

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MOUNT JOY, PENNSYLVANIA  
11 AM Morning Worship- -December 11, 2016  
3rd Sunday in Advent**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME - LIFE IN THE CHURCH** Announcements & Concerns

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Advent #3 Candle of Joy (Luke 1:46b-47, 49)**

**Leader:** O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God. (Psalm 43:3-4)

**Leader:** It's getting closer.

**People:** We feel it!

**Leader:** The days are shorter, but the lights burn brighter.

**People:** We're listening. We're eager to hear good news.

**Leader:** We've gathered together in the House of Joy.

**People:** We're here to praise God with our voices.

**Leader:** We're here to praise God with our beautiful music.

**People:** We're here to praise God with all we have.

**Leader:** Today we light the candle of Joy.

**All:** We worship God with exceeding joy!

**\*Song of Praise to God**      **Go Tell It on the Mountains**  
#205 Blue Hymnal

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**Leader:** Hear now our silent prayer of confession...

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**#142 Blue Hymnal**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES, GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**# 382 Blue Hymnal**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**ANTHEM** "I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**      **Isaiah 35:1-10 Pg. 663**

**SERMON**      "Thin Places of Christmas: Deserts"  
Rev. Dr. Steve Fritz

**\* Song to Glorify God**

**Away in a Manger**  
#185 Blue Hymnal

**Baptism of Willem Eoin Kneier**

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**Leader:** The peace of Christ be with you!

**People:** And also with you!

**\*Songs of Response**

**How Great Our Joy!**  
#182 Blue Hymnal

**Angels We Have Heard on High**  
# 192 Blue Hymnal

**\*THE CHARGE AND THE BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

**\*standing in mind, body or in spirit**

**MISSION:** “The energy of the Holy Spirit equips us to reach out joyfully in Jesus’ name to meet human needs in the community and in the world.”

**VISION:** “We will nurture people physically and spiritually, showing them the transforming love and grace of Jesus Christ.”

<b>Minister:</b>	<b>Rev. Sarah A. Kneier</b>
<b>Director of Music:</b>	<b>Heather Ruoss</b>
<b>Organist Emeritus</b>	<b>Mary Ann Ober</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Barbara O’Neal</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Deborah Hoffman</b>

**Elders:**

<b>Tim Nolt</b>	<b>Membership/Mission/ Property</b>
<b>Dennis Bouchard</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>
<b>Joy Bouchard</b>	<b>Treasurer/Finance &amp; Stewardship</b>
<b>Deborah Hoffman</b>	<b>Clerk of Session/ Youth &amp; Young Adults</b>
<b>Meagan Nolt</b>	<b>Worship and Music</b>
<b>Jean Shelly</b>	<b>Fellowship/Outreach</b>
<b>Barbara O’Neal</b>	

**Deacons:**

<b>Jeff Weber</b>	<b>Moderator, Ushers, Greeters,</b>
<b>Laura Weber</b>	<b>Treasurer, Flowers</b>
<b>Janet Stirling</b>	<b>Prayer Chain, Transportation</b>
<b>Kari Nolt</b>	<b>Visits and Calls, Greeting Cards</b>
<b>Dee Albert</b>	<b>Secretary, Audio Ministry, Coffee Hour</b>
<b>April Leggore</b>	<b>Nursery, Food Bank</b>

**Church Telephone and Strength for Today: 653-5888**

**E-mail Address: [fpcmj@embarqmail.com](mailto:fpcmj@embarqmail.com)**

**Pastor email: [sarahfpmj@gmail.com](mailto:sarahfpmj@gmail.com)**

**Website: [firstpresmountjoy.com](http://firstpresmountjoy.com)**

**[www.facebook.com/firstpresmountjoy](http://www.facebook.com/firstpresmountjoy)**

The First Presbyterian Church of Mount Joy was organized on December first, 1839 but began holding services in the Mount Joy vicinity as early as 1746. This church is a thoroughly evangelical church in the historic sense of that word and our basic purposes are to bring people to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, to build them in the Christian faith and life, and to enlarge missionary participation to the extent that all may come to hear of and believe in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior. Friend and stranger, to such a church as this you are welcome.

## **News of the Week**

**ASK US/TELL US/GIVE US GOOD NEWS**

**December 11, 2016**

### **BAPTISM**

**Willem Eoin Kneier – Today**

**Willem is the son of Pastor Sarah and David Kneier and the brother of Ansel Kneier. We welcome Rev. Dr. Steve Fritz from Wayside Presbyterian Church who is officiating.**

**Members of Wayside have also been invited to the service and there will be a covered dish luncheon afterwards. Please bring a dish to share. The Fellowship Committee will furnish beverages and dessert**



### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

**The Deacons and friends will be going Christmas Caroling to shut-ins on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> after lunch following the church service. Please join us if you can.**

### **MITTEN TREE**

**December 13 is the last day to add mittens, hats, scarves to the Mitten Tree. The items on the tree plus new items from Second Chances will be sent to the Sunset Gap Community Center in Cosby, Tennessee. There is a thrift store there and our donations help to supply that store, especially at Christmas time. This week everything will be shipped.**

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

If you have a request for the Prayer Chain, please call Janet Stirling at 653-6395.

### **PARISH RESOURCE CENTER**

The Administrative Specialist at the parish Resource Center has resigned and they are looking for a replacement. Please see the Job Description on the wall in Fellowship Hall (by the mitten tree).

If you are in the church alone, please do not use the elevator.

### **CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

Anyone who works with children in our church must complete forms to comply with Child Protection Laws. Due to recent changes in state laws, not session edicts, clearances are needed for anyone who is going to work with children in the church. Since we now have 4 little ones who will need care in church, we need all the help we can get. Please see an Elder or Deacon if you have any questions or need paperwork.

### **LUNCH BUNCH**

Join the Second Chances Volunteers at the “Brown Bag Fellowship Lunch!” This is an open invitation to anyone who wants to join them every Tuesday at 12:00 in Fellowship Hall.

### **GROCERY CARDS**

Grocery cards for Giant, Weis and Darrenkamps are available for purchase. The church earns 5% of all cards sold. See Deb Hoffman. In her absence, please see Barb O’Neal.

### **FLOWERS**

To provide flowers for the pulpit on a Sunday, contact Laura Weber at 367-9065 or [jrweber22@gmail.com](mailto:jrweber22@gmail.com) for available dates. \$40 is the current price for the pair of bouquets that decorate the pulpit and which the Deacons distribute to shut-ins if requested by the sponsor.

### **CALENDAR**

**Please note – we have included the January calendar for planning purposes.**

**AA meets every Wednesday at 8:00 in the Thrift Store**

**Girl Scouts – 6:30 – 8:30 pm – Sundays**

**Choir Practice – Wednesday nights – 7:00 pm (when announced)**

**Adult Bible Study – Sundays – 9:45 – 10:30 am**

**Today – Baptism of Willem Eoin Kneier.**

**December 18 – Deacons and Friends Christmas Caroling**

**December 21 – Neighbors Connect Christmas Party – 12:00 pm**

**December 21 – Church Family Dinner – 5:30 – 6:30 pm**

**December 24 – Christmas Eve Service at 6:30 pm.**

**December 25 – There will be no worship service in order to give members the day to spend with family and friends.**

**December 26 – January 3 – Pastor Sarah will be on vacation.**

**January 8 – Installation of Officers  
Session meeting – 12:30 pm**

**Communion – Prepare and Count – Dee Albert  
Serve – Deb Hoffman, Kari Nolt, Dee Albert and  
Barb O’Neal**

**January 15 – Reports due for Annual Report**

**January 18 – Neighbors Connect and Church Family Dinner**

**January 22 – Annual Congregational Meeting – 12:00 pm  
Pot Luck Luncheon**

**January 29 – Joint Session and Deacons Meeting – 12:30 pm**

## **SHARING OUR TALENTS**

**Welcome to all in the name of Jesus Christ. We welcome our visitors and hope you will come back and visit with us again. There is information about our church at the back of each pew and Visitors' cards for your use.**

**Flowers are provided by:** Joy and Dennis Bouchard to the Glory of God.

**Ushers for December** – April and John Leggore

**Nursery – December 11** – Kari Nolt and Lonnie Nolt

**Nursery –December 18** – Laura and Jeff Weber

**Counter for December 11** – Joy Bouchard

**Counter for December 18** – Dennis Bouchard

**Church Opener** – Barb O'Neal

**Church Closer for Today** – Property Committee

**Flowers for December** – Jeff Weber

**Strength for Today** – December 12—December 18 – Jeff Weber

**Strength for Today** – December 19 – December 25 – Barb O'Neal

### **Are you interested in participating in the Strength for Today program?**

It involves reading a brief message (no more than two minutes). It can be a devotional reading, "Our Daily Bread", a favorite Scripture passage or even verses of a hymn. It can be done from the comfort of your own home using our remote telephone procedure. **Call Tim Nolt at 278-5423 or email him at [timnolt@gmail.com](mailto:timnolt@gmail.com).** Each person is responsible for one week of messages beginning on Monday and ending on Sunday. The week starts with Monday's message and ends with Sunday's message. Messages can be recorded the night before, i.e. Monday's message can be recorded Sunday night.