


**HOPE.  
PEACE.  
JOY.  
LOVE.**

 The  
Presbyterian  
Church in  
Morristown  
**TOWER TIDINGS**

ADVENT 2024

# ADVENT AT PCM

Reverend Daniel Vigilante, Pastor



## DEAR PCM FAMILY,

In our Advent worship this year, we're planning to focus on the Light that comes to us at Christmastime. Jesus is that Light - and each week during Advent we'll turn our attention to what that light helps us to see: Hope, Peace, Joy, Love.

Like the opening words to the Gospel of John, "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it."

I can't help but think of one of my favorite writers, Ann Weems, who was known as the "Presbyterian poet laureate." She passed away a number of years ago, but I have several of her books on my shelf. In one of them, she shares a poem called *Toward the Light*:

*Too often our answer to the darkness  
is not running toward Bethlehem  
but running away.  
We ought to know by now that we can't see  
where we're going in the dark.  
Running away is rampant...  
separation is stylish:  
separation from mates, from friends, from self.  
Run and tranquilize,  
don't talk about it,  
avoid.  
Run away and join the army of those  
who have already run away.  
When are we going to learn that Christmas Peace  
comes only when we turn and face the darkness?  
Only then will we be able to see  
the Light of the World.*

Friends, if you're seeking more light in your life right now, then PCM might be the right place to seek it. I hope you'll join us each Sunday during this season. And maybe even consider inviting someone you know to join us on the Advent journey.

In Christ's love,  
Daniel

COMING IN  
JANUARY:

WORSHIP *plus two*

Learn more on January 5!

# CELEBRATING ADVENT

DEC 1

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: HOPE

### ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES

**8:00 am Chapel | 10:00 am Sanctuary**

The season of Advent begins. Join us as we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ.

DEC 8

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE

### VIVALDI'S GLORIA

**10:00 am | The Sanctuary**

Embrace the holiday season with the PCM Chancel Choir and an orchestra for a worship service of Christmas joy!

*Note: There will be no 8:00 am worship service on December 8.*

DEC 15

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: JOY

### CAROLS AND COCOA:

### OUTDOOR COMMUNITY SINGALONG

**4:00 pm | Parish House**

Get ready to ring in the holiday season at our annual "Carols and Cocoa" outdoor singalong.

DEC 22

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: LOVE

### LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

**5:00 pm | The Chapel**

A contemplative and reflective gathering that takes place on the winter solstice, designed to provide solace and support for those who find this a difficult time of the year.

DEC 24

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE | 4:00 PM

**4:00 pm | The Sanctuary**

Family-friendly service featuring our annual Christmas Pageant and children's choirs. All children are welcome to participate!

## CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE | 8:00 PM

**8:00 pm | The Sanctuary**

A beautiful candlelight service featuring the Chancel Choir, Ringers on the Green (ROGs), and Chancel Ringers!

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: HOPE

Rev. Audrey Webber | Luke 21:25-36

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What does hope look like when everything around us seems to be crashing down? As many psychologists have written about, we often confuse hope with optimism. We sometimes think of hope as looking on the bright side of things, thinking we will only have the best outcomes in all experiences. In reality, hope is much deeper and more meaningful than a “looking at the world through rose-colored glasses” mentality.

Hope looks a lot more like justice - a change in how we view the world. Hope is a mentality, not necessarily something we feel. Hope can look like community and finding a place in it. Hope looks like our Grief Support Group - making connections with each other on our journeys of grief. As we always say in this group, our journeys all look different, and no two grief journeys look the same. Still, we can hold each other up and offer even in the midst of complete disorientation as found in our Scripture passage - this cosmic movement - that we still know that Jesus’ “words will never pass away.” God is still there with us. We can hold onto God, hold onto each other, and rely on our community when life gets hard. I often say at the end of prayers when I am praying with so many of you: May you, God, be the last thing on our minds as we go to bed tonight, and the first thing when we wake up in the morning.” It is in this that we can find our hope. We are never deserted. We are always found.

This Advent, may we at PCM embody the hope of Christ’s coming, finding strength in hope, our care for each other, and leaning into the fact that God is still there today, tomorrow, and always.

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE

Jacob Montgomery | Luke 3:1-6

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During Advent, a season of preparation, it is so easy to become completely overwhelmed by just that – preparations! The hustle and bustle of buying gifts, decorating a tree, hanging lights, and preparing for guests on top of our busy schedules can be overwhelming; however, I'd like to invite you to take a moment to meditate on the theme of the second week of Advent, peace. How can we possibly feel at peace in the midst of the chaos?

As a musician, I often listen and reflect on two hymns. Hymn #124, "Still, Still, Still," a simple Austrian carol, describes the peace of the newborn baby Jesus as his mother sings him to sleep. Just as Mary and the Angels watched over Jesus at his birth, so does God watch over us every day; however, in order to hear him, we have to take a moment and listen!

Hymn #347, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" is a lesser-known Advent carol, one of the earliest Christian hymns still in use (~275AD). While often construed as a song for Lent, given its dark and modal tune, the text reminds us, again, that to find peace, we must listen – "Let all mortal flesh keep silence... ponder nothing earthly minded, for, with blessing in His hand, Christ our God to earth descendeth."

While for many people Advent is a build up to the excitement of Christmas, I invite you ponder Advent's original meaning – yes, a time of preparation, but also of wonder, prophecy, and the mystery of faith. How are you practicing "peace" and preparing for the Lord's coming? A long time ago, a mentor said to me, "there are 96 15-minute periods in a day." I invite you to take just one of those periods (1.04%) to listen, to find this sense of peace. Even if through His grace you may have already been given this peace, perhaps you can find a way to share it with someone who needs it!

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: JOY

Alexandra Mead | Luke 3:7-18

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Joy and Love go hand in hand here at PCM.

We feel joy because we know God's love for us. In Romans 15:13 we are told, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Wow! What an amazing blessing Paul gives us. The Advent season sparks Joy in the hearts of our children as they anticipate the coming of Christmas. Hearing the story of Jesus' birth, the lights, decorations, Christmas crafts, and joyous songs from our choir help to build the anticipation. Our children feel joy making secret gifts for their parents in Sunday school and midweek and as they practice the songs they will sing on Christmas Eve. The children look forward to dressing up as sheep and angels and shepherds for our Christmas pageant.

When asked where I have witnessed a sense of joy at PCM, my answer is truly, everywhere we gather with our children and youth. This church is a second home to so many of our children. They are comfortable in our buildings, they run, they sing, they greet each other with smiles and hugs. They come back to visit after they have graduated. They have learned through our Bible stories that God loves them beyond measure and understanding, that Jesus walks with them through this life.

The story of Advent tells us that when Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth, they both felt great joy. That wonderful feeling of love and joy is the Holy Spirit. When God is present with us through the Holy Spirit, we are filled with Joy. Mary and Elizabeth show us that when we are with people we love, God is there too!

May this season of Advent remind you to pause and thank God for His love and the joy in your life.

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: LOVE

Amanda Tufts | Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

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I see love.

A child runs down the aisle and leaps into the arms of a pastor.

A man sits in the Library and gives his full attention to his friend who needs it.

A thunder of footsteps in Sheffield Hall.

A visit runs long because there is too much good stuff to catch up on.

A home-cooked meal straight from the heart.

A new visitor walks through the Sanctuary doors.

A hug that lasts extra long.

A “How are you? No, really... how *are* you?”

A boisterous laugh from the conference room.

A deep breath before a hard conversation.

A goosebump-inspiring note trickling down from the Chancel.

A moment of impromptu recognition on the sidewalk.

A hand that places food into another.

A hand that places itself into another.

I see love at PCM.

# CHRISTMAS DAY

Rev. Daniel Vigilante

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There's a chance you're reading this on Christmas Day. If so, Merry Christmas to you, dear friend.

I have to admit, however, that I'm writing this message over a week before Thanksgiving. After all, we have a deadline to meet in order to get Tower Tidings into your hands by the first Sunday in Advent!

But even though we're still days away from Thanksgiving, and even though I usually resist the temptation to do so until much later, last night I put up our Christmas tree. I had a few moments of spare time and I figured I could use a little Christmas spirit right now. It's amazing how bringing out the tree, stringing it with some lights, and setting some ornaments on its branches can do wonders for your outlook on things.

Soon enough there will be presents under that tree - and maybe by the time you read this they'll all be opened. (Hopefully you got everything you wanted)! Then all too soon we'll put it away again. Such is the way things go at this time of year. You set up the tree a week or two early only to have the days fly by until it's over and things go back to the way they were.

Scripture tells us that at the birth of Jesus, an angel declared to some shepherds, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." In the gospels, Luke writes, "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors.'"

Which makes me wonder... Is Christmas more than the tree, the presents, the lights, the fleeting moments when (maybe) your outlook temporarily improves? Where is the true joy; the everlasting peace; the angels proclaiming God's glory?

I've heard that in some cultures, people don't place their gifts under a tree, but around a nativity scene. The idea is that what we're looking for isn't actually a brief improvement in our attitude - but the total transformation of our hearts into people who embody the hope, peace, joy, and love of Jesus. So if those are the things you're looking for, the way they are for me, may they be born in us today.



# THE LONGEST NIGHT

Reverend Audrey Webber, Associate Pastor



## FRIENDS,

During this season of Advent, there is undoubtedly much to rejoice about: we are gifted with wonderful family and friends, we have fun and joyful programs we can participate in, and most of us are blessed with homes and delicious food to eat. Other times, each of us has moments where we are feeling more weary than joyful. We are called to name these feelings, especially when we are going through a difficult season of life, perhaps due to the loss of a loved one or job, lack of direction, difficult family relationships, mental illness, or finding yourself at a loss about what to do to help a hurting world.

**That is what our Longest Night service is all about.**

**On December 22 at 5:00 pm, we will have our Longest Night service in the Chapel.** The Longest Night service is a contemplative and reflective gathering that takes place around the winter solstice - quite literally the longest night of the year. It is designed to provide solace and support for those who find this a difficult time of the year.

While the holidays are often associated with joy, celebration, and togetherness, many of us experience a sense of loss, grief, or loneliness during this time. The Longest Night service honors these feelings, creating a space to acknowledge this season in our lives. During the service, everyone will be invited to engage in reflection and prayer as we sit together with our weariness. As we name and validate those emotions for ourselves, we invite you to find community with like-minded people.

The Longest Night service is inclusive and open to everyone. It serves as a reminder that, even in the midst of holiday festivities, there is a space for acknowledging and honoring the diversity of our feelings this season.

If you or someone you know may benefit from this service, please consider attending or inviting others to our Longest Night service. **All are welcome as we navigate this season together, and stay after for a warm, home-cooked meal shared around the table together.**

Wishing you peace and comfort during this season of Advent.

Blessings,  
**Audrey**



# THE SPIRIT OF ADVENT

Jacob Montgomery, Director of Music Ministries

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## DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you to all who participated, supported, and attended David Baskeyfield's special improvised accompaniment of the 1925 film, *The Phantom of the Opera*. We welcomed almost 200 audience members into our beautiful sanctuary, of which half were not members! It was such a joy to invite our neighbors inside this sacred space.

With the season of Advent upon us, I hope you can join us for a myriad of special musical events in celebration of the birth of Jesus. On **Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 pm** and **Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 pm**, we will host the **Harmonium Choral Society** in our sanctuary for their concert entitled, "**Snow Angel**." This concert, featuring choir, orchestra, piano, and organ, is designed for us to "experience rebirth and beauty through the eyes of children, under the watchful gaze of angels." The concerts are structured around Sarah Quartel's evocative "Snow Angel," for chorus, cello, and djembe. Additionally, this concert will serve as the East Coast premier of Joe Gregorio's "Unbound Angels," as well as gems by Bruckner, Buxtehude, Hailstork, and Rossi. Tickets are available for purchase online.

On the very same weekend, **December 8**, we will also be featuring **Antonio Vivaldi's "Gloria in D major"** during our **Sunday morning worship service**! Vivaldi's composition serves as a set of liturgical movements, designed to replace many of the common prayers and liturgies of the worship service. The Chancel Choir has been hard at work preparing, and we will be joined by a 14-piece orchestra in the Chancel. We hope you will join us for this special music, as we sing the Advent text, "Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace to all!"

On **Saturday, December 21 at 7:30 pm**, **Imperial Brass** will present "**A Christmas Festival**," a concert featuring Imperial Brass alongside Sola Voce, a choral group from the New Jersey Youth Chorus. Performing now for over 30 years, Imperial Brass presents entertaining programs including traditional brass band literature, classical arrangements, popular music, and more. Tickets are available for purchase online.

Finally, I would invite you to join us on **Christmas Eve for our 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm** offerings. The 4:00 pm service will feature children of the church in a special presentation, designed for families with young children. The 8:00 pm will be supported by our Ringers on the Green handbell choir, the Chancel Ringers, the Chancel Choir, and string orchestra.

What a month we have ahead of us! As always, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful welcome you have extended to me, as your new Director of Music Ministries. I hope you can join us for this season of preparation for the coming of our Lord.

With humble thanks,  
Jacob

# A TIME OF WONDER AND JOY

Alexandra Mead, Director, Children, Youth, and Families



We have sheep, donkeys, cows, shepherds, and angels gathering. The ornaments are being made, the songs are being learned, the wreaths and trees are being decorated. Are those jingle bells I hear?

We are heading into the season of Advent. A time of joyful anticipation. Ask our children what they love most about this season, and you will hear answers like, "making cookies with Grandma," "Putting our favorite ornaments on the tree," "Listening to Christmas music in the car on the way to school," and of course, "Making a list for Santa." Our job here at the church is to remind the children of the reason we celebrate Christmas. Remind them of the incredible love that God has for us that he blessed us with his son, Jesus, who arrived on a dark night in Bethlehem as a little baby. The miracle of his birth, the faith of Mary and Joseph, the joy felt by all who heard the news.

We will be hearing the stories in Sunday school and at Midweek. We will be working on crafts and surprises for parents. I hope that you will be able to experience the season as the children do, with wonder, eager anticipation, and JOY!



## FAMILY CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND DINNER | DEC 11 | 6:00 PM

Join us Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00 pm for our December All Church Dinner at the Parish House and enjoy a fun craft for the children while the PCM family spends time together before the holidays. We hope you can be a part of this very special evening!

Register: [pcmorristoryn.org/dinner](https://pcmorristoryn.org/dinner)



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE | DEC 24 | 4:00 PM

We invite all children, grandchildren, cousins, friends, and neighbors to join in the celebration on Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm! Arrive by 3:45 pm to put on a costume and be part of our nativity scene. We have wise men, shepherds, sheep, donkeys, angels, cows, and of course Mary and Joseph. We have costumes for all ages and sizes - the more the merrier! No rehearsal necessary, no lines to memorize - just the joy of celebrating Jesus!



## CONFIRMATION CLASS BEGINS JANUARY 12

Confirmation Class for our current 8th graders begins on January 12, 2025.

Register: [pcmorristoryn.org/confirmation](https://pcmorristoryn.org/confirmation)



# THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD

Jeanne Mueller, Director, Presbyterian Church Nursery School

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love – the sentiments of Advent.

It is important that we remember this is a season to help children understand these seasonal virtues that guide our youngest ones with light as we prepare for the coming of Christmas Day.

**HOPE** gives us the courage to look toward the future with expectation, trusting that God's promises will be fulfilled. It is easy to see the hope in young children's eyes. Sometimes they can help the adults around them to hope during the difficult times we are living in.

**PEACE** grounds us in the belief that God is present, working in our lives, even in times of waiting and uncertainty. Children can learn this through Bible stories and beautiful Christmas songs.

**JOY** is another natural feeling that children easily exhibit during this special time of year. They can learn the joy of Christmas through pageants, songs, stories and Christmas services.

**LOVE** is the foundation of all that we do, inspiring acts of kindness and compassion- we practice this every day at school by teaching that our friends and teachers in our classrooms are all a family throughout the school year and we show kindness and love to all.

During Advent, hope, peace, joy, and love take on special meanings that can help children understand the season as they prepare for Christmas. Enjoy the season with them. Advent is a time to practice these virtues, helping children understand that the season is not just about presents, but about preparing our hearts for the greatest gift of all—Jesus.

The Presbyterian Church Nursery School and staff wishes the school and church families a joyous and peaceful holiday.

## Jeanne Mueller and PCNS Staff



# YOUTH GROUP FUN!

Abby Semple and Kevin Johnson, Youth Group Coordinators



Our PCM Youth Group has been busy these past few weeks!

We've worked with the outreach committee to assemble Disaster Relief buckets for those affected by the recent hurricanes and put together breakfast bags for Nourish NJ. We're looking forwards to this season of Thanksgiving and continuing to give back to our community.

We've had tons of wonderful visitors so far this year, including our new Music Director Jacob Montgomery, who has encouraged our youth to play the handbells. And Pastor Audrey who joined us for an Art & Faith project.

If you want to bring a little bit of youth group home with you, you can try the practice we do with each other: Go around your table and ask for a rose, thorn, and a bud. A rose is something great from your week, a thorn is something not so good, and a bud is something you are looking forward to.



# OPERATION LOVE: BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO NEIGHBORS IN NEED!

Marnie Kaller, PCM Outreach Committee

For 40 years, the Presbyterian Church in Morristown and the Church of God in Christ in Morristown have partnered in this Christmas-time effort to bring “comfort and joy” to those in our community who need both.

Please join in the wonderful, fulfilling outreach effort, Operation Love, to help Morris County families and senior citizens celebrate Christmas with food and gifts. To make sure recipients get exactly what they need, we will be giving ShopRite, Walmart, and Five Below gift cards. We need donations of gift cards, and volunteers to pack and deliver the cards in gift bags.

How to participate in Operation Love:



## DONATE

- Beginning on Sunday, November 24 to Sunday, December 8, purchase \$10, \$15, or \$25 ShopRite, Walmart, and/or Five Below gift cards and drop them at the Parish House office Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm or bring to Sunday service.
- Give online by visiting [pcmorrystown.org/operation-love](http://pcmorrystown.org/operation-love)
- Mail or drop off a check: Presbyterian Church in Morristown, 65 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960 and note “Operation Love” on the memo line



## VOLUNTEER

- **Wrap Gifts** - Join other volunteers at the Church of God in Christ to wrap gift boxes Thursday and Friday, December 12 and 13, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
- **Deliver Gift Bags** - Help deliver gift bags on Saturday, December 14, from 8:45 am - 12:00 pm. Meet at the Church of God in Christ.
- **Sign up** to volunteer at [pcmorrystown.org/operation-love](http://pcmorrystown.org/operation-love)

# SHARE THE GIFT OF LOVE: JOIN THE MCCF CHRISTMAS GIFT BAG PROGRAM

Julie Hess, PCM Outreach Committee Chair

As we enter this season of gratitude and giving, our church community has a wonderful opportunity to spread Christ's love through the Morris County Correctional Facility (MCCF) Christmas Gift Bag Program. Beginning Thanksgiving weekend, we invite everyone to help by donating essential items that will bring comfort and joy to those who are often overlooked.

Thanksgiving is a time for reflection and appreciation, and it's the perfect moment to think about those in our community who may be in need of support. By participating in this program, we can share the blessings we have received and ensure that the spirit of the season reaches even the most vulnerable.



## DONATE

- Drop off donation items to the marked bins at the Parish House or the Church on the Green by December 8.
- We ask that you donate only the following approved items, which have been cleared for security:
  - Men's white crew neck t-shirts in L, XL, 2XL (no v-neck or pocket)
  - Women's bras, no wire
  - Men's and women's white briefs and white crew socks
  - Toothpaste, shampoo (medium to large sizes – not giant!), lotion (no pumps), deodorant, and individual bars of soap



## VOLUNTEER

- **Gift Bag Assembly** - Join us on Monday, December 9, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at Calvary Baptist Church in Morristown to assemble gift bags.
- **Sign up** to volunteer at [pcmorristown.org/mccf](https://pcmorristown.org/mccf)

Let's come together to share the light of Christ this Christmas season. Your contributions can make a meaningful difference in the lives of the inmates, reminding them that they are beloved children of God.

*'I was in prison, and you visited and comforted me.'* - Matthew 25:36

# NO ROOM AT THE INN: PCM ADDRESSES HOUSING NEEDS

Janet Foster, PCM Outreach Committee

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As we head into Advent and the story of Jesus' birth, we recall that in Luke 2:7, the Bible states that Mary and Joseph placed their newborn, Jesus, in a manger in a stable because there was no room for them at the inn. A young couple - he a carpenter, she a new mother - can't find shelter. It is a touching image, and one that resonates even today.

In Morris County alone, nearly 475 people experienced homelessness in 2023, the most recently published count. Government agencies estimate that this number is only one quarter to one half of the true total. In wealthy Morris County, we have "only" 5% of the total of unhoused people in New Jersey. For them, "no room at the inn" is a constant reality. The Morristown Housing Authority, which is our local agency charged with providing housing for those with lower incomes, is filled to capacity and so sends homeless families to live in nearby motels. Ironically, there is some room at the inn, but none in regular housing. Living in a "shelter rate motel" can be sad, scary and dangerous, but because of the scarcity of decent housing, stays at these motels are getting longer for displaced families.

Prices for housing continue to soar, and new construction that would be affordable to a carpenter and a stay-at-home mother is vanishingly rare. The Outreach Committee of PCM has made housing one of their priorities of concern, along with addressing Food Insecurity and Child Development.

Homeless Solutions, Inc., founded at the Presbyterian Church in Morristown 41 years ago, is one of our partners in trying to help the unhoused. Homeless Solutions (HSI) has a motto: "A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out" and this informs their work. They run the largest shelter in Morris County serving on average 80 individuals/families in addition to a winter warming center in their facility on Hanover Avenue in Morris Plains, where they can house people overnight and provide a healthy dinner. But the real work is to help homeless people gain the life skills they need to be able to hold down a job, find their own housing, and care for their families in a way that will help make sure they do not return to homelessness.

This is difficult work, involving mental counselling and physical healthcare, providing supervised Transitional Housing for those undergoing the rigorous 18-month program leading to housing in the larger community, and building and maintaining high-quality housing intended for low-income recipients. Our church's gifts to HSI are a small part of the now-large organization's overall budget, but our connections run deep.



# NO ROOM AT THE INN: CONTINUED

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Church members are always welcome to sign up for a tour of the facility, or to volunteer to cook a meal there, or provide a birthday party for a child staying at the Shelter or in Transitional Housing. Please read much more about Homeless Solutions on their website: [homelessolutions.org](http://homelessolutions.org).

The other partner in addressing homeless in our area is Family Promise of Morris County, one of 200+ nationwide affiliates of Family Promise, Inc, founded in New Jersey in 1986. Their work is about “transforming the lives of families and individuals... through all stages of life to prevent or end homelessness and housing insecurity.” Since its beginnings, Family Promise of Morris County has expanded from a single Shelter program to offering many different programs. Encompassing the areas of Shelter, Rapid Rehousing & Diversion, Housing, and Outreach, their programs have transformed to best support both families and individuals.

The Outreach Committee of PCM particularly supports the Family Promise program called “Our Promise Drop-In & Resource Center” (OP). It is located right in Morristown at the Baptist Church on Washington Street (across from the Courthouse). The Drop-in Center serves the needs of the chronically and transient homeless, veterans, those exiting from jails and hospitals, youth, LGBTQ+, and those who are precariously housed. The following services are provided: phone and computer access, mailing address, restrooms, warming / cooling center, information and referral, linkage to medical, mental health and dental services, case management, systems advocacy and more. It is so important for people scrambling to “get on their feet” to have access to these things so they can begin to find a job, or contact family and friends, and even to have health screening and immunizations. For more information, please see their website: [familypromisemorris.org](http://familypromisemorris.org).

Both partners help fulfill the directions Jesus gave in Matthew 25:35:

*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in...*

There is no single solution to homelessness, but it is important that the church recognize its responsibility to help those who are affected. If there is someday room at the inn for all, it will only be because all of us helped to make it so.

# CELEBRATING TOGETHER

You are invited to attend any (or all!) of our PCM events. Register at [pcmorrictown.org/events](https://pcmorrictown.org/events).



## CHRISTMAS AND CRECHES BRUNCH | DECEMBER 8 | 11:30 AM

Come enjoy a delicious brunch, warm fellowship, and the spirit of the season as we gather to reflect on the blessings of Christmas. Our very own Gail Hein will be showing and telling about her creches (nativities). Whether you're a long-time member or new to our church family, this is a wonderful opportunity to connect and celebrate together. RSVP at [pcmorrictown.org/pw-brunch](https://pcmorrictown.org/pw-brunch)



## ALL-CHURCH DINNER | DECEMBER 11 | 6:00 PM

Let's celebrate the joy of the season together. Join us for our final All Church Dinner of the year - a special holiday meal together with cookie decorating and an angel craft for the kids! Register at [pcmorrictown.org/dinner](https://pcmorrictown.org/dinner) if you plan on coming - all are welcome and we can't wait to see you!



## CAROLS AND COCOA: OUTDOOR COMMUNITY SINGALONG

DECEMBER 15 | 4:00 PM

Get ready to ring in the holiday season at our annual "Carols and Cocoa" singalong. It's the most wonderful time of the year, and we're bringing the joy of the holidays right to South Street! Gather 'round the bonfire and sing your heart out to your favorite Christmas carols and holiday tunes. Whether you're a professional singer or just love to hum along, our sing-along is open to everyone!



## STARWORDS IS COMING! | JANUARY 5 | 10:00 AM

On Epiphany Sunday, everyone will be invited to take a star during worship. On each of the stars is a word that will lead you through 2025. You are then invited to carry that word with you and take notice when it comes up in conversation, in your reading, and in all that you do throughout the year. Keep your star nearby - put it on your desk, in your wallet, or your refrigerator so you can be reminded to have it be your guide as you trust God to hold you this coming year.

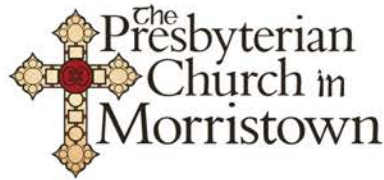
# CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCES

Every year, from mid-December to New Year's Day, we decorate the Chancel with poinsettias purchased from memorial donations designated for loved ones, made by the PCM family. If you wish to make a donation for memorial poinsettias, please fill out the form found in the Narthex or Parish House office and remit payment no later than **December 16**. Suggested donation to cover the cost of each poinsettia is \$25, though all donations are welcome and appreciated.

The form is also available online at [pcmorristown.org/christmas-remembrances](http://pcmorristown.org/christmas-remembrances), so if you are part of our online congregation (or just prefer to do things digitally!), you can also take part. We would love to have you share in this Christmas tradition.

If you would like to pay by check, please mail to:  
 Presbyterian Church in Morristown  
 65 South Street  
 Morristown, NJ 07960  
 Make checks payable to: Presbyterian Church in Morristown  
 Memo: Christmas Remembrances 2024





# LET'S STAY CONNECTED

*Please contact the office to update your contact information.*

Reverend Daniel Vigilante | Pastor | [dvigilante@pcmorristoryn.org](mailto:dvigilante@pcmorristoryn.org)  
Reverend Audrey Webber | Associate Pastor | [awebber@pcmorristoryn.org](mailto:awebber@pcmorristoryn.org)  
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Sigris Lorena Girón Sorto | Weeknight Custodian - Cory VillNeuve | Weekend Custodian  
Kevin Graf | Organist - Carly Tufts | Childcare Coordinator  
Jeanne Mueller | Director of Presbyterian Church Nursery School | [jmueller@pcmorristoryn.org](mailto:jmueller@pcmorristoryn.org)

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**We worship weekly in-person at 8:00 am (Chapel) or 10:00 am (Sanctuary)**  
Our weekly 10:00 am service is livestreamed and available at: [pcmorristoryn.org](http://pcmorristoryn.org)

The **Parish House** is located at 65 South Street  
The **Sanctuary, Chapel, and Howard House** are located at 57 E. Park Place

Please feel free to contact our offices at the Parish House at **973-538-1776**

FIND US ONLINE @PCMORRISTORYN



**DO JUSTICE. LOVE KINDNESS. WALK HUMBLLY WITH GOD.**