



Glints

“The Church with the Lighted Cross”
ROSCOE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
475 High Street ~ Coshocton, Ohio 43812
Phone 740-622-7780 ♦ Rev. Dale Sutton

December 2020

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR DALE:

The Year 2020 has been one unlike any that we have ever seen. And as we enter into its final month we can't wait for it to be over with the anticipation that 2021 has to be better. Doesn't it? This year has, of course, been a struggle for the church just as it has for us as individuals. Cancelling worship and ministries, wrestling with technology to present on-line worship opportunities, and beginning to use on-line giving in an attempt to help you better budget and support the church even in the midst of a pandemic.

I thank you for your continued generosity that has allowed us to meet the needs of our community as best as we were able this year but know that if we are to step up and get back to full ministries in the coming year we need you more than ever. The following is adapted from *Enough*, by Adam Hamilton, (Nashville: Abingdon Press, ©2009).

For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? (Matthew 16:26)

What characterizes the greatest hopes, desires, and dreams of Most Americans? For most people, the American Dream has

to do with a subconscious desire for achieving success and satisfying the desire for material possessions. It is the opportunity to pursue more than what we have, to gain more than what we have, and to meet success. We tend to measure our success by the stuff that we possess.

The love of money and the things money can buy is a primary or secondary motive behind most of what we Americans do. We want to consume, acquire, and buy our way to happiness—and we want it now.

The American Dream has become an American Nightmare due to two distinct yet related illnesses that impact us both socially and spiritually.

- Affluenza, the constant need for more and bigger and better stuff—as well as the effect that this need has on us. It is the desire to acquire, and most of us have been infected by this virus to some degree.
- Credit-itis, an illness that is brought on by the opportunity to buy now and pay later, and it feeds on our desire for instant gratification. Our economy today is built on the concept of credit-itis. Unfortunately, it has exploited our lack of self-discipline and allowed us to feed our affluenza, wreaking havoc in our personal and national finances.

There is a spiritual issue beneath the surface of Affluenza and Credit-itis. Our souls were created in the image of God, but they have been distorted. We were meant to desire God, but we have turned that desire toward possessions. We were meant to find our security in God, but we find it in amassing wealth. We were meant to love people, but instead we compete with them. We were meant to enjoy the simple pleasures of life, but we busy ourselves with pursuing money and things. We were meant to be generous and to share with those in need, but we selfishly hoard our resources for ourselves. There is a sin nature within us.

But the Bible offers us a solution.

- We Need a Heart Change, although we receive a changed heart when we accept Christ, in a sense we need a heart change every morning. Each morning we should get down on our knees and say, “Lord, help me to be the person you want me to be today. Take away the desires that shouldn’t be there, and help me be single-minded in my focus and my pursuit of you.” As we do this, God comes and cleanses us from the inside out, purifying our hearts.
- We must allow Christ to work in us. Christ works in us as we seek first his kingdom and strive to do his will. As this happens, we begin to sense a higher calling—a calling to simplicity and faithfulness and generosity. We begin to look at ways we can make a difference with our time and talents and resources. By pursuing good financial practices, we free

ourselves from debt so that we are able to be in mission to the world. A key part of finding financial and spiritual freedom is found in simplicity and in exercising restraint.

If you haven’t already, I hope that you prayerfully consider completing a 2021 Estimate of Giving Card and dropping it in the offering plate or at the church office. With your prayers and financial support, we can make a difference in our community and around the world in 2021.

May your Advent and Christmas seasons be filled with the joyful anticipation of Christ’s coming.

Be blessed always,

Pastor Dale



PLEASE MAKE NOTE:
THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED ON DECEMBER 25 AND
JANUARY 1



Sympathy

Our heartfelt prayers and sympathy to...

The family and friends of Pat Davis in the passing of her husband, Tom Davis. Tom entered the Church Triumphant on November 3, 2020.

May God bring consolation and healing to all who feel these losses.

FINANCE REPORT ~ OCT. 2020

Income:	\$24,104.87
Expenses:	(\$29,939.33)
Cash Flow:	\$ (5,834.46)
YTD Income:	\$260,974.58
YTD Expenses:	(\$263,918.33)
YTD Cash Flow:	(\$2,943.75)

Estimate of Giving

We hope that you will prayerfully consider what God is calling you to contribute financially to the ministries of our church in the coming year. Please complete the Estimate of Giving card you received and bring it to the church office or place it in the offering any Sunday before the end of the year.

We thank you for your commitment to support Roscoe Church and the work of God in Coshocton and around the world.

GIVING ENVELOPES

GIVING ENVELOPES will be available for pick-up in the narthex beginning December 13th. They will be

on a table arranged alphabetically. If you have a friend or neighbor that you know is unable to pick theirs up, please feel free to help out by hand delivering them. We would just ask that you sign-out your friend's envelopes so we know who took them. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE GIVING ENVELOPES and would like a box – we have plenty – please contact the church office (Christy) at 622-7780 and we will make sure you get a box.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

COSHOCTON COUNTY CHILDREN'S SERVICES CHRISTMAS PROJECT



As we prepare for the Christmas Season you will have an opportunity to help children in Coshocton County. The Roscoe United Methodist Church will team up with Coshocton Jobs and Family Services to bring hope to less fortunate brothers and sisters in Christ. Eighteen names and wish lists are available in the church narthex information center.

If your family selects a name to shop for, we ask that you return your wrapped gifts to the church on or before Sunday, December 13. Please mark the items you purchased on the wish list and attach the list on the outside of package. All packages need to be labeled with child's name.

Thank you for your extraordinary joyous sharing and giving to the families in the Coshocton County Community.

The Mission Sisters
Judy, Malinda and Pam

LES' LETTER

We will continue to have four folks share music each Sunday. I am very appreciative for those folks that continue to share their vocal talents each week. Our Christmas cantata was scheduled to be presented on Sunday, December 20, but as mentioned in previous newsletters, it has been cancelled. However, on that Sunday, the quartet will be sharing "Come on, Ring Those Bells" from last year's cantata.

Do you know Him?

Christmas has always been one of my favorite holidays. Not only because of the colors, smells, sights, music, memories made with family and friends, but MOST importantly the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. There are so many different descriptions of who Jesus is.

A while back, I heard a sermon by the late Dr. S.M. Lockridge that was given at a Moody Bible Institute Founder's Week in the early 1980's. He shared with the congregants *That's My King*. The following is just a short snippet of it. "The Bible says my King is a seven-way king, He's the King of the Jews, He's the King of Israel, He's the King of Righteousness, He's the King of the Ages, He's the King of Heaven, He's the King of Glory, He's the King of kings, and He's the Lord of lords. That's my King., Well....I wonder, do you know Him? . . . Well, my King....He is the King!, He's the key to knowledge, He's the wellspring of wisdom, He's the doorway of deliverance, He's the pathway of peace, He's the roadway of righteousness, He's the highway of holiness, He's the gateway of glory, Do you know Him? Well, His office is manifold, His promise is sure....and His light is matchless, His goodness is limitless, His mercy is everlasting, His love never changes, His word is enough, His grace is sufficient, His reign is righteous, And His yoke is easy, and his burden is light, I wish I could describe Him to you, but He's *indescribable* -- Yes He is!? He is God! He's incomprehensible, He's invincible, He's irresistible, Well, you can't get Him out of your mind, You can't

get Him off of your hand, You can't out live Him, and you can't live without Him. . . .The Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found out they couldn't stop Him, Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him, The witnesses couldn't get their testimonies to agree, Herod couldn't kill Him, Death couldn't handle Him, and the grave couldn't hold Him, Yeah!!!, that's my King, that's my King." For a complete audio of the sermon, go to this link

www.moodyradio.org/radioplayer.aspx?episode=141633,
it will be well worth your time!

Sincerely, 🎵
Les Widder 🎵

pnotunr@roadrunner.com ~ 622-1138

Greetings from Susie!

Wow! As I have been working through the Old Testament in the Bible for my Jr. Church lessons I'm so amazed at how many times God's people turned away from God. I'm also amazed at how many times God punishes his people when they sin and follow their own ways. And finally, I'm amazed at how many times God forgives his people when they decide to turn back to him.

I mean, these people had the prophets telling them what God was going to do and they still turned away from God over and over.

In one of our lessons we learned about God sending his prophet Jeremiah to the potter's house. In that lesson the people of Judah were like a spoiled clay vessel that needed to be remade into a new one. God wanted them to repent of their sin and turn back to him. Jeremiah gave that message to the people. Instead of repenting, the people punished Jeremiah because they didn't like his message from the Lord. I don't know how many times Jeremiah was punished for his messages from God, but I probably need more than one hand to count them. The people didn't want to listen to Jeremiah. They wanted to do their own thing. Sound familiar? It does to me.

The Bible tells us that all people have gone their own way instead of God's way. That is sin. It's because of sin that we all need to repent for following our own ways and turn to God. The prophets Micah and Isaiah gave the people hope that a special ruler would be born in Bethlehem. God promised that this ruler, the Messiah, would save them from their sin.

Hundreds of years later, these prophecies happened when Jesus came to earth, born as a baby.

And hundreds of years after his birth, death and resurrection, we, like the people so long ago still struggle with wanting to do things our own way.

Praise be to God that he is always there waiting for us to turn from our way back to His way.

Thank you, God for sending us Jesus!!

With lots of love!!!!

Susie



*Christmas Eve Candle-lighting Services**

5:30 pm and 11:00 pm

*Come....and invite your
family and friends!*



* Watch the website in case changes are needed.

Teach-Reach-Bless

Dear Friends,

We want to thank you for the gifts that we have received for the Teach-Reach-Bless Campaign from your church. We very much appreciate this support.

The need for additional on campus housing for female students is critical. Currently more than 250 of our female students must find housing off campus. Female students living off campus are very vulnerable to male predators. The Teach-Reach-Bless campaign will enable us to provide housing for 90 female students.

We appreciate the fact that you have joined in our effort to improve the education and wellness of women today for a better Africa tomorrow.

Bill McFadden and Maggie Jackson

Co-Chairs of the Teach-Reach-Bless

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SHIRLEY CLARK	December 1
JOHN WILLIAMS	December 2
COLT FOWLER	December 4
SCOTT M. STUBBS	December 4
ALLISON BRESCIANI	December 5
MARY JO WELLS	December 5
MIKE BAKER	December 6
MALINDA BAKER	December 8
STEVE NELSON	December 8
RANDY ALBERTSON	December 9
TAYLOR BRESCIANI	December 9
JANELL RICHARD	December 10
ANGIE SMOULDER	December 11
JUDITH FINNELL	December 12
TRACI L. RODENFELS	December 13
TYLER CRALL	December 15
RIC KENT	December 18
JILL DOTSON	December 19
RON SEITZ	December 22
DILYN TUMBLIN	December 22
ALAN FOLKERT	December 23
CHARLES FINNELL	December 24
ROB HUDSON	December 24
MICHAEL WILSON	December 24
STEVEN RODENFELS	December 26
LYNN HILL	December 29
GREGORY J RICE	December 29
DEBBIE WILLIAMS	December 29
HEATHER LEPAGE	December 30
LEO ZIMMER	December 30
JUDY MARTIN	December 31

December Anniversaries

MICHAEL & CHERYL WILSON	December 11
JOHN & NANCY SHUPERT	December 19
GARY & TANA HOWELL	December 21
MIKE & CANDY KILPATRICK	December 21
SHANNON & ALAN FOLKERT	December 23
FRED & DAWN BUTTS	December 27
JAMES & LISA CRAWFORD	December 28
DALE & BECKY SUTTON	December 31