



First
Presbyterian
Church
of Waynesboro, Virginia

The Columns - *Online.*

December 31, 2020 | Waynesboro, Virginia | *a newsletter supplement.*

2021

HAPPY NEW YEAR

COVID average Incidence Rate per 100,000
from the Virginia Dept of Health.

Augusta County:	62
Harrisonburg	32
Staunton	29
Rockingham	60
Waynesboro	23
Average/100K	41.2

Session will schedule in person worship when the average incidence rate reaches 10 or less. For more information about incidence rates and their significance, click this link:

Click here to learn more about incidence:

**Covid
ActNow**



Kiran Bableshwar. *Sunrise on New Year*. Oil on Canvas

Happy New Year!

We open the year with the continuing celebration of Christmas. The opening hymn is *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*. The tune, *In dulci jubilo* (In sweet joy), was written in the 14th century by *Heinrich Susa* (1295-1366). The German monk and mystic said the tune came to him in a dream, complete with angels dancing and singing. The popular carol has inspired musicians ever since, and both the prelude and postlude this week are based on *In dulci jubilo*. *Johann Sebastian Bach* wrote more than one piece based on the carol. This week's postlude is the same one that is heard every year on Christmas Eve, at the end of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols from King's College, Cambridge. The prelude was composed by 20th century French virtuoso, *Marcel Dupré*. May you find "sweet joy" in this beautiful music!



At the beginning of every new year, we look forward into an uncertain future. What will the future bring? What is our place in it? We trust in the Lord, not only to show us the way, but to provide us with all that we need to honor his Call.

Please return your pledge card as a reminder to yourself and a planning aid for the session. Remember: during this time of enforced separation, the work of the church goes on. Mail your pledges and contributions to:

P.O. Box 877
Waynesboro, VA 2298

Sources of Information

click on the links

[PC\(USA\) News](#)

[Virginia Department of Health updates](#)

Sources of Inspiration

click on the links

[Daily Readings from the Lectionary](#)

[Jan Edmiston's Blog](#)

[The Upper Room Devotional](#)

Sources of Fun

click on the links

[Daily Christmas Countdown](#)

[Today's Holiday](#)

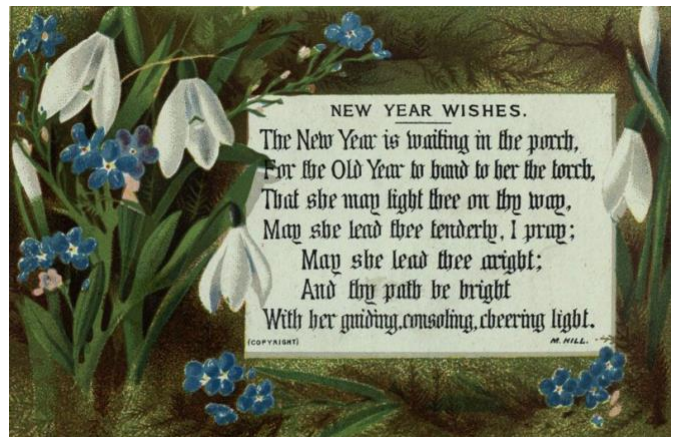
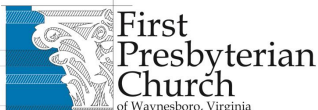
Virtual Worship.

click on the pic



FPC Waynesboro

12 subscribers



On New Year's Eve, the risk of exposure to and spreading of COVID-19 increases. We know what you're like; partying with your friends inside homes and other gathering spaces, which may have poor ventilation and little room for social distancing. This handy chart from the Virginia Department of Health can help you mitigate risk and/or plan safer gatherings.

LOW RISK

While determining risk level is ultimately up to you and your family, here are some lower risk winter holiday activities:



Having a small celebration or dinner with people who live in your household



Sending family and friends gifts in the mail or delivering them in contact-less way



Having a virtual dinner with family and friends



Watching sports and your favorite holiday movies from home



Buying gifts and decorations online

MODERATE RISK

While determining risk level is ultimately up to you and your family, here are some medium risk winter holiday activities:



Having a small outdoor dinner or celebration with family and friends who live in your community (Ask families to bring their own food, drinks, and utensils)



Visiting pumpkin patches, orchards, Christmas tree farms, etc. where people are using hand sanitizer, wearing masks, and practicing social distancing



Attending small outdoor sports events where safety precautions are in place and enforced

HIGH RISK

While determining risk level is ultimately up to you and your family, here are some higher risk winter holiday activities:



Attending large indoor celebrations, gatherings, dinners, etc. with people from outside your household



Shopping in crowded stores



Participating or being a spectator at crowded events like sports, races, caroling, parades, etc.



Using alcohol or drugs that may alter judgement and make it more difficult to practice COVID-19 safety measures