Maysville Presbyterian Church
Newsletter - January 2023

January 2023

Jan 1 – Worship Service, 11:15 am
Communion
Jan 8 - Worship Service, 11:15 am
2-Cents-A-Meal Offering
Installation & Ordination of Elders
Tri-Committee meeting after worship
Jan 15 – Worship Service, 11:15 am
Session Meeting after worship
Jan 22 – Worship Service, 11:15 am
Jan 29 - Worship Service, 11:15 am
5th Sunday lunch after worship at Maysville. New Store is invited.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS
Sharon (Jan. 1st), Margaret (Jan. 8th), David (Jan. 15th). Volunteers needed for Jan. 22 & 29.

BULLETIN
Knott Family

USHER
Jim Stuart

SANCTUARY FLOWERS
Marty Saxon Martin

COMMUNION
Margaret Thomas & Diane Jamerson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!! – January

January 8 – David Spears
January 12 – Rose Moss Hall
January 13 – Kelly Jo Bailey
January 19 - Dennis Carney
January 24 – Mary Bryant Shoemaker
Wes Saxon
January 28 – Margot Louis

Everyone is invited to attend the Tri-Committee Planning meeting (Worship, Nurture & Outreach, and Christian Ed Committees) after church on Sunday, January 8, 2023. Bring lunch or a snack if you'd like.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Randy Jamerson whose brother, Larry, passed away recently.

Nursery Duty

January 1 – Margaret Thomas
January 8 – Marty or Sharon
January 15 – Marianne Dennison
January 22 - Nancy Stuart
January 29 – Sharon Chandler

Elders for the Class of 2024

A congregational meeting will be held on January 8, for the ordination and installation of the following Elders: Shane Butwin, Paul Louis, Marty Saxon Martin, and Lou Thomas.

Thank you to the Elder Class of 2022. Spencer Adams, Phil Bailey, and Martha Louis will rotate off the Session in January, We thank them very much for their service.

From the Stewardship Committee

If you haven't already done so, please remember to put your pledge information in the offering plate or mail it to Wes Saxon at PO Box 221, Buckingham, VA 23921. Thanks.

Angel Tree

Thank you to everyone who contributed gifts for our "Angel Tree" families. A special thanks goes out to Nancy Stuart for her work in coordinating this project.

Images from the Holy Land

Bring a covered dish or two and join us for the 5th Sunday lunch on January 29 when Kim will share his recent experiences from his trip to Israel. New Store Presbyterian will join us. Our church will provide fried chicken.

Thanks to our choir and to our choir director/ pianist Brahma Rosenburg for the beautiful Christmas cantata they shared with us in December. Thanks also to Vicki Williams who coordinated the slide show from past Christmas pageants.

Best Wishes to David Spears who retired on December 1, 2022. You made it, David !

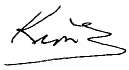
Pastor Ponderings

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel,' (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus." *Matthew 22-25* (ESV)

Usually, at the turning of the year, I look to the future and encourage congregations to do the same. But, this time, I've been reflecting on the meaning of the event we just finished celebrating: the birth of Jesus the Christ. What's at the true heart of His coming? What are we to make of this that comes every year; that we observe, commemorate, memorialize, make merry about, and sometimes glorify His birth? How is Jesus' birth about love, grace, forgiveness, peace, and hope?

We tend to be reductionist; that is, we want to simplify, condense, abridge, and abbreviate our relationships and how we identify others. Often we simply refer to the child born in Bethlehem as Jesus. But, we should, at least from time to time, acknowledge His full name and titles (as best as we can reconstruct them): Jesus Immanuel son of Joseph son of David, the Christ, the Messiah, the Savior, the Son and full image of God. And, if we claim to follow Him: Teacher and Lord. Not remembering the full name and titles, we indirectly belittle the significance of Jesus' birth and thereby, of God's purpose of sending us a Savior. You see, God did all this because of love. Not simply because of love, but because God IS love. Talking about the significance of God's love and God's own self, Joe R. Jones, the late professor emeritus of Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis said, "We can say one thing. God comes to us, even though we can't reach God… That's love. It's all we can say. We can only call it love." His daughter, Serene, now president of Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, adds, "Love has become a trifling word, but it still…has the power to redeem if we can grasp that it exists within and yet comes beyond desire, language, need, and want. That is the simple reason, really, why we call that love, 'grace.'"

Peace,



Maysville Presbyterian Church
PO Box 221
Buckingham, VA 23921

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Address Correction Requested