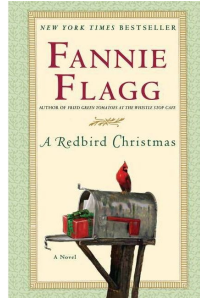


Sunday, December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent

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.



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"A Vision of Shalom."

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

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.

Order of Worship: Sunday, December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:

A lesson on Isaiah 11 focuses on the prophecy of a future "branch" from the line of Jesse (the father of King David) who will be a righteous ruler. This Messiah will be filled with the Spirit of the Lord, bringing a future kingdom of peace, justice, and unity for all people, marked by the reversal of nature's harshness. The lesson highlights the themes of God's faithfulness, the hope found in the Messiah, and the ultimate promise of a new, peaceful creation.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship: (Based on Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19)

Elder Chris Greenwood

Trustworthy God, we come together to worship you in faith and in trust.

Hallowed be the Name of our Holy God and King, the Father of us all!

Faithful God, we come together before you in repentance and expectation.

Forgive us all of our sin, as we forgive those people who sin against us.

Holy God, lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil! And may God's Kingdom come! May God's will be done on earth - as it is in heaven!

Ever-Relevant God, we come together to praise and thank you for your many blessings in the past; and we look in anticipation of future blessings. Amen!

Choral Introit "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

The Lighting of the Advent Candle: "Peace"
Week Two-Sue Latour and Pastor Debbie

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

We will be having another class for those who may become new members of the church. If you are interested, please let Pastor Debbie know. The next one will be on Sunday, December 14 from 12-1 PM. Lunch will be provided.

PASTOR DEBBIE VACATION DAYS THIS WEEK

Pastor Debbie will be on vacation this week on December 9 and December 10. As always, she is available by email, text, or phone. Information is in this bulletin for her.

Pastor Debbie's Info:

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com

Cell phone: (843) 568-6480

Always available by texting or calling.

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 today 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.

2026 Congregational Meeting-Mark your calendars

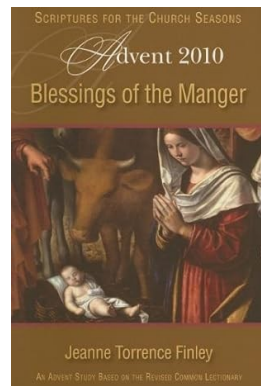
Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday, January 4, 2026 with ordination and installation of officers on January 11. We are starting to put together the packet for the January 4 meeting. If you are responsible for a report to go into the packet, please see that the office receives it by December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

PRESBYTERIAN GIVING CATALOG

Are you looking for a gift for someone who has everything. Then we have a solution for you. Pick up a copy of the Presbyterian Giving Catalog on the back table, and it has more than 40 gifts that you can choose from. You can make a gift in someone's honor and choose a cause that they would love. After they process your gift, they will send you a link for a personalized ecard telling your giftee what you bought in their honor. The gifts include things like a sewing machine, an improved cookstove, a water filter, a pair of goats, a pig, a cow, a family of chickens, or a fishing kit. These are just some of the gifts you can choose from. Go back and take a look. You may take the catalog if you would like.

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 11, and 18 looking at the 3rd, and 4th Sunday Advent texts. Please sign on the sheet on the back table if you will be coming.



* Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
123

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

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession:

When our faith is rooted deeply in you, O God, our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but sometimes our lives become so entangled with the values of the world, that your values take second place. Forgive us, God, and reconnect us to the Holy Spirit, source of power and life. Merciful God, strip our hearts and minds of all that prevents our lives being firmly rooted in you. May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more, in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen

Assurance of Pardon:

Friends, hear the good news: God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. Before we repent and change our ways, God's love has already claimed us as God's own. Proclaim with me the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

* **Gloria Patri** (unison) **#622**

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* **Doxology** (unison) **#625**

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem: "An Advent Anthem

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

"O come, thou Wisdom from on high, Who orderest
all things mightily: To us the path of knowledge show;
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O
Israel."

1st Scripture reading: Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12
(p. 957 in pew Bible)

Elder Jan Owens

2nd Readings: Epistle: Romans 15:4-13
(p 1125 in pew Bible)

Old Testament: Isaiah 11: 1-10
(p. 686 in pew Bible)

Pastor Debbie Johnson

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon "A Vision of Shalom."
Pastor Debbie Johnson

* Hymn: "O Day of Peace" (Insert)

Minute for Mission-Christmas Joy Offering
Mabel Rogers

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 14 Ann Hales

Dec 21 Lisa Bayles

Dec 28 Barbara and Betsy Kipila

The WOW meeting is Tuesday 12/16 at 11:00
am. There will be a short meeting and a Christmas
activity led by Jackie Bates, followed by a pot lunch
luncheon. All women of the church are invited to
come.

Calendar, Birthdays, and More ...

Wed	Dec	10	Bells Practice	5:00 PM
Wed	Dec	10	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Thues	Dec	11	Advent Bible Study	10:30 AM
Fri	Dec	12	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: *Dawn Messick (12/10)*

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

~ **One white marbled poinsettias** are in MEMORY OF :CHRIS ROGERS... Given by his parents, Donald and Mabel Rogers and Chris's daughter, Logan Rogers. Precious memories warm our hearts.

~ **One white marbled poinsettias** are IN HONOR OF: Our children and their spouses REG and LISA DYPISKY ; SHARON and JEFF SAUER; our two grandsons and their spouses NATHAN and SHELBY ; RYAN and SHANNON and our great grandchildren; LOGAN, LAWSON AND LANDON SAUER. (Nathan and Shelby, Parents) God has richly blessed us. Cliff and Sarah Dypsky

~ A basket is placed In memory of our Grandparents Rudolph Feldmann and Sophia Ackerman Feldmann Fogle on their December birthdays, Rudy's 125th on the 12th and Sophie's 120th on the 13th, and the 68th anniversary of Rudy's rebirth in Heaven on December 27. They are celebrating in Heaven with our Lord and Savior and with their precious daughter Juanita, son-in-law Irv, and granddaughter Sue. From David and Julie, and Danny and Liz

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

Affirmation of Faith

(The Nicene Creed) (Unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for through you, our faith is growing abundantly and our love for one another is increasing.....

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The body of Christ broken for you.

The blood of Christ poured out for you.

Prayer after communion and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

* Hymn: The Peaceful Kingdom"

(Familiar Tune)

1 We wait the peaceful kingdom, when wolf and lamb shall lie in gentleness and friendship without a fear or sigh, when lion shall be grazing, when snake shall never strike; a little child shall lead us both strong and weak alike.

2 Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start? We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart. Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home: we pray that all creation will one day find shalom.

3 When wars of desolation and hate come to an end, when nation meets with nation and calls the other "friend," still peace in all its fullness will only have begun: shalom for all creation begins with justice done.

4 That little child shall lead us to walk the chosen way, to share the peaceful kingdom, to greet God's newborn day. The child born in a stable is sent to break our chains, to bring through word and table the day when justice reigns.

Charge Benediction

Response Postlude "Three-Fold Amen"

Liturgy credit: Book of Confessions;

Rev. Ginna Bairby for the Presbyterian Outlook;

Laughingbird.net; worship.blogspot.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.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

For the first time, this congregation will be receiving the Christmas Joy offering during this Christmas season. This year's theme for one of the PCUSA's special offerings is "Prepare the Way" based on Isaiah 40. The Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Please give generously to this important offering. An envelope and bulletin insert will be in your bulletin next Sunday, December 14.