

The Good News

Pulaski Heights Christian Church – web: phcc-lr.org

December 2018 - Volume 71 No. 12



Photo: C Miles

On December 2, 2018 we prepared our sanctuary for the Advent season. Members took part in the worship service as readers with scriptures that centered on the narratives about the religious basis for the decorations we use at Christmas time.

PHCC is a Hillcrest community church affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It has been at the corner of Spruce and Hillcrest since 1927. Our email is Irphcc@gmail.com.

2018-2019 Board:

Moderator, Chet Chaney (chetchaney@yahoo.com)
Treasurer, Angela Frazier (afraz17@yahoo.com)
At-large: Evelyn Behrle (eabehrle@yahoo.com)
At-large: Rebecca Frazier (rfrazier@tomycpa.com)
At-large: Dr. John W. Graves (johnwgrav@aol.com)
2018-2019 Elder: Rebecca Frazier (rfrazier@tomycpa.com
Minister: Rev. Carol Miles (carolmilesphcc18@outlook.com)

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Chrismon Tree & Advent Wreath (photo)

Advent

Rev. Carol Miles

We began Advent on Sunday, December 2 with the theme of HOPE and a special "Hanging of the Greens" service. I heard from many of you how meaningful the worship and the symbolism felt as we focused on the spirituality of the season. You shared how much you enjoyed being able to participate with the scripture readings and decorations. Spoiler alert: A challenge will follow.

The second Sunday in Advent commemorates PEACE. Just as we are to light a new candle each week, I hope we continue to ignite our passion for the gospel as we journey toward Christmas. Advent has been described as a time of "almost, not yet." It is a time of eager anticipation. We look forward to celebrating the birth of the Christ child. We also prepare ourselves for, as a former professor would say, "the imminent, if not immediate return" of Christ our King. While we are eager, we should not be anxious or even be hurried through this season.

Some stores are already displaying New Year's decorations! For Advent, let us slow down and take time to reflect on how we can manifest HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE in the world around us.



In addition to the themes of Advent, the season also marks the beginning of a new church year. The beginning of a new year is a time when resolutions are made. We either commit to doing something or to refrain from doing something in the hopes that it will lead to growth and improvement. This Advent, I challenge you to do something. (You knew it was coming.)

Each of us has unique gifts and talents to offer. Too often, we leave it to someone else to plug us in where there's an empty space. It may or may not be a good fit. Now is a good time to take inventory of your talents and engage the Lord in conversation. I am asking that you seek discernment through prayer. Ask the Lord to lead and guide you as to how you can best use your gifts to serve. When you have an answer, come share it with us.

Are you a writer? These columns don't always have to be written by me. Do you love to sing? Is there a project that you feel passionate about? Do you have ideas for a new outreach ministry? Do you have ideas to make our worship more inclusive and interactive? If you've been waiting for someone to invite your participation, *consider this an open invitation*. I can't wait to hear from you!

—Carol

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One version of a calendar showing the seasons of the Liturgical Year. We are currently in Year C of the three-year cycle.

(Graphic: Northwestern Publishing House)

Crustless Cranberry Pie



Recipe by: Jean at allrecipes.com

Ingredients

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon almond extract

Directions

Prep 15 m, Cook 40 m, Ready In 55 m

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease one 9-inch pie pan.
- 2. Combine the flour, sugar, and salt. Stir in the cranberries and the walnuts and toss to coat. Stir in the butter, beaten eggs, and almond extract. If you are using frozen cranberries, the mixture will be very thick. Spread the batter into the prepared pan.
- 3. Bake at 350 degrees F for 40 minutes, or until a wooden pick inserted near the center comes out clean. Serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream.

Nutrition Facts

Per Serving: 335 calories; 17.7 g fat; 41.4 g carbohydrates; 4.5 g protein; 77 mg cholesterol; 173 mg sodium.

The recipe is at:

https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/12398/crustless-cranberry-pie/

Photo: allrecipes.com

Clean-up Saturday

On Saturday, December 1, we had a clean-up day at PHCC. Why wait for Spring? We let go of old treasures and found a few that had been misplaced. Evelyn Behrle brought a delicious coffee cake, still warm from the oven. We worked and ate cake to keep up our strength. Then we worked some more and ate cake. You get the idea. All in all, it was a productive day. I'd like to thank our moderator, Chet, leader of Team Chaney: Kelly, Chet and Rachel, for all of their hard work. Evelyn gave the kitchen a complete make over. I hope you will take the time to notice our freshened up spaces and thank those who made it happen.



Photos: CMM

Hanging of the Greens

Each year we mark the beginning of the new liturgical year with Advent. Our previous minister, Rev. Susan Miller, initiated the "hanging of the greens" service at PHCC as a special worship service to dedicate the sanctuary, the decorations, and ourselves to the coming year of being Christians in the world.



Our 2018 Hanging of the Greens Celebration took place on Sunday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m.

This year we continued with the tradition to include as many participants as possible in this special worship hour. We are eager to welcome the coming Christ Child, and to revive our sense of ushering in the Kingdom of God.

Jazz Worship Service

We're going to shake things up a bit on Sunday, December 16. First, please remember that we will not have Sunday School or a 10:30 a.m. service that day. Are you ready to try something new?

On that Sunday, we will hold a special Jazz Worship service! We will have guest musicians, "The Band," offering their unique rendition of jazz infused gospel. Our own PHCC musicians will be joined by guest saxophonist, Chuck Cole.

Look for our ad in The Arkansas Times. There are posters and flyers in Hunter Hall ready for pick up. Help us spread the news. We'll light the pink candle on Gaudete Sunday, for "rejoice."



Please join us after the service for refreshments in Hunter Hall.

Psst. Just between us, I hear Evelyn is going to be baking some goodies for the occasion.

Chrismon Tree & Advent Wreath



Our tree is covered with symbols of the life of Christ, called "Chrismons." The Advent candles serve as reminders of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and Christ himself. Merry Christmas!

Please Continue Prayers for:

Pray for those recently displaced by natural disasters as well as the many who are still recovering from hurricanes and fire. Pray for the grieving, that they may be comforted; pray for those impacted by trade wars; those worldwide being persecuted for being 'different'; please pray for the wounded; the citizens and residents of the U.S.A. Pray for peace as global tensions rise, and refugees who are fleeing the violence of war. Please remember Susan M., and the family of Angela and Rebeca's friend; Dylan R., Bruce R.; Ron C.; Jean H., Kim P., Lynda C., Keith R., Glenna S., Julia C.; Wissam A., Trip R.; our Church; the homeless of Little Rock; the Great River Region of the DOC; those struggling to do God's will; and others God leads you to lift in prayer.

Oct. 2018 Stewardship Report

Oct. Budget Needs - \$8,125.00 Oct. Offering - \$6,088.00 Other Income - \$1,367.00 Total Oct. Actual Income - \$7,455.00

Oct. Budgeted Expenses – \$8,912.08 Oct. Actual Expenses – \$7,080.06 Net Result for Oct. – \$ 374.94

Fiscal-Year-to-date through 10/31/18
Offering - \$23,707.25
Other Income - \$14,928.61
Total FYTD Income - \$38,635.86
Expenses FYTD - \$26,252.88
Net Result FYTD - \$12,382.98

December 2018 at PHCC

Events in December 2018

Birthdays in December 3 – Joseph Ryan; 7 – Rev. Susan Miller; 8 – Julian Robbins; 15 – Rebecca Frazier;
 19 – Kelly Chaney.

- Events of note
- 1 Clean-up Day at PHCC: Saturday, 10am to noon
- 2 1st Sunday of Advent; Hanging of the Greens
- 9 2nd Sunday of Advent, Sign January birthday cards
- 11 Tuesday, 6:00 pm Board Meeting

16 – 3:00 p.m. Jazz Worship Service; 3rd Sunday of Advent.

(NOTE: No Sunday School, or 10:30 a.m. Worship!)

17 - Third Monday Meal is served; 2501 S. Arch St.

- 23 4th Sunday of Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve.
- 25 Christmas Day.

30 – **Community Breakfast**; 7:30 a.m. Quapaw Quarter UMC, 1601 S. Louisiana St.

31 - New Year's Eve

- Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 2, 9, 23, 30



Events in January 2019

- Birthdays in January 5 Sam Ellis; 12 Ms. Keith Ryan; 15 Jack Perry VC3.
- Events of note
- 1 New Year's Day 2019
- TBA, 6:00 pm scheduled Board Meeting
- 13 Sign February birthday cards.
- 17 Third Monday Meal is served; 2501 S. Arch St.22 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Sunday School 9:30 a.m. 6, 13, 20, 27

Pulaski Heights Christian Church

(501) 663-8149 4724 Hillcrest Ave. Little Rock, AR 72205 lrphcc@gmail.com ~ www.phcclr.org Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 a.m. Rev. Carol Miles, Minister

Music Ministry ~ Stephen & Jeannie Cross Musician ~ Betty Jo Thibault Office Assistant ~ Tom Ryan