

Expressions

Walking in Darkness

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.

Isaiah 9:2

And so it began last month: *The bright lights in stores, ornate packages in windows, and pop music on radio stations.* And following along like a puppy too naïve to know it'll never be the first to the feast, is the church's Advent season that, after all, had to wait until this month.

More than any other year, I already feel incredibly behind, like I have been putting off what I needed to do for four weeks already and now that Thanksgiving's almost over I need to double time it just to get halfway caught up. I know that's a yearly lament for some of us (I've changed that from "many of us" this year. I think we're losing more and more lamenters.) I know that's a yearly lament for *some* of us, but I'm particularly grim this year. The scripture verse above is one of the most familiar of all the Christmas passages outside of the New Testament, used every year on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day in worship services around the world, but it makes no sense at all to us. *The "darkness" of which Isaiah spoke millennia ago is now crammed full of lights ...*

"Darkness" referred to the "shadow of death." The "land of deep darkness" is the land of the dead. Darkness is also standard "prophetic imagery" for oppression, in Isaiah's case the Assyrian Empire. But our 21st century "shadows of death" and "lands of the dead" and "oppressors," while just as fatal, are not dark at all. They are full of lights ... twinkling lights and deafening sounds and illusory laughter.

I find myself *seeking* darkness this year – no not that kind, but the dim light of a small fire and the hushed silence of an early winter's night. We have no idea what "darkness" is, and so we have no real appreciation of any relief from such a condition. In the past, out of a sincere desire not to be a "killjoy," I've said things like *"you don't have to stop (fill in the blank), just put it in perspective. Remember the real reason for the (fill in the blank)."* But that hasn't worked on any level, I'm afraid. So this year, I **am** saying "STOP!"

Find some darkness in the weeks of this month – no not that kind, just turn off the "noise" and imagine what the effect of "God here" might mean to a child who doesn't have everything he or she wants, or even needs; or to a world that knows it is destroying itself with its incessant need to consume

(continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

Message from Joel	1
Church News	2-4
CDC	5
Youth Update	6
Schedules	7
Dec. Birthdays & Anniversaries	7
Christmas List	8
Prayers	9
Dec. Calendar	10

Bill Jewell

Director Youth Ministries/CE

Mon., Tue., Wed.

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Kathi Richards

Administrative Assistant

Monday-Friday

8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Marie Fledderman

Bookkeeper

Monday-Tuesday

8:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.

(continued from page 1)

and destroy; or to a family that actually *does* live in the darkness and the cold (the death) of this world. Turn off your lights so you can see the darkness if only for *one minute*. Then turn them back on. But don't let them blind you or distract you, this time. Let the Light guide you ... as it was always meant to do. This season ...

Let us see the Church in you.

Joel

PVPC at Friendship Manor on December 1

At 2:00 p.m. on December 1 we will lead the regular Sunday gathering at Friendship Manor. We usually spend about twenty minutes with the residents who gather to sing, pray, and share a bit of the life and love of our congregation with them. We end with five or ten minutes in conversation with them sharing the hope and faith of PVPC and looking forward to our next visit. If you have this time open on the 1st, please plan to join us for the celebration!

Our New Website Is Launched!

Check it out at the same address: www.peweevalleypresbyterian.org

To begin with we thank Jeff Noe, who for three years faithfully (and free of charge to the church) kept the website enabled, up to date, and paid for! He designed what preceded this current site and we used much of the content he suggested to fill the pages that are now a part of our internet presence. We also thank Matt Killion who, since July, has been hard at work filling the new design with excitement for anyone who is not here yet and an incredible amount of information and updates for all of us who are already a part of this incredible community. Do yourself a favor: Log on and surf the site! It is full of the pictures, music, sermons, newsletters, bulletins, videos, ministries and mission that all tell a bit about PVPC. Tell us what you think and we'll seek to improve in any way we can!

Wednesdays in December: Pausing On The Road To Bethlehem

Wednesday Evening Reflections: December 4th, 11th and 18th

For thirty minutes, once a week for the three Wednesdays before Christmas Day this year, we are going to slow down, to *pa-au-us-se* in our frantic scurrying and journey through Advent with scriptural passages and personal memories to truly prepare for what is waiting for us: Not packages wrapped up in bows, but hearts ready to share *God-with-us*. Using the Thoughtful Christian curriculum, we will explore passages from Isaiah, Matthew, and Luke to remember once again why Christmas Day matters. Dinner starts at 5:45p and is only \$5/plate. Reservations appreciated – hope to see you on the Road to Bethlehem ...



Advent Workshop, Potluck, And Hymn Sing

Sunday, December 1st beginning at 5:30 p.m.

We know this isn't until December this year, but it comes very quickly in our last month, so be sure to mark your calendars THIS month.

At 5: 30p

Everyone is invited to join together in the Family Life Center to make an advent wreath and Christmas ornaments for our tree or your own. Our youth, Christian Education and Member Development Teams will provide all the materials necessary!

At 6:15p

We will enjoy a potluck dinner together in the gym. The worship team will provide a meat dish, but please plan to bring a covered dish that will serve ten people. "Variety is the spice of life," so don't everyone bring dessert.

At 7:00p

We will move to our sanctuary to sing some of the most beloved hymns in our tradition. Special music is being planned and pastor Weible will once again read *the greatest story ever told* to young and old!



Christmas Eve Services At PVPC

Tuesday, December 24

This year we will once again gather twice on this most holy of evenings. At 5:30pm our Youth will lead us in liturgy and song as we celebrate a candlelight communion service together. At 11:00pm our Adult Choir will lead us in a *Lessons and Carols* service that will end with candlelight on Christmas Day! Whether you join us for one or both of these services, we hope to see you this Christmas Eve.



South Oldham Inter-Church Council

Christmas Baskets

The South Oldham Inter-Church Council has started their drive to collect items for their Christmas baskets. They will assemble the baskets, December 9th – 11th and December 16th – 19th location and times to be announced. They can use as many volunteers as they can get. They also need donations of food, children's books, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, Zip-lock bags and cash donations. The cash donations are used to purchase hams, bread, milk, sugar, apples, potatoes and dry beans. **There is a box in the Gathering room to collect any donations other than monetary.** All monetary donations should be made payable to the SOICC and mailed to the South Oldham Inter-Church Council, P.O. Box 903 Crestwood, KY 40014. Any questions please call D.D. Hendrickson.

A Lessons And Carols Service At Duncan Memorial Chapel

Sunday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m.

PVPC, St. James Episcopal, and Crestwood Christian are continuing this annual event in South Oldham County: A traditional *Lessons and Carols* service. With the inaugural service held just last year, the pastors of all three congregations will once again be reading the lessons and leading the prayers. Dan Benjamin, the Minister of Music at Crestwood Christian, and Susan Van Hoven will be directing an choir ensemble that will enhance the singing of the carols of this season. Hope to see you, too!

Gloria Deo

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Presented by The Chancel Choir

Sunday, December 15th

At 10:30 a.m.

Central State—Flynn Building—Present Collection

We are collecting gifts for the residents at Central State—Flynn building through Sunday, the 15th of December. There will be a vehicle with a sign in the parking lot allocated for your drop off of the usual gifts.

Gift ideas are: Wallets, change purses, tube socks, aftershave lotion, scarves & gloves, caps, stationary, all occasion cards, wrist watches, handbags, shampoo/conditioner, sweat shirts (U of L or UK), hair care products and curlers, women's cosmetic bags and cosmetics, radios/batteries, slippers, cologne (no glass), jewelry, playing cards, t-shirts, Christmas cards, key chains, deodorant, candy, games (scrabble, etc.), women's knee high hose.

The gifts should **not** be wrapped. If you have questions you may call the church office at 241-4326.

KEEPING UP WITH OUR YOUTH!



Youth Fellowships in December

Youth fellowship and choir will meet as usual from 4pm till 7pm on December 8th and 15th. But on Sunday, December 22nd, we will meet from 12 noon till 4pm. Lunch will be served, and we will rehearse the full service being planned for Christmas Eve. College youth home for the holiday are invited to join us for lunch and for choir rehearsal and to sing with the youth choir on Christmas Eve. Youth Instrumentalists will also plan to meet with Rich on Wednesdays to practice their pieces on December 4th, 11th and 18th from 6:15pm till 7:00pm.



SOICC Serves Families In Oldham County

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church will be serving the greater Oldham County Community on Tuesday, December 17th with the SOICC food collection, sorting and distribution. We will meet at the "old Beards" location from 6-8pm. Please bring in your food donations to the church, or bring them with you. No Glass Containers Please! Following are some of the items needed: vegetables, fruits, soups, macaroni & cheese, pasta varieties, cake mixes, jello & pudding, PB&J, and canned meats. Cash donations will be used to purchase perishable items that cannot be collected ahead of time. If you have questions, please see Mark Lane or D.D. Hendrickson.



December Ushers-2013

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 12/01/2013 Team 1 | John Bott; Larry McCarson; Linda Heleringer |
| 12/08/2013 Team 2 | Bob Pace; Sue Toole; Ralph and Judy Hall |
| 12/15/2013 Team 3 | Regan Moore; Mark Lane; Mitch and Jenny Williams |
| 12/22/2013 Team 4 | Ed Staats; David Clark |
| 12/29/2013 Team 5 | Rick Fletcher, Clare Grant |





Anniversaries

December

- 04 Raymond & Celeste New
- 27 John & D.D. Hendrickson
- 29 Ed & Charlene Staats
- 29 Larry & Connie Vice
- 31 Bob & Pat Payne



Birthdays

December

- 02 Heather Levinson
- 07 Adele Bolton
- 08 Caitlyn Brown
- 09 Kevin Arave
- 09 Ted Merhoff
- 09 Emily Roe
- 11 Burke Lasseigne
- 11 Wilma Wayne
- 13 Brian Phillips
- 16 Claudia Janke
- 18 Laura Lindsey
- 20 Virginia Baumann
- 20 Joy Girgis
- 20 Michael Russell
- 20 Ann Weingardt
- 22 John Mann
- 23 Benjamin Thompson
- 24 Isabelle Davenport
- 29 David Lindsey
- 29 Margaret Smith
- 29 Charlene Staats
- 30 Suzanne Houston
- 31 Zack Killion
- 31 Mollie Phillips

Children's Sermon

December

- 01 Joel Weible
- 08 Bill Jewell
- 15 Jenna Wissink
- 22 Kim Pappas
- 29 Christiaan Faul

Children's Church

December

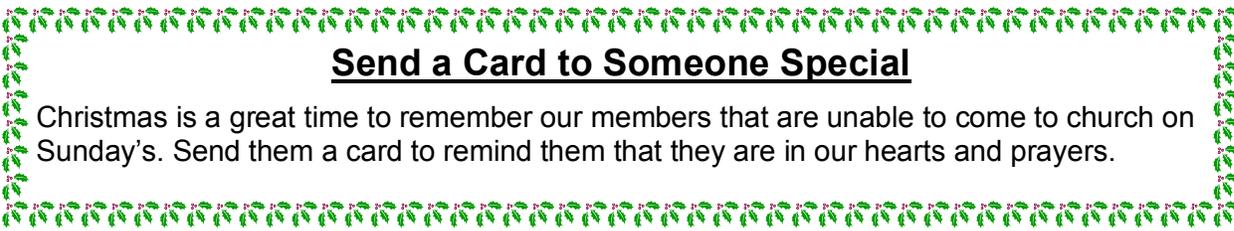
- 01 Jenny & Mitch Williams
- 08 Holly Clark
- 15 Lottie Williams
- 22 Stephanie Willis
- 29 Holly Clark

Worship Attendance

September

11/03/13	10:00	97
11/10/13	10:30	91
11/17/13	10:30	70
11/24/13	10:30	100

The church office will be closed on December 24th, Christmas Eve and December 25th, Christmas Day.



Send a Card to Someone Special

Christmas is a great time to remember our members that are unable to come to church on Sunday's. Send them a card to remind them that they are in our hearts and prayers.

Mr. Tommy Boone
Bingham Gardens
4401 Louise Underwood Way
Louisville, KY 40216

Mrs. Sarah Copley
13600 LaGrange Rd. #131
Louisville, KY 40241

Mr. Bill Herdt
Friendship Manor
P.O. Box 307
Pewee Valley, KY 40056

Mrs. Ruth Klingenfus
Baptist Hospital NE
New Moody Lane Rm 1236
LaGrange, KY 40031

Mr. Clayton & Mrs. Betty Stoess
6801 Central Ave.
Crestwood, KY 40014

Mrs. Virginia Chaudoin
P.O. Box 444
Pewee Valley, KY 40056

Ms. Michelle Hendrickson
1516 East Hwy 44
Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Mr. Robert & Mrs. Claudia Janke
4501 Springdale Rd. Apt #211
Louisville, KY 40241

Mr. Charlie Littrell
9802 Phoenix Trail
Louisville, KY 40243

Mrs. Irene Littrell
6830 Overlook Drive
Louisville, KY 40241

Mrs. Norma (Ruth) Price
305 S. Scott Dr.
Santa Maria, CA 93454

Mr. Ed Stoess—232710
Roederer Correctional Complex
P.O. Box 69
LaGrange, KY 40031
(No Stickers or Labels)



PRAVERS
& CONCERNS

- Thomas Berry** (son of Ann Berry)
Carol Bockey (friend of D.D. Hendrickson)
Jim & Teri Trimpe & Family
Teri Trimpe
The Family of David Crask
Mary Boone
Liz (friend of Paula Malone)
Rev. Greg Hackett (Pastor at Ann Berry's church in Corpus Christi);
Mary Jane Kinser (friend of Gin Chaudoin)
Marie Fledderman
Dee Ann Riggs (former member)
David Stokes (friend of Dan & Laura Kinnicutt)
Terry Rawn (friend of Jim Trimpe)
Margie Thompson
Allyson Powlus (sister of Rick Fletcher)
Frank Wark (friend of Jan Beaverson)
Peyton Kepfer (nephew of a friend of Clare Grant)
Bobbie Holihan (friend of Virginia Baumann)
Waller Braden (friend of Sally Bunnell)
Mary Louise Boone-Abraham (granddaughter of Mary Boone)
Jim Harrah (friend of Ted Merhoff)
Chris & Janice Leahy (friends of Debbie and Anita Hicks)
Jeff McGee (friend of Sharon Davis)
Brad Weber (friend of Virginia Baumann)
Doug Germond (husband of Kathy Germond in the CDC)
Loretta Brown (friend of D.D. and John Hendrickson)
Nancy Dubois (friend of D.D. and John Hendrickson)
Dale & Ruth Winters (friends of D.D. and John Hendrickson)
Kay Harrod (sister-in-law of Betty Deibel)
Wayne Hartigan
Larry Fox (brother of Gale Fox)
Mary Kistner (friend of Karen Wood)
Hazel Woods (Aunt of Jan Beaverson)
- Bob & Diana Polsgrove** (friends of D.D. Hendrickson)
Betty Denton (Sister of Sue Conn, former member)
Monte Farmer (brother-in-law of Margaret Hill and Regan Moore)
J. B Price
Ruth Klingenfus
Linda Mahoney (sister of Gale Fox)
Aiden Johnson (son of a co-worker of Maria McCarson)
David Pagan (nephew of Bob and Pat Payne)
Noel Weaver (former member)
Jean Dugger (co-worker and friend of Regina Bates)
Kristen Hall (CDC parent)
Karen Bennett (cousin of Melody Lindsey)
Elena Dias (niece of Richard Ray and granddaughter of Irene Littrell)
Tommy Boone
Matthew Marshall (grandson of Linda Heleringer)
Tim Wilson (family member of Rebecca Byford)
Betsy Boone-Abraham
Zachary Corcoran
Mabel Monholland (friend of Gary and Sandy Age)
Bill Herdt
Don and Camilla Crowder (cousins of Melody Lindsey)
Sara Hardin (sister of Mark Lane)
Stu Basore (brother-in-law of Jan Beaverson);
Gin Chaudoin
Janet Edgerton (friend of Albert Harrison)
Jamelle Norfleet (friend of Linda Heleringer)
Ralph Haskell (cousin of Ann Finney)
Millie Beaverson (Jerry Beaverson's mother)
Elaine Schmits (mother of Laura Noe)
Ruth Price
Michelle M. Hendrickson (daughter of John and D.D. Hendrickson)
Ed Stoess (son of Jim and Ann Stoess)

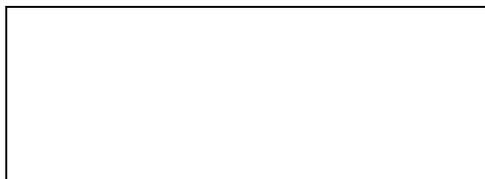
Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

119 Central Avenue
P.O. Box 365
Pewee Valley, KY 40056

Phone: 502-241-4326
Fax: 502-241-0876
E-mail: pvpcoffice@bluegrass.net



Address Service Requested



***We have found in this church a spiritual home
where we learn to serve others,
enjoy and glorify God,
celebrate differences
and follow faithfully the Lord Jesus Christ.***