

Ministry Staff — How can we serve You?

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Burns; matthew@pscrc.org / Children Ministries: Kate Martinka; kate@pscrc.org / Worship Leader: Steve Martinka; steve@pscrc.org / Office/Finance: Sadie Perkins; churchoffice@pscrc.org/finance@pscrc.org

Shepherding Pastorates — Alphabetical by last name:

A-Br — Elder Sandy Wynja & Deacon Kelly Lariviere
Bs-Eo — Elder Eric Wierenga & Deacon Karyn Schneider
Ep-Hl — Elder Chuck McGrath & Deacon Mike O'Rourke
Hm-Mc — Elder Sue Cooper & Deacon Tanya Anema
Md-S — Elder Dawn Lefrancois & Deacon Cathy Greene
T-Y — Elder John Woudenberg & Deacon Jodie Woudenberg

PLEASANT ST. KIDS — We would love to help your children become devoted followers of Christ! Check in and get a name tag at the kids cart in the fellowship hall before service.

- **NURSERY** (babies-age 3) during the service for Bible stories, music, play, and more!
- **KIDSTREET** (age 4-2nd grade) dismissed before sermon for a Bible story, craft/activity, music, and more!
- **ECHO** (3rd-5th grade) dismissed after the sermon to reflect and get to know each other, lasting 10 minutes. We don't meet on the last Sunday of each month.
- All ages are welcome to stay in the service. There is space under the balcony and in the fellowship hall if you need to get the wiggles out.
- **FAMILY SUNDAY** All ages worship together when there is a 5th Sunday; there is no Nursery, KidStreet, or Echo.

CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER — For our Wycliffe Bible Translators, John & Carol Berthelette who sent out a December newsletter. Please also keep in your prayers our shut-ins, those who serve in our nation's armed services and our Veterans—*We wish them a Very Merry Christmas!*

HEARTFELT THANKS — I would like to thank everyone who blessed me with visits, prayers, and expressions of sympathy in the passing of my beloved sister, Theona. I feel an inexpressible gratitude to God and my church family. Thank you!—*Stu DeJong*

GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP — Invite your family and friends to join us next Tuesday at 6:00pm for a Christmas Eve candlelight service. A special offering will be received for the Deacons' Benevolent Fund. *"O come let us adore Him!"*

THURSDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY — Will meet again on Thursday, January 9 at 7:30am and every week in the fellowship hall. New members are welcome.

WANT A MAILBOX? — Our church community including pastoral staff, elders, deacons, and other ministry leaders use them frequently to convey information and offer encouragement to the congregation. We encourage you to check yours regularly! If you'd like one, please inform Sadie in the church office.

SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

CHURCH GIVING — The Council requests that members prayerfully consider their giving to the General Fund for these next 3 Sundays of the year. Our deficit through November is \$67,000. Our projection for what is needed to cover our expenses for the year is \$110,000. Also as a reminder: If you are planning on a year end donation to the church, please bring it in or mail it to the church postmarked by December 31. Thanks for your generous support of God's work through our church in 2024!—*PSCRC Council*

REACH OUT — CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

SAVE THE DATE — The Whitinsville Retirement Society is celebrating 50 years with a Golden Jubilee Gala at Grand View in Mendon on Friday evening February 21. God is good- tickets are now available. RSVP deadline is January 2, 2025. Please see Scott Schneider or Randy DeVries for more details.

2025 JANUARY SERIES LECTURES — You are invited to the Calvin College January Series beginning January 20 and continuing weekdays through January 31 at Fairlawn Church. Each lecture will be shown via live feed from Calvin College, 12:30-1:30pm. Please join us!

BLACKSTONE VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — is hosting a Blue Christmas Service today at 2pm. Perhaps there is a member or two - or more! - who might benefit from attending

WELCOME

We're glad you joined us!

508.234.5268 +

Office Hours: 8am–3pm Mon-Fri

December 22, 2024 + 9:30am

"Holy Spirit, Present this Advent"



If you have been worshipping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries.

LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

M 6:30p Celebrate Recovery: Fellowship Hall
T 6:00p Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
W *Merry Christmas*

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

We continue our Advent journey with a reminder.

Christ has come and Christ will come again!

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name.

Make known among the nations what he has done.

And proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things, let this be known to all the world.

Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion.

For great is the Holy One of Israel among you.

People of God, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is full redemption.

For Christ has come, Christ will come again, even now Christ is here.

SONGS: Jesus Shall Reign & O Come Let us Adore Him

RENEWAL

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.

We have forgotten how to hope in miracles, we have ignored the promise of your kingdom.

Lord, we have not kept watch for you.

We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns.

We have not waited to find your will for us.

We have not noticed the needs of those around us.

Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness.

Help us to look out for the needs of others. Amen.

Words of Assurance

As we hear the ancient prophecies of the coming of the Messiah, we long for the day when death will be swallowed up and every tear will be wiped away. As we wait expectantly for Christ’s promised return, we live in the assurance of God’s gracious forgiveness.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

COMMIT

Morning Offerings: Ministries of Pleasant Street



SONG: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also, with you!

Children’s Message

Advent Candle Reading

SONG: O Come O Come Emmanuel

KidStreet Dismissal - [age 4 through 2nd grade are dismissed]

WORD

Morning Prayers

Luke 2:1-20 + “The Shepherds & The Swaddled Son”

SEND

ECHO Dismissal - [students in grades 3-5 are dismissed]

SONG: Holy Spirit (Living Breath of God)

Apostle’s Creed

Benediction

SONG: Go Tell it on the Mountain

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Jesus Christ!

Sermon Notes