

MEADOWTHORPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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December 2018

Articles for the January Newsletter are due by Sunday, December 16th



Sunday, December 2, 2018

All members of MPC are encouraged to stay after worship for a brief meeting to vote on the new by-laws approved by the Session, elect 3 officers for the class of 2021 and 1 officer for the class of 2019, and vote on the pastor's terms of call for 2019.

Scott's Thoughts

When I was leading a series of movie discussions at another church several years ago, I went in the first week ready to discuss the first film, which the participants had been instructed to watch by that evening. The room filled with about 20 people, none of whom - it turned out - had watched the movie. The next week, I tried again with a second film. A group of about 12 people attended that discussion, one of whom had seen the movie. The final week, I thought - for sure- that people would watch the final film on the schedule. 6 people attended the discussion, and only one couple in the group had actually watched the movie. It seems like such a simple task - to stop, sit down, and allow yourself to absorb 2 hours of storytelling. But we often say and hear the same words: "I just don't have the time to _____". During the season of Advent, we are invited to be prepared - to make ourselves ready - to wait in eager anticipation of God's light of love being born anew into the world. Advent tries to teach us a discipline that we all should practice more throughout the year - seeking depth and growth in our spiritual lives. Throughout 2019, there will be several opportunities for us to do that. A 4-week Bible Study on the letters of Peter and Jude in January & February. A 7-week discussion during Lent of Mike Yaconelli's book, Messy Spirituality. A series of seven devotional reflections at dinner on Wednesday evenings during Lent. A sermon series in the summer on the book of Joshua. A 4-week Bible Study in September on Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus. A 7-week discussion in October & November of Karen Gonzalez's upcoming new book, The God Who Sees: Immigrants, the Bible, and the Journey to Belong. I hope you have the desire - and will make the time - to take part in one or more of these (and other) opportunities for learning and growing happening in the life of the church. In the meantime, come for our weekly Advent devotional reflection at the beginning of dinner on Wednesday evenings, take advantage of the prayer stations in the back of the sanctuary beginning on the evening of Sunday, December 2nd, and gather with your friends and family for worship at MPC as we reflect and celebrate during this season of Advent and Christmas. Prepare yourself for where God is leading you.

Shalom, Scott



Worship in December @ MPC
Sundays at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary
(unless otherwise noted)



December 2nd (1st Sunday of Advent) - *Chrismon Tree Decorating & Communion*

Scripture: *Luke 21:25-36* **Sermon:** *God's Hope Is In Us*

December 9th (2nd Sunday of Advent)

Scripture: *Luke 3:1-6* **Sermon:** *Seeing God's Unobstructed Vision*

December 16th (3rd Sunday of Advent)

Scripture: *Luke 3:7-18* **Sermon:** *You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet*

December 23rd (4th Sunday of Advent)

Scripture: *Luke 1:39-55* **Sermon:** *Our Hope Is In God*

December 24th (Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary)

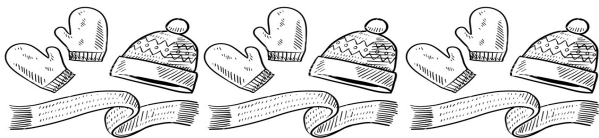
Bring your friends and family for our annual service of Candles & Carols

December 30 (1st Sunday of Christmas)

Lessons, Carols, and Conversation followed by Holiday Chat & Chew

Christmas Party

The Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at noon. All women and Girls are invited. Food will be provided. Bring a gift to exchange. There will be a Thank Offering taken. Bring Hats, Mittens, Gloves, Scarves, or Socks for Westminster Village.



Church Treasurer's Stewardship & Budget Report

January through November

Our budgeted income through November was
\$105,336.91.

As of Friday, November 30, we have received
\$89,721.80.

We are running an income deficit for the year of
\$15,615.11

We have collected \$778.00 for Per Capita in 2018.



1- Samwel NduNgu
13- Amelia King
15- John Everly
22- Mary Owen Bush

27- Christina Campbell
28- Callie Paddock
31- Ann Cornelius



THANK YOU CROP WALKERS!

Thank you to all the CROP Walkers who braved the heat and hiked 3 miles on September 30 to end hunger and poverty: Callie Paddock, Barbara Lyle, Sarah Sexton, Nora Warman, Moose Rice, Annabelle Staton, Candy Parker, Samwel Ndungu, Jane Wainaina, Mary, Theresa, & Joseph Wainaina, Ella Mahie, Scott Cervas, and Nell Valentine. Abundant gratitude to all the Spirit Walkers who have donated money to that end, too. Plus, thanks to those who participated in the fundraiser at Saul Good Restaurant on Oct. 9. MPC has given \$2,110.00 so far! Help our Church reach its goal of \$3,000. A recent news report from CWS regarding horrific devastation from Hurricane Michael states that after helping families receive emergency supplies and support, the focus moves to helping the most vulnerable neighbors, immigrant farm workers and refugees, rebuild. Contributions will continue to be accepted through December. Consider asking family and friends to donate to CROP in your name as a Christmas gift. What better way to celebrate Jesus' birth! Let us continue to walk in His Light!



There will be no Children's Sunday School on December 30th.



THANK YOU FOR SERVICE

Ima Lea and Wendell Grider are retiring from delivering Meals-on-Wheels. Ima Lea along with Edna Monroe (who just retired last year) and Janet Edwards (who is still going) joined forces with Margaret Barker back in the 70's when Meals-on-Wheels first began in Lexington. Wendell joined in upon his retirement from IBM. If you need a puzzle try calculating how many meals that represents. **Think:** Each route averages 10 meals, and each team delivers once a month. Anyway, 40+ years is a long time. Thank all of you for your dedication to this worthy project. If you are interested in helping, please contact Katie Hintze (233-1748). Our church delivers one route on Tuesdays. If Tuesday isn't good for you, contact Nancy Stallard, the Grand Master Scheduler of Meals-on Wheels at 492-9213.

Enjoy your holidays, everyone!

The Tuesday Afternoon Exercise Group will not meet again until February.



Interactive Advent & Christmas Prayer Stations

From the evening of Sunday, December 2nd (the first day of Advent) through the evening of Sunday, January 6th (the day of Epiphany) there will be a series of four interactive prayer stations located in the back of the sanctuary. You are encouraged to use them at any time to help you become more centered and focused during this busy season.



December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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<p>2</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship & Cong. Meeting</p> <p>12:00 p.m. PW Xmas Party</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Advent Devotion & Dinner</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4:45 P.M. Serve Dinner (Hope Center)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Lunch & Caroling</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Leatherworkers</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Advent Devotion & Dinner</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Session Dinner (The Manse)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Cub Scouts</p>	<p>15</p> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 10px; text-align: center; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Gifts Delivered to Phelps, KY </div>
<p>16</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship</p> <p>1:45 p.m. Westminster Food Delivery</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Leatherworkers</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Advent Devotion & Dinner</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4:00 - 9:00 p.m. <i>Sophia Noplis & Matthew Gumm Wedding Rehearsal</i></p>	<p>22</p> <p>Noon - 6:00 p.m. <i>Sophia Noplis & Matthew Gumm Wedding</i></p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal & Lunch</p>	<p>24</p> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Christmas Eve </div> <p>7:00 p.m. Service of Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight</p>	<p>25</p> <div style="background-color: #000080; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Christmas Day </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Merry Christmas!</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Carols and Conversation</p> <p>12:00 p.m. Holiday Chat and Chew</p>	<p>31</p>	<p><u>WORSHIP LEADERS</u></p> <p><i>12/02 Sally McGuire</i></p> <p><i>12/09 Nell Valentine</i></p> <p><i>12/16 Nora Warman</i></p> <p><i>12/23 Betty Hubbard</i></p>		<p><u>USHERS</u></p> <p><i>Ann Staton</i></p> <p><i>Jim Valentine</i></p> <p><i><Your Name></i></p> <p><i><Your Name></i></p>		