

January
2024



MUSINGS...

by Pastor John Bethard

Happy New Year!

I can only speak for myself, but I am really looking forward to next year. We have some exciting moments ahead. Later this winter, we will launch the capital campaign. We are still refining the particulars of the campaign, and we expect to really get going in late February or early March. What excites me about this is that we are giving attention to some things that are long overdue, and the result will be obvious and supplement our ministry work tremendously.

I am also looking forward to some developments in our youth and family ministry. Garth has enough older students that he has started a small youth group, and many of these students are new to our congregation. How exciting to see this come to fruition!

Missions has been very active over the last few years, and in the year ahead we will continue to do the great work we've done, all while seeking new ways to share the message of the gospel and the love of Christ with others.

On August 1, I will celebrate my twentieth anniversary as pastor of Charles Town Presbyterian Church. It doesn't even seem like that is possible! It has truly been an honor to serve this congregation. I'm sure in August we will do something to mark that milestone. I won't say, "Here's to another twenty," because I think that's a stretch.

Every new year, most of us look to new beginnings. And though January 1 is really just another day, it gives us a sense that anything is possible, that things can change. For me the new year always reminds me of the One, our Lord Jesus, who makes all things new. One of the most important ways to make the new year great is to make personal discipleship a priority. Most everything else flows out of that.

As most of you know, 2023 was an extremely difficult year for me, personally. It has been emotionally exhausting and incredibly challenging. I've managed that as well as I possibly could. But I could not have done any of it without the love and support of this congregation. Thank you for your prayers and encouragement. You all truly understand what it means to be the Body of Christ.

Here's to Great 2024!

Pastor John



Know. Grow. Serve.

Attitude of Gratitude Happy New Year!



It's hard to believe a new year is upon us!

On behalf of our music ministry team members, we hope the music provided during the Christmas season, inspired, renewed and transformed you in some way to the hope that's ours through Jesus Christ.

Our choir members get a well deserved little break this time of year before we start preparing for Easter. Check out the below schedule and let me know if you'd like to join any of our groups!

Blessings & Love, Penny

Tuesday, January 16th—Basic Music class—choir room 12pm—every week unless weather prohibits

Wednesday, January 17th—Geneva Ringers 6:30pm—weekly unless weather prohibits
—Glory Singers 7:15pm—weekly unless weather prohibits

Tuesday, March 12th— Silver Bells resume!

Worship & Music



Know. Grow. Serve.

Charles Town Presbyterian Church

Hospitality Station Needs

Juice boxes, coffee pods, hot chocolate pods

Weekly- mini muffins, fruit,

***Popular items- Wethers Candy, goldfish, Cheezits,
Breakfast bars***

Contact Lazan or Penny for more info !

WANTED !
RINGERS & SINGERS

TO

Join our

EASTER

choirs

Charles Town Presbyterian Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Youth Group!

Youth Group meets each Sunday
from 2:30-4:00pm.

Kid's Group!

Kid's Group meets each Sunday
from 4:00-5:30pm.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Any questions, please feel free to contact Garth Steven-Jennings
304-725-5316 or garthstevens-jennings@ctpres.org.

Celebrations this month

Birthdays

Jim MacKenzie
Bea Miller
John Bethard
Larry Lloyd
Summer Burns
Noah Portrey
Carina Snook
Mason Noland
Georgie Wilson
Nancy Lloyd



Charley Amos
Signe Garms
Shawn Pitcock
Sydney Fulbright
Mark Stafford
Matthew Custer
Hollyn Rossi
Mary Burns
Judy Miller



Anniversaries

Dick & Denise Burns

Sunday @ CTPC

10:30am-Worship Celebration Facebook

For a complete listing of all of the church activities, please click [here](#).



Donate



CTPC Zoom Meetings

To join any of the Zoom meetings listed below, please email the church office at ctpres.org for contact information.

The Faithweavers is a blended Sunday School class with in person and virtual options led by Margaret Kursey.

Yokefellows Sunday School Class. The Class will begin with a short business meeting from 8:45 am to 9:00 am at which time prayers will be offered for class members, family and friends who are ill or otherwise in distress. At 9:00am until 9:35 am a lesson will be taught by the class teacher from the Adult Bible Studies series. Anyone wishing to visit the class on ZOOM should contact the following class members to receive a ZOOM "invite": Gary Scott at email: gary3042795296@gmail.com or James Mackenzie at email: mackenzie48708@gmail.com.

Capital Campaign Update: Dear Congregation Family, thank you for participating in our shared Sunday School Hour's facilities walkthrough which identified over 60 items that we could improve with your Capital Campaign contributions. There are a handful of items that don't cost us anything, and in 2024 you should look for some scheduled work days to help out in sharing your time to complete. For those wanting to make a difference sooner, you can contribute to the Capital Campaign now through your usual donation method or via the no-fee PayPal Giving Fund <https://paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3122728>.

Ordination and Installation of deacons and elders for the class of 2026 will take place during worship on Sunday, January 14th. Those to be ordained and installed are: Deacons: Bob Tansill; Elders: Diane Mayhew, Beth Pugh, Patsy White.

Congregational Meeting. The annual congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, January 14th. We will hear brief reports from committees, and review the 2024 budget.

What's so Amazing About Grace? The Faithweavers invite you to join them in a ten week study of Phillip Yancey's book, What's so Amazing About Grace? Beginning January 7, the study will include a video portion followed by discussion, and will center around God giving grace to people unconditionally. The study will encompass [Bible stories](#), [anecdotes](#) from life, and accounts of historical events. The Faithweavers meet each Sunday from 9:00 - 10:00, and this study will be held in the "old" Voyagers room No. 104, beside the workroom and Pastor's office. Everyone is invited and welcome!



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Bill Whitacre, who died on December 27th. May God bless those who grieve.

Condolences may be sent to Augusta Whitacre at 427 Belvedere Drive, Charles Town, WV 25414.



Online giving helps you to bring your offering before God in a simple, and secure way. You can choose from The Presbyterian Foundation, Facebook, or PayPal, each of which have a nominal fee that you can include as part of your gift. The Presbyterian Foundation fee does help the organization's mission, and you can easily use a mobile app (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement on Google Play/Apple AppStore) to set up for repeating or one time giving. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Donation options and tax information at www.ctpres.org (<http://www.ctpres.org>).

The Six-cents-a-meal offering, is collected on the 4th Sunday each month, and goes to the Presbyterian Hunger Program. To contribute to this offering please note on memo line: hunger offering. Thank you.



JCCM Food Pantry needs. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated: spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, canned meat (vienna sausage, spam, chicken, tuna), canned beans, canned vegetables (not green beans/corn), soups (hearty and condensed), canned chili, rice (small bags), instant mashed potatoes, jelly and peanut butter, syrup, instant oatmeal, crackers, boxed pancake mix, cooking oil, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, laundry detergent. Thank you, Kari Dean, Food Pantry Coordinator, JCCM

Worship Help Needed. We need help running the technology used in worship each week. We are seeking two or three people to help run the PowerPoint slides and the camera for our live broadcast. These are fairly simple tasks, and we provide training. Please speak with Pastor John or Roger Snook if you can help.



The flower chart for 2024 is available for sign up. It is located on the bulletin board by the church office or call at 304-725-5316. If you would like to donate your flowers for the deacons to deliver to a shut-in or someone in the hospital, please call the church office.

Seeking a nursery attendant:
 Where—CTPC
 When—every Sunday 10AM-noon
 What—an aide for our current nursery attendant, Jordan, as she cares for children infant- Kindergarten
 Why—to keep a safe environment for young children while parents (members or visitors) worship in our church sanctuary
 Who—We seek a Christian individual 18 years or older who loves and respects children. This person should be gentle, warm, trustworthy, responsible, playful, nurturing, patient, and punctual.
 This is a part time position. Hourly wage will be discussed when serious candidates apply. A background check will be required.
 Email a resume to Charles Town Presbyterian Church: ctpres@ctpres.org



Meals-on-Wheels is in need of volunteers to help Monday—Friday for packing meals (8am-10am) and delivering meals (10am –Noon). We have five areas in Jefferson County that we deliver to and need drivers for all of them. Please call (304-725-1601) or stop by the kitchen of the Charles Town Presbyterian Church. We are open 8am-1pm.



Save Lives By Giving to the Blanket Offering for Church World Service will be collected on Sunday, January 14th. Help fight hunger and malnutrition, meet emergency needs, nurture sustainable development, assist refugees and displaced persons, and help address the root causes of poverty and powerlessness.

