

*WE WELCOME YOU to worship this morning! We are glad you are here, and we invite you to worship with us regularly! If you are a visitor, or if you have a prayer or pastoral concern, please use the appropriate card in the pew rack.*

**PRAYER CONCERNS** – Ann Buchanan, Mildred Brown, Gibby Crummett, Terri Smith, Meade Loomis, Ronnie Broce, Helen Breeden, Clay Graham, Jean Goshorn, Patsy Shull, Nan Brown, Kathleen Gilmer, Lenwood Shiflet, Robin Moyer, Brayden Kier, Marie Wood, Kate Houff, Buddy Wright, Jake Ott, Bobbi Harmon, Sam Arnold, Ruby Durham, Tim Malcolm, Ruth Rathburn, Rick Shiflet, Benjamin Arneson

**CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 20, 2015:**

TODAY 9:55 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
THURSDAY 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service  
FRIDAY Church Office Closed ~ No Bible Study This Week  
NEXT MONDAY ~ Church Office Closed

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** – We are now receiving the Christmas Joy Offering, which supports retired ministers, missionaries, and other church workers and their spouses, whose retirement funds are insufficient for their needs, as well as racial/ethnic colleges affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four denominational offerings Hebron collects, along with the One Great Hour of Sharing offering at Easter, the Pentecost offering on Pentecost, and the Peacemaking offering on World Communion Sunday, the first Sunday in October. Offering envelopes are available in the Vestibules and Session Room.

**HEBRON'S CHRISTMAS CARD** – The Commitment/Witness Committee has posted a Community Christmas Card on the bulletin board outside the Choir Room. Everyone is invited to use this for your Christmas greetings to others, and then contribute to the church the money that would have been spent sending individual cards to other members. The money received will go to Renewing Homes Greater Augusta, which helps to repair and improve homes for those in need in our community to be sure residents can be safe, warm, dry, and accessible. If you wish to make a contribution to the organization through Hebron, mark your donations "Christmas Card." Thank you for your support.

**LAST FIVE WEEKS' OFFERINGS:**

<u>Dec 13</u>	<u>Dec 6</u>	<u>Nov 29</u>	<u>Nov 22</u>	<u>Nov 15</u>
\$5,230	\$4,120	\$1,489	\$3,093	\$3,596

**HEBRON'S CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** will be Thursday, Dec. 24, at 8:00 p.m. A *Service of Lessons & Carols* will include Scripture lessons from the story of Christmas, and the singing of hymns and/or selected verses from favorite Christmas songs and hymns. We will also celebrate the Lord's Supper, and close with a candlelight singing of *Silent Night*. Please join us for this special service.

**A Christmas Poem**

Yet if his majesty our sovereign lord  
Should of his own accord  
Friendly himself invite,  
And say "I'll be your guest to-morrow night."  
How should we stir ourselves, call and command  
All hands to work! "Let no man idle stand.  
Set me fine Spanish tables in the hall,  
See they be fitted all;  
Let there be room to eat,  
And order taken that there be no want of meat.  
See every sconce and candlestick made bright,  
That without tapers they may give a light.  
Look to the presence: are the carpets spread,  
The drapery o'er the head,  
The cushions in the chairs,  
And all the candles lighted on the stairs?  
Perfume the chambers, and in any case  
Let each man give attendance in his place."  
Thus if the king were coming would we do,  
And 'twere good reason too;  
For 'tis a duteous thing  
To show all honour to an earthly king,  
And after all our travail and our cost,  
So he be pleas'd, to think no labour lost.  
But at the coming of the King of Heaven  
All's set at six and seven:  
We wallow in our sin,  
Christ cannot find a chamber in the inn.  
We entertain him always like a stranger,  
And as at first still lodge him in the manger.

*By Thomas Ford (1580-1648),  
English composer and poet*

**A Knight of Bethlehem**

There was a Knight of Bethlehem  
Whose wealth was tears and sorrow;  
His men-at-arms were little lambs,  
His trumpeters were sparrows;



**Christmas**

As shadows cast by cloud and sun  
Flit o'er the summer grass,  
So, in Thy Sight, Almighty One,  
Earth's generations pass.  
And as the years, an endless host,  
Come swiftly pressing on,  
The brightest names that earth can boast  
Just glisten and are gone.

Yet doth the star of Bethlehem shed  
A luster pure and sweet:  
And still it leads, as once it led  
To the Messiah's feet.  
O Father, may that holy star  
Grow every year more bright,  
And send its glorious beams afar  
To fill the world with light.

*By William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878),  
American poet and journalist*

His castle was a wooden cross,  
Whereon He hung so high;  
His helmet was a crown of thorns  
Whose crest did touch the sky.

*By English poet H.N. Maugham*