



LIVING HOPE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

From the Pastor...

January 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to 2024. Another year, another chance to start again. New year, new you! Quite honestly, I find New Years to be a non-event. It's just another day. The one number in the date that changes the slowest has been advanced another number. Not a big deal. Even so, it does remind us of the world that we live in changes.

When we listen to science, we hear that we also change and at an astonishing rate. Our bodies replace almost all of our cells every 100 days or so, so you could say you get a new "you" three times a year. Looking at the pictures of a grandnephew who is about to turn one, the changes over the last twelve months are astonishing. Noticing the gray hairs multiplying on my head also reminds me that time is marching along. Everything grows and changes; if it doesn't it is dead.

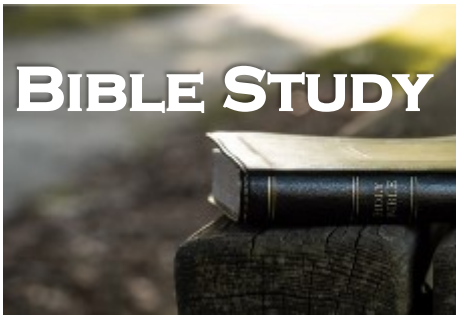
Even when we are in our retirement years, we have the opportunity to grow and change. We can take up new hobbies that we never had the time for previously. We can learn new skills that help others out, volunteering with organizations that do good in our community. We can take classes for the pure fun of it, rather than to advance our careers. Change is always an option for us.

In fact, God even changes. In one episode with Moses, God is angry with the people of Israel and ready to wipe them out and start over. Moses, however, reminds God of the promises that God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob about how their descendants would inhabit the promised land and be numerous. In the face of this conversation, God changes God's mind and relents. God goes in a different direction.

If we remember Genesis 1, we remember that we are made in the image of God. If God can change, then we can too. In fact, we should plan on growing and changing. Becoming more like the people God wants us to be. No matter our age or stage of life, we should see ourselves changing, growing, developing even when the world might say that we shouldn't bother with the effort.

Even though it is just another number, the New Year is a chance to reflect on change and how we are invited to do so with God ever present. Happy 2024.

In Christ, *Will*



Monday Bible Study

Mondays at 9:45 AM

Join us for a discussion about the coming Sunday's lectionary readings either in-person in Fellowship Hall or watch on Channel 966.

Jan 8	1 Corinthians 6:12-20; 1 Samuel 3:1-20	for Jan 14
Jan 15	1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20	for Jan 21
Jan 22	1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28	for Jan 28
Jan 29	1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39	for Feb 4

Brookfield Road Building Update

The former building of Brookfield Presbyterian Church, located at 1485 Brookfield Road in Brookfield is slated to be demolished in mid-January 2024. The buyer of the property completed paying our congregation for the land contract in 2017, but has not done anything to maintain the building. The City of Brookfield has declared unfit for occupation and, due to structural issues from the years of neglect, ordered it to be torn down. The contractor is currently in process of preparing the building for demolition and expects to have it completed sometime in January.

Living Hope has no financial interest in the property since the land contract was paid in full. However, members and friends of the congregation who have emotional connections to the building may wish to stop by and see the building before it is torn down. Thankfully, we know that congregations are not their buildings, but rather the people who gather to worship God and join together in mission no matter the physical location. Even so, watching a building that housed so many memories and people worked hard to maintain be torn down can evoke emotions. Know that if you wish to talk about your experience or share memories of that special place, Will is glad to spend some time with you as you do so.

JANUARY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 January Office Closed	2	3	4 9-2:30 Office Hours	5	6
7 10 AM Worship - with communion  Food Pantry Sunday <small>First Sunday of each month</small> 	8 8:30-12:30 Office Hours 9:45 AM Bible Study	9 6:30 PM Finance Meeting	10	11 9-12:30 Office Hours	12	13
14 10 AM Worship 11:15 AM Session	15 8:30-12:30 Office Hours 9:45 AM Bible Study 11 am Worship Meeting	16	17	18 9-12:30 Office Hours	19	20
21 10 AM Worship 11:15 AM New Member and Affiliate Class	22 8:30-12:30 Office Hours 9:45 AM Bible Study	23	24	25 9-12:30 Office Hours	26	27
28 10 AM Worship- Guest Preacher	29	30	31	1 Feb	2	3



We are a connectional church...connected in faith to God – Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Jesus taught us that prayer connects us to the Divine...and to each other.

Each month we list our faith community. Every family has a date when we ask you to hold them in prayer.

January Prayer Calendar



January Birthdays

**The Care and Concern of the
Congregation is with:**

Average December Attendance

In person: 45

Zoom/livestream: 6

Total Average Attendance: 51

2024 Session

Karl Bertram, Michael Brady, Joe Fresch,
Kathryn Fresch, Curtis MacDonald, Mike McBride and
Marcia Sinner

2024 Deacons

Cherie Andrus, Mary Dalton, Diane DeBoer,
Kathy Mathews, Karen Stephan, Ann Tennyson and
Tom Tennyson

Thank you to Dorothy Dieter for serving on session for the past six years. Thank you to Ken DeBoer for serving as a Deacon for the past six years.

Thank you to Steve Sinner for serving as Treasurer in 2023.

FINANCIAL UPDATE - As of November 30, 2023

	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance
Total Income - YTD	\$135,314.22	\$ 100,463.00	\$ 34,851.22
Total Expense - YTD	\$148,061.40	\$ 140,525.00	\$ (7,536.40)
Net Income - YTD November 30, 2023	\$(12,747.18)	\$ (40,062.00)	\$ 27,314.82
Unrestricted Funds as of November 30, 2023	\$318,737.88		

New Member and Affiliate Membership

On Sunday, January 21st we will have an informational time about Living Hope Presbyterian Church and membership in the congregation. We will cover some of the basics of what Presbyterians believe, what it means to be a member here at Living Hope, and how Living Hope ended up here at Dickson Hollow. We will also talk about affiliate membership for folks who want to continue their relationship with their current congregation and while recognizing their connection with Living Hope.

If you have been attending regularly, and have questions about the congregation; if you feel like this is a church home for you, but haven't made the relationship official; if you simply are curious about this congregation that is embedded in a senior living center: consider joining us on January 21st after worship for a conversation about Living Hope and membership.



LIVING HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.LivingHopePCUSA.org



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Administrative Assistant: Lisa Quinn

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Office: (262) 599-8341

Office Hours: Mon and Th 8:30-12:30 (remote email rest of the week)

Clerk of Session: Kathryn Fresch

Treasurer: Steve Sinner

Church Musician: Teresa Ledford

2024 Session Members: Karl Bertram, Michael Brady Joe Fresch, Kathryn Fresch, Curtis MacDonald, Mike McBride and Marcia Sinner

2023 Deacons: (A-B) Tom Tennyson (C-F) Ann Tennyson (G-K) Diane DeBoer – Moderator
(L-O) Cherie Andrus (P-R) Karen Stephan (S-Z) Mary Dalton and Kathy Mathews