



# POUGHKEEPSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

TELEPHONE: (845) 542-2933 | WEBSITE: POKUMC.ORG | EMAIL: OFFICE@POKUMC.ORG

## The Journey

DECEMBER 2023

### PUMC STAFF

*Kregg Gabor* PASTOR

*Karyn Millham* SECRETARY

*Polly James* CHOIR DIRECTOR

*Stephen Siktberg* ORGANIST

*Angela Soto-White* CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

*Alexander Glaz* YOUTH MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

*Neal Pickett* CUSTODIAN

### PUMC VOLUNTEER

*Pat McCullough*  
HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR

### PUMC AFFILIATES LEADERSHIP STAFF

*Kat Viebrock* COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL DIRECTOR

*Shaundraneka Gills* DIRECTOR OF HARRIET TUBMAN  
ACADEMIC SKILLS CENTER

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK-----2

FEASTING ON FINANCE -----3

    NOW, ON TO FINANCES -----3

    SOME OF WHAT YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE LOOKS FORWARD TO IN 2023 INCLUDES -----4

STEWARDSHIP -----4

    SPOTLIGHT ON STEWARDSHIP: BONUS T - THANK YOU!-----4

    FITTING TOGETHER OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP PUZZLE FOR 2023 -----5

    2024 PLEDGE UPDATE -----5

    INTERIM PLEDGE STATEMENTS -----5

    PLEDGE FORM -----6

ANGELS – ANGELS – EVERYWHERE!-----7

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS -----7

THANK YOU FROM THE MISSION TEAM -----8

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR ROOM-----8

HALO BELLS & JOYFUL RINGER -----8

HYMN BACKGROUNDS -----9

IT 'S TIME FOR FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE!-----9

KIDS' CORNER -----10

URGENT – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TALLY PUMC'S OFFERINGS -----10

PLEASE THANK THE JOURNEY'S PUBLISHING TEAM-----10

HEALING PRAYER ROOM-----11

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS-----11

    OUR MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES -----11

    FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH-----11

    MEMBERS OF OUR MILITARY -----11

THOUGHTS -----11

DECEMBER-----12

    CALENDAR -----12

CHORTLE -----13

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

<sup>8</sup> But *God* demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, *Christ* died for us.

<sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from *God's* wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, while we were *God's* enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his *Son*, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in *God* through our *Lord Jesus Christ*, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

— Romans 5:8-11

“In our relationship with *God*, reason is always only a helper to passionate love; it is never on the throne. We experience *Him* by totally abandoning ourselves to whatever *He*, through *His Spirit*, wants to do in us and through us. *He* refuses to be an object that we can observe and comprehend in detached, logical thought. *God* wants a passionate love for *Himself*, not a philosophical logical theology.” (*Carpe Diem*, Tony Campolo, pp. 24-25)

For so many in *Jesus's* day, Judaism had become a religion without passion. Judaism had become a religion of mechanics and debate on logic and theology, far removed from the personal needs of ordinary people living under Roman occupation. Judaism had died in many ways; it had lost its passion for *God* and life as *God's* people apart from Rome.

Not so the gospel story. Right from the beginning, we have a passionate, if not even radical, *God* who dares to move the world in a different way, not by a law codified in books and debated by scholars but by a law of passionate love written on the heart.

*Jesus Christ* exemplifies this law written on the human heart in many ways. From birth to death, he was utterly human. Yet in *Jesus*, we have a perfect human to reach for and ascribe to, but we also have in *Christ* the nature and being of *God*: *God* radically having come to *God's* people so that they might know just how deep and passionate *God's* love is.

It is not before *Christ's* ministry that we have an attempt to answer the question of why the “*God-man*,” no, that is a debate of the later church, a continuing discussion. No matter how hard we try to understand the theology behind *God's* action, our understanding always returns to *God's* passion for fallen humanity. Whatever else *Christ* is to us, he is *God's* unfathomable, passionate, and mysterious love.

The church needs to be passionate. We, too, risk losing the passion of our belief, of no longer feeling that which we seek only to understand and so errantly control. Were *God* a molecule of water or the cell of an onion, understanding would be much easier. Not only because of the tools we can use but because these things are objects. *God* is a person. To understand *God*, we must relate to *God*; that is the tool of our understanding. It is out of this relation that rationalization springs into action through an incarnated faith in the world.

The church has been accused of losing this passion for the plight of humanity, being too concerned with learning about *God* and not experiencing, let alone enfleshing *God*. Christmas celebrates the creational birth of *God's* passion in *Christ*. It is a time of miracle and wonder, but Christmas also invites the church to join in on *God's* work. We sit back in awe as *God* works in our world in a new and mysterious way by taking on flesh. Only after the whirlwind of *God's* activity are we allowed time to rationalize what has happened (thank you, apostle Paul), what *God* has given us, and how we might love even as we have been loved.

Let this Christmas be a time of newness and renewal. Newness in sitting back and hearing the account of *God's* activity in the world. Newness in the promise that *God* continues *God's* work through *God's Spirit* in the world, newness in the life of *God's* people, the church, and renewal in the commitment of our spirit in co-creative harmony with *God's*. Renewal that reaches out to *God*, to touch *God's Spirit* as it reaches out to us with the offer of life abundant.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONTINUED)

As is true of so much of the gospel promise, Christmas springs everlasting in newness. The gift given once for all time holds out new hope as we annually approach it. Let this Christmas be a passionate one for you and yours. Open your hearts to a *God* who seeks more than just your mind but challenges us to be wholistically *God's* people in *Christ*.

Have a **Merry Christmas!**  
*Kregg* \_\_\_\_\_



## FEASTING ON FINANCE

For the past three years, it has been my honor and privilege to serve Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church as the Finance Committee Chairperson.

It was January 2020, when I offered to take on this role that would begin January 01, 2021. Covid-19 was a distant issue not yet rearing its ugly head, here in the USA. The Finance Committee Challenge Team was putting the finishing touches on the February 15, 2020 Valentines Dinner Dance with dinner to be planned and prepared by student chefs, of the CIA, dinner music by Gretchen Gould and a DJ for after dinner dancing.

Oh the possibilities of what was to be . . . then, on Friday, March 13, 2020 we were shut down.

My term began January 01, 2021 and Covid-19 was still in control. Meetings **only** via ZOOM.

Today, as we move to the end of 2023 and into 2024, it is time for me to step aside.

**Dear Lord,**  
**As I move into this next chapter in my life.**  
**Guide me to live the life You created me to live.**  
**So that I may live the legacy You created me to leave.**  
**Amen.**

## NOW, ON TO FINANCES

### From the PUMC Balance Sheet dated November 3, 2023

	<u>Checking</u>		<u>Seeds of Strengths</u>
00540 Non-Restricted *	\$46,312.96	00610 Saving	\$13,006.36
00541 Restricted	\$25,734.12	00611 12 Month CD	\$10,000.00
00549 Debit Card	\$1,000.00	00612 06 Month CD	\$10,000.00

\* Does not include Accounts Receivable of \$11,763.83

### From the PUMC P&L dated November 3, 2023

Revenues	\$263,640.76
Expenses *	324,620.57
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-\$60,979.81</b>

\* Includes additional, **unbudgeted**, expenses funded with PPP funds

### Budget Actual vs Planned

- as of **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** we are **10** months, or **83%**, into the 12 month **fiscal year**.
- 67.6% of Total Fiscal Year Revenue, to date.
- 83.2% of Total Fiscal Year Expense, to date

FYI, apportionment payments are paid monthly and are current as of **October 31<sup>th</sup>**

## FEASTING ON FINANCE (CONTINUED)

### SOME OF WHAT YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE LOOKS FORWARD TO IN 2023 INCLUDES

- **Employee Retention Credit (ERC)** is part of the Paycheck Protection Program of the CARES Act. The federal government has placed a moratorium on processing of new ERC claims through year's end. We will keep you abreast of any new developments.
- **2024 Budget** — Development of the 2024 Budget is in process.

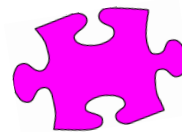
As always, feel free to contact me.

In service,  
*Will Cass* \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Committee Chair



## STEWARDSHIP

(Beth Borchert)

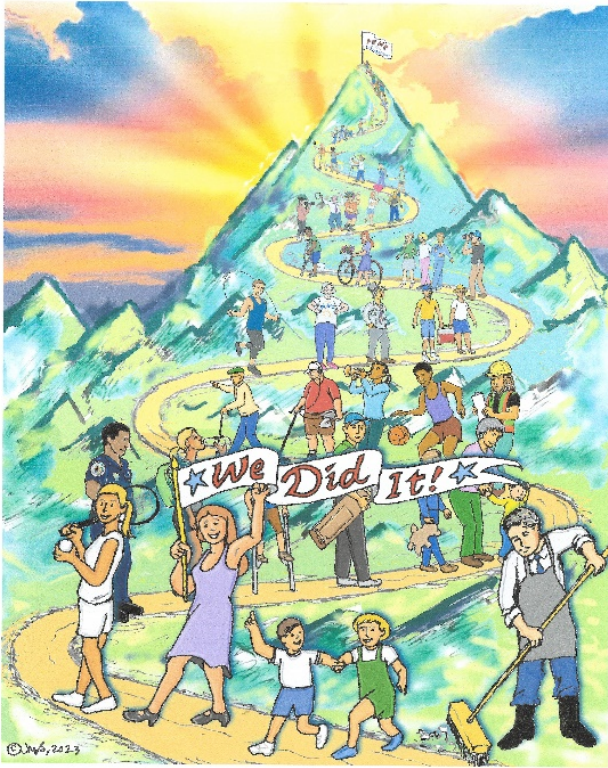


### SPOTLIGHT ON STEWARDSHIP: BONUS T - THANK YOU!

I'm not sure these two words would be considered a power statement, but I find they do carry a "power" as I interact with all kinds of people around me. They have the power to lift the spirit of someone who feels unseen or unappreciated, they have the power to diffuse an angry exchange with someone who feels misunderstood, they have the power to change a whiny conversation into a time of counting blessings.

As I wind down my time on Stewardship, I want to be sure to thank all the folks who have helped me on this Stewardship journey. I'll start with my committees: **Sharon, Ryan, Jody, Debi, Ray, Lorraine** and **Kregg** – no matter what crazy ideas were proposed, they supported them and made it happen. I also have to thank our church Secretary, **Karyn**, who often took last minute submissions and got them into the bulletin on time, in addition to printing pledge cards and all kinds of things. Likewise, thank you to our Journey editor, **Joseph**, for helping me rise to the expectation of meeting The Journey deadline – and occasionally reminding me that it was imminent. Thank you to **Kaye** for preparing interim giving statements, as well as the year end statements. Thank you to **Douglas, Laurie, Marcy** and the **Hospitality Committee** for helping with our Consecration Sunday meals – especially the clean up! And thanks to all who provided food for the meals.

## STEWARDSHIP (CONTINUED)



I cannot forget to thank **Jim Bennett**, who created the artwork for this year's Ten T's puzzle, making it available for all to see and enjoy.

I also have to thank everyone who provided stewardship moments in church, and everyone who shared their stewardship stories with me personally. Who would have thought talking about stewardship could bring so much gratitude and so much joy?

This month I am just saying Thank You, over and over. A few weeks ago, *Pastor Kregg* used a wet palm frond to help the children remember their baptism. I would echo that sentiment with "Remember your Stewardship!"

"I thank my *God* upon every remembrance of you." — Philippians 1:3 (RSV)

### FITTING TOGETHER OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP PUZZLE FOR 2023

Pledged giving through October 31, 2023 was \$206,068 or 87.7% of our budget goal (\$235,000). Non-Pledged giving through October 31, 2023 was \$32,782 or almost 44% of our budget goal (\$75,000). Our combined giving was 77% of our budget goal. Pledged giving continues to stay on track. Non-pledge giving is still very consistent, but it continues to lag behind 2022 giving. We always praise *God* for **all** of our faithful givers! And we praise *God* for His provision for this congregation. Please continue to keep our church finances in your prayers.

### INTERIM PLEDGE STATEMENTS

Statements were available in church on November 19<sup>th</sup> and November 26<sup>th</sup>. All remaining statements will be mailed on December 1, 2023. If you did not pledge in 2023, but gave regularly and would like a statement, *Kaye Schrock* will be happy to prepare an interim giving statement for you upon request.

### 2024 PLEDGE UPDATE

As of November 6<sup>th</sup>, 53 families have pledged over \$206,000 toward our 2024 budget. Thank you! If you missed consecration Sunday, it is not too late to pledge! **There is a pledge form on the following page.** Return your completed form to the church office any time.



PLEDGE FORM



**POUGHKEEPSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

TELEPHONE: (845) 542-2933 | WEBSITE: POKUMC.ORG | EMAIL: OFFICE@POKUMC.ORG

**FOUR DIMENSIONS OF STEWARDSHIP – GRACE, FAITH, SERVICE, MISSION**

Every year we ask our church family to consider the ways in which they might support *God's* ministry and mission which is done through our local church. This year we ask you to consider what it means to be a steward of all of *God's* gifts, and to commit through prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness, to helping our church grow and thrive. Please consider what part you can play in this important work.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

STEP	PLEASE CHECK <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> THE APPLICABLE BOXES BELOW	
<b>1 Give financially toward the ongoing ministry and mission of the church</b>	I expect that my giving to the <b>2024 expense budget</b> will be \$ _____ per <input type="checkbox"/> week <input type="checkbox"/> month <input type="checkbox"/> quarter <input type="checkbox"/> year	<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in signing up for Automatic electronic withdrawal for my regular giving (paperwork will be provided) <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in having envelopes for giving
<b>2 Give a one time gift to the immediate financial needs of the Church.</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to support the important work of the church by donating \$ _____ (you may include your gift with this form and it will be applied toward your current year giving record) <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in making a stock or IRA charitable rollover gift to the church (paperwork will be provided)	
<b>3 Give toward the long term future and sustainability of the church</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I will make a one time donation toward an investment fund for the church in the amount of \$ _____. <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to discuss remembering the church in my estate planning with someone.	
<b>4 Give of your time and talents</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I'd be interested in _____ _____ (Ex: Ministries/missions you'd like to be involved in, committee service, ideas you have, gifts you'd like to share)	
<b>5 Give of your prayers</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I commit to praying each week for the needs and ministries of the church.	
<b>6 Give of yourself</b>	I would like to continue in my discipleship journey and grow in these spiritual practices . . . <input type="checkbox"/> Worship <input type="checkbox"/> Scripture Knowledge/Study <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Group/Services <input type="checkbox"/> Acts of Service <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Servant Ministry <input type="checkbox"/> Wesley Covenant Group <input type="checkbox"/> Education/Discipleship Opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship Gatherings <input type="checkbox"/> United Methodist Women /Friendship Circle <input type="checkbox"/> United Methodist Studies <input type="checkbox"/> Racism: A Faith Perspective <input type="checkbox"/> Human Sexuality: A Faith Perspective <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to speak to pastor about Baptism <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to join as a member of PUMC	

## ANGELS — ANGELS — EVERYWHERE!

Are you an angel? You are if you find it in your heart to help make a child's wish come true for Christmas. Time to dust off those wings- although we know you have all been busy providing for others all year. Just stop by The Narthex or Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday (**November 19, 2023**) pick an ornament from the board, **put your name on the tag, return it into the basket**, \_\_\_\_\_ take the ornament that accompanies and fill a wish. Return your gifts to Fellowship Hall wrapped and marked with the Angel Tag by **December 10<sup>th</sup>**. Enjoy the holidays knowing you have brought a smile to a special new friend. Please make sure to provide only one 'toy' and one clothing item. (Gifts are opened at a party and families find it difficult to explain why some gifts are more extravagant than others consider choosing more than one child if you want to provide more.)



If you prefer- I would be glad to shop for you just let me know. Please make checks payable to PUMC. You can give it to me directly or send through the offering marked accordingly. Thank you. For more info contact *Pam Terwilliger*.

## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Church Council held a hybrid (i.e., Zoom and in person) meeting on Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Highlights included:

- The Worship Committee has made plans for several special events, including All Saints Day, Laity Sunday, the Advent potluck dinner, and the Longest Day service on December 22.
- Consecration Sunday and the Stewardship potluck lunch were very successful, and pledges are still being received for the 2024 budget year.
- The Hospitality Committee will either sponsor a monthly dinner or support another group having an event.
- Discussions are being held to find ways to finance current programs and missions. The Finance Committee will continue to meet to seek creative solutions.
- A multi-generational program on "The Heart that Grew Three Sizes" is planned for December. Study guides for all ages are available and, if possible, the original Grinch movie will be shown.
- The Prison Ministry had a very successful weekend and there were 29 graduates.
- A Leadership bulletin insert is being developed so that members will be able to contact leaders or seek leadership roles.
- The Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at the United Methodist Church of Hyde Park. A booklet will be available with reports from all church leaders.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> unless a meeting is needed in December. If so, it will be held via Zoom.



## FROM THE MISSION TEAM

Thank you to all who were able to support our church's annual **Thanksgiving** meal give away to those in need in our community. We were able to provide a turkey, a bag with all the "sides", rolls and a pie for 155 families in our community. Thanks also for those who were able to help by answering phone requests and distributing the bags at Family Partnership.

Thank you to all who were able to support **Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child** by assisting in the filling of 100 boxes that are to be sent to children in need in countries where the need is great. These boxes are distributed at events where the entire family is invited to hear about *Jesus Christ* as our *Saviour*. We enjoyed filling the boxes with personal hygiene items, school supplies and toys with our families during Youth Group and on Monday during Friendship Circle.

## NOTES FROM THE **CHOIR** ROOM

[Polly James — PUMC Choir Director]

“Sing Noel, Noel. He’s born in a manger.  
He is come to dwell, the King of Israel  
He is come to dwell, the child, Emmanuel.  
Sing Noel, Sing Noel”

— Patrick M. Liebergen, 2000

These words are part of a favorite anthem that you will hear sung by our PUMC Choir. All our Advent and Christmas anthems have become favorites over the years! We in the Choir Room, pray our music will bring you closer to the true meaning of Christ’s Holy Birth.

The Choir is also preparing to participate in the Sunday School Children’s Musical “EEK”. Yes, there are mice in the stable!! Mark your calendars — December 3<sup>rd</sup>, during our 10am worship.

“Above us in Bethlehem shining so bright. A star in the eastern  
Sky lights up the night. More splendid than gold is the message  
It brings. It’s glory and majesty heralds a king.”

— Star Carol from “EEK”, The Musical

May your Christmas be filled with love and peace!



## HALO BELLS & JOYFUL RINGER

[Pat McCullough - Handbell Choir Director]

Our two Handbell Choirs always welcome new Ringers.

The *Joyful Ringers* (adults) rehearse Tuesdays 6-7pm in the Choir room. The *Halo Bells* (children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up) rehearse after Sunday morning Worship Service, approximately 11:15am, for about 45 minutes in classroom 34. Feel free to contact the Church Office or me [845-240-6451, [pat.sightandsound@gmail.com](mailto:pat.sightandsound@gmail.com)], and we'll schedule time for you to come in and check out how the bells feel, look at the music to see how it's marked for easier reading, and then decide if you want to join us. **A background in music is not required!** Both Choirs start rehearsing new music in mid-January. If interested, please contact us by mid-December.

**Joyful Ringers**



**Halo Bells**



## HYMN BACKGROUNDS <sup>1</sup>

(Jennifer Harmer)

In choir we started practicing music to be sung during Advent and on Christmas Eve. One of the songs had the word “Nowell” in the title, and the song had parts of the familiar carol, “The First Noel” in it. Now, if you have ever sat in a rehearsal with choir with Polly, or have sung this carol with her, you will remember her saying something like, “The word is No El not No Well.” This got us into a bit of a discussion about Noel versus Nowell and how it came to be that way, to which I replied, “Well, I haven’t written my Journey entry yet. And it will be for December, so, I’ll look up some information on the carol.” And so, here I am writing about “The First Noel” or “The First Nowell.”

The author of the hymn and hymn tune (The First Nowell) are both anonymous, according to Hymnary.org. So, there isn’t a lot of background information on the author or the tune’s composer.

However, I did find out that this carol loosely is based on the Gospel accounts in Luke 2 and Matthew 2 of the events surrounding *Jesus’* birth, the shepherds, star, and wise men. The carol was probably from the seventeenth century and the text was first printed with nine stanzas in “Some Ancient Christmas Carols” by Davies Gilbert in 1823.

Hymnary.org noted the carol is used at Christmas, but that the narrative is suited more to Epiphany, due to the mention of the Wise Men. “The First Noel” is published in 390 hymnals. But let’s get back to Noel and Nowell. Turns out, it just is a form of the same word. The word is derived from the Latin, “natalis” which means “birth.” It is about a 50/50 split in the number of hymnals that use the word “Noel” and those that use “Nowell.” So, what is the difference? Noel is the French form of the word while Nowell is the English form. And, if you are at all curious, I checked with Merriam-Webster’s online resource, and you do indeed say the word, whichever spelling, as “No El.”

---

<sup>1</sup> References from Hymnary.org & Merriam-Webster.com

## IT’S TIME FOR FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE!



Friendship Circle will hold our next meeting on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall at 1:00PM. We’ll celebrate our friendships, our blessings, and our accomplishments as we come together in rejoicing during the holiday season. Our short business meeting will focus on our future plans and the ways in which we will continue to share with others. More information will be coming. Please plan to join us!



# Puzzle!

Complete this crossword with names of biblical fathers.  
Use the references for help, if needed.

1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (2 Samuel 5:4)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (Genesis 22:1-2)
6. He had 12 sons (Genesis 35:22b)
7. Samuel's father (1 Samuel 1:19-20)
9. His son was Obed (Ruth 4:21)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons (Ruth 4:17)

2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (Genesis 6:10)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away a birthright (Genesis 27:30)
5. The Father of our Lord (Ephesians 1:3)
7. His sons were not like Samuel; they were wicked (1 Samuel 2:12)
8. David's best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (2 Samuel 9:6)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (Genesis 4:25)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (Matthew 1:20-21)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (2 Samuel 9:6)

# PUZZLE

## SIMEON'S SIGHT

When Joseph and Mary brought baby Jesus to the temple, they heard a special prophecy from Simeon.

Directions: Using the star key, write the words in the correct spaces to complete Luke 2:30-32, NIV.

"For my \_\_\_\_\_ have seen your \_\_\_\_\_, which you have prepared in the sight of all \_\_\_\_\_; a \_\_\_\_\_ for revelation to the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of your people \_\_\_\_\_."

Luke 2:30-32, NIV

**URGENT**

## — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TALLY PUMC'S OFFERINGS

(RESPONSE TO EDITOR@POKUMC.ORG)

We currently have 10 paired volunteers committed to counting the church offering once a month, **usually** after Sunday service. There are also substitutes available, who serve when a regular volunteer is unavailable, and an Administrative Counter. What is **URGENTLY** needed are **volunteers to serve as scheduled Counters**, and **one to serve as the Administrative Counter's Backup**. Pick a Sunday, and we can arrange for you to observe the process. Note, once you volunteer you will always begin by being paired with someone experienced with the process.

## PLEASE THANK THE JOURNEY'S PUBLISHING TEAM

Volunteers who donated their time and talents to make monthly issues of **The Journey** possible throughout the year.

INFORMATION FACILITATORS - *Karyn Millham*

COLLATING & MAILING - *Debbie Carrier, Marcy Connors, Lorna Davis, Diane Wood-Miller*



## HEALING PRAYER ROOM



Great news! We now have a dedicated prayer room again. What used to be the Cribbery will now be our Healing Prayer Room. There is new paint, new framed scriptures, a new carpet and LOTS of prayer!

Healing prayer will continue to be offered during Communion, but anyone can come to the prayer room any time for more private prayer. It will be staffed after every Sunday service, and appointments can be made for prayer weekdays. We invite anyone interested in joining our Prayer Team to contact *Vickey Carroll, Lloyd Wright, Pam Terwilliger* or *Kaye Schrock* for further information. Prayer is powerful . . . Come . . . Pray.

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

### OUR MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

Barbara Bates, Gladys Bierce, Cathy Close, Janet Cole, Ron Cole, Dylan Coughlin, Sandra DeGuzman, Irene Feller, Emily Griess, Betsy Grover, Tom Halloran, Toni Hamilton, Doris Hammell, Jodi Hammell, Sandra Hansen, Gwen Higgins, Janet Houston, Pat Hughes, Dick James, Donna Jonnigan, Danny Jones, Betty Longobardi, Julia Miller, Kathleen Nicodemus, Michelle Olavarria, Karla Quinlan, Diana Silverman, Michelle Simonis, Jeff Tryon, Kerianne Wendover, Catherine White, Sarah-Grace White, Marilyn Zier.

### FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH

Georgia Kustas-Beurket, Cris & John Burke, Jordan Fidler, Bryan Foy, Debra Greiner, Edgar Martinez, Adonis Marzan, Hilary McAllister, Joe Pollen, Jean Slater, Wayne Surico, Robert Thompson-Gee, Ronald Tomaso, Jackie Triguero, Clifford Zier.

**Also all those impacted by the Coronavirus, and the people in Ukraine.**

### MEMBERS OF OUR MILITARY (BOTH THE ACTIVE AND/OR RETIRED)

**Michael Clear**, Staff Sergeant in the Army, stationed in Syria; **Joshua Lord**, 1-69 Infantry Medical Platoon Sergeant, NYC; **Randal Middleton**, Naples, Italy Naval Base, **Major Jason Oliver**, Texas.



## THOUGHTS

LEARN FROM THE MISTAKES OF OTHERS. YOU CAN'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO MAKE THEM ALL YOURSELF.

# CALENDAR

<b>Friday, December 1, 2023</b>	<b>Sunday, December 10, 2023</b>	<b>Monday, December 18, 2023</b>
10:00AM EXERCISE	<b>2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT CHARGE CONFERENCE</b>	9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 10:00AM EXERCISE 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
<b>Saturday, December 2, 2023</b>	8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM COFFEE WITH JESUS 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA 6:00PM YOUTH GROUP	<b>Tuesday, December 19, 2023</b>
8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 2:00PM PAGEANT DRESS REHEARSAL 5:00PM ADVENT POT LUCK DINNER		11:00AM PASTOR BOOK STUDY 1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 6:30PM CURRENT EVENTS & WWJD
<b>Sunday, December 3, 2023</b>	<b>Monday, December 11, 2023</b>	<b>Wednesday, December 20, 2023</b>
<b>1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ANGEL TREE DUE PAGEANT</b>	9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 10:00AM EXERCISE 1:00PM FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS	7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:00PM SANDY'S BIBLE STUDY 1:30PM NANCY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM FINANCE
8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM COFFEE WITH JESUS 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:00PM SMITH AME SERVICE 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA 6:00PM YOUTH GROUP	<b>Tuesday, December 12, 2023</b>	<b>Thursday, December 21, 2023</b>
	11:00AM PASTOR BOOK STUDY 12:00PM FELLOWSHIP DISCOVERY LUNCHEON 1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA	5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM CHOIR
<b>Monday, December 4, 2023</b>	<b>Wednesday, December 13, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, December 22, 2023</b>
9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 10:00AM EXERCISE 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 7:00PM RADIO CONTROL CLUB	7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 7:00PM SPRC	10:00AM EXERCISE 7:00PM COMFORT & JOY SERVICE
<b>Tuesday, December 5, 2023</b>	<b>Thursday, December 14, 2023</b>	<b>Saturday, December 23, 2023</b>
11:00AM PASTOR BOOK STUDY 1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 6:30PM CURRENT EVENTS & WWJD	5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM CHOIR	<b>HOMELESS SHELTER</b> 8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
<b>Wednesday, December 6, 2023</b>	<b>Friday, December 15, 2023</b>	<b>Sunday, December 24, 2023</b>
<b>THE JOURNEY DEADLINE</b>	8:30AM COLLATING THE JOURNEY 10:00AM EXERCISE	<b>CHRISTMAS EVE/ 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:30PM NANCY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL	<b>Saturday, December 16, 2023</b>	8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA 6:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 10:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
<b>Thursday, December 7, 2023</b>	8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 9:00AM SPIRITUAL STROLL 1:00PM PHOTOS WITH SANTA	<b>Monday, December 25, 2023</b>
5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM CHOIR	<b>Sunday, December 17, 2023</b>	<b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
<b>Friday, December 8, 2023</b>	<b>3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	<b>Tuesday, December 26, 2023</b>
10:00AM EXERCISE	8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM COFFEE WITH JESUS 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA 6:00PM YOUTH GROUP	1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA
<b>Saturday, December 9, 2023</b>		<b>Wednesday, December 27, 2023</b>
8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS		7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:00PM SANDY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM TRUSTEES

# CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

Thursday, December 28, 2023	Sunday, December 31, 2023
5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM EVANGELISM & CHURCH GROWTH 7:00PM CHOIR	8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM COFFEE WITH JESUS 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA 6:00PM YOUTH GROUP
Friday, December 29, 2023	
10:00AM EXERCISE	
Saturday, December 30, 2023	
8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS	

## CHORTLE

