

Volume 14, Issue 5

134 E. Mound St., Circleville, OH 43113

December 2015





May the spirit of Christmas quide your heart just as the wise men were guided by the star.

To our church family,

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous Christmas season, and a new year filled with hope and God's blessing.

From your church staff.

The Gift of Christmas

"An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:9-11

As I was preparing to write my Pres-Line article for the month I found this beautiful story told by Bishop Ernest Fitzgerald. It speaks to the mission of Christ's church.

On a cold, dreary December evening, several hundred people gathered at a large downtown church in Winston-Salem to celebrate the Christmas season. I had gone down a long hallway to help a small boy who was pushing against massive oak doors trying to get outside. The boy appeared to be about 2 years old. He was crying as if his heart would break.

I picked him up, thinking he belonged to someone at one of the Christmas parties. Investigation, however, revealed nothing. I rushed outside and spotted an old-model car speeding away in the darkness. Gradually, it began to dawn on me that the child had been abandoned.

I made a few calls, and soon the church was filled with people wanting to help in any way they could. Within moments, the local TV stations interrupted their usual programs to ask if anyone knew the identity of the little boy. The next morning, one of the city's newspapers had the child's picture on the front page. Under the picture there was an article describing the events of the evening before. The reporter began his story with this striking line: "Someone trusted the church last night, and the church came through!"

It will be a long, long time before I can forget that newspaper headline. So much of the world's future depends on the faithfulness of the "People of God" to the "Great Commission." There is a deep hunger across our land as countless people grope for answers to the deepest questions of the human spirit. The message of Christ speaks to these questions, bringing hope and light to people who now stumble in the dark and live in despair. Our world will be changed as the hearts of people are changed. Evangelism is no longer an option for the church. It is essential to the survival of our world.

The line in that Winston-Salem newspaper is a haunting reminder of what the world expects of the church. "Someone trusted the church last night, and the church came through!" May that always be true! This Christmas as we prepare for giving and receiving gifts let's think about the greatest gift we have to share as Christians. The greatest gift we have to share is the good news of Jesus Christ. The incarnation of God in Jesus Christ is the greatest gift ever given. I pray that this Christmas we will be so excited about the birth of Christ that we can't help but share the good news and invite others to share in our joy. Let us join together to faithfully represent Christ's church!

Christmas Blessings,

Pastor Jeri-Lynne

Bishop Ernest Fitzgerald, "Someone Trusted the Church," Michigan Christian Advocate, May 5, 1997, p. 8.

Focus on...

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Diana Jones, D.C.E.

OH MY, AS I WRITE THIS THERE IS ONLY ONE SUNDAY LEFT IN NOVEMBER! It is time to think about Advent, one of my favorite times of the year. Have you begun thinking about what you will do for the Advent season? Maybe gather some friends together to make a special wreath; make a special effort to gather the family for devotions each week; or perhaps go caroling with some special families. Take a breath from all the craziness of this world, and really go back to the basics. **CHRIST IS COMING!!!**

OUR YOUTH GROUPS LOADED BOXES TO TAKE TO OUR TWO ADOPTED FAMI-LIES THIS YEAR. Our thanks to all the adults and children who brought in so many canned goods and yummy treats. It really meant a lot to our families (one with 3 children and one with 7 children). They were very happy.

THANK YOU TO THE DAVIS AND CREGO FAMILIES for organizing another year for Samaritan's Purse. The children and youth packed over 60 boxes to be shipped all over the world. Your donations helped tremendously as the price of postage has gone up to \$7.00 per box.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS (GRADES K-4) WILL JOIN TOGETHER WITH THE CONFIRMATION CLASS TO CELEBRATE ADVENT BEGINNING DECEMBER 6TH IN THE ART ROOM.

**December 13th – we will be practicing the songs for our program as well as and Advent lesson. **December 20th – ALL CLASSES PRE-K THROUGH 12TH GRADE WILL PRACTICE FOR THE PROGRAM. We will meet in the overflow of the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. for prayer, followed by practice.

GET OUT YOUR BELLS, PUT ON YOUR JINGLE BELL HAT as we meet at <u>4:00 p.m. on</u> <u>Sunday, December 13th</u> for an all church family caroling. **<u>Youth Groups will meet at 2:30</u> to go shopping for adopted families and return to carol with us. Everyone will return to the church for dinner and a birthday party for Jesus. We will hope to be finished by 6:30. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO COME. If you need a ride we will be glad to help.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH IS OUR ANNUAL CHILDREN/YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY during the worship service. It is titled "JOY FOR THE WORLD".

There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, December 27th.

WISHING ALL THE WORLD LOVE, HOPE, AND PEACE MERRY CHRISTMAS



As part of our Christmas celebration, The Presbyterian Church provides the opportunity for the placement of poinsettias in the sanctuary for Christmas worship.

Individuals and families may place orders for plants <u>In Honor of</u> or <u>In Memory of</u> loved ones, whose names will appear in the worship bulletin.

If you would like to place an order, please complete an order blank and *include your payment of \$10.00 for each plant ordered*.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6th!

Donor's Name(s)		
In Memory of		
In Honor of		
Quantity & Color: Red	White	Pink
total number @ 10.00 each =		Check
I wish my plant(s) to be delivered to a shut-in person.		
I will pick up my plant(s) after	Christmas Eve	Service on December 24.

Focus on...

Doris Yamarick

Doris was born in East Orange, New Jersey, April 29, 1928. She has one brother, Werner, living in New York.

Her parents were not church attenders but her aunt, who was an Evangel Baptist, introduced her to the Christian faith. At age 16, the church policy was for young people to be baptized and it was a full immersion baptism. That wasn't something she wished to do at that time and has no church memories until she married Wally.

After high school, she attended Berkley Business School and her first job was as the personal secretary to the Vice-President of Hankins Container Company.

She met her husband, Wally at Newark College of Engineering and they married in 1951. When he was offered the job as chief engineer in Circleville from C.F. Replogle Construction Company, they moved here in 1953. Two sons were born: Kenneth and Warren. Kenneth is a mechanical engineer who lives in Houston, Texas with his wife, Jane, and daughter, Ellen, and her family. Warren lives in Powell, Ohio, is the Medical Director of the Emergency Room at Riverside Hospital and the father of five daughters, which includes a set of triplets.

Doris states that moving to Circleville was one of the best things she and Wally did. Both became active in many community organizations. Doris was active in The Child Conservation League where she served as president, past-president and is now an honorary patron. She was instrumental in establishing Haven House for battered women. She served on the original board of Hospice of Pickaway County and introduced "The Kids on the Block" to central Ohio. The latter consisted of two sets of puppets: the original set dealt with handicapping conditions and then a new set, a few years later, focused on child abuse. Diane Berger was the other puppeteer and it was she who was able to get the program funded through The Paint Valley Mental Health Board. One of the organizations of which she is most proud of is The Pickaway County Community Foundation, which she and Shirley Bowser began in 2001. And thanks to many others who helped, it has become an important source for philanthropic giving.

Wally's parents had been members in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, therefore it was logical that Doris and Wally's initial church membership was across the street in Trinity Lutheran Church. At that time a friend asked Doris, "Where do you go to church?" She said, "We belong to the Lutheran Church but attend the Presbyterian Church." His response was, "Well when you die they will have to do the service in the middle of the street." She said to me, "That did it! We became Presbyterians."

(continued next page)

Doris has always loved jazz and Dixieland music with theatre and art also important to her, but friends and friendships top the list of things that feed her soul.

Wally passed away in 1995 from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis—Lou Gehrig's disease. It was a very long and debilitating journey for them, which began in 1984. He had a deep faith and strongly believed in giving back. She has many fond memories regarding the people in the church and working together on many projects and events.

Diane Berger

CAMPBELL HALL CARPET UPDATE

The carpet in Campbell Hall has been successfully cleaned – more or less. There are some stains that would not come completely out. A protective coating has been applied to the carpet in hopes of reducing the severity of future stains from spilled food and drink. Whether this will be effective remains to be seen. Some of the stains had soaked completely through the carpet into the concrete floor beneath.

Meanwhile, the trustees ask everyone to make every effort to avoid spillages and, when accidents do happen, please either clean up the spilled material right away or report the accident to a trustee or the building supervisor.

In addition, the trustees are asking those preparing coffee hours and Community Kitchen workers to avoid serving Kool-Aid or any cold drink with red, purple, or other coloration, as the professionals who cleaned the carpet have told us those types of liquids are very likely to cause permanent stains if spilled. (Lemonade is OK)

The trustees are pleased with the results of the latest cleaning and hope to avoid having to replace the carpet. Despite being ten years old, it shows remarkably little wear. The main problem has been numerous ugly stains caused by spillages, and with everyone's cooperation and vigilance, we hope to keep Campbell Hall looking nice and neat.

11TH ANNUAL MOUND STREET CHURCHES' FOOD DRIVE

On Saturday, December 19, 2015, please consider participating in the Eleventh Annual Food Drive to benefit the Pickaway County Emergency Clearinghouse Food Pantry. Please drive up and drop off nonperishable items or make a monetary donation at any of the four churches on Mound Street, in Circleville, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Any non-perishable item would be appreciated. Items on the most wanted list include: peanut butter; jelly; saltine crackers; cornbread; instant potatoes; hamburger helper; other boxed dinners; canned vegetables; canned fruit; canned meats; pasta; canned soups with meat; canned pasta with meat; and navy beans. Cleaning and personal products such as soap, detergent, shampoo, paper towels, and toilet paper also would be appreciated.

2016 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Your new 2016 contribution envelopes will be ready for pick up by December 6. If you do not see a box with your name and you wish to use these preprinted envelopes, please contact the church office at 474-4791. Using these envelopes ensures you of getting a contribution statement at the end of the year for tax purposes.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

A big thank you to all those that helped with our mission project: Operation Christmas Child. With your donations of supplies and funds, we were able to send over 60 boxes to children around the world. Thank you to those families that attended the Packing Party and the C.E. Commission for helping with the shipping costs. We will update you later on where are shoeboxes were shipped. Thanks again for your help in this worthwhile project. Erin Crego, Marcia Davis and Alison Davis

2016

COFFEE HOUR/FLOWER CALENDAR

Sign-up sheets are available on the bulletin board in the office for 2016. Please stop by or call the office (740-474-4791) to reserve your special date to honor loved ones with fresh flowers for Sunday worship service, and/or to volunteer as host or hostess for Coffee Hour. For flowers, please make a note if you are ordering flowers yourself.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Once again we invite members and friends to send or bring their Christmas cards to the church to post on our bulletin board. Pictures are welcome.



25th Annual Cookie Walk Saturday, December 12, 9:00 a.m. Campbell Hall

Please bring your home baked cookies to the church on Friday, December 11. This is always a fun day working together and enjoying the holiday spirit.

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, December 6, 2015, immediately following worship, there will be a called congregational meeting for the purpose of electing church officers.

2015 CONTRIBUTIONS



Contact the church secretary if you need to check on your pledge status to assist you in your year-end giving. To comply with the IRS report on your final 2015 Contribution State-

ment, only those gifts placed in the offering on Sunday, December 27, brought to the office through Thursday, December 31, or postmarked no later than Thursday, December 31 will be applied. January 2016 contributions will not qualify for 2015, even if your check is predated to 2015 or was actually written in 2015. Final Contribution Statements will be available for **PICK-UP here at the church** no later than the last week of January. Out of state statements will be mailed.



Christmas Eve 6:45 p.m. December 24, 2014 Candlelight and Communion

DRIVE BY AND DROP OFF TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION

The Eric Clark Memorial Fund is holding its annual Toys for Tots Drive on Sunday, December 6, 1-3 p.m., at 115 West Main St. Bake Sale proceeds go to the Eric Clark Memorial Fund. Items may also be dropped off at their office at any time. There will also be a box outside the church office for donations.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Brookdale at Lakeview Woody Jones Brookdale at Trillium Crossing Frank & Betty Estes Caring Touch Linda Stevenson Clearmont Retirement Village Doris Gruebel Franklin Woods Judy Palm Logan Elm Health Care Tom Cooper Donald Maxson Nancy Weitendorf (Sue Twining's mother) Pickaway Manor Mildred Dyer (Blaine Keckley's mother) Doris Luna Convalescing at Home Ellie Butler George Butler Bill Campbell Carol Campbell Lou Ann Clark Scot Clvdesdale Marcella Hostetler Alfred Johnson Sue Miga Nancy Ott Sharon Ryan Dorothy Sampson Sage Sill Brendt Utts Also Convalescing Eloise Beers (Kathy Studebaker's mother) Lindsey Beshear (Larry Logan's daughter) Susan Bouterse Vernon Cahill (Donna Solovey's father) Charley Edgar Corrine Edgar Sara Mofield Goga (Judy Spicer's daughter) George Grigg Marty (Ward) Hart (Marcella Hostetler's sister) Nathan Mofield (Judy Spicer's son) Nancy Schneider (former member) Phyllis Smith (Rod Smith's mother) Betty Topliff (LibbyRushley's mother) Kim Welter (Pastor Steve's daughter) We are sorry if we have missed anyone! If you want someone added or removed, PLEASE call the church office.

We offer our condolences to the family and friends.....



i.of John Stevenson who died *mhuthy* on October 29, 2015.

...of Betty Stevenson, sister-inlaw of Grace Richards, who died on November 7, 2015.

...of Jeff Wells, brother of Grace Moore, who died November 17, 2015.

NEW BIRTHS

Cooper Elijah Nance, born 10/15/15, to Chris and Ashley (Forrest) Nance, Grandparents are Mike and Pam Forrest and great grandmother is Faye Hill.

Katie and Alex Grant's new son was born on November 9, 2015. Katie is the niece of Jack and Carol Mader.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

1. Approved Advent Bible Study on Mondays (2:00pm & 6:00pm) Nov. 30, Dec. 7,14,21 at a cost of \$10 per participant.

2. Approved 2016 Bible Study, "Meet the Bible: A Panorama of God's Word in 366 Daily Readings & Reflections", on Mondays (2:00pm & 6:00 pm) with participants purchasing books.

3. Approved formation of an alternative worship service. A focus group to plan this will begin meeting in January.

4. Approved technological updates in the sanctuary. A focus group to oversee this project will begin meeting in January.

Endorsed Community Kitchen Mission and approved the Presbytery of Scioto Valley Local Mission Grant request.



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E-Mail - circpres@frontier.com Website – www.circlevillepresbyterianchurch.com

Please remember to contact the church office with your new address. As bulk mail, the Pres-Line is not forwarded and is returned to the church for a fee.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization U S Postage Paid Circleville OH 43113 Permit Number 195



Looking ahead to.....



- **10-** Annual Reports Due
- 17- Super Soapy Sunday Pickaway Manor Service
- **20- Pres-Line Deadline**
- 24- 2015 Contribution Statements available

Mark your calendars

Annual Meeting, February 7, 2016