



Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church

# THE OLIVE BRANCH

January 2020



## January Events

- 1 Happy & Healthy New Year  
Office Closed
- 2 No Ladies Bible Study
- 4 5:30pm Come As You Are
- 5 Annual Reports Due
- 6 Epiphany
- 7 6:30pm Deacons Mtg  
6:30pm Boy Scout Cmte Mtg
- 13 Deacons Volunteer  
appreciation Sunday
- 14 9:30am Sip & Chat
- 15 Olive Branch Deadline 6:30pm
- 18 Volunteer Appreciation
- 19 1:00pm Youth Event
- 21 7:00pm Session Meeting
- 27 Annual Meeting

## Weekly

Sun	8:45am Adult SS 9:30am Worship with Jr. Church
Mon	6:30pm Boy Scouts
Tue	8:00pm AA
Wed	7:30am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Bell Rehearsal 7:00pm Band Rehearsal
Thu	9:30am Ladies Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal 8:00pm AA
Sat	4:00pm AA

**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation** will be held on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> after worship. Annual reports are due into the church office no later than Sunday, January 5, 2019. Reports will be available for pickup on Sunday, January 19, 2019. Following the meeting, there will be a luncheon in the gym. Look for signup sheets of what to bring coming soon!



## From Our Pastor



Dear Friends,

As we think about a New Year and those resolutions that we make each year, I want you to think about your spiritual resolutions. Thom Rainer, who wrote the book Simple Church that the Session used to create the vision statement “Accept...Grow...Share,” shares his list of nine reasons why it is important to attend church services.

**The local church was God’s plan in the New Testament.** From the founding of the first local church in Jerusalem to the growth of new congregations throughout the Roman Empire, the New Testament is clear. God wanted His people gathering regularly and faithfully. And lest we forget, all of these congregations had problems. All of these churches had problem people. Hypocrisy was real and pervasive, but it was not a valid excuse to give up the local church.

**The Bible speaks clearly about the priority of local congregations.** If you read the New Testament from Acts to Revelation, you will see that a gathered church was not just one important factor for the Christian, it was one of the highest priorities. After the ascension of Jesus, the local church was truly “the body of Christ.”

**We are commanded and designed to enjoy worshipping the one true God as a gathered community.** What if church members really did one thing in worship services? What if they asked God to let them see Him and know Him fully as the church gathered together? What if that was the priority over evaluating the style of music? What if that was more important than the preacher preaching five minutes more than you deemed appropriate?

**A unified church can stand strong in a culture turning away from God.** We can’t be a unified church with sporadic attendance. We can’t stand together if we aren’t persistently gathered together. Do you remember how the early church in Jerusalem reached a culture opposed to God? The outside world saw the unity and joy of the church and wanted to know more about this Jesus they worshipped. Remember, they were “praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. Every day the Lord added to their number those were being saved” (Acts 2:47). A faithfully attended church is a unified church. A unified church is an evangelistic church.

Continued on next page

## From Our Pastor continued from cover page

**The world looks at our priorities and evaluates what we deem as important.** Expanding on the previous point, we can't expect the community we serve to get excited about our church if the members of the community see it to be a low priority among the members. The twice-a-month attendees make the church an afterthought. The once-a-month attendee hardly thinks about the church at all.

**Accountability takes place in the local church.** When we gather together worshipping with others, we are holding each other up and accountable. When we belong to a small group in the church, our absence is conspicuous. We need people holding us accountable in love. We need others looking after us. Accountability is indeed a good thing.

**Families that attend church faithfully and regularly are happier and healthier families.** The research from the secular world is overwhelming. Study after study shows that families who are in church almost every week are among those with the best-adjusted children. Marriages are healthier. Small children grow to become mature and joyous adults. Though these studies are affirming, we can see throughout the New Testament how God has a clear and compelling plan for His children and their families to gather together regularly and faithfully.

**Discipleship takes place in the local church.** There seems to be this big mystery about discipleship. How do we do discipleship? Exactly what is discipleship? How does that work in the local church?

Remember, discipleship is simply becoming more like Christ. We become more like Christ as we gather and worship together. We become more like Christ when we belong to a small group and do community together. We become more like Christ as we listen to the preached Word every week. We become more like Christ as we do ministry and evangelism through our local church. For sure, discipleship can take place outside the local church. But the New Testament clearly demonstrates the local congregation is God's "Plan A" for growing as a disciple.

**God gives us great joy when we serve others through the local church.** For sure, there are some grumpy and miserable church members. They seem to have a common trait. There are things in the church that aren't going *their* way. They are not getting *their* worship style. They are not getting *themselves* fed. They don't like the way the pastor does things because it's not *their* way. They focus on three people: me, myself, and I. But we can experience incredible joy as we serve others, as we put others before ourselves, as we don't focus on our own preferences and desires. We experience incredible joy as we serve other church members and those who reside in our community.

All of these nine reasons, of course, presume we are faithful attenders. We are neither obedient nor are we able to experience the full joy of our church if we attend once or twice a month or even less. Faithful weekly church attendance is important. It brings us joy. It helps us to grow spiritually. It is one of the primary characteristics of a healthy family. Above all, it is an act of obedience to God. And that's what really matters.

Something to think about for each of us. Make regular church attendance a priority this year – and invite your friends, neighbors, and family to join us!

See you on Sunday!  
Pastor Mike

### Deacons Volunteer Appreciation Sunday

January 13, 2018 – The Deacons are sponsoring "Volunteer Appreciation Sunday" to recognize those groups who have supported the food basket ministry. Please join us to say thank you. The Deacons will be leading parts of the service and hosting coffee hour for our guests.



**Website Editor** – We are looking for someone to keep the website up to date. Currently, Pastor Mike is handling the duty. No website experience necessary – the website is very user friendly. Interested? Please talk with Pastor Mike.

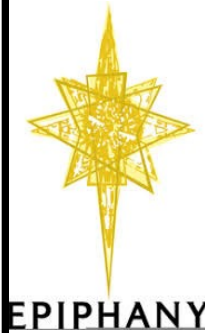
## Epiphany | Definition of Epiphany by Merriam-Webster

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/epiphany> ✓ ▾

3a(1) : a usually sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something. (2) : an intuitive grasp of reality through something (such as an event) usually simple and striking. (3) : an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure.



**Adopt-A-Family Ministry Update** – This new ministry going strong, and the support is fully committed! Thank you to everyone who has pledged support. In December, we provided WalMart & Shop Rite gift cards. Since the ministry has received pledges in excess of what is needed, Session approved an additional \$200 to help with Christmas gifts. The family is very grateful for the church's assistance. Please pray for the family we have adopted – and for our church as we carry out this new ministry.



The **Annual Meeting** of the Congregation and Corporation will be held on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> after worship. Annual reports are due into the church office no later than Sunday, January 5, 2020. Reports will be available for pickup on Sunday, January 19, 2020. Following the meeting, there will be a luncheon in the gym. Look for signup sheets of what to bring coming soon!



**Christmas Baskets** Thanks to your generosity, 31 baskets were delivered to friends and neighbors in the community for Christmas dinner. A total of 100 food baskets were delivered in 2019. Continued thanks to our members, Athletes in Action, The Amwell Valley Auxiliary and the community.



**HELLO  
MY NAME IS**

**Outreach** – As part of the Session's commitment to outreach, Pastor Mike and several elders have been attending functions and meetings in the community during December. Pastor Mike and Sue King attended the end of season dessert for Athletes in Action. Athletes in Action provides assistance and support to the food basket ministry. Pastor Mike and Linda Hults visited the Amwell Valley Ambulance Squad to thank them for their service to the community and all that they do. In addition, the Ambulance Squad provided CPR training to 8 members of our church family for our new AED machine – and they hosted the Saturday AA group on the day that Emily and Joe were married. The pastor and Linda also visited with the Tuesday AA group to make sure that all was good – and to say thank you for providing this wonderful support to those in recovery. More visits are planned in the upcoming months.

## Youth Group

During January, the Youth Group schedule will be as follows:

Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Roller Skating in Frenchtown – meet at the church at 12:30pm. Cost is \$11.



John Liebler lived in the Ringoes area and passed away in 1917. It was his request that money he donated be invested and the interest used to purchase candy canes and oranges for the Sunday School children at Christmas. This has been an ongoing tradition for over 100 years.



## Deacons Corner

**The clothing drive is still going on.**

**Clothing Drive for the Rescue Mission of Trenton**

The box is in basement under gym in orange classroom



### Lambertville Food Pantry Needs for January

The Lambertville Food Pantry is low on the following items: cereal, black beans, tomato sauce (jars), fruit juice, canned fruit, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, toilet paper, pasta, crackers, pancake mix, and syrup. Your generosity is appreciated.

Heard  
around the  
neighbor-  
hood

We are very proud to announce this year's Educators and Educational Service Professionals of the Year for our South Hunterdon Regional School District:

Kim Bogdan  
Shelley DiSalvi  
Chelsea Gardiner  
Carly Isabella-Murine  
Jessica Lui

**Tracy McClelland**

Please join our Administrative Team as well as our entire community in congratulating these deserving educators for being recognized for their dedication, care, and involvement within our district and our community to provide our students with meaningful, enriching learning experiences. Congratulations to all of these talented professionals!!



## Upcoming Sermon Topics & Scriptures

(subject to change):

January 5, 2020 – Jeremiah 31:7-14 – “Satisfied with Abundance”

January 12, 2020 – Isaiah 42:1-9 – “Be A Light”

January 19, 2020 – Isaiah 49:1-7 – “Chosen”

January 26, 2020 – Matthew 4:12-23 – “Come Follow”



### KMPC Financial Summary

2019

MTD (November)

Receipts – \$15,637.29

Expenses - \$21,734.30

Difference – (\$6,097.01)

YTD (through November)

Receipts - \$185,857.40

Expenses - \$200,438.80

Difference – (\$14,581.40)

2018

MTD (November 2018)

Receipts - \$15,824.22

Expenses - \$23,246.23

Difference – (\$7,422.01)

YTD (through November 2018)

Receipts – \$197,550.32

Expenses – \$210,140.07

Difference – (\$12,589.75)

The Session is discussing how to proceed with the proposed deficit for 2019. Please keep the church in your prayers. Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of KMPC!



# Deacon's January 2020 Prayer List

## KMPC Family

Angela B (grieving)  
 Ashlyne – Jen B  
 Bart and Norma  
 Ben D. (military)  
 Barb K. (grieving)  
 Corliss & Family  
 Dave M. (Wellbeing) – Jen B.  
 Debbie Case-Neri  
 (grieving loss of husband)  
 Dorothy S. (healing)  
 Freda VL  
 Hillary (healing)  
 Irene & Fred K. (Parkinson)  
 Paul & Sharon M.  
 (rebuilding & healing)  
 Phyllis P.  
 Steve & Terri F. (healing)  
 Sue K & (grieving)  
 Caregivers  
 Families suffering with addictions  
 Homebound members & Shut-Ins  
 Hospice Patients  
 Teachers & /Students

## Hunterdon Care Center

Joe K.

## Extended KMPC Family

Alice (healing)  
 Amy F. (healing)  
 Art (chemo for cancer) Dorothy  
 cousin  
 Barbara (grieving) Betsy's Friend  
 Bob D (Kidney)  
 Carol—Amy's Mom  
 Arlene – Karen D Neighbor  
 Elizabeth's sister Barbara (Bladder  
 Cancer)  
 Gail K (Parkinson)  
 Helen B (moved to care facility)  
 Dorothy  
 Jackie -- Betsy P Daughter  
 Jean G (Dementia) Dorothy's Aunt  
 Jen (Health Issues – Betsy P  
 Judy (cancer) Anne's friend  
 Kate Lim (kidney) Sharyn

Lolly H.(brain tumor) Norma Z friend  
 Lucas 3 year old, Gail's great grand  
 son Abdominal pain  
 Mary (cancer)  
 Nancy F. (Health issues)  
 Kathy's friend  
 Keith P. (healing)  
 Pauline (Alzheimer's) Kathy L. Aunt  
 Richard B. Sr. (Healing, diabetes)-  
 Dorothy  
 Sandra H. (healing)  
 Sherri B. (healing, lupus) –  
 Richard's Daughter  
 Renda Family (grieving)  
 Rich Messmer Family  
 (Rich complications from tick bite)  
 Ron and Sandy P. (healing)  
 Shawn and Anthony  
 Steve (cancer) -Tracy's friend.  
 Toby & Judy N. (healing, Safety)  
 Tom (Lymphoma)

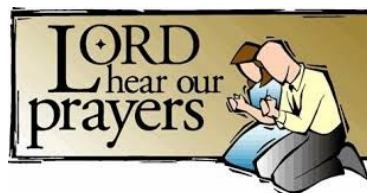
Families of Natural Disasters  
 First Responders  
 Military Men & Women  
 President & Congress  
 Prisoners  
 Refugees  
 Shooting Victims  
 Troubled youth  
 U.S. & World Situations  
 Unemployed  
 Victims of Violence



Danielle Mundhenk	Jan. 2
Keith Stover	Jan 3
Jason Zimmerman	Jan. 7
Gavin Horne	Jan. 8
Kris Al-Daqa	Jan. 9
Krystle McDaniels	Jan. 9
Irene Kuhl	Jan. 13
Mike Stover	Jan. 13
Ryleigh Bacorn	Jan. 14
Janis Little	Jan. 16
Terry Wright	Jan. 16
Joe Kurylo	Jan. 17
Elizabeth Kadezabek	Jan. 18
Lynn Hutchinson	Jan. 19
David Fulper	Jan. 20
Jamie Lyn Quinn	Jan 20
Anna Dell	Jan. 26
Terri Ferrell	Jan. 30

## A Prayer for the New Year

Lord,  
 Whether we're leaving behind a  
 year of joy and blessing or trials  
 and difficulties, we pause to  
 give thanks.  
 We thank You that You are always  
 with us every single day of every  
 single year.  
 Please remind us of Your presence  
 in the year ahead, even when life is  
 busy.  
 We are so thankful that we serve a  
 God who makes things new and  
 gives us the grace of fresh starts  
 and new beginnings.  
 Be glorified in our lives this year.  
 In Jesus' name,  
 Amen.



Please contact us to have names added or deleted at [admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org](mailto:admin@kirkpatrickchurch.org)

# Master Schedule

January 2020

Date	Nursery	Jr. Church	Greeters & Ushers	Security Cell	Communion Prep	Communion Servers	Coffee Break	Flowers
Jan 4 Epiphany	5:30pm Come As You Are Worship							
Jan 5 Epiphany	Kristen Schott	Awaiting Volunteer	TEAM 6, Barbara Kurylo, Sue King, Karen Shipman, Beverly Kaminski	Darryl Cronce	Dave Case & Betty Reilly	Dave Case & Betty Reilly, Darryl Cronce, Roger DeLay	Men's Bible Study	Dorothy Shellenberger
Jan 12 <i>Deacon Day Volunteer Appreciation</i>	Terry & Skip Kell	Awaiting Volunteer	TEAM 7, Norma Zimmerman, Tracy McClelland, Steve and Janis Little	Roger Pickard	Lori Wonsor	Lori & Steve Wonsor	Joyce George	
Jan 19	Ellie Verbeyst	Awaiting Volunteer	TEAM 1, Chuck and Jeanne Mundhenk, Brian and Kathy Mundhenk	Darryl Cronce	Amy Atzert	Roger Pickard, Amy Atzert	Barbara Kurylo	
Jan 26 Annual Meeting	Amy Atzert	Awaiting Volunteer	TEAM 2, Pat and Terry Wright, Betsy Peterson, Lynn Hutchinson		Sharyn Danner		Annual Meeting Luncheon	



Youth Xmas Party  
Reindeer Games????



Congratulations  
Benjamin  
Brave  
(Stover)  
Essock





# Christmas Caroling



## Advent Potluck & Crafts for Hunterdon Care Center





## MISSION NEWS



Dear Kirkpatrick Mem. Presby Church,

With your recent gift of \$1500, MAF is better able to work with numerous church leaders to reach difficult to access locations around the world with the love and hope of the Gospel. Your continued support helps fund flights for pastoral conferences, medical relief efforts, education, and so much more. Thank you for partnering with Mission Aviation Fellowship to advance the kingdom of God!

For His Glory,

*Mike Snodgrass*

Mike Snodgrass

Director, Ministry Awareness

Dear Friends,

**From Hannah Mokros**

The school year has started and it has been going well so far. I am in the middle of applying to high schools and playing sports, singing, participating in robotics and I just found out I have the lead in the school musical this year. It has taken me a little while to write to all my sponsors that supported my trip to Bogota, Colombia this summer, so I wanted to use this month of Thanksgiving to express my appreciation to everyone for their prayers and financial support this past summer.

While in Colombia, I feel like God used me to open the eyes of the people who hadn't heard about His Son. He also allowed me to talk to people who just needed the assurance that God has been working in their lives. I talked with a woman from Venezuela who said she left all of her family behind to come to Bogota. She is without a job, home, food, and family to talk to. This woman listened when I explained the evangelism and when I asked her where she would go when she dies she answered "hell". She felt like she wasn't making God proud because she didn't have a job or house. Instead of getting a paper with her information we got to have a 5 minute prayer where she just broke down and started saying, "I want to go to heaven." When I heard her say that, I could tell that she gave her trust in God and life to Jesus. This was the first time I had gone on a mission trip. It was an experience where I could be open to being used by God. I am very grateful for the opportunity to go to Colombia and for the support of the church, my family, and friends.

Again, thank you for your support. I look forward to a year of firsts in 2020. My first job, my new high school, and if the Lord allows, another mission trip to Colombia. God bless you and your families at Thanksgiving and always.

Hannah Mokros, age 13







*Merry Christmas*  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dear Friends at Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church; December 2019

*It is that wonderful time of year again to send you our heartfelt greetings and thanks for your faithful partnership with us. You are such a blessing to us through your prayers and support as we enjoy the ministries that the Lord has entrusted to us in Papua, Indonesia.*

*It has been a year now since Diane's doctor was thrilled to inform her that she was in remission from her cancer. Her exam a couple of weeks ago confirmed this once again, and she has been given a good bill of health to return to resume her ministries in Papua.*

*Diane's Hatam Women's Bible Classes, her Youth Leadership Training, and newly-formed Sunday School Teacher Training programs are all running smoothly. The students are all eager to receive the new Bible lessons that Diane has been preparing. Although we had originally expected to be ministering to just the Hatam tribe, with the retirement of missionaries from surrounding tribes, Diane has been asked to expand her teaching ministries to include six other tribes. She does this by teaching in the Indonesian language. Then the students take the lessons back to their seven tribes, translating them into the local languages, and teaching the materials to their group leaders. What a great opportunity to train leaders in the approximately 300 churches from these new tribes, as well as for the Hatam tribe.*

*Walter continues to serve on the National Mission Board, recruiting and mobilizing missionaries from our Indonesian churches to serve in unreached areas of Papua. We currently have seven families assigned to four areas in Papua, and we hope to recruit three more families to spearhead two new areas as well.*

*An additional ministry that Walter is completing in the next few weeks is the writing of the Family Life Book in the Hatam language. The book has been out of print for about 20 years. Once the book is brought up to date, and chapters added to challenge cultural norms that have been plaguing out Hatam people, we expect to send the book to the printer by the end of December. Walter will then hold classes at the Men's Hatam Bible School with the book as the basis for the teaching.*

*And to think that it all began about 2000 years ago when a small child grew up to be a man, and left the comfort of his carpenter shop to pave the way for eternal life for generations to come. May you enjoy the blessing of this Christmas Holiday Season and may you enjoy knowing that your partnership with us in prayer and your financial gifts is allowing the gift of salvation to be extended to the people of Papua, Indonesia.*

*Again, our sincere thanks as we serve the Lord together.*

*In His Love,*

*Walter & Diane*

Email: [wdkrkennedy@gmail.com](mailto:wdkrkennedy@gmail.com)

Address: Jl Slamet Riyadi No. 1, Manokwari 98301,  
Papua Barat. Indonesia



# Community News

## Re-Gift for a Cause

Do you have items destined for RE-gifting?  
Do you have unopened items just taking up space in your home or garage?

**We can help you and You'll be helping us!!**

We'll even come pick them up, for FREE.

We're collecting items for our  
Annual Tricky Tray Fundraiser Event.

Call Peg Forte 908-730-7827 x 246 or Leah Greif x 225



## The Giving Tree



Dear Pastor Mike and all our friends in  
Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church,

We are so grateful that God has brought us together to help fatherless families in our midst! You have outdone yourselves in showing abundant generosity to our single mothers and their children through your gifts of diapers, wipes, clothing, toys and \$ worth of gift cards from Shoprite and Wal-Mart.

We know this will be a wonderful expression of God's great love for each precious family. This great kindness that you have shown will be such a welcome encouragement to them, living in such a caring community.

"Blessed is the one who is kind to the needy...  
whoever is kind to the needy honors God"

Proverbs 14: 21 & 31

May the Lord bless you all at Christmas and in  
the New Year.

Jeannie and Mimi and all at  
Friendship Center for New Beginnings

"They will  
call Him  
Immanuel,  
which means  
God with us"

Matthew 1:23

