



Protestant Fellowship Community Newsletter December, 2025

“Hope for Israel, Hope for Us”

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴ The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Jeremiah 18:1-4

How many of you who are reading this meditation think that this is a peculiar scripture for Advent? You are correct – it is a peculiar.

This was part of the scripture reading on August 31 in St. John’s UMC. In the verses that follow the ones above, God explains to Jeremiah that He can do to any nation the same thing that the potter does to the clay. He can break that nation and destroy it; and He can change His mind and not destroy. He can plan to do good for a nation that listens to His voice; however, if that nation does not listen to God’s voice, He can change His mind about doing good. Further, the people of Judah and Jerusalem have not listened to God’s voice.

While I have read and heard this scripture several times, on August 31 two items especially stood out for me. First, the clay used by the potter is not sentient; it does not think and make decisions on its own. Second, the potter does not throw away the clay from the ruined work-in-progress; instead, he reuses it.

Contrary to inanimate clay, the Israelites were capable of changing their ways. And, as Jeremiah saw what was done with the clay, God was going to bring hard times to the people of Judah and Jerusalem

In addition, and perhaps more important is the point that the potter does not discard the ruined clay. Instead, the potter keeps using it in order to shape a new object. And, extending the analogy, God is not going to discard the people of Judah and Jerusalem.

That is a great source of Hope!

No matter how much God’s chosen people disappointed Him, He was not going to discard them. Yes, He was going to chastise them and punish them; but the purpose for those actions was (and is today) based on His love for them.

I think this source of Hope cannot be repeated too often!

The purpose was (and is today) to get them to turn and follow Him. His purpose was (and is today) for them to be His people in the world.

***God of Hope, we thank you for continuing to work on us and to shape us
to be Your people in this world so that we can share Your Love in the world.
In Jesus’ name, Amen.***

Prayerfully submitted by John Hodges

Protestant Worship During Advent and December, 2025

**Each Sunday at 2:00 pm from the Chapel with Prelude at 1:45;
also on ACTV channel 976 (standard definition) / 980 (high definition)**

All are Welcome to join us in the Chapel on Sunday Afternoons

Sunday, Nov. 30	First Sunday of Advent - Hope Join us as we explore our Advent Hope through this Worship Service with Scripture Lessons, Meditations and Hymns exploring our Advent Hope. Prelude will begin at 1:30. Organist: Bud Williams; pianist: Betty Kingston.	
Sunday, Dec. 7	Second Sunday of Advent - Peace Rev. Susan Sciarratta, Long Branch Retirement, The Willows, Bethlehem, PA, will preach and officiate Communion. Prelude will begin at 1:45. Organist: Jane Smith; pianist: Betty Kingston.	
Sunday, Dec. 14	Third Sunday of Advent - Joy Rev. Stacy Carmondy, Deacon at Redemption Episcopal Church, Southampton, PA, will preach. Prelude will begin at 1:30. Organist: Bud Williams; pianist: Betty Kingston.	
Sunday, Dec. 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love Rev. Amy Martin, Pastoral Ministries Associate at Ann's Choice will preach. Prelude will begin at 1:45. Organist: Joan Kirk; pianist: Betty Kingston.	
Sunday, Dec. 28	First Sunday after Christmas Fr. Ernest Curtin, resident of Ann's Choice and retired Rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Newtown, PA, will preach. Prelude will begin at 1:45. Organist: John Keesey; pianist: Betty Kingston.	

Quiet Reflections and Prayers: The Chapel at Ann's Choice is open daily for private reflection when worship services and other events are not being conducted.

Ann's Choice Pastoral Associate

As Pastoral Associate, Rev. Amy Martin devotes part of her time supporting the Mission of the Protestant Fellowship Council. Stop by her office in Liberty Commons to introduce yourself and meet her. Or you can call and leave a message for her at (215) 443-3831; send an email (Amy.Martin@erickson.com); or write a note on an offering envelope and leave it in the offering plate at Chapel worship.

Protestant Page on the Resident Website:

You may find worship bulletins, hymns, newsletters and other information about the Protestant Fellowship at www.acresidents.org.

Ministries in Continuing Care: Monthly Protestant Communion service is held in Memory Care. Pastoral Visits and Home Communion are also available.

Also, each week, worship bulletins and hymns are delivered to residents at RG and CP and to those who have asked for them on a regular basis.

A **new ministry** is a monthly hymn sing and worship service at 11:00 am on the fourth Monday of each month. The next service will be on December 22. Contact Bud Williams (TC-107) at (267) 387-6188 to volunteer, or if you have questions.

Hand-Made Greeting Card Ministry: This Ministry group creates handmade cards for special holidays and occasions, and it meets on the **second Tuesday of each month** in the VC Craft / Pottery Room from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9.



Call Shanda for more info (513)739-6258, sfcuster@aol.com. Please join us; we need creative people, envelope stuffers, and cutters.

Second Saturday Cinema in December: On December 14, we will show the 2015 feature *Miracle Maker: A Christmas Tale* in the **Catering Room** at 7:00 pm with pre-show at 6:45. Woodhaven, a tiny town on the edge of the American frontier, needs a Christmas miracle.



This program is a ministry to residents at Ann's Choice and staff.

No donation will be requested. Your presence at this movie is your donation.

Singing Christmas Favorites: On Tuesday, **December 16**, Bud Williams, Betty Kingston, Mark Hueckroth and others will present an evening for people to join together singing favorite songs of Christmas in the Ann's Choice Chapel from 7:00 pm to 8:00. Freewill offering will benefit the Ann's Choice Benevolent Care Fund.



St. John's United Methodist Church Choirs: On Wednesday, **December 17**, the Adult and the Bell Choirs will return with a special evening of Christmas favorites in the Ann's Choice Chapel from 7:30 pm to 8:30. Freewill offering will benefit the Ann's Choice Benevolent Care Fund.



Chapel Worship Comments

We appreciate your thoughts, questions, or comments about your experience in Chapel on December _____. You may use this form to provide comments on:

1. Music: _____

2. Preacher: _____

Supporting Our Ministry and Mission: You can help support mission projects and ministries of the Protestant Fellowship. Donations may be enclosed in an envelope addressed to Rev. Martin and taken to any clubhouse front desk. Donations by check are preferred; please make the check payable to “A. C. – Protestant Fund”. On the memo line, please write “Donation.”

Protestant Fellowship Council Annual Meeting

The Council consists of 12 members elected by the Protestant Fellowship at the annual meeting. Current members are listed below. Each member has different gifts for ministry and leadership in the Protestant community, just as Paul described the church in 1 Corinthians 12:12.

The agenda for the **annual meeting on December 1 at 10:00 in the Liberty Catering Room** will include reports about our ministries and activities and election of new members of the Council. Terms of four Council members will expire at the end of 2025, and we will be electing four new members to serve three-year terms.

We ask you to consider serving on the Council. The council, as with any ministry group, functions best with members who each have different gifts. Some of us organize well; some speak well; some are thoughtful and prayerful; some are good listeners. Each is different. Each is a valuable member.

If you are asked to serve, seriously consider this new opportunity for ministry. Talk to a current member for more information.

Protestant Fellowship Council:

Our purpose is to bring glory to God in all that we pursue in and through the Protestant Faith Community

Members of the Protestant Fellowship Council in 2025					
Fr. Ernie Curtin	MT-214	Mark Heuckroth	HR-115	Bob Swan	BR-201
Jack Custer	MC-320	John Hodges	BC-412	Lynn Swan	BR-201
Dolores Ehrenfeld	BC-312	Betty Kingston	LP-407	Janet Wentz	PV-107
Trudi Hertfelder	BG-111	Polly Riddle	BG-120	Bud Williams	TC-107

3. The Worship Service: _____

4. Other: _____

(Optional Information) Your Name _____

Phone _____ Cubby _____

Please complete and detach this form; leave it with an usher when you leave the Chapel, or return this form to Fr. Ernie Curtin (MT-214) or John Hodges (BC-412).