

JANUARY  
HAPPENINGS:

JAN 5TH

\*Yarn Ministry 10am

JAN 8TH

\*Deacons Meeting  
after worship  
\*Taking down the  
greens after worship

JAN 14TH

\* Joint Deacons &  
Ruling Elders Retreat  
9am

JAN 16TH

\*Session meeting  
6pm

JAN 19TH

\*Yarn Ministry  
10am

SUNDAYS:

\*Sunday School  
10:00 am  
\*Worship  
11:00 am

WEDNESDAYS:

\*Choir 7 pm

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday -Friday  
9 am- 1 pm

# FIRST NEWS

## JANUARY 2017

116 N. 3rd. Street, Toronto, OH 43964  
740-537-3721 - [Torontopresby@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Torontopresby@sbcglobal.net)  
Rev. Tyler J. Bayless, Pastor

### “BEAR ONE ANOTHER’S BURDENS”

As we say goodbye to 2016 and start the New Year, we are often encouraged to review what has happened in our lives during the past year and reflect upon how it changed us. The things we did well, things we could have done better, times where we struggled with something and times where we down right failed are all things that we are encouraged to consider as we start off the New Year. We do this so that as the clock turns to 12:00 am on New Year’s Day we will start on the right foot and have some type of plan in place of how we will fix the things that we did wrong in the previous year. This is a great thing to do but often we are stuck in the mindset of only making changes that will only change our own well-being.

This type of self-change is not a bad thing, but as we start the New Year I want to encourage you to go beyond just thinking about how you can change yourself and think about what ministries your involved with and how they glorify God and care for your neighbor.

Paul in Galatians 6 tells us that we should bear one another’s burdens, specifically in Galatians 6:2 he says to “Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” When we think about, and

more importantly, act in ways that help carry those whose burdens’ may be too great at this moment in their lives, we are fulfilling what Christ has called us to do and be as His followers.

As you think back on 2016, think back upon what ministries you were involved with and how you took on one another’s burden’s. Then as you look forward into 2017 look for ways you can become more involved to help others through their struggles. This could take the form of getting more involved in one of the ministries we have here at the church, perhaps volunteering at Helping Hands of Toronto with the weekly food distributions, becoming more involved with the many outreaches of the Urban Mission in Steubenville or it could mean being more intentional about intercessory prayer and praying for those that are in need. This list could go on and on and on but as we turn the page from 2016 to 2017, let your reflections and your resolutions be about more than just your own well-being but do your part to help fulfill the law of Christ by caring for each other’s needs and burdens.

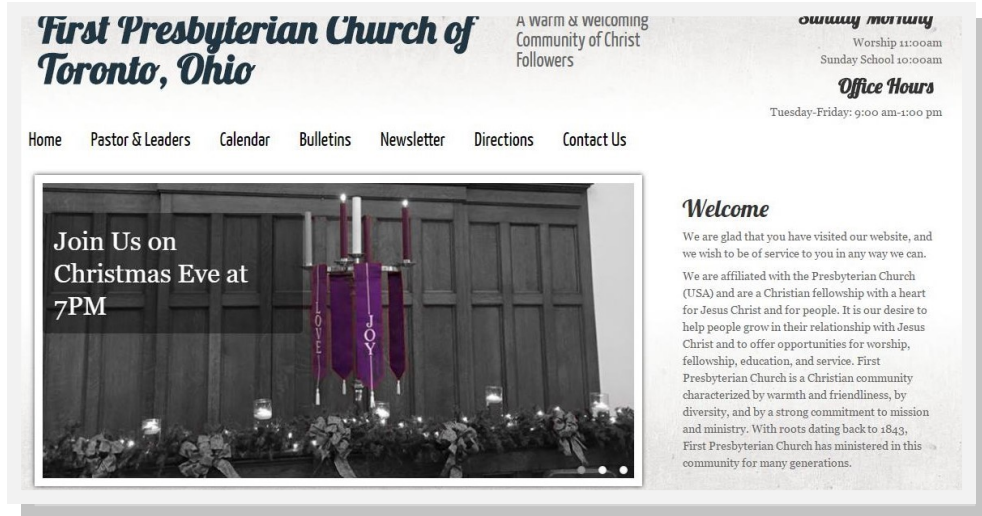
May the New Year bring Christ’s renewed blessing upon each of you!

Grace and peace, Pastor Tyler

## NEW CHURCH

### WEB SITE!!

If you haven't already, please log on and check out the churches new web site! There's lots of great information to keep you informed about all the church happenings, bulletins, newsletters and much more!!



## THANK YOU

to the Chancel Choir for presenting "The Wonder of Christmas". It was a beautiful way to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas during the Advent Season!

## THE YOUTH CHRISTMAS PLAY AND LUNCH WITH SANTA

was held December 11th, thank you to everyone who made this day possible. The kids all did a great job!



## NOTES FROM SESSION MEETING:

- \* On January 8, 2017 we will install and ordain the class of 2019 Ruling Elders and Deacons.
- \* Dolores Boggs reported \$548.80 has been collected from the Noisy Coin Collections from July to December. The Heifer Fund and Helping Hands of Toronto will each be given \$274.40.
- \* On February 5, 2017 will be the Four Chaplain's Service offered by the American Legion.
- \* Our Annual Congregational meeting will be after worship on Sunday, January 29, 2017.
- \* Chair lift update: We have elected to work with Cattrell's and Handel and Son's to handle the construction of the elevator.
- \* Approved to implement the new church website.
- \* Deacons delivered fruit baskets to persons of concern and shut in's for the Christmas season.

## THANK YOU

to everyone who stayed on December 18th and helped clean up the water in the basement! We appreciate you all! The only lasting damage was to two rugs that can easily be replaced.



## GIVING REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER:

**Budgeted Giving:** \$12,031.00

**Actual Giving:** \$9,670.00

**Difference:** \$ -2,361.00

## \$5.00 CHALLENGE

### REPORT:

Thank you to those who have accepted the challenge of the session and have given \$5.00 extra each week. We have raised \$5,786.00!!! We will continue the \$5.00 challenge in the new year.

## "DE-GREENING" THE CHURCH

Please plan on staying after Worship on Sunday, January 8th to help us take down Christmas decorations.



## CHI RHO UPDATE

The fall session of Chi Rho was completed with much fun, fellowship and learning among our students. **A Sincere "THANK YOU" to Connie Crawford** for everything she does making the Chi Rho Program what it is for our children. We couldn't do it without her and everyone else who makes this program so fun and successful!! Chi Rho will start again in February.

First Presbyterian Church  
116 N. Third St.  
Toronto, OH 43964-1416  
Change Service Requested

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Permit#39  
TORONTO, OH  
43964



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Malik Stovarsky 01/01  
Robert Lewis 01/13  
Jared Welday 01/16  
Kelly Phillips 01/17  
Cindy Fisher 01/21  
James Coffey 01/22  
Dan Weidger 01/22  
Joann Barnes 01/23  
Brad Beswick 01/29



## CHURCH STAFF & OFFICERS:

**Rev. Tyler J. Bayless, Pastor**  
rev.tyler.bayless@gmail.com

**Deborah Close, Admin. Assistant**  
Deborah@torontopresby.org

**Virginia Popson, Financial Sec.**  
VPopson@sbcglobal.net

**Ben Beswick, Clerk of Session**

**Thomas L. Wilson, Treasurer**

**Dolores Boggs, Director of Music**

**Jay Obertance, Organist**

**Karen Shell, Rehearsal Organist**

**Lisa Grable, Janitor**