



1st Pres eNews

December 27, 2022

Important Links

1stPresDowntown.org

Church Calendar

1st Pres on Facebook

Giving

<u>Prayer Requests</u>

1st Pres on YouTube

Blog of the Week

Pastor McLane Stone

Experiencing Joy & Small Graces

Charley and I have been reflecting on the significant changes in our

family's life over the past few months. Unsurprisingly, Leighton has introduced many new experiences.

Whether planning travel around ... Read More



This Week



If you'll be worshiping from home, please be sure to gather your

elements before the service begins.

Hosting Family Promise January 8 - 15th



We are once again hosting guest families

Monday, January 2
Office Closed

Christmas for the Closet Help Re-stock the Closet



The trees will be up for a few more days - through December 31 so you have time to snag a tag if you haven't yet. One of the biggest needs is boots, but we're also looking for boys' jeans and underwear. You can come by during office hours or any Sunday. All you need to do is:

 Look for the paper Christmas trees on the wall in Krueger Hall. at the church the week of January 8th through the 15th. The sign-up board is filling-up in Krueger Hall, but we can always use more assistance. Please take a look to see where you can help or call Teri Burch, Judy Flieger or Ann Smart if you have questions.

- Choose an ornament-tag or two or three!
- Drop-off items in the red bin underneath the wall-trees. No wrapping necessary!

Reverend George Lacy

1936 - 2022



Services for George Lacy, former associate pastor, will be held at 1st Pres tomorrow, Wednesday, Dec. 28th at 1:00 pm. Services will begin in the sanctuary, followed by a cookie reception in Krueger Hall. George Lacy served as Associate Pastor at 1st Pres from 1983 through 1998. Please pray for comfort for his wife, Kay, family, and friends. Full Obituary

Sunday's Service Watch again or for the 1st time!



Christmas Eve | No Room. Watch now

Christmas Day | The Nativity. Watch now

Many thanks to our team of volunteers who make broadcasting the service possible!

Watch this service or any of our past services on our YouTube Channel

Church News

Women's Development Track December Mission Team Update

Women's Development Track focuses on tremendous resources that missionary women bring to the work of God's Kingdom on Earth. Because the stages of a woman's life are often different from a man's, with more off-ramps and on-ramps to her professional life, she can tend to be overlooked in terms of her own well-being and on-going development. We want to see women make their very best contribution to their families, communities, and ministries, alongside

The UnPageant Recap



Our amazing Children & Families team, along with Kyler O'Connor, once again

led the wonderful retelling of the Christmas story starring our unrehearsed kiddos.

Sweet angels, shepherds, wise-guys and a beautiful star played their parts



their brothers in Christ! The image of God in the world is best represented when men and women both bring their full selves in displaying the image of God to the world the Blessed Alliance!

Prayer requests:

- 1) The women in our Leadership Pathways cohorts will grow in heart, confidence, and skill to fulfill their callings as women leaders.
- 2) All women missionaries will access whatever development options are needful for their long-term well-being and effectiveness in their fields of service.
- 3) That WDT will be sensitive and effective in discerning the evolving needs of the Missio-Nexus network of Mission Agencies in terms of developing their women staff.

Appreciating you in Christ, Wendy Wilson



Download your 2023 Pledge Card

Gift a Prayer Shawl or Lap Blanket

to someone who could use a lift

Our wonderful knitters meet every week to keep our supply of prayer shawls ready to gift to



someone who could use a boost.

You can find their handiwork in the Fireside Room. Please be sure to fill-in the sign-out sheet when you choose your gift.

perfectly. Kierstie and Tyler Renninger were Mary and Joseph with Miss Addy playing the part of baby Jesus. We believe Leighton Stone may be shoe-in for that role next year.

This year, our Youth band accompanied the congregation in the carol sing while Pastor McLane did a brilliant job of coaching the congregation (sound effects and all) while he read the story.

Well done all!

Parents - if you have pictures you'd like to share, please send them to **Janet**

> In case you missed it: Bonnie's White Bean Chili Recipe

Small Groups



We are in the process of re-imagining our smallgroup opportunities. If you are interested, please stay

tuned. In the meantime, you can find information on our website. If you can't find what you're looking for, please call the office.

- Men's Fellowship
- Sunday Bible Study
- **Women's Circles**

Mission Trip Planning Underway

The Missions Committee is looking to send a mission team out in the Spring or Summer of 2024. Exactly where and when are yet to be determined. If you might be interested in being a team leader, please contact Richard Morrow through the church office.



December Weekly Events

Sundays

7:55 am Bible Study 9 am **Classic Service** in Sanctuary & Online 10:30 am **Contemplative Service** in Sanctuary

Masks are encouraged if you are vulnerable.

DOXA 11 am in Gym

Thursdays

Ecumenical Lunch Kitchen ARMS Meeting Chancel Choir Rehearsal **Fridays**

Knitting for Warmth: on break until January 2023

Children & Family Ministry



Volunteer Schedule

The new online list for volunteer signup is now available! The new signup sheet is also available on the wall in its usual place outside of the Adventure Kids Zone.

This week will be a pajama party on Sunday for New Years. Stay in your jammies and sleep an extra few minutes, but remember to brush your

teeth! We will decorate gingerbread cookies and watch a movie together downstairs in the Adventure Kids Zone.

Volunteer Dates Needed:

1/1

1/8

Offerings

The goal of 10 small farm animals has been reached! Yay! From now until the end of the year, any additional offerings the kids bring will go into World Vision's \$10/child disaster relief fund in Ukraine. After New Years, the kids will discuss what they would like their next offering goal to be.

Ring the Bell

Sign-up on the sheet outside of the downstairs kids rooms to ring the bell. The weekly kids newsletter will detail what dates are available.

Email Kyler for more information if you would like to volunteer:

1stpreschildren@gmail.com. You can also check the volunteer sign-up sheet to sign-up for Sunday School and to help with kids' events:

Signup

Background Check Form

Youth Ministry



Sign-up for the Youth Family Newsletter

Get connected with our family newsletter! Email **Kierstie** to receive the newsletters.

Check Out Our Schedule

Join our group on the Band App to see our schedule, upcoming events, and more!

Don't forget to turn on notifications.

Click here to join!

Sunday Morning Youth Group

Join us in the Youth Room!

The 1st Sunday of every month, all youth will stay in the Sanctuary to participate in communion. Middle Schoolers are invited to join us Sunday mornings in the Youth Room for connection and discipleship during the 9 am service.

High Schoolers will meet at 11:30 for lunch and connection. Contact <u>Kierstie</u> for details.

Volunteers Needed!

Our team has many fun events planned for our youth, and we would love your help and participation! There are many ways to get involved, from chaperoning big events, serving meals, hiking with students, etc. Please email <u>Kierstie</u> to get involved!