

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec. 20—  
Decorate the  
church for  
Christmas
- Dec. 24—7:30  
pm Christmas  
Eve Service
- Dec. 24– Jan.3  
Office is  
closed
- January 10—  
Ordination/  
Installation  
Service
- January 20—  
Spaghetti  
Dinner

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# Parkwood News

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 11

DECEMBER/JANUARY

## Parkwood Kicks Off Christmas with Family Night Dinner

What a great way to kick off the Christmas season here at Parkwood! On Sunday, December 6th over 140 of our Parkwood family and friends gathered in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fun, fellowship and sounds of the Christmas season.

Under the direction of Gina Potter, our little Angels filled the stage full and sang some wonderful Christmas favorites and sang Happy Birthday to Jesus!

Our Youth Coach, Jonelle,



*Children singing Happy  
Birthday to Jesus*

and her sister, Erin shared a beautiful rendition of O Holy

Night. One of our newer members Angela VanGorder did a great job with a trumpet solo. The choir sang "I Saw Three Ships" and we even talked Bryan into singing "Silver and Gold".

The evening finished with all in attendance singing some Christmas Carols as we ate the birthday cake. Thank you all for making this night such a huge success.

## Christmas Eve Service—7:30 PM

We hope you will join us on Thursday, December 24th at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary as we celebrate the Savior's birth with our Annual Candlelight Service. The service will be a family friendly service filled with special music, the sacrament of Holy Communion and our candlelight service. We hope you will join us and invite a friend along.



## Confirmation Class begins January 10th



Members of 2013 Confirmation Class

What is Confirmation Class?

Confirmation is a learning opportunity and important step in one's faith journey where a small group of students are exposed to some of the key teachings of the Christian Faith, the history of the universal church and our local

church, the life and work of Jesus, and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Why do we take Confirmation class?

Confirmation class helps young people explore their faith journey and articulate their faith in Christ Jesus.

Who is teaching the

class?

Pastor Barb will be leading, supported by Rev. Jeff and other members of the church.

Confirmation class is for students 7th grade or older. Please contact the church office to sign up today.

## New Members Welcomed on November 8th



Tim and Erin Wharton  
Abraham and Eli

On Sunday, November 8th Parkwood welcomed 9 new members into our ministry. They affirmed their faith in worship and were recognized at a reception in the Welcome Center following worship!



Dan and Heather Henkel  
Lili, Janie and Logan



Dave and Jill Richard  
Carly and Daniel



Ron and Pam Batykefer



Navaria Neff

# Homecoming Sunday Meal for the Homeless



**Shane, Chris and Shirley serving the meal.**

Our 3rd annual Homecoming Dinner for the homeless was once again a major success.

Over 100 people filed into Fellowship Hall following morning worship to join for a

meal around the tables. We then broke up to begin the meal preparation. 12 turkeys, potatoes, stuffing, carrots, green bean casserole, pumpkin and apple desserts were all made. What a great time seeing old and new members, friends from the community gathering around the tables working, laughing and sharing together. Kids made

blessing bags and placemats.

We then loaded up and took everything down to the Light of Life Rescue Mission and serve over 100 people. Another group went to the park and served 50 homeless. It was a great success and we thank you for your support and love that was shown to our homeless brothers and sisters!

## Feeding the Hungry

Parkwood Church has been active feeding the hungry in a variety of different ways over the past year. East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM), Produce to People and Under the Bridge Ministry have been the avenues to participate in following Jesus' call "when you did it to the

least of these, you did it to me."

What a blessing it has been to be involved in these ministries to those who are food insecure. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Rev. Jeff or the church office to get plugged in!



**Parkwood assisting in distributing 2 tons of food during Produce to People in November**

## Operation Christmas Child

Thank you so much for your generous giving during our Operation Christmas Child collection. Parkwood collected 85 boxes!

Now that you have sent off your Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts with prayer, they are en route to boys and girls around the world.

The first stop in that journey is at one of our eight processing centers located across the United States. Here shoeboxes are inspected and prepared for international shipping.

Next they travel by plane, truck, or ship to more than 100 countries and territories where local churches distrib-

ute the boxes to children in need. As they are given out, the Gospel is shared through an evangelistic booklet called The Greatest Gift, available in 65 languages.

All of these Gospel opportunities begin with a shoebox gift like yours.





## Angel Tree Blessings



Gifts being delivered  
to HEARTH HOME

Thank you for your generous donations for the Angel Tree this year. This program run by the Deacons has been a mainstay in the ministry of Parkwood Church for many years. Because of your generosity, we were able to help over 50 people. Those do-

nations helped in many different areas. Women and children at HEARTH Home who are homeless or in domestic violence situations. Light of Life which helps men, women and children dealing with housing and food insecurity and local fam-

ilies who are in need.

Thank you for helping those less fortunate have a good Christmas this year.

*"The King will  
reply, 'Truly I tell  
you, whatever you  
did for one of the  
least of these  
brothers and  
sisters of mine, you  
did for me.' "*  
**Matthew 25:40**

## Mission Committee Allocates \$11,000 in Mission Funds

Session approved in 2014 that all available mission funds will be dispersed by December 1 each year. The Mission and Community Outreach committee fulfilled that responsibility by dispersing \$11,000 available in mission funds at their

last meeting. The recipients were:

Calvert Memorial Pres.  
Crestfield  
Helping Hands  
Sojourner House  
Abiding Ministries  
Presbyterian Project  
HEARTH

Anchorpoint Counseling  
Light of Life  
MARS HOME for  
YOUTH  
Veterans Place  
Mike and Rachel Ludwig (PCUSA missionaries)  
PCUSA General Mission

## Good News on our Stewardship



In September, the Stewardship came before the church to express its concern as we were behind budget. They come to you at the end of November with good news as we have made up our deficit due to

your commitment and good stewardship.

Our current year pledge is still \$9,000 behind budget, but our expenses are \$12,000 less than expected.

We look forward to

meeting our projected balanced budget at the end of the year.

Thanks again for your stewardship and encourage you to continue as we continue to reach out in mission and ministry.

# What in the World is Per Capita?

Maybe you are new to Parkwood or maybe you never heard of this thing called Per Capita. From the PCUSA website... "Per capita funding is how Presbyterians mutually share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future. It is how Presbyterians are trained to become better elders and ministers. It is how Presbyterians

discern God's call in their lives.

It is how Presbyterians participate in the life of the wider church by serving on GA committees and commissions.

It is how Presbyterians participate in the life of the Church universal as we commit ourselves to work and live in fellowship with "all persons in every nation" (Book of Order, G-4.0101)

Parkwood has always looked at

Per Capita as an obligation and a way to affirm our connectedness to the larger church.

In 2016, Parkwood will pay \$29.10 per member for a total of over \$9,000 to the larger church. If you would like to help defer the cost to the church you are welcome to donate that amount (or any amount) to the church. Just mark you check "Per Capita"

## Staff Retirements

On Sunday, December 13th we recognized 3 staff members that will be retiring at the end of the year...Nancy Burke as Administrative Assistant, Cindy Day as Treasurer and Betsy Pedicone as the Financial Secretary. They were given a small token of our appreciation for

their hard work and dedication to Parkwood over the years.

The congregation had the opportunity to honor them at a reception held in the Welcome Center following worship.

Thanks and blessings to

them as they move forward in their next endeavors.



*Giving Thanks  
for the service  
of Nancy,  
Cindy and  
Betsy.*

## Welcome to our New Staff

After much prayer, posting and interviewing, the Personnel Committee hired replacements for our retiring staff.

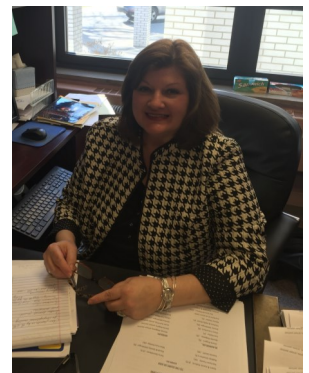
We welcome Cindi Auld as our Administrative Assistant. Cindi is a long time member and we are excited with the gifts and talents

and wonderful spirit she will bring to the Church office!

Marilyn Adams has been hired as our new financial secretary/treasurer. Marilyn is currently doing this same job at Hampton Presbyterian and we anticipate a smooth transition into handling the Parkwood finan-

cials.

Please welcome them to our ministry and pray for our staff as they begin on January 1st!



**Cindi Auld our new  
Church Administrative  
Assistant**

## Women Gathering Starts January 10



Women's Retreat  
2015

In October, the women and friends of Parkwood gathered at Antiochian Village in Ligonier for a time of rest and renewal at the Annual Women's Retreat.

It was so well received that they wanted to follow up by getting to-

gether on a regular basis. That will become reality on Sunday, January 10th as they will meet for the first time at 6:30 pm here at the church. All women are invited to attend whether you were able to make the retreat or not. If you have any ques-

tions, please contact Pastor Barb.



*"Let no one look  
down on your  
youthfulness, but  
rather in speech,  
conduct, love,  
faith and purity,  
show yourself an  
example of those  
who believe."  
1 Timothy 4: 12*

## Youth Group busy planning 2016

Have your youth tried out the Youth Group yet? It's not too late. Plenty of exciting things are being planned for 2016. Jonelle is getting many things on the calendar including a spring retreat, lock ins, and plenty of fun and

games! If you want to get involved and have your faith journey strengthened, contact Jonelle at [jonelle@parkwoodchurch.org](mailto:jonelle@parkwoodchurch.org)

## Presbyterian Project Mission Trip Planned

The Presbyterian Project (a mission group that began with 5 churches including Parkwood) has planned its next Mission Trip. Available dates are January 24-30 and February 7-13. We will be

traveling to Andrews, South Carolina to help rebuild after the flooding that happened in October of this year.

We will once again be working with Samaritan's Purse. This is a GREAT opportunity to

be the hands and feet of Christ and help our neighbors in need. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Jeff or Ron Salisbury for more information.

# January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>HAPPY NEW YEAR</i>	2
3 MACO 8:45am Worship 10:00  NO SUNDAY SCHOOL NO YOUTH	4 OFFICE REO- PENS  Deacons 7:00 Small Group 7:00	5 Fellowship 7:00	6 Praying at Park- wood 9:30	7 Back Pew 9:00 am at Kings Bells 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm	8	9 Indian Christian Fellowship 5:30 pm
10 Worship 10:00 Ordination of new officers Sunday School Youth Group 6 Women 6:30 pm	11 Worship Com.7:00 Building Com. 7:00	12 Evangelism 7:00	13 Praying at Park- wood 9:30	14 Bells 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm	15	16
17 Worship 10:00 S.S. 10:15 YG—6:00	18	19 Session 7:00	20 Praying at Park- wood 9:30  Spaghetti Dinner 5:30—7:00	21 Bells 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm	22 Boy Scouts Pin- ewood Derby set up 5:00—9:00	23 Boy Scouts Pin- ewood Derby 9:00—3:00 pm
24 Worship 10:00 SS 10:15 YG—6:00	25	26	27 Praying at Park- wood 9:30	28 Bells 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm	29	30
<div>←</div> <div>Presbyterian Project Mission Trip to South Carolina</div> <div>→</div>						
31 Worship 10:00 SS 10:15 YG—6:00 Annual Congre- gation Meeting After worship						

**Parkwood United Presbyterian  
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Fax: 412-486-8751

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Parkwood Church is committed to being the church in the community. We love God.

We love each other. Our prayer is to be a beacon of God's light into a hurting world, to use our gifts and talents to bring the hope and love of Jesus to our neighbors. If you would like more information on how you can join us, please contact:

**Rev. Jeff Potter—**

[revjeff@parkwoodchurch.org](mailto:revjeff@parkwoodchurch.org)

Or

**Rev. Barb Kennedy—**

[givetothepoor@hotmail.com](mailto:givetothepoor@hotmail.com)

***Love God, Love People, Serve Both***



**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

***SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST FOLLOWING MORNING WORSHIP***

***FOR THE PURPOSE OF OUR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE***

***CORPORATION AND RECEIVING ANNUAL REPORTS***