

Our Celebration of Worship
Fourth Sunday of Advent ~ December 18, 2011
Bells! Bells! Bells!

Adult Church School: 9:00 a.m.

Worship Time: 10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE "Noel on 'Oh Leave Your Sheep'" Visser
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!" ~ Paxtones

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

MUSIC INTERLUDE (Take time to prepare your heart to worship God.)

TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING The Jones family
"Away In a Manger" Paxtones arr. Callahan

Follow as we prepare the way of the Lord through the story of the birth of a child, named Immanuel. Close your eyes, listen to the story and hear the music.

* HYMN 41 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (ring bells during last verse)

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope, and forgive our sins, that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as King of kings and Lord of lords, to whom be glory always. Amen.

(Please pause for a moment of silent confession.)

* THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the Good News. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Praise God. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI (Hymnal Page 579)

TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Pastor Green
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
"A Baby is a Miracle" ~ Tara Frank, Soloist by Barton and Thomas

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER (forgive us our debts...)

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

FIRST LESSON 2 Samuel 7:1-17 (OT Page 281)
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "Shepherd's Pipe Carol" Adult Choir ~ Cindy Green, Flute John Rutter

SECOND LESSON Luke 1:26-38 (NT Page 56)
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "The Gift of God's Favor" Pastor Green

HYMN 23 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (ring bells during last verse)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed)

TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY "The First Noel" arr. Held

* DOXOLOGY

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 31 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (ring bells during last verse)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" J. S. Bach
Adult Choir

POSTLUDE "God Rest You Merry"

arr. Held

Paxton Presbyterian Church

Established 1732

THE LECTOR this morning is Elder Gary Myers. Gary is the chair of the Long Range Planning Ministry.

WE WELCOME VISITORS to our worship today. We are happy to have you worship with us and hope you will return often. If you are interested in membership at Paxton Church, please indicate this when the friendship folder is passed or speak to the Pastor or Lector following worship.

THE USHERS joyfully serving in December: Stephen Brindle, Captain, Thomas Leaver, Steve Miller, Gary Myers, Molly Reinhart, Janet Walker, Robert Woodbridge.

BEING BAPTIZED today is Rowan Emerson Blazi, son of Tom and Beckie Blazi and grandson, of Kathie Zimmerman.

TODAY Pastor Green will greet at the parlor door. The lector will greet at the south door. An usher will greet at the porch door.

THERE ARE large print bulletins and hymnals available for your use. Please ask an usher.

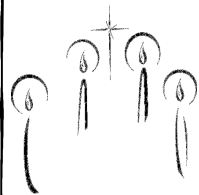
PLEASE SIGN the red "friendship folders" at the end of your row to mark your attendance with us!

THE NEXT COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE will be held on Christmas Eve at 11:00 p.m.

THE GIVING TREE GIFTS are due back to the church no later than December 22nd. Thank you for your generosity.

IN ORDER TO HAVE YOUR offering credited for 2011 it must be in the office by Friday, December 30th. Thank You!

Advent Prayer Study



Pastor Green's Advent study will conclude on Monday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the church parlor. The study will be on the book, "Shine! Light for All People", by Patricia Farris. Copies are available on the windowsill in the church office.

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Website: www.paxtonchurch.org
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Ministers ~ All Members

SESSION MEMBERS BOARD OF DEACONS

Arden Hoopes, Clerk of Session	Connie Cochran, Moderator
<u>Christian Education</u> Kitti Taylor* Dave Holt	<u>Congregational Support</u> Carol Crafa Tom Fleischer Jeff Herrold
<u>Congregational Life</u> Jerry Davies* Barb Greenwood	*Wanda Newhouse Janet Walker Bev Ziebell
<u>Evangelism & Membership</u> Steve Brindle* Tom Clark	<u>Pastoral Care</u> *Janice Hutchison Ron Ramsey
<u>Long Range Planning</u> Gary Myers*	<u>Outreach</u> Diane Jacobs Jeanne Hoopes *Charles Schlegel Kaitlyn Steckbeck
<u>Mission & Outreach</u> Jan Watt* Diana Robertson	<u>Worship & Hospitality</u> Nicole Corl Carson Kegerreis Kirsten Jones Jack Reinhart *Blanche Skinner
<u>Pastoral Relations & Staff</u> Kevin Roland* JIm Bruce	
<u>Property Management</u> Dave Elder* Jim Holtzman	<u>STEPHEN MINISTERS</u> Connie Cochran Cheryl Holtzman Dolly Holtzman Donna Leaver Karen Herrold Jo Jacoby Annette Kilpatrick Steve Miller Jack Moore Gary Myers
<u>Stewardship & Finance</u> Mary Myers* Rick Flowers	
<u>Worship & Music</u> Cindy Mory* Susan Bruce	

*Chairperson **STEPHEN LEADERS**
 Helen Heidelbaugh
 Beth Lancione
 Jane Rising
 Jane Sanford

Pastor ~ John W. Green
 Treasurer ~ Paul Remaly

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sun	18	9:00	Church School
		9:30	Blood Pressure Screening
		10:00	Worship/Bell Sunday!
		10:45	Angels Rehearsal
		11:00	Sunday Snacks Paxton Singers
		4:00	Christmas Music Program
Mon	19	10:00	Staff Meeting
		7:00	Advent Prayer Study
Wed	21	6:45	Men's Fellowship Breakfast
		9:30	Sewing
Fri	23		Church Office Closed
Sat	24	7:30	Christmas Eve Worship
		11:00	Communion Worship
Sun	25	10:00	Worship ~ Merry Christmas!
		11:00	Sunday Snacks by the Elves
Mon	26		Church Office Close

ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL

KIRKERS

Today - "The Lord Provides"
 Scripture - Genesis 22;1-2, 6-14
 Leader - Carol Himmelright
 Next Week - Christmas Day ~ Class will not meet

SEEKERS

Today - Deliverance: Passover and the Last Supper"
 Leader - Jim Bruce
 Next Week - Christmas Day ~ Class will not meet

SERMON HELP

Prayer Square – December 18—25



As Christians we are called to pray for everyone in a difficult time of life. To protect the privacy of those for whom we are praying we ask that permission be received before a name is placed for prayer request. We will keep the names in the Prayer Square for two weeks. If you would like them to be included longer, please call the church office or submit another request card.

Please keep the following members of Paxton in your prayers: Helen Swaincott, Jean Herrold, Betty Ludwig, Elizabeth Mory, Bob Bost, Ruth Roadarmel, Bob Woodbridge, Marj Hatkevich, Bonnie Dando

Prayers of the congregation are asked for Isabelle Smith on the recent death of her husband, Glen.

December 4 - Greg Lyons, Allison Speck, Lt. Sarah (Moore) Granger, MD — USN and family, Douglas Newhouse, Mary C. Greider, Katie Bassler, Brian Janssen (149 Hilands Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15237), Katie Janssen

December 11 — JoAnn Cleck, Michael Swistak, Marion Trautman, Clifford Leahy

Each week we will be praying for our brothers and sisters in Christ within our Presbytery. This week we are praying for the Waynesboro Presbyterian Church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

There will be no church school on Sunday December 25 and January 1. M&M's will not meet as well. Children four years of age and younger may go the church nursery, all other children will stay in the sanctuary during the worship service.

The annual youth Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 8, from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Celebrate the New Year by bringing your appetites and enjoying a hot breakfast of pancakes and sausages! See you on the 8th!

Thank you to Jane Rising for providing the bell bracelets which were given out to the children today to celebrate Bell Sunday. Great idea Jane!

2012 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2012 offering envelopes are available for pick-up in the hallway outside the parlor. Please save the church postage and take your envelopes with you today!

GIANT CARD REPORT

Thanks go out to the congregation for the continued support of the Giant Card project. This support has made it possible to add another \$1,000 in December to help reduce the debt. Contributions for 2011 were \$3,000. The total contributions from the start of the project in 2009 through December of 2011 were \$10,000.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

A Presbyterian tradition for almost seventy years, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, to provide congregations direct ways of supporting specific causes that help those in need.

Whether providing financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families or enabling deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools, your generous gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will bring Good News of Great Joy to the poor in circumstance or spirit. Envelopes are available in the pew racks and in this month's issue of PACE.

NIGHT OUT AT THE BEARS GAME

The Congregational Life Ministry is sponsoring a "Night Out at the Bears Game" on Saturday, January 21 at 7:00 PM. We have fifty tickets reserved for our group. If you would like to reserve a ticket, please contact Tara Frank at 583-1951 or btfrank@comcast.net. A sign-up table will be available in the Gathering Room following worship on December 4th, 11th, and 18th.



The cost is \$12.50 per ticket and money is due by Sunday, December 18th.

DOWNTOWN DAILY BREAD

Downtown Daily Bread is in need of men's hats, mittens and gloves. They also need a vacuum cleaner. Thanks for your help!

FLOWER CHART

The flower chart for 2012 is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

When you sign up, please fill out a contributor card with the date you have selected, and the wording for the bulletin. Cards can be placed on the desk in the office.



LEND-A-HAND NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Teachers, college students, retirees... Dan Flint is planning to lead teams. If you can be part of this effort contact Dan (648-1679) or George Elliot (691-8722).

RECIPE CARDS

A church group is collecting recipes for a special project. If you would like to contribute your favorite recipe on a 4x6 card please drop it off in the church office. Thank you!

BAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT



It is nice to end the cookie sale on a high note. Another great sale under our belts. We are always fine tuning each year. With every sale we learn things that work and some that don't. Our bakers were called upon to do more batches this year and they all came across and did the job. Kudos to you fine ladies.

Next year the committee is looking into a new angle on variety and amounts. We are making a name for ourselves in the cookie circle. Ambiance, presentation and variety are some of the words we heard. Nothing but positive feed back from the many buyers. Net profit - \$2,979.00. The proceeds will go to Property Management, earmarked for emergency roof repair.

I can't say it enough THANK YOU, to my committee, those who helped with the table decorations, the runners who refill the plates and all of the bakers who made the sale a success. You are all a blessing!!!!

Thank you,

December Worship Schedule

*Christ
IS Coming!*



Today	10:00	Bell Sunday Worship
Advent IV	4:00	Christmas Music Program (Childcare)
December 24 Christmas Eve	7:30 11:00	Worship (Childcare) Communion Worship
December 25	10:00	Worship
December 31	6:00 7:30	New Year's Eve Potluck/Games Communion Worship
January 1	10:00	Worship

*Please Join Us
Today
at 4:00 PM
For*



*An Advent Program of Carols,
Scripture, Readings and Music*



The Advent Music Program presented by all choirs of Paxton will feature the music of John Rutter. The Paxtone Handbells and Youth and Children Choirs will also participate. The program will include carol singing, readings and once again conclude with all choirs performing an arrangement of "Away In a Manger". A reception of cookies and hot chocolate will follow the program in the Great Room.