

December

PRESBYTERIAN TIMES



December 2021

In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. (Luke 1:5-7)



The other day, I was heating up my coffee in the microwave oven. I put in 45 seconds, and I caught myself anxiously waiting for the 45 seconds to go by sooner. I was thinking, “Why does this microwave take so long? I have got better things to do than wait for this!” Finally, after the grueling 45 seconds, my coffee came out perfectly reheated. The wait was over.

In our instant society, Advent often teaches us to pause and wait. The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming.” Sometimes people wait for a long time. Often times the waiting is difficult and emotionally or physically painful.

In Luke’s first paragraph to his gospel, he introduces Zechariah as a priest who is married a woman, Elizabeth, from the Aaronic priestly lineage. The text describes them as righteous couple (meaning doing what is right) and walked blamelessly according to the statutes of the Lord.

Here’s the difficult part. Luke tells us they had no child, Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years. To make matters worse, they both lived in a culture where children were considered a divine blessing.

In a society that prized children and family, Zechariah and Elizabeth would have felt deep personal sadness over their inability to have children. Can you imagine the impatient pain they felt? They lived precisely the way God wanted them to live, but they were not able to celebrate the gift of children.

How could this be? Didn’t the Law of Moses say that obedience means the blessing of children? (Deut. 7:12-14) Why has God withheld this special blessing to them? God could have at least provided one child?

This Advent season, the situation of Zechariah and Elizabeth calls us to get in touch with the pain and suffering of others. We join them in their heartfelt prayers: “Why, Lord? How long, Lord?” Maybe you have felt that same pain of waiting.

As the beginning of the gospel of Luke introduces our Advent journey, we pause and wait for the fulfillment of our longing to be found in Jesus Christ. May this Advent season never deny the pain of our current circumstance, but give us the hope to see beyond our situations for the coming of something better.

I look forward to celebrating Advent with you!
Blessings,
Pastor Eric
(502) 565-6591, cell

Our Vision: KNOW Christ, GROW in Faith, SOW the love of Christ, GO where God calls.

December BIRTHDAYS

12/10 Sarah Hardy
12/11 Maggie Grant
12/14 Kylie Dassell
12/15 Bob Clum
12/15 Stepheny Smith
12/15 Kyah Richard
12/21 Meg Talbert
12/22 Mallory Watson
12/26 Elizabeth Galloway
12/26 Sam Galloway
12/26 Lee Galloway

Anniversaries

12/12 Sam & Molly Galloway
12/28 Ike & Betty Norment

Henderson Christian Community Outreach

We will be collecting **canned soups and stews** for HCCO during the month of December.

We collected 90 boxes of macaroni and cheese during the month of November.



Thank you for your generous support of this organization!

Grand Piano Fund

A special fund has been started to raise money to purchase a grand piano for the sanctuary.

You can make your contribution in honor or memory of someone.

If you would like to contribute please make sure your donation indicates "Piano Fund"



The flowers in the sanctuary during the month of December are provided by Donna Freitag and Dave Beshear



The drop off date for gifts purchased for the Volunteer and Information Center's Adopt A Family Christmas Express program is Wednesday, December 8th.

You can drop off your gifts at the Housing Authority of Henderson Gym from 8 am to Noon, 111 South Adams Street.

Thank you for providing a magical experience for a child on Christmas morning!



Presbyterian Women

On Monday, December 6th at 10:30 am we will be having our Linger Longer Christmas Luncheon. We will enjoy a delicious Christmas meal served on beautifully designed table scapes of china and crystal. Susan Thomas and her dulcimer friends will entertain and Betty will be sharing some special Christmas memories and moments. Guests are welcome and we look forward to being with all of you!

The Women's Circle and Council will not meet in January. We will resume on Monday, February 7th with Lesson 4.

We also want to thank everyone who donated to the Thank Offering. We collected \$509.00. Your generosity is much appreciated!



Celebrate the season of *Advent*

The Advent season began on Sunday, November 28th. Advent is a time when we prepare ourselves to worship the coming of the Christ Child!

We are providing an advent devotional for the Holy Season. These devotions will be a special "gift" for your Advent journey.

The devotionals are available to be picked up in the back of the sanctuary now or if you would like to have one mailed to you please contact the church office.



Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Friday, December 24th
5:00 pm

We rejoice with Ike and Betty Norment in the birth of their granddaughter... Caroline Ruth Norment.

She was born on November 16th weighing 8 lbs. and 19 ½" long. Parents are Breck and Becca Norment of Lexington. And big brother Liam is 5 years old.

We praise God for her precious life!



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Operation Christmas Child program this year!

We made 22 boxes this year!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 1st and 8th

Handbell Choir rehearsal will be at 6:15 pm in Hoffman Hall.

Chancel Choir will meet at 7:15 in the Choir Room.

Wednesday, December 15th

Handbell Choir rehearsal will be at 5:00 pm in Hoffman Hall.

Chancel Choir will meet at 5:30 in the Choir Room.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Jones.



Our hearts go out to the Ershig and Posey families in the passing of their loved ones.

Penny McKenzie Ershig of Naples, Florida passed away on November 21, 2021 at Naples Hospice Care. She is survived by her husband, Don Ershig, daughters Mary Lawless Martin and Brook Eberline (Matt), granddaughter Kelly Eberline. A private funeral will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made through Riverview School of Henderson, 133 South Water Street, Henderson, KY.

Rick Posey passed away on November 27, 2021 at home. He is survived by his wife, Helen Campbell Pearson Posey; his mother, Pearl Allen Tapp Posey; daughters Leslie Anne Posey Rideout (Ty) and Katherine Allen Posey (Ben Skinner); grandchildren, Savannah Katherine Rideout, Brayden Andrew Rideout and Holden Addison Rideout. A memorial service will be held on Friday, December 3rd at 2 pm at Tomblinson Funeral Home, Henderson Chapel. Visitation will be from 11 am to 2 pm at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made to The Presbyterian Church of Henderson.

Join us for Christmas dinner here at the church on Wednesday, December 15th at 6:00 pm.

The church will provide the meat.

Please bring a side dish or dessert.



The American Red Cross is having a blood drive on Monday, December 6th from 8:30 am to 7:00 pm. here at the church.

GIVE BLOOD

You can make a difference.



American Red Cross



Please join us on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm for a new Advent series Bible study.

Zoom Meeting ID: 984 3627 7403

Passcode: 500727



Thanksgiving Dinner

We enjoyed Thanksgiving Dinner together here at the church on Wednesday, November 17th.



Property Committee

In order to comply with the State fire codes a new electrical system has been installed in the kitchen and the old commercial style stove has been replaced with two residential stoves.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Children made a craft to reflect on what they thank God for.



Operation Christmas Child boxes put together by the church kids





Presbyterian Church of Henderson
100 South Main Street
Henderson, KY 42420