



# Park Presbyterian Church

November 5, 2020

## Weekly Park Branches

### This Weeks Sermon

“Co-Creators of Community”

Rev. Bob Goossen

### Scriptures

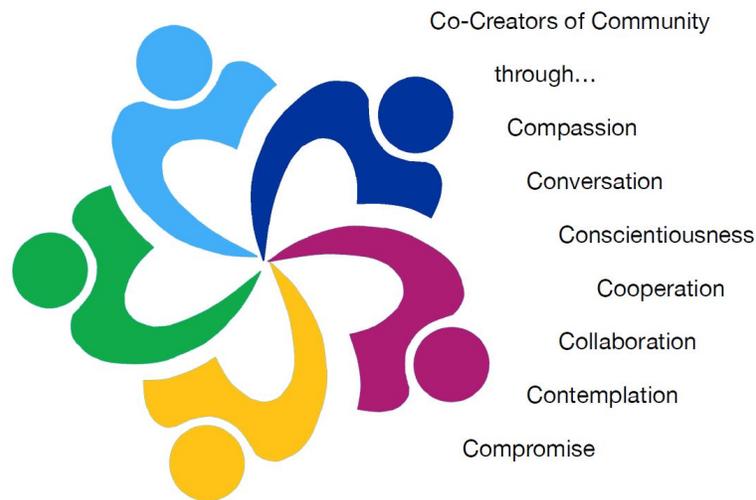
[Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25](#)

### Contact Us

[RevGoossen@parkpres.org](mailto:RevGoossen@parkpres.org)

724-775-2936

As God’s children...for all whom God loves...we can be...



Dear Park Family & Friends,

I begin with a sincere thank you for the prayers, cards and notes of concern during the last weeks as step-mom Marilyn declined and finally received her heavenly reward. It was a time of waiting, blessed with remembering and sharing stories, but also with a natural level of anxiety. When I finally decided to ‘just go’ she died while I was in route. That was fine, and I was grateful to be able to be with Dad and our families. I also want to say a word of thanks for the pastor appreciation notes during the month of October. I am very blessed to be a part of the Park family in these days.

Waiting, be it at the bedside of a loved one, or for any of a plethora of our desires, is often a challenge. In this age of 24/7 news, texts and emails, we have gotten conditioned to having things, well, instantly. We get packages overnight, we stream movies or television shows at our very whim, the list could go on.

Waiting, it seems to me, is a part of God’s design for our world. *“Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient.”* (James 5:7-8) James encourages the readers of his letter to be patient even as he anticipates that Jesus will return soon, maybe even in his lifetime. Still, the analogy of waiting, like the farmer waits for crops to ripen, is quite appropriate for much in these days.

This week we are waiting for election results, for every ballot to be counted. And then we may wait some more. It is a week with an abundance of anxiety in our nation. We must be patient. And we must be extra patient and kind with each other and our neighbors as the emotions of this season are processed. We might wish for instant resolve and return to

normalcy but that will take time. We're pretty wound up and we will need to be exceptionally empathetic in these next days.

Finally, a word of gratitude to the Park Pastor Nominating Committee for the excellent letter in last week's Park Branches. May we be patient as we wait through the next weeks or months until they bring a candidate to the congregation. And as always, may we cover every person and every issue in prayers for a peace that comes as only Jesus Christ can grant, even as also we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus."

ever in hope, pastor bob

### **Sunday Worship as Park Apart**

The live worship video will be available on Sunday starting at 11:00 am, and you can continue to find us anytime thereafter at <https://www.parkpres.org/swl-sunday-worship-live>. The bulletin for the service can also be found on the [Sunday Worship page](#) of our site. If you have announcements or prayer requests, please send them to Pastor Bob on Sunday morning via email: [revgoossen@parkpres.org](mailto:revgoossen@parkpres.org) or call/text 724-464-4032.



### **ADOPT- A-BOOK SUNDAY This Week**

What: Choose from a diverse selection of books for donation to our Park Church Library.

When: Sunday, November 8—before and after worship

Where: The Gathering Area

How: Peruse the available books, select one (or more!) books, decide if you would like to donate in memory or honor of someone special. Payment will be checks or cash only, and should be made at the time of donation.

Why: To help our church library *GROW!!*

### **Time to Prepare Your Thanksgiving Bags**

The leaves are changing and the frost is on the pumpkins, which means it is time for our annual Thanksgiving Bag food collection. Park Cares canvas bags were handed out on Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup> with a list of items needed to provide local families with a delicious Thanksgiving meal. If you weren't there on Sunday, you can pick up a bag in the Gathering Area anytime. But you don't need the bag—just check out the list of items needed below. The list is only suggested items. Please feel free to include any of your favorite Thanksgiving foods. The Deacons provide the turkeys and all the perishable items to add to your donations to provide a complete Thanksgiving meal.



Pack your bag and bring it to the Gathering Area on Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. You may also drop them off in the Gathering Area any time prior to November 18<sup>th</sup>. Please double check the expiration dates before bringing the items to church.

With all the new 2020 issues, we will not deliver the Thanksgiving bags and boxes as we have done in the past. We are going to have the families in need stop on Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup> at the Pavilion to get all the supplies for their Thanksgiving feast.

The Deacons thank you, in advance, for your help in making this a successful outreach to families in need in Beaver County.

**Suggested Items for Thanksgiving Bags:**

- |                          |                |  |            |                     |        |
|--------------------------|----------------|--|------------|---------------------|--------|
| Canned vegetables        | Canned fruit   | Boxed mashed potatoes                  | Applesauce | Turkey gravy        |        |
| Cranberry jelly or sauce | Boxes of Jello | Flour                                  | Rice       | Canned pie fillings | Olives |
| Corn bread Mix           | Pickles        | Boxed desserts (cakes, brownies, etc.) |            |                     |        |



**Advent Candle Lighting Families Needed**

Family candle lighting the four weeks of Advent has been a tradition at Park for decades, but because of COVID we must celebrate the coming of Christ differently this year. The short ceremony will be recorded by four volunteer families at each home during Advent Sundays and then played during the Advent services in the sanctuary and online.

Pastor Bob will provide each week’s reading for recording this tradition at each families’ convenience. Fancy equipment isn’t needed—a laptop or smartphone is fine—and the recording can be emailed to our church.

The four Sundays are November 29<sup>th</sup>, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>.

Would your family like to volunteer for this tradition? Please contact Pastor Bob by phone or email

**Advent Book Study**

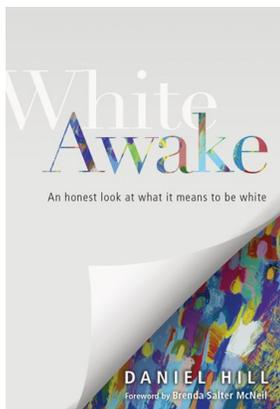
**CHRISTMAS IN THE FOUR GOSPEL HOMES**

How might a house look for Christmas based on what each Gospel says about it? This Advent, along with author Cynthia M. Campbell, we will be reflecting on the distinctive perspective of the birth of Jesus or the incarnation offered by each Gospel. *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* creatively re-imagines the season and inspires new and exciting reflection for Advent.



When: November 29-December 20; 9:45 a.m., Guild Hall

Please let Roxanne Walker know if you will be attending by November 19, so that we can order a book for you. Hope you can join us!



**New Addition to the Library**

"*White Awake* is a call to tell the truth. It is a call to follow Jesus. It is a call to find our deepest sense of identity in Christ, but also to realize that those who are white can't get there without breaking free of the distorted sense of identity they have internalized from the narrative of racial difference. . . . As you encounter Daniel's story of wrestling with his own ethnic identity, I hope that his honest reflections create a safe environment for others to embark on a similar path. For those who take the journey, this book has the potential to change hearts and minds and help Christians reclaim a message of reconciliation that repairs our interracial relationships and the structures that mediate those relationships. Let the awakening to racial and social healing begin!

—From the foreword by Brenda Salter McNeil

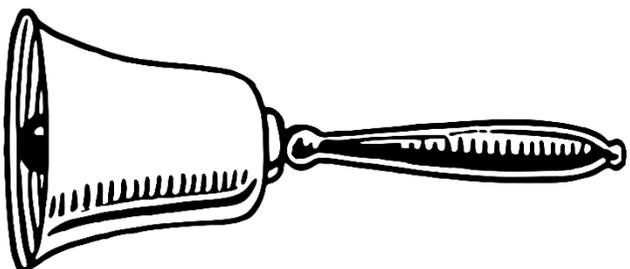
### Cookbook Update

We are in the process of proofing, printing, and assembling. It will be ready for purchase no later than Sunday, November 15. Remember it will make a great Christmas gift!



### Handbells to Resume Ringing

Handbells are coming back! Rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, November 10th at 6:00 pm and continue through Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in Guild Hall and observe social distancing requirements. This is a wonderful opportunity if you've wanted to try bells for the first time or if you're a long time pro!



If you're interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Eric so that an appropriate amount of stations can be prepared: 724-841-5810 or [Eric@ParkPres.org](mailto:Eric@ParkPres.org).

### Card Party for Mary Matthews

On November 21, Carol Manion's mother will be turning 90 years old. Let's make her feel loved! Cards can be sent to 680 Canal Street, Apartment 106, Beaver, PA 15009.



HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

### Celebrating Birthdays this Week:

Kathy Bittner	5
Cindie Glover	5
Todd Phillips	8
Chuck Copeland	9
Pete Steege	9
Kathy Johnston	10
Cheryl Leonard	11