

# Weekly

# Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church November 30, 2022

## PASTOR NANCY NOTES AND NEWS

Dear friends;

As December begins, I'd like to share a word about how the church "tells time," not everywhere in the modern church, but many places. Our year starts with Advent and ends around Thanksgiving with "Christ our King" Sunday.



Why would we bother with all this? Isn't that just a little boring? What are these weird words: Epiphany and Pentecost; Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday?

The church calendar dates back to the early days of the church, as a way for new converts to come to understand the story. Before the Gutenberg Printing Press (1440 BC), our faith was passed down without personal ownership of the scriptures. Church was the place to hear the scriptures, read weekly, in a throughout pattern. What a change, as now we own multiple Bibles and have access to many translations online!

The Christian calendar invites us to "live" the story, over and over, each year. And to pick up the subtle differences between the longing of Advent and the somber preparation of Lent.

Author Michael LaVigne says it this way in the introduction of her book [\*Living the Way of Jesus\*](#) (2019):

***"The rhythms of the Christian calendar orient us to God's reality. We do not merely ask God to join our lives; instead, we are invited to participate in God's life. Subtly and explicitly, this way of marking time reminds us that we are part of a story that is different from the stories we hear all around us."***

God's larger story is experienced and "practiced" as we keep time. One aspect of keeping time, could be to read the lectionary passages of scripture on a weekly basis. Our modern lectionary was developed in 1969, with great collaboration, and called the "Common Lectionary." It was revised in 1983, and 1994 and is used by a wide variety of denominations. It offers a 3-year cycle [Year A, B, C] of four weekly readings [Old Testament, New Testament, Poetry, Epistle]. It's not a creative title, but each year highlights a gospel - Matthew (A), Mark (B), Luke (C) with John sprinkled into all three years.

To dive deeper, visit this [website](#). Here are this week's readings: Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11-14 and Matthew 24:36-44

Our life with Christ is best described as a journey and not a place of arrival. May this season of Advent spark new meaning to Emmanuel, God with us.

With Joy, Pastor Nancy 614-425-2552 | [nancy.dumford@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.dumford@gmail.com)



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**  
 Nov. 30 - Jeff Styer  
 Dec. 1 - Steven Machamer  
 Dec. 2 - Brayden Kidd

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**  
 Dec. 5 - Troy & Bridget Hall



A big thank-you to organizers Beth Miller and Wendy McKelvey and all those who stayed to help decorate the church for Christmas. Everything looks beautiful! Thank you!

The church will present "Once Upon a Manger on December 11 during the worship service. Refreshments and a time of fellowship will follow



**WE STILL ARE IN NEED** of a couple more volunteers to provide refreshments following the Christmas Program on December 11. Cookies are always welcome! Crackers and cheese and other finger foods are welcome too! There is a sign-up on the table in the Gallery.



**FIRST FRIDAY IS THIS FRIDAY!!**

When: 6:30pm  
 Where: Panera In Wooster  
 Info: Everyone can order as they would like! Bring a wrapped Christmas Ornament to swap! Shirley is leading this event!! (Tanya has a Work Christmas Party the same night!) So please let me (Tanya) know by Thursday morning if you're joining us so Shirley can snag enough seats at Panera!!!



**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS.**  
 There are Advent Devotionals available on the table in the Gallery.

**PRAYER**

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.  
 Note: The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

**Praises**

- Praises for families being home together

**Military Service:**

- Rusty King - Middle East
- Isaiah Styer currently in North Carolina
- Jeff & Veronica's nephew in National Guard

**Prayer Needs**

- **Safe travels through the holidays**
- The holiday season & those who have lost loved ones
- Unspoken
- Session, Trustees & the PNC
- The Ukraine & Danny

**Health Concerns:**

- **Corky's sister Didi recovering from Covid**
- **Veronica's mom - going to assisted living - prayers for support**
- **Pat Thomson - healing after out-patient procedure**
- Edna's nephew - heart attack
- Lillian Duncan - non cancerous brain tumors
- George & Jane Ann Heilman

**Battling Cancer**

- **Kacen's grandma, Susie Parrot - inoperable brain tumor**
- **Leslie Carr - battling cancer & Covid**
- Dale James
- Herb Martin - stage 4 lung cancer
- Delores Schlegel's sister Rose's finance
- Mike Harter
- Art Wetmore
- Chris - brain tumor
- Renee Wood

**Condolences**

- **Connie Herman's cousin Darold, who recently lost both his father and his brother**



## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday December 4 following the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers for 2023. Being presented as Elders are Claudia Ward, Steve Schlegel and Adam Swinehart. Being presented as Deacons are Beth Reed, Marcy Speelman, and Wendy McKelvey.

## SEARCHING FOR A NEW HOME

The braided ficus tree in the Gallery has outgrown its pot again. It is also getting too big for the Gallery. We would like to re-home Mr. Ficus to a plant-loving new owner as soon as possible, as the tree seems to be failing in its current environment. FREE! Talk to Secretary Jeann

## FROM THE PNC

The PNC has moved forward with a candidate to Session and Great Lakes Presbytery to continue the search process. We encourage everyone to be in prayer for the PNC Team, the candidate, Session and Presbytery leaders as they consider the future of our church

### To contact church leaders & staff:

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Follow us on Facebook too!

\* \* \* \* \*

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**Steve Moffitt, Session President**

**234-249-2371**

**Darcy Miller, Pastor of Congregational Care**

**330-440-4155**

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**Church Office Hours**

Monday thru Friday 9:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

## CALENDAR FOR NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

- Dec. 2 - Ladies First Friday
- Dec. 4 - Second Sunday in Advent
- Dec. 4 - Congregational Meeting to elect Officers
- Dec. 5 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- Dec. 7- GLOW @ 10 a.m.
- Dec. 7 - Music Team @ 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 7 - Trustees Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 8 - Fredericksburg Cookie Tour
- Dec. 11 - Third Sunday in Advent
- Dec. 11 - Christmas Program during worship
- Dec. 11 - Refreshments following program
- Dec. 13 - Fredericksburg Elementary Christmas program here in the church.
- Dec. 14 - GLOW @ 10 a.m.
- Dec. 14 - Music Team @ 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18 - Fourth Sunday in Advent
- Dec. 18 - No Second Hour
- Dec. 18 - Home-cooked luncheon for the church
- Dec. 21 - GLOW @ 10 a.m.
- Dec 21 - Music Team @ 6:30
- Dec. 24 - 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas
- Dec. 25 - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service.
- Dec. 26 - Church office closed

Let's approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush.

*anonymous*

