



**Join us every Sunday:**

Worship 11:00am

Sunday School 9:30am

**All are Welcome!**

You can also join our live-streamed service on Youtube.com!

**December Events**

December 17th-Lunch following Morning Worship

December 17th-Christmas Concert-4:00pm

December 24th-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-7:00pm-Nine Lessons and Carols & Communion

**Save the Date!**

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming Christmas Concert at 4:00pm on Sunday, December 17th. First Presbyterian's musicians will be joined by many well-loved musical guests from the area. This concert is free and will be followed by a reception. Do plan to attend and let the Christmas Spirit enter your heart!

**A Big Thank-you!**

We wish to extend a huge thank-you to all who helped with the Greening of the Church! We could not have done it without you, and now our church is ready for Advent and Christmas!

**The Tuesday Morning Devotional Group**

We meet every Tuesday on Zoom at 9am. To join the group, contact Sharon or Bob Perkinson at: perkinshar@yahoo.com or perkinbob@yahoo.com.

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December 2023



*God's Children, daily sent on Christ's mission of love and grace*

## A Moment for Reflection

Greetings Church Family and Friends,

*Here we are at the beginning of a new Season of Advent and Christmas. I love this time of year. I especially love sending and receiving Christmas cards. I have to admit that for the last few years since my husband passed, I have been remiss in that area. But this year I hope to do better.*

*I especially like vintage type cards that originated around the late 1800's/early 1900's. Years ago, when I was first married, some friends sent me and my husband a Christmas card that gave me such a warm feeling, I actually kept the front of it and framed it. The card's words are these:*

*The silver snow falls lightly...  
The year speeds fast away\_\_\_  
To morrow's sun is bringing  
Another Christmas Day;  
And midst beloved faces,  
My thoughts are roaming free,  
While fervently I whisper:  
God bless them all for me.  
H M Burnside*

*Christmas Eve was spent at my parents' home that year as in years past, with my sister and her family, and my brother and his family, and that poem came to my mind as we all enjoyed one another's company. I also thought of years past when my grandparents were with us and how I missed them.*

*I used to only display this card at Christmas, but now I keep it on my desk all year. And as the years go by, it becomes more poignant than ever. I no longer have my husband, my mother, my father, my brother or my sister as they have gone to their heavenly home. My nieces and nephews are scattered and have their own families now. I do get to spend the holiday with my dear daughter and son.. And I give thanks for the many friends I have made living here in this beautiful mountain town, especially the wonderful members of this church. It is an honor to be your secretary and friend. May God bless you all for me!!*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
Stephanie*

## Upcoming Meetings

**December 5th-Stewardship/Finance Meeting-6:30pm via Zoom**

### Speakers & Format for December Worship Services

**December 3-Rev. Cameron Harkness**

**December 10-Charles McNeel**

**December 17-Forrest Palmer**

**December 24-Morning-Short Service**

**December 24-Evening-Candlelight Service with Communion-7pm**

**December 31-Darlene McNeel**

### Lay Liturgists for December

**December 3-Chuck Denham**

**December 10-Ellen Light**

**December 17-Charley Dodson**

**December 31-TBA**



### Prayer Requests

Jimbo Godwin, Bob Perkinson, Judy Lambert, Carole Dodson, Ken Valko, Melinda & Greg Testerman, Betty Kincaid, Suzanne Compton, Robert Perry, Eddie Boyd, Sarah Murphy, Tokita Webb, and Chuck & Zella Denham

Steve Hopta, Sheri Neal, Ken Jenkins, Rosa Lee Gay, Kathy Kennedy, Ella Williams, Joan Perkinson, Brenda Jenkins, Randy & Karen Worstell, Kenneth & Judy Gillespie, Marlene Smith, John Goins, Marty Howard, Rosemarie Dixon, Eddie Kirk, Danny Brewer, Betty Colobro, Ralph John, Janice Raines, Nell Bath, Lauren Hicks, Louis Scott, Tamie Brence, Oleksiy Hodonavets and Margaret Anne Ridlehuber

**REMINDER:** If you have an addition for the **January Newsletter**, please have it to the church office by **Wednesday December 27th**.

Announcements or changes to the prayer list for Sunday's bulletin are due to the church office on **Wednesdays by 11am**.