

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**IN NEED OF PRAYER?** Elders are available to pray with you after the service or if you desire in your home. Please see the pastor to make arrangements.

**SIGN UP for GPC'S** googlegroups page and GPC's weekly email newsletter, This Week @GraceKville, by emailing info@gracekernersville.org.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH TEACHERS NEEDED:** Teachers are needed for 3 yr. – K in July, and in 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in March/July. See Lori Dell'Arena if you are interested in teaching.

**KITCHEN GIFT REGISTRY** Thank you to all who have purchased items on the Amazon and Target registry lists for the church kitchen. There are still items available. If you would like to purchase/donate an item or two please contact Janie Hughes (jthughes5@gmail.com) for the links.

**THE JESSE TREE** Today is the third Sunday of Advent. As a part of our marking the season, the art of children and adults will be on display in the foyer. Take a moment to view the work and creativity of our church members who are inviting us to use our imagination as we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ.

**GRIEFSHARE** is a 13 week group seminar focused on helping people learn how to understand their grief from the loss of a loved one or friend. A group will be begin meeting on Mon, Jan 13, 2020 at the church building. Sessions will continue weekly on Monday from 6:30-8:00 PM. The last meeting will be Mon, April 6. If you think you may be interested in participating in this opportunity, or have questions about GriefShare, please contact Carolyn or Dick Clatfelter.

**CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** will be held on December 24 at 7:00pm.

**GRW IN GRACE** GPC's Sunday School class will be taking Dec 29 off. Class resumes Jan 5<sup>th</sup>.

**THE FIRST FAMILY SUNDAY OF 2020** will be Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> during Grow In Grace at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. All ages are invited to attend to learn more about Epiphany.

**2019 END OF YEAR GIVING:** Tax-deductible contributions to the church for 2019 must be received in the office or postmarked by December 31, 2019. Receipts for any reimbursable expenditure for 2019 should be turned in to the office by Tuesday, December 31, 2019.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!** Karl & Mary Freeman (12/27); John & Janie Hughes (12/28); Dale & Mona Underhill (12/28).

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** Doug Jewell (12/24); Michael Kuehn (12/26); Hayes Keener (12/28).

## THIS WEEK

www.gracekernersville.org/calendar.

### SUNDAY, December 22

- No Sunday Night Fellowship. SNF resumes in January.

### MONDAY, December 23

- Sermon Passage Discussion Group at the church building from 2:00-3:00pm.

### TUESDAY, December 24, Christmas Eve. (Church Office Closed)

- Candlelight Service at 7:00pm

### WEDNESDAY, December 25, Christmas Day. (Church Office Closed)

### THURSDAY, December 26, S. Stephen's Day. (Church Office Closed)

### FRIDAY, December 27

- No Men's Prayer

### SUNDAY, December 29

- No Sunday School
- Worship Service from 10:30-Noon

### GPC Financial Report as of October 31, 2019

Grace Pres General Fund	Budgeted for 2019	Budgeted YTD	Offerings Received YTD	Expenses YTD	How Much to Meet YTD Budget
Operations	\$ 309,876	\$ 258,230	\$ 241,763	\$ 256,341	\$ 16,467
Missions	\$ 34,431	\$ 28,693	\$ 26,863	\$ 26,959	\$ 1,830
<b>Year Total</b>	<b>\$344,307</b>	<b>\$ 286,923</b>	<b>\$ 268,626</b>	<b>\$ 283,300</b>	<b>\$ 18,297</b>

### Monthly Budget as of December 15, 2019

	December Budget	MTD Contributions	Needed to Meet Budget
Total	\$ 28,692	\$ 35,751	\$ ( 7,059)

### Designated Funds as of December 15, 2019

	MTD Offerings	YTD Offerings	YTD Disbursements	Account Balance
Missions Faith Fund	\$ 1,625	\$ 9,230	\$ 13,519	\$ 1,389
Mercy Ministries Fund	\$ 810	\$ 17,916	\$ 11,417	\$ 7,958
Designated Mortgage Reduction	\$ 3,300	\$ 42,400	\$ 40,400	\$ 431,164

## OUR SUNDAY SERVANTS

### NURSERY SCHEDULE

Nursery Scheduler: Lori Dell'Arena

Date	Birth – 2 yr.	Children's Church
<b>TODAY</b>	Debbie Potts Janice Lievens Priscilla Flippin	<b>December</b> Nursery Coordinator: Brea McClain 3yr - K: Angela Bay and Timothy Bay
<b>Dec 29</b>	Carol & Duncan Vincent Maddie Edwards Adah Freeman	1st – 3rd: Randi Bechtold and Phoebe Dell'Arena
<b>Jan 5</b>	Carolyn Clatfelter Joan Dalton Kate Pardue	<b>January</b> Nursery Coordinator: Mary Freeman 3yr - K: Brea and Sigourney McClain
<b>Jan 12</b>		1st – 3rd: John and Janie Hughes

### Deacon on Call

December: John Hughes

January: Karl Freeman

### Greeters

December: Tommy & Donna Cox

January: David and Carla Collins

### Elder Prayer Rotation

December: Kevin McClain

January: Jim Plybon

### Rapid Visitation

December: Janie Hughes

January: Claudia Plybon

### Closing

#### Today

Karl Freeman

#### Dec 29

Randy Edwards

#### Jan 5

Randy Edwards

### Worship Team

John Hughes, Patrick Freeman, Ty Keener, Chris Hicks, Jonathan Collins, Jodi Pardue, Anna Norman, Jacob Greene

### Our Church Officers and Staff

**Session:** Gregory Bay, Don Bechtold, Jim Plybon, Kevin McClain, and Randy Edwards

**Diaconate:** David Collins, Jim Dougherty, Karl Freeman, John Hughes, Doug Jewell (*emeritus*)

*The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9am until 1:00pm.*

Randy Edwards, Pastor/Teacher • ext.11

Lori Dell'Arena, Preschool Director/Children's Ministry /Office Manager • ext.12

www.gracekernersville.org **More Info Online** info@gracekernersville.org

**google groups—**  
**Grace Kernersville**

urgent announcements and prayer requests. Join by emailing the above address.

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**Kernersville**

**CHECK IN OR**  
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**E-Newsletter--**  
**This Week**  
**@GraceKville**  
Sign up on the church website.

**SIGN UP**

**GRACE KERNERSVILLE**  
is a congregation of the  
Presbyterian Church in America.



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# GRACE

## WORSHIP • WITNESS • WALK IN LOVE

### The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

#### The Good Shepherd III

Thieves and Robbers climb over, go around,  
Wreak havoc, rob joy, deal destruction;  
They burden the lambs, with rules weigh them down,  
Shamelessly steal through guile and seduction

The Hireling runs doesn't stay with the sheep  
When danger comes or a wolf steals in;  
The Hand does not defend but grasps to keep,  
Pilfer, and pocket -- just a wolf in sheep's skin.

The Good Shepherd lives the same as his own  
Walks the same way, leads in humility;  
He enters with them, faces danger alone  
Stands fast between threat and hostility.  
So that all may rest, be kept safe, be found,  
The Shepherd calls his sheep then lays his life down.

"This is common knowledge [that the sins outside the church are found inside it too]. We all experience it. That is why a corporate confession of sin is standard practice when Christians gather to worship. The language is blunt with no wiggle room: 'we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep...we have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and there is no health in us...O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders.'"

"Miserable offenders" is subjected to a great deal of creative editing by our contemporaries, but if anything it is an understatement."

Eugene Peterson, *Tell It Slant*

## GOOD MORNING!

**WELCOME!** Thank you for visiting Grace Kernersville. Please let us know how we may be of help by filling out the pew pad as it is passed down your row.

**PRAYER CARDS:** If the church may pray for you, please fill out a prayer card found in the pew pads and place in the basket on the back table.

## PREPARATION AND PRAISE

### PRELUDE

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

### OUR HISTORIC FAITH: HEIDELBERG CATECHISM, LORD'S DAY 51

The *Heidelberg Catechism* is a teaching tool written by two pastors: Zacharias Ursinus and Caspar Olevianus in 1563 and is designed to explain the core of Christian faith over the course of a year. The catechism is divided into three sections: our estate of sin and misery, how one is set free from sin and misery, and how one thanks God for that deliverance. Having set before us the hopelessness of our natural condition, the Person in whom we find deliverance, and the Apostolic teaching of the gospel, the Catechism explains how one lives in gratitude for the salvation Jesus Christ secures by praying.

*Q126. What does the fifth request mean?*

**A. “Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors” means, Because of Christ’s blood, do not hold against us, poor sinners that we are, any of the sins we do or the evil that constantly clings to us. Forgive us just as we are fully determined, as evidence of your grace in us, to forgive our neighbors.**

Ps. 51:1-7; 143:2; Rom. 8:1; 1 John 2:1-2 2; Matt. 6:14-15; 18:21-35

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (Peace Candle)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 95:6, 7a

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.

#### GLORIFYING GOD

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding*

*It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

#### WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Psalm 103:1-5

*Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.*

*Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—*

**who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,  
who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,  
who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.**

#### LIFTING UP OUR HEARTS TO THE LORD

*House of God Forever*

#### WELCOME ONE ANOTHER

*Children up through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade are dismissed to Children’s Church. take a moment to welcome one another in the name of the Lord.*

## RENEWAL

### PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 23

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.
- <sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name’s sake.
- <sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.
- <sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.
- <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
forever.

#### SERMON

Pastor Randy Edwards

The Jesse Tree: The Gentle Shepherd

## RESPONSE

### RESPONDING IN SONG

*King of Love*

#### PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.

#### OFFERING

*At this time we will be taking up an offering for our General Fund. If giving cash, please use the envelopes in the pew pads or note in your check’s memo how we may direct your gift.*

*Thou Who Wast Rich*

#### BENEDICTION

Romans 13:11-12, Revelation 22:20b-2

*The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber,  
because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.  
The night is nearly over; the day is almost here.  
So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.*

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people*

**Amen.**

## NOTES