

Green Acres Presbyterian Church

greenacrespc.org

January 2020

In the name of Jesus Christ, Green Acres Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone for worship that inspires hope, imaginative education that brings growth, mission that reaches beyond our walls all reflecting the love and presence of God in the world.

Letter from the Pastor

Happy New Year!!

There is a hilarious video that is a few years old now that I love to watch over and over at this time of year. School kids are singing the song, *The 12 days of Christmas*, and two dads act out all the days from a partridge in a pear tree to 12 drummers drumming. It is a funny song but it does remind us that Christmas doesn't end on Dec. 25th. It is just the beginning. We, in the church, celebrate Christmas from Dec. 25 through Jan. 6th when we celebrate Epiphany. Epiphany, on which we remember the visit of the Magi to the Christ child, marks the start of a new season in the life of the church.

Before we move into this new season, I first want to take the opportunity to thank all those who helped make this Advent special. So much happened...we donated toys and clothes and other items for the Angel Tree, we collected food for the Holiday Baskets, the choir presented a beautiful cantata, we had tons of delicious treats at the PW Christmas Coffee, we made neat ornaments and had a great time at the Advent Fest, we had a beautiful poinsettia tree and Chrismon tree to decorate our sanctuary, and we had meaningful Christmas eve services. And a deeply-felt thank you to each and every person who helped.

I also want to thank our staff who played such a crucial role in supporting our members, leaders, and worship services. We are blessed with an extraordinary team of dedicated, collaborative and servant-minded people on our church staff and the hours and energy they spent on facilities prep, communications, bulletin production, music and worship planning, special Preschool programs, and so much more helped to ensure a very smooth, powerful, and well-attended season of special events during Advent and Christmas. It is truly an honor to work with each one of them.

Lastly, I want to say a special thanks to all of you for making my first Christmas at Green Acres meaningful. I am truly blessed to be doing ministry alongside you and I look forward to all the opportunities 2020 will bring to share the Good News of God's love.

May this be a year full of blessings for us all.

Blessings,

Beth

January 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>5 2nd Sunday of Christmas Morning Prayer 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Youth Group 6pm</p>	<p>6 Epiphany of the Lord Preschool 9-Noon ADK 5:30pm MR</p>	<p>7 Preschool 9-Noon Lunch Bunch 12-1pm</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day Office Closed</p>	<p>2 Food Pantry 12-3pm CR</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Men's Breakfast 8am FH</p>
<p>12 Baptism of the Lord Morning Prayer 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Ordination & Installation Service Committee 11:45am Youth Group 6pm</p>	<p>13 Preschool 9-Noon Cypress Cove 6:30pm FH</p>	<p>14 Preschool 9-Noon Lunch Bunch 12-1pm FH</p>	<p>8 Preschool 9-Noon Chapel 10am PW Circle 10am MR Staff Mtg 10:30am Bells 5pm MR Dinner 6pm FH</p>	<p>9 Preschool 9-Noon Stay Awhile 9-10am FH Food Pantry 12-3pm CR</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>19 Morning Prayer 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Rise Against Hunger 11:45am CE Committee 11:45am Youth Group 6pm</p>	<p>20 Martin Luther King Jr Day Office Closed</p>	<p>21 Preschool 9-Noon Lunch Bunch 12-1pm FH</p>	<p>15 Preschool 9-Noon Chapel 10am Staff Mtg 10:30am Bells 5pm MR Dinner 6pm FH Choir 7:30pm</p>	<p>16 Preschool 9-Noon Stay Awhile 9-10am FH LIFT 11:30am Food Pantry 12-3pm CR</p>	<p>17 Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>26 Morning Prayer 8:30am Sunday School 9:30am Worship 10:30am Cong. Mtg. 11:30am KOGA 11:45am DASIS 1:15pm</p>	<p>27 Preschool 9-Noon</p>	<p>28 Preschool 9-Noon Lunch Bunch 12-1pm FH</p>	<p>22 Preschool 9-Noon Chapel 10am Staff Mtg 10:30am Bells 5pm MR Dinner 6pm FH Choir 7:30pm</p>	<p>23 Preschool 9-Noon Food Pantry 12-3pm CR</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
			<p>29 Preschool 9-Noon Chapel 10am Staff Mtg 10:30am Bells 5pm MR Dinner 6pm FH Choir 7:30pm</p>	<p>30 Preschool 9-Noon Food Pantry 12-3pm CR</p>	<p>31</p>	

Thank You!

Thank you

Thanks to all who helped with our Preschool Christmas Party! What a great way to extend our love and hospitality to our preschool families!



Thank You!

The GAPC staff would like to thank you for our very generous congregational gift and all the cards and goodies over the Christmas season. We are so blessed to be a part of this church family.

Pastor Beth, Jaime, Marty, Sarah, and Ambrose

Thank You!

A very hearty thanks to the “graduating” class of 2019 and all their hard work and leadership over the past 3 years—Mary Beers, Dave Coulson, Marsha Matthews, Lizzie Moody, Lane Newsome, Jeanne Twine and Sam van de Graaf.

Important Information

Inclement Weather

Changes in worship schedules and office closures due to inclement weather can be found on the church website and Facebook or by calling the church phone. A message will be left in each of these places. Whenever possible, changes to the weekly schedule will also be listed in the Weekly News and Events email. As always, please err on the side of caution and stay home if you do not feel comfortable traveling.

Pledge Envelopes

The 2020 contribution envelope boxes are now located in the main hallway outside of the choir room. We have included envelopes for newest members. If members would like their children to have contribution envelopes, please let Dave Spanagel know and we will gladly provide a box for each child.

Holiday Closures

The Church Office will be closed on New Year’s Day, January 1 and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 20.

January Events

Session Retreat/Ordination & Installation - January 12

We will celebrate the ordination and installation of the incoming class of elders during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on January 12th. Make plans to join us in this exciting worship service as we welcome Ainsley Hammond, Craig Kuehn, Carter Lydon, Martha McLean, John Patterson, Suzanne Skinner, and Trudy Smith.

Rise Against Hunger - January 19

The Witness Committee is sponsoring a meal packaging event for Rise Against Hunger on Sunday, January 19th. Rise Against Hunger (once Stop Hunger Now) is an international hunger relief agency that has been committed to ending hunger since 1998. In 2005, they created a meal packing program that uses an assembly process to combine rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a flavoring mix including 23 essential vitamins and minerals into small meal packets that transport quickly and have a shelf life of two years. All ages and abilities are invited to join us as we pack 20,000 meals! Lunch will be served following worship before we begin. Please sign up in the pew registers or see Terri Pond with any questions.

KOGA - January 26

This month KOGA will meet on Sunday, January 26 from 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Bring lunch and plan on staying for a time of fun fellowship with your friends!

Congregational Meeting - January 26

There will be only one service at 10:30 a.m. followed by a congregational meeting on January 26. The meeting will be for the purpose of hearing a report on the 2020 budget and approving the terms of call for Rev. Hilkerbaumer.

Youth Ski Trip - February 7-9

The Youth Group will be taking our annual ski trip February 7-9th. We will be going to Massanutten Ski Resort and will enjoy a weekend of winter activities. All skill levels welcome! The cost of the trip is \$240 which includes transportation, lodging, lift ticket, ski rentals and most meals. **Scholarships are available.** If you are in 6-12th grade and are interested in this fun adventure or have any questions please contact Jaime today!

Session Highlights

Session Highlights

- Transferred Ken and Kathy Wheeler's membership to Providence Presbyterian Church per their request with regret.
- Called special session meeting for Sun. Dec. 22 at 10:00 to receive new members.
- Approved Annual meeting for Jan. 26, 2020 at 11:30 following worship.
- Ordination and Installation of new elders scheduled for Jan. 12, 2020 during the 10:30 worship service.
- Scheduled session retreat for Feb. 15
- Circulated list of committee assignments for 2020
- 2020 Budget presented with the recommendation from finance with a 2% increase for staff. The Personnel committee gave rationale for and recommended a 3% increase. After discussion, session unanimously approved the 2020 budget with a 3% increase.
- Approved the transfer of \$5000 from the Local Church Fund to Capital Improvements.
- Current 2019 budget year to date was reviewed.
- New elders spoke briefly of their faith journeys.

2020 Committee Assignments

Clerk of Session

Lynda Richmond

Administration

Jim Easterbrooks, chair

Brian Powderly

Christian Education

Kevin Schweiss, chair

Terri Pond

Congregational Care

Lounell Chenevert, chair

Trudy Smith

Fellowship

Martha McLean, chair

John Patterson

Finance

Ray Wilcher, chair

Les Younkings

Endowment

Lounell Chenevert, chair

Jim Easterbrooks

Stewardship

Art Wardell, chair

Kevin Schweiss

Membership

Kathleen Miller, chair

Suzanne Skinner

Nominating

Suzanne Skinner, chair

Craig Kuehn

Personnel

Mike Paraksa, chair

Art Wardell

Kathleen Miller

Planning

Les Younkings, chair

Craig Kuehn

Service

Brian Powderly, chair

Ray Wilcher

Witness

Terri Pond, chair

John Patterson

Worship

Trudy Smith, chair

Martha McLean

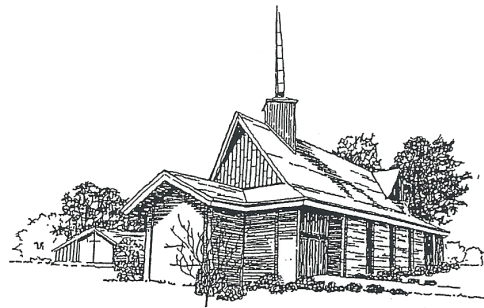
These individuals need your help and support throughout the year to continue to offer the exciting programs, creative educational events, and care and nurture to our own congregation, community, and world. Please pray for them and their work throughout this year and assist them when needed.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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December BIRTHDAYS	Jennifer Cales	23	
Happy Birthday!	Patricia Leshkow	24	
Brett Yarbrough.....	Lily Mantz	25	
1	Barbara Newman	27	
Carter Lydon	1	Janet Spanagel	27
Evelyn Carr	2	Helen Underwood	28
Lorraine Wilcher	5	Megan Allison.....	29
Stephen Gottlieb	7	Art Wardell	30
Elizabeth Hunting.....	9	Rita Allison	30
Nancy Chen	9	Sherry Licata	30
Jeanne Twine.....	10	Janie Campbell	31
Adam Michalski.....	11	Pat Sykes	31
Lisa Chen	15	Sadie Brickey	31
Paul Gottlieb, Jr.	15	Logan Emler.....	31
Caleigh Burris	16	Spencer Emler	31
Sue Smith	19		
Janet Wardell	19		
John Burris	19		
Patrick Hartigan	20		

Parish Register

Deaths:
 December 2, 2019 Jim Lawrence
 December 19, 2019 Ercell Jackson

If you would like a birthday included, please call the church office, 484-5125.

