



**CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN  
COMMUNITY CHURCH of Pine  
River - NEWSLETTER**

**DECEMBER 2022**

**[www.bayfieldcpc.org](http://www.bayfieldcpc.org)**

Isaiah 7:14 *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”*



**CHRISTMAS EVE service 6 p.m. CHRISTMAS DAY service 10 a.m.**

**SESSION met December 21st. Following are actions and reports of the meeting.**

Pastor's Report for November: Total hours were 66.25. Approximately 15.5 hours per week. This included: Sunday Service & Sermon Preparation x 4, includes Power Points and Bulletins, Sunday School x 4, Session Meeting. Cluster Meeting, Social time with Parishioners, Meeting with PNC Liaison.

BUILDING & GROUNDS: Jerry Brown & Judy Norton

Session received a most welcome response to their application to the Presbytery for a grant covering expenses to finish the remodeling work on the Manse. Presbytery is granting the church \$23,000.00 which, coupled with monies designated for the Manse will cover modeling the interior. Amen, and amen! Thank Judy, Melanie, Pastor Jane and Carol for their efforts in writing and delivering this application to Presbytery! Our tenants will vacate the Manse by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Painting of the church exterior will be done in the spring.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Carol Blatnick

**Advent** study materials are delivered weekly. Printed versions are available in the sanctuary and by request. (This has been such an inspirational study – thank you!)

WORSHIP & TECHNOLOGY: Carol Blatnick

Communion was December 4th. There were 16 at church and one served to shut-in.

The Sanctuary looks so very nice. Many thanks to each of you who did the decorating. I love Advent and Christmas decorations! (We all do, Carol) Eight poinsettias were purchased. Four were bought to take home after the Christmas season at church. If you would like a plant, please see me when I return Friday, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Christmas décor will be taken down on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. All help is welcome!**

You may leave blankets, hats and gloves for donation drive in Berry Hall.

We have had Mason & Tyrel diagnose our lack of sound in the sound system. A new Amplifier was installed by Mason.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE AT 6 P.M. CHRISTMAS DAY AT 10 A.M.**



KITCHEN: Amy - Judy **COMING SOON** – **JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>, 4 pm to BERRY HALL!** Games, puzzles, cards and movies with SOUP to follow! This is for us and our community — bring your family, invite your neighbors and enjoy a fun evening in Berry Hall! More particulars as plans unfold.

1Peter 4:10 “As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

COMMUNITY CARE & FELLOWSHIP: Nancy

**Berry Hall was open daily to collect SHOEBOXES from our churches up and down the Pine River Valley. Collection week was November 14-21. We (and courtesy of Dennis Hillyer) delivered shoeboxes packed in cartons to Summit Church in Durango. From there they were trucked to**

Denver. In Denver the Distribution Center sorted and readied Shoeboxes for delivery in this country and around the world. Your time, shoeboxes, monetary donations are so appreciated by Operation Christmas Child.

Nancy - There are many who so graciously gave of their time during the lead-up to collection and collection week. Even though we are few, it was a joyous time! Thank you, thank you!

***OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES – what a loving way to begin our Christmas Season***

***Sally Rowland reports that SHOEBOXES from here have crossed the border into Mexico and are being received by the National Leadership Team. There is celebration that shoeboxes are arriving in the US at Native American communities. Also, shoeboxes are on shipping containers heading to Benin, Africa. Thanks and praise to God Almighty.***

**DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS?**

**CALL SOUTHWEST RIDES 1-970-946-0232**

(SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE)

**“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV**



*November 14: Brittany, granddaughter of Joyce Knoll and daughter of Susie, has suffered greatly during her time of chemotherapy. Our prayer team has prayed for her through many setbacks and surgeries. On this day she was back in the hospital with high fever, very swollen lymph gland. On November 17 she was back home and thanking all for prayers.*

*November 18: Lew Pratsch being discharged from hospital after chemo and radiation.*

*November 23: Welcome home, Kaye! In church along with Bill Early. Heartwarming and we are blessed! During these troubling times we pray for victims and families of the nightclub shootings in Colorado Springs. Thankful for heroes also!*

*PNC has been meeting regularly. Pray for wise decisions. Pray for those traveling. Remember many whose homes are not safe, here and across the world. We pray for each other to celebrate family gatherings with thanksgiving to God.*

November 28<sup>th</sup>: Brenda Marshall sadly conveyed news of her father's passing. Gerry Pratsch also conveyed Lew's transition for hospice care.

December 1<sup>st</sup>: Brittany does not need further chemo. She will have reconstruction surgery in January and an MRI after that for tumor on her pituitary gland. Pray for wisdom in future treatment she may have. Merilee, our friend in women's bible study is taking care of her mother after hospitalization with the flu. Lew Pratsch passed. The link for Lew's obituary is: <https://obits.smartcremation.com/lew-pratsch> A memorial service is tentatively scheduled at Calvary in May.

December 4<sup>th</sup>: Jackie Hicks is not doing well. There is much respiratory illness in Carol Blatnick's mother's nursing home. Lance & Carolyn need our prayers for support and encouragement. A bright joy is that Stuart, the Hughes's grandson, is out of isolation and mingling with a few. We have joy with Mason stepping in to run zoom! Brenda's father funeral is December 6<sup>th</sup>.

December 11<sup>th</sup>: The Nageles family's son passed with heart attack.

**Don DeWitt reports 35 bikes distributed to children. Fantastic! He also has 26 adult mountain bikes available.** We remember those who are ill and/or convalescing: - Carol's mother, Carolyn (Lance), Jerry Brown with severe chest cold.

Carol Blatnick has joy for all those unsung heroes in our midst who volunteer, donate food, clothing, mittens & hats to Pine River Shares. The Wolverines have joy in a winning streak.

We ask again for prayers for our PNC, who give time, thought and prayer to many candidates seeking ministerial positions. We ask God to give wisdom and patience in discerning who God has chosen for our church.

December 18<sup>th</sup>: We pray for three families in the Bayfield/Ignacio who have seen family members passing: Pancho McNew's family, Lisa Van de Camp family and Fern Martinez family.

Prayers continue for Carolyn and Lance Blair as Carolyn transitions from home to Junction Creek. We remember Jayne Lyday who has several medical appointments this week and a foot that keeps her from walking.

December 18<sup>th</sup> evening Carolyn Blair passed. No announcement at this time regarding service.

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE for Joyce Knoll was December 19<sup>th</sup>. Our Rev. Jane Martinez led the service of remembrance for Joyce. Rev. Dan Straw added many personal comments during George and Joyce's lives in the Pine River Valley. I believe Dan said this tracked back to 1982 when they moved to Ignacio and decided to make Calvary Presbyterian their home church. Granddaughters Brittany and Ashley spoke of many ongoing projects Joyce undertook through the Lions Club and Calvary. Her cooking, baking, canning prowess was a given at LaPlata County Fairs. Her sewing accomplishments included pajamas at Christmas time for community**

*children, western shirts and also, wedding dresses for many. George and others (Bob Delzell) were gifted with beautiful western shirts. Joyce was a mentor for many and a 'firecracker' in many a conversation. A prayer warrior and determined winner in dominoes. God bless her and George. We were blessed to have them in our midst.*

MISSION: Pine River Shares open Monday - Thursday for our food and clothing (winter season) donations.

PNC: The committee is breaking until after the first of the year.

**NEXT SESSION MEETING IS Wednesday, JANUARY 18, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.** Session Elders are Jerry Brown, Carol Blatnik, Judy Norton (Treasurer), Melanie Mazur, Amy Deming (Clerk), Nancy Senti (Note: our elder and clerk Amy Deming will not be serving in 2023. We appreciate your excellent service to God's church and the session!)