

On The Wind

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Wacky Wednesday – Cambridge Presbyterian Church

The Cambridge kids had two really fun activities in the month of December 2019. First, they were treated to an audience with Santa Claus at the annual Soup Supper held on Saturday night, December 14. They got to hear Howard Redburn recite “’Twas the Night Before Christmas,” and Arlene Otto share the first Christmas story from the book of Luke. Then, eight of the children present for the evening’s festivities, as well as Rita Ashenfelter and Marsha Granberry, spent the night at the church. The sanctuary is always so peaceful when filled with sleeping (snoring) children. The next morning the kids helped fix cinnamon rolls and sausage rollups, and listened to Rita Ashenfelter read a favorite Christmas story. After some discussion and a prayer, the kids learned that Santa had come to the church during the night and left gifts under the tree. It was fun watching everyone open their Christmas present after playing a round of musical presents where everyone passed a present until the music stopped. It is fun to have Cambridge youth involved in activities that are special for them.

Then on December 18th five Cambridge youth met at the church and traveled to Winfield for a Christmas party at the Granberry’s. Before they returned home, they had a shopping spree at the Winfield Goodwill to purchase presents for a friend and make a donation from the church. Lots of great activities are being planned for the New Year for a great bunch of kids.



The above picture was from worship service on Sunday, December 22 at United Presbyterian Church in Sterling. The Christmas story from Luke was read, and there were stopping points at several places in the story to invite people to come forward (as the congregation sang) and choose a costume to become part of the story. We had two Marys, an 8 year old and an 83 year old. The 83 year old, whose name is Merry, had always wanted to be Mary and finally got her chance!



During the season at FPC Syracuse, Pastor Ardeen read a story to the congregation about Epiphany. The beautiful quilt depicting the Three Wise Men visiting baby Jesus was hanging at the front of sanctuary. It was made by Melanie Eddy.

2020 Presbytery of Southern Kansas meetings

February 8, 2020	First Presbyterian, Lyons
May 12, 2020	Grace Presbyterian, Wichita
August 11, 2020	Presbyterian Church, Garden City
November 10, 2020	First Presbyterian, Coffeyville

Bagpipes and Drums Commence Presbyterians' 150th Anniversary Celebration

The Wichita Caledonian Pipes & Drums heralded the beginning of the 150th Anniversary service, celebrating the founding of the El Dorado's First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Jan. 12th, at the building's original location 400 West Central. A typical 1870's worship service was led by the Reverend Ruth Waite, interim pastor, and the Reverend Laura Frazey, Moderator of the Presbytery of Southern Kansas and pastor of The Covenant Presbyterian Church, Wichita.



Contributing to the observance were the church's chancel and bell choirs. The service concluded with a second performance by the Caledonian Pipes and Drums, a nod to the Presbyterian Church's Scottish heritage. Nearly 200 current and former Presbyterian members attended the event followed by a congregational dinner in Fellowship Hall hosted by the 150th Anniversary Committee. The celebration closed with a program that included the presentation of a 150th Recognition Certificate and letter of congratulations from Jay Herbert Nelson, the Stated Clerk of PC(USA). This milestone was recognized with the unveiling of the 150th Anniversary Banner containing three logos representing the past, present, & future of the church and the presentation of a table crafted by church member Calvin Varner and enhanced with engravings of Christian symbols by Pam Bryson. Letters of congratulations were read from former pastors, Rev. Dr. Robyn Abel and Rev. Bill O'Connell, while interspersed among the presentations were readings, documenting the early history of the church. The church was founded on January 9, 1870, when eight individuals declared their intent to organize a Presbyterian Church and elected their first elder. The church's mission to love God, nurture people, and make disciples continues to this day.



USCIS welcomed 153 new US citizens at Wichita State University

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) welcomed 153 new citizens at 11 a.m. Friday, January 10, at WSU's Hughes Metroplex. U.S. District Court Judge J. Thomas Marten presided, and a clerk of the court administered the Oath of Allegiance. The citizenship candidates originated from 36 countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Congo (Kinshasa), Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, United Kingdom and Vietnam.

Jackie Williams, Kansas deputy attorney general, addressed the new citizens, Hamilton Middle School provided the color guard. The citizenship candidates live in Andover, Augusta, Bel Aire, Coffeyville, Colby, Derby, Dodge City, Garden City, Great Bend, Hays, Hesston, Hugoton, Independence, Kinsley, Liberal, Macksville, Newton, Plains, Quinter, Salina, Satanta, Syracuse, Ulysses and Wichita.

Jacques Kitwanga, one of the leaders of the Wichita Refugee Congregation Church which worships at Wichita-First, was one of the new citizens.

During fiscal year 2019, 834,000 people were naturalized at ceremonies throughout the USA which is an 11 year high.

Statistical reporting for 2019 **can be input now - Feb 18, 2020**. Go to <http://oga.pcusa.org/stats>, select *Denominational Rolls and Statistics* and click on *Go to the Online Statistics Entry*.