

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE
October 27, 2019 ~ 11:00 AM

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting Connie Bruner, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude Marilyn Neal, Organist

Lighting of the Candles

Introit # 658 *"Awesome God"*

***Our God is an awesome God,
he reigns from heaven above
With wisdom, power and love –
Our God is an awesome God!***

(Repeat)

Call to Worship (*Psalm 65*)

Leader: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
and to you shall vows be performed,

People: O you who answer prayer!

To you all flesh shall come.

Leader: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.

**People: Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.**

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness
of your house, your holy temple.**

Leader: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation.

**People: O God of our salvation,
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.**

*Hymn # 71 *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*

*Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from
sin. We celebrate our achievements and look down on our
neighbors. We boast about our virtues and deny the worth of**

*"For all those who
exalt themselves
will be humbled,
and those who
humble themselves
will be exalted."*



LUKE 18:14, NIV

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

*"a community of believers, called by God, led by the Holy Spirit
to know Christ and to make Christ known"*

Rev. Timothy R. Monroe

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Pastor Emeritus - Rev. Dr. Roger D. Petersen

others. Forgive us, God of grace. Be merciful to us, for we are indeed sinners in great need of redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- *Assurance of Forgiveness
- *Gloria Patri
- *Sharing of the Peace
- *Time with the Younger Saints

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 (pg. 213 of NT)
Anthem "It's Beginning to Rain"
Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director
Gospel Lesson Luke 18:9-14 (pg. 81 of NT)
Sermon Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

- *Affirmation of Faith (Westminster Confession of Faith)
Although hypocrites, and other unregenerate men, may vainly deceive themselves with false hopes and carnal presumptions: of being in the favor of God and estate of salvation; which hope of theirs shall perish: yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before him, may in this life be certainly assured that they are in a state of grace, and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God: which hope shall never make them ashamed.
- *Hymn # 354 "Just As I Am"
Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer (*debt...and debtors...*)
Choral Amen
Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word
Offertory
*Doxology
*Prayer of Dedication
- *Hymn # 479 "Near the Cross"
- *Benediction
- *Choral Response
- *Postlude

(*All who are able, please stand.)

PLEASE JOIN us in the ritual of friendship by signing the attendance pads that are at one end of each of the pews. If you are here for the first time, we would appreciate it if you would give us your local telephone number. Please help yourself to a church brochure, a *Welcome Packet* or a copy of our newsletter, *Uplift*. These are available at the back of the church. We thank you for joining your voice to ours in sacred worship.

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning's service are Liturgist, Connie Bruner; Ushers, Ed & Becky Bence, Jean Heberling and Steve Moran; Projector, John Clark Bruner; Audio, Elizabeth Bruner; Organist, Marilyn Neal; and Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our son, Todd Warnick by Joe and Elaine Jellison.

GRANNIES will meet Monday, October 28th from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall. All are invited to join us. There are tasks for all skill levels.

BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesday, October 30th at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The Old Testament book of Daniel is our focus. All are welcome.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, October 30th at 6:00 p.m. We are in need of two ringers to complete our choir. If you are interested in ringing, please see Vicky Westley.

CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL will be held Wednesday, October 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. New and familiar voices are always welcomed! Please see Cindy Borbonus for more information.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA rehearsals will be held Wednesdays from 7:45-8:15 p.m. Anyone wishing to participate in the special music is invited to attend rehearsals. The cantata will be presented Sunday, December 22nd at 11:00 a.m.

SOME YEARS AGO, the Session and members of the congregation spent a day “in retreat” – looking at the present state of the church and planning for the future. The Session has determined it’s time to do that again and has scheduled two evenings in November (13th and 14th at 6:00 p.m.) to assess what we’ve done since that retreat and what we should do. Rev. Kathy Nice will facilitate the work sessions – to help lead us in how we should carry out our mission and vision. It’s important that we have not just members of the Session involved, but other members of the church. Please consider attending one or both of these sessions; contact Rev. Monroe or Bonni Dunlap for more information or to let us know you’ll be coming.

THE 5th ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE is underway. We are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats. Please mark your donation clearly for “Coats” and place it in the offering plate. If you know of a family with children who may need winter coats, please contact Janet Smith or the church office.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday, October 31st from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group gathers to work on personal projects and to fellowship. All are welcome.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS will be held Sundays, November 10th and November 17th at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor. If you are interested in becoming a member, please see Pastor Monroe.

THE DEACONS will assemble Thanksgiving Baskets for families in the community. Each box contains everything a family needs to cook a Thanksgiving dinner. We ask that you consider donating food items or giving a monetary contribution. Boxes will soon be available at the back of the church for the collection of food donations. If any member of the congregation is aware of a family who may need a Thanksgiving basket, please contact Pastor Monroe or Marilyn Neal.

THE CHRISTIAN ED COMMITTEE will meet Tuesday, October 29th at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, we collect items for the Pathway Homeless Shelter in Black Lick based on their specific needs at that time. Throughout the month of October, we will be collecting: bath towels, wash cloths, paper towels and tissues. They can be placed in the designated container in the vestibule. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to the “Board of Deacons.” If you have any questions, please contact Steve Moran.

THE BLAIRSVILLE COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND will perform their Annual Veteran’s Day Concert Monday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Blairsville Senior High School auditorium. All are welcome.

A BIT OF OUR HISTORY, the anniversary of the merger between Calvin Church and First Church in Blairsville was yesterday, October 26th. The United Presbyterian Church of Blairsville was born out of the merger in 1969. Rev. Walter Weinhold at the First Church and Rev. Edward J. Thompson at the Calvin Church served for a period of time until resignation. Pulpit supplies were provided by the Presbytery until installation of Rev. Roger Petersen in 1974.

REGULAR WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday	9:00-12:00 p.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts in Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Monday Music Club meet in the sanctuary
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	5:30 p.m.	Daisy Troop Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	7:45-8:15 p.m.	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
Saturday	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Daisy Troop meets in Fellowship Hall
Sunday	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School Classes
	10:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	11:00 a.m.	Worship- <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>

MISSION MOMENT - The theology of barn-raising

I am captivated by abandoned barns. The weathered facades speak to me of harsh winter storms and scorching summer heat. Inside, the posts and beams that have been notched, pegged and dovetailed together by calloused hands tell a story of when animals filled the stalls, hay reached high into the rafters and grain overflowed in bins. The dank smell of earthen floors and the mustiness of aging wood whisper of a time when people cared about the abundance and/or the scarcity within one's barn — for by caring about one's barn, you were caring about one's livelihood, one's happiness and one's heart. You were caring for community. When I see an abandoned barn, I often think of Amish barn-raising I heard about while serving a church in Maryland, which was only a hop, skip and a jump away from Lancaster, PA. Men would come with their tools, eager to help a neighbor. Women would set the tables with a never-ending supply of food. There's a group of Amish now making a home in upstate New York, some 30 minutes north of me. While stopping one day to buy some freshly baked bread, I asked an Amish mother about these legendary barn-raising feasts. She went into her house to get a piece of well-worn, yellowed paper. It was her great-grandmother's food list required for a barn-raising. My eyes grew wide envisioning the 115 lemon pies, 500 fat cakes (doughnuts), 3 gallons of applesauce, 50 pounds of roast beef and so much more that was on that list. And here I thought Presbyterians were the experts at hosting dinners. As a pastor, I haven't experienced anything closely resembling a barn-raising feast, which is a shame, because we are missing out on more than just ham loaf and snickerdoodles. We're missing out on a chance to not only build community, but to also repair it. Because the reality is this: There are storms in all of our lives that do their best to weather the clapboards of our hearts. We need one another to help repair the splintered pieces. We need to come together to not just break bread, but to listen, learn, carry the burdens and restore what is broken. I came across an article once where the author wrote, "We don't need barns full of stuff; we need people to hear our story in its rawest form and who still see us as a beautiful soul no matter how much ugly we've experienced or felt or even been. We need people to support us when standing alone isn't possible." We all have weathered clapboards holding our fragile lives together. That's why we need more barn-raising in the church. We're called to love one another and to be builders and restorers of this love. We're called into community. There's work to do. The table is set and the shoo-fly pie is on it. Who's going to share a piece with me?

Donna Frischknecht Jackson, Editor, Presbyterians Today