

# Announcements 1/22/2023

## Today

**Welcome back Elisabeth!** We are very happy to announce that our organist, Elisabeth Jeffries, has returned after recuperating from hip replacement surgery. We missed her and it's good to have her back.

**Message from Pastor Jeff:** I will be taking time off after Easter until late May. While I am gone, JMPC will continue to worship every Sunday and the pastoral needs of the congregation will continue to be met. The staff, Session and I will make sure of that.

Over the past three years JMPC has had several challenges. First and foremost was the COVID pandemic which closed the church and sent the staff and congregation into isolation. People understandably became less engaged in the church. Attendance was online. Finances suffered. There was a change in the staff. Yet, JMPC worshiped every Sunday and met the pastoral needs of the congregation. Now, at the beginning of 2023, JMPC has started its return to normalcy. The finances for 2022 were strong (income exceeded expenses), in person attendance has stabilized and with online participation, overall worship participation has started to increase. The staff is strong and effective. All this good news gives me an opportunity to step back for a short time and recharge my batteries, which need to be recharged.

**Offering Envelopes are Delayed:** The 2023 offering envelopes have been ordered. However, due to supply chain issues they are on backorder. As soon as they become available, they will be in the Narthex & a mass e-mail will go out. The company we order from apologizes for the inconvenience.

**Pepperoni Rolls:** The Youth of JMPC will be selling yummy That's a Wrap pepperoni rolls to fund their mission trip to Chicago. They are \$13/ 6-pack. The fundraiser will begin January 4<sup>th</sup> and orders and money are due by January 25<sup>th</sup>. Delivery is February 6<sup>th</sup>- right in time for the Super Bowl! You can order from a youth group member or the order form in the Narthex.

**Women's Book Study (Actually) Resumes Today:** After a long hiatus for the holidays, Women's Book Study meets today, 1/22, at 9:00 a.m. in the Library Cafe for donuts, coffee & fellowship. We pick back up with Encountering the Sacred: Feminist Reflections on Women's Lives, in Chapter 10, which is about one woman's decision to not have children. Readings are distributed via e-mail, and hard copies are available each Sunday morning. Contact Rev. Coggins at (412) 568-3484 or [samantha@johnmcmillanpc.org](mailto:samantha@johnmcmillanpc.org) to be added to the e-mail listserv, and with questions.

## To Know God

**Nursery:** John McMillan Presbyterian Church is a child friendly congregation. We welcome children into all worship services and recognize that sometimes children will be restless. Worship clipboards are available for children during worship from any usher. If your child becomes too restless, you are free to move into the Narthex (lobby) or the nursery is available with a nursery attendants, Devon Serena and Sarah Westland.

**Children's Church:** We would love you to come be a part of our class! Children's Church is in room 16/18 and kids ages 3 to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade can come play and learn together during the 10 AM worship service.

**Meet in the Middle:** For 2 weeks, January 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, Meet in the Middle will be having a special movie viewing and discussion of "The Shack." All youth 13 and up are welcome to attend. Younger youth may attend with parent permission. The movie is available on Netflix for previewing. Join us!

**ABCs of the Bible:** Are you looking for an opportunity to further explore God's Word? Then drop into the Adult Bible Class; the ABCs of the Bible. We meet Sunday mornings, after the worship service at 11:00 am, in the Library Cafe. We have a very informal Bible study and discussion, and it is a good time of fellowship. No experience is necessary and there is no homework! In January we are studying The Advent of the Savior. If you have questions, see Hugh Given, Dan or Susan Zearley.

**Brown Bag Bible Studies:** The Brown Bag Bible Study will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month at noon. We will be studying Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians which is the oldest document in the New Testament. First Thessalonians was written before any of the Gospels and offers insight into what the early church believed about Jesus and his church. We will then move on to 2 Thessalonians, a letter written shortly after the first and learn about some early misunderstandings of the early church and how Paul addressed them. Come and see.

**John Covenant Group:** This is JMPC's men's Bible Study that meets September through May. It's an informal study and a great time of fellowship. We meet twice a month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday's at 9:30am in the JMPC Cafe. January dates are the 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. We will begin with a study called Meeting God. If you have any questions, see Jim Hinerman, Dan Zearley or Hugh Given.

**Youth Group:** Youth Group starts again! Come hang out with us and learn, eat, and have fun! We will have Youth Group starting January 11<sup>th</sup> until March 29<sup>th</sup> (We will have off February 22<sup>nd</sup> for Ash Wednesday, but you are welcome to join us for dinner & worship). Bring a friend!

**Kids' Klub:** WE ARE BACK! We are so excited to have everyone back together after the Advent and Christmas season. We will have Kids' Klub starting January 11<sup>th</sup> until March 29<sup>th</sup> (We will have off February 22<sup>nd</sup> for Ash Wednesday). Please wear your PJs for our movie, pizza, and snack night! Bring a friend!

**Splash! Newsletters** JMPC has been distributing Splash! Newsletters to children in our congregation. These newsletters are for children birth to age 2 and have activities for little ones that can help families raise their kids with faith. If you would like to receive one, please provide Emily Shubilla with the child's name and age and an address or email address.

**Contemplative Service:** Our monthly meditative worship experience will be offered at JMPC on January 29<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the sanctuary. This worship experience will offer a calm and peaceful setting, responsive liturgy, a meditation on scripture, periods of silence, prayer, quiet music and opportunities to share feedback. The purpose of this gathering will be to provide a sanctuary of peace from our anxious world, even if just for a short time. Come and see.

**Life Coaching with John Mazzola:** Congregation member, John Mazzola, will be offering 2 new classes that help improve overall success in life- jobs, relationships, and religion. These classes will be held back-to-back on Tuesday nights 7-9 PM, starting January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Library Café. To read more about these offerings, please see the Sunshine or contact John @ 412-831-2737.

## To Glorify God

**Flower Chart:** The 2023 flower chart is on display in the Narthex. Help to beautify our Sanctuary on Sundays throughout the year. Flowers are \$40.00 and are promised to one (1) family per Sunday on a first come-first served basis. Please pay prior to, or the day you request flowers to be displayed by placing your check in the offering plate with "flowers" noted or give to Leslie. Call Cindy Fast at 412-854-2356 if you have any questions.

**The JMPC book club:** We meet on Mondays @ 7:00 pm for about an hour and a half in the parlor. However, we can also Facetime/Zoom you into our discussion if you would like. All are welcome. Please contact Pam Dobos @ [dob914@aol.com](mailto:dob914@aol.com) for information.  
January 30: *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. (Historical Fiction) In her twenties, Belle da Costa Greene is hired by J. P. Morgan to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture on the New York society scene and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world. But Belle has a secret; she was born Belle Marion Greener. She is the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate for equality. Belle's complexion isn't dark because of her alleged Portuguese heritage; her complexion is dark because she is African American. *The Personal Librarian* tells the story of an

extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit (Goodreads).

## **To Serve God**

**Angel Tree Coat Collection:** 68 coats, 92 hats/gloves/mittens/scarves and 8 sweatshirts and fleeces  
All the items were distributed through the Christmas Market at The First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne.

From Lynn Kostelnik at The Shared Blessings Mission Store:

“Out of the 68 coats only had two left and then somebody called and had twin girls and those were the sizes that they needed so it worked out perfectly. I had four boxes of hats and gloves and almost ran out of kids’ gloves.

Thank you again for your continuous support for The Shared Blessings Mission Store. I would not be able to do it without all your help. Please tell everyone, “Thank you” and have a blessed New Year.”



The flowers today were given to the Glory of God by Susan & Dan Zearley in honor of Chloe Herbert.



The rosebud is in celebration of the birth of Brooklyn Noelle Little, daughter of JR & Chelsea (Previs) Little & granddaughter of Charlie & Rose Previs born January 15<sup>th</sup>, 7 pounds 9 ounces, 20 inches long.

## 4 WAYS TO GIVE



IN PERSON



VANCO  
MOBILE



ONLINE



QR CODE

### In the Event of an Emergency

**January Deacon of the Month:** Jeanie Bonnewell (412) 216-8066.

Please call Jeanie, Pastor Jeff or Rev. Coggins with any pastoral concerns.

Direct call/text: Pastor Jeff @ (412) 225-7550 or Rev. Coggins @ (412) 568-3484

E-mail: [jeff@johnmcmillanpc.org](mailto:jeff@johnmcmillanpc.org) or [samantha@johnmcmillanpc.org](mailto:samantha@johnmcmillanpc.org)

You can also call the church at (412) 833-4704.

Pastor Jeff & Rev. Coggins receive e-mails on their phones as well as on their computers.

## **What's Happening Weekly @ JMPC**

*(Check the bulletin or Website Calendar for specific dates/times)*

### **Sundays**

Worship  
Children's Church  
Meet In the Middle  
Women's Book Study  
Contemplative Service

### **Mondays**

Men's Breakfast  
Duquesne Kid's Klub  
Pickleball  
JMPC Book Club

### **Tuesdays**

Women's Breakfast  
Ladies Pickleball  
After Dinner Bible Study  
Meeting Night

### **Wednesdays**

John Covenant Group  
Brown Bag Bible Study  
Youth Group  
Kid's Klub

### **Thursdays**

Pickleball  
Choir Practice  
Bell Practice



January 22	Betsy Buoninconti
January 22	Kylee Oliastro
January 26	Rev. Samantha Coggins
January 27	Ryan Bogdon

We would love to have your birthday on file in the office. If we've missed your birthday, please contact Leslie in the church office as we may not have it on file. Thank you!