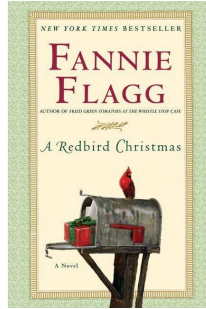


Sunday, November 30, 2025
1st Sunday of Advent

Save the Date

The next Book Club meeting will be on **Tuesday, December 16 at 12 noon** following the WOW meeting. The next selection is "A Red Bird Christmas" by Fannie Flagg. This from Amazon: Deep in the southernmost part of Alabama, along the banks of a lazy winding river, lies the sleepy little community known as Lost River, a place that time itself seems to have forgotten. After a startling diagnosis from his doctor, Oswald T. Campbell leaves behind the cold and damp of the oncoming Chicago winter to spend what he believes will be his last Christmas in the warm and welcoming town of Lost River. There he meets the postman who delivers mail by boat, the store owner who nurses a broken heart, the ladies of the Mystic Order of the Royal Polka Dots Secret Society, who do clandestine good works. And he meets a little redbird named Jack, who is at the center of this tale of a magical Christmas when something so amazing happened that those who witnessed it have never forgotten it. Once you experience the wonder, you too will never forget A Redbird Christmas.



3rd Sunday Samaritan House collection

We will again be collecting household supplies on Sunday, December 21 to take to Samaritan Shelter in Pocomoke City. Household items are needed such as dish soap, laundry soap, bath tissue, paper towels, ziploc bags, aluminum foil, etc. Anything that you need to maintain a household will be welcome. So please remember this when you are grocery shopping. Also checks are appreciated any time made out to Samaritan Ministries and given to Nancy Wright.

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"What If.....Imagine"

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster
1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City MD 21842
Phone: 410-289-9340
Office: ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com
Website: www.ocmdpresbyterian.org
Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, November 30, 2025

1st Sunday of Advent

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:

When will we ever learn that turning our swords into plowshares is the only way to realize a truly peaceful society. Because the world is so filled with conflict and people who can't get along with their neighbor, the idea of a peaceful society may only seem like a pipe dream. Nonetheless, Isaiah said this is our calling and besides, is there really any other way to be at peace with ourselves or obtain "inner peace" than through the practice of neighborly love? Just as the people of Isaiah's day dreamed of an ideal world, one without wars and needless suffering, we too dream of a world where "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." <https://sermonwriter.com>

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship: (Based on Psalm 122)

Elder Mabel Rogers

We come, celebrating the joy of worshipping God in our own sacred space.

God of all glory - "In the presence of your people I will praise your name.

We come, rejoicing that together we can freely and openly worship our God.

"...for alone you are holy, enthroned on the praises of Israel. Hallelujah!

We come, with delight and jubilation to offer our thanks and praises for God's faithfulness, goodness and mercy; and to pray for all who gather to praise God.

"...Let us celebrate your goodness, and your steadfast love. May your name be exalted here on earth and in heaven above. Praises, glory and honor to God! Amen.

Choral Introit "The Advent of God"

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

We will be having two classes upcoming for those who may become new members of the church. If you are interested, please let Pastor Debbie know. The first one will be from 12-1 PM. today, November 30, and the second one will be on Sunday, December 14 from 12-1 PM. At both, lunch will be provided.

LAST GRACE PARKER BREAKFAST UNTIL NEXT NOVEMBER

Our last Grace Parker breakfast for this season will be this Wednesday, December 3 from 7-11 AM. Please pass the word to your friends and family that there will be NO breakfasts in January, February, or March. The next breakfast will be in November of 2026. Set up will be on Tuesday, December 2 at 10 AM, and help is always appreciated.

DECEMBER SESSION MEETINGS

The regular meeting of the Session will be on Tuesday, December 16 at 1 PM. There will be a Special Called meeting of the Session following the Fellowship Hour on Sunday. December 7.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Christmas Eve service will be on Wednesday, December 24 beginning at 6 PM. Traditional readings and familiar Christmas carols will be a part of that service.

LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch will meet for their last lunch of the year on Tuesday, December 2 at 12:00 PM. at the Taphouse in West Ocean City. Address is: 12513 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City. New participants are always welcome.

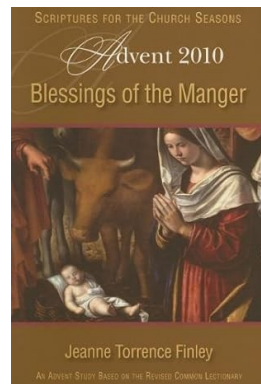
Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday,

December 7, 2025, the Second Sunday of Advent (Year A)

- First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10
- Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
- Second Reading Romans 15:4-13
- Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

We will continue our Advent Bible study on **Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall** using a curriculum titled, "Blessings of the Manger." The dates of the upcoming studies are: December 4, 11, and 18 looking at the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sunday Advent texts. Please sign on the sheet on the back table if you will be coming.



The Lighting of the Advent Candle: "Hope"
Week One-Brenda and Reuben Wilkinson

* Hymn: "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn" (folded insert)

* Passing the Peace - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ*

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession: (based on Isaiah 2:4-5)
Eternal God, before you nations rise and fall. Help us to repent our country's wrong, and to choose your way of reunion and renewal. Great God, renew this nation. Give us a glimpse of the Kingdom you are bringing to earth, where death and violence and hunger will be no more, and where all nations gather in the light of your presence. Great God, renew this nation. Teach us peace, that we may plow up battlefields and pound weapons into building tools, and learn to talk across old boundaries as brothers and sisters in your love. Great God, renew this nation. Talk sense to us, so that we may wisely end all prejudices, and may put a stop to injustice and cruelty, which divides or wounds the human family. Great God, renew this nation. Draw us together as one people who do your will, so that we may be a light to our nation, leading the way to your promised kingdom, which is even now coming among us. Great God, renew this nation. Great God, eternal Lord, show us there is no law or liberty apart from you; and let us serve you whole-heartedly, as your devoted followers, through Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon:

"Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun."

Know that we are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

* Gloria Patri (unison) #622

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Doxology (unison) #625

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem: "Wayfaring Stranger"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

Savior God, guide us by your Word and Spirit that we might hear your truth, heed your call and be prepared for Christ's coming this Christmas. Amen

1st Scripture reading: Matthew 24: 36-44

(Pp. 982-983 in pew Bible)

Elder Barbara Kipila

2nd Readings: Romans 13: 11-14

(p. 1124 in pew Bible)

Isaiah 2: 1-5 (Pp. 676-677 pew Bible)

Pastor Debbie Johnson

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth

Pastor Debbie Johnson

Current Prayer Concerns:

Virginia Miller

Lydia Frasca,

Bob & Dee Lebo

William Steger

Christine Ruskin-*friend of Marty*

Joe Nasatka-*friend of Marty*

Eric Richardson-*friend of Lisa Bayles*

Kent Mitchell-*friend of the congregation*

Amy Etheridge- *Friend of Beth Fisher*

Mark Payne- *Friend of Beth Fisher*

Larry Steele — *Family of Dee Lebo*

Pat and Ben Steele — *Family of Dee Lebo*

Beth Miller — *Friend of the Hales*

Chuck Shorley — *Friend of the Hales*

Scott Blank — *Friend of the Hales*

Chris Hazard — *Brother of Ann Hales*

Carol Reese

Sarah & Cliff Dypsky

Maria Kontoyianni— *Friend of Carol Scott*

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Dec 7 Karen Eberle

Dec 14 Ann Hales

Dec 21 Lisa Bayles

Dec 28 Barbara and Betsy Kipila

Calendar, Birthdays, and More ...

Tues	Dec	2	Grace Parker Set up	10:00 AM
Wed	Dec	3	Grace Parker Breakfast	7:00 AM
Wed	Dec	3	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Thues	Dec	4	Advent Bible Study	10:30 AM
Fri	Dec	5	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: *Bill Jones (12/3)*

Flowers: LARGE RED POINSETTIAS ARE IN MEMORY OF:

~ HELEN FISHER... Remembering all the loving times spent with a very special friend brings us many smiles.. Lisa and Marty

~ Bob and Jackie Bates parents...CHARLES and DOROTHY ZIMMERMAN ; GILBERT and MARY RUTH BATES and HESTER BATES. Loving memories

Pastor Debbie will now be taking all prayer requests.. Email her at djhj3675@gmail.com or text her at 843-568-6480..

Pastor Debbie's Info:

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com

Cell phone: (843) 568-6480

Always available by texting or calling.

Sermon "What If.....Imagine"
Pastor Debbie Johnson

* Hymn: "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" # 296

Affirmation of Faith (Apostles Creed) (Unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer
(unison)

*Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
124

Charge
Benediction
Response
Postlude "Three-Fold Amen"

*Liturgy credit: Book of Confessions;
Rev. Teri McDowell Ott, editor and
publisher of the Presbyterian Outlook;
The Timeless Psalms; worshipblogspot.com;
Music license: CCLI-#1650329.*

CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS FOR SAMARITAN SHELTER

Once again this year we are purchasing gift cards for Christmas shopping for the Samaritan Shelter in Pocomoke City. The cards will be purchased from Seaside Christian Academy. You can contribute any amount and give the money to Mabel Rogers. Checks can be made out to Seaside Academy for the gift cards. Last year we gave \$ 400 in gift cards, and that made it possible for the staff at the Samaritan Shelter to shop for those residents who were there on Christmas Day. Several children are expected to be there this Christmas Day.

PASTOR DEBBIE VACATION DAYS THIS WEEK

Pastor Debbie will be on vacation this week on December 2 and December 3. As always, she is available by email, text, or phone. Information is in this bulletin for her.

2026 Congregational Meeting-Mark your calendars

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday, January 4, 2026 with ordination and installation of officers on January 11. We are starting to put together the packet for the January 4 meeting. If you are responsible for a report to go into the packet, please see that the office receives it by December 7.

FLOWERS FOR ADVENT

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT IS NOVEMBER 30TH ...FOLLOWING IS THE SCHEDULE OF FLOWERS

NOVEMBER 30.....2 LARGE RED POINSETTIAS

DECEMBER 7TH.....2 POTS OF LARGE RED AND WHITE POINSETTIAS (1 EACH)

DECEMBER 14TH.....2 LARGE WHITE POINSETTIAS

DECEMBER 21ST.....INDIVIDUAL POINSETTIAS ... 6" POTS ..TO BE TAKEN HOME AFTER CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 28TH...REMAINING POINSETTIAS

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

small red poinsettias.. \$10.00 each Please have dedications to Marty Cropper by Sunday December 7th.

Poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve Service.

THANK YOU,
MARTY CROPPER