



JKPC News

Monthly Update of Events
John Knox Presbyterian Church



"Deck the Halls" Advent Celebration
Sunday, December 1 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 8
during the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service



Order Poinsettias for Christmas
Now until December 8



Annual Wine & Wassail Caroling Party at the McIntyre's Home
Sunday, December 8 at 6 p.m.

Music Sunday, December 15 During Worship

The Choir and Praise Band will present inspiring music of the Christmas season.



Family Christmas Caroling in the JKPC Neighborhood
Sunday, December 22 from 5:30-7 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services
Tuesday, December 24



5:30 p.m. Family Service - Bring the family and join us in singing carols and celebrating Christ's coming in an informal setting.

8 p.m. Candlelight & Communion Service - This is a traditional service closing with candlelight caroling in the courtyard. Families are welcome.



SERMON
Series

"The Gifts of Christmas"

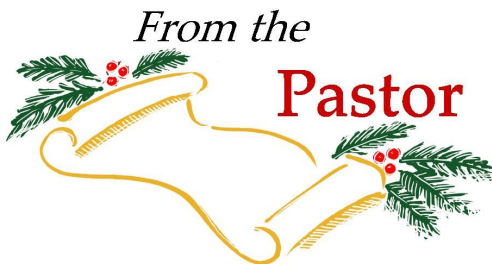
December 1 - Faith - "The Names of Jesus" Isaiah 9:2-3a, 6-7

December 8 - Glory - Children's Christmas Pageant "Glorious Night, Glorious Light" Isaiah 9:2-3

December 15 - Hope - "Forget the Past" Isaiah 43:18-21

December 22 - Love - "Love Came Down" Jeremiah 31:31-34

December 24 - Joy - "Resounding Joy" Isaiah 55:9-13



From the

Pastor

Gifts of God

I am a bit cold, so the hot chocolate in my cup (that I have my fingers wrapped around) is not only delicious but also warming to my body. My soul is content for the moment. I am looking forward to the coming of the Christmas season. It seems fitting that Thanksgiving comes before Christmas; it prepares us for the coming season where gifts abound not only to be received, for which we are

grateful, but to give to others as well.

As I have grown older, my needs and desires seem to have become more simple. In fact, I am thinking more about what I can give than what I can get. I have already been given so much: health, family, faith, and salvation.

There are certainly times when I have aches and pains and some slowness in getting up, especially after just getting down. We are so fortunate to be surrounded by good hospitals and doctors. Our community has a plethora of health care professionals who are concerned about our whole health - not just minor aches and pains, but the whole person - body, mind and soul.

Even though we have no children or grandchildren in the same state where we live, they are less than a thousand miles (a two hour flight) to the north and a four hour flight (not quite 1,800 miles) to the east. There is a great community surrounding us. We are grateful for good friends in the church in which we serve and some friends from long times past still close by - we have family here.

I have been nurtured in faith from a young age, and I am challenged, in a good way, as I disciple and am disciplined by those around me. I have some great books on my shelves that I have read, or am reading, as well as experiences with other believers as we talk about living out our faith in the challenging context of the Bay Area.

Perhaps the most precious gift I have is that of the relationship I don't fully understand with a power outside of myself, a person who speaks hope to me in the darkest times. At certain times it almost feels like I am the only who has his undivided attention. I feel so grateful, but then I realize there are myriad others who experience this precious communion as well. I remember that we are partners in this great experience of walking on this earth. And of course there is the promise that there is more than this beautiful creation in which I am embraced, but an eternity which promises to be something beyond our wildest imaginings.

So, what gifts have you received over the years? Are there things for which you long? Safety, stability, and a promise of a fulfilling future? This Advent we will explore the gifts God has given us and is still giving us. God has provided us with a **faith**, belief in something greater than ourselves of which we will be reminded on the first Sunday of Advent. On the second Sunday of Advent, God will turn our mundane existence into a **glorious night**, when we glimpse again the pageant of the nativity acted out with hands, feet, and voices smaller than our own. On the third Sunday of Advent, Music Sunday, we will listen with our ears, use our voices to proclaim, and feel the vibration of the musical pieces selected to celebrate the **hope** we have been given this season.

None of this would be celebrated if the **love** God has for us had not been brought down to earth in that baby who would become the great I AM. This fourth Sunday will be the last one before that great day when we celebrate his birth. His birth ushered in a **joy** that is still resounding throughout all the earth, both high in the heavens and around the earth below.

These are the true gifts of God for us: **faith, glory, hope, love, and joy**. They may elude us at times, but they are promised to us through the Prophets, in the Psalms, in the Writings, and throughout the Gospels, all of which speak of God's desire to be our Lord and our King through Jesus.

I look forward to seeing you this Christmas season. Please make time to join us one or two Sundays and certainly on Christmas Eve as we gather together and give thanks to the One who heals all, serves all, and offers to save all.

Merry Christmas to all,

Pastor Randy



The Golden Rule 2020

Our denomination, along with several others, are promoting what is called, “The Golden Rule of 2020.” Basically this says we need to agree to and advance the call for all people to give dignity and respect in conversations about politics.

“The idea to use the Golden Rule as a way to promote civility emerged from a meeting we had back in May in Washington, D.C., with representatives of about a dozen Christian denominations as well as other national church organizations,” Theo Brown, Director of NICD said.

Brown said that he believed “faith communities have a huge role to play in reviving civility in the United States” because of their basic beliefs about humanity.

“All Christian denominations teach that each individual person — regardless of their political views — is someone created in the image of God. Therefore, each person is worthy of being treated with dignity and respect,” he continued.

We discussed this concern at our recent Session meeting and agree that this is something each person can do in their relationships with others. Please consider how you can be part of this call to speak with others while giving them respect and dignity.

Denominations involved in Golden Rule 2020 include: The Episcopal Church; the National Association of Evangelicals; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development; and Presbyterian Church (USA), among others.

Respectfully yours,

Pastor Randy McGrady-Beach



Children's Emergency Food Bank Christmas Basket Distribution

The annual Christmas Basket Distribution is one of the original functions of the Children's Emergency Food Bank. It began in 1966 and by 1969 the Food Bank was operating much the same as it does today. The distribution consists of two apple boxes of food plus a \$20 gift card for a turkey or chickens and perishable items.

This year, the date for the Christmas Basket Distribution is Saturday, December 14 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Applications were made available to our clients beginning Monday, October 14, 2019.

Many members and friends of John Knox Presbyterian Church serve as volunteers leading up to this event. Many outside volunteers come to help on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, as well as for the distribution on Saturday. This participation has become tradition for the Dublin/San Ramon Women's Club and several Boy and Girl Scout Troops.

Each year, we conduct a food drive within the congregation, Joy Preschool, and John Knox CO-OP Preschool to help supply the Christmas Distribution. **Shopping bags will be distributed Sunday, December 1 and Monday, December 2, and should be returned no later than Sunday, December 8.**

The following timeline should be helpful as you plan your time during the holidays:

Monday, December 9 - 9:00 a.m.

Delivery of the large order from Raley's to Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 10 - 9:00 a.m.

Table set up for food sorting

Wednesday, December 11 - 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Food sorting and preparation

Thursday, December 12 - 5:00 p.m. until completion

Completion of food sorting and preparation

Saturday, December 14 - 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Basket Distribution

If you would like to become involved in this project, please contact Rick Snowden.



Children's Emergency Food Bank Christmas Food Drive

Please return donations by Sunday, December 8th

The Food Bank is collecting:

Brownie Mix	Jell-O	Pasta
Canned Beef	Jelly/Jam	Rice
Canned Chicken	Ketchup	Salad Dressing
Canned Fruit	Mac & Cheese	Soup
Canned Vegetables	Mayonnaise	Spaghetti
Cereals	Oatmeal	Spaghetti-Os
Chili With Beans	Pancake/Waffle Mix	Spam
Cooking Oil	Pasta Sauce	Sugar
Corned Beef	Peanut Butter	Syrup
Crackers	Pinto Beans	Tomato Sauce
Fruit Juice	Pork & Beans	Top Ramen noodles
Instant Potatoes	Pudding	Tuna

All items are needed and appreciated but some especially high runners are; Bisquick, Syrup, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Canned Soups, Cereals, Canned Meats and Pasta Items
Cash donations are always welcome and are used to purchase food and gift cards
which are used for perishable items

Thanks for your support!





SWELL Luncheon

SWELL (Social Women Enjoying Living Life) Potluck Lunch and Gift Exchange at the home of Lynn Getty Saturday, December 14 at 11:30 a.m.

Lynn Getty will be hosting this festive time of fellowship! Bring a gift - either new or White Elephant (\$10 or less), and a lunch dish to share to Lynn's home on Saturday, December 14 at 11:30 a.m. All those who wish to join in can call Lynn at 925-968-9126 or email lynnmurray38@yahoo.com. Lynn's address is 3072 Lakemont Drive Unit 5, San Ramon. Please try to carpool as parking is limited.



LITWITS (in our 19th year!!)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR CELEBRATORY CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER, BOOK DISCUSSION and BOOK EXCHANGE.

**Enrich your holidays by talking books with this inspiring
group of readers.**

**Tuesday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m.
at the home of Nanette Wehe,**

WHAT TO BRING: Bring to our December meeting a holiday casserole or side dish, a colorful salad, a dessert or an hors d'oeuvre. Ham will be provided. Do, however, check the Evite to see what others are bringing. In addition to one of above offerings, beverages will also be helpful. Try something new and bring your recipe, but **please** let your hostess know what you will be contributing to our always inviting feast. Respond to an Evite or phone the hostess if you are not on the Evite list. Bring, too, your wrapped book for the book exchange.

DECEMBER BOOK: Our December book is *The Noel Diary*, by Richard Paul Evans. Might it be possible to "rewrite the past"? A young man returns to the house from which he was kicked out some twenty years previously. The house is now his as his estranged mother has passed away. He returns reluctantly, haunted by memories of past abuse and childhood trauma. What he encounters upon his return surprises and repels him yet ultimately offers him grace and love. An encouraging read for the upcoming holidays.

PROGRAM: Aside from reading the selected book, please bring a wrapped book for our book exchange. Bring something that you have enjoyed and/or that you think might be a good choice for Litwits readers. We will also go over the "Possibles" list from which we will make selections for 2020-21.

WANT TO READ AHEAD?: If you are feeling really ambitious, you might want to tackle January's book, *Woman in White*, by Wilkie Collins. At the always raucous January meeting, we will also vote on our 2020-21 reading selections.





2020 Pledge Drive Update

We have received pledges totaling \$248,842.56 from 68 out of our approximate 105 pledging households. Thanks to those who have turned in your pledge cards! We are moving closer to our pledging goal of \$418,245.

If you have not yet turned in your pledge, please do so as soon as possible. You can also simply email your confidential pledge to our treasurer, Teresa Karlson, at teresa@ledgersteam.com.

God Bless!



JKPC Community Life CRAB FEED and Bingo!
Coming in January 2020!

Look for a date and other details for this popular annual Community Life event coming soon.



12-7
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“... Grandma said Christmas is just around the corner.”



JKPC FAMILY MINISTRIES



Sunday School

Please join our Sunday School children's and youth ministries. Our theme is **Connected in Christ!** Kids and youth start out with their parents at our 9:30 a.m. Worship service, and then are excused for Sunday School.

THANK YOU to all of our Sunday School Teachers and Helpers who volunteer their time to teach the JKPC Kids & Youth! We are GRATEFUL!

ROCK Kids program is on break and returns January 19, 2020
Rock is for Kids PreK - 4th Grade! Games, Snacks, Fun Lessons and more!
Sign up on the JKPC website if interested!

"Deck the Halls" Advent Celebration **Sunday, December 1 from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

Let's kick off Christmas and welcome this very special season! We'll make colorful handmade ornaments, enjoy snacks & cider, decorate the church and trim the Christmas tree! There will be time for singing Christmas carols and to hear a special story, too.

It's a fun time for the whole family and for folks of all ages!



JKPC Children's Christmas Pageant! **Sunday, December 8 at 9:30 a.m.** **Tis' the Season to Get Ready!**

On Sunday, December 8, during the 9:30 a.m. Worship service, the kids will share in story and song the telling of the very first Christmas!! There will be a special Pageant rehearsal on Saturday, December 7 @ 9 a.m. Please share this information - all children are welcome to participate! We ask that you RSVP on the website, www.jkpcdublin.org. We will have a cookie & fruit reception after the Pageant.



Family Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 22 from 5:30-7 p.m.

We'll walk around the JKPC neighborhood spreading some cheer as we sing favorite Christmas Carols from door to door! Bring a flashlight and a jacket—we'll be caroling rain or shine! All ages are welcome - kids, teens, adults! We'll gather back in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. for some hot chocolate and goodies! Tracy Hong will be leading this event - RSVP after church.



Youth Group is Every Sunday at JKPC
Wacky Games, Fun with Friends,
A Place to Build your Faith!

Middle School 4-6:10 p.m.
(5th - 7th Grade)

High School 5:50-8 p.m.
(8th - 12th Grade)



Girls Cookie Baking & Decorating at Sue Wilburn's Home
Saturday, December 14, from 4-6 p.m.

Middle & High School, and College Girls join the fun!
We'll bake and decorate cookies - and have lots of fun! Please bring an apron! More info to come!

Youth & College Christmas Party
Sunday, December 15 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

We'll start out in Fellowship Hall for a group meal, and then dessert and gift times will be at a soon to be determined home. More info to come.

Winter Camp at Silver Spur Christian Camp...
SAVE THE DATE: January 24-26
Thank you to all who supported our
November 3 Bake Sale—the campers made \$200 total.

Silver Spur's website for more info is:

<https://www.silverspur.com/winter.html>



We just found out that Silver Spur will no longer be offering youth camps or retreats after January. We thank Silver Spur for the many memories that they have made for JKPC!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2020 ~ Save the Dates

Carnival with bounce house: Sunday, July 12
VBS Week: Monday-Friday, July 13-17
VBS Musical with BBQ: Sunday, July 19

At Knights of North Castle VBS, your kids will discover how to be Strong in the Lord and will learn about each piece of the Armor of God!
It will be SNOW much fun!



**Operation Christmas Child ~
Good News. Great Joy!
WOW - 297 Boxes were received from JKPC & Friends!**

A big thank you to all who will be bringing a smile to kids around the world. Thank you to JKPC, Joy & John Knox Co-op Preschools, Teresa DeHope, Scout Groups and our many friends!

**Heifer International Mission
Now until December 24**

It's not too late to buy a Llama for your Mama or a Goose in honor of your Uncle Bruce.
Shopping Heifer is a great way to
"think outside of the gift-wrapped box" and is truly the gift that will keep on giving.
Beautiful gift cards are available to mail to those you are honoring.

As of November 24, JKPC purchased over \$1,600 worth of animals for families in need.



JKPC's Online Directory ~ Up and Running

Have you had a chance to look at JKPC's Online Directory?

We now have pictures of over 100 families!

Please go to the church's website to view it in the Member Section.
It is password protected, and the password has been emailed to the JKPC Family.

http://www.jkpcdublin.org/church_family

The main goal is to have an online photo directory that can be kept up-to-date each month. It will help people connect faces with names and it will keep your contact information current.

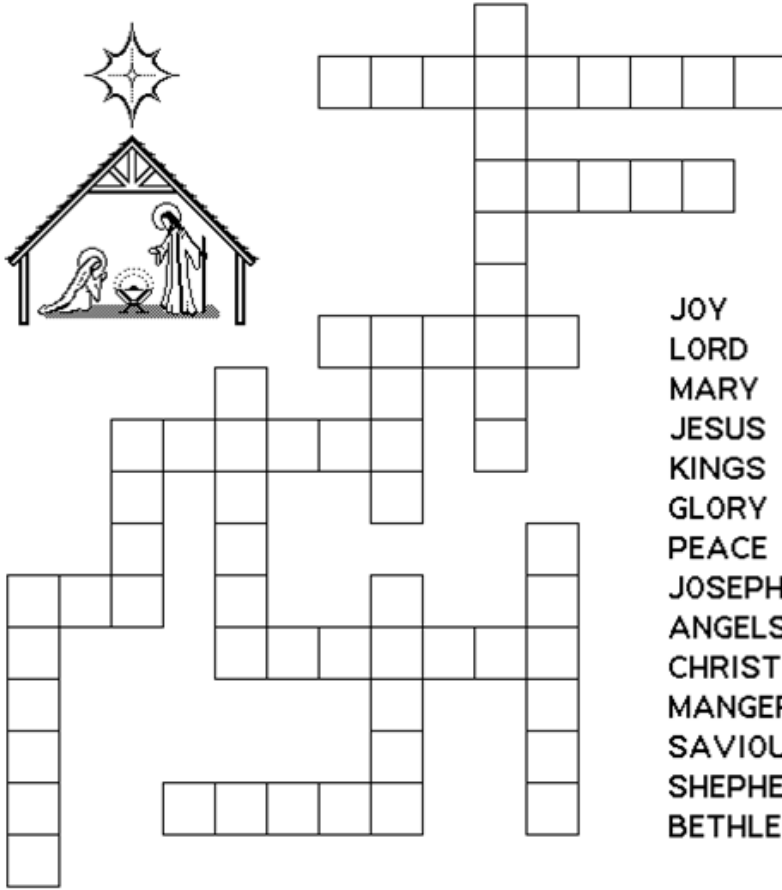
If you haven't had a chance to get your picture taken, please contact
Nancy Polcyn.

For those who do not have access to the internet, the church will provide a printed copy.



Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword.
Each word is only used once.



JOY
LORD
MARY
JESUS
KINGS
GLORY
PEACE
JOSEPH
ANGELS
CHRIST
MANGER
SAVIOUR
SHEPHERDS
BETHLEHEM

Christmas

Fun



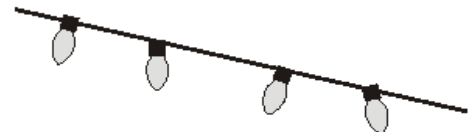
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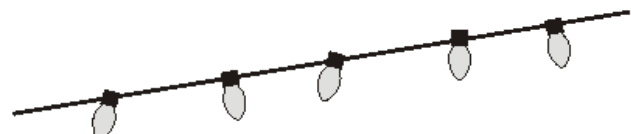
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15 • • 16

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17 •

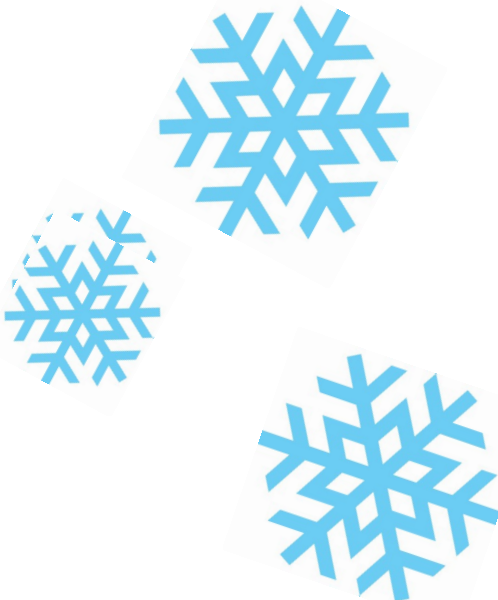
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19 •

1





**Do You Like to Christmas Shop On-line?
Then Christmas Shop on AmazonSmile!**

Do you shop on Amazon.com? Then you should shop on smile.amazon.com!

It's the same shopping website, but smile.amazon.com donates 0.5% of the price your eligible purchases to JKPC. SET-UP (one-time) - smile.amazon.com, log-in (your usual Amazon username/password), chose JKPC (DUBLIN) as your charity.

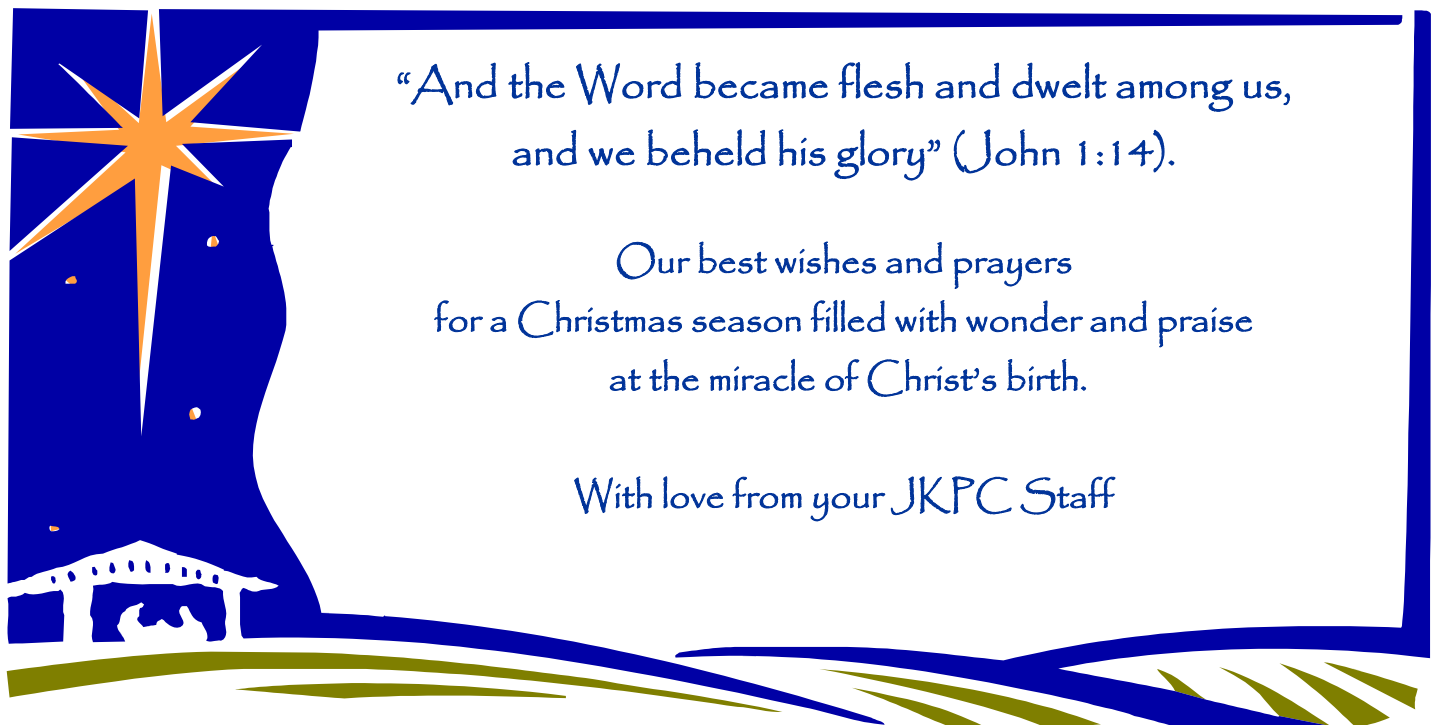
To earn the 0.5%, all purchases must be made from **smile.amazon.com**
AmazonSmile must be used on a computer rather than on a Smartphone



Tithe.ly Digital Giving is Here!

Simple and secure. Give a single gift, or schedule ongoing donations using your checking account, debit, or credit card.

Please go to the church website, www.jkpcdublin.org, and click on the Donate Online button from the home page. There is a video on our website that shows an overview of the app.





Scheduled Meetings and Rehearsals

Chancel Choir - Thursday - 6:45 p.m.
Deacons' Meeting - 3rd Sunday - 11 a.m.
Finance Committee - Meets the Thursday before Session. Contact Jared Shaffer
Litwits - 2nd Tuesday - 6:30 p.m.
Praise Band - Thursdays - 7:45 p.m.
Rock! returns January 19
Youth Groups - Sunday afternoons
 Middle School - 4 p.m.
 High School - 5:50 p.m.
Session Meeting - 3rd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m.

Study Groups

Current Bible Study Groups

Please contact them for more information.

Women's Bible Study:

Tuesday- 1st & 3rd @10 a.m. - members homes
 Contact: Paula Miller
 Friday @10 a.m. - LIFT Women's Study in church Library. Contact: Joan McGrady-Beach.

Men's Bible Study:

Friday @7 a.m. - Copper Skillet Restaurant, Dublin. Contact: Pastor Randy.



John Knox Church Office - 828-1846,
[jkpcdublin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jkpcedublin@sbcglobal.net)
 Bruce Byrne - 371-7804 (cell),
brucebyrne@yahoo.com
 Dean Christman - 323-7247

Lynn Getty - 968-9126
 Tracy Hong - tracyannhong@gmail.com
 Stan Husted - 648-2939
 Teresa Karlson - teresa@ledgersteam.com
 Joan McGrady-Beach - (319) 404-2385,
mcbeach1952@att.net
 Pastor Randy McGrady-Beach - 828-1846,
 *(319) 404-8463 (cell),
[jkpcrandy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jkpccrandy@sbcglobal.net)

Diana McIntyre - 344-7073
 Paula Miller- 556-0125
 JoAnn Parker -

wanttoscrapallday2021@gmail.com

Nancy Polcyn - 828-1846, 789-0067 (cell),
[jkpcnancyp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jkpccnancyp@sbcglobal.net)
 Jared Shaffer - jared_shaffer@hotmail.com
 Rick Snowden- rick.snowden@att.net
 Nanette Wehe - 510-582-0829
 Sue Wilburn - 833-8241

* Pastor Randy's home phone number is no longer in service. Please call the cell number or the church office to reach him.

Preschools on Site -

Joy Preschool & Day Care - 829-3233,

www.joypreschooldublin.com

John Knox Co-op Preschool - 828-2887,

www.jkcp.org



www.jkpcedublin.org



If you have a prayer request or know someone who is need, please call the office or Stan Husted, (925)997-4161, or email us at jkpccares@gmail.com



December

December Calendar

December 1	Communion
December 1-8	"Deck the Halls" Advent Celebration
December 8	Children's Emergency Food Bank Drive
	Children's Christmas Pageant
	McIntyre's Annual Wine & Wassail
	Last Day to Turn in Poinsettias Order Form
December 10	LITWITS
December 14	SWELL Potluck Lunch & Gift Exchange
	Youth Girls Cookie Baking
December 15	Christmas Music Sunday
	Youth & College Progressive Christmas Party
December 22	Family Christmas Caroling
December 24	JKPC Office Closes at 12:00 p.m.
	Christmas Eve Services:
	Family Friendly Candlelight Service is at 5:30 p.m.
	Evening Communion & Candlelight Service is at 8 p.m.
December 25	Merry Christmas! JKPC Office Closed
December 31	JKPC Office Closes at 12:00 p.m.

Coming Events - Save the Dates!

January 1	Happy New Year! JKPC Office Closed
January 24-26	Silver Spur Winter Youth Camp (grades 7-12)

Details on these events may be found on our website: www.jkpcdublin.org





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High School - 5:50 p.m.

Session Meeting - 3rd Tuesday - 7:30 p.m.

cons'

- 3rd Sun-



Church Staff

Randy McGrady-Beach, Pastor
Nancy Polcyn, Family Ministries Director
Dean Christman, Music Director
Bruce Byrne, Youth Director
Bailey Kraft, Assistant Youth Director
Mary Chervet, Administrative Assistant
Rene Phillips, Administrative Assistant
Teresa Karlson, Benevolence Treasurer
Eric Loofbourrow, Organist
Steve Kritzer, Music Ministry
Nanette Wehe, Music Ministry

Volunteer Staff

Marion Rogers, Chief Sound Technician
Jerry Miller, Chief Video Technician
Sue King-Irwin & Peter McIntyre,
Head Ushers
Sue Wilburn & Sandi Coll, Music
Lisa Locus & Rene Phillips,
Wedding Coordinators
Lyall Barrett, Veterans Coordinator

Preschools

Joy Preschool & Day Care
Lisa Locus, Director
John Knox Co-op Preschool
Leslie James, Director

Study Groups



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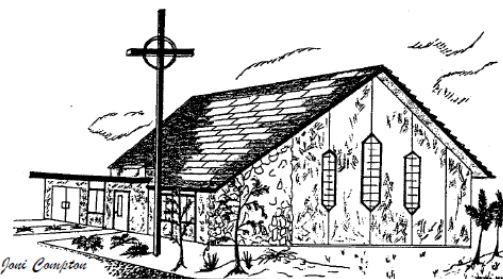
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lin. Contact: Pastor Randy.



John Knox Presbyterian Church

7421 Amarillo Road, Dublin, CA 94568

(925) 828-1846

Website: www.jkpcdublin.org

Email: jkpcdublin@sbcglobal.net

9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning

Blended Worship Service

Sunday School for Preschool through High School & Nursery Care