

First Presbyterian Church  
436 East Second Street  
Salem OH 44460-2816  
330-337-9555 / Fax 888-386-2321  
www.fpcsalem.org

# The Presbyterian Messenger



Rev. Meta S. Cramer, Pastor  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour  
10:30 a.m. Worship

Volume LXXVIII

December 27, 2011

No. 26

Periodicals Postage Paid at Salem, OH 44460, USPS 442500. Postmaster: Send address changes to *The Presbyterian Messenger*, 436 East Second Street, Salem, OH 44460-2816.



## January 1, 2012 — 1st Sunday after Christmas / New Year's Day

Scripture: Psalm 96; Revelation 21:1-5; Luke 2:22-40  
Sermon: "The New New Song"  
Liturgist: Ken Double



## January 8, 2012 — Epiphany Sunday

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-2; Matthew 2:1-12  
Sermon: "Paying Attention"  
Music: Haviland Choir  
Liturgist: Mark Smith

Dear Friends,

I hope you had a joyful Christmas Day and that the remaining 11 Days of the Christmas Season have been and will be happy ones!

On New Year's Day, we will be hearing the story of how the old man Simeon and the old woman Anna welcomed the baby Jesus when he was presented in the Temple. The picture of these two old people welcoming a brand-new child reminds us that the new is always born of, and blessed by, the old. Even Jesus, who came to make all things new, was born into a heritage and a tradition.

My own daughter and son are very traditional about Christmas! They have strong expectations that certain things will happen in a very particular way. And, although this Christmas was a bit different – with them attending the Steelers game on Christmas Eve afternoon and Steve and I leading worship on Christmas morning – we were still able to do those things that have become our family's heritage.

This week, our son David is being sworn in as a member of the New Jersey Bar. When he was home for Thanksgiving, he asked me if we had a "family Bible" that he could use for the ceremony. I remembered the pocket-sized New Testament, complete with a metal front cover, which had been issued to my father during World War II. Apparently the metal cover was supposed to provide some protection if the volume were carried over one's heart!

My father died many years before our children were born and never held them in his arms the way Simeon held the baby Jesus. I am so touched and grateful that my son's hand will rest on the volume of the Gospel that rested over his grandfather's heart. The new is always born of the old; the old must always look for ways to give birth to a new creation.

May God bless and keep you in the Year of our Lord 2012.

Meta

## Prayer Concerns

Community Care Center — Rosann Butler (168) 200 E State St, Alliance OH 44601  
Others — Wavelene Arnold, Dan Crawford (Linda Crawford's brother), Stella Dominic (4830 Hickory Hollow, Middletown OH 45042), Barbara Double (Ken Double's mother), Nancy Fawcett, Morgan Fennema (Paul and Barb Fennema's granddaughter), David George (Mary Frances Breit's son-in-law), Ruth Gould, Alberta Herron (627 Kimberly Ln NE, Atlanta GA 30306), Hayden Johnson: [www.caringbridge.org/visit/haydenjohnson](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/haydenjohnson), Adrien LaRue, Jean Martsolf, Char McDevitt, Pat Milligan (Jim Milligan's mother), Janie Mowery (Marilyn Ward's friend), Bill Phillips (Joyce Smith's son-in-law), Joan Reed (Sue Skiba's mother), Gene Shafer, Brian Smith (Dan Smith's grandson), Roland Smith (Susan Smith's father), Karlie Stith (Harvey and Sally Mason's great grand-daughter), Teresa Turney (Dolly Millikin's daughter) Missionary Yvonne Goll and newly formed non-profit "Saving Innocence", addressing the issue of sex trafficking, ages 11-17, in Los Angeles (Compton). The website, [www.savinginnocence.org](http://www.savinginnocence.org) will be ready by the end of December.

## Special Care Facilities

Blossom: Georgiana Costa, 204B  
Briarwood: Norman Pim, 601;  
 3700 Englewood Dr., Stow OH 44224  
Canterbury Place: Tom Smith, 508;  
 310 Fisk St., Pittsburgh PA 15201-1708  
Clare Bridge of Austintown: Bill Butler (Pat Butler's husband); 1420 S Canfield Niles Rd, Austintown OH 44515  
Copeland Oaks: Chet Roof, 6202; Polly Kendall, 8-103  
Courtyard: Phyllis Lamb, 109; Betty Potter, 202 (Helen Hayes' mother); Linda Tonti, 209 (John Tonti's mother)  
Crandall: Marilyn Clark, 185; Betsy Johnson, 251 (Tom Johnson's wife)  
Essex 3: Ibbey Dales, 211  
Grace Woods Village: Jo Hawkins, 234  
Pleasant View North Retirement Center: Helen Hum  
Sterling House: Dorothy Gibson  
Vista Center, Lisbon: Virginia Calabrese (Dawn Billham's grandmother)  
Weatherwood Manor: Dolores Kynett, 201; 896 Weatherwood Lane, Greensburg PA 15601

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## Financial Report

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Envelope Income received December 4	\$ 9,515.00
Envelope Income received December 11	\$ 6,857.00
Envelope Income received December 18	\$11,431.00
General Fund Balance, November 30, 2011	(\$24,394.99)
Christmas Joy Offering	\$ 1,694.00
Per Capita (\$29 / 2011 Goal: \$12,963)	\$ 2,449.00

## Armed Forces

- † CAPT Kalin Boodman (Annie Mercer's boyfriend)  
 SOFT – South / Camp Brown  
 Kandahar Air Field  
 APO AE 09355
- † SGT John T Fennema (Paul and Barb Fennema's son);  
 2209 Timberbrook Ln  
 Midway Park NC 28544  
[fennema33@yahoo.com](mailto:fennema33@yahoo.com)  
 Afghanistan
- † 1LT Jon Halverstadt  
 C. Co. 403rd CA BN  
 FOB Salerno / APO AE 09314  
 Afghanistan
- † SPC Zachary Hill (Gloria Shafer's son); [Zachary.J.Hill@us.army.mil](mailto:Zachary.J.Hill@us.army.mil)  
 1-17 IN PO Box 339554  
 Joint Base Lewis & McChord  
 Washington 98433
- † SSGT Ryan Stith (Harvey and Sally Mason's grandson)  
 Kilo Company / MCT SOI  
 Camp Pendleton CA 92055



Thank you so much for the lovely bouquet. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Sincerely, *Suzanne Cain*

I am getting around fine after my knee surgery, but not back to full speed yet. I want to thank everyone who sent get well cards. A special thank you to Meta and Ross for their visits to the hospital, and to Dick Dale for delivering flowers to me. All was greatly appreciated. Sincerely, *Dick Shanker*

† † † † †

## In Memoriam

Shirley (Derr) Firestone

Joined First Church  
 March 31, 1966

Died  
 December 13, 2011

"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 Ralph Firestone, Ralph Firestone Jr, Chris Firestone, Heather Perritano, and Howard Firestone II and the families on the death of wife and mother, Shirley (Derr) Firestone; to Eric and Jana (Stewart) Stitle and the family on the death of Eric's aunt, Lynne Kay Stitle; to Wavelene and Lauren Arnold and the family on the death of brother-in-law and uncle, Terry Carman; to George and Roberta Bell and the family on the death of Roberta's sister, Marilyn Humphrey; and to Dave and Becky Halverstadt and the family on the death of Dave's mother, Ruth Halverstadt.



*Blood Drive*

**Red Cross Blood Drive**

Monday, January 16

2:00-6:00 p.m. / Fellowship Hall

# Your Session at Work

On December 15, your Session...

- thanked out-going Session members Kathie Baker, Bob Merry, Denise Weingart, and Sis Winch for the dedicated service they have given;
- thanked Paul Fennema and Bill Rousseau for agreeing to serve a second consecutive term;
- set Officer Training for incoming officers for 9 a.m. on January 8 and 15;
- received a "thank-you note" from Lauren Arnold, for her scholarship, and from Barb Marra, for the basket assembled for the Presbyterian Women's auction;
- approved several youth activities, including a Sub Sale which will begin on January 15;
- heard that the Finance and Administration Committee will present a budget at the January meeting, after 2011 contributions and 2012 estimates of giving have been received;
- set Sunday, January 29, 2012 as the date for our Annual Congregational Meeting;
- thanked the Congregational Care Committee for the reception provided for the congregation to greet the Haviland Choir and guest musicians on December 11;
- heard that both the Deacons and the Presbyterian Women had made a number of disbursements to local charitable causes;
- was reminded that volunteers are needed to a Red Cross Blood Drive being held in our Fellowship Hall on Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King Day);
- at the request of General Presbyter Dan Schomer, agreed to host the Spiritual Strategic Journey program on June 1 and 2, 2012.

At the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 18, the following were elected:



Elders, Class of 2014: Kevin Chumney, Ken Double, Paul Fennema, Mark Flake, Jeremy Mackall, Bill Rousseau

Deacons, Class of 2014: Mo Hofmeister, Ellen Maticcik, Marcia Shepard, Gail Tetlow, Ann Topie, Lucy Works

Deacon, Class of 2012: Lu Ann Cole, Gloria Shafer

Salem Community Pantry is in urgent need of canned soup, small jars of peanut butter, and personal hygiene items. Place items on stage.



# ATTENTION!

- ✓ **Offering Envelopes for 2012** are in Fellowship Hall.
- ✓ **Flower and Bulletin Donors** are needed for 2012. Flowers are \$10 a vase; Bulletins are \$15 a Sunday.
- ✓ **Annual Reports** are due in the Church Office by Friday, January 6, 2012.
- ✓ **Per Capita Apportionment for 2012** is \$30 per Active Member.
- ✓ **Mission Yearbooks for 2012** are available for \$5 in the Church Office.

## Our Church History ...

From the Messenger, December 6, 1931:

### THE STATUS QUO

Do you think our church would be growing if it added sixty new members a year? It wouldn't be; it would merely be holding its own. Does this satisfy? To make any perceptible increase over loss by death, dismissals to other churches, etc., we must add approximately eighty members a year. The Holy Spirit has not decreed that the First Presbyterian Church shall remain in Salem forever. But He has decreed that, filled with men and women aflame with Christ's message for the world, it shall not only remain but increase in power and glory. The Holy Spirit uses our personality, brain and brawn, to work out God's purposes. Christ's Kingdom has never been a status quo affair, and we are true members of it only as we add to our number daily.

From the Messenger, December 28, 1941:

**President Roosevelt has proclaimed** New Year's Day as a day of prayer, "asking forgiveness for our shortcomings of the past, of consecration to the tasks of the present, of asking God's help in days to come."

From the Messenger, December 30, 1951:

**New Year's Eve** will see many of our people having a gay time together in Westminster House as they watch the old year go and the new come. The young people are inviting any who would like to share with them to come to a party beginning at 9:00. Folk games, nonsense games, group singing, and other items of fun will be included. The evening will close with a worship service welcoming in the new year and all the promises that it holds.

# December

## Happy Birthday!

Charles Gibbs (27), Robert McCulloch Jr. (27),  
Polly Kendall (28), Juanita Latham (29)

30 / Fri 12:00 Church Office closes for Holiday

# January

## Happy Birthday!

Alberta Herron (6), Jo Hawkins (8)

1 / Sun No Sunday School  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S)  
No Creative Time, Children's Church

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

2 / Mon Church Office closed for Holiday

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

4 / Weds 12:00 Daytimers (FH)  
5:00 Pres-Bees  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)

5 / Thurs 9:30-2:30 Preschool (FH) - Th/F  
**7:00 Committee Night:**  
**Christian Education (106)**  
**Mission I and S (FH)**  
**Property and Maintenance (107)**  
**Worship, Music, Arts (109)**  
7:00 Salem Bird Study Club (110)

6 / Fri **Annual Reports due to Church Office**

8 / Sun 8:55-9:00 Sunday School Sign In / Prayer (FH)  
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)  
9:00 Officer Training (107) - *Incoming Officers*  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S) - *Installation of New Officers*  
4:30 LOGOS (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)



Committees

9 / Mon 5:00 Book Study (107)  
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)  
**6:30 Board of Deacons (107)**  
**7:30 Congregational Care (107)**

10 / Tues 7:00 Book Study (107)

11 / Weds 9:00 February Circle (Salem Hills)  
9:15 March Circle (110)  
5:00 Pres-Bees Youth Club  
7:00 Haviland Choir (S)  
7:00 Men's Bible Study (110)

12 / Thurs 9:30-2:30 Preschool (FH) - Th/F  
10:00 Staff Meeting (Church Office)  
**7:00 Finance / Administration (107)**

15 / Sun 8:55-9:00 Sunday School Sign In / Prayer (FH)  
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)  
9:00 Officer Training (107) - *Incoming Officers*  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S) - *Communion*  
4:30 LOGOS (FH)



16 / Mon No Preschool  
**2:00-6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive (FH)**  
5:00 Book Study (107)

17 / Tues **8:30 Investment Committee (107)**  
7:00 Book Study (107)

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

19 / Thurs 9:30-2:30 Preschool (FH) - Th/F  
**7:00 Session (107)**

22 / Sun 8:55-9:00 Sunday School Sign In / Prayer (FH)  
9:00 Adult Bible Study (110)  
10:00 Coffee Hour (FH)  
10:30 Worship (S)  
4:30 LOGOS (FH)  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 (B)

23 / Mon 5:00 Book Study (107)  
6:30 Boy Scout Troop 3 (B)

24 / Tues 7:00 Book Study (107)

## Salem Community Pantry

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

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Monetary donations should be made out to:

Salem Community Pantry / PO Box 222, Salem OH 44460

## Worship Service Schedule

Cable TV Channel 9 / \*Schedule subject to change

Sunday - 2 a.m.\* / Tuesday - 12:00 and 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 4:00 a.m.\*, 4:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Friday - 4:00 a.m.\*, 4:00 p.m.\* / Saturday - 2:00 a.m.\*