



December 2022

# Restoration PRESSBYTERIAN

a publication of Restoration Presbyterian Church (PCA)

## Our VISION

To be a church,  
a community and a world  
continually restored  
by the grace of Christ.



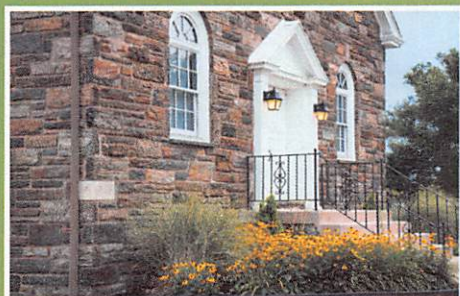
## Our IDENTITY

We are strugglers, sufferers,  
and sinners who share  
in God's restoration  
of all things -  
our life with God, our  
relationships, our community  
and our world -  
through the Gospel.



## Our MISSION

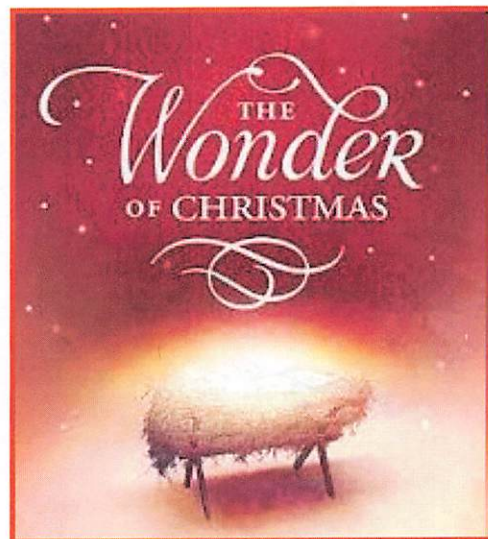
To proclaim the Gospel  
and serve in love  
with the hope that God  
will bring continual  
restoration to our lives,  
relationships, community  
and world for His glory.



## Christmas ... Confounding the Wise!

by Bob Strain

Would you pack a hot-air balloon into a sandwich bag? Would you put the power of a nuclear bomb into a firecracker casing? Would you hold the Olympic Games in your back yard? A hot-air balloon is too big to cram into a small sandwich bag, it would never fit and the bag would be too weak to contain it. A nuclear bomb has too much power to pack into a small firecracker casing, it would blow up everything around it. No matter how big your back yard is, the Olympic Games are too spectacular and brings crowds too big to hold there.



Take a moment to think  
about the wonder of Christ-  
mas!

Though GOD is bigger than  
our minds can comprehend, He packed His omnipresence into the  
confines of human form. Not just that, but into the smallest human  
form – an infant!

Though GOD has more power in the tip of His finger than a nuclear  
bomb, He packed His omnipotence into the weakest, least self-suffi-  
cient and most dependent human form – an infant!

Though GOD knows everything that was, is, and is to come, He  
packed His knowledge into the least knowledgeable, most impressio-  
nable human form – an infant!

If that is not remarkable enough, think of the circumstances of His  
birth. Jesus is King, yet we learn that the King of kings was not born  
in a castle; Jesus was born in a stable.

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It's time to winterize your donations for the blessing box! Please remember that we CANNOT use any items that contain liquid during the winter months. We do not want cans and/or bottles to freeze and explode! Any dry soups, cereals, packaged goods will gladly be accepted. Socks, gloves, hats and scarves for both children and adults would also be wonderful donations during these cold months. Please see the list in the coat room for other donation suggestions.

*If God should have no more mercy on us than we have charity to another, what would become of us? T. Fuller*



## Sunday School Reminders!

There will be **NO** Sunday School on either **December 25** or **January 1**. All classes will resume on Sunday, January 8.

The next quarter adult class will be taught by Pastor Steve Wilson, "Resolving Everyday Conflict."

## Christmas ... Confounding the Wise

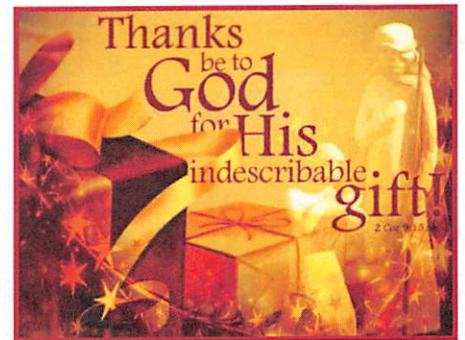
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He was placed in the feeding basket for the animals. Imagine that, the King of kings laying in an animal's feeding bowl.

Moreover, Jesus was born to a teenage, unwed mother. Think about the last time you saw a pregnant teenager. What was the first thing that came to your mind? Did you think that she was carrying a child destined for greatness, or did you shake your head in disapproval? The King chose to come to earth through her.

No one was waiting outside the barn for news of Jesus' birth. King Jesus was already born by the time anyone showed up. There were no news reports detailing when Mary got pregnant, when she went to her doctor's visits, when she went into labour, or even the exact time of the baby's birth. Yet, He was the greatest King to ever live.

Why would God come to earth at all? Why would He become a human being? Why would He start off His life on earth as a child? Why would He be born to a teenager? Why would He be born in a town with no room for Him? Why would He be born in a barn? Why would He be laid in a manger? Why wouldn't His coming be highly publicized? Why wouldn't people wait for His delivery? It makes no human sense. But "Thanks be to God!"



This Christmas don't focus on the gifts for your family, friends, and other loved ones. This Christmas, focus instead on Him who gave you the greatest gift of all. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

## A Ministry Opportunity!

Are you looking for an outlet for ministry? Restoration is reviving its monthly ministry at Naamans Creek Country Manor, a local nursing home, and would love to have you be a part of this ministry! We are called to treat our older brothers and sisters with respect, honor and dignity. What better way to do that than by helping to meet their spiritual needs and encouraging them to keep growing in their walk with God



as part of our God-given responsibility to the world around us. Some of the residents who may attend may not even know God as their Savior and King. What a blessing to minister to them especially! Restoration will be visiting

Naamans Creek Country Manor on the third Sunday afternoon of every month. The service will start at 2:00pm and last for 30 to 60 minutes. The nursing home is located at 1194 Naamans Creek Road in Garnet Valley. No special talent is needed - just a willing, caring heart for others and an ear to listen to the residents! Please see Laura Durkovic for more details if you are available and willing to help.





## Hope Has A Name!

by Angel White

These verses can help us navigate the Scriptures like the wise men, journeying to the rugged birth scene of our Messiah and beyond, in order to refresh our hearts in the Gospel before the new year. These verses remind us of our daily need and hope for Christ. Daily December readings through Christmas will help prepare our hearts for the greatest gift.

### HE IS COMING! (The Old Testament Prophecies)

Day 1 - Isaiah 9:2-7

Day 2 - Isaiah 11:1-5

Day 3 - Isaiah 7:10-14

Day 4 - Micah 5:1-5

Day 5 - 2 Samuel 7:12-16

Day 10 - Luke 2:1-7

Day 11 - Luke 2:8-12

Day 12 - Luke 2:13-20

Day 13 - Matthew 1:1-17

Day 20 - Matthew 2:7-10

Day 21 - Matthew 2:11-12

Day 22 - Matthew 2:13-14, 19-23

Day 23 - John 1:14

Day 24 - John 18:36-37

Day 25 - John 3:16

### HE IS HERE! (The Birth Story in the Gospels)

Day 6 - Luke 1:26-33

Day 7 - Luke 1:34-38

Day 8 - Luke 1:46-55

Day 9 - Matthew 1:18-25

### HE WILL GIVE! (The Gift of Our Salvation in the New Testament)

Day 14 - Romans 6:20-23

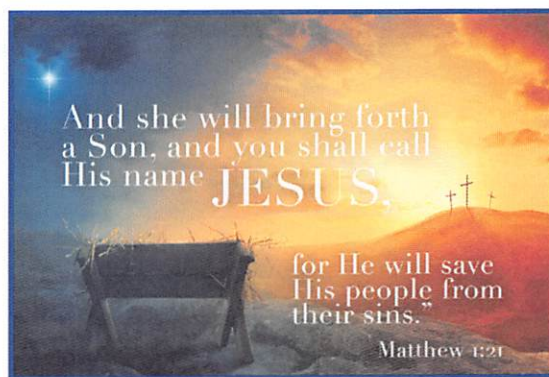
Day 15 - Galatians 4:1-7

Day 16 - 1 Timothy 1:15-17

Day 17 - Titus 3:3-7

Day 18 - Philippians 2:6-8

Day 19 - Matthew 2:3-6



Following the Worship service on Sunday, December 18th there will be a Christmas Lunch - sandwiches and sides will be provided. Please sign up on the rear table for **attendance and cookie desserts only**. Please bring enough cookies for dessert and for folks to take a few cookies home. You do not have to bake cookies to attend! Please see Cindy White for any further details.

After the lunch we will be travelling to Naamans Creek Country Manor for Christmas caroling!

*Please join us for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - an evening filled with Scripture readings centered on God's gift of Hope and Christmas carols!*

*Saturday, December 24, 7:00pm.*





# Church Calendar!

(LS: live-streamed)

**Every Sunday:** Sunday School, 9:15am for children & adults  
Worship Service, 10:15am, LS

## DECEMBER

- 4 ... Missions Team meeting, 7:15pm
- 5 ... Session budget meeting, 7:00pm
- 7 ... Coffee Break Brunch, 10:00am, church
- 7 ... Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm, church
- 10 ... Men's Breakfast, 9:00-10:45am, church
- 13 ... Women's Bible Study, 6:30pm, zoom, Gloria Snyder
- 14 ... Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm, zoom
- 18 ... Communion, during Morning Worship
- 18 ... Fellowship Lunch, following Morning Worship
- 18 ... Christmas Caroling at Naamans Creek Manor, 2:00pm
- 21 ... Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm, church
- 24 ... Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:00pm**
- 25 ... CHRISTMAS - NO Sunday School**
- 25 ... Worship Service, 10:15am**
- 28 ... Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm, zoom

## JANUARY

- 1 ... NEW YEAR'S DAY - NO Sunday School
- 1 ... Worship Service, 10:15am



# Community Calendar!

## December 12, 2022

The next **Wilmington Women's Connection** will take place Monday, December 12, 2022 (Noon to 2:00pm) at Iron Hill Brewery (620 Justison St. Wilmington, DE 19801) on the Riverfront near the Blue Rocks Stadium. Our special feature is Jen Warwick of JWAR Creations with a demo of dried and fresh flower arrangements. Our inspirational speaker is Julie Henning of Souderton, the adopted Amerasian daughter of Pearl S. Buck, who will speak of her adoption in South Korea and her coming to faith in the United States. If you'd like a reservation or more information see Beth McCarrick.



## RESTORATION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

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