



### Pastor's Message

A couple of mornings ago I was out walking Hank and I was talking with God as we went, when I heard/felt/understood God asking me a question. "What is it you want from today?" He asked. "How is it

you hope today 'goes'? What do you hope will happen? What do you want out of this day?" I had a hard time answering, to be honest.

"To be there when it ends? To make it through?" was my first thought, I believe.

"Is that all?" my Lord asked. Then He asked me to want more. To go deeper.

"To not screw anything up?"

He asked me to want more. To go deeper.

"To succeed? To have success doing the things that demand my time?"

Yet still more, still deeper, He asked me to go.

"To enjoy myself? To find enjoyment in doing the things I end up doing?"

Eventually (though it took a while) I arrived at an answer more suitable, I hope; however, this continues to be an ongoing conversation between myself and God.

It occurs to me that at the beginning of a new year the question God posed to me might be a question God is posing to Heritage. "What is it you want from this year? How is it you hope this year 'goes'? What, Heritage, do you hope will happen in 2019? What do you want out of this year?"

It further occurs to me that the prompts which the Lord asked of me might also be promptings for us. "Want more! Go deeper!" Want more. Go deeper. With each other. With our neighbors. With God.

Might that be a mini- vision for us this year? Our 2019 tag line... our yearlong rallying cry to inspire

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and direct and guide our ministries. *Want more. Go deeper. With each other. With our neighbors. With God.* If nothing else, I'm making it the rallying cry of this newsletter article as I present my dreams for Heritage Presbyterian Church for the calendar year 2019.

*Wanting more, going deeper with each other.*

I am dreaming of your ending 2019 more fully known and more deeply loved by, as well as your more fully knowing and more deeply loving, more of your brothers and sisters at Heritage than right now.

I discovered a poem online this week that deeply moved me. The author, Oriah, had gone to a party

in the spring of 1994. It was an ordinary party and she made an effort to be sociable. “I asked and answered the usual questions,” she writes, “What do you do for a living? How do you know the host? Where did you study? Where do you live? And I came home with the familiar hollow feeling of having gone through the motions. So, I sat down and did what I often do to sort out what is going on – I wrote. ... I wrote about the party conversations – what really did not interest me and what I really did want to know about others, about myself. I went to the center of the ache for something more between myself and the world and the prose-poem, *The Invitation*, poured onto the page.”

I asked Charles to find space to include the poem somewhere in this newsletter and it is “The Invitation” on page 8. I hope you will find it and read it. And then consider... what if in 2019 we went deeper with one another *like that*, in that way? How amazing would that be? Don't we all long for just such fellowship?

*Wanting more, going deeper with our neighbors.*

I am dreaming of you ending 2019 more fully knowing and more deeply loving more of our Heritage neighbors – 1.) the high school kids who park in our parking lot (both those with a permit and those without), 2.) the residents of the Carolwood Apartments, and 3.) the 12 or 13 households with whom we share a fence line (I count 3 with a Cliff Ct. address, 7 on Canyon Trail, and 2 or 3 on Tioga Ct.).

What if, at the end of the year, 1 out of every 4 of us could say that in 2019 we'd had a 30 minute conversation with just one such neighbor? What if 1 out of every 4 of us could tell you the name of three such neighbors? What if 1 out of every 4 of us knew more than three names? Or, instead of their name, a part of their story... their dreams and/or fears... their need... their heart's longing...

I am dreaming of our doing something like hosting a block party for our Carolwood and Cliff Ct., Canyon Trail and Tioga Ct. neighbors – and our using such an event as an opportunity to get to know them. I am dreaming of something, *anything* that will allow us to attempt to form friendships – true friendships – with these

neighbors. I am dreaming of Donna Marie Todd's visit in February, and of our using it for just such a purpose.

*Wanting more, going deeper with God.*

I am dreaming of you saying at the end of 2019 that you know God more fully and love Him more deeply than you do right this very second.

I am dreaming of our beginning to use the “Narrative Lectionary” in 2019 and of you, as a result, becoming more familiar with the whole sweep of the biblical story, God's story, about the Creator of the universe guiding one tribe of people from its beginning, through slavery, war, exile, and return and then expanding that nation to include people from every time and place through the surprising work of a Messiah, all to spread God's kingdom throughout the world. I am dreaming not of your seeing more God in your story, but your seeing more of your story in God's story, of wild love expressed and poured out for you in Jesus Christ).

I am dreaming of the men of Heritage digging into the Bible in the same that the women have.

I am dreaming of another life-changing mission trip.

I am dreaming of opportunities to read with you Sunday's preaching text *before* I preach on it, in order to hear it with your ears and to allow that to inform my preaching. And I am dreaming of your being more deeply transformed as a result.

I am dreaming of lots of things. Yet, even still, my sense is that God is saying to me, “Want more. Go deeper.” He is, after all, a pretty great God.

**-Rev. Victor Harris**

## Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2019 immediately after worship.

Our church by-laws call for us to have two Congregational meetings per year. One is held in the fall, for the election of Elders and Deacons, and the other in January. At this upcoming meeting, we will receive reports from the Pastor, Clerk of Session, Treasurer, Board of Deacons, the Session-approved 2019 Budget, and from the various Ministries of the church. The congregation will also take action on reviewing and approving the Terms of Call for our Pastor, and will elect four representatives to serve on the Nominating Committee during the 2019. We will also elect a Corporation President.

We also take time during this meeting to formally recognize and thank our officers, Elders, and Deacons for their service. Elders Darly Doyle and David Wroth are completing their second terms as Elders, and Desiree Reynolds is completing her first term as Deacon. Many thanks to each of them for their dedication and service.



Please plan to attend this important meeting after worship January 27<sup>th</sup>. While there is an effort to keep the meeting brief, it does not diminish the meeting's importance.

-Dan Wennerholm, Clerk of Session

## Still Seeking Clerk of Session

As of this writing, we are still looking for an Elder (on or off Session) to volunteer to serve. Please see Pastor Victor, or current Clerk Dan Wennerholm, for information on what is involved.

Compensation package is on par with other congregations.

-Dan Wennerholm, Clerk of Session

## Presbytery News

The Presbytery of Chicago held an Assembly on Saturday, December 6. Executive Presbyter Sue Krummel presented several initiatives for the coming months, including: formation of a new Mission Committee to identify, encourage, and empower ministry and mission across our region; seeking new volunteers to assist paid staff; addressing and reforming both overt and subtle racism that exists in our work and ministry as a presbytery; and fostering the diversity that we share as a presbytery.

The presbytery also noted the several vacancies that exist on various commissions and teams, including the reconfigured Mission Team. The next Assembly is set for Saturday, February 16, to be held at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in downtown Chicago.

-Dan Wennerholm

## Building and Grounds Updates

We are ever grateful for the work of the High School District, which, as part of their lease agreement, take care of snow and ice removal in the church lot. They also are responsible for pavement repairs, and we will work with them next summer to get the rough spots taken care of.

The B & G team is currently obtaining costs for a number of "maintenance" projects around the church, including patching and painting the large Sunday School room. This work is expected to be done soon. We are also looking at the ceiling drywall "issues" in the sanctuary and some water valve repair/replacement as part of the installation of the dishwasher. As has been mentioned before, our building is now over 30 years old, and will be needing attention to deal with various maintenance projects.

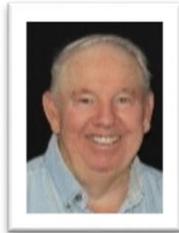
-Dan Wennerholm, Chair

## Year End Financial Matters

Offering envelopes for 2019 are available on a table in the Narthex. Most of you have picked them up; thank you!

Please remember to use the new 2019 offering envelopes starting this Sunday, January 6.

The cashiers post by the account number on the envelope as well as by name, so it is important to use the correct envelope number to assure proper credit to your account.



If you have forgotten your envelope, please feel free to use the blank envelopes in the sanctuary.

The Church Financial Secretary is Candy Mastro. She will be preparing annual statements for your tax records and other purposes. Many thanks to her for years of exceptional service in this key role.

Thanks also go to long-time treasurer Ginny Goldbach. As treasurer, Ginny manages the disbursements for the expenses of the church, and prepares the treasurer's reports to session.

Thanks to our cashiers in 2018! They work in pairs to count and post the offering. They truly appreciate your refraining from interruptions as they work in the church office after conclusion of the worship services.

In 2018, cashiers included: Darly Doyle, Cheryl Elliott, Jim Goldbach, Dave Hamby, Jerry Knapp, Candy Mastro, Nancy Olson, Nick Shargo, Dan Wennerholm, and David Wroth. Thanks to all of you, and apologies to anyone I have overlooked!

If you are interested in being a cashier in 2019, please contact me.

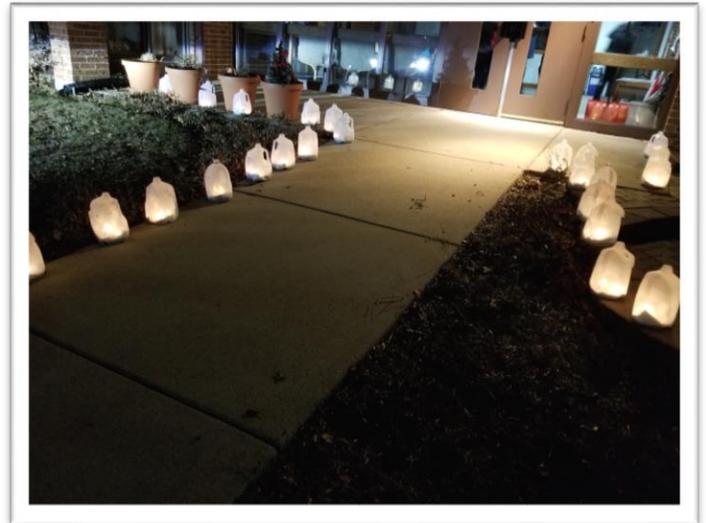
**-Jerry Knapp**

## Christmas Luminaries



Thank you, members of Heritage, for contributing the translucent gallon-sized plastic bottles to use for luminaries lighting the path to the church door on Christmas Eve.

**-Caroline Knoff**



## PADS Volunteer needed



We need a volunteer to work 2:30-5:30 am on 1/23-1/24 and 1/30-1/31 at PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter), held in Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Our church serves the homeless overnight on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month, but once a year, we also do the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday. In January, it's our turn to do that. This person just monitors the homeless while they are supposed to be sleeping and makes coffee for the early risers. You are not by yourself – another person works the same shift. We would like for this volunteer to continue beyond January, if the person is willing, but the immediate need is for overnight on 1/23 and 1/30. If interested, please contact Joan Knapp.

**- Joan Knapp**

## Christmas Potluck Dinner



36 people, including 4 children, attended the annual Christmas potluck dinner at the church on Sunday, 12/9.

I think everyone had a great time filling in the Christmas movie names on their placemats before dinner and playing Christmas Bingo after dinner.

Congratulations to the following people, who won prizes:

Grace Bradley	Cheryl Elliott
Sue Evans	Sue Gager
John Garlisch	Bob Lawrence
Patricia Lind	David Mann
Bev Mason	Lance Mays
Earl Smith	Eva Trepanier
Dan Wennerholm	Carol Zanker

And congratulations to Victor Harris, who won the consolation prize (though not exactly fairly).

Thank you, Pastor Victor, for saying grace before our meal. Many thanks to everyone who brought food.

As usual, it was delicious! I wish I could have tried everything! Speaking for myself, I found the catered food to be good, but nothing special.

Thank you to Joan Knapp, for taking the leftovers to PADS. Thanks to Justin and Jessie Wegrzyn,

Jim and Dawn Giunti, and Jim Goldbach, who set up the tables and chairs in the morning. Thank you to Matt Haugland, John Garlisch and Ginny Goldbach, who did the dishes.

Also, thanks to Sue Gager, who took photos and posted them on Facebook. And I simply cannot say thank you enough to Nancy Olson and Sue Wexler, who worked tirelessly, both setting up before dinner and cleaning up after dinner. I truly could not have done it without you two! To those of you who cleaned up, but I haven't mentioned by name (you know who you are), your help was deeply appreciated.

I ended my term leading fellowship by planning a pizza and movie night that took place on 12/27. Since it was during school break, 8 children were able to attend, along with 8 adults. I think everyone had a good time unscrambling the Christmas words on their placemats and eating pizza.

Thank you, Rev. Michael Mann, for saying the prayer before we ate.

After dinner, we would have enjoyed "The Muppet Christmas Carol" movie more, if I had remembered to turn up the heat in the sanctuary!

Thank you, Leila Trepanier, for coming to the rescue with throws from the Sunday School room. Thanks also to the Mann family for putting away the tables and chairs afterwards.



Overall, I feel that the December fellowship events were a success, in that we were able to come together, share a meal and spend time with each other outside of our regular worship.

In Christ,

**-Daryl Doyle**

## Women's Bible Study Resumes

After a seven-week holiday break, the Women's Bible Study resumes meeting on Tuesday, January 8. We will begin a new study - the Book of Acts. You are invited to attend.

**-Daryl Doyle**

## From the Church Office

The annual meeting is coming up, and that means it is time again to assemble the packets of material provided in advance of the meeting. This process takes a lot of work by the church office, and we appreciate it if you can get the reports in as soon as you can. The requested date was January 2. For those who were able to submit reports by then, Thank You! For those who have not, we absolutely need them as soon as you can. Thanks to all of you.

-Daryl Doyle

## It's A Boy!

Sabrina Poulin, our beloved church musician, gave birth to her third son on November 28. His name is Patrick Harold Poulin. We will be celebrating his birth with cake and gifts at a future Sunday after service. The date is not final at press time.

-Charles Fortney, Personnel Chair

## Prayer Concerns – Long Term Health

Psalm 6:9 “The LORD has heard my supplication; the LORD accepts my prayer”

Please remember the following members of the church in your prayers as they struggle with long term health conditions:

Ruth Shargo	Amy Ackley (Bailey)	Lisa Wroth
Jim Outland	Sue Gager- Garlisch	George Saunders

Please contact Charles Fortney to be added to or removed from this list.

## Directory Updates

Alicia Sremaniak now has a new e-mail:

[sremaniak@gmail.com](mailto:sremaniak@gmail.com)

## Reading God's Word

Cheryl Elliott is encouraging all of us to read the Bible in its entirety in 2019.

To aid you in this endeavor, she has bookmarks to guide you through the Books of the Bible. If interested, please see Cheryl to get your bookmark.

## New Children's Message Leaders

The children of our church have developed relationships with so many of our congregation during our Fellowship Hour time together, Sunday School teaching, nursery duties, and other ways. The Worship Committee would like to try having various people offer the Children's Message on the first Sunday of each month when Pastor Victor is preparing for communion. The message does not have to be tied to the subject of the sermon and you are free to research and develop the message according to your style and comfort level. If you are interested, please contact Sue Garlisch to have your name added to a volunteer list.

## Special Offering Update

Heritage collects four special offerings each year on behalf of the PC(USA). Two of these, the Peace and Global Witness Offering in October and the Pentecost Offering in May, provide for a portion of the amount received to be retained by the sponsoring congregations for local mission work, consistent with the theme of the offering.

For the Pentecost offering, the total received was \$435. Heritage retained 40%, which is \$174, and forwarded it to the Outreach Community Center.

For the Peace and Global Witness offering, the total received was \$690. Heritage retained 25%, which is \$172.50, and forwarded it to the Children in the Son.

On a separate note, Heritage received \$531 in December as part of the Christmas Joy Offering.

These amounts were all paid out in December.

## Alaska Mission Trip Update

Meet **Team Alaska** (Victor Harris, Jan Smith, Caroline Knoff, Nancy Olson, Alicia Sremaniak, Michele Neff, Eleke Bonsi, Erica Bonsi and Michael Bonsi)

We have begun meeting and starting to plan our summer Mission Trip to Big Lake Alaska July 13-20. In just over 6 months, we will be setting out on our adventure to serve others, responding to God's call.

We are blessed to have a team of 9 members for our trip and for the support of others here at home both before and during our travels. I would like to call out Charles Fortney as our "at home" team member.

We will be meeting at 7pm the 2nd Monday of each month beginning January 14 through July 8 at the church.

We welcome anyone who is interested in attending any of our monthly meetings to do so as we plan upcoming fundraisers and learn more about Alaska and how we are being asked to serve.

Fundraising will be key in preparation for our travel. Cost per person is approximately \$1400 which includes program fee/meals/lodging and travel to and from Alaska. There is an additional expense of approximately \$1500 for ground transportation while in Alaska to and from the airport, and in-between our service sites and program site. Our prayer is to raise \$14,100 by the conclusion of our fundraising events which will cover 100% of the costs associated with our trip. We have several fundraising events to assist in obtaining our goal and we ask that you share our events with your friends, family and co-workers. More details will be in future month's newsletters, emails, and weekly church bulletins and announcements.

Below is a breakdown of the expenses for the trip as well as the fundraising events which will be updated monthly to keep everyone up to date on our progress of obtaining our \$14,100 goal.

Expenses: \$ 14,100

\$ 6,300 estimated Cost of airfare

\$ 6,300 Cost of Program (includes \$900 deposit)

\$ 1,500 Ground Transportation in Alaska

Receipts: \$ 1,500

\$ 600 Direct donations

\$ 900 Deposit

\$ 0 Dining Out – dates/locations to be announced soon

\$ 0 Missional Action Committee (MAC) match of dining out \$

\$ 0 Silent Auction – more information coming soon

\$0 Car Wash – date to be announced soon

\$0 Mission Trip Fund Me Page via Facebook – more information coming



Please do not forget to pray for us all through the preparation process.

Thank you for partnering with us on this year's trip. Your support and prayers are deeply appreciated.

- Michele Neff

## Care Cards

You might be like me in that when I listen to the Prayers of the People, I plan to send a card or make a call. Then Monday comes and life seems to claim the good intentions from Sunday. The Worship Committee has attempted to provide an easy path for reaching out to our members, friends, visitors. In the pockets on the back of the sanctuary chairs are white index cards called 'Care Cards'. When the Holy Spirit is speaking to you to reach out to someone, simply take a card and jot a note, and indicate on the reverse side the name of the recipient. Put in the offering plate or leave on the secretary's desk after service. Our secretary (Daryl) will add the mailing address to the card, provide postage and get it into the mail.

-Worship Team

## The Invitation

*by Oriah Mountain Dreamer*

It doesn't interest me  
what you do for a living.  
I want to know what you ache for  
and if you dare to dream  
of meeting your heart's longing.

It doesn't interest me  
how old you are.  
I want to know if you will risk  
looking like a fool for love  
for your dream  
for the adventure of being alive.

It doesn't interest me  
what planets are squaring your moon...  
I want to know if you have touched  
the centre of your own sorrow  
if you have been opened  
by life's betrayals  
or have become shrivelled and closed  
from fear of further pain.

I want to know if you can sit with pain  
mine or your own  
without moving to hide it  
or fade it  
or fix it.

I want to know if you can be with joy  
mine or your own  
if you can dance with wildness  
and let the ecstasy fill you  
to the tips of your fingers and toes  
without cautioning us  
to be careful  
to be realistic  
to remember the limitations  
of being human.

It doesn't interest me if the story you are  
telling me is true.  
I want to know if you can  
disappoint another  
to be true to yourself.  
If you can bear  
the accusation of betrayal

and not betray your own soul.  
If you can be faithless  
and therefore trustworthy.

I want to know if you can see Beauty  
even when it is not pretty  
every day.  
And if you can source your own life  
from its presence.

I want to know if you can live with failure  
yours and mine  
and still stand at the edge of the lake  
and shout to the silver of the full moon,  
"Yes."

It doesn't interest me  
to know where you live  
or how much money you have.  
I want to know if you can get up  
after the night of grief and despair  
weary and bruised to the bone  
and do what needs to be done  
to feed the children.

It doesn't interest me  
who you know or how you came to be here.  
I want to know if you will stand  
in the centre of the fire  
with me  
and not shrink back.

It doesn't interest me  
where or what or with whom you have studied.  
I want to know  
what sustains you  
from the inside  
when all else falls away.

I want to know  
if you can be alone  
with yourself  
and if you truly like  
the company you keep  
in the empty moments.



## Deacons Report



As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the Deacon Board is starting 2019 by bidding farewell to Desiree Reynolds and welcoming Leila Trepanier. Leila believes in showing love always - giving of yourself freely as God gave to you.

As written by Earl Johnson Jr in THE PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK in August 2008, "All Christians are charged to love their neighbors and care for one another. But the deacons provide an organized way of bringing the love of Jesus Christ to the church and the community." "It is a ministry of caring; a ministry of love; a ministry of compassion; and a ministry of prayer, and community service." "Deacons' hearts go out to those in distress, to members who have suffered loss, to neighbors in the hospital, to prisoners, to friends who have lost their jobs, to new parents who are confused by a wonderful, sudden, and challenging change in the responsibilities of life, to new members who need a word of welcome, to members who are shut-in and lonely and cannot leave their homes, to people in the community who have lost their way and can no longer find God, to those who are economically oppressed and do not have adequate places to live or enough to eat, to any people who need to experience the love of Christ in concrete ways."

The entire Deacon Board are your prayer warriors, although we are each assigned a small group of the HPC congregation (by alphabet) to which we strive to provide person-to-person ministry. The alpha groupings is not changing in 2019 with the exception of Leila assuming from Desiree the last names beginning with M.

Joan Knapp (A-C)

Sue Wexler (D-G)

Sue Cory (H-L)

Leila Trepanier (M)

Julie Hagel (N-S)

Sue Gager (T-Z)

Blessings,

- Sue Gager-Garlich, Moderator

## The Biggest Story

Kids! Come watch the amazing and beautiful video "The Biggest Story".

Featuring beautiful illustrations adapted from the book, "The Biggest Story: The Animated Short Film" will captivate children as they are led on an exciting journey through the Bible in 26 minutes.

The Bible is full of exciting stories that fill children with awe and wonder. In "The Biggest Story", best-selling author Kevin DeYoung shows kids how all those classic stories connect to Scripture's overarching message about God's glorious plan to redeem his rebellious people.

Narrated by the author, this imaginative retelling of the Bible's core message—how the Snake Crusher brings us back to the garden—will teach children that God's promises are even bigger and better than we imagine.

Enjoy this sneak preview of Chapter 1 → <https://vimeo.com/166870719>

Every child who pre-registers and attends this viewing will receive a FREE copy of the book!

Though they won't get the free book, we encourage adults to attend also; even the most biblically literate will be moved and inspired by the stunning illustration and straight-forward presentation of the core message of Scripture!



Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, at Heritage.

For more information, please contact John Garlich

## Donna Marie Todd is Coming Soon



I am so thankful for Larry Evans and his skill at producing wonderful postcards and flyers that are attractive invitations to our upcoming weekend with Donna Marie Todd. But they only become

effective when you give them to your friends and invite them to join us on the first weekend in February.

Here's what you and your friends are invited to experience:

1) Friday, Feb. 1, 7:00 pm

A 90-minute program of stories and songs—stories that a master storyteller (Donna Marie) has written and will tell in a way that just draws you in. Use the postcards that Larry has designed to invite people to this free and enjoyable evening. Let's fill the sanctuary with a great audience.

2) Saturday, Feb. 2, 10 am - 3 pm

A loss recovery/reclaiming life retreat led by Donna Marie, a certified grief recovery specialist. This retreat will present ways to effectively cope with the impact of a significant loss and suggest ways to find a way forward into a life that has been changed. Use the flyers that Larry has designed to invite people you know who might find this retreat helpful to them. Preregistration is requested and can be done online through the Heritage Presbyterian website. There is a \$20 fee for the day (and a small processing fee), which includes lunch. Let's try to fill all 30 seats.

3) Sunday, Feb. 3, 10 am

A story sermon. Donna Marie will lead us in worship as she tells the scripture lesson and explores its meaning in a story sermon. The back

of the invitation postcard invites your friends to join us in worship that day.

I have told Donna Marie about the wonderful people at Heritage. She is looking forward to meeting us. Let's give her a warm welcome by attending the weekend events, enjoying her gifts and learning from her. Use Larry's colorful postcards and flyers to help us share this experience with lots of people.



- Patricia Lind

## Ortberg Study Continues



It's not too late to join in our ongoing Bible Study series of DVDs! The John Ortberg Study with DVD #4 on January 11 and 25 at the church. You do not have to have participated in previous studies; new people are always welcome..

- Cheryl Elliott, Worship Team

## Worship Sermon Notes and Charges

*Editor's note: These notes and charges are copied from weekly e-mails that Darly Doyle sends out faithfully each Monday morning. If you are NOT on the Monday Morning mailing list and would like to be, please contact the church office to receive these on a more timely basis. The Monday morning mailouts also include current prayer concerns and announcements from the previous week.*

December 2: This week, Victor took his message from Amos 1:2, and titled his sermon, "Lion makes room for Lamb". Victor told us Amos was a shepherd before he was called. As a shepherd, Amos knew to run with his flock FROM the lion when it roared in order to live; but as a prophet, Amos urged the Israelites, God's flock, to run TO the lion (The LORD) when it roared, in order to live. Victor redacted his sermon so that he would have time to reflect on it. He admitted that lately, he was feeling beaten down, emotionally and physically. He was not feeling like he needed a

scolding or a wake-up call, but that he needed encouragement and a hug. But he knows that, even though the lion's roar is unsettling, it should be, because it is meant to shake us out of our complacency and to prepare us for the lamb who is coming, who will be sacrificed for our sins. Victor's charge to us was to realize that the lion's roar tells us we are "out of sync" with God; so we need to listen to it and allow it to lead us to the lamb, thereby getting "in sync" with God.

December 9: This week, Victor took his message from Revelation 1:17-2:6 and titled his sermon, "Going Through the Motions". This refers to the Church in Ephesus, who were apparently just "going through the motions" in practicing their love of Christ. Victor challenged us to consider if, like the Ephesians, on Sundays, we are in worship, but not worshipping. When the apostle John writes, instructed by his vision, "*Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.*" (Rev. 2:4), does it not also apply to us? Victor told us we can come back to that "first love" of God through repentance and intentionality. Victor's charge to us to receive God's love, made clear by Him coming to earth as the Christ Child, and remembering that act of love, to return to the "high" of our first love of God.

December 16: This week, Victor took his message from Matthew 24, Psalm 30 and Haggai 2, and titled his sermon "What's New?". He said the thing the authors of these Scripture passages share is that they are all deeply committed to a good future from God. He told us that our past and present hold us in a vice grip, in that we expect a continuation of "same old, same old", but during Advent, we prepare for a better future. In fact, the promise of "newness" through the coming of Christ is exactly what Christmas is. The charge to us by the children was to be like the shepherds and proclaim the good news of Christ's birth to all.

December 23: This week, Victor took his message from Luke 2, and titled his sermon "Hark & Harold". This refers to one little boy's names for the angels. Victor informed us (which Hamby already knew, and shared during the Children's Message) that angels are God's messengers. In

Luke, God sent the angels to tell the shepherds of Christ's birth. Victor said that Christmas is the celebration of God's transforming holiness, and it is also God's way of reminding us that He is faithful and keeps His promises. God used Christ's birth to bind heaven and earth, as written in Luke 2:10: "*But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'*" Victor's charge to us was to remember that, by coming to earth, God has turned the world in a new direction. We should hear the angels this week, saying, "*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.*" (Luke 2:11) and, "*Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.*" (Luke 2:14).

December 30: This week, Victor took his message from Matthew 2, and titled his sermon "One Long, Long Week", but he said it also could have been called "Let's Linger". This refers to the fact that he wants us to linger a while longer at the manger with the Christ Child. Victor acknowledged that Advent roars in like a lion and Christmas goes out like a lamb, and that in previous years he has been on vacation the Sunday after Christmas, but this year, he is grateful for the opportunity to not put the holy baby away just yet. For it is that baby, the seeming underdog to the powerful King Herod, who came into the world to defeat sin and death. Victor told us that when God sent the angel to warn Joseph about Herod's vengeful plan, it was affirmation of God's powerful resolve against evil. Victor's charge to us was to not go back to our tired lives; he wants us to read Matthew 2 and to remember that God always has a plan.

Joint Worship Service

# *Global Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

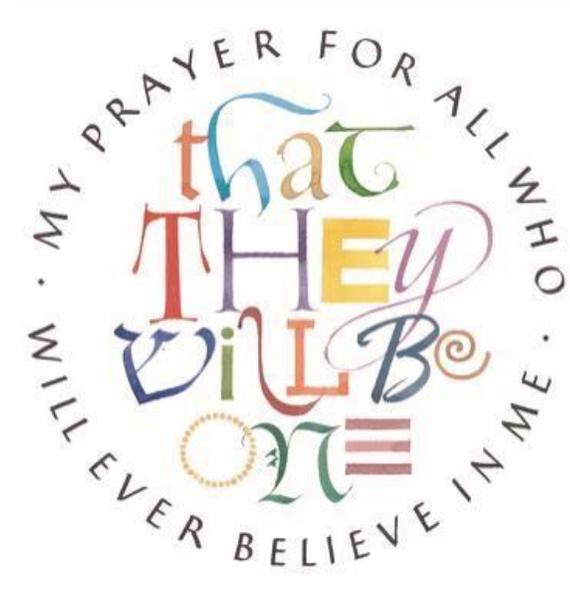
## **A Movement for Our Community**

### Theme:

“Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue”

(Deuteronomy 16:20)

**Everyone Is Invited**



### Hosting Groups:

**Heritage Presbyterian Church**

**Lutheran Church of the Master**

**St. Andrew United Methodist Church**

**The Initiative**

Saturday, January 19, 2019 6:00 p.m. at Heritage!

## CROP Walk Facts and Figures

From the annual report of the Northwest DuPage United CROP Walk:

Church Name (City)	# of Fund Raisers	# of Walkers	Envelope Donations	On Line Donations	Total Donations
<b>Heritage Presbyterian Church</b>	7	9	<b>\$2,153.00</b>	<b>\$2,660.00</b>	<b>\$4,813.00</b>
Prince of Peace (Schaumburg)	7	12	4,015.00	500.00	4,515.00
Living Lord Lutheran (Bartlett)	11	14	875.00	2,003.06	2,878.06
St. Michaels UCC (West Chicago)	5	5	1,377.00	1,025.00	2,402.00
St. Andrew UMC (Carol Stream)	8	11	1,230.00	845.00	2,075.00
St. Andrew Lutheran (W. Chicago)	6	13	560.00	1,000.00	1,560.00
First UMC (West Chicago)	3	3	1,400.00	100.00	1,500.00
Good Shepherd UMC (Bartlett)	2	3	168.00	1,025.00	1,193.00
The Gathering	3	3	470.00	-0-	470.00
Little Home UCC (Wayne)	5	5	133.00	75.00	208.00
Other not identified	2	2	-0-	-0-	-0-
<b>TOTAL</b>	59	80	<b>\$12,381.00</b>	<b>\$9,233.06</b>	<b>\$21,614.06</b>

(UMC = United Methodist Church; UCC = United Church of Christ)



Information provided by Jan Smith



## Worship Schedule January 2019

	<b>January 6; Epiphany</b>	<b>January 13; Baptism of the Lord</b>	<b>January 20; 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>	<b>January 27; 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>
Sacrament of Communion	Intinction	None	None	None
Paraments	White	White	Green	Green
Preacher	Victor Harris	Victor Harris	Victor Harris	Victor Harris
Lector	Dan Wennerholm	Bob McNees	Vern Hagel	John Garlisch
Communion Servers	Dan Wennerholm			
Ushers	Jerry Knapp; Dave Wroth	Nick Shargo; Dan Wennerholm	Darly Doyle; John Garlisch	Vern Hagel; Bob McNees
Greeters	Delali Bonsi; Julie Hagel	Caroline Knoff; Nancy Olson	Jim and Dawn Giunti	Darly Doyle; Dan Wennerholm
Nursery	Joan Knapp	Julie Hagel	Delali Bonsi	Caroline Knoff
Offering	Dave Hamby; Candy Mastro	Darly Doyle; Jerry Knapp	Nancy Olson; David Wroth	Cheryl Elliott; Nick Shargo
Sanctuary Setup	Darly Doyle	Darly Doyle	Darly Doyle	Darly Doyle
Ambassadors	Larry Evans; Bob McNees; Nick Shargo; David Wroth			

## January Birthdays

January 2	Kayla Neff	January 19	Elaine Evan
January 6	Barb Herrin	January 29	Lindsay Mcrae
January 19	Andrew Wegrzyn		

## January Anniversaries

January 10	Mindy (Bailey) and Mike	Branaman
January 15	Nick and Ruth	Shargo
January 28	Victor and Jenn	Harris

## The Church Calendar

**January 2019**

Recycling This Month: Phone and Computer Cords; Bowling Balls

		1 New Years Day. Church Office closed.	2	3 All Church Prayer 1:00	4 Wannabees 6:00 a.m. at Panera	5
6 Non-food Donations for LCoM Pantry Sunday School 8:45 Worship 10 am Take Down Christmas Decorations 11:45	7	8 The Gathering 10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	9 Personnel Meeting 10 a.m.	10 All Church Prayer 1:00 Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.	11 Ortberg Discipleship DVD #4 6:30 p.m.	12
13 Sunday School 8:45 Worship 10 am Deacons 11:30 Youth Group 5 p.m.	14 Alaska Mission Trip 7:00 p.m.	15 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	16	17 All Church Prayer 1:00	18 "The Biggest Story" film 7:00	19 Joint Worship Service 6:00 p.m.
20 Sunday School 8:45 Worship 10 a.m.	21	22 The Gathering 10:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm	23 PADS	24 All Church Prayer 1:00	25 Ortberg Discipleship DVD #4 6:30 p.m	26
27 Sunday School 8:45 Worship 10 am Annual Meeting 11:15 a.m.	28	29 Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m.	30 PADS	31 All Church Prayer 1:00	FEB 1-3 Donna Marie Todd	



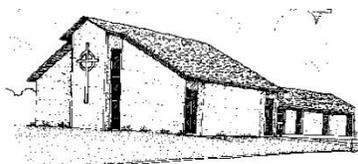


Heritage Presbyterian Church

965 N. Kuhn Road

Carol Stream, IL 60188

## Heritage Presbyterian Church



965 N. Kuhn Road

Carol Stream, IL 60188

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[heritagepresby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:heritagepresby@sbcglobal.net)

[pastor@heritagepresby.org](mailto:pastor@heritagepresby.org)



**Rev. Victor Harris**

## Who's Who at Heritage

Church Secretary

Worship Pianist

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Clerk of Session for 2019

Newsletter Editor for 2019

Darly Doyle

Sabrina Poulin

Ginny Goldbach

Candy Mastro

OPEN

Charles Fortney

### Deacons (January only)

Last Name A-C

Last Name D-G

Last Name H-L

Last Name M

Last Name N-S

Last Name T-Z

Deacons Elect

Joan Knapp

Sue Wexler

Sue Cory

Desiree Reynolds

Julie Hagel

Sue Gager-Garlich

Leila Trepanier

### Elders (January only)

Word and Gathering

Buildings and Grounds

Response and Sending

Administration

Nominating and Fellowship

Elders Elect:

Patricia Lind

Cheryl Elliott

Dan Wennerholm

David Wroth

Nancy Olson

Jerry Knapp

Darly Doyle

Dave Hamby, Michelle Neff