

KOINONIA

HILLSBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**DECEMBER
2024**

**PASTOR
MESSAGE**

**ADVENT MESSAGE
LUKE 1-3**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

**TREE DECORATING
POTLUCK
CAROL SINGING**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 5 PM

MERRY CHRISTMAS



*Photo by Donald Scott
Northern Lights over Alaska*

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2024**

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Jenny Sabo	2
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PASTOR MESSAGE

Rev. Kelly Dickson

How Does a Weary World Rejoice?

As I type these words, I am all too aware of my tiredness. Life is full of to-do lists, carpools, kid's activities, doctor's appointments and chores. As we prepare to "deck the halls" of our homes and of our church, I cannot ignore the discrepancy that seems to exist between "the most wonderful time of the year" and the grief, exhaustion and disappointment that many around us are carrying.

Each year, I am mindful of those for whom the holidays are a painful reminder of the empty seat at their table. Each year, I hear stories of deep loneliness or sadness over the quietness of a once noisy holiday home. Each year, many of us push through our feelings of being frayed and weary as we seek to make Christmas special and memorable for others. And yet...we sing of a thrill of hope. How do we reconcile the hope and sorrow? How does this weary world we live in rejoice?

This Advent, we will be sitting with that question. This Advent we will linger in the first three chapters of Luke seeking the answer to that question through the interweaving stories of Jesus' life with Elizabeth, Zechariah and John the Baptist. We will be following a beautifully artistic curriculum that will guide us through Luke 1-3 with images, questions and reflective practices. We will make both a daily devotional available for pick up at the deacon desk as well as a daily advent calendar of worshipful activity suggestions.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



PASTOR MESSAGE CONTINUED

This Advent, we will be sitting with that question. This Advent we will linger in the first three chapters of Luke seeking the answer to that question through the interweaving stories of Jesus' life with Elizabeth, Zechariah and John the Baptist. We will be following a beautifully artistic curriculum that will guide us through Luke 1-3 with images, questions and reflective practices. We will make both a daily devotional available for pick up at the deacon desk as well as a daily advent calendar of worshipful activity suggestions.

Below are the subthemes for each week's worship services:

- December 1: How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We acknowledge our weariness (Luke 1:1-23)
- December 8: How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We find joy in connection (Luke 1:24-45)
- December 15: How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We allow ourselves to be amazed (Luke 1:56-66)
- December 22: How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We sing stories of hope (Luke 1:46-55)
- December 24 (service at 7 p.m.): How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We make room (Luke 2:1-20)
- December 29: How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We root ourselves in ritual (Luke 2:21-3:8)
- January 5: How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We trust our belovedness (Luke 3:21-22)

Together may we experience deep joy because we know with certainty that Emmanuel, God with us, has come and continues to offer this weary world reason to rejoice.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Kelly



WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS

Consider being a part of what God is doing here at
Hillsboro Presbyterian Church!

Visitors and Newcomers are invited to
everything in this newsletter.

We welcome YOU in the Name of Jesus who welcomes us!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Gospel of Luke Chapter 1

Sun 1st Rev. Kelly Dickson
1st Sunday of Advent & Communion

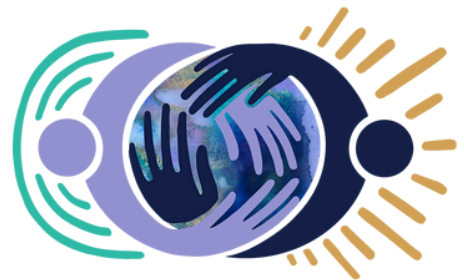
Sun 8th Rev. Robin Garvin
2nd Sunday of Advent

Sun 15th Rev. Kelly Dickson
3rd Sunday of Advent

Sun 22nd Rev. Kelly Dickson
4th Sunday of Advent

Tues 24th Rev. Kelly Dickson
Christmas Eve Service 5 pm

Sun 29th Rev. Danny Peters



How does a
weary world
rejoice?
An Advent series in
Luke's Gospel

MISSIONS NEWS

by Jill Appel

THREE TABLES OF

JOY



Three tables of Joy starts December 1st. This advent season we will be collecting

1. **Toys for children in need.**
2. **Food for the food bank.**
3. **Money for the food bank.**

Our annual children's coat drive is fast approaching. We will be collecting coats, hat, and gloves on January 5th, Epiphany Sunday. The coats will be donated to Northwest Children's Outreach.

COATS for KIDS

YOUTH

by Jill Appel



Sunday, December 8th

Youth Christmas

Party at Old Scotch



SACRED STEWARDS

by Dana Gale

Thanks to you all for turning in your pledge cards. It has been very helpful for determining the 2025 budget.

This is where we are financially as of the end of October. Income includes pledges, offerings, building use income, interest income, and designated income.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	\$231,508	\$198,892	\$32,616
Total Expense	\$167,792	\$178,532	\$-10,740
Net Income	\$63,716	\$20,360	\$43,356

May we all experience the joy and fun and excitement as we wait for Jesus' birth!

OPERATIONS

by Sandy McFerran

As we move into Advent & Christmas we will take the opportunity to say thank you to our Staff by placing Christmas stockings in the Fellowship Hall for each of them. Our staff is Kelly, Nancy, Donald and Laura.

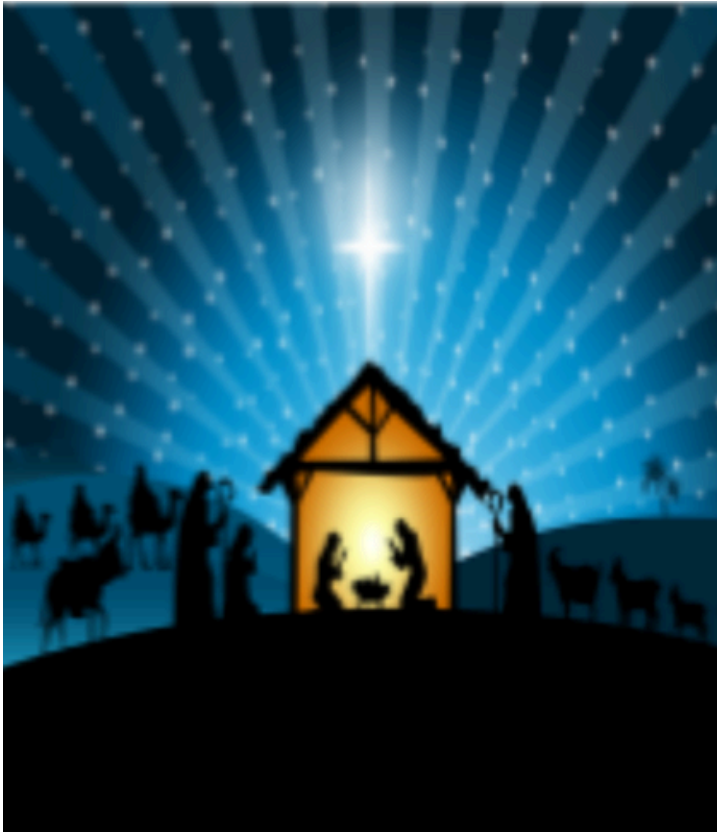


If you want to participate, you can place your gifts, either objects or monetary, in the stockings on the Sundays of the 8th, 15th and the 22nd. The stockings will be hung 1/2 hour before the service and removed after the service each week. The contents will be distributed to them on the 22nd.

Blessings,
Sandy McFerran

DEACONS BEACON

by Keith Upton



December is celebrating Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. This is a great time to think about Jesus and the reason for the season. It is not all about the decorations, the parties we attended, the gifts that are bought and exchanged but someones birthday and that someone is Jesus. Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus. Let's celebrate the miracle, the joy and the wonder of Christmas together. Let's not forget that there is so much more to Christmas. Christmas puts together the truth of God's love in the birth of Jesus. Take time this holiday season to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

This year we would again like to have all your Christmas cards displayed on the bulletin board in the narthex. There will be plenty of room for all cards and are looking forward to seeing them. Bring them anytime and pin them to the board or set them up on the shelf below the board.

This will be my last Deacons Beacon as I have filled my term of service as Deacon. I want to thank all of you for your support and love. I would like to welcome Dennis Baker as your new Deacon for 2025. Dennis will be a great asset to the Deacon family.

Dennis, as you embark on this journey, remember that your service will be a beacon of light to us all. Let your light shine brightly, illuminating the path for others to follow.

Blessings always
Keith



EVENTS & FELLOWSHIP

by Joanie Loepp

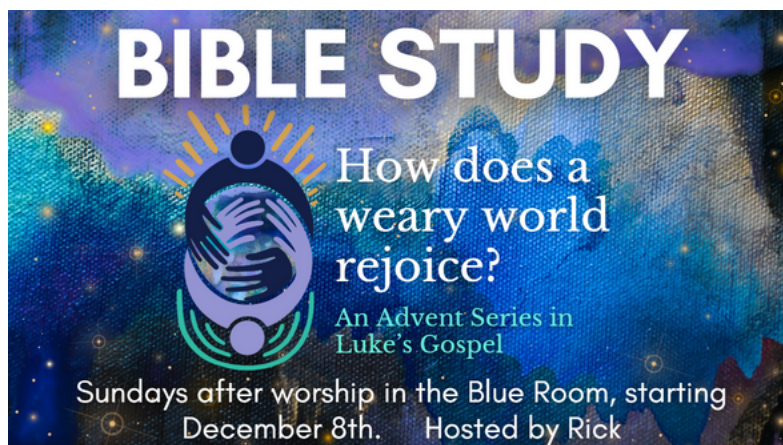
December: a most special time of fellowship at HPC. We will be starting the Christmas season off on December 1st, the first Sunday in Advent. To mark this day and begin the season on a joyous (musical) note, we invite you to come a little early that Sunday and join us for a time of singing Christmas carols with our wonderful Laura Cunard on the piano. Our carol-sing will begin at 9:40 on December 1st.

ALSO ON DECEMBER 1st: We will have an Advent Potluck after the service. Since there will be decorating going on as well, we are requesting that you bring finger foods (as a suggestion, folks enjoyed the tea sandwiches that we had at our pastor appreciation tea). Dessert will be our monthly birthday cake so no desserts, please.

I'd like to once again express my appreciation for all the folks who help in making our weekly coffee hour such a wonderful time for fellowship. This includes not only those who do the work of preparing, setting up and cleaning up each week, but everyone who participates in the fellowship that takes place at each table.

Wishing each of you a blessed and enriching Advent season and a very Merry Christmas!

Joanie Loepp
Events & Fellowship Elder



CLERK'S CORNER

by Gary Gale

Here is the current update from the last session meeting:

- Live streaming and in-person Worship services continue.
- Communion observed in the sanctuary on November 3, 2024.
- Advent: Theme – “How Does a Weary World Rejoice?” (A Sanctified Art).
 - December 1: First Sunday of Advent and Church Decorating, Singing Carols before service, Finger Food Potluck. Advent readers needed – Nona taking suggestions.
 - Christmas stockings for staff will be set out for Advent.
 - Will set up Three Tables of Joy (toys, food, donations for food bank) for Advent. Start collecting coats for NW Children’s Outreach.
 - Christmas Eve Service at 7pm.
 - There is a sign-up list to connect those who are alone for the holidays and would like to share their home or be hosted in someone’s home.
- Rev. Robin Garvin preaching on December 8 (Kelly here).
- Rev. Danny Peters preaching on December 29 (Kelly away).
- Pastoral Transition:
 - Committee had a preliminary interview with a potential candidate.
- Roofing project update:
 - Roofing project complete. Waiting for final inspection by roofing consultant. Indoor project – mold eradication complete. Waiting for construction contractor to bid on finishing drywall, insulation, and ceiling tile replacement.
- Approved HPC 2025 Budget.
- Greta Schindler has stepped down from deacons. Nominating committee to search for a replacement.
- Sunday bible study group is growing. Classes are well received.
- Piano will be tuned on December 1st.
- Liturgical Arts will be switching seasonal decorations on November 30th.
- January 5, 2025 – Epiphany Sunday: Baby Jesus shower, potluck, and Epiphany Stars.
- Potter’s church requested to put their drum set on the chancel area. No room for two drum sets. We will leave HPC’s drum set in place. All three churches will use that set. If there is maintenance on the drum set all three churches will share the cost.
- Working on noisy fan in the women’s bathroom.
- Stay safe and healthy.

Session minutes are available in the church office.

Prayerfully,

Gary Gale Clerk of Session

Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 1st
1st Sunday of Advent
Communion
Carol singing at 9:40am
Decorating the Christmas
Trees
Finger food potluck
December birthday
celebration

Sunday, December 8th
2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 8th
Youth Event – Christmas
party at Old Scotch

Sunday, December 15th
3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday, December 16th
Session Meeting 6:30

Sunday, December 22nd
4th Sunday of Advent

Tuesday, December 24th
Christmas Eve Service
5pm

Wednesday, December 25th
Merry Christmas

Tuesday, December 31st
New Year's Eve

Sunday, January 5th
Epiphany Sunday
Children's Coat Drive

HPC ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available and ready to use for your convenience!

There are several ways you can donate online:

- 1. Download the free "Vanco Mobile" app on your iPhone or Android
- 2. Scan the QR code to the right.
- 3. Go to our website; www.hillsboropres.org and click on the "donate now" button.



You can set up a profile so it is easier each time you log in to give, or you can donate as a guest user each time. Donations can be from a checking/savings account, or a bank card.

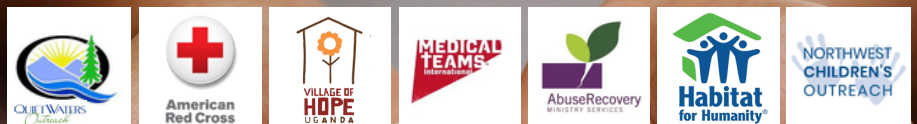
We hope the option of donating online helps many of us who don't carry checks or cash every day, but still want to financially support HPC.

1. We don't "pass the plate" any longer, but we have a box inside the doors as you enter the sanctuary and you may place your donation there on Sunday.

2. You may set up a regular "bill-pay" through your bank that will automatically send a check to the church.

3. You can use our online giving "Vanco" and set up a regular payment with your credit card or with your bank account.

4. You may set up an automatic RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) or other automatic payment from your retirement account.



**Charities HPC
Supports**

**Regular Giving
HPC gives 10% of
undesignated income
to missions.**



HPC Calendar - 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>1</p> <p>10am Worship Communion 1st Sunday of Advent Tree Decorating Potluck</p> <p>1-5pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6-8pm IJC 8pm AA</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4:30 Praise Team</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:45 Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6-8pm IJC</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9am-3pm Potter's House</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10am Worship 2nd Sunday of Advent</p> <p>1-2pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6-8pm IJC 8pm AA</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4:30 Praise Team</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:45 Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6-8pm IJC</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10am Worship 3rd Sunday of Advent</p> <p>11:30-12:30 Deacons'</p> <p>1-2pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30pm Session</p> <p>6-8pm IJC 8pm AA</p>	<p>17</p> <p>4:30 Praise Team</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:45 Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6-8pm IJC</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10am Worship 4th Sunday of Advent</p> <p>1-pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6-8pm IJC 8pm AA</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve Service 5 pm</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Merry Christmas</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6-8pm IJC</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10 am Worship</p> <p>1-pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6-8pm IJC 8pm AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>4:30 Praise Team</p> <p>6-10pm Potter's House</p>				

January

HPC Calendar - 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 Happy New Year	2 6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA	3 6-8pm IJC	4 9am-3pm Potter's House 6-10pm Potter's House
5 10am Worship Communion Children's Coat Drive 1-5pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House	6 6-8pm IJC 8pm AA	7 4:30 Praise Team 6-10pm Potter's House	8 12pm Operations 6:45 Choir	9 6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA	10 6-8pm IJC	11 6-10pm Potter's House
12 10am Worship 1-2pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House	13 6-8pm IJC 8pm AA	14 4:30 Praise Team 6-10pm Potter's House	15 6:45 Choir	16 6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA	17 6-8pm IJC	18 6-10pm Potter's House
19 10am Worship 11:30-12:30 Deacons' 1-2pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House	20 6pm PSC 6-8pm IJC 8pm AA	21 1pm Ladies Bunko 4:30 Praise Team 7pm Session 6-10pm Potter's House	22 6:45 Choir	23 6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA	24 6-8pm IJC	25 6-10pm Potter's House
26 10am Worship 1-pm IJC 6-10pm Potter's House	27 6pm PSC 6-8pm IJC 8pm AA	28 4:30 Praise Team 6-10pm Potter's House	29 6:45 Choir	30 6-10pm Potter's House 8pm AA	31 6-8pm IJC	

Worship: Sunday, 10am In-person and Live Streamed

Session:

Jill Appel	Missions
Dana Gale	Stewardship
Rick Harrison	Education/Discipleship
Nona Scott	Worship
John McVean	Property
Joanie Loepp	Fellowship/Events
Sandy McFerran	Operations

Pastor Kelly Dickson	Bridge Pastor
Nancy Johnson	Office Assistant
Laura Cunard	Worship Music Leader
Nona Scott	Choir Director
Donald Scott	Custodian

Deacons:

Tammy McVean	A-E
Sue Dever	F-K
Nancy Johnson	L-O
Greta Schindler	R-S
Keith Upton	T-Z



503-648-5660



OfficeAssistant@hillsboropres.org



*The Vision of HPC is for all to EXPERIENCE that
GOD is able to do MORE by His Spirit at work
within us.*

Therefore:

*Our Mission is to continue to build
A CARING, CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY
that is excited to -
KNOW Jesus
GROW Spiritually &
SHOW God's love
...all for His glory and purpose.*

Ministers: The Members

"God is able"

Ephesians 3:20

Office hours: Tuesday - Thursday; 9:00-12:30 pm

Thank you for reading!

HILLSBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	503-648-5660
www.hillsboropres.org	172 NE 32nd Ave Hillsboro, OR 97124