# HB PRES IN FOCUS

## A THRILL OF HOPE



HBPRES.NET

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We live in a weary world, fractured by division and despair. Yet, the thrill of hope persists. This month, we celebrate the call that asks us to imagine, share, and create a brighter future together.

# WORSHIP THIS MONTH

## A THRILL of HOPE

## GROCERY CART LIST

The Grocery Cart, located in the front foyer, collects items needed by our local ministry partners. During December, all donations will go toward **Cabbage Patch**, a local nonprofit that builds long-term relationships to empower young people and their families to reach their full potential. Harvey Browne partners with Cabbage Patch especially during the holiday season, helping provide Christmas gifts and support for local families. Your generosity helps make the season brighter for the children and families served by this important ministry. The following items are requested:

- Dove soap bars (or Dove equivalent)
- Cleaning supplies (bathroom cleaners, bleach, sponges, etc.)
- Unscented feminine hygiene pads and tampons
- Dishwashing Liquid
- Free & Clear laundry detergent
- Toilet paper
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes

## CHURCH CALENDAR

For the full church calendar, head to the last page or to our website: hbpres.net/calendar.



## Sunday Worship Volunteers

### USHERS

**December 6:**
Anne Hughes*
Gail Hudson
Jeanne Luhr
Dee Pregliasco

**December 13:**
Lynn Overstreet*
JoAnna Overstreet
Leight Wilson
Margaret Wilson

**December 20:**
Bob Smith*
Mike Rodgers
Pam Bliven
Becky Evans

**December 24 Christmas Eve:**
Meg Buckner*
Steve Buckner
George Creznic
Sandy Creznic

**December 27:**
Kelly Burke*
Joni Burke
Steve Schulte
Angie Schulte

### LAYREADERS

**December 6:**
Kevin Gilman

**December 13:**
Mattie Pollock

**December 20:**
Choir Music Sunday

**December 27:**
John Johnson

# LIFE TOGETHER





## Harvey Browne Book Groups

Join the **Pastor's Book Group** for discussion on *This is the Door: The Body, Pain, and Faith* by Darcey Steinke. Join us on December 6 at 4:00pm in the Living Room. All are welcome.

**Bookanalia** will meet on Weds December 16 following Weds night dinner in the Session Room and zoom to discuss *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Our discussion will be led by Marisue Coy.

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Debi Ballard, Ben Blake, Martha Brown, Jackie Cain, Lavona Casson, Vicki Crowner, Doug Curnutte, Katherine Effinger, Wally Ellis, Mary Esch, Claire Evans, Allen Gilfert, Jim Guinn, Gaines Harrison, Anne Hickey, Eric Hilyerd, Donovan Hoert, Harry Hunt, Shelley Koczot, Jim Mackell, Annie McCanless, Veda Pendleton, Lucy Rapp, Janet Redford, Peter Ritchie, Allison Scheynost, Terri Shearrow, Jonathan Sutphin, Rick Williams, Leight Wilson, Adam Witt, Rhonda Woodcock, Evelyn Yu, Graham Zuber

## Whole Church Announcements

- **"A Thrill of Hope":** Our Advent series this year is by Illustrated ministries. They have put out a weekly devotional and family advent calendar which you can pick up in the foyer.
- A contemplative Advent service offering comfort, hope, and light amid life's darkness, *Hope in the Dark*, is being offered on **Thursday, December 17 at 6pm** in the chapel.
- **December 20** is both our Christmas Music service and the Christmas Joy offering.
- **Christmas Eve service will be held December 24th at 6pm**
- **Sunday, December 27** there will be no Sunday School, and the 1st Sunday of Christmas will be in the style of Lessons and Hymns. You are encouraged to wear your festive Christmas sweaters on this Sunday!

## Special Events This Month

12/05 @ 10a PW Christmas Coffee
12/06 @ 3p Louisville Winds Annual Concert
12/13 @ 4p Sing We Now of Christmas Pageant
12/17 @ 6p Hope in the Dark service
12/20 @ 10:30a Rejoice! music Sunday
12/24 @ 6p Christmas Eve Service
12/27 @ 10:30a Lessons & Carols Sunday

The Nominating Committee will be gathering in the coming weeks to nominate candidates for the roles of elder, trustee and deacon. If you would like to nominate yourself or another member of the church to one of these roles, please fill out the online form or call Cheryl Granger in the church office at 502-896-1791.
Nomination Form

# ADULTS + CONNECTIONS

## First Impressions Gatherings

Over two years ago, Session created a task force to explore the future of the Chapel wing. That work expanded into a vision for our entire facility, and the building committee is eager to share what they've discerned. In early December, the committee will host two "first impression" gatherings to share their vision and hear from the Harvey Browne family as we consider next steps. We hope everyone will attend one gathering!

December 2 - 6:00pm
December 6 - 11:30am (lunch provided)
RSVP at hbpres.net/sign-up

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Breakfast is offered each week in Eline Hall from 9:00—9:30 with classes beginning at 9:30.

**HBUniversity** - Sue Garrett will be teaching on views on the return of Christ during Advent. HBU meets in the Session Room.

**Sharing Our Journey** - We will be reading the book *The Redemption of Scrooge* by Matt Rawle during Advent. Journey meets in the Living Room.

**FRIENDS Class** - This fall, we've been reading *Seeing & Being Jesus in the World: How to Live God's Radical Welcome as a Family* by Mihee Kim-Kort. FRIENDS meets in room 209.

**No breakfast or Sunday school on December 27 and January 3.**

**PW CHRISTMAS COFFEE**

Join PW for Christmas coffee, fellowship, and caroling with Ben and Megan Durham in Eline Hall, December 5 at 10am. Everyone is welcome!

**BOOK GROUPS**

Pastor's Book Group - Dec. 6
*This is the Door* by Darcey Steinke
Bookanalia - Dec. 16
*Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi

**PRIME TIME**

Deeper Connections will begin a new book study in the new year on *Conscious Living, Conscious Aging* by Ron Pevny.

**CABBAGE PATCH**

Wrapping the gifts for Cabbage Patch familes continues in December until the delivery day on December 13, after worship.

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

Come and see the nativity story as told by the children of the church on Sunday afternoon, December 13 at 4:00pm. Reception to follow.



# CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES








## YOUTH

**12/6** Youth Group Caroling
**12/13** Host Pageant Reception
**12/20** Christmas Party

Our youth had a great retreat to Camp Loucon in November! We rock climbed, enjoyed nature, and had lessons around a "words and deeds" theme.



## LIFT

4th-5th Lift - December 20
4:00-5:30pm

This fall, the 4th and 5th graders have been exploring the sacraments in our 4th-5th Lift meetings. We've played with water and enacted baptisms and baked bread and sampled grape juices to explore communion.

## FAMILIES

**Advent Buddies** - Make sure to check your Advent Buddy mailbox on the ramp between the Living Room and the foyer for notes and small gifts throughout the season of Advent!

**Christmas Pageant** - Sunday afternoon, December 13 at 4:00pm. Dress rehearsal will be Saturday, December 13 at 9:30am.

**Winter Sabbath**

- No breakfast or Sunday school on December 27 or January 3.
- No Wednesday night activities December 23 and 30.
- Wednesday night resumes January 6 (Epiphany!).





## SPOTLIGHT



Each month, we'll shine a spotlight on a person, ministry, event, or program that helps make Harvey Browne such a vibrant community. Through these conversations, we hope you'll get to know the people, stories, and passions that shape our life together. This month, we're delighted to feature **Scott Blake**. We sat down with Scott to learn more about her journey, her connection to Harvey Browne, and what this community has meant to her over the years. We hope you enjoy getting to know her through the interview below!

**How did you first become connected with Harvey Browne?**

We connected with Harvey Browne when we moved to Kentucky in 1999! My husband, Ben took a position with the Presbyterian Headquarters here. Before I arrived Ben had narrowed the search for a church down to 2-3 possibilities. After going on a trip with the youth group, our son, Winston announced that he was going to Harvey Browne- no matter where we attended! So soon after that, we decided this needed to be our Church Home for our family!

**What is one thing you love about this church that you wish more people knew about?**

The meaningful church services, our staff, volunteer connections and the wonderful friends we've made here over the years is what keeps us coming back.

**What is something you do at Harvey Browne that people might not know about?**

A few of us organized a Pickleball Group! We play in the gym on Sunday afternoons. I've always loved racket sports, and it's been fun to watch our group have fun playing together and even improve a bit. I've also loved singing hymns with a small group. We visit and sing to shut ins and members in retirement homes who can no longer attend our services.



**What is something you're looking forward to at Harvey Browne?**

The Passing of the Peace, the Sermon, the children's Time, our Music just can't be described- it has to be experienced!

> **"... [Harvey Browne] just can't be described- it has to be expereinced!"**

# MISSION & COMMUNITY

## YEAR-END GIVING REMINDER

As we approach the end of 2026, we would like to remind members and friends of Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church that contributions must be received by the church in time to qualify as charitable deductions for the 2026 tax year.

To ensure your gift is credited for 2026, please make sure your contribution is:

- Received in the church office by **Thursday, December 31, 2026;**
- **Postmarked on or before December 31, 2026** if mailed; or
- Placed in the offering plate on **Sunday, December 27, 2026.**

If you are planning to make a stock donation, please begin the process no later than the week before year-end to allow sufficient time for the transfer to be completed and received by the church before December 31. A reminder for taxpayers: **For 2026, individuals who take the standard deduction may still deduct up to $1,000 in cash charitable contributions, or up to $2,000 for married couples filing jointly,** subject to IRS rules and limitations.

If you have any questions about year-end giving or need assistance with a stock transfer, please contact Cheryl Granger in the church office. We are grateful for your faithful support of Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church and its ministries throughout the year.

## LOUISVILLE WINDS ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT

Celebrate the sounds of the season with Louisville Winds Annual Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 6, at 3:00 PM at Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church! Join us for an afternoon of festive music, holiday favorites, and seasonal cheer. We look forward to celebrating the holidays with you!



# PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTIONS

This Advent, join Presbyterian across the country in supporting the PC(USA)'s Christmas Joy Offering, a tradition of generosity dating back to the 1930s. Guided by Micah 6:8 and the call to "walk humbly with your God," this offering supports those who strengthen and shape the church, past, present and future. Gifts provide financial assistance to current and retired church workers and their families facing hardship, support Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that equip communities of color, and nurture development for people of color. The 2026 offering also supports ministries serving children at risk and helping young people grow in faith and leadership through programs such as Presbyterian Youth Triennium and Young Adult Volunteers. Every gift, large or small, becomes part of a shared expression of compassion, hope and care. Participate in this special offering through Harvey Browne Sunday December 20th in worship, or give online at pcsua.org/christmasjoy.



## NOTES FROM SESSION

The Session of Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church met for a regular Stated Meeting on November 3. Following a prayer by Tom Hughes the following business was handled:

· Received into membership Kristy Hubert.
· Heard reports from Megan Durham on the Worship Arts Ministry.
· Christine and Katherine shared their reports for the month of October.
· Christine spoke to First Impressions Gatherings that the Building Committee will host following dinner on Wednesday December 2 and following worship on December 6. These gatherings will give the congregation an opportunity to hear the Building Committee share its vision for changes to the building including the Youth Center, Chapel and building accessibility among other renovations.
· Reviewed financials as of September 30, 2026.
· Reviewed the church's insurance coverage.
· Approved rescinding the mandatory Covid-19 Vaccination Policy for the staff.
· Heard reports from committees.

Anne Hughes, Clerk of Session

## PASTOR AND STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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|---|---|
| **Rev. Christine Coy Fohr,** Pastor/Head of Staff | christine@hbpres.net |
| **Rev. Katherine Kupar**, Associate Pastor | katherine@hbpres.net |
| **Rev. Jim Hubert**, Coordinator of Pastoral Care | jim@hbpres.net |
| **Renata DeWees**, Director of Youth Ministries | renata@hbpres.net |
| **Meg Buckner**, Communications and Connections Minister | mbuckner@hbpres.net |
| **Megan Durham**, Director of Worship Arts | megan@hbpres.net |
| **Chris Harbeson-Borgelt**, Associate Director of Worship Arts , Accompanist | chris@hbpres.net |
| **Ben Durham**, Director of Chancel Choir | ben@hbpres.net |
| **Carl Enoch**, Sign Language Interpreter | carlenoch48@gmail.com |
| **Amy Squires**, Preschool Director (895-2577) | harveybrownepreschool@gmail.com |
| **Becca Wilson**, Parents' Day Out Director Ext. 119, | pdo@hbpres.net |
| **Tessy Farrell**, Nursery Coordinator | nursery@hbpres.net |
| **Cheryl Granger**, Church Administrator Ext. 104, | cherylgranger@hbpres.net |
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| **Grace Graves**, Admin. Assistant Ext. 100, | gracegraves@hbpres.net |

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Church Office Phone: (502) 896-1791
After-hours pastoral emergency number: (502) 208-8472
Harvey Browne Weekday Preschool: (502) 895-2577

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