



Newsletter January 2021

**We Are
Officially Open for
11 AM Church**

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Message from Pastor Will

Luke 3

4 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

5 Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

Over the past month we enjoyed Advent as we prepared our hearts and minds to receive the birth of our Savior. Advent is not just a time of season but a way of life. We should always be preparing to receive the word of God, to receive His blessings, to understand what is required of each of us in fulfilling the purpose God has given us.

As I examine my own life and reflect on the ups and downs the wants and misses, there is a consistent theme of taking care of those in need. Providing strength to the weak, a word of encouragement to the downtrodden, a loving expression in the midst of anger and hate, and to simply give. I find the most rewarding moments occur when doing for others. Even if others are within my family. I don't take for granted the ability to take care of myself and those closest to me. I'm grateful for a sound mind and health. I'm grateful for a family that supports my efforts. I'm grateful for my Park View family who allow me to express God's vision for His people and serve the body of Christ. For it is in the serving that I find my purpose. My life purpose is rooted in serving. This is my preparation. God gives to a giver. God heals the healers. So, I give my heart and my love to Him and His creation. I have much to give this world, but greater than my talents and abilities, greater than the financial opportunity, greater than recognition, is my love for Christ. Let your love for Christ lead you on a glorious path.

2021 will be a year of growth and renewal. God has prepared us for this time! God has literally and figuratively laid a new road for us to follow. A path that God has made straight to the hearts and needs of this community. A path with every need filled and every obstacle made low. God has taken the winding history of His people and set the sights straight on those most in need. This includes church members and non-members. Those poor in status and in spirit, those who have known the Lord but need to be reintroduced to the Holy Spirit. Seeds have been planted and continue to be nurtured, now we look to grow and harvest the blessings of His vineyard. In 2021, we continue our preparation to receive the blessings God is giving. Let us continue our Spirit of giving. Let us be diligent in keeping our own health and safety, let us increase our time and intention with Christ, and remain loyal in our love for others. The Spirit of the Lord is upon us let us hear and receive His call in 2021! A year of Growth and Renewal!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Will



2021 Official Board Members & Leaders ParkView Christian Church

Officers & Leaders for 2021

Chair	Chip Artz
Vice Chair	Bonnie Gifford
Financial Secretary/Treasurer	Jeffrey Massey
Assistant Financial Secretary	Chip Artz
Assistant Treasurer	Andy Artz
Church Clerk & Board Secretary	Carolyn Jones

Elders

Mike Tefft	2021
Bonnie Gifford	2021
Carolyn Jones	2021
Janet Sydenstricker	2022
Sid Harman	2022
Gina Artz	2022
Judy Harman	2023
Eleanor Collins	2023
Andy Artz	2023
Jason Chuma	(Inactive)

Departments

Membership/Guest Relations	Kelly Collins
Evangelism	Charlie Arnold
Worship	Liz Artz
Property	Sid Harman
Stewardship & Finance	Chip Artz
Christian Education	Gina Artz
World & Local Outreach	Carolyn Jones

Diaconate

Sandra Rhoads	2021
Fred Meyer	2021
Sherry Meyer	2021
Chip Artz	2021
Tamara Russell	2021
Jeremy Russell	2021
Eva Vasquez	2022
Ciro Vasquez	2022
Lindsay Abess	2022
Liz Artz	2023
Ida Quiros	2023
Charlie Arnold	2023
Kim Charlton	2023

Living Endowment Committee

Sandra Rhoads	2021
Jeremy Russell	2021
Judy Harman	2021
Andy Artz	2022
Jeffrey Massey	2022

Trustees

Sid Harman
Janet Sydenstricker
Bruce Parker

Elder Emeritus

Betty Lou Cummings
Rev. Leo Ruffing
Joan Austin
Virginia Stroud
Dr. Rev. William Collins

Junior Diaconate

Mark Williams
Scop Dominguez

**Thank you to all those who volunteered to serve
as leaders in our Church. Your service to our
Church is greatly appreciated! Thank you!
Here is to a GREAT 2021 YEAR!**



Dear Members of ParkView Christian Church

I wish to extend to all of you, thankfulness for all that each of you has done for this your church in the past year of 2020. Without caring, committed members I cannot imagine how all the outreach, worship activities, and staying connected, could have happened during this unprecedented year of the Pandemic COVID-19. Now we begin a new year, and the time is here to begin to plan and use your spiritual gifts in ways to serve the church and its mission.

Here is a listing of the various functional committees and I would ask that you give some time to pray about being a part of the team and then volunteer.

Worship Dept. - This is where the planning and supportive efforts are done to assist the minister and music ministry in creative worship services. Also, special services such as Hanging of the Greens, and Palm Sunday always need help in the sanctuary décor and program. Currently we are coming up with new ways to stay connected virtually during this pandemic.

Property Dept. - This Dept. deals with the nuts and bolts (literally) of

the building and grounds maintenance and improvement. Also, lawn care and landscaping falls under this area.

Membership Dept. - This Dept. works hard with supporting our members and guests with personal contacts, and involvement in church life. Also, special fun days such as Mother's Day, Thanksgiving Sunday dinner- all are planned by this group, when we are able to socially meet in large groups safely.

Outreach Dept. - Here is where mission really expands. In Outreach Dept. are opportunities to do community service, food drives, Diaper drives, and this year's Coat Drive. This is just a few of a multitude of projects that can and have been done to impact our community and the world.

Christian Education Dept. - This is where we always need volunteers. The Children's Church ministry is guided by this Dept. as well as Adult Sunday School. Many fun things, such as picnics and Bible School are all a part of this team's opportunities (again looking forward to the time

that we can safely resume these group activities.

Stewardship and Finance Dept.- If you like working with finances and budgets, this is the team for you. Also, creative ways to teach and encourage all types of Stewardship are stressed in this group.

Evangelism Dept. - This is a team that tries to think out of the box and reach out to people we don't even know and try to invite to church.

Please speak to Gina Artz, Janet Sydenstricker or Pastor Will about being a part of the 2021 team. There is a place for each of you to participate and share your time and talents with Park View Christian Church. Let's make this the BEST YEAR EVER, by working together to spread our Christian faith, hope and love.

Thank you for your service to our Lord, God.

Chip Artz, Board Chair



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Church Family, this year of 2020, was filled with challenges from all directions, as you all know. I want to take time and THANK YOU all for everything you have done throughout this year to keep our church going, to provide opportunities for worship both ONLINE and IN PERSON. Thank you for assisting in many Outreach mission projects that helped our community, including our Drive Thru Food Pantry that has served weekly for 36 consecutive weeks of 2020! Whether it was calling a church member or installing new ceiling lights, we thank you for what you have done to serve this church. Whether

it was leading singing during worship or cleaning up communion cups, we Thank You for serving. You each have found ways to give during such a challenging time. From yardwork to ZOOM meetings, you have done it. Some exciting things have happened even during this Pandemic. A new church roof was installed during the early Fall and looks great. Then an anonymous donor gifted the church for a new Parking Lot and Road around the church. This will be completed in a couple of weeks. We also are having our heating system worked on currently to

provide comfort this season. This will go down in the Church History Books as the most difficult and yet powerful times ever. We have even learned that we can sing and pray even with protective masks on. Thank you all for every single thing you have done and your prayers during this year of 2020 Pandemic. May God Bless All. Chip Artz, Board Chair



We Are The Church We Say We Are! 2020 in Review!

The year 2020 has been interesting to say the least. Now more than ever is the time to serve our community, to love and support one another, to lend a friendly hand, to spread the word of God, and to have empathy for our neighbors. Not one amongst us would ever imagine we would be in this predicament; where something would invade our normalcy, take away our confidence in the day-to-day activities, where the question "why?" is so prevalent that we stop asking it. But this year has led the way to a better understanding. An understanding that despite the travesties of today's times, that our Church can provide, that we do provide, and that God will provide.

The identity of our faith is based upon a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. That we are a part of the one body of Christ who welcomes all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us! That we show up, that we are one family of God, that we bring healing and justice, and that we honor the heritage of Christian unity by staying together in covenant as a witness to the world no matter our differences.

That you are WELCOME HERE. We strive to make a better world by answering God's call for justice particularly in the areas of caring for the earth and addressing the challenges for women and children, poverty, hunger and immigration. We believe that Miracles Do Happen! That we bear witness to it every day and we practice miracles every day, no matter how small and insufficient it may appear. **We Are The Church We Say We Are!**

Park View's philosophy has always been and will always be, that if you knock on our door, we will give what we can. But then the pandemic hit us hard. Many families suffered from lost of their jobs, their income, their way of life, their liveli-

hood. Questions arose. How can we serve the least amongst us? How can we be the feet and hands of Jesus in a dying world? Park View answered that calling. Not only did we expand and grow our Food Pantry outreach, but we also hosted many drives, fundraisers, and projects this year.

Despite this "new world" we found ourselves in because of the pandemic, we continually rose to the occasion and answered the calling of God's work to serve our community

We entered the year 2020 with new ways to improve ourselves and a positive outlook of the months to come. We strived to make ourselves stronger, physically, mentally and financially. Our Church dedicated ourselves to love with all our heart, soul and mind with all of our strength. As eloquently stated by Jason Chuma, Elder, "To love God with all of our strength is to love him with what makes us strong." Jason challenged us to identify our strengths and ask ourselves how we are using those



strengths to love God as Jesus commanded us to do. Jason reminded us that we shall always "love your neighbor as yourself" for there is no other commandment greater than these.

We identified our Official Board Members for 2020 and called upon volunteers to serve in our departments. As evident from the months that followed, Park View identified our strengths and became stronger in our love of God and neighbors.

In January we hosted a Men's Appreciation Dinner to express our deepest gratitude for the weekly and monthly contributions of service made by the men of Park View. In February, we hosted a Youth Appreciation and Souper Bowl Sunday! We showed our love and appreciation to our youth during a bible presentation during Church service. We also hosted a Sweetheart Social We hosted a Pizza and Move Night for family fun! We had a great mixture of church family and members of the community with a total of 31 attendees and 12 pizzas! We Blanketed the World with LOVE on Valentine's Day by contributing to CWS Blankets and Kits to families impacted by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and other crises. (We do this every year and are so excited to do it again this year!).

In March 2020 we contributed to the Special Offering for the Week of Compassion. Park View is beyond blessed to have a talented and wonderful Worship Department that was able to seamlessly transition to online services during this pandemic. On March 23, 2020 Pastor Will and our worship team presented a full sermon and lead Communion online. Because of this team, we were able to stay connected through online Sunday sermons on FaceBook live, through on "All Call" service that allows participates to receive weekly announcement and reminder through their phone, through email devotionals, and by setting on online giving. This new approach allowed us to worship together while we were apart.

(CONTINUE on next page)

In April 2020, while under a “Stay at Home” order, the concept of a “Drive-Thru Food Pantry” was born. On April 28, 2020, Park View hosted its first ever Drive Thru Food Pantry and served 6 families. Over these past months our Food Pantry has served over hundreds of families served. Not only were we able to provide food security, but we also expanded our programs that served our community. We continuously served OASIS breakfast on a monthly. From March to April, we hosted a Diaper Drive. We donated these diapers to the Greater Hampton Roads Diaper Bank. Your contribution to this wonderful Diaper Drive collected over 2,000 diapers. On April 5 and 12, we held our annual Easter Special Day Offering which is one of four special offerings in our church year. CWF made over 150 cloth face masks for various groups and our church family, served OASIS breakfast by preparing 85 bagged breakfasts, and made “Drive-By” visits to our elderly Homebound individuals and distributed various treats to our Seniors, and of course, lots and lots of prayer time was provided! Our Christian Department established a think “out of the box” approach for continuing Christian education by mailing packets of Bible stories and craft pages to each child that has been a part of our Children’s Church throughout the pandemic.

Also, for Easter Sunday, a video of the Worship and Wonder story was put on our webpage and FaceBook for children to watch to learn about the wonders of Jesus.

On April 18, a video of the Last Supper was held.

Throughout this time, we remained committed to serving the needs of our congregation and meeting their spiritual needs. During this time, the Elders, Diaconate and Minister remained available via phone, email, and online platforms such as FaceTime and FaceBook. We even scheduled our very first Zoom meeting in June of 2020.

On June 14, 2020 we opened our church sanctuary for the first time since March 2020 for 11 am worship! We have remained open since then with all the precautions to maintain safety according to the CDC recommendations.

In July 2020 we hosted our very first Virtual Food Drive where we collected funds to buy food we needed the most including fruits, vegetables, and perishable items like meat and dairy.

In August 2020 we hosted a Vacation Bible School Reimagined from August 10-14, 2020. Our theme was “Surf Shack-Catch the Wave of God’s Amazing Love.” It was our FIRST EVER VIRTUAL Vacation Bible School!

We also hosted a Back-to-School Drive from August 2-31, 2020. We were able to provide the necessary school supplies to over 200 children in our community.

On August 28, 2020 we hosted a Life Line Screening in our Church. There were 55 people served from our community during this day!

From September to November 2020 we compiled a resource of information regarding the Election for November 3, 2020. We hosted a Voter Registration Drive.

On September 12, 2020 the CWF also hosted a Yard Sale all while maintaining safety precautions and adherence to social distancing.

In October 2020 we Raised the Roof for our church sanctuary! The Disciple’s Women sponsored and supported the Scleroderma Walk on October 6, 2020 that was held virtually!

On October 31, 2020 we hosted a “Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat” where we lined up cars 6 feet apart and handed out prepackaged bag to each car as they “drive thru” on the gravel road. Thank you to all the volunteers who decorated your trunk!

CWF sponsored a Winter Coat Drive beginning November 8, 2020 to December 6, 2020. We gave winter clothing to many people in our community!

In November we hosted a Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive Thru where we served thanksgiving dinner to 39 families! The highest amount to date!

In December we also hosted Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes and filled them with great gifts for a boy or girl some place in the world. We dedicated the boxes and delivered them! We also hosted a Toy Drive and gave away hundreds of toys to families in our community!

This review of 2020 shows just how dedicated this church is to serve the needs of others through mission, offering, and service. We can proudly say that We Are The Church We Say We Are!

**Submitted by: Katie Jones,
Church Secretary**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN FEBRUARY 2021:

Blanket Sunday Church World Service on
February 7

Week of Compassion Special Offering from
February 21 & 28, 2021



The Park View TOY STORY.

This is a story that is not fiction but is filled with miracles. It is a story that reflects the desire to want to just DO SOMETHING during this time of being more quarantined. Pastor Will and his wife Kelly were a part of a Nonprofit group called Pandas Fight Against Cancer. This group did a big project to collect toys for the needy kids, but wound up with quite a few extra toys to give away. Guess who received this truck load of toys.... Park View did! Pastor Will came with a lot of boxes to unload. We quickly needed to figure a way to distribute these wonderful donated gifts. A display was set up in our Fellowship Hall on four 8 foot tables. Then the word went out to our church family. We had 10 families come and pick out some toys to give away. Then we made 40 bags with a couple toys in each and they were given out during our Food Pantry Drive Thru on Dec. 23! So many people were happy and excited. You could see joy in their eyes. We still had a large box of toys left. After giving some thought – we carried these last toys to EDMARC in

Portsmouth, Va., which is a Hospice for children with terminal diseases. Again, the joy of having these new toys given to them to share with these children, was evident. All of this was done using the safest methods of social distancing, wearing masks and gloves and contactless delivery. What an amazing time in church history- Thank you to all who worked with this project, but special thanks to Pastor Will and Kelly for initiating this miracle.

PARK VIEW TOY STORY!



Number of Families Served in December at Food Pantry

2: CLOSED
9: 43 families
16: 49 families
23: 53 families
30: 43 families

**Please come out
and volunteer!**

**OPEN EVERY WEDNESDAY
from 11 am to 1 pm**

**We are collecting
grocery plastic bags
for distribution.**

Christian Women's Fellowship Winds Up the Year 2020

What can we say, but Wow! What a Year 2020 has been! In many ways we are glad to see it over and ready for a new start. New ideas, new goals, new hope! We all have said repeatedly, that this year has been filled with stressors that most of us have never experienced. A global Pandemic of COVID 19, economic slump, social and racial unrest and violence, plus political chaos. Yes it has been a year like no other. BUT, through it all we have kept our focus on the mission of the church and tried to keep doing what God has called us to do. Through it all, God has been with us and gave strength and light- in times of darkness.

Some of the activities that have been accomplished by our Women's Fellowship, have been monthly ZOOM Bible Studies- which will resume in

January. We sponsored a Drive Thru Baby Shower for Tamara and Jeremy Russell on Dec. 12. The group got donated little gifts and treats and made large Christmas Gift Bags for our Elderly Homebound members and delivered them to their doors! That was lots of fun. The Winter Coat Drive and outerwear ended Dec. 6 and was a big success. We wound up with 26 Adult Coats, 16 Hoodies, 9 Kids coats, 16 hats, 14 scarfs, 15 pr. Socks and 40 pr. Gloves and 2 blankets. All this was delivered to Sanctuary of Hope to be distributed to many homeless people and the needy. Just knowing that this will help provide warmth on a cold night- is a blessing for all involved. Many thanks to ALL who donated. There will be even more opportu-

nities in 2021 to get involved and find creative ways to safely serve our church and the local and global community! We want to wish each of you a Happy New Year and pray for your continuous health and happiness. Let's make 2021 the best!

Gina Artz, CWF Pres.



January 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Epiphany Sunday			Food Pantry 11-1 pm			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Pastor's Cabinet Meeting via Zoom @ 7pm	CWF Bible Study via Zoom @ 7:30 pm	Food Pantry 11-1 pm			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<i>Martin Luther King Day</i> Fire Chat w/ Pastor Will @ 7pm		Food Pantry 11-1 pm OASIS @ 6am	Elder's Meeting via Zoom @ 7 pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			Food Pantry 11-1 pm			
31						

Family News & Prayer Requests

Mitchell Daniels suffers from frequent lung infections because of cystic fibrosis.

Warren Brennan is receiving treatment for his knee pain.

Leo Ruffing has COPD and Parkinson's disease. Prayers are needed for protection and great health.

Peter Austin, son of Ken & Joan Austin, has Huntington's Disease.

Allen Powell will have further radiation treatment for lung cancer and is battling lung cancer.

Janice Cubberly is suffering from pain in

her right arm/hand. Prayers are needed.

Sonny, Shirley Byrd's brother, is battling cancer at home and is receiving dialysis treatments and is in need of prayers.

Lindsay Abess and family would appreciate your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Carolyn Smith is in need of prayers! She has been in and out of the hospital with health complications.

Kathy Person, Gina Artz's cousin, is in serious condition battling cancer. Prayers are requested.

Jean Credle, our beloved "Bread Lady", requests prayers as she recovers at the hospital, will need further radiation treatments for cancer and is battling COVID 19.

Jillian McHugh is recovering from COVID-19 and needs prayers for recovery.

Alice Langston was recently hospitalized and has serious kidney disease.

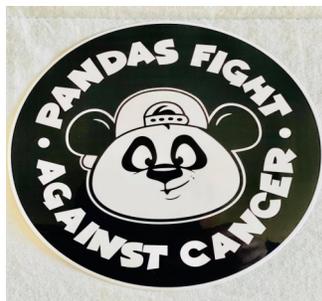
Christine Hodgkiss and Family, please pray for her and her family as they go through an extremely difficult time dealing with a family crisis.

Exciting NEWS!

We are beyond excited to announce the news that Pastor Will, his wife Kelly Collins, and their beautiful daughters, Micah, Eliana, and Ava are expecting a new addition to their family in Summer of 2021! Congratulations Pastor Will and the Collins' family!



Our Wonderful 2020 Sponsors for our Food Pantry: Thank you!



Dear Lord,

Open my heart to Your Word so that I can hold tightly to it's truth. Dwell in me Holy Spirit and guide my words and actions so that I may serve others. Father, please change me from the inside out. Make my heart like Yours and help me to see all people as Your children. Let me serve You with a glad heart and share the Good News of Jesus Christ in even the darkest corners of the earth. May perseverance and faithfulness be my daily goal. Whatever good I accomplish may I give all the glory back to You when I hit my knees again tonight. I pray in name of Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:14.

"I will ask the Father and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever." John 14:16.



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Sign Up:

For Kingdom Building devotionals by emailing your email address to Church email

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for January 2021

3: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1: (1-9), 10-18

10: Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11

17: I Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20), Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, I Corinthians 6:12-20, John 1:43-51

24: Jonah 3:1-5, 10, Psalm 62:5-12, I Corinthians 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20

31: Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Psalm 111:1, I Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:210-28



Serving Elders

3: Mike Tefft & Judy Harman
10: Gina Artz & Janet S.
17: Judy Harman & Carolyn Jones
24: Bonnie Gifford & Janet S.
31: Mike Tefft & TBD

We are OPEN for Sunday Church Service!

We remain committed to serving you and meeting your spiritual needs. If you are unable to attend service, we are available via phone, email, on Facebook, and Zoom. Pastor Will has made arrangements for online Sunday sermons to contain on **FaceBook @parkviewccdoc.**



- 5 Sandra Rhoads
- 12 Nicholas Buldis
- Laurie Melms
- 14 Micah Collins
- 16 Achilles McHugh
- 27 Mike Tefft
- Chip Artz

Please call (757) 484-1776 or email at parkvieccdoc@verizon.net to enroll in our "All Call" service to receive weekly announcements and reminders through your phone!

Also, sign up for email devotionals by emailing your email address to parkviewccdoc@verizon.net.

Wish to give online? Visit https://tithely.give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1300636

**Park View Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

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Address Service Requested



WE'RE OPEN!!

Drive-Thru Food Pantry

Every Wednesday of the Month

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

All are Welcome!

Perishable & Non-Perishable Food Available

No Income Restriction

Please contact us if you require any additional assistance.

We are here for you!

Go Green! Go Paperless!
Get the newsletter earlier -
by opting to receive a color PDF
copy of the newsletter.
Email parkviewccdoc@verizon.net to sign up!

