YOU** to those who donated gifts or gift cards to share with a family of eight (mother with 7 children) in our neighborhood. Special thanks to Becky and Heidi Singaas for their donations to assist another family in our community. Your gifts allowed us to “share the JOY of Christmas” with others outside our church walls.

## FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS

Don't forget your Fair Trade coffee and tea products to keep you warm on these cold days! Tea, coffee, oil and/or chocolates are available at the Coffee Corner!



## PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG

The Presbyterian News Service recently published an article about the Giving Catalog that featured former pastor Raymond Meester. The name of the article is “Presbyterian Giving Catalog gives families endless ideas”. For those interested we have copies of the Giving Catalog in the narthex. Be sure to check them out.



## HERITAGE BIRTHDAY CLUB

Anyone may join or renew their membership in Heritage's Birthday Club. Donations (usually 1 dollar per year of life) is made to our endowment fund.

The Mission Committee would like to say . . .

**THANK YOU** to those who donated to the Christmas Joy Offering. A Presbyterian tradition for almost seventy years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings. The donations from this Offering will be distributed equally to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs to retired church workers and to the Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges. We were recently recognized by Homestead Presbytery as 1 of 2 congregations that has given to this offering for over 20 years.

Watch for more information on these upcoming Mission events:

Trivia Night

Game Nights

Movie Nights



## **PANDEMIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHURCH AND OUTSIDE GROUPS**

### **General**

- Social distancing encouraged
- Offering in the entry ways instead of passed
- Clutter in narthex cleaned up
- Encourage members to stay home if they have symptoms or don't feel comfortable

### **COVID-19 Risk Dial: Green (Low)**

- Business as usual – please stay home or wear a mask if you have symptoms or don't feel well

### **COVID-19 Risk Dial: Yellow (Moderate)**

- Masks recommended (unless required by city directed health measures)
- Social distancing
- Coffee Corner with masks recommended
- Communion – regular
- Potlucks/other communal meals with masks recommended
- Encourage members to stay home if they have symptoms or don't feel comfortable

### **COVID-19 Risk Dial: Orange (High)**

- Masks required
- Signs between pews (social distancing)
- Coffee Corner with masks
- Potlucks/communal meals with masks
- Communion with pre-made packets
- Reduce congregational responses/hymns
- Encourage members to stay home if they do not feel comfortable attending

### **COVID-19 Risk Dial: Red (Severe)**

- Zoom/other online platform church services (including Sunday School and DUC's)
- Choir to meet at the director's discretion (with pastor/session approval). They will follow social distancing and masking rules.
- No potlucks/communal meals
- No Coffee Corner
- Outside groups with more than 5 will not meet without pastor/session approval

## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

We would like to start inviting theological discussion by posting a question each month intended for you to share your thoughts with others in the congregation. To see how this might go across, please reply to this email or call the office if you receive the Herald by mail, to answer the following question:

What is a scripture that has been meaningful in your life?

We look forward to hearing from you!

# THE HERALD

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**DEADLINE FOR THE  
NEXT HERALD**

**January 31, 2023**

Items received after this  
date may not be included!

# JANUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>2</b> <i>Piano w/                      Sydney Miller</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Al-Anon	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship <b>1:00 PM</b> - Loretta Neill Fellowship Hall	<b>9</b> <i>Piano w/                      Sydney Miller</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> Choir <b>6:30 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>12</b> <i>Boy Scout                      Troop 39</i>	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>6:30 PM</b> Boy Scouts	<b>14</b> Association of the Deaf
<b>13</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>16</b> <i>Girl Scouts                      20306</i> <i>Piano w/                      Sydney Miller</i>	<b>17</b> <i>Daisy Troop                      28791</i>	<b>18</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> Choir <b>6:30 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>19</b> <i>Boy Scout                      Troop 39</i>	<b>20</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Al-Anon	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship	<b>23</b> <i>Piano w/                      Sydney Miller</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> Choir <b>6:30 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>26</b> <i>Boy Scout                      Troop 39</i>	<b>27</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Al-Anon <b>6:30 PM</b> Boy Scouts	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Congregational meeting following worship	<b>30</b> <i>Piano w/                      Sydney Miller</i>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> <b>5:30 PM</b> Choir <b>6:30 PM</b> Bell Choir	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Al-Anon	<b>4</b>

**Please refer to the online calendar for updated/changed events.**