



The JPC Monthly

February 2026

THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR JAY

Snow Day

In the last two weeks we have had to cancel more things at JPC than I can even remember, with the obvious exception of COVID. If we get another batch of snow and ice, we may even rival that! While this really frustrates me it is also alarming how many people have fallen on the ice and had breaks, aches and pains, and some have even died. I have been really depressed to start this year. Two weeks in a row of recording a sermon on a Thursday had me feeling extremely disconnected from the body of Christ. I know my child is tired of me. Erin was in Florida all last week, so poor Julia has been in solitary confinement with me. Last week I shoveled at the church. In fact, I want to thank Cam Tally for his help moving ice with me. I would also like to thank Erica Bean and John Martin who pitched in. I spent so much time at the church that I didn't even do any work at my own house.



This week was a little different. With Erin home and a professional crew taking over at JPC, I turned my attention to the snow and then ice under the snow at my house. I am just old enough that my professors in seminary were from the old school. By this I mean that they were pastors in the fifties, sixties, and seventies before teaching. Now most professors have little to no church experience. I remember a professor telling us that the pastors should always be approachable. The front light should remain all night (we do that) and that leaves and snow and ice must be clear so that at any moment a person in crisis could come and knock on the door. This professor also served a church that would pay him weekly out of what was left in the offering after the bills were paid. He knew it would be a lean week when a couple of elders approached the parsonage with their hats in their hands holding some groceries and a chicken.

This has always been my practice. Even though most people call or text or email and many may not even know where I live, I have always tried to keep the drive clear. I joke and say that it is because I am from the North but really it is because of an old pastor in a JC Penney's suit telling me that this was the way. I went out to clear the snow every few hours and after the snow stopped, I even started to work on the ice. It was very slow going. In fact, there is still the bottom half of my drive that is covered in deep snow, and my little green Kia hasn't been touched since last Thursday. Each afternoon I go out and chip away a little more ice. I even had a scare. I was blowing off the last of the snow and did not realize that I stepped onto the ice. I slipped. But instead of going backwards I went forwards. I was wearing my heavy backpack blower at the time. I doubled over forward as I regained my balance. There was only one problem. The backpack blower (about 20 pounds) had pinned my chest on my knees, ON ICE. Thankfully, I was able to right myself without falling and no gas was dumped out all over me.

Sometimes we slip. Other times we feel trapped inside. Still other times we fall and break something. We often feel alone. We often feel sad or depressed. I have to admit that this type of storm was the exact reason Erin and I started looking for a church and decided to leave Pennsylvania. But as I sat around feeling antsy and longing to be with my church family I stopped to think about things.

I am not a meteorologist, but do you realize that if it hadn't been so cold that those ice pellets from the first storm would have melted in the atmosphere and fallen as crippling ice that would have surely knocked out the power for a long time. If the temperature was warmer for the second round of snow, then it would not have been fluffy powder but wet heavy snow and none of us would have been able to blow it off or maybe even lift it to shovel our drives. Even as we sit here wondering if the kids will ever go back to school I can tell you that this last week and a half or storms could have been much worse.

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Too often we overlook the bright side in the moment. Too often we think, "woe is me," instead of. "thank you, God." Maybe we need to slow down. Maybe we need to stop and think. Maybe it is sad that it takes a storm event to remind us of that and just how fortunate we are.

In Matthew 6:27 Jesus says, "And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?" In Proverbs Solomon writes, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." Proverbs 16:9. Just a few chapters later he again says, "Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off." Proverbs 23:18. Finally, the Apostle Paul writes, "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6.

I want to leave you with a famous line from the movie Bull Durham. Nuke quotes Crash when he gets to the big leagues near the end of the film. By now you might already know the quote, "Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose, and sometimes it rains." This is just another way of confirming the truth of scripture. Despite preparation, some outcomes are beyond our control, and this is a powerful truth that we must accept in life. When we are in Christ, we can rest in confidence that we are not just floating along in life. God's Spirit is with us, and God has a plan for us. Believe that this day. Stay safe and warm. See you in church, some day!

LEISURE FELLOWSHIP

Join us on Thursday, February 19 at noon in the Fellowship Hall for a delightful and inspiring Leisure Fellowship Luncheon featuring *The Glory Train*- a musical story of 11 women, each on their own journey to Heaven. This uplifting production is filled with humor, heart, and meaningful moments you won't want to miss. Please bring a dish to share, and a little extra to bless our wonderful *Glory Train* actors. Come hungry for good food, rich fellowship, and an inspiring message- and be ready to climb aboard!



Men of Jamestown Presbyterian Church 2026 PINE NEEDLE SALE

The Men of JPC are having our annual pine needle sale. The cost is **\$6.00** per bale, delivery included.

Deliveries will be the week beginning March 9th and should be completed by March 14th (weather permitting)

To order you may submit via sign up genius using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4DACCAC2A31-61622077-jpcmen>

You can also order by emailing JPC Men: jpcmensgroup@gmail.com or calling the church office 336-454-3718

Payment is due upon delivery. Cash and checks are accepted. Make checks payable to: Men of JPC

This project is sponsored by the Men of JPC and provides the primary funding for our outreach projects and mission work. Thank you!

WOMEN'S MONDAY EVENING CIRCLE "God, who cannot lie" Titus 1:2 NKJV



Please join us on February 16th at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our study lesson will be Chapter 10, titled "As Good as His Word." Cynthia Neel will be the devotions and study leader; and will provide refreshments for the evening.



Please join us Sunday, February 8th as JPC Outreach will be collecting both monetary and food donations for Rise Against Hunger. Since 2010, JPC has prepared over 185,000 meals - a start-to-finish meal assembly experience that combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a packet of 18 vitamins and minerals into meal packages that are delivered all over the world. Our goal this year is to pack 15,400 meals to reach a total of 200,000. The total cost for this is \$6,500 with each packaged meal costing .42 cents that feeds a family of 4.

We will have a cart set up at both services for food items and volunteers will be at the back of the CLC and Sanctuary to collect any cash\check donations. You can also donate by sending a check to the church office (note for Rise) or pay online. Donations for Rise can be made until February 25th.

A Rise Against Hunger packing event will be in the CLC on **March 1st from 4-6**. The signup link is below - This is a fun event for people of all ages!

Donate, Join Us and Pray to End Hunger

[Register – Rise Against Hunger](#)



JPC has a young adult /college and career Sunday school class (JCPYA). We study a devotion each week, discuss our weeks, and any concerns or “God Moments” we’ve had. On occasion we play games or go for coffee.

JCPYA class includes young adults, high school graduates, 18+ and up. Working folks, students, even the more “mature” or older folks, any age is invited. If you haven’t found the right class or are interested in trying ours PLEASE COME!

JCPYA class meets every Sunday morning at 10:00 am in the Parlor upstairs. Any questions? Contact Katie Heineman.

OUTREACH EVENTS!

Sandwich Ministry (Sunday Serve) In 2025 over 3000 sandwiches were prepared for our friends in downtown Greensboro. This is great for families or grab a friend to make 125 peanut butter sandwiches. Sign-up thru the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4D4CAC22A31-60642947-sunday>

Yard Sale– save the date! Start the spring cleaning! The JPC Outreach yard sale will be March 18-21st. This is a huge fundraiser for JPC missions. Contact the Outreach team on where to leave items. More information coming!

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JPC SESSION

Class of 2026

David Bean
Becky Brown
Nancy Seay
Anne Wright
Cam Tally

Class of 2027

Jim Gonsiewski
Kirk Lesley
Peggy Maynard
Kerry Miller
Jenny Rathjen
Dick Whitt

Class of 2028

Evy Hazenberg
Katie Heineman
Pam Hjelmquist
Rob Purdie
Randy Stroud
Ellen Winnett