



PERRY CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

THE CRIER—DECEMBER 2018

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 12



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

It is often enjoyable to sit and to reflect upon various Christmas events from the past. **Whether we're somehow being reminded of the wonderful sled we received as a seven-year-old, or perhaps thinking of the momentary chaos and commotion caused by having the church's advent wreath catch on fire during the Christmas Eve service in 2014 does not really matter.** (Remind me to tell you about that wreath/fire thing sometime. Looking back upon it, it was rather amusing – **even at the time!**) **Maybe you'll agree with me here,** but it seems to me that the specific memories are as unique and as diverse as they could possibly be. In other words, the event specifics surrounding the Christmas-time memory are of course based, for all of us, upon either an item, a situation, or a person or group present at the time within our own personalized context. So, in looking at all our collective (though unique) memories, what we notice is that the memories themselves are unique, but the common thread running throughout all of them is found through not just the season during which they occurred, but also within the context of a cultural religious **gathering. It might be the gift of the wonderful sled you're remembering and reflecting upon, but the gift offered and then received took place during some type of culturally ritualized religious gathering.**

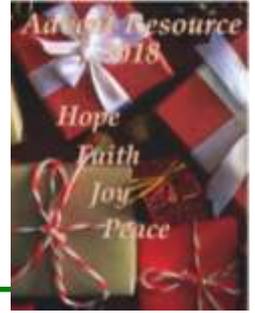
As practicing Christians, we know where our faith leads us. We know too that our being led in faith will not end or somehow fall out of place as a priority for us. Therefore, it can be with a clear, distinctive vision that we can all look to Christmas futures that will be even more meaningful than the ones we look back upon. Our faith moves us forward, and it will be through our faith that we continue to look down upon that infant in a manger from so very many centuries ago informing all of us that a Savior to **the world having now been born, allows us to view what's ahead with all sorts of curiosity and wonder. I'd say Christmas futures through Christ all sound quote promising – even if the advent wreath on display in the church somehow manages to escape the raging fires of illuminating Christ candle.**

Let's share this advent season together,
Pastor Paul



ADVENT DEVOTIONALS

Advent devotional booklets will be available on the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st. This is a great way to take a few minutes each day to prepare for the Greatest Gift of all. Open your heart and know the true meaning of Christmas.



ADVENT WORSHIP — PARTICIPANTS NEEDED



Traditionally each Sunday in Advent we light the candles on the advent wreath and read a related scripture and reflection. If you would like to participate in the lighting of candles or the reading of scripture, please let Pastor Paul know.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

On Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24th, at 7:00 p.m. we will host the Community Worship Service including Perry United Methodist Church and open to all members of the community. It will be a candlelight service proclaiming the coming of our Savior. Please join us, bringing family and friends, so that we can celebrate together.



OPEN HOUSE AT THE PARSONAGE

Pastor Paul will be hosting an Open House at the parsonage next door, (3288 Call Road) and is inviting the church family at-large simply for the opportunity to gather and socialize a bit. Held on Sunday afternoon December 9th, from 2-3:30p, light refreshments will be available as people gather to mingle. Although a house warming event, no gifts or cards will be accepted. That said, impromptu mission donations can and will be accepted on-site that afternoon for those who care to donate. Lastly, no RSVP's needed so please come as you are.

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

On Sunday, December 16th, the congregation will gather after worship for our annual Christmas Potluck. **It's a great time of fun and fellowship! We'd love everyone to attend.** Caroling will follow the potluck if we have enough interest.

Now here's the great part...no need to make a reservation or sign-up for what to bring! Just bring a dish or two to share and enjoy our time together.



During the Christmas Season, please keep in touch with Dustin Johnson by sending cards or notes to:

Northern Ohio Juvenile Community Corrections Facility, c/o Dustin Johnson,
1338 Tiffin Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870

ELDERS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

An Elders' Christmas Party will be hosted by Pastor Paul (at his home—3288 Call Road.) Elders, and their guest or companion are invited for a gathering of fun, fellowship and frivolity slated for Sunday Evening December 2nd, which includes merry making, food and drink. The festivities run from 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. and it is requested that a white elephant Christmas gift be toted in by those able to attend. Hope to see everyone there!



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Several of us met on Tuesday, November 20th to discuss year-end fund disbursements, the Christmas Tea, honoring our members 75 years and older, and plans for 2019, including officers and our fundraiser. We accomplished a lot.....so much , in fact, **we WON'T be meeting at 8:00 am on Sunday,** December 2nd.

Busy, busy, busy - **that's what we'll be in December.** Our Sue Talley Memorial Tea is Wednesday, December 12th at 7PM. See more info below.

Our special members 75 years and older will be honored at the annual Christmas pot-luck luncheon , which will be held on December 16th right after worship. Everyone is invited and if we have enough interest, we will go Christmas caroling after lunch.

We would like to wish all of you BLESSED holiday season.....have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Carole Martin, CWM co-chair

SUE TALLEY MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS TEA



Mark your calendars for the Sue Talley Memorial Christmas Tea at 7 pm on Wednesday, December 12th. The CWM board members will bring cookies and tea. We will have **an ornament exchange, so bring an ornament and receive one "in exchange"**. Secret Sisters will be announced at the tea and forms will be available to sign up for next year. Come & join us for this annual Christmas event and bring a friend.

PROJECT HOPE SATURDAY SIDE DISH

We'll gather to prepare the food for the "Saturday Side Dish" for Project Hope on Thursday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. The food will be delivered on Saturday, December 15th at 6:45 p.m. We need a volunteer to deliver the food that day.

Here's what is needed: 3 loaves of French or Italian bread not sliced, 1 lb. of sliced ham, 1 lb. of sliced salami, 1 lb. of sliced turkey, 2 lb. of sliced cheese, 1 small Italian dressing, 1 small ranch dressing, and 2 small bags of shredded lettuce.

For the sack lunches that we provide to Project Hope clients we need: 55 slices of turkey, 5 loaves of bread, and Ziploc sandwich bags. Sign-up sheets for food needed and delivery people are on the church bulletin board.

Your continued support of this mission is amazing! Thanks, everyone.

Frankie Blanchard and Brenda Carr



December

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
2 9:30a Worship and Congregational Meeting 10:45a Fellowship 12:30p Youth Group at PUMC 7:30-9:30p Elders' Christmas at Pastor's Home	3	4	5 9a Community Outreach Team Mtg.	6 9:30a Prayer Team 5p Handbell Choir 6:30p Bible Study	7 9a-3p Bell Ringing at IGA	8	
9 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 2-3:30p Open House at the Parsonage	10 7p Trustee Mtg.	11	12 7:00p Sue Talley Memorial Tea	13 9:30a Prayer Team 5p Handbell Choir 6p Project Hope Food Prep 6:30p Bible Study	14	15 6:45p Project Hope Food Delivery	
16 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship & Christmas Potluck 12:30p Youth Group	17	18	19	20 5p Handbell Choir 6:30p Bible Study	21	22	
23 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship	24 7p Candlelight Worship	25 <i>CHRISTMAS DAY</i>	26	27 5p Handbell Choir 6:30p Bible Study	28	29	
30 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship	31	<p><i>Dear PCC Friends, At Christmastime and always I wish you blessed days, peaceful nights and joy that has no bounds. Merry Christmas, Deb Kendrick</i></p>					

December Service Schedules

	WORSHIP LEADERS	ELDERS	ALL MONTH
2	Andy and Taunya Brewer	Rick Bartlett Don Bartlett	<u>Deacons</u> *Donna Van Boxel Eric Van Boxel
9	Jeff Bartlett	Vicki Wakelee Linda Warfield	<u>Sacristan</u> Sherry Smith
16	Vicki Wakelee	Laurie Martin Carole Martin	<u>Counters</u> Connie Smith Frankie Blanchard
23	Judy Bartlett	Don Bartlett Vicki Wakelee	<u>Hostesses</u> Jeray Bunnell Jackie Williamson
30	Rachel Collins	Carole Martin Linda Warfield	

Born in December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Connie Smith	3	4	5 Sandy McKenna	6	7	8 Andy Hinton
9 Shelley Braden	10 Rachel Collins	11	12 Cameron Fiorelli	13 Elle Pierce	14 Taunya Brewer	15 Ethel Campbell
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Mary Hale Joanna Lynch
23	24 Russell Sines	25	26	27	28	29
30 Sherry Smith	31					

NEW FISH YOUTH GROUP

The New Fish Youth Group welcomes those in 5th-12th grade. If you are someone who'd like to participate or you know someone in that age group, come join us!

The youth have met twice in November. On November 18th, we met at the Perry Center to help unload boxes of Christmas items. We also took a tour and learned more about the center and why it is there. Special thanks to Earl Johnson for conducting the tour. We continue getting ready for Christmas by preparing a skit for Christmas Eve.

On December 2nd we will begin with lunch at Perry UMC at 12:30p then attend a district youth event at North Mentor Centenary UMC. On December 16th we are having our Christmas party and play practice a Perry Christian Church at 12:30p. We still could use a few youth to participate in the skit. Please bring a paper product for The Perry Center and a white elephant gift—wrapped for a fun game.

Keep in touch with our activities on Facebook ... just search for New Fish Youth Group

Tim Johnson & Sue Leffler
New Fish Youth Advisors



Please make a note of it!

New Email for Sandy McKenna: smmckenna51@gmail.com

New address for Pastor Paul: 3288 Call Rd., Perry, OH 44081

If you have a change in address, phone, or email, please contact the church office so our records can stay current. Thanks!

A PRAYER FOR DECEMBER



Heavenly Father,
Christmas began
With the gift of Your Son,
Who in turn gave the world
The gift of His life.
Let us remember, O God,
That Christmas remains
A matter of giving,
Not parties, not presents,
Not material wealth,
For Christmas is Christmas
When I give of myself.

—Van Varner

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

On Friday, November 30th and Friday, December 7th, we will have the opportunity to raise funds for The Perry Center by ringing the bell for Salvation Army.

We will be ringing at the Perry IGA. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board, but you can always call Pat Johnson to discuss when **you'd like to ring**. As usual the shifts are just for a few hours and at the time of this printing volunteers are still needed.



PROJECT HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS
IS CELEBRATING

25 YEARS OF HOPE

October 25, 2018

Perry Christian Church
Pastor Paul Bomeli
PO Box 177
Perry, OH 44081

Dear Pastor Paul & Friends,

We want to thank you for your gift donated 10/19/2018. We are officially nearing the end of 2018 and we can't be more thankful for God's grace, mercy, and blessings, the support of our community, and friends like you who have walked beside us to achieve the mission of restoring hope and renewing lives to those experiencing homelessness in the community. Together, we have successfully transitioned 83% of the 384 individuals that have walked through our doors here at 25 Freedom Rd.

Here is a story that shows first hand what that success looks like in the lives of those that we serve.

"We have currently been low on some of the items that we give out to aftercare households. We had a family that had moved out at the end of August, and I finally was able to take them some things. Right as I was getting stuff together for her, I got a return call from a gentleman that had all these brand new kitchen & bathroom items so I called the family and asked if we could hold off one more day because I was going to pick up some donations that evening.

Once I arrived to drop off the aftercare items, I was very concerned about the housing they were living in. It was a very rundown cottage house on a well-known no outlet street. I got out and knocked on the door expecting the mom to be just as concerned as me. Instead, she met me with joy and appeared very happy and proud of her new place, sharing, "It isn't much, but it's our home!"

May you receive great blessings this year, just as you have been a blessing to those we serve.

In Service,
Judy Burr
Executive Director

WWW.PROJECTHOPEONLINE.ORG
P.O. BOX 2035 PAINESVILLE, OH 44077
440.354.6417

You have received no goods or services for this contribution.

PERRY CHRISTIAN

3270 Call Road
P.O. Box 177
Perry, OH 44081

Congregational Meeting Sunday, December 2nd after Worship

Agenda:

1. Approve new slate of officers
 2. Approve Financial Forecast for 2019
- Please try to attend this important meeting!

THE CRIER

December
2018
Newsletter



Pastor	Pastor Paul Bomeli
Worship	9:30 a.m.
Fellowship	10:45 a.m.
Sunday School	11:00 a.m.
E-Mail	sec@perrychristianchurch.org
Phone	(440) 259-4821
Website	www.perrychristianchurch.org