

WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

1815-2017

THE LINK



DECEMBER 2017

Pastor's Message

Thanksgiving and Advent are two beloved seasons the Christian communities in the United States of America celebrate for centuries. The two are connected by an attitude of gratitude. I urge you to join me in thanking God that we are privileged to celebrate another Advent season. Advent reminds us that God loves us, interested in our personal struggles, and keeps His promise to save us. Please be very prayerful and earnest as we observe this Advent season, which begins this Sunday and goes up to the Sunday before Christmas. We will observe Advent with a wreath with 5 candles that represent 1) Hope; 2) Joy; 3) Peace; 4) Love; and 5) Jesus, which will be lit each Sunday.

We should be thankful for the Incarnation, which is the embodiment of God the Son in human flesh as Jesus Christ. ***"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."*** John 1:14. Jesus took on a human body and human nature to experience humanity in all his/her experience so that he (Jesus) might become our Savior. God, in the state of His eternal glory, cannot die. Therefore, it became necessary for God to become man that He might be

able to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself (Hebrews 9:26). The Good News is that Jesus came to us in human body, to share the lived-experience of humanity, and to save us (Luke 17:11-13).

This Advent season we should be encouraged on one hand to acknowledge that the world is full of pain and suffering, hardships and turmoil, disappointment and regrets, and on the other hand be comforted by the fact that the Gospel is good news for everyone. The Advent message is that the mission of Jesus is Salvation – deliverance, healing of broken hearts, and supplying of needs. Jesus is the embodiment of hope, joy, peace and love, but there is something special about hope among the people of God. Without hope we have no power to walk in love; no power to keep going on and not give up; no power to hold fast to the way of righteousness; and no power to hold ourselves to resist some brief unsatisfying pleasure.

We should be thankful that we have another opportunity to celebrate Advent as a time of expectation, waiting, and preparation for the second coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let this Advent be for

you personally a time of reflection, daily bible reading, and ceaseless praying. Let us with enthusiasm and expectation join the Christian Church in purposeful preparation for Advent and the celebration of Christmas. Let us join the voices of generations of saints past and present in the refrain, ***O come, O come Emmanuel!***

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Peter E. Grinion, Pastor



Worship Servants

December 3rd

Invocation: Leanna Shirley
 Scripture: Joanne Wilbert
 Offering: Leanna Shirley
 Advent Reader: Evy Shoots
 Advent Candle: Evie Scott
 Children's Moment: Marti Spaker
 Greeter: Joanne Wilbert
 Nursery: BOCE
 Fellowship: Leanna Shirley

December 10th

Invocation: Rev. Clara White
 Scripture: Mary Bailey
 Offering: Rev. Clara White
 Advent Reader: Mark Heintz
 Advent Candle's: Linda Heintz
 Children's Moment: Marti Spaker
 Greeter: Marti Spaker
 Nursery: BOCE
 Fellowship: Betty Heisig

December 17th

Invocation: Betty Heisig
 Scripture: Ryan Scurlock
 Offering: Betty Heisig
 Advent Reader: Marti Spaker
 Advent Candle's: Valerie Bandemer
 Children's Moment: Marti Spaker
 Greeter: Valerie Bandemer
 Nursery: BOCE
 Fellowship: Advent Luncheon

December 24th

Invocation: Leanna Shirley
 Scripture: Dan Scurlock
 Offering: Leanna Shirley
 Advent Reader: Debbie Covill
 Advent Candle's: Jasmine Morse
 Children's Moment: Marti Spaker
 Greeter: Connie Necaster
 Nursery: BOCE
 Fellowship: Valerie Bandemer
 Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm

December 31st

Invocation: Rev. Clara White
 Scripture: Betty Heisig
 Offering: Rev. Clara White
 Children's Moment: Marti Spaker
 Greeter: Connie Necaster
 Nursery: BOCE
 Fellowship: Linda Heintz



Christmas Plants

Anne Greco is taking orders for Christmas plants to decorate the alter. You'll be able to take them home following worship Christmas Eve. They are as follows:

Plant	Pot Size	Cost
Christmas Cactus	6"	\$7.10
	8"	\$12.60
Cyclamen	4"	\$4.05
	6"	\$7.55
Poinsettias:	4.5"	\$3.80
Colors: Red, White,	6.5"	\$7.55
Pink and Marble	7.5"	\$11.60
(7.5" has 2 plants)	8"	\$18.40
(8" has 3 plants)	10"	\$25.60
(10" has 4 plants)		



**PARKING
PLEASE
HELP!!**

A Request from the Fire Department

The Fire Department is booked every Saturday and Sunday, except December 24th and 30th, for parties.

December 3rd— Please park at Cartwrights or south side of the Church for 10:00 am service.

Fire Department Party starts at 11:00 a.m.

December 9th— Please park at Cartwrights or south side of the Church for 10:00 a.m. Tree Trimming and 3:00 p.m. WHBC Caroling party.

December 10th— Please leave before 12:00 noon if you use the lot.

Fire Department Party starts at 12:00 noon.

December 17th—Fire Department Party scheduled from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Men's Breakfast
7 a.m. Tuesdays at
Peppermints

Prayer Meeting
9 a.m. Saturdays

Choir Practice
6 p.m. Thursdays

Bible Study
7 p.m. Thursdays

Deacon's Meeting
Followed by Visitation
10 a.m. December 7

Tree Trimming
10 a.m. December 9

Caroling with Neighbor
Churches
3 p.m. December 9

Advent Luncheon
11:30 a.m. December 10

Advisory Council
6:00 p.m. December 11

Christmas Eve Service
7:00 p.m. December 24



December 5 - Isaiah Buskey

December 6 - Nancy Chase

December 10 - Tim Vandermeid

December 12 - Barbara Miller

Joquina Tosciotti

December 14 - Theresa Hirschman

Mike Shirley

A Caroling We Will Go!

Saturday, December 9, 3:00 PM



CAROLING

With St. Mark's, Ray of Hope
And Church of the First Born

Refreshments follow in our
Fellowship Hall:

Chili, Soup and Accoutrements

Please Join Us!!! Sign-Up
Sheet in Fellowship Hall



Advent Luncheon

Who: Everyone

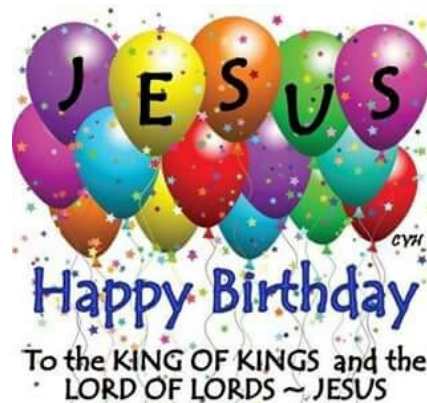
When: December 17, 2017

Time: 11:30 am

Where: Fellowship Hall

Please bring a dish to pass

*Desert and beverage will be provided
by the Board of Christian Education*



Greetings from the Missions Committee,

The Christmas Season is upon us and we are preparing for our annual Christmas Caroling Party on December 9th at 3:00 pm. We are scheduled to sing at Woodcrest Commons at 3:30 pm; Westtown Village at 4:30 pm and Brentland Woods at 5:30 pm. We will be working with the Boards of Deacons, Christian Education, and other members of the congregation to make this event a success. We are also collecting items for our Christmas Family. The list will be located in the Fellowship Hall.

In January we will take up our offering for Retired Ministers and Missionaries (RMMO). Please know we do love and appreciate each and everyone of you for your continued giving. Thank you for all you do. Merry Christmas and God's Blessings throughout the year.



CONGRATULATIONS!

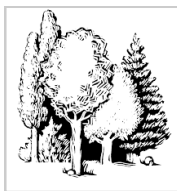
I wish to congratulate my Mom, Evy Lynn shoots on her poetry book *Grove of Grace*, which has been a life-long dream of hers to accomplish.

A special "thank you" to Bonita Healy, our sister in the Lord, for compiling it for her.

In loving appreciation

Evie Scott

Matthew 5:16



Grace Grove

Memorable 1945 Christmas

As I appreciated our glowing Christmas tree at home, I prayed for the safe return of my fiancé, Jay W. Shoots—"Wally". He was serving our country in Italy as a staff bombsite mechanic deep within thundering battlefields. God spared his life, and he returned home safely! We were married on October 6, 1945.

We all felt so blessed. God's Miracles are endless!

Praise Jesus!

Evy Lynn Shoots

"Starways to Heaven"

*Nighttime Heavenlies
open pathways of brilliance;
Thrilling to our sight!*

*Dreamily I mused,
What if every star is placed
when a person prays?*

*Maybe Myriads
continues at Savior's birth!
Our prayers keep counting!*

Be blessed!

Praise Jesus!

Poet:

Evelyn M Shoots

11/2017



Gate to Glory

*Dawning commences:
sunrise flames majestically,
God's Torch of Triumph!*

*Horizon backgrounds
silhouettes against the sky
Lacy elegance!*

*Glowed awakening!
Birds and creatures "Musicate!"
Celebration rings!*

*Alleluia!
to Our Savior
Jesus!*

Poet: Evy Lynn Shoots (11/28/17)



Memorable Christmas

In the early 1990's, I was invited to an Army base in Panama City, Florida.

My sister Eileen and her retired husband, Brigadier General Robert E. Bartell lived there.

When Christmas Day dawned, all of my sisters and I were brought together there, to celebrate Jesus' birth! First time in 40 years all 5 of us prayerfully rejoiced together! So precious!

Evy Lynn Shoots

