

First Presbyterian Church
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www.fpcsalem.org and First Presbyterian
Church of Salem, Ohio on Facebook

The Presbyterian Messenger



Rev. Meta S. Cramer, Pastor
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
9:15 Sunday School for all Ages
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (Fellowship Hall)
10:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Volume LXXXIII

December 13, 2016

No. 25

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Sunday, December 18 — The 4th Sunday of Advent

Our children and youth will present "New Star," a Christmas skit, during which the Cherub and Praise Choirs will be singing. Pres-Bees Chimes, the LOGOS Bell Choir, Five Guys and Bells, and other soloists will be playing for us.



Saturday, December 24 —
Christmas Eve — 7:30 and 11 p.m.
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and
the Ritual of Candle-lighting at both
services (Childcare at 7:30 only)

Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 2:1-20
Homily: *With Us...Serving the Light*
Music: 7:30 Haviland Choir
Liturgists: 7:30 Lynn Zocolo
11:00 Lynne Peterson



Sunday,
December 25

Morning Prayer

10:30 a.m.
in the Chapel



Dear Friends,

The last two Sundays have held particular joy with the Second Annual *Tinsel and Talents* and the Haviland Choir's presentation of *Fantasia Noel*. I'm sure we all agree that the musical and artistic talent in this congregation is astonishing. Please be sure to thank Cheryl McDevitt and Barb Yonker for organizing *Tinsel and Talents*, and to thank John Krauss, Nancy McNeal and everyone in the Choir for such an amazing morning.

We've been reminded by the lighting of the candles that Advent is for waiting, watching and preparing. The late Ann Weems described the longing of this season:

*I want to kneel in Bethlehem, the air thick with alleluias,
the angels singing that God is born among us.*

What do I want for Christmas?

To see in that stable the whole world kneeling in thanks for a promise kept...

As we move (figuratively) toward Bethlehem during Advent, I'd like to share that Steve and I are working toward another pilgrimage to Israel in October 2017. After our first trip in 1984, we realized that we feel called to help others share the experiences we've had, for each visit has deepened our faith in a unique manner. "The Word becomes flesh" in amazing ways as you sail the Sea of Galilee, walk the streets of Bethlehem, visit Gethsemane and Calvary, dip your feet into the Jordan River, and pray at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. It would be our privilege to help you experience this holy land for yourselves. Please be in touch for an itinerary and more details.

May all of us see and give thanks for "promises kept" in this holy season!

Advent Blessings, Meta

Prayer Concerns

Denny Amelung (*Gloria Shafer's uncle*), Ariel (*relative of Dollie Millikin*), Paul Bailey, Eddie Broome (*Sally Collins' brother-in-law*), Sandy Byers (*Carol Ricciardi's sister*), Phyllis Denton, Helen Dorff (*Lucy Works' friend*), Matthew Drake (*Jim and Nancy McNeal's grandson*), Nova Eichler, Morgan Fennema and Nicole Fennema (*Paul and Barbara Fennema's granddaughter, daughter-in-law*), Berneda Fitch, Pat Garick, Dwight Guthrie (*Meta Cramer's cousin*), Richard Hack (*Kathie Baker's nephew*), Charles Hamilton (*Rich and Pat Eichler's nephew*), Tom Henry (*Susan Merry's brother in law*), Jim Hollinger, Rita Hovis, Hayden Johnson, Jan Joan Jones (*Sally Collins' mother*), Sue Kyser, Hannah Lanza-Roth (*granddaughter of Cheryl and Gary Kekel*), Brenda Lipp, Ricki Looser (*Jan Jones' friend*), Russell Loudon, Larry Lozier, Anne Lutz (*Jan Jones' friend*), John Martsolf, Don Palmer (*Rich Eichler's uncle*), Gary Prior (*Judy Sicilia's friend*), John (*Judy Sicilia's friend*), Clarence and Joan Reed (*Sue Skiba's parents*), Charity Ricciardi (*Carol Ricciardi's daughter-in-law*), Gary Richards, Dale Riley (*Stated Clerk of Eastminster Presbytery*), Ally Ripley, Marie Robinson (*Kim Double's mother*), Steve Rozeski (*Sandra Arter's friend*), Leroy Sanor (*Beverly Mosher's neighbor*), Gene Shafer, Tom Shafer and Carol Shaw (*Gloria Shafer's husband, mother*), Lana Tonkinson (*Ed and Melissa Tonkinson's daughter*), Jerry Toot (*Sandra Arter's friend*), Robert Wheatley (*Gloria Shafer's co-worker*), Ronald White, Anna Williams (*John Barnett's friend's mother*), Lauren Work (*Paul and Fredda Work's daughter-in-law*), Ruth Wright (*Ann Sandroock's friend*), Kristina Yonker (*Barbara Yonker's daughter-in-law*)

Special Care Facilities

Auburn: MaryLou Timmins
Birchaven Village: Jean Leimbach, 124; 15100 Birchaven Ln, Findlay OH 45840
Blossom: Mary Smith (*Susan Smith's mother*)
Brookdale Salem: Pat Butler, 305; Dorothy Gibson, 303
Brookdale Austintown: Henry and Dottie Zimmerman; 1420 S Canfield Niles Rd 44515

Envelope Income received December 4	\$ 6,450.00
General Fund Balance, October 31, 2016	(-\$2,492.32)
November Revenues	33,155.64
November Transfer In	2,308.33
November Expenses	24,225.81
General Fund Balance, November 30, 2016	\$ 8,745.84
Christmas Joy Offering	\$ 495.00
Per Capita (\$32.15 per Active Member)	\$ 2,057.40

Courtyard: Janice Olmstead, 301
Crandall: Betsy Johnson, 251
Inn at Ironwood: Norman and Jeanne Smith, 106; 6699 Ironwood Blvd, Canfield OH 44406
Lake Huron Woods: Joyce Smith; 5221; Lakeshore Rd, Fort Gratiot MI 48059
Lake Vista at Cortland: Margaret Sheets, Apt 105; 303 North Mecca St, Cortland OH 44410
Village at Westerville: Bruno and Kay Stanga; 215 Huber Village Blvd, C100, Westerville OH 43081
Weatherwood Manor: Dolores Kynett, 201; 896 Weatherwood Lane, Greensburg PA 15601
Whispering Pines: Rolin Herron, 126; 937 E Park Ave, Columbiana OH 44408

† In Memoriam † Ellen West Tetlow

United with First Church:
January 14, 1945

Died:
December 8, 2016

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord hence forth...that they may rest from their labors for their deeds follow them." ~ Revelation 14:13

† † † † † † †

The Sympathy and Surrounding Love of Our Congregation are extended to Phil and Gail Tetlow and the family on the death of Phil's mother, Ellen Tetlow; and to Rich and Pat Eichler and the family on the death of Pat's stepsister, Paulette Cook.



Dear Friends of The First Presbyterian Church,
 Thank you for the beautiful flowers that were delivered to me by Joyce Pakosta. Thank you for your prayers during my illness.

Phyllis Denton

Special thanks to Cheryl McDevitt for rekindling the interest in an early Advent music performance and art show by our own talented congregation. The evening of December 4th was musically and visually inspiring and pleasantly well attended. Thanks also to all those performing and including their artistic work. Deacons arranged an amazing selection of refreshments and Ed Tonkinson, as always, helped with setting up Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary for the event. It is my hope that we can continue with Tinsel and Talents as an annual event here at First Presbyterian Church.

Barb Yonker

We would like to thank everyone who baked or bought at the Candy and Bake Sale last Sunday. Because of you, we were able to raise \$558.50 towards our Christmas giving for the Guatemala Mission Trip, Mickey Buck's Mission Trip, The Salem Salvation Army, The Salem Food Pantry, and The ROC of Salem. We really appreciate your support in this Christian endeavor. Merry Christmas! May you all enjoy a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Presbyterian Women's Association

Did You Know?

- **Flower and Bulletin Donors** are needed for 2017. Vases are \$10 each and Bulletins are \$15 a Sunday. Please call to confirm standing orders.
- **Offering Envelopes for 2017** are available on the stage in Fellowship Hall. If you have not had envelopes, but would like a box, please call the Church Office.
- **Annual Reports** are due in the Church Office on Wednesday, January 4.
- **Per Capita Apportionment** for 2017 is \$32 per Active Member.
- **Calendars for 2017**, compliments of Stark Memorial Funeral Home, are at Sanctuary entrances and outside the Church Office.
- **Ushers** are needed for Sunday Worship. Please call Ruth Newman if interested.
- **Worship Services** can be seen on *You Tube*, by typing FPCSALEM in the search box.

Christmas Joy Offering

*As they offered gifts most rare at that manger rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.*

This congregation has a long history of supporting the **Christmas Joy Offering**. Half of the funds received supports the continued ministry of educating and forming Christian leaders at Menaul School, Stillman College, and the Presbyterian Pan American School. The other half of the Offering honors those leaders who serve and have served us well. Through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, current and retired church workers who experience need because of tragedy, health concerns, or financial hardship can receive assistance from the church they have served so well.



A Light for Life

*Honoring Organ Donors, Transplant Recipients,
and People Waiting for Organ Transplants*

Join Boy Scout Troop 3 and Pack 3 on Monday, December 19, 2016 in Fellowship Hall at 6:45 p.m. to light a luminary to remember those giving, receiving, and waiting this holiday season. Ceremony begins at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Youth News

Sunday School: 9:15 - 10:00 a.m.

Teachers - Kim Double, Julie Mackall, Cara Stephens

The Christmas Pageant, "New Star" will be presented this Sunday during Worship.

Pres-Bees Youth Club: 5:00-6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays
Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5 / Choir, Lesson, Craft, Dinner

December 14 Regular Gathering - *Pizza and Salad*
December 18 "New Star" pageant during Worship
December 21 No Gathering
December 28 No Gathering
January 4 Regular Gathering

LOGOS: LOGOS at 5:00 p.m. / Youth in Grades 6-12

December 18 Oven Mitt Present Pass
December 25 *Merry Christmas!*
January 1 *Happy New Year!*
January 8 Regular Gathering

Recycling Bits and Pieces

- I am once again gathering Styrofoam boxes for the TNR center in Warren. They create winter shelters out of them for feral cats. If you have any large Styrofoam boxes from medicine, Omaha Steaks, Honeybaked Hams, etc., please contact me. I will make arrangements for delivering them to the center.
- Remember to drop off your live Christmas tree at Waterworth Park after Christmas.
- All of your Christmas wrappings (except foil) and gift boxes can be recycled.

*Kent State University at Salem's Communitiversity Choir
presents its*

25th Anniversary Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 17

2 p.m. - City Center Auditorium - FREE

Silver Bells!

- Concertgoers encouraged to bring toys for Toys for Tots collection for area youngsters.
- Short performance by the Salem Community Theatre
- Following concert, children can enjoy storytime, crafts, cookies, punch and a visit from Flash and Santa.

December

Birthdays

Elizabeth Thatcher (13), Jim Gibbs (13),
Rita Hovis (13), Marge Wright (15),
Charles Gibbs (27), Juanita Latham (29)

14 / Weds 5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club - Dress Rehearsal
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)

15 / Thurs Preschool Christmas Party (107)
7:00 Regular Session Meeting (110)

16 / Fri Preschool Christmas Parties (107)

18 / Sun 9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
9:15-10:00 Sunday School
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH) -
10:30 Lord's Day Worship -
"New Star" - Youth Christmas Skit
5:00 LOGOS (FH) - Oven Mitt Present Pass
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)



19 / Mon 7:00 Light for Life (FH) -
Scout Troop and Pack 3 Joint Program

23 / Fri 9:00 Quilt Group (107)

24 / Sat 7:30 and 11:00
Christmas Eve Services
Candle-lighting and
The Sacrament of the
Lord's Supper
Childcare at 7:30 only.



25 / Sun 10:30-11:00 Morning Prayer (Chapel)

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

26 / Mon Church Office Closed

January

Birthdays

Karl Wright (4), Sally Mason (7), Jan Bethel (9),
Curt Mosher (13), Terry Rufer (28)

1 / Sun 10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)
10:30 Lord's Day Worship (S)



2 / Mon Church Office Closed

3 / Tues 9:00-9:00 United Quilt Guild (FH)

4 / Weds 12:00 Daytimers (FH) -
Habitat Trip, El Salvador - Mickey Buck
5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)

5 / Thurs **7:00 Committee Night: CE (106),
Mission I and S (FH), Property (107),
Worship, Music, Arts (109)**
7:00 Salem Bird Study Club (110)

7 / Sat 2:00-4:00 Birthday Party (FH)
(Tenley Jackson)

8 / Sun 9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)
9:15-10:00 Sunday School
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)
10:30 Lord's Day Worship -
Sacrament of Lord's Supper
4:15 LOGOS Bell Choir (200)
5:00 LOGOS (FH)
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)

9 / Mon 6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)
6:45 Board of Deacons (107)
7:30 Congregational Care (110)

10 / Tues **8:30 am Investment Committee (107)**

11 / Weds 5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club
6:15 Carillon Ringers (200)
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)



Salem Community Pantry

Mon., Fri., 9-11:30 a.m. / Tues., 5-7:30 p.m.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Peanut Butter, Plastic Grocery Bags
Place items at north entrance.

Worship Schedule on Cable TV Channel 9*

Sunday – 1 & 9 am / Monday – 1 am
Tuesday – 3 am, 12 & 4 pm / Wednesday – 1 am, 4 & 9 pm
Friday – 1 am / Saturday – 3 am, 12 & 4 pm

Schedule Subject to Change / *Must have Digital Box to View.