

Hebron Happenings

A Note from Jason

Dear Friends,

Waiting can be difficult. I'm sure we can all remember the difficult anticipation of Christmas morning as a child – having to wait to see the presents under the tree and to discover what was in those wrapped packages! Of course, there are other forms of difficult waiting – waiting for test results or waiting to hear how the surgery went – in these cases, waiting can be excruciatingly difficult.

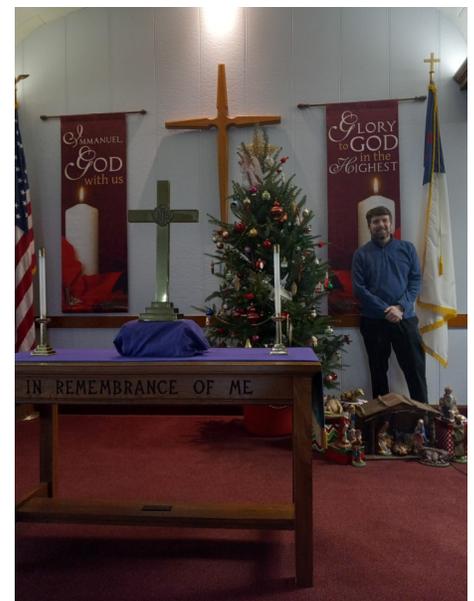
The season of Advent is a season of waiting – and let's face it, it can be full of both good and difficult waiting at the same time. The point of Advent is for us to fix our eyes on the hope of the incarnation and Jesus coming again – that we might wait faithfully even in the most difficult of circumstances. Two overlooked saints in the Christmas story according to Luke illustrate this kind of faithful waiting.

In Luke chapter 2 (after the shepherds and other parts we are all familiar with), there is the story of Joseph and Mary presenting the newborn Jesus at the temple to perform their religious duties. While there, they meet these two saints – Simeon and Anna. Both are in the waning years of their lives, but both have been faithfully worshiping and waiting for God's messiah to come. Simeon received and believed a word from God that he would not die until he saw God's messiah and Anna a widow prayed and worshiped. Both faithfully lived and waited until one day, there he was – Jesus, God's messiah in the flesh.

Upon seeing the baby, Simeon takes Jesus in his arms and says: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." (Luke 2:29-32) Anna, having seen the child runs around the temple sharing the good news of the child with all who will listen - she was 84! I think Simeon and Anna believed that seeing Jesus was 'worth the wait' as the expression goes.

Waiting is hard and let's face it - we have had a lot of extra anxious waiting over the past two years. However, in this season of Advent and Christmas, as we look back to the Jesus's birth and forward to His return, let us take courage following the example of Anna and Simeon that, in the end, it will be worth the wait.

God Bless,
Jason



Passion Potluck

The Passion Potluck was quite a success!! There was lots of delicious food; a good crowd stayed to enjoy the food and the program. Topics discussed were: Alf Butler—coffee grinder collection, Edi Davidson—her Zoom outreach for new moms called Storkbites, June Armstrong (piano) and Barb Lange (clarinet) played a Psalm that June put to music, Maggie Rea—learning Japanese and Japanese food she has tried, Jeffrey Stewart—scuba diving and underwater photography, Kara Rea—affordable housing and stories about people she had met, Michelle Wilson—8 Bays Learning Center & Sanctuary, which rescues horses who would otherwise be heading to slaughter, Sharon (Tege) Friedl—work the deacons are doing with Hebron’s homebound members. Here are some photos from the event for you to enjoy!



Join us for a Christmas Eve service on Friday, December 24th @ 7:00 PM to celebrate the birth of our Savior!

West Allegheny Show Choir

We have something very special to look forward to on December 19, the Sunday before Christmas. Nate volunteered to put us on the schedule for a performance by the West Allegheny show choir!! We will have a simple luncheon after the church service and the performance will begin at 1:00 pm.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church. The Congregational Life Team is asking for 2-3 persons to contribute soup and some others to contribute salad. We are also looking for help with clean up after the concert.

Hospitality

There is a sign-up sheet for hospitality in the lobby. This is something we all enjoy—so feel free to take a turn to welcome Hebron members on Sunday mornings.

Choir

The choir has been working hard and we expect to be able to do some anthems as a part of the church service soon. Are there any hidden talents out there?? None of us has a perfect voice—feel free to give us a try. We practice on **Sunday mornings at 9:00 am**. We are a fun group to be a part of.

Note from Session

Dear Friends,

As you go through the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we encourage spending quiet time with God reflecting on the real meaning of Christmas and thanking Him for “making your sins as white as snow.” Also, reflect on and thank God for the blessing of Hebron Church in your life.

Hebron Church is blessed with a great staff that loves the Lord, works diligently to deliver God’s message to us in words and music, encourages us to grow in our faith, and performs the work necessary for the smooth functioning of the church. We would like to present the staff with gifts to show appreciation for all they do. If you would like to contribute to the staff gifts, please either mail it to the church or place in the offering plate during morning worship.

Yours in Christ,

The Session of Hebron Presbyterian Church

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