



# DECEMBER

- Saturday, 3**      **Decorating the Sanctuary 9 am**
- Sunday, 4**      **Worship Service 11 am**  
**Coffee Hour after service**
- Thursday, 8**      **GSPC Women's Bible Study 10 - 12:00 pm**  
**GSPC Men's Bible Study 10 - 12:00 pm**
- Sunday, 11**      **Worship Service 11 am**  
**Live Nativity characters meet after Service**
- Friday, 16**      **Live Nativity on the Front Lawn 6 - 8 pm**
- Sunday, 18**      **Worship Service 11 am**  
**Coffee Hour after service**
- Tuesday, 20**      **Christmas Caroling in Joppatowne 6 pm**
- Wednesday, 21**      **Longest Night Service 7 pm**
- Saturday, 24**      **Christmas Eve Service 7 pm with Candle-**  
**light**
- Sunday, 25**      **Christmas Day Service 11 am**
- Monday, 26**      **GSPC & GSCC Closed for Holiday Break**
- Tuesday, 27**      **GSPC & GSCC Closed for Holiday Break**



*O Lord, how shall I Meet You, how welcome you aright?  
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!  
O kindle, Lord, most holy, a lamp within my breast,  
To do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.*

December is busy!! Starting with the Sundays of Advent and the excited expectation leading to Christmas. Here at Good Shepherd, we are gearing up for our second outdoor Live Nativity, caroling and special music from the choir, Deacon's Corner, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

At home, there is all the gift shopping and special baking and cooking for the season. Also making sure that family is accounted for, travel plans confirmed, keeping an eye on the weather, the tree, lights, cards. It sometimes feels like we are trying to cram a year's worth of activity into one month.

Oh, and December is the month with the fewest hours in the day! On the winter solstice "Longest Night" (Dec. 21) the sun rises at 7:24am and sets at 4:47pm. That's only 9 hours and 23 minutes of sunlight. For some, this night has been a time to reflect on accomplishments of the preceding year. For others, it is a time to reflect on loss and grief. It can be an emotional night that overwhelms us when we least expect it.

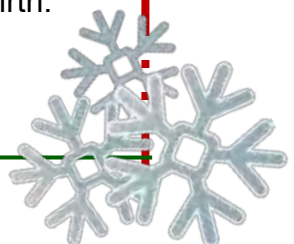
We will gather this 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm to express our feelings and allow the community in worship to be our emotional partners to share some of the burdens we have been carrying. With that sharing, we can all better appreciate the joyous day of Christ's birth.

I wish you all a wonderful advent and a happy, peace-filled Christmas!



PEACE, Pastor Kerry

## SOUNDS OF THE SEASON



**December 11th @ 5 pm** Grove Presbyterian Church, 50 East Bel Air Avenue, Bel Air, MD

"Crown Him King! Crown Him Lord!" A Cantata for Christmas

Presented by: The Grove Presbyterian Church Choir Zoe Coppola, harp and piano Elizabeth LaDana, flute Special Guest Musicians: The Baltimore Flute Choir



**THE GOOD SHEPHERD FACEBOOK PAGE:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/GoodShepherdPC/>  
**THE SHEPHERD OF JOPPA YOUTUBE PAGE:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmWeD2EBpNUqSr1SI1Qgnhw>





## ARROW FOSTER GIRLS MISSION

We appreciate the congregation's generous participation in providing gifts for teenage girls in foster care through the Arrow Family Ministry of Harford County. We purchased \$1,200 worth of gifts to make a very happy Christmas for many teenagers.



## COMFORT CLOSET

A huge thank you to everyone who has donated to Joppatowne High School's Comfort closet!! We made our first trip over with goodies on November 19th!



This year's PREMIER holiday event, **Boots & Bowties - Christmas in the Country** is right around the corner! Join us on **December 2nd from 7 pm - 10 pm** at the beautiful **Vignon Manor Farm** for beautiful country views, live music and dancing, delicious food from The Local, a bourbon bar, beer, wine, shopping, silent auction, Santa, and more.

**This is an event you don't want to miss!**

Tickets are **\$100 a person** or **\$150 for VIP**

**Curious what comes with a VIP ticket?**

\*Exclusive VIP reception from 6 pm - 7 pm

\*Premier Parking

\*Charcuterie

\*Signature Holiday Cocktail

\*VIP Treat

\*VIP Seating

**Funds and awareness raised will give hope to our families and individuals experiencing homelessness.**

Order tickets here: <https://bit.ly/bootsandbowties22>

## THANKSGIVING BOXES

I wanted to Thank Norma Webster and Diana Miller for coming out to help with the Thanksgiving Boxes on November 21st! We were able to meet the delivery truck and set up two tables filled with Thanksgiving cheer. 10 full dinner kits complete with 13-14lbs turkeys and a Thanksgiving prayer card were loaded up to families experiencing hardship this year. Everyone was so grateful for the generosity of Good Shepherd. -Trista



## DECEMBER EVENTS

The Deacons and Worship Committee invite you to participate in these Advent activities that will prepare us all for the coming of the Christ Child. Come and worship and serve at the events mentioned below:

- Dec. 3                      Decorating the Sanctuary – sign up on the sheet in the narthex. Begins at 9:00 a.m. with lunch provided.
- Dec. 8                      Women’s Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. Bring a friend, your lunch, and ideas on how to experience Sabbath, especially during the Advent Season.  
  
Pastor Kerry is offering an option for men of the church to grow in faith with a Bible Study at the same time.
- Dec. 11                     Live Nativity Characters meet after church for costume check and stage directions.
- Dec. 16                     6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Live Nativity on the Front Lawn Live animals will be on hand, and we’ll sing carols around the creche. It’s a neighborhood event and a time when we can let our light shine.
- Dec. 18                     On this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, the choir will offer anthems throughout the worship service that reflect the mandate to “Call His Name Jesus.”
- Dec. 20                     Christmas Caroling in the Joppatowne area. We’ll meet at Good Shepherd to visit those shut in from Good Shepherd. Meet at 6:00 p.m. and carpool..
- Dec. 21                     Longest Night Service at 7:00 p.m. If you can help with setting out and lighting sand candles, please let Bill Starke or Sue Thompson know.
- Dec. 24                     Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m. with candlelight
- Dec. 25                     Christmas Day Service at 11:00 a.m.

These are just a few ways you can be involved during the upcoming Advent season. We would love to see friends and neighbors join us. Invite someone new to experience the season of light, love, and sharing.

### DECORATING THE SANCTUARY

**Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 9:00 am** we are joining together to decorate the Sanctuary. The more the merrier!

Come see the new tree, hang the garland, brighten your spirit by joining in on the holiday fun...and of course, coffee & donuts in the morning followed by pizza at lunch time!

We hope to see you there!

Any questions please see Clay.





DECEMBER 2022

YARN



# HAPPY FRIENDS-GIVING!

Thank you to everyone who made our Friendsgiving a success! We loved sharing food and company with family and friends!







### DECORATING THE SANCTUARY

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### BIBLE, RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY SEMINAR

Thursday, December 8th @ 10 am

Pastor Kerry is aiming the seminar toward the men of the church, but it will be open to all.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, December 8, 2022

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

#### CELEBRATING THE SABBATH

Accepting God's Gifts of Rest & Delight

#### LESSON 3:

#### SABBATH & SURRENDER

KEY IDEA: The "manna" story, with its emphasis on only gathering as much as we need and not gathering on the Sabbath, is a call to trust God to provide for our needs. It is a call to surrender our unhealthy striving for more wealth, more stuff, and more success. It is a call to recognize when it is time to say, "Enough".

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 16

BRING YOUR LUNCH

### OFFERING ENVELOPE NUMBERS

Like you, my Offering envelope number has been the same for longer than I can remember, but the size of our congregation is changing and we don't need to order the large number of Offering envelopes and incur the unnecessary expense just to ensure we all keep the same envelope number we have all always had.

The possibility exists that next year your envelope number might just change. Please understand, the Finance Committee did not decide this lightly. It was a decision that was appropriate to match our current congregation size. Thank you. – Clay Maas

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church  
"Changing Lives and Growing in God's Love"

 POINSETTIAS 

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone, please contribute \$50 for each plant. They will be used to decorate the sanctuary until after Christmas at which time you may take home your plant/s.

Please send the donation to the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church with the following information:

I would like to order \_\_\_\_ poinsettias at \$50 each.

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Or

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Your name \_\_\_\_\_



Orders are due by December 4, 2022



### REQUESTS FOR PRAYERS

The grandfather to Chris Bohns' two grandchildren, the Late Jim Lamont & family; Kathy Young's Stepson, Johnny Bowman & his wife Jan; Norma Webster's nephew, Hildred Watts; Ellie Pfoutz's nephew, Stuart; a 6-week-old boy named Cillian; Jim Petnic's cousin, Anita Barrett; Ryan Shuttlesworth's grandfather, Donald Shuttlesworth; Winsome LaComb; and Trista Canary's family.



If you or someone you know has a need and you would like to submit a prayer request, please reach out to our prayer team at: [gsprayers@juno.com](mailto:gsprayers@juno.com)

### HOMELESS OF HARFORD

Our Comfort Closet donation bin is up and running. This is the **red bin** in the Children Center Lobby. We have been enlightened to the fact that there are 498 children in the Harford County community that are using the facilities at their schools to wash their clothes and shower due to homelessness or poor living conditions. Many are in Joppatowne.



Small travel-sized hygiene items that can easily be carried by students to school are the best items to donate. Here is a list of supplies needed:

Combs, brushes, hair gel, bobby pins, safety pins, shampoo & conditioner, bonnets, Emory boards, nail glue, soap, snacks, water or water bottles, Chapstick, Deodorant, Bath/body wash, Single use or small containers of laundry detergent, Small bottles of lotion, Feminine hygiene products, Wash clothes, scarfs, hats, hoodies, sweatpants, hair ties or scrunches, socks, wipes.

### December Birthday's to Celebrate

14 Mary Margaret McClurg

8 Eleanor Williams

14 Carl Phillips

18 Wayne Douglas

10 Elaine Fich

16 Ellie Pfoutz

20 Nancy Bryne

11 Lou Cosner

The Deacons would like the church family to know your important day! If we do not have yours in our file, please notify Kelly Donelson @

24 Jerry Fich

13 Jim Petnic

410-961-9275

30 Christine Bohns