



— Advent 2021 —
First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Community and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

We are in the holiday season again. This year is different from last year by far, but we are still not back to normal.

However, I always love this time of year regardless. I love the baked goods, the parties, the singing of carols, the exchange of presents, and the joy of Christmas.

We do recall last year at this time and how drastically different it was from normal. Many folks didn't see family members in person, many people who did see them visited together outside, many events and celebrations were cancelled.

It was ironic for Joyce and me as we had just returned from being on the East coast to be near family again. Yet, we couldn't be with our family and loved ones.

I don't know about you, but I know our family and friends are doing more of what we

missed doing last year. We are getting together. We are celebrating together.

What about you? What are you doing this year to share in the wonderment and astonishment of the season?

We know the birth story of our savior. We know the arrival of God with us which took place some 2,000 years ago. We know the fulfillment of prophecy and the coming to fruition of what was promised in Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his
shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

I trust that your joy at Christmas is not dependent on the activities of the holidays. I trust last year was still a time of rejoicing in the love, grace, and mercy of God.

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CON'T FROM THE PASTOR

Still, I know that this year will be more special in the reengagement of some of what we missed last year.

Yet, in all of this whether we return to much of what we missed, or whether we repeat some of what occurred, one thing remains the same. God was born unto us. For we are reminded once more that:

“ All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). Matthew 1:22-23

This is the one we rejoice in. This is the one we adore and worship. This is the one who came that we might have life and that we might have it in abundance.

So, let us be filled with eternal joy in our hearts. Let us rejoice and praise God for sending us the one and only beloved Son Jesus Christ. Let us be filled with the power, hope, and love of the Spirit now and always. Amen

Pastor Dave

FROM THE DEACONS

The Deacons have been involved with some of the usual holiday activities at church, but in a little different way. We bought and delivered 250 boxes of stuffing to the Food Bank, 125 each for Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets. We are collecting donations of children's pants and shoes to help McDermoth Elementary School meet needs of students whose families are struggling. They have a good supply of coats and backpacks, but need girls' and boys' pants (sizes 4-5 and 6-8) and shoes (sizes 13, 1, 2, and 3). If you would like to help, there will be a basket in the back of the sanctuary on Sundays. Or you could drop donations off at church during the week on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. Or to have your donation picked up, contact Aries at church or Laurie (360.532.7004). We plan to deliver the donations when school starts again after Winter break (formerly known as Christmas vacation). Thank you for supporting the Deacons and Merry Christmas!

GREETINGS FROM STEWARDSHIP!

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During this period of transition, the Stewardship Commission has been hard at work managing your gifts. Thank you for your ongoing financial support that makes it possible to continue Christ's ministry here on the Harbor.

This year we have assisted the session with forecasting our financial ability to call a new full-time pastor, and we feel that we are on stable financial footing to do that. We are also planning on how to make additional funds available for recruitment and for moving expenses for a new pastor.

With online worship our online giving has increased. Our online giving account was once idle with just a little money over many years. Now, however, each month there are gifts that come in through our website and the linked pay-pal account. This is a convenient way for those who may be separated physically to make a gift. Visit our website for more information at www.aberdeenpres.org.

If you are having difficulty remembering to make a gift, we would like to invite you to consider setting up giving through your bank's online banking feature. You can set this up to make gifts routinely, or with a few clicks on demand. Please query your bank on how to set this up or contact the office if you have any questions.

We are planning the budget for 2022, and pledge forms went out in mid-November. Please make a pledge to help us accurately forecast our church's financial situation for 2022 and return the form to the church office as soon as possible. We cannot emphasize enough how important this is; in the absence of a pledge, we are forced to guess about giving which causes uncertainty in our financial planning. We would like to have this information by mid-December to make it possible to finalize the 2022 budget.

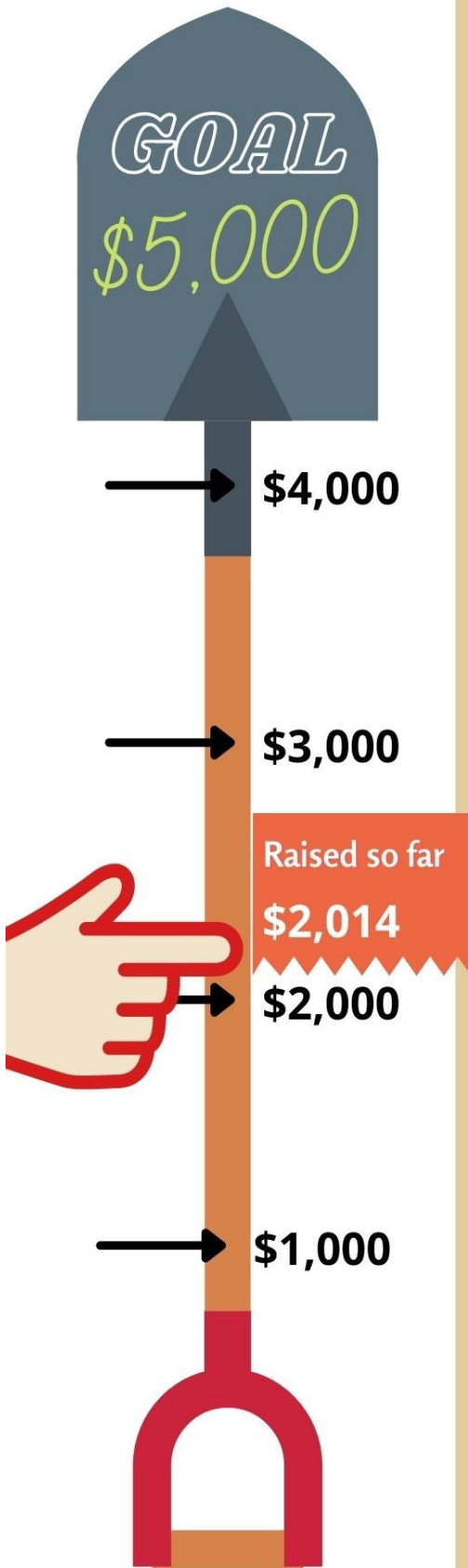
Finally, we would like to make a plea for additional gifts in 2021. We are currently suffering an approximate \$25,000 budget deficit. Decreased pandemic attendance, increased insurance premiums, the loss of Raindrop Preschool revenue, and other factors have all contributed to our current situation. If you have the ability to make an additional gift prior to the end of the year it would be greatly appreciated.

We feel very blessed, and we would like to thank you for your fellowship and continued support of Aberdeen First Presbyterian Church.

In Christ,

Stewardship Commission

Small Gifts. Big Impact.



Community Farm Bundle

Please join the Aberdeen First Presbyterian Church Middle School Youth Group to bring hope to communities around the world. This community farm bundle includes enough livestock, tools and training to support a larger farm that can serve an entire community.



Middle School Youth Group Mission Project



4 Easy Steps to Donate

1. Pick an envelope with the donation amount you would like to contribute
2. Take an ornament & Keep the thank you note
3. Place your donation inside the envelope
4. Return your donation to the church office

Please make check payable to Aberdeen First Presbyterian Church.
Memo: MSYG Mission Project

All Proceeds benefit the Presbyterian Global Mission to sponsor a Community Farm Bundle.





MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

BAKE SALE & AUCTION

SUN, DEC 5, 2021

First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

All proceeds will benefit the Presbyterian Global Mission to
sponsor a Community Farm Bundle

www.aberdeenpres.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Greening of the Church

Sat, Dec 4, 2021 at 9:30 am

Middle School Youth Group

Baking Party with Jeannie McNeal

Sat, Dec 4, 2021 at 1 pm

Middle School Youth Group Bake Sale & Auction

Sun, Dec 5, 2021 at 11:00 am

Christmas Caroling

Sun, Dec 5, 12, & 19 2021 at 9:45 am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Fri, Dec 24, 2021 at 10 pm

First Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen

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