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Head Usher
John Burns

Session
Suellen Myers, Clerk
Charlotte Baker-Shenk
Gene Bayer
John Burns
Rosemarie Coy
Paul Kradel
Joshua Nolen
Kay Schultz
Mike Williams

Ministers-at-large
All our members
* * *

Office hours
Sunday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
304-876-6466

Pastor
By appointment
Ethel Hornbeck
By appointment

Sun 7 Second Sunday of Advent
8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
9:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic. Narthex
9:25 a.m. Sunday Seminar. Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Called Session meeting. Classroom No. 1
10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
4:30 p.m. Youth Group (8-12 graders). Fellowship Hall

Tue 9
7:30 p.m. Choir practice

Sun 14 Third Sunday of Advent
Isa. 61:1-4, 8-11; Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Thess. 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28
8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
9:25 a.m. Sunday Seminar. Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Confirmation class. Classroom No. 1
10:45 a.m. Liturgy of the Word & Table
5:00 p.m. Joy Gift Dinner. Shepherdstown Fire Dept.

COMMUNION TODAY: All are welcome to participate. The bread is gluten free; the "wine" is alcohol free.

POINSETTIA coupons in narthex and Fellowship Hall, \$10 each. Make check to SPC; memo, poinsettia. Deadline: Dec. 14.

2015 CHURCH DIRECTORY now ready for proofing in Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Make sure your listing is included and correct. If so, check box.

CLOTHING & SHOES for Rescue Mission. Dec. 7, 14, 21. Place boxed or neatly bundled items in lower nook inside King St. entrance. Letters acknowledging your contribution are available upon request from the church office.

YOUNG MUSICIANS: Are you available to play a tune or two on piano or other instrument before the 8:00 Christmas Eve service begins. Contact Dianne Holliman at church or diannaholliman01@gmail.com.

PHOTOS (informal) for 2015 directory taken by choir loft right after each service, December 7, 14 and 21. Only for individuals and/or households not in current directory.

CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG with Carol Wood and Rie Wilson at O'Hurley's General Store, **Sunday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m.**

PRAYER AND THE MYSTICS Exploring Contemplative Practice. **Sundays in December @ 9:25.**

JOY GIFT DINNER. Sunday, Dec. 14, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Shepherdstown Fire Department. Ham, beverages & tableware provided. Bring the following to share: A-H Vegetable or Salad; I-P Dessert; Q-Z

Side Dish. Contact Chris Cubby 304-676-7751, ccubby2@gmail.com if you can help set up or clean up.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: (Jan. 4) Assignments this **Sunday (Dec. 7).** Rehearsals Saturday, Jan. 3, 10 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 4, 9:30 a.m. All children are welcome to participate; there is a part for everyone! See Shanna Dick at the "Pageant Table" in Fellowship Hall after the 10:45 service, or email TheNicFamily@gmail.com, call or text 304-839-5006. Volunteers needed.

HYMN SING. Wednesday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. in choir room. One hour of singing as many advent & Christmas carols as we can. We will choose our favorites for caroling around the block Thursday.

CAROLING Thursday, Dec. 18, 7:30-8:30, meet in Fellowship Hall, come back around for hot chocolate.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 5:00 p.m. especially for children; 8:00 p.m. choir & homily; 11:00 p.m. carol sing & communion.

ONE SERVICE ONLY at 10:45 a.m. Sunday Dec. 28 and Jan. 4.

OUR OVERNIGHT GUESTS will arrive around 7 p.m., leave by 7 a.m. Jan. 3-9. Volunteers needed in three separate efforts. **Morning meals:** Contact Helen & John Burns, 304.876.9146, helenburns@frontier.com. **Bag lunches:** Contact Nan Broadhurst, 304.876.1083, nanbroadhurst@me.com. **Overnight stays:** At least one man and one woman each night, Paul Hodder, 240.472.5721, phodder@frontiernet.net.

The Season of Advent
Second Sunday

December 7, 2014
10:45 A.M.

BREAK THROUGH

Eternal Living God,
The whole creation waits for you to
break through
the muddled human history,
the endless days of sameness,
the evening sky.

Break through.
Shake the foundations.
Judge our compassion and justice.
Heal all who suffer and are broken.
Revive this creation that longs for you.

Come
Creator,
Brooding Spirit,
Ruler of Peace,
Infant Holy,
Emmanuel,
Resplendent Light,
Great Physician,
Bread of Life,
Jesus.

Break it all open
God-with-us.

Sidney D. Fowler

SHEPHERDSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

100 W. Washington Street
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Established 1743

www.shepherdstownpresbyterian.org

Listen, O people, in the silent chapel of your heart; and the Beloved will speak of peace to you.

Psalm 85 (Merrill)

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain."

Isaiah 40:1,3-4

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Mark 1:1-3

We wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found at peace.

2 Peter 3:13-14

Organ/Piano

Dianne Holliman

Offertory

Michael & Morgan Wisniewski,
Than & Maryanne Hitt,
Jade Pope, Phillip Baker-Shenk

Postlude

Wanda Stewart

Assistants

Elizabeth Krogstad
Jack Walker
Chris Kaye

Lord Have Mercy by Bro. Stefan Waligur

BEHOLD! IT IS GOOD

Advent Wreath/Hymn 85 (vs. 1, 2)
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

Proclamation

In life and death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God,
whom alone we worship and serve.

Call to Worship

Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord

Prayer

† † †

***Hymn 347**

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

GRACE ABOUND S

Prayer of Confession

Creator God, you bring light out of darkness and life out of death. You breathe your spirit into our waking souls and invite us to transform the world with you. But we settle in and conform to the old. We tolerate injustice and inequalities. We are afraid to trust you. Help us face our fears, trust you and live peaceably as we prepare the way for hope, love and joy to abound.

Silence

Kyrie Eleison (2x)

Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

Declaration of grace and gratitude

We will love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength,
And love our neighbors as we love ourselves

***Response**

*Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart. O God,
I will tell the wonders of your ways, and glorify your name.
Praise, I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart.
In you I will find the source of all my joy. Alleluia!*

Blessing the World

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Yemen, Iran, Iraq

Hymn 87 (vs. 1, 3)

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

First Pew

Parish Life

Hymn 89 (1-choir; 2-3 all)
"For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits"

Memorial Prayer

Interlude

HEARING THE WORD

Reading

Lessons

Isaiah 40:1-11 • Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"The Path of Peace"

Hymn 89 (vs. 4-6)

"For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits"

SHARING THE GIFTS OF LIFE

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion

*Dona nobis pacem, pacem
Dona nobis pacem.*

SERVING THE WORLD

Presenting Offerings

Offertory

"I Bid You Good Night"
The Pindar Family

Affirmation

† † †

Acclamation

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Sung Response (3x)

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!*

Charge and Benediction

† † †

Postlude

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

*stand if you are able

Silence is God's first language; everything else is a poor translation. In order to hear that language, we must learn to be still and to rest in God.

Thomas Keating

There is a physical desert, inhabited by a few exceptional men and women who are called to live there; but more importantly, there is an inner desert, into which each one of us must one day venture. It is a voice; an empty space for solitude and testing.

Frere Ivan

The Desert and the City

How busy we become when we lose sight of how God loves us.

Julian of Norwich (1342-1416)

Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come. You wait and watch and work: you don't give up.

Anne Lamott

Authentic happiness can only come from the long-term cultivation of wisdom, altruism, and compassion, and from the complete eradication of mental toxins, such as hatred, grasping and ignorance.

Mathieu Ricard

Flowers placed by

The Flower Fund

To Our Guests

Glad you're with us. Please sign the guest book in the Narthex and fill in a visitor's card from the pew pocket. After the service enjoy a cup of "fairly traded" coffee or tea with friends in the Fellowship Hall.

Childcare

Available in the nursery.
See ushers for assistance.