

MEMORIAL MESSENGER

Latest News

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The Urban Mission item of the month for December is **Soup.** Please place your donation in the box by the church information table.



Memorial Presbyterian Church accepts **online donations** through a partnership with the Presbyterian Foundation, via the Presbyterian Mission Exchange. Look for the



"Give Now" button on our website,

www.memorialpres.org, or scan the QR code here. Recurring or one-time donations may be made by credit/debit card or by direct transfer from your bank account (EFT). We will continue to accept cash and checks as well.

MEMORIAL MESSENGER

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends.

As we begin this season of Advent, we recognize a time of darkness and shadows. I am keenly aware of the shadows all around us...death and illness, hatred and violence, abuses of power... which seem to permeate our daily lives. I ran across this piece recently and it spoke to me. I share it with you for this Advent time.

Advent Credo

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss— This is true: For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life;

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction—This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever—

This is true: Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, his name shall be called wonderful councilor, mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world— This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo I am with you, even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church before we can be peacemakers—

This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions and your old men shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes for liberation of humankind, of justice, of human dignity of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history—

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that the true worshipers shall worship God in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

From Walking on Thorns, by Allan Boesak, Eerdmans, 2004.

Let us walk into Advent's darkness with hope and truth.

Grace and peace, Tracy

Clerk's Corner

Session met on November 14th. Minutes will be available at a later date.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Sunday December 3 begins the season of Advent. We will gather around the word with the lighting of the Advent candle each Sunday through Christmas Eve. We will hear the Christmas story through scripture, the message, and the music. All is done in **preparation** as we eagerly await the birth of the Savior.

Thanks be to Vince for his planning of the services for Advent, to Stephen for his planning of the Christmas Eve (evening) service, to Tracy for her insightful and challenging messages, and to all the community of faith who raise their voices in worship and praise. And thanks be to God for the greatest of gifts, his Son!

BEHIND THE SCENES

Or should we say "behind the bushes," because that is where this lady spends time watering plants and spraying weeds in the beds at Memorial. When asked how long she has been taking care of the flower beds, she first responded that she didn't know. Then she said, "Forever." She has had helpers along the way like Donna Vint and Loreen Upton, but it has been gardener Eileen Burke who has even been seen brandishing that weed sprayer in the growing darkness after choir, doing battle against the forces of nature that conspire against her. Thanks be to God!

Stewardship Update							
November 1 to November 30, 2017							
Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2017 Budget					
\$157,514.29	\$142,083.26	\$155,000.00					
\$9,457.72	\$10,083.26	\$11,000.00					
\$166,972.01	\$152,166.52	\$166,000.00					
\$161,086.99	\$173,725.97	\$189,521.00					
	November 1 to N Actual YTD \$157,514.29 \$9,457.72 \$166,972.01	November 1 to November 30, 2017 Actual YTD \$157,514.29 \$142,083.26 \$9,457.72 \$10,083.26 \$166,972.01 \$152,166.52					

December Worship Duty Schedule

Head Usher: Mike Cole

December 3

Ushers: Mike and Karen Girdner

Communion Servers: Susan and John Beck, Michael Yeager, and Nicholas Lindley

Coffee: Donna Vint & Grace Tamukong

Sound Booth: Mike Cole Acolyte Assistant: Joan Cole Nursery Assistant: Donna Vint Lock-up: Charlotte Lovett

December 10

Ushers: Harry Wright and Donna Vint Coffee: Loreen Upton & Doris Hinson

Sound Booth: Mike Girdner Acolyte Assistant: Trudy Beard Nursery Assistant: Linda Eckel

Lock-up: Doug Forsyth

December 17

Ushers: Carl and Julie Forthman Coffee: Lisa Upton & Trudy Beard

Sound Booth: Larry Upton

Acolyte Assistant: Karen Girdner Nursery Assistant: Karen Upton

Lock-up: Mike Girdner

December 24

Ushers: Ann Fayles and Trudy Beard Coffee: Breanna Upton & Linda Eckel

Sound Booth: Tim Thiessen Acolyte Assistant: Melissa Gill Nursery Assistant: Joan Cole

Lock-up: John Beck

December 31

Ushers: Michael Yeager and Eileen Burke

Coffee: Joan Thrailkill Sound Booth: Karen Upton Acolyte Assistant: Lisa Upton Nursery Assistant: Susan Beck

Lock-up: Harry Wright

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Please join us for a Christmas Potluck and pageant Sunday, December 10th at 5pm.



Please join us December, 24th at 7:00 PM for our Christmas Eve Service.

We are happy to share gifts this Christmas season with four families who are spending this Christmas at the Women's Resource Center shelter in Norman.

They certainly need and deserve our support. Please don't wrap the gifts you buy! Please bring them back to church on or before Sunday, December 10th, marked clearly with the name.



The Waiting Place

"Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back—whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. Mark 13:35 (NIV)

Unscramble the letters and write the word correctly in the space provided.



1.	DRUGA _			
6.	ISGNEPLE			
7.	UHOR			
11.	RTROEOS			
	DAY HOUR ANGELS	HEAVEN GUARD	HOUSE WATCH	MIDNIGHT ROOSTER

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Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser

Lola Carroll

Sandy Clarke

Harold Conner

Janice Crump

Doug Forsyth

Alice Lanning

Blair Lanning

Jayelle Martin

Harry Wright

Gerry Harner (Joan Cole's mother)

Denise Jones (Jayelle Martin's daughter)

Jan Ferguson (friend of Georjana Mauldin)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Andrea Eyabi, whose brother Francis Arrey died November 27.

Family of Johannes Feh Tasem, uncle of Gladys Jangha, who died October 10

The Family of Cynthia Robb who passed away on September 29

Seminary Student

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

December Birthdays

- 1 Gabe Benson
 Bruce Bunce
 Carl Forthman
 Nick Lindley
 3 Jan Johnson
 4 Kurt Johnson
 - 5 Anita Harkey
 - 6 Ashley Wooliver
 - 7 Gene Bergstresser
 - 8 Betty Silman Troy Johnston
 - 11 Jack Adams13 Allen Silman
 - David Cole 15 Kenny Martin
 - 17 Ruby Marsh
 - 20 Esau Jangha22 Jim Burns
 - Everett Forthman
 - 23 Kay (Karen) Martin
 Betsy (Elizabeth)
 Pennington
 Norma Taylor
 - 27 Brooke (Thrailkill) Hesse
 - 30 Haley Williams

In an effort to stay apprised of our ongoing prayer concerns, prayer requests of those outside the MPC family will stay on the concerns list for one month. Please let the office know if there is a need to be listed longer.

December Anniversaries

- 13 Kirk & Jessica Forthman (2014)
- 20 Judd & Alice Lanning
- 27 Tim & Jona Thiessen (1980)
- 30 Carl & Julie Forthman

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 A.M.— 3:00P.M. Advent Retreat
3	4 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	5	6 3:00 p.m. Kids' Club 4:00 p.m. Children's Choir 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	7	8	9
10 5:00 P.M Christmas Potluck and Pageant	11 7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts	12 6:00 P.M. Mission and Evangelism meeting	13 3:00 p.m. Kids' Club 4:00 p.m. Children's Choir 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	14 7:00 P.M Building & Grounds Meeting	15	16
17 12:00 P.M. Deacons Meeting 5:30 P.M. Stewardship Meeting	18 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	19 7:00 P.M Session Meeting	20 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	21	22	23
24 7:00 P.M Christmas Eve Service	25 Office Closed	26	27 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	28	29	30