



# WEDNESDAY DINNER

## MAKE YOUR RESERVATION:

Place this filled out flyer in the offering plate or  
Call the church office **BEFORE 2pm on Tuesday.**

**Wednesday Night Dinner**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number: **Adults** \_\_\_\_\_ **Children** \_\_\_\_\_ **Carry-Out** \_\_\_\_\_

Adults: **\$5.00**

Children 12 & under: **\$2.50**

Max. cost per immediate family: **\$13**

## MENU:

**Salad**

**Swedish Meatballs**

**Mashed Potatoes**

**Green Beans & Corn**

**Dessert**



## *Lectionary Readings for this Week*

To encourage your personal study and growth,  
here is the list of Lectionary Scripture Readings for  
**December 14, 2025, Third Sunday of Advent**  
**Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55;**  
**James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11**

## Sermon Notes: December 14, 2025

**Title: “Lessons from the Wise Men”**

**Speaker: Pastor Kurt Busiek**

**Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12:** “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: 6 ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”” 7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him...””



# Choral Anthem

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Come, Thou long Expected Jesus,  
born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation hope  
of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear Desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a king.  
Born to reign in us forever,  
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule  
in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit raise us  
to Thy glorious throne.

Come Thou long expected Jesus.  
Come.

# Christmas



MID-OHIO VALLEY

## Christmas Day Dinner

**December 25 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.**

**Doors Open at 11:45**

**First Presbyterian Church**

**1341 Juliana Street • Parkersburg**

**At the Rear Entrance**

*Dine inside, Pick up your free meals at curbside,  
or, arrange meal **Delivery** (homebound only).*

**Want to help? Here's how:**

Donate cookies & pies ★ Prep food ★ Package Meals  
Deliver meals ★ Clean up ★ Make a Cash Donation

**Contact us by Wednesday, December 17  
to volunteer or to request meal delivery:**

**Online: [www.fpcpborgwv.org](http://www.fpcpborgwv.org)**

**Call: 304-422-5426    Email: [office@fpcpborgwv.org](mailto:office@fpcpborgwv.org)**

# Cancer Prayer Concerns

EBC encourages mailing a card of support to anyone with an address listed below. A simple message can boost mental resilience, provide comfort, and increase overall well-being and quality of life during a difficult journey. Cards are available in the narthex and can be dropped off in the church office for postage and mailing after they are signed and addressed.

**Jeannette Bauer**, Eileen Mayer's sister, is battling advanced stage 4 breast cancer. [10770 109<sup>th</sup> St. N Largo, FL 33778] (1/26/25)

**Sara LeMasters Buck**, a friend of Robbi Leonard, is struggling with complications from oral cancer.

[1302 Myrtle St. Parkersburg, WV 26101] (4/13)

**Tara Cox**, Karen's daughter-in-law, on-going chemo. (4/20)

**David Cronin**, friend of Gail Samolitis is fighting a stage 4 brain tumor. [135 Morningside Ave. Parkersburg, WV 26101] (8/24)

**Wandalene Drake**, Leslie Sim's mom/ Lyndall Jones' sister, began a year of immunotherapy in December 2025 with the goal of keeping her aggressive renal cancer from returning. [4732 US Hwy 33E Glenville, WV 26351]

**Eric, Evelyn, & Nancy**, family of Judy Florence, are receiving treatment for cancer. (10/12)

**Michele Farnsworth**, cousin of Keith Mayer, is dealing with cancer throughout his body. [19546 Dyson Way Valler Lee, MD 20692] (9/21)

**Frank Gephardt**, Donna Marcinko's niece's husband, ongoing chemo. (7/6)

**Nancy Johnson**, Buck Johnson's sister-in-law, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer; on-going chemo.

[503 N. Dry Run Rd. Williamstown, WV 26187] (9/14)

**Adam Johnston** is battling kidney cancer. [512 Paddock Green Dr. Parkersburg, WV 26104] (7/27)

**Pastor Tom Lancaster**, friend of Gail Samolitis, is recovering after cancer surgery, on-going treatment.

[P.O. Box 28167 Chattanooga, TN 37424] (9/14)

**Susie Lattea**, cousin of Robbie Leonard, was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. [1402 8<sup>th</sup> St. Vienna, WV 26105] (10/12)

**Ethel Mason** got a good cancer report that her cancer is in remission. [1601 Spring St. Parkersburg, WV 26101] (5/18)

**Phil Morris** has completed prostate cancer treatments. He got a good follow up report from his oncologist on 12/2. He feels blessed and is thankful for the prayers. [2807 Soyer St. Parkersburg, WV 260101]

**Bonnie Nestor** is doing on-going chemo. [4906 6th Ave. Vienna, WV 26105]

**Brian Samples**, Josh Titlow's uncle, ongoing cancer treatment. [4702 Spring Hill Ave. South Charleston, WV 25309] (4/20)

**Kayvonne Settle**, cousin of Kim Matheny, is battling pancreatic cancer. [150 Camelot Rd. Unit 2, Belpre, OH 45714] (7/6)

**Lil Underwood**, Amber Busiek's mother, is recovering from surgery to remove cancer from her spine; on-going chemo.

[324 Casey Lane Washington, WV 26181] (10/12)

**Dianna Wagoner** is dealing with cancer on her other kidney. Doctors will watch the situation until 3/26.

[1508 36<sup>th</sup> St. Parkersburg, WV 26104] (12/29/24)



RMMO2025

# Let all that you do be done in love

— 1 Cor 16:14

MMBB



## Send In Your Gift

### Mail

Send a check with the name of your church to:

American Baptist Churches USA/  
Mission Resource Development  
PO Box 851  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

### Online

- 1 Go to [abc-usa.org](http://abc-usa.org) and click on the "GIVE ONLINE" button at the top right.
- 2 For "Fund," select, "Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering."
- 3 Provide your church name in the "Comment" box.

## A Legacy of Love: Honoring Those Who've Served

Following God's call often comes with sacrifice. Many retired ministers, missionaries, and their widowed spouses have served faithfully, yet often lack the resources to fully prepare for life's later seasons. Health challenges, the loss of a spouse, or isolation.

These are the people who have poured into our lives. Pastors who prayed with us, missionaries who served where we could not. Their dedication helped shape the American Baptist Churches USA into the vibrant, faithful community it is today.

Your offering is more than a donation, it's a heartfelt expression of love and gratitude. It allows us to provide emergency assistance and a "Thank You" check to those who have devoted 15 or more years of their lives to God's service.

Thanks to your generosity, in 2024 we raised \$932,122, resulting in 3,331 checks sent to retired ministers, missionaries, and widowed spouses.

**These gifts meet real needs and offer comfort in life's most vulnerable moments:**

*"I am so humbled and thankful for your generosity. I was so surprised when I checked my account and saw your kindness displayed. I will remember my family in Christ and the love you've shown."*

— Retiree from Ohio

*"Thank you for the RMMO gift. An unexpected and generous blessing. Thank you for all you do in Jesus's name."*

— Retiree from California

*"Thank you so very much for the Thank You check from MMBB. What a lovely gift—just when my laptop was on its last legs. It couldn't have come at a better time. Thank you! Our affiliation during these 40-plus years has meant more to me than you could imagine."*

— Retiree from Virginia

**Each time a check is received, it's more than financial support, it's a reminder that they are still part of a loving church family that sees them, remembers them, and honors their service.**



## 2026 Board of Ministry Church Officers – One Year Term

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Moderator                     | Joe Stephens               |
| Vice Moderator                | Charles Matthews           |
| Church Clerk                  | Jane Hulce                 |
| Treasurer                     | Gary Beall                 |
| Assistant Treasurer           | Sarah Robinson/Julie Grimm |
| Financial Secretary           | Rich Shawver               |
| Assistant Financial Secretary | <b>Susan Stout</b>         |
| Sunday School Superintendent  | Rose Wood                  |

## Members at Large – 3 Year Term

|                                 |                              |      |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------|
| Financial Development           | Charles Matthews             | 2026 |
| Leader Development/Enlist.      | <b>Blaine Hess</b>           | 2027 |
| Mission Education/Ministry Dev. | Eileen Mayer                 | 2028 |
| Youth Ministry                  | David Brooks                 | 2026 |
| Facilities                      | Dave McCue/<br>Tim Samolitis | 2026 |
| Fellowship                      | <b>Jewel Lusk</b>            | 2027 |
| Adult Ministry                  | <b>Kim Constantino</b>       | 2028 |
| Children's Ministry             | Sarah Stephens               | 2027 |
| Music                           | <b>Radonna Hess</b>          | 2028 |

## Diaconate – 3 Year Term

|                          |             |                       |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Jo Ann Boggs             | 2026        | Joe Bolian            | 2026        |
| Kim Constantino          | 2026        | Delbert Casto         | 2026        |
| Christa Raitz            | 2026        | Brian Raitz*          | 2026        |
| Jane Hulce               | 2027        | Jeff Beatty           | 2027        |
| Barbara Kirsch           | 2027        | Rick Cline            | 2027        |
| Donna Shawver            | 2027        | Blaine Hess           | 2027        |
| <b>Brenda Bolian</b>     | <b>2028</b> | <b>Rich Shawver</b>   | <b>2028</b> |
| <b>Sarah Stephens</b>    | <b>2028</b> | <b>Evan Bevins</b>    | <b>2028</b> |
| <b>Susan Moellendick</b> | <b>2028</b> | <b>&lt;vacant&gt;</b> | <b>2028</b> |

\*Diaconate Representative to the Board of Ministry

## Staff Relations – 3 Year Term

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| John Nicholson        | 2026        |
| Jo Ann Boggs          | 2027        |
| <b>Sarah Robinson</b> | <b>2028</b> |

**2026 Church Budget:** Total General Fund Expected Giving \$410,000; Expense Budget for Staff \$202,843; Expense Budget for Programs \$171,450; Expense Budget for L/T Maintenance \$8,200; Expense Budget for Missions \$41,000; Total EBC Expense Budget \$423,493

**DO YOU HAVE ANY SMART  
PHONES YOU ARE NOT  
USING ANYMORE.  
DONATE THEM TO THE  
EBC A/V MINISTRY.  
WE CAN PUT THEM TO  
GOOD USE.**



Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment

near you! **800-324-9458**

Thursday, Jan. 22

and use code: **HABC001**

9am-4:30pm

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall







Join us for

# *Christmas Church Dinner*

**Sunday, December 21st at 6 P. M.  
Fellowship Hall**

**EBC will provide turkey, ham,  
stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy,  
green beans, and rolls.**

**Please bring a side dish or  
dessert to share.**

**SIGN UP BY WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 17TH**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How Many?** \_\_\_\_\_



West Virginia  
Baptist Convention

# Annual Training Event



**Saturday, February 7, 2025**

**Parchment Valley Conference Center**

*Join us for a day of workshops with more than 200 others from your WVBC family!*

**Registration Deadline: January 24, 2026**

**If you plan to attend, please let Blaine Hess know or call  
the church office to possibly coordinate traveling together  
in the church van or bus.**

**REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX**

**Make checks payable and mail to:**

**WV Baptist Convention**

**P.O. Box 1019**

**Parkersburg, WV 26102**

**or register online at:**

**[www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org)**





## Poinsettias Given By:

Ann Beck, in loving memory of **Jim Beck**

Jo Ann Boggs & Sharon Beall, in loving memory of their parents, **Harold & Euna Lee Singleton**

Jennifer Bolian in honor of her son, **Samuel Schoenhut**  
Kurt & Mona Busiek and family, in honor of **Dr. Erwin Busiek**, in loving memory of Kurt's mother, **Dorothy Busiek**, and Mona's parents, **Wadi & Pat Abdo**

Mary-Margaret & Scott Buchwald, in loving memory of **John Buchwald**

Delbert & Sue Casto to the **Glory of God**

Shirley Davis, in loving memory of **Frank Davis & Aileen Wortman**

Margie Edwards, in loving memory of **Terry Edwards**

The Enoch Family, in loving memory of **Clarence Enoch, Jr.**

The Gaydac Family, in loving memory of **Carol "Gigi" Gaydac**

Jane Graham, in loving memory of **R.V. "Buddy" Graham**

Don & Julie Grimm, in loving memory of their parents, **Everett & Betty Grimm** and **Ron & Marie Frady**, in honor of their grandchildren, **Landin, Gabi, Adelynn, Jaxon, & Noah**

Jerry Hamilton, in loving memory of **Sherry Hamilton**

Blaine & Radonna Hess, in loving memory of **Mr. & Mrs. Earl Hess**, **Rev. Dr. Haymond Plaugher**, and **Rev. Dr. Gerald Morgan**, in honor of **Dr. Kurt Busiek**

Darlene Howard, John & Leslie Howard Mulcay, in loving memory of **Willa Howard, June Howard, Brian Floyd, Joseph Alan Howard, Carol Mulcay, Joseph R. Howard**

Buck & Melissa Johnson, in loving memory of **Jerry & Edna Evans** and **Ralph & Leotia Johnson**

Lee & Jessica Johnson, in loving memory of **Betty & Jack Johnson, Russel Varner, Jackie Tracewell, & Tim "Gramps" Bauer**

Barbara Kirsch, in loving memory of **Mark Scoly & Jack Kirsch**



## Poinsettias Given by:

Brian & Dee Lallemond in loving memory of Brian's Dad, **Clarence Lallemond**

Bob & Judy Langkamer, in loving memory of **Bob & Marion Meek** and **Jim & Doris Langkamer**

Kathy Leavitt, in loving memory of her **parents & Grandmother Leavitt**

Jewel Lusk, in loving memory of **Raymond Lusk & Neva Lusk**

Mary Maslon, in loving memory of husband, **Tom Malson** and in honor of **Tim & Gail Samolitis**

Charles Matthews, in loving memory of **Betty Matthews**

Keith & Eileen Mayer, in loving memory of our **December wedding 12 years ago** adorned with poinsettias

Carol Morgan to the **Glory of God**

Jim & Jean Nordeck, Don & Brenda Dougherty, and Lynda Farley in loving memory of **Julie Marie Carpenter, George & Sondra Simpson** and **George Farley**

Randy Nutter, in loving memory of **Ronald & Jackie Nutter, Jack & Hazel Nutter**, and **Harold & Hazel Gerber**

Judy Prater, in honor of **Pastor Kurt & Mona Busiek** and **my Emmanuel family**

Jim & Carolyn Ross, in loving memory of **Ed & Corrine Ross** and **Ernest & Helen Wiggins**

Lori Schramm & Gary Turner, in loving memory of **Dr. Gerald Morgan & Carrie Mae Turner**, in honor of **Carole Morgan**

Joe & Sarah Stephens, in loving memory of **Bertha Stone** and **Dave & Nancy Stephens**

John & Sharalyn Terosky, in loving memory of **Joyce Spontak** and **John & Kathy Terosky**

Rodney & Pam Wharton, in honor of their grandsons, **Sebastian & Elias Huffman**

Brenda Wheeler, in loving memory of **my loved ones in Heaven**, in honor of my daughter & son-in-law, **Whitney & Russell Richards**







# Advent

Third Sunday of Advent:

## The Gift of Peace

Leader: On this Advent journey, we are mindful of the brokenness of the world that surrounds us.

**People: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**

Leader: As we look around us, we see the hostility that exists between neighbor and nation.

**People: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**

Leader: As we look beside us, we see fractured relationships and unforgiving hearts.

**People: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**

Leader: As we look within ourselves, we confess the reconciling words we have yet to speak and restoring deeds we have yet to do.

**People: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding.**



## Candle Lighting Service

This morning we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us of the marvelous **hope** revealed through the Savior's birth. In a time of despair, God shattered the darkness with the hope of a new future. The **second candle** helps us remember that God's perfect **love** made flesh can fill our hearts, ignite our souls, and change our lives. The **third candle** reminds us of the **peace** that only Christ can instill in the human heart. In a world that abounds with hostility, Christ alone is the One who speaks, "Peace, be still."

### CLOSING PRAYER

Gracious Lord, we pray that you will help us to see glimpses of your peace in our fractured world. You are the Prince of Peace. Help us to remember this Advent that we can also be agents of peace to those around us and in our world. Help us to seek your perfect peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.



### Light of Hope

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
JOEL RANEY

Congregation:

