



VILLAGE CHAPEL  
PRESBYTERIAN

## "THE VILLAGER" – JANUARY 23, 2025

### COUNTDOWN TO OUR 75TH!

This past Sunday we kicked off our march toward our celebration of our 75th anniversary with Denny Dodson as our guest preacher! Denny is the son of two charter members and the first person baptized by the new church! In the coming weeks we will have other guest preachers who will share stories of how Village molded their lives!

As part of this effort we are trying to share those stories in creative ways – Rita Sockman has worked hard on putting together scrapbooks of pictures, Sandy Bowles is writing a revised and expanded history, and we hope to have a series of stories from the children of charter members!

What are your stories? What do they say about the impact of a community organized to love God and share that love with our neighbors?

### ELDER RETREAT SUMMARY

The Session met January 10-11 for a retreat, though the snow meant we could not meet at Chamberlain Elementary! On Friday we elected Tara Markham as president of the corporation; re-elected Rose Ann Walker as clerk, Greg and Terri Rader as co-treasurers, and Leslie Bremar as asst. treasurer. We also approved communion dates for 2025, heard a report on the continuing progress toward moving Common Grounds into the house next door, and were briefed by Kathy Kruk on the changes coming to Presbytery – a new staffing model, new committee structure, and a focus on relationships, providing resources, and leadership development.

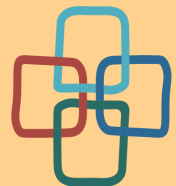
On Saturday we heard a final report from the Thriving Congregations group and their work to develop a ministry with senior adults and partner with Chamberlain Elementary. We also drafted people to serve on ministry teams; evaluated 2024 and our ministry in the community; and dreamed a little about what we might do in 2025. We also passed a budget for 2025 that includes a 3% raise for staff in response to inflation.

There will be a **meeting of the congregation on January 26** to present the budget, vote on changes to the terms of Todd's call, and share MT reports.

### WORSHIP NOTES

Join us in person or virtually for worship during January and February . . .

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Jan. 26 | Luke 4:14-21                           |
| Feb. 2  | Guest Preacher Nelle Howard; communion |
| Feb. 9  | Luke 5:1-11                            |
| Feb. 16 | Guest Preacher Dan Bowles              |
| Feb. 23 | Guest Preacher Kari Preslar            |



**Helping one of our own:** In the last newsletter we shared plans to help Jeanne MacDonald clear our some unwanted items from her home at 3902 Virginia Ave. The snow has forced us to postpone that work until the week of February 17th. If you can help, please contact the church office!

### COMMON GROUNDS MOVE!

While the snow has slowed things down, Common Grounds is still planning to move into the house next door!

Here's the plan:

- 2/20 last day at current location
- 2/21-3/3 move in
- 3/4 first day at new location!

There are desks and files and food to move (O my!) There will also be some cleaning and organizing. Can you help? Contact Sheila Danzer or Betsy White.

### SOLAR REPORT

From July through December, our solar panels produced almost 5.4 MWh of electricity, the equivalent of planting 64 trees!

While there have been many days in January when the panels were covered with snow, we've still produced 237 kWh of power, enough to charge 20,500 phones!

On the 15th we submitted the paperwork for \$31,659 in grants under the Inflation Reduction Act.

Presbytery of West Virginia's

**Festival of Faith**

**Journeying with Our Creator**

Saturday, March 22, 2025

First Presbyterian Church, Charleston

9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

**Keynote: "Journey to Serve:**

**The State of the Church from our C.A.R. Window"**  
(Communication, Alignment with God's Will, Relationships)

**CECE ARMSTRONG AND TONY LARSON**

Co-Moderators of the 226<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the PC(U.S.A.)

**Complete workshop and registration information can be found at**  
[www.wvpresbytery.org](http://www.wvpresbytery.org).

## GIVING TUESDAY UPDATE

In December we participated in Giving Tuesday. We are please to announce that we collected 75 jars of peanut butter for Common Grounds and raised \$150 for Manna Meal!

## SAVE THE DATE!

Let's celebrate Julian Sockman's 102 birthday!

On Sunday, March 2nd the worship service will include a performance by a Scottish drum and fife band from Parkersburg, WV and following worship there will be a reception in the Jule Sockman Fellowship Hall. Jule's 102 birthday is on March 3rd.



**American  
Red Cross  
Blood  
Drive**

**Wed. February 26th**

**Save a Life, Give Blood**

## VALENTINES DAY CARDS NEEDED

Think back to how you felt in school on Valentine's Day. Exchanging cards, candy treats, and Conversation Hearts all made you smile! You have the opportunity to bring a smile to a child's face by donating Valentine cards that we will give to Chamberlain Elementary School for students who may need some to pass out.



You can find boxes of cards at the Dollar Tree, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, and other places. If you aren't able to get the cards yourself, you may give a donation to Kathy Kruk or Sarah Gottlieb and we will buy the cards for you. The cards can be placed in the Valentine Box display in the narthex on Jan. 26, Feb. 2 and 9. Thank you in advance for helping to make Valentine's Day memorable for every student at CES.

*Thank you to all in the congregation who made such a generous Christmas bonus possible. It is a privilege to serve as the organist and music director in our church and I so appreciate the support I feel from all of you. Sharon*

## SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

The **Souper Bowl of Caring** was founded by a Presbyterian youth group and has been helping feed the hungry for over 30 years! While the movement has expanded beyond the faith community, it continues to be fueled by people coming together to worship and make a difference in their community. People like you!



Nationwide, nearly \$200 million has been donated to local food charities! At our church, we will receive the offering on **February 9th!** We don't know yet who will be in the Super Bowl, but you can give cans or cash to support whichever is your favorite team! All we collect will go to Common Grounds to help feed our hungry neighbors.

**Please give generously!**

## THANK YOU!

The Worship Committee would like to thank those members of the congregation who so willingly provided us with wonderful devotions for Advent. It was much appreciated and enriched our celebration of Advent!

## MEN'S DINNER

Attention all Village Chapel men of the church!

The next "men of the church" dinner will be

Wednesday, January 29th at Applebee's Restaurant in Kanawha City.

Contact Bob Pogue at 304-312-5391 or Roger Sockman at 239-810-4372 to RSVP.



## 2024 GIVING STATEMENTS

2024 Giving Statements will be e-mailed out by the end of the week. If you would like to request a copy mailed to you, please contact Leslie in the church office at 304-925-7265 or [Leslie@vcpresby.org](mailto:Leslie@vcpresby.org).

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS



The worship committee have made a decision approved by the session to move away from providing fresh flowers for the worship service every week. This decision was not made lightly, and we have over the past year encouraged members to provide flowers in honor or memory to defray the costs. However, our costs have continued to increase. Our plan is to provide silk flower arrangements appropriate for each season and only have fresh flowers when a church member or family wishes to provide flowers for a specific purpose. You may contact Leslie Bremar to arrange for a donation of fresh flowers.

YOU'RE INVITED TO A

# Bridal Shower & Brunch

HONORING BRIDE-TO-BE

ELLEN ANN  
SOCKMAN

GIVEN BY:

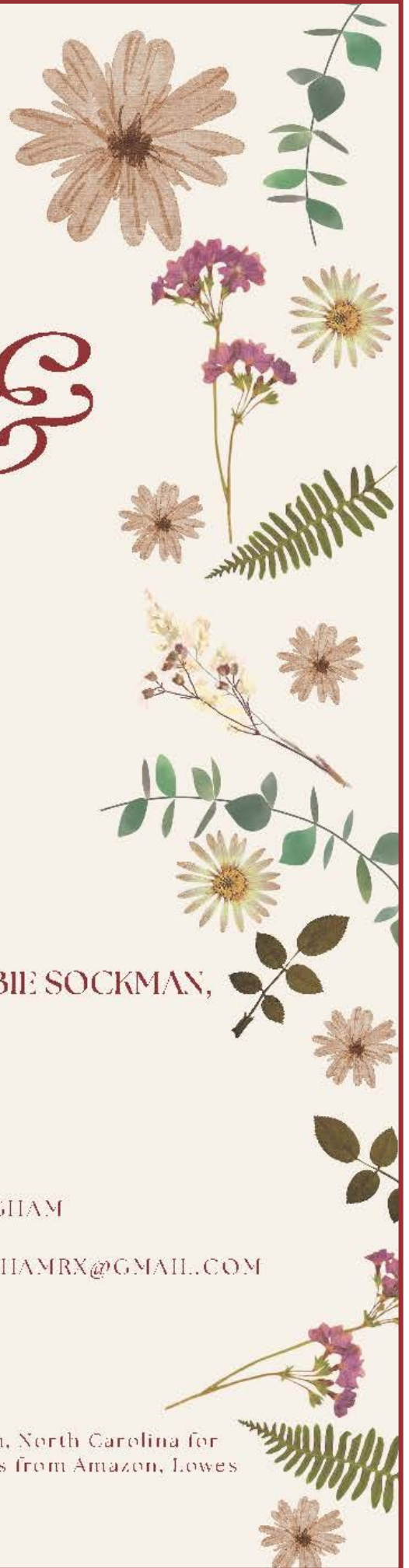
BARBARA TABARETTI, KATHY KRUK, DEBBIE SOCKMAN,  
& VICKI CUNNINGHAM

ON SATURDAY,  
8 FEBRUARY 2025  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

RSVP:  
VICKI CUNNINGHAM  
304 444 9030  
VICKICUNNINGHAMRX@GMAIL.COM

1 KORI RD  
CHARLESTON, WV 25304

Since Ellen Ann will be travelling from Winston Salem, North Carolina for the shower and have limited space in her car, gift cards from Amazon, Lowes or Target are welcome!



PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS ON THESE DATES:

FEBRUARY

- 
- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Rona Smith        | 16 Nathan Stickler   |
| 2 Jacob Smith       | 17 Samuel Stickler   |
| 3 Payne Smith       | 18 Joey Stonestreet  |
| 4 Barbara Smith     | 19 Brendan Stump     |
| 5 Jim Smith         | 20 Nimal Suhir       |
| 6 Maddy Smith       | 21 Barbara Tabaretti |
| 7 Bailey Messer     | 22 Joan Thomson      |
| 8 Ellen Ann Sockman | 23 Nancy Trotter     |
| 9 Jule Sockman      | 24 Keri Velasco      |
| 10 Rita Sockman     | 25 Rodrigo Velasco   |
| 11 Roger Sockman    | 26 Gavin Jones       |
| 12 Rick Staton      | 27 Callie Jones      |
| 13 Charlie Stebbins | 28 Luca Velasco      |
| 14 Sarah Stebbins   |                      |
| 15 Alethia Stickler |                      |

PRAYER CHAIN

An important part of our caring for each other is the **Prayer Chain**.

Please let **Betsy White** ([betsywhite06@yahoo.com](mailto:betsywhite06@yahoo.com)) know of any prayer concerns you may have.

You may also contact Leslie Bremar in the church office (**304-925-7265** or [leslie@vcpresby.org](mailto:leslie@vcpresby.org)). Leslie will direct your prayer request to Betsy.

If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the office.

**TOILET PAPER DONATIONS NEEDED!**

As part of Village Chapel's Ministry to Common Grounds, we donate toilet paper for those less fortunate. The Presbyterian Women have set the second Sunday of every month the official donation Sunday for toilet paper. You can just bring your donation with you to Church and place it in the specified area at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

NURTURING FAITH IDEAS

I have a plant on my desk that came with clear instructions on how to nurture it – optimum sunlight, water, and



temperature. Wouldn't it be nice to have similar information to help us nurture our own faith ... or that of our children or grandchildren? Well, the Presbytery of WV is providing weekly ideas for nurturing faith.

**January 26: Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Paul described the church as the body of Christ, each one of us an important part of Christ's body. What is your role in the body of Christ? How do you live out your role?

**February 2: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

Read Jeremiah 1:4-10

God chose Jeremiah to be God's messenger, to speak God's word. Though Jeremiah insisted that he was too young and didn't know how, God promised to go with him and give him the words to speak. What has God called you to say about God to others? What excuses keep you from speaking with others about God?

**February 9: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Read Luke 5:1-11

When Jesus called his first disciples, they were washing their nets after a long night of fishing when they caught nothing. Jesus invited them to follow him, and they did so, leaving everything behind them. We, too, have been called to follow Jesus. What did you, might you, have to leave behind to follow?

**February 16: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

Read Luke 6:17-19

Crowds of people came to hear Jesus, hoping that he would heal them, and Jesus did so. How has Jesus healed you? How might you help share Jesus' healing ministry this week?

**February 23: Seventh Sunday after Epiphany**

Read Luke 6:27-38

Do you have any "enemies"? How do you treat them? Jesus taught those who would listen to him to love their enemies and do good to those that hate them. Imagine what it would be like in our schools, workplaces, homes, communities, nation, and world if we did so. Reach out to an "enemy" with love this week.

STATISTICAL REPORT	1/19/25	1/12/25	1/5/25	12/29/24
In-Person Attendance	30	Virtual Only	42	24
Non-Pledged	\$75	\$200	\$40	\$13,520
Pledged Contribution	\$2,862.54	\$2,015	\$5,045	\$1,005
Miscellaneous Income	\$30	\$100	\$82	\$92.76
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$2,967.54</b>	<b>\$2,315</b>	<b>\$5,127</b>	<b>\$14,617.7</b>



# FEBRUARY 2025

Sun

Mon




Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>February Birthdays:</b> 3 - Todd Zubick; 5 - Josie Lawson; 11 - Tonja Parsons; 13 - Steve Murray; 15 - Hallie Barry; 17 - Alan Johnston, Melissa France; Samantha Rorrer; 20 - Jane Harich, John Walker; 23 - Rita Sockman; 25 - Emily Wright; 28 - Kyle Blank, Sharon Curnutte</p>						
<p><b>2</b> 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship Service 12:15 PM - Choir Practice 3 PM - PWV Session Record Review</p>	<p><b>3</b> 10 AM - Bridge</p>	<p><b>4</b> 10:30 AM - Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>5</b> 7 PM - Worship Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>6</b> 10 AM - PW Coord.</p>	<p><b>7</b> 7 PM - NA Meeting</p>	<p><b>8</b> 10 AM - Ellen Ann Sockman Bridal Shower</p>
<p><b>9</b> 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship 12 PM - Fellowship Time</p>	<p><b>10</b> 10 AM - Bridge</p>	<p><b>11</b> 10:30 AM - Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>12</b> 7:30 AM - Rotary Club 7 PM - Stewardship Team Meeting</p>	<p><b>13</b> 10 AM - PW Circle</p>	<p><b>14</b> 7 PM - NA Meeting</p>	<p><b>15</b> </p>
<p><b>16</b> 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship 12:15 PM - Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>17</b> 10 AM - Bridge</p>	<p><b>18</b> </p>	<p><b>19</b> 7: PM - Session</p>	<p><b>20</b> Presbytery Meeting - Virtual 12 PM - PW Luncheon</p>	<p><b>21</b> 7 PM - NA Meeting</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>
<p><b>23</b> 9:45 AM - Sunday School 11 AM - Worship 12 PM - Fellowship Time</p>	<p><b>24</b> 10 AM - Bridge</p>	<p><b>25</b> 10:30 AM - Staff Meeting</p>	<p><b>26</b>  7:30 AM - Rotary Club 1 PM - Blood Drive</p>	<p><b>27</b> <b>NEWSLETTER</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 7 PM - NA Meeting</p>	