



Sunday, October 20, 2024
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
10: 30 AM



Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is underway! The shoeboxes and

packing information are on the round table at the back of the sanctuary. Please return your boxes to the church no later than **November 3rd**. You may choose either the cardboard or plastic shoebox on the table. NOTE: Please make sure you remove ALL packaging before packing your box.

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

“Turning the World’s Values Upside Down”

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, October 20, 2024

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "The servant-leader shares power, puts the needs of others first and helps people develop and perform as highly as possible."- *Robert K. Greenleaf Benson*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Deacon Dawn Butler

As the rains pour from heaven, soaking the earth that it may produce good things....

So God pours God's love upon us, that we, too, may produce goodness and peace.

We have been blessed with many gifts and talents.

God desires that we use these gifts and talents for healing, peace, and hope.

Come, let us worship and celebrate the mighty love and power of God.

Praise be to God who has blessed us in so many ways. Amen.

Choral Introit: "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

*** Hymn: "Fairest Lord Jesus " # 88**

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

Call to Confession:

We do not pray in order to alleviate our guilt, but to express our gratitude to God. For we know all the things we have said and done that we shouldn't, and all those words we could have spoken, all those actions we could have undertaken, but did not. Despite such lives, God still loves us, surrounding us with mercy and hope, waiting to restore us to new life. Please join me, as we pray together saying,

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Almighty God, we have sought recognition and honor, fame and wealth, the successes of the world, over loving our neighbors and serving those in need around us. We would rather win the

Current Prayer Concerns:

Diane Ayres, Virginia Miller, Billie Jones, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, Margie Baugher-Cramer, Graison Wainwright and family.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Oct	27	Ann Hales & Brenda Wilkinson
Nov	3	Barb & Betsy Kipila
Nov	10	Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov	17	Dawn Butler & Robin Quinn
Nov	24	Vickie Cairns & Jan Owens
Dec	1	Marty Cropper & Carol Reese

Reminder:

If you have not yet picked up your questionnaire for the Mission Study Team, please pick one up today and sign your name on the sheet so that team members will know that you have taken one. Those not signing the sheet will have questionnaires mailed to them. Please note that the questionnaire is 2 sheets.

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Wed	Oct	23	Hand Bells Practice	5:00	PM
Wed	Oct	23	Choir Practice	6:00	PM
Thu	Oct	24	Bible Study—Philippians	11:00	AM
Fri	Oct	25	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00	PM

Birthdays: *No Birthdays*

Flowers: *Chancel vase flowers are given:*

~By Rich and Nancy Wright in memory of Nancy's father, Woodrow Bischler as he celebrates his birthday October 23rd with our Lord and Savior.

~ A basket of flowers is in praise of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and in memory of Bettie Wainwright who was welcomed into Heaven on October 10th. Many of us have happy memories of Bettie. She is now playing piano and singing in God's choir, with a new perfect body. Peace to her loved ones.

The Session recently sent \$3000 to Disaster Relief-US Hurricane Response, Presbyterian Church USA. It was approved at their last meeting.

lottery and live comfortably than find new ways of sharing what we already have with the hungry and homeless. We would rather live in safety and security than seek justice for the oppressed and marginalized. Forgive us for our selfishness and turn us to the needs of those around us. May we remember that we are all part of Your body, we are all Your children. May we remember that Jesus calls us to serve others, and that instead of worldly recognition and riches, he went to the cross. May we seek forgiveness for our selfish ways, at the same time forgiving ourselves for not being perfect and not being able to do it all, and may we strive simply to do what we can, to participate in Your reign on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

The One who poured the foundations of creation fills us with grace and hope. The One who numbered the clouds, tips over rain barrels of living water into our parched souls.

The One who writes anthems for the early morning stars, fills us with songs of joy. The One who provides food for all living things, feeds us with mercies which come fresh and new each day. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

*** Gloria Patri:** (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering:

Let us give and live generously in response to all that God has done for us. Let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord

Offertory

*** Doxology:** (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication:

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen.

Choral Anthem: "Walking With the Savior"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

God of Wisdom and Grace, you speak through your Word read and proclaimed. Prepare us now to listen well. Open our ears to your truth. Humble us in your presence so nothing will stand in the way of what you say to us today. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Job 38:1-7 (34-41), 16-17 [NRSV] Elder Jan Owens

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: ² "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³ Gird up your loins like a man; I will question you, and you shall declare to me. ⁴ "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone ⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?, ³⁴ "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? ³⁵ Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'? ³⁶ Who has put wisdom in the inward parts or given understanding to the mind? ³⁷ Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens ³⁸ when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? ³⁹ "Can you hunt the prey for the lion or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, ⁴⁰ when they crouch in their dens or lie in wait in their covert? ⁴¹ Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God and wander about for lack of food? ¹⁶ "Have you entered into the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

2nd Scripture Reading: Mark 10: 35-45 [NRSV] Pastor Debbie Johnson

³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." ³⁶ And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" ³⁷ And they said to him, "Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" ³⁹ They replied, "We are able." Then

Pastor Debbie is now in Ocean City from **Sunday through Thursday**.

She is always available by texting or calling:

843-568-6480

or via email:

See below about her schedule this week. :)

Pastor Debbie will **not** be in the office on Monday and Tuesday morning as she is attending a Pastor's Retreat sponsored by the Presbytery as part of her Continuing Education. She will be in the office after noon on Tuesday. On Tuesday from 5:00-6:30 Pastor Debbie will be helping to lead the Ecumenical Prayer Service in Berlin.

Congregation Financials as of September 30, 2024:

(\$110,558.25 from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$170,740.07

Total parking lot receipts for Oceans and Country Calling (5 days): \$14,393

- Year-to-date disbursements: \$124,358.91

Note: A bookkeeping change was made to charge \$20,166 against Capital Improvement for the new windows installed in the Manse in 2023. Capital Improvement balance now stands at \$89,666.08.

SAVE THE DATE

What: Game Night
When: Tues, Oct 29th 7—9:00p.m.

Bring a game, deck of cards and join your church family for an evening of fun and fellowship!

SAVE THE DATE

WHAT: Church family Thanksgiving Dinner
WHEN: After Worship - November 10th

There is a sign up sheet on the table in the back of the Sanctuary

More information to follow about dinner

Save the Date:

**The First Grace Parker Breakfast Wednesday,
November 6 from 7:00-11:00 AM.**

Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized,"⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them."⁴³ But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "Turning the World's Values Upside Down"
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* Hymn: "Sons of Thunder, James and John"

Sons of Thunder, James and John, left their father fishing —
For they found that they were drawn into Jesus' mission.
Christ had strength to calm the sea and to bring great healing;
He taught with authority — God's own way revealing.

As they heard the things he taught — love of God and neighbor —
Those ambitious brothers thought they would ask a favor.
So they said, "Give just one thing; let our words here guide you:
Jesus, when you reign as king, let us sit beside you."

"Can you drink the cup I drink? Can you take the suffering?"
Jesus told them, "Stop and think! This is what I'm offering.
Tyrants reign o'er other folk, rising to high places.
You must bear a servant's yoke if you want true greatness."

Christ, we love the honored place and the seat of glory.
Now, remind us, by your grace, of the gospel story:
You gave up your life —it's true! — with a love unswerving.
May all those who follow you seek a life of serving.

Tune: Arthur Seymour Sullivan, 1872 ("Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain") (MIDI) Text: Copyright © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Affirmation of Faith-The 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: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" # 451

Charge

Benediction (Responsive)

Postlude and Response: "God Be With You"

Liturgy credit: Rev. Stephanie Sorge for The Presbyterian Outlook, Lectionary Liturgies

Next Sunday, October 27, we will be celebrating Reformation Sunday with appropriate hymns, texts, sermon, and liturgy.

The following **Sunday, November 3**, we will be celebrating All Saints Day.

Announcement for Bible Study

We will continue our Bible study on the book of Philippians **this Thursday, October 24 at 11 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. Please read chapter 2 ahead of time, focusing on verses 19-30.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

There are 4 copies of the book on the back table for you to borrow, read, and return. It is a quick read, a book written for children, who may not get all of the nuances, but great learning for adults. Highly entertaining! We are assembling a group from this church to go and see the movie, based on the book, which comes out on November 8. Stay tuned for more details. Please sign the sheet when you take the book and cross off your name when you return it.



Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace and Unity

The ecumenical group, AFFA (All Faith Friendship Association) is planning an Ecumenical Prayer Service **for Tuesday, October 22 under the pavilion at Stephen Decatur Park in Berlin from 5-6:30 pm**. The event will be intentionally non-partisan as we gather the community two weeks before the national election lifting prayers for peace, unity and empathy among our citizens. All members of all denominations are invited to attend. Pastor Debbie has been on the planning team for this event and will be participating.