



GOOD NEWS FROM YOUR CHURCH

The Newsletter of The Presbyterian Church at Woodbury

January 3, 2018
Volume 55, Issue 1

FROM THE PASTOR...

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 7, 2018

9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

12-3 PM

Club J Bowling

SUNDAY

January 14, 2018

9:30 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Eugene Peterson notes that when we read scripture, *"we find that we are not being led to see God in our stories but to see our stories in God's. God is the larger context and plot."*

This year, I'm using the Narrative Lectionary, put together in 2010 by the good folks at Luther Seminary in Philadelphia. I've been preaching regularly for nearly two decades now, which means I've been through the *Revised Common Lectionary* about six times. I haven't always stuck to the assigned texts; I've taken a break here and there to do a series on a theme or a particular book. But primarily, I've let the *Revised Common Lectionary* carry me through the liturgical year.

Lectionary preaching is a good discipline. Left to my own devices, I'd probably preach on the same two or three stories every week—and never force myself to wrestle with some of those tough texts. I also like the fact that we are hearing the same passage that the Episcopalians around the corner or the Methodists, a couple doors down, are hearing. It's a good reminder that we're all in this together, that our roots are in the same story.

But I was not looking forward to diving back into the *Revised Common Lectionary* texts as we began a new calendar year. Nor was I eager to go off on my own and do something thematic. I always learn a lot when I do those extra-curricular series. But it's a lot of work. We've got a lot going on at church this season, and the thought of creating a sermon series from scratch was a bit overwhelming.

Enter the Narrative Lectionary, which has been a breath of fresh air for me during 2018. I am excited to begin with the Gospel of John.

ANNUAL REPORTS: To all who are responsible for submitting an Annual Report to the Church Office, the deadline is **Sunday, January 7**

EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY: All are invited by the Oehler Family and Troop 295 to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Walter Oehler on Saturday, January 6, 2018 at 1:00 PM at the Presbyterian Church at Woodbury. Light refreshments will follow the ceremony.



KEEP WARM DURING WORSHIP: If you find you are a little chilly during worship service on Sundays, the Women's Association has provided quilts and afghans at the back of the sanctuary to keep you warm. Take one and put it back in the basket after the service.



January 7	Jesus Says Come and See Baptism of Our Lord	John 1:35-51 Behold the Lamb of God, Call of disciples, "Come and see." (Psalm 66:1-5)
January 14	Wedding at Cana Second Sunday after Epiphany	John 2:1-11 Wedding at Cana, water into wine. (Psalm 104:14-16)
January 21	Jesus Cleanses the Temple Third Sunday after Epiphany	John 2:13-25 Jesus cleanses the temple, signifying the destruction and raising of his body. (Psalm 127:1-2)
January 28	Nicodemus Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	John 3:1-21 Jesus and Nicodemus, being born anew, God's love for the world. (Psalm 139:13-18)

Life Together

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS:

NO CHURCH SCHOOL will be held on Sunday, January 7 and 14.

WINTER BLOCK

Encouraging Others

Strengthening the Art of Caring

January 21 – February 11

Build Others Up! As God’s people live out their faith in this world, they need advice, challenge, and encouragement to persevere. Sometimes we need a reminder that we can be “spiritual cheerleaders” for other believers. These studies give models from Scripture for encouraging others and building them up in their faith, showing that as we support others, the blessing of encouragement comes back to us. The Adult Class will be led by Sue Beane and Stacey Oehler.

ADULT CLASS with Dave Platt will be continuing a series entitled, *Praying the Names of Jesus*.

THE 60+ SMALL GROUP Bible Study led by Milt Fredericks will resume on Tuesday, January 9th at 1:00 pm.

COMMUNITY DINNER
 Thursday, January 11
 5:30 P.M.



Join the church and community for a time of delicious food and fellowship!

YOUTH NEWS: Save the dates:

- Club J bowling (grades 4-8): Sunday, January 7th – 12-3 PM.
- Senior High Bowling (grades 9-12): Sunday, January 21st – 12-3 PM.



2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be available in the Chapel after Christmas. Please pick up your box.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING will take place on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 5. Following worship, students will be holding large soup pots to take donations. The idea behind this fundraiser is that as we watch the biggest football game of the year, we tend to stuff our faces with delicious finger food while people in our own town barely have a bowl of soup. All money donated goes to the Greater Woodbury Cooperative Ministries Food Bank, so be sure to bring your change and cash that day!

PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT: The first offering envelope in the box is for the Per Capita offering. This offering of \$37.00 per person (\$74.00 per couple) helps offset the Per Capita Apportionment. If each member donates their share, over \$12,000 would be freed up for church programs and Mission use.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Florence Meyer, Brian Praetzel, Wayne Dahmer, Emma Mustard, Fred Davis, Dorothy VanHorn, Megan Lolly, and Amelia Exley. A reminder to keep our military personnel in your prayers, including Jonathan Gabler, Nathan Wadding, Cameron Wadding, Jarrod Fetty, and Wesley Tatham.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: JANUARY 7 - 13, 2018

Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Children’s Choir
		NO Church School
	12-3 PM	Club J Bowling
Monday:	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	6:30 PM	Task Force Chairperson’s Meeting
	7:00 PM	Task Force Meetings
Tuesday:	1:00 PM	60+ Small Group Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Thursday:	5:30 PM	Community Dinner
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Saturday:	8:30 AM	Handy Helpers

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: JANUARY 14 - 21, 2018

Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Children’s Choir
		NO Church School
Monday:	6:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	7:00 PM	Trustees
	TBO	Youth Group Service Project
Tuesday:	10:00 AM	Women’s Association Workshop
	1:00 PM	60+ Small Group Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts
Wednesday:	8:30 AM	Men’s Breakfast
Thursday:	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts
Sunday:	8:45 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Children’s Choir
	11:00 AM	Church School for all ages
	12-3 PM	Sr. High Bowling
	7:00 PM	Pack Meeting

