

Massanutten Ministry Link

A Publication of Massanutten Presbyterian Church

December 15, 2011

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 a.m.

FELLOWSHIP TIME 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 a.m.

December 18, 2011

4th Sunday in Advent

Sermon Text

Lessons and Carols

December 24, 2011

Christmas Eve

Sermon Text

Luke 2:1-20

December 25, 2011

Christmas Day

Sermon Text

Isaiah 52:7-10 (Luke 2)

January 1, 2012

New Year's Day

Sermon Text

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

January 8, 2012

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Sermon Text

Mark 1:4-11

January 15, 2012

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sermon Text

Psalms 139: 1-6, 13-18

January 22, 2012

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sermon Text

1 Corinthians 7:29-31



*Come And
Celebrate the Season*

Sunday, December 18th, 7:00 p.m.

A concert to benefit The Salvation Army will be given by The Massanutten Brass Band and Youth Band in the sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Worship- Saturday, December 24

4:30 p.m.—Family Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service

7:00 p.m.—Candlelighting and Communion Service

Nursery will be provided for both services.

Transportation from Sunnyside will be provided. Call the office before noon on December 22 if you would like transportation from Sunnyside.

Christmas Morning- Sunday, December 25

Celebrating Jesus' Birthday Together

9:30 a.m.—The congregation will meet in the Gathering Area for light refreshments as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Children and adults alike will have the opportunity to hear children's Christmas stories being read by Massanutten members, as well as take part in some other activities as we journey to the manger.

10:30 a.m.—We will sing a number of carols and hear again the familiar story of Jesus' birth. **Any child in the congregation who wishes to participate will be invited to take part in the story.** We will have costumes for all of the characters—from sheep to angels to shepherds and more. **If your child(ren) would like to be in the story, please come to the Gathering Area by 10:20 a.m. to find your costume.**



Massanutten
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*"At the crossroads of real life and abundant grace,
where God's children are...
meeting Christ in each other,
praying earnestly,
listening carefully,
singing joyfully,
and joining boldly
with the Spirit's work in the world."*

News and Events

4-Cents-per-Meal:

We will receive the monthly 4-Cents-per-Meal hunger offering during Worship on **January 1**.

Fellowship Coffee...

There will be no Fellowship Coffee on December 25 or January 1.

Prime Timers...

Are you 50+ and looking for a great group of people to have lunch with once a month? Then we have the group for you! Join the Prime Timers for lunch at Golden Corral the first Tuesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. There will be plenty of good food, fellowship and fun.

Bring a friend and join others of your church family on **Tuesday, January 3**. For more information, contact the church office at 434-6194.



Stephen Ministry...

Life can change quickly and having someone to walk with through those changes can make a significant difference in the journey. The Stephen Ministry of Massanutten Presbyterian Church offers confidential, one-to-one Christian care to those who are experiencing difficult life circumstances.

For more information, contact one of our Stephen Leaders: Linda Myers (433-4712) or Jan Reser (434-1270). You may also contact the church office (434-6194) to speak with Pastors Ann Pettit or John Leggett, who can also provide information on the program.

Ministry Link Notes....

The next Ministry Link submission deadline is **Wednesday, January 4, 2012** at 3:00 p.m.. The next issue will distribute on **January 19, 2012**.

Communion: Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m.

Servers: Sharon Churchill, Doug Sensabaugh, Patricia Copper, Fleming Jones, Barbara Palmer, Ellen Blose, Wendy Stapleton, Connie Miller, Diane Schwalbach, Bill Frazier, Dietrich Maune

Stewards: Joshua and Abby Stapleton, Adam Teter, Sterling and Tyler Dean

Please meet Pastor Ann in the Library at **6:40 p.m.** to prepare for serving of the Lord's Supper.

Harrisonburg and Rockingham Thermal Shelter (HARTS)

The 2011-2012 season of HARTS is well underway!

HARTS is a winter shelter for men and women who need a hot meal and safe place to spend the night.

This year Massanutten is pleased to serve at and with First Presbyterian Church in Harrisonburg. Our scheduled week is **January 30–February 6**.

Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available early in January. Please be considering how God might be calling you to assist with this ministry to men and women in the community without secure shelter.

MPC Holiday Blood Drive

Wednesday, December 21 2:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.

Sign up in the Narthex or contact Shawn Green at 289-5735. You may also sign up online at www.vadonor.com Sponsor Code: Massanutten

Walk-ins are welcome

Give the gift of life this Christmas!



Outreach Opportunities

The McGaheysville Clothes Closet...

is in need of gently worn winter clothing, coats and boots for children. All contributions may be left in the box in the Fellowship Hall marked "Children's Clothing."

The Trinity Clothes Closet...

is in need of gently worn winter clothing. All contributions may be left in the box in the Fellowship Hall marked "Trinity Clothes Closet."

Shoes for Well of Hope

Massanutten continues to serve as a collection site for Well of Hope. This organization collects shoes in the United States and ships them to Kenya where they are sold to raise money to purchase land for women in Kenya without family or resources, so that they can build a home.

Shoes can be new or gently used and all varieties are welcome. Please leave shoes in the containers in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall.

Dress-A-Girl - Update

In October a group of women gathered during our Massanutten Cares - International event to sew dresses for girls around the world. 30 dresses were delivered this week to the Charlottesville distribution center. Thank you to everyone who gathered to sew - and those who sewed from home too!

The next opportunity to gather for sewing will be on **January 14** from **10:00 a.m. — noon**. We will meet in the Gathering Area.

Patterns will be available after the holidays (it is the same pattern that was used in October, if you still have one from that event). Cotton fabric and bias tape may be donated at any time. You should bring a sewing machine and thread to the church. If you prefer or need to sew from home, you may drop off completed dresses in the church office, packaged individually in gallon plastic bags. Please note the size of your dress on the bag.

Questions? Contact Alayne Leggett (574-3959) or call the church office (434-6194).

Food Pantry Special Needs...

Cereal, peanut butter, 100% juice, boxed macaroni and cheese, spaghetti sauce, pasta, rice, paper products (diapers, toilet paper, etc.), personal care items (shampoo, laundry detergent, etc.), canned items -soups, stews, fruits, meats (tuna, chicken, salmon).

The Tabitha Fund ..

continues to be a help to our church family when events enter life and resources are limited. This fund grows through the gifts of the congregation and provides another powerful way for us to walk with each other in hard times. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you may do so at any time. Please note on your check: *Tabitha Fund*.

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance and would benefit from a confidential gift from the *Tabitha Fund*, please contact Pastor Ann.

The MPC Continuing Small Group ...

meets at Sunnyside on the first and third Mondays of each month at 1:45 p.m. The current study series is Favorite Bible Passages. New members are welcome. You do not have to be a Sunnyside resident to attend. If interested in joining, please call Ginny Biggs at 437-8807.

Parents of Youth - Grades 7 - 12

Just a reminder of the meetings we have on **January 8**. At **4:00 p.m.** we will have our Youth Mission Trip Meeting to discuss our plans for summer mission trips and coordinate our fundraising events. At **5:00 p.m.** we will begin our general parent meeting, updating you on what's been happening and what will be happening in our ministry with your children.

Baja 2012!

Shenandoah Presbytery announces the 2012 Mission Trip to Baja California, Mexico July 15 - 21, 2012

- Building houses for families in need
- Vicente Guerrero, Baja California, Mexico
- 60 team spots available on a first-come basis
- Registration is now open and closes April 1, 2012

For more information, including FAQ, registration forms and past trip reports, please visit

<http://www.shenpres.org/mc/mce1.html>

facebook



Follow us on facebook!

CE Opportunities:

F.E.A.S.T.

(Friends Eating and Sharing Together)

FEAST resumes after our Thanksgiving/Christmas break. Term 3 begins **January 11** with two options for adults. Dinner begins at **5:30 p.m.** and studies begin at **6:00 p.m.**

Boundaries with Kids

Dave Reser, Facilitator

This series will offer people that deal with children and teens some tools for helping the kids take responsibility for their own actions, attitudes and emotions.

Who should take the course? Just about anyone that deals with children and teens, including parents, grandparents, teachers, Sunday school teachers and coaches.

The course is designed to help with these sorts of problems: impulsivity, inattention to parental directives, defying authority, whining, procrastination, inability to finish tasks and aggressive behavior, among others.

There are eight classes that include a short video session followed by discussion. Each participant should have the Participant's Guide for the course. More information will follow shortly about how to get a Participant's Guide and meeting place.

Healing the Heart of Democracy by Parker Palmer A Book Study with Pastor John Leggett

In his newest book, Parker Palmer looks with realism and hope at how to deal with our political tensions for the sake of the common good--without the shouting, blaming, or defaming so common in our politics today.

Palmer builds on his own extensive experience as an inner life explorer and social change activist to examine the personal and social infrastructure of American politics. The book guides readers as they look at the dynamics of our inner lives for clues to reclaiming our civic well-being. He points the way to a politics rooted in the commonwealth of compassion and creativity still found among "We the People".

Join Pastor John and other adults in room 117 on the lower level for conversations and readings on this critical topic at a critical time in American life. Contact Nancy Ruh if you need the church to order you a copy of the book!

Coming in January for Women Only...

Open the Door: A Journey to the True Self

Nancy Ruh, Facilitator

In this book, author Joyce Rupp explores the rich image of the door as an invitation to growth and awareness. Discovering the many ways that doors are a potent symbol for spiritual growth, she leads readers to search more deeply in fuller union with God. This is a six week process with a reflection for each day of the week, to help participants discover their rich potential for goodness and fulfillment.

Readers will discover that there is seemingly no end to the insights that the image of the door can yield and that opening the door of the heart reveals the vast treasure of who we are and how the sacred is present with us. This study offers encouragement and companionship for those who desire to open each new door.

The introductory session will be Tuesday, **January 3** at 6:30 p.m. This small group will then continue to meet on Tuesday evenings through February 14.

At least 4 participants (in addition to the facilitator) are needed for this small group to meet. Contact Nancy Ruh by **December 23** if interested and to reserve your book.

Attention Parents of 2nd Graders...

We will hold our annual Bible Presentation to all second graders during worship on Sunday, **January 15**.

Please contact the church office and give us your child's full name and let us know if you will be in church that Sunday.

ABCs of Worship...

Acolyte, Baptism and Communion Steward training - January 8, 3:30 p.m

Once again we are offering children and their parents an opportunity participate in an afternoon of instruction on three ways children can participate in worship leadership: Acolytes (for children 2nd grade and up), Baptism and Communion Steward (children Kindergarten and up).

All children in Kindergarten through grade 6 are invited to participate. We will conclude in time for children's choirs at 5:00 p.m.

Contact the church office to let us know if you are coming!

Note to parents: If your child no longer wishes to be included on our schedule for any of these leadership roles, please contact the church office. Thanks!

Talent Show, revisited...

The church-wide talent show was held on November 12. There was much to see and hear...from art, banners, posters and knitted apparel...



To the rhythm of the Joy Boomers "boomwhacker" ensemble

And pianists, both aspiring and accomplished...



From dance...



To a show tune from two guys that probably like to eat too well to quit their day jobs...



And bakers (yes, the cupcake is almost too pretty to eat)...



And finally, a rendition of the Hallelujah Chorus by the masked, Silent Choir...all held together by our favorite Emcee, Ed Comer. The evening ended with fellowship, including good food and warm conversation. Many thanks to all that shared talents this evening!



January Birthdays / Anniversaries

1. *Anniversary:* Bud and Betty Long
- 2.
- 3.
4. Lisa Kanney, Dietrich Maune
5. Maggie Fletcher
6. Keith Knupp
- 7.
- 8.
9. Jean Watlington, Chris Painter, Carlee Huffman
10. Bill Liskey, Logan Comer
11. Terri Michael, Peggy Reinhold
12. Megan Miller
13. Myra Wissinger, Ken Arey
14. Sarah Lobban, Butch Dutt, Kristen Enslin
15. Cori Harpine; *Anniversary:* Butch and Leslie Dutt
16. Martha Floyd
17. Dorothy Dobroth
18. Ann Trobaugh, William Preston
19. George Cross, Seth Diehl
20. Jeff Lown
- 21.
22. *Anniversary:* John and Alayne Leggett
23. Colin Green
24. Pauline Woods, Hannah Depoy
25. Tom Holland; *Anniversary:* Steve and Mary Robinson
26. Jean Obenchain, Sharon Dovel, Jodi M. Baier
27. *Anniversary:* Jon and Christy Comer
28. Virginia Hayter, Kyle Nickel
29. Doris Kidwell-Jerome, Ellen Painter, Rachel Atkins
30. Robert Woods, Colin Gregory
31. Richard Armstrong, Emily Coffelt

From the Congregation

Angel Tree Thanks!

Many thanks to the congregation for your generous support of this year's Angel Tree Program. The gifts were delivered to the Salvation Army on December 7 for distribution later this month. Your kindness has helped to provide clothing and special gifts for many children in the Harrisonburg/Rockingham area.



Blessings in a Bag

The food for the weekend project (Blessings in a Bag) is up and running. Our shopping and packing teams have been providing packages of food for children in the South River School since early November. The response from those who've received the food indicates it is much appreciated and needed. Thank you for your wonderful response to this opportunity to help children in the area.

If you signed up to help or sponsor a child, but did not receive a follow-up letter, please contact the church office. (434-6194)

Congregational Care: People in our thoughts and prayers

Members of Our Church Family...

Bob Milner, Annabelle Shortell, Don Wilkinson, Mark Garrison, Jack Wysor, Chuck Bradley, Elzora Dewey, John Schneider, Linda Green, George Cross, Lucille Gohdes, Middy Raynal, Bettie Barksdale, Sally Brown, Helen Miller

Friends of Our Church Family...

Don Grimes, friend of our church family; **John Bjorkgren**, husband of Amy Bjorkgren; **Ryan Tarman** (grandson), **Debby Raines** (daughter), **Jim Templeman** (Martha's brother), **Dennis Wingfield**, and **Ginger Green** (friends) of Dee & Martha Floyd; **Bob Wells**, father of Laura Holbrook; **Jim Stobe**, friend of Dave & Jan Reser; **Anthony & Norma Harlow**, brother and sister-in-law of Pat Armstrong; **Mary Carr**, grandmother of Jill Enslen; **Eric Comer**, friend of Gail Oppy; **Caroline Raby**, friend of Nell Dove; **Bob Moran**, friend of the Webb & Schwalbach families; **Kinsley Armstrong**, friend of Nona Bowman; **Marcus Holland**, father of Marlan Holland and **Peter Seitz**, father of Stefanie Holland; **Grover Harper**, friend of the Caldwell family; **Carl Bendfeldt**, father of Terri Carrier; **Connie Lam**, grandmother of Caleb & Courtney Landes; **Laurie Winn**, friend of Kristen Suter-Blye; **Michael Brandt**, neighbor of Robert Landes; **Bob & Elizabeth Atkins**, father and mother of Sharon Lam & Mary Morris; **Dee Morris**, mother of Mike Morris; **Madisyn Hess**, friend of Jennifer Strawderman; **Bill Morris**, friend of Dick & Jean Forbes; **Charles Tilson**, brother of Cathy Comer; **Tim Leech**, friend of Kevin Caldwell; **Daryl & Sheri Bender**, friends of Jim & Gail Oppy; **John & Susan Stager**, friends of Bill & Judy Dent, **Norman Michael**, uncle of Mike & Terri Michael; **Beth Williams**, friend of the Dutt Family; **Chris Grape**, friend of Nona Bowman; **David Lilly**, nephew of Ann Bradley; **Jake Smith**, friend of Andrew Caldwell; **Hayley Kudro**, friend of Bella & Lilley Lane

We Extend Sympathy...

The family and friends of **Agnes Polson**, cousin of Jack Heintzleman and Carol Way

The family and friends of **Deborah Canter**

The family and friends of **Bob Wade**

Mission Concerns...

Our Mission Partner in Central Asia

Ilubabor Bethel Synod (Ethiopia)

Continuing mission and ministry presence in Vicente Guererro, Baja California, Mexico

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Massanutten Food Pantry

People of The Democratic Republic of Congo and Mission Partners

Last updated: December 12, 2011

TIME OUT FOR SCHOOL!



During December, the preschoolers are quite busy learning about the wonders of Christmas and the birth of the Christ Child. Our 3 year olds are bringing in food items for the Food Pantry families. Our 4 year olds are doing chores at home and bringing their chore money to school to help buy gifts for a family in the community.

These missions of the preschool families help the children learn a great lesson in sharing.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE LITTLE PEOPLE!

50 INDIAN TRAIL RD
PENN LAIRD VA 22846-2019

(540) 434-6194 OFFICE
(540) 434-3102 FAX
info@massanuttenchurch.org

www.massanuttenchurch.org

Church Staff

John P. Leggett, Pastor
Ann Pettit, Associate in Member Care
Nancy Ruh, Director of Christian Education
Karen Leecy, Office Manager
Greg Trobaugh, Treasurer
Bob Jerome, Music Director
Carol Lown, Organist

December 15

8:30-9:30am Sanctuary in use/Preschool
9:00am Yoga Class (GA)
11:15am Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary)
7:00pm Food Pantry (119)

December 16

8:30-9:30am Preschool Program (Sanctuary)
Church Office Closed

December 17

Church Office Closed
6:00pm Recorder Rehearsal

December 18

9:00am Faith Village/Sunday School
10:00am Fellowship Time (FH)
10:30am Lessons and Carols Worship Service
11:45am College Students, Parents Lunch
5:30pm Senior High Youth
7:00pm Massanutten Brass Band and Youth
Band Concert (Sanctuary)

December 19

No Yoga Class today
Preschool Christmas Break 1/19-1/2
11:00am Women's Prayer Lunch (Library)
1:00pm Staff Meeting (Library)
1:45pm Continuing Small Group (SS)
7:00pm New PW Circle (Library)
7:00pm Boy Scouts (119)

December 20

7:00pm Congregational Care (Library)

December 21

6:30pm Men's Prayer Breakfast (FH)
No FEAST until January 11, 2011
2:30-6:30pm Blood Drive (FH)
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CR)

December 22

No Yoga Class today

December 23

Church Office Closed

December 24

Church Office Closed
4:30pm Family Christmas Eve Candlelighting
Service
7:00pm Candlelighting and Communion
Service

December 25

Christmas Morning
Celebrating Jesus' Birthday Together
9:30am Fellowship and Journey to Christmas
10:30am Worship with telling of the Christmas
Story

December 26

No Yoga Class today
Church Office Closed today

December 27

Church Office Closed

December 28

Church Office Closed

December 29

No Yoga Class today
8:30am-12:00pm Church Office Open

December 30

Church Office Closed

December 31

Church Office Closed

January 1

No Faith Village/Sunday School today
9:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (CR)
10:30am Worship

January 2

Church Office Closed
1:45am Continuing Small Group (SS)

January 3

Preschool Classes begin
12:30pm Prime Timers Lunch (Golden Corral)
7:00pm Property Ministry (106)

January 4

6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast (FH)
3:00pm January 18 Ministry Link deadline
7:00pm Chancel Choir (CR)

January 5

9:00am Yoga Class (GA)
11:15am Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary)

January 6

Church Office Closed

January 7

Church Office Closed

6:00pm Recorder Rehearsal

January 8

9:00am Faith Village/Sunday School
10:00am Fellowship Coffee (FH)
10:30am Worship
11:45am Family Ministry (Library)
3:30pm ABC's of Worship
4:00pm Stephen Ministry (117)
5:00pm Youth Parent Meeting
5:00pm Cherub and Joysong Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm Middle and High School Youth (FH)

January 9

9:00am Yoga Class (GA)
10:00am Circle #2 (Highlands)
11:00am Women's Prayer Lunch (Library)
1:00pm Staff Meeting (Library)
3:00-5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 967 (FH)
5:45pm Massanutten Ringers
7:00pm Session and Deacon Meetings
7:00pm Boy Scouts (119)

January 10

10:00am Circle #3 (Sunnyside)
10:00am Shoshana Circle (Library)
1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (Library)

January 11

6:30pm Men's Prayer Breakfast (FH)
9:15am Crossroads Pealers (HBR)
5:15pm FEAST (Term 3 begins)
6:00pm FEAST High School Youth (Library)
7:00pm Chancel Choir (CR)

January 12

11:15am Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary)
1:00pm Circle #4 (SS)
1:30pm Circle #1 (Library)
2:30pm Adult Education Ministry (GA)

January 13

Church Office Closed
3:15-6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 394 (GA)

January 14

Church Office Closed
10:00am—noon Little Dresses Sewing Session
6:00pm Recorder Rehearsal

January 15

9:00am Faith Village/Sunday School
10:00am Fellowship Coffee (FH)
10:30am Worship
5:00pm Cherub and Joysong Choir Rehearsal
5:00pm AdventuRing Rehearsal (HBR)
6:00pm Middle and High School Youth (FH)
6:30pm Session Meeting (117)

January 16

9:00am Yoga Class (GA)
11:00am Women's Prayer Lunch (Library)
1:00pm Staff Meeting (Library)
1:45am Continuing Small Group (SS)
7:00pm Massanutten Ringers (HBR)
7:00pm Mission Outreach Ministry (117)
7:00pm New Circle (Library)
7:00pm Boy Scouts (119)

January 17

9:00am-12:00noon Called Presbytery Meeting
(Sanctuary)
7:00pm Congregational Care Ministry