

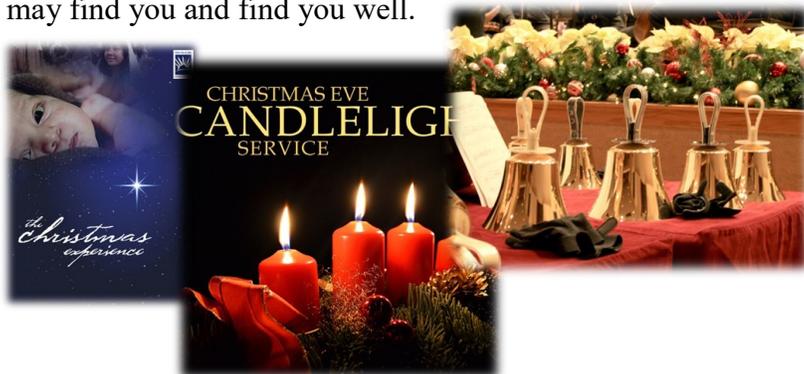


Let me be one of first to say Merry Christmas as we enter the season of Advent this December. In many ways I feel we have already begun “dashing through the snow” with our food ministry to Kings Kettle, clothing drives, and Christmas boxes to our military and college students! We have so many wonderful things planned this Advent here at MSPC...Advent Devotionals for all of you and Advent Calendars for our Children, A Hanging of the Greens Special Worship service, four Mid-week Family Nights where we will gather the family here at MSPC for a time of fellowship beginning with a meal, followed by a video entitled “The Christmas Experience”, time with the children, and of course some singing of carols. There will be a Bell Choir Concert, and our Christmas Eve candlelight worship service. All of these events are designed to provide you many ways to prepare for and experience the birth of the Savior this Christmas. Attend one, or two or even better attend them all! But you will have to be intentional about your commitments, otherwise the world will plan your Christmas for you. These events also serve to provide a distraction from the commercial side of Christmas that we have to deal with each year. Jesus remains the “reason for the season,” but given the chance, the world of consumerism will do its best to have you believe that their products are the most important. Don’t be fooled! Don’t be distracted when you’re walking through the malls; remember, Jesus was the only one receiving gifts in the Christmas story, and in turn He was the only true, meaningful, and everlasting gift the world received and is still receiving.

I know that for some of you, this Christmas will come with an empty seat at the dinner table. My heart and prayers go out to you. I know it will be a hard time, and I will not try to diminish your grief. I offer only this; as Christmas signifies God with us, Emmanuel, and paves the way for all those who have gone on to glory to be with Him, that this Christmas may provide you some peace in the knowledge that your loved one is in the arms of Jesus this Christmas.

Christmas is both a time to celebrate and a time to remember the Savior coming into the World but also a time to look to the future for His return. I look with excitement, as a child with wide-eyes to celebrating my first Christmas with you. I am praying that God’s gifts to you this Christmas; Joy, Peace, Hope and Love may find you and find you well.

Blessings,  
Pastor Ed



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## PASTOR'S Contact Information and Schedule



### Pastor Ed Blank

Cell: (717) 372-9894

Home: (717) 458-4104

Twitter: @Pastor\_EdB

Confidential Email: ehb47@comcast.net

Church Email: pastor@middlespringpc.org

**Monday** - Works from home.

**Tuesday** - Available in pastor's study at church, 9am - 4pm.

**Wednesday** - Available in pastor's study at church, 9am - 4pm.

**Thursday** - by appointment.

**Friday** - off

**Saturday** - Works from home.

Interim Pastor: *Rev. Edward Blank*  
 Youth Fellowship Director: *Jason Henry*  
 Choir Director: *Pat Frey*  
 Church Phone: 717-532-8198  
 Email: secretary@middlespringpc.org  
 Address: 135 Middle Spring Road  
 Shippensburg, PA 17257

Pastor Emeritus: *Rev. Jim Richwine*  
 Organist: *Ingrid Winckler*  
 Hand bell Choir Director: *Jan Ile*  
 Nursery Coordinator: *Carrie Eichelberger*  
 Website: *www.middlespringpc.org*  
 Secretary: *Mary Stouffer*  
 Secretary hours: *M - Th, 10 am to 2 pm*

## Special MUSIC

December 19  
The Middle Spring  
Quartet

## Church Flowers

December 5 - David and Donna Hartman

December 12 - Richard and Dorina Saul

December 19 - Poinsettias

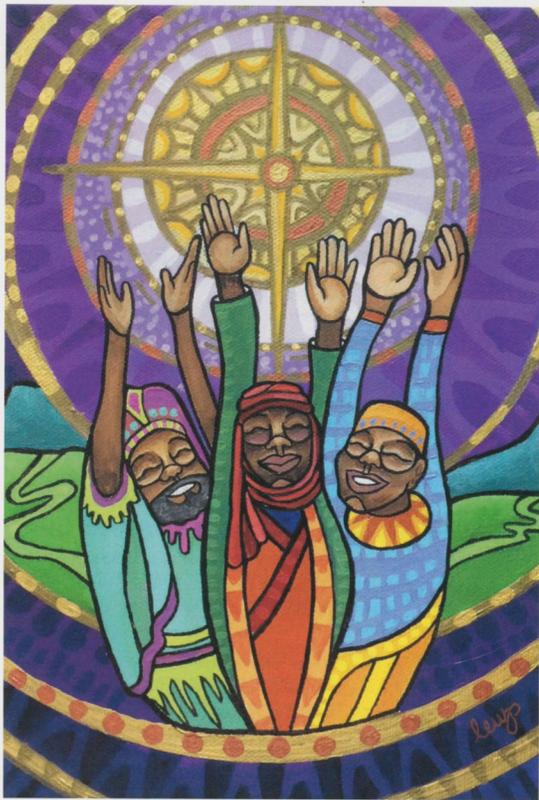
December 26 - Poinsettias



You may pay for flowers by sending a check for \$40 to either Gary Russell or Ethel Palmer.

**Church Flowers for 2022.** If you would like to change, continue, discontinue or sign up for a floral honorarium or memoriam at a weekly worship, please contact Ethel Palmer, 717-532-2572. If you do not provide a response by **end of January 2022**, your flower request will remain the same as 2021.

	Liturgist	Acolyte	Ushers	Elder	Greeters
05-Dec	Brad Beidel	Maddie Rhodes	Ken Weller	Tim Mc Feely	P. Deutsch / J. Chamberlin
12-Dec	Park Bierbower	Kemper Dyson	Ken Weller	Ray Staver	Larry & Barb Singer
19-Dec	YF Member	Larry Singer	Ken Weller	Brad Beidel	The Rick Arnold family
24-Dec	Maury Mahan	K. Dyson / J. Wilson	Ken Weller	Brad Beidel	K. Dyson / J. Sailhamer
26-Dec	Ron Reed	Troy Porter	Ken Weller	Park Bierbower	Gary & Joyce Russell



 CHRISTMAS JOY  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

## 2021 Christmas Joy Offering - December 19

The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God is with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. Even as we support our current and former church leaders through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, God is calling new leaders for our Church and world, through the ministry of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color - offering students the means for a brighter future and enhanced opportunities to use their talents and skills to serve God, the Church and the world for years to come.

*Thank you for your generosity!!*



## Christmas Fellowship!!

A meal, a movie, "Christmas Experience", time with children and singing Christmas carols!!

Come join us for Christmas Fellowship

Thursday, December 2

Thursday, December 9

Wednesday, December 15

Wednesday, December 22

6:15 pm until 8 pm



The **Handbell Choir** will be presenting their **Christmas Concert** on **Sunday, December 12 at 2:30 pm**. Bring a friend for an afternoon of celebrating the birth of Christ through music.



are available in the CE lobby and the narthex:

"On the Road to Bethlehem" for children;

"And the Word was God";

"A Season of Peace" for seniors.

## **Session Highlights from our November 2021 Meeting**

The November 2 Session meeting was held November 2 in person in the library. Warren Jones led devotions and opened the meeting with prayer.

The *Clerk's report* indicated that Sunday worship in October continued to be in person but was also offered live at 10:30 a.m. through Facebook and available on the church's YouTube channel and website. The average sanctuary attendance in October was 72. World Communion was celebrated on October 3, with Pastor Ed officiating. All Saints Day was celebrated October 31, and the necrology was read by the clerk. Special music during worship in October was provided by Richard and Dorina Saul October 10 and Rose and Gretchen Leitner on October 24.

The Clerk reported the death of Frances Jean (Hoover) Chamberlin on October 12, 2021. Her memorial service was held on October 18, with Pastor Ed officiating. Interment was in Middle Spring Cemetery.

The Clerk reported the death of Jayne Warren on October 20, 2021. Her memorial service was November 2, with Pastor Ed officiating. Interment was in Spring Hill Cemetery.

It was too early in the month for a new *Treasurer's report*, but the minutes of the Deacons meeting on October 12 were received.

### **BUSINESS: *Information Items***

- The Christmas Bell Concert is scheduled for December 12 at 2:30 p.m.
- The Service Ministry reported that Middle Spring's community meal on October 28 served 69. The Buildings and Grounds Committee reported on improvements to the manse.

### ***Action approved by Session***

Session voted to approve the Proposed 2022 Budget to send to the congregation.

The 2022 Calendar was approved.

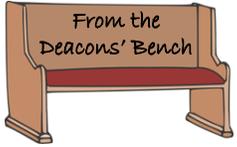
Session approved a change in the By-Laws to clarify the required number of elders and deacons and the size of the Nominating Committee. [This change was approved by the congregation at the Annual Congregation-Corporation Meeting on November 14, 2021.]

At the recommendation of the Worship Ministry, Session approved the purchase of a second handheld microphone at a cost of \$499.

At the recommendation of the Building and Grounds Committee, Session approved having insulation installed in the attic of the manse at a cost of \$8968, to be paid out of the Capital Fund. The work will be done by MT Insulation of Hummelstown, PA.

At the end of the evening, concerns of the congregation were lifted up in closing prayer.

Next Session meeting to be held **Monday, December 13 at 7:00 pm.**



When the nominating committee was having a difficult time filling the slate of candidates for Deacons three years ago, I volunteered. Being a Deacon was not something I was ever interested in doing. Although I had served several terms on Session over the years, doing the caring and sharing thing was not something that had interested me. When Pastor Kim asked in my first meeting why I wanted to be a Deacon, I said I didn't want to be! I just said it was time, as I slapped myself on the side of my head.

One of my favorite hymns is "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky". The refrain "Here I am, Lord" just seems to speak to me. It says "I will go Lord if you lead me". Little did I know where or why I was being lead to be a Deacon, and little did anyone know how much our lives would change in March 2020. All of a sudden, being a Deacon took on a whole new meaning. We were asked to keep in touch with a group of members of our congregation (our flocks) on a regular basis, for any needs that arose or to provide information on how the Session chose to handle the COVID situation.

The "job" has been very rewarding for me. As we move forward with our interim Pastor Ed, and in not the too distant future, our new Pastor, just continue to pray that you will go where HE leads you. ~ Ron Reed



**Food Bank Sunday!** Bring your nonperishable items for King's Kettle to the narthex or lobby on **December 5**. Please, nothing in glass jars or partially used items. Your donations directly help families in our area.



Deacon of the month for **November** is **Maury Mahan**.

He can be reached at 717-860-4830.



**Jean Wenger**  
Room 140  
Elmcroft of Shippensburg  
129 Walnut Bottom Road  
Shippensburg, PA 17257

...called together by God to worship, grow, and serve



From the Secretary --

It is time once again to gather your contact information that has changed during 2021. If your mailing address, email address, home or cell phone number has changed and you want it included in our church directory for 2022 contact me at secretary@middlespringpc.org or call 717-532-8198. All changes must be provided to me by December 31, 2021. Thanks!



Merry Christmas everyone! I am happy that I have you all as good friends. I appreciate each every one of you and wish you and your families all the best in this special season! Merry Christmas.

Mary

Ink Cartridge Return Program



Thank you all so much for your donations to our Staples Ink Cartridge Return Program. We aim to collect 20 used cartridges to receive our maximum \$40 per month in savings for office supplies and equipment. This is our 11th year in this program and have saved thousands of dollars! Thank you for your continued support!



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



For God so Loved the World, that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16



CHRISTMAS

Mary



The **Presbyterian Women's Study Group** will not meet in December. We are pleased that we have been joined by several new members and hope more women will join us in January to start out the new year. Information for the January meeting will be in the January newsletter.

We wish everyone a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

## Putting Change to Good Use!

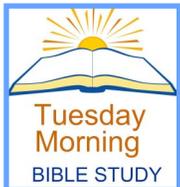


The Presbyterian Women's Association wishes to thank everyone for the great response to our Change for Change jars. This will enable us to make more mission contributions next year. Please keep the coins coming. Again, Thank You!



## Growth Ministry

### Tuesday Bible Study



Book discussions will be held November 30; share a book on any topic you have read, fiction or non-fiction, prose or poetic, etc. We love recommendations for our next book on ZOOM! On December 7, we will discuss the 5th chapter of *"The Difficult Words of Jesus, Outer Darkness."* The last chapter *"Your Father the Devil"* will be read and discussed on December 14.

### Friends in Fellowship

Come join us for lunch and fellowship around the table on **Wednesday, December 15 at 11:30 am** at the **Italian Village**. Let Jan Ile know by December 12 if you plan to come. She can be reached at 717-423-6226 or 717-977-7670. Hope to see you there! All are welcome!





**Cell Phone Collection** Reminder: The Service Ministry at Middle Spring Church is collecting **used or broken cell phones** for the military. The Military Mama Network collects them and turns them into Calling Cards for deployed military members and their families. If you have a phone to contribute please contact Brad Beidel at 717-423-6705 for pickup. There will also be a box at the church office.



## Shippensburg Area Community Meal

Next community meal will be **December 23 at 5:00 pm**. If you would like to volunteer, donate or need more information, contact Brad Beidel at 717-423-6705 or 717-729-1983.



## Cookie Bakers Wanted!!

The Care and Share Program is looking members or friends to bake three dozen cookies for their cookie trays. Cookies need to be brought to the church by **December 14**. Contact Janet Sailhamer at 717-477-8893.

## My First Four Years

**A Letter from Dori Hjalmarson, serving in Honduras**

**October 11, 2021**

James 3:1-2a: *My brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers, because we know that we teachers will be judged more strictly. We all make mistakes often, but those who don't make mistakes with their words have reached full maturity.*



Dear friends,

I have made a lot of mistakes in my four years as a mission co-worker. Mistakes are inevitable, especially when crossing cultures and languages. One of the funniest was when I was assisting with translation for a Sunday school class for a visiting U.S. church group. The pastor who was speaking introduced the class by saying this was the fourth in their series about “los cuatro patos” of the Bible. “The four ducks” of the Bible. He paused politely while I translated and racked my brain for where in the Bible there might be a story about four ducks. I asked the pastor, “los cuatro patos?” And he confirmed, “Los cuatro patos.” I said, “Patos?” He said, “Patos.” I made a motion with my hand and a sound like a duck quacking and asked again, “Patos?” The entire congregation laughed, and the pastor said, “No! PaCtos! PACTOS!” Covenants. Not ducks.

On one occasion, early on in my tenure in Honduras, I went with presbytery leaders to a group of rural churches in order to hold an all-day seminar to train new elders, deacons, secretaries and treasurers. The custom in most churches here is for women to wear skirts in worship, and in many churches, for women to always wear skirts. I wasn't wearing a skirt on this day because it was a weekday, I was only teaching and not preaching, and I had not yet learned that a worship service almost always breaks out when a group of Honduran pastors gets together.

*(Continued on next page.)*

*(Continued from previous page.)*

As our seminars came to a close, the moderator of the presbytery, Pastor Juan Rodas, pulled me aside and told me that at the end of the day, we would be holding a worship service in order to ordain the newly trained officers. He asked me if I would be willing to ordain the deacons, and he would ordain the elders. “I would be honored, Pastor Juan. Thank you for inviting me.” And Juan lowered his voice and said, “But sister Dori, you don’t happen to have a skirt you could change into, do you?” And I said, “no,” while internally bristling and looking around at our all-male group of clergy and trainers. “But no worries, Juan, you don’t have a skirt either.” Then I held my breath, realizing what I had just said to Pastor Juan, whom I had met for the first time only six months prior, and who is essentially my boss. Juan looked surprised and then burst out laughing and said for the first time what has become a familiar refrain. “Ay ay ay, hermana Dori.” He let me ordain the deacons that day. And I’ve never returned to that community without a skirt.

A couple of years later, Pastor Juan was spending some time with my parents, who were visiting from the United States, by chance, in that same community where I had worn trousers on my first visit. My dad and Juan talked and walked a couple of miles together alone, one of Juan’s favorite things to do. He assured my father that the church was taking care of me and that they love me. “We love sister Dori,” he told my father. “We love her because ... she is very obedient.” My dad was speechless at that; I’m sure recalling my teenage years. Juan continued. “We love her because she eats everything.”

When my dad relayed that conversation to me, tears came to my eyes. I was touched because, for one, I had never thought to value my willingness to try any food as pastorally valuable. What about my skills in pastoral care, or languages, or Biblical studies? Second, and possibly more important, I think on many occasions, I have been clearly DISobedient. I once refused to speak at a pastor’s retreat the presbytery was planning for men only. I have refused to be rebaptized as an adult. I disagree with Pastor Juan and many of the Honduran church leaders about many issues and sometimes about the very doctrines we profess. We have had to look for ways to maintain a relationship despite our differences. In many ways, I think Christians, especially women and clergy, are called more to disobedience rather than to obedience. But I know what Pastor Juan was getting at. I came to Honduras willing to admit I knew nothing, willing to go into humble homes and share in what is served, willing to laugh at myself, and willing to meet my partners where they are and accompany them. I came to Honduras, making lots of mistakes and learning a lot. Here’s hoping I make a lot more in the next four years.

Your support, encouragement and connections have made my ministry in Honduras possible over these four years. I have recently signed a term renewal to be in Honduras for four more years. I invite your prayers, support, communication and friendship to continue through the next four years. Thank you.

Prayer concerns in Honduras: Vaccinations against the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 are slowly being distributed. Most of the doses are donated by the World Health Organization, Russia and the United States. As I write, the Honduran government has reported that about 13 percent of the population has been fully vaccinated. Please pray for global justice in health care.

Presidential elections will be held on Nov. 28. The elections four years ago were criticized for irregularities and lack of transparency, and they kicked off months of protests and violent repression of protesters. Please pray for open, fair and non-violent elections. ~ Dori

Middle Spring Presbyterian USA - Shippensburg PA  
Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2021

Sunday, November 7, 2021

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
<b>Assets</b>		
1.50.000	General Fund Checking Acct	156,668.82
1.70.000	Capital Fund Checking Acct	12,931.11
1.80.000	Youth Fund Checking Acct	14,673.86
1.90.001	Church Endowment Investment Acct.	984,534.83
1.90.002	Church Un-Restricted Investment Acct	405,443.71
1.90.003	Church Youth Endowment Acct	12,296.08
1.90.004	Church Building Investment Fund	63,446.35
1.90.010	Electronic Giving Clearing Acct	0.00
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,649,994.76</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
2.01.000	<i>Employee Withholdings</i>	
2.01.001	FIT Withholdings	0.00
2.01.002	FICA Withholdings	0.00
2.01.003	Medicare Withholdings	0.00
2.01.004	State Tax Withholdings	0.00
2.01.005	Local Tax Withholdings	66.80
2.01.006	LST Tax Withholdings	0.00
2.01.010	FSA Health Care	317.28
2.01.015	403(b) Withholdings	0.00
	<i>Total Employee Withholdings</i>	<i>\$384.08</i>
2.02.000	<i>Reserved/Specified Givings **</i>	
2.03.001	Library Use	55.55
2.03.002	Youth Scholarships	0.00
2.03.005	Peacemaking Offering-Local Portion	134.25
2.03.006	Pentecost Offering-Local Portion	240.40
2.03.009	Bell Maintenance Resv	1,050.00
2.03.010	Bell Choir Use **	2,206.32
2.03.011	Chancel Choir Use **	438.61
2.03.012	Church Music Program **	349.38
2.03.015	Community Emergency Fund **	862.13
2.03.016	Pastor's Continuing Education **	1,000.00
2.03.020	Ground Care Equipment	3,397.77
2.03.021	Parking Lot Seal/Re-line	302.00
2.03.022	Office Equipment	3,423.17
2.03.023	Seal Brick-Church/Manse	2,210.00
2.03.024	Family Fund **	2,040.78
2.03.025	Heifer Project **	408.83
2.03.026	Maintain/Replace Choir Robes	3,441.00
2.03.027	Memorial Fund	13,191.08
2.03.029	Mission-Specified **	0.00
2.03.031	Puppet Fund	1,019.03
2.03.032	June Weber International Scholarship **	3,000.00
2.03.033	Van Rental	3,400.00
2.03.035	Rental Maintainence	3,000.00
2.03.036	Venture Crew/Scout Use	1,474.98
	<i>Total Reserved/Specified Givings **</i>	<i>\$46,645.28</i>
2.10.001	<i>Accounts Payable/Vendors</i>	198.09
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$47,227.45</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>		
3.10.000	General Fund Balance	109,639.46

**Middle Spring Presbyterian USA - Shippensburg PA  
Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2021**

**Sunday, November 7, 2021**

**Page 2 of 2**

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance
3.70.000	Capital Fund Balance	12,931.11
3.80.000	Youth Fund Balance	14,475.77
3.90.001	Church Endowment Fund Balance	984,534.83
3.90.002	Church Un-restricted Investment Acct Balance	405,443.71
3.90.003	Church Youth Fund Endowment Acct Balance	12,296.08
3.90.004	Church Building Investment Fund Balance	63,446.35
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$1,602,767.31</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$1,649,994.76</b>



**Middle Spring Presbyterian USA - Shippensburg PA  
Consolidated Fund Activity Report as of 10/31/2021**

**Sunday, November 7, 2021**

**Page 1 of 1**

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
3.10.000	General Fund Balance	41,667.33	244,220.20	176,248.07	0.00	109,639.46
3.70.000	Capital Fund Balance	12,653.74	1,552.64	1,275.27	0.00	12,931.11
3.80.000	Youth Fund Balance	13,656.86	2,210.00	1,391.09	0.00	14,475.77
3.90.001	Church Endowment Fund Balance	775,906.16	251,144.45	42,515.78	0.00	984,534.83
3.90.002	Church Un-restricted Investment Acct Balance	319,830.23	102,895.77	17,282.29	0.00	405,443.71
3.90.003	Church Youth Fund Endowment Acct Balance	10,368.85	1,927.23	0.00	0.00	12,296.08
3.90.004	Church Building Investment Fund Balance	54,926.80	8,519.55	0.00	0.00	63,446.35
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,229,009.97</b>	<b>\$612,469.84</b>	<b>\$238,712.50</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,602,767.31</b>



Dick Martin	12/01
Chris Roth	12/02
Bill Gould	12/03
Jeannie Chamberlin	12/03
Jason Hawkins	12/03
Nancy Myers	12/08
Gary Russell	12/08
Harold Van Art	12/09
Amy Hinton	12/09
Maury Mahan	12/10
Fred Nordai	12/10
Rhonda Dyson	12/11
Isabella Stum	12/11
Sally Sharpe	12/12
Dennis Drachbar	12/13
Gregg Mellott	12/13
Glenn Walizer	12/16
Shirley Weller	12/16
Taylor Wilburne	12/18
Rose Leitner	12/23
Carrie Krebs	12/24
Michael Denning	12/30



Jason & Mary Hawkins	12/12
JD & Ronda Dyson	12/16
Trent & Amy Lartz	12/19
Robert & Tamzen Sonntag	12/30
Benjamin & Samantha Jones	12/30
Jeffrey & Teresa Miller	12/31



We wish to extend our deepest gratitude for all the love and support shown us through phone calls, cards, expressions of concern and heartfelt prayers in the losses we've recently experienced. We are blessed! ~ *The Chamberlin Family*

To friends and members of **The Middle Spring Church**. We wish to thank all for the beautiful anniversary cards we received. It was greatly appreciated. We miss going to church, but we watch services on our laptop which we enjoy. We are doing okay for old people. Many thanks again for thinking of us.

~ *Robert and Alfreda Reed*

Dear **Middle Spring Presbyterian Church Family**, As you all know, the past 4 months have been incredibly challenging for our family. We appreciate the generous outpouring of love, prayer, and unwavering support you have shown us. Thank you for helping to shine God's light into our lives while we struggle to find our way in the dark. Thank you for the continued reminders that we are not alone.

~ *Brett, Kylie, Evelyn and Gabriel Chamberlin*



*Phone #'s and email addresses are available in the church directory*

## Session

**Pat Mahan**, Clerk

**Brad Beidel**, Service Ministry, Chair

**Park Bierbower**, Worship Ministry, Chair

**Dane Bricker**, Stewardship Ministry, Building and Grounds Committee Chair

**Regina Chamberlin**, Growth Ministry, Chair

**Kemper Dyson**, Growth Ministry, Co-Chair

**Warren Jones**, Service Ministry, Co-Chair

**Tim McFeely**, Stewardship Ministry, Finance Liaison, Nominating Chair

**Ray Staver**, Stewardship Ministry, Personnel Chair

## Deacons

**Deanna Baer**, Moderator

**Sue Beidel**, Co-Moderator, Coordinator of pastoral care and communion

**Maury Mahan**, Secretary

**Dane Bricker**, Pulpit scarfs and banners

**Jeanette Chamberlin**, Christmas fruit baskets, funeral flowers, and communion supplies

**Jill Corwin**, Holiday and seasonal arrangements of sanctuary flowers and Care and share

**Jeanette McCans**, Holiday and seasonal arrangements of sanctuary flowers

**Kathy Palmer**, Milestone recognition and representative to nominating committee

**Ronald Reed**, Transportation

**Joyce Russell**, Care and share

**Janet Sailhamer**, Care and share

**Quay Stolte**, Medical equipment

## Prayer Chain

“If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

John 14:14

**Kathy Bierbower**

**Regina Chamberlin**

**Jill Corwin**

**Howard Davis**

**Jan Ile**

**Arlene Keer**

**Pat Mahan**

**Eileen Moore**

**Stevie Nordai**

**Ethel Palmer**

**Dorothy Reese**

**Dorina Saul**

All members of the Middle Spring Presbyterian community are invited to be part of our prayer chain.

Weekly emails are sent out to update prayer joys and concerns.

## *Mission and Vision*

*Middle Spring Presbyterian Church called together by God to worship, grow, and serve*

*To worship*, we gather

to praise and glorify God

to be transformed by the Spirit

to forgive and to be forgiven

to witness to our faith in our triune God

to pray for guidance in our lives

as we meet life's challenges

and care for God's world and God's children

In worship, we experience God's presence inviting us to grow. [Colossians 1:10]

*To grow*, we seek

to read the Bible for understanding and reflection

to learn about our Christian faith and Reformed tradition

to be open to new ways the truth is revealed in the world today

to share our faith journey with one another

to become more committed to Christ's mission

In growing, we hear God's invitation to respond and serve. [John 17:18]

*To serve*, we reach out

to proclaim the good news of the saving grace of God

to share our blessings

to offer hope and comfort

to experience fellowship with others

to improve the lives of those in need around the world,

heeding Christ's call to "Tend my sheep." [John 21:16]

## December 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship in person and online Children's Gathering	29 10am - 2pm Secretary hours	30 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  10am Bible Study	1 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  7pm Bell Choir	2 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  6:15-8pm Christmas Fellowship	3	4
5 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship w/communion in person and online Food Bank Sunday	6 10am - 2pm Secretary hours	7 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  10am Bible Study	8 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  7pm Bell Choir	9 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  6:15-8pm Christmas Fellowship	10	11
12 9:15am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship in person and online Children's Gathering 2:30pm Handbell Concert	13 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  7pm Session meeting	14 10am - 2pm Secretary hours 10am Bible Study  6pm Deacon meeting	15 10am - 2pm Secretary hours 11:30am Friends in Fellowship  6:15-8pm Christmas Fellowship 7pm Bell Choir	16 10am - 2pm Secretary hours	17	18
19 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship in person and online Children's Gathering Christmas Joy Offering	20 10am - 2pm Secretary hours	21 10am - 2pm Secretary hours	22 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  6:15-8pm Christmas Fellowship 7pm Bell Choir	23 10am - 2pm Secretary hours  5pm Shippensburg Community Meal	24  Candlelight Service  8pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Christmas Day!
26 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship in person and online Children's Gathering	27 Office Closed	28 Office Closed	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed	1 New Year's Day!

