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THE CHIMES

December 2016 – January 2017

Volume Number 10

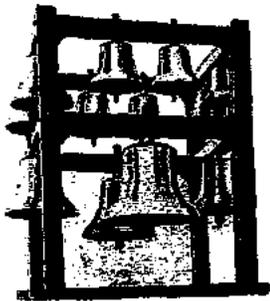
Published 10 Months 2016

Christ United Methodist Church
 470 East Broadway Street
 Alliance, OH 44601-2698
 Reverend Stephanie Lee, Pastor
 Church: 330-823-7136

**Our Mission is to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ and to
 Serve God by Sharing Compassion Hope and Love**

E-Mail: church@cumcalliance.org

Web Page: www.cumcalliance.org



THE CHIMES

December 2016 – January 2017

Christmas Season Schedule

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dec. 1st | 11 am | Communion at Copeland Oaks |
| Dec. 11th | 11:30 am | Family Festival and Feast |
| Dec. 16th | 5 pm | Follow That Star |
| Dec. 18th | 10:15 am | Sunday before Christmas |
| Dec. 24th | 7 pm | Christmas Eve Service |
| Dec. 25th | 10:15 am | Christmas Day Service |

CHRISTIAN ED CORNER

There will be a holiday event for our community on December 16 entitled "FOLLOW THE STAR". The name of the event came about quite by accident or, more accurately, out of necessity. Last year the event was easily named after a popular movie, The Polar Express, which made it easy to borrow that title. This time the star symbol or shape was selected as the main theme for the crafts that the participants will make and take home. The star, of course, is in reference to the Star of Bethlehem.

This is THE star about which theologians, scientists and astrologists have speculated about for more years than we can imagine. There are a few biblical passages that reference the star including Matthew 2:1-12. Verses 9-11 talk about the wise men who were led by the star in the east to Bethlehem. The star stopped over the place where the child was and they were 'filled with joy"! They entered the place and saw Jesus with His mother Mary. This scripture is the basis for the popular Christmas carol, "We Three Kings of Orient Are". This star is one of our most powerful symbols because it leads us to that 'perfect light' who is none other than Jesus the Christ.

Chapter 60 in the Old Testament Book of Isaiah speaks of the future glory for Jerusalem. Verse 1 says "Arise, Jerusalem! Let your light shine for all to see for the glory of the Lord rises to shine on you". We are reminded today to let our lights shine so that others can see our good works and glorify our God in heaven. As far back as the Book of Numbers the prophetic message tells us that "I see him, but not here and now. I perceive him, but far in the distant future. A star will rise from Jacob; a scepter will emerge from Israel "(Numbers 24:17). Indeed the star has risen.

What comforting news! With or without scientific validation of that star and all with all speculation aside, we can be sure that the star of Bethlehem is the symbol that leads us to the coming of Jesus Christ. The star that gives us hope, direction and meaning to our lives. The star that helps us recall that there is indeed forgiveness of sin, resurrection and everlasting life.

"O, Star of wonder, star of light. Star of royal beauty bright.

Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light."

Jesus is the light of the world, the perfect light that fills us with joy not just for this holiday season but for all time.

Peace,
Dr. J

When we experience the dawning of a new day, we see it as a new beginning and as another opportunity to let our lights shine so others can see our good works and glorify our God who is in heaven



Follow That Star!

Where: Christ United Methodist Church
470 East Broadway St, Alliance

When: Friday, December 16, 2016

Time: Doors Open at 5:00pm (West Side Parking Lot)
5:00—6:30pm is Santa, Crafts, and Food
6:30—7:00pm Story Time: A Wise Man's Tale

Cost: FREE!!!!

RSVP: By Friday, December 9th
(330) 823-7136 (Church Office)

*Pizza, Fruit, Snacks, and Punch
&
Free Picture With Santa*



ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT!!!

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ADVENT?

Advent comes from the Latin word, **adventus**, meaning "coming." It is a season to prepare for the coming of Christ in various meanings: the promised coming of the Messiah to the Jews, the coming of Jesus being born in Bethlehem, the promised return of the risen Christ in final victory, and the continual coming of Christ into the lives and hearts of believers.

Liturgical Context. Advent, which marks the beginning of the liturgical year, is part of the cycle of seasons that includes Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, all related in some fashion to the coming of Jesus. That cycle is followed by Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and the long Pentecost season.

History. Advent began in France in the fourth century. In various times and locations of the church, it has been observed for three, four, and six weeks leading to Christmas. Some churches today are experimenting with incorporating Advent themes and symbols in worship during the weeks prior to the actual start of Advent in the hope that they can avoid the conflict of Advent versus Christmas observance during the immediate weeks prior to Christmas.

Color. The color for Advent has traditionally been purple. Some churches have adopted blue for Advent. In practice, however, as churches increasingly incorporate the symbols and decorations of Christmas during Advent, more and more we see red, green, and gold appearing. The United Methodist Book of Worship upholds the traditional color of purple for Advent, signifying penitence and royalty, but also allows blue, the color of hope.

Themes, Images, Symbols, and Practices. There are a number of historic and traditional themes observed during Advent:

- Preparing to celebrate the coming of Christ:
 - ✦ The coming of the Messiah to the Jews.
 - ✦ The coming of Jesus into the world at Bethlehem.
 - ✦ The second coming of Jesus in final victory.
 - ✦ The continual coming of Jesus into the hearts and lives of believers.
- A time of penitence and fasting, austerity, seriousness, reading of Scripture, hearing and proclaiming the Word in sermon and song; waiting and longing for the Messiah's coming
- Symbols: Chrismon tree with its white monograms, the Jesse tree, Advent calendars, trumpets (for Isaiah), the messianic rose, star of Jacob, and fleur-de-lis. Modern innovation includes the use of an Advent wreath with four candles and themes around hope-peace-love-joy, John-Elizabeth-Joseph-Mary, or some other pattern.
- Our *Book of Worship* (page 238) calls for the following themes for the Sundays of Advent:
 - ✦ **First Sunday:** the final return of Christ in victory; the Second Coming
 - ✦ **Second and Third Sundays:** John the Baptist, his role, his words, his teachings
 - ✦ **Fourth Sunday:** the events immediately preceding Jesus' birth

The Intrusion of Christmas. Advent is a season rich in tradition, symbolism, art, music, and liturgical practice. It has its own unique themes as well as those that point the way to Christmas. And yet, we annually confront the pressures and questions of "Why can't we put

up the Christmas tree in the sanctuary on the first Sunday of Advent?" and "Why can't we sing Christmas carols in early December?" The answer, of course, is that doing so allows Christmas to intrude. It allows the themes, practices, spirituality, history, traditions, symbols, art, and music of one season to displace those of another. We lose the richness and the benefit of experiencing the promise, longing, hope, and expectation of Advent. The world, television, and shopping malls have done all they can to convince us that Advent does not matter it has no place in our culture and many of us have come to accept that for our church, as well. Our faith teaches us something very different.

✧ **A SHORT ADVENT QUIZ FOR YOU!** ✧
Can you answer these questions?

- 1. What is Advent?**
- 2. What are Chrismons?** What is the meaning of these ornaments?
- 3. What do the candles in our Advent wreath mean?**
Why does an Advent wreath have one rose candle and one white candle?
- 4. What are the 12 days of Christmas?** Do you know the dates the Christmas season begins and ends?
- 5. What is the "Hanging of the Greens?"** Many churches hold these special services!
- 6. What are the Traditional Themes of Advent?**

(Answers are in articles!)





What are the 12 days of Christmas?

Christmas is not just one day, but a season of twelve days from sunset Christmas Eve (December 24) through Epiphany (January 6). The twelfth day of Christmas, Epiphany, commemorates the visiting of the Christ Child by the Magi (Wise Men) with their gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh. Gift giving in some cultures extends throughout the 12 days of Christmas; elsewhere, gift giving is limited to Christmas Eve or Christmas Day or January 5 or 6.

Celebrate the season: 12 ideas for the 12 days of Christmas

A UMC.org Feature by Joe Iovino*

After months of planning and anticipation, Christmas appears to be over all too quickly. On December 26, retailers tell us we are in the *after*-Christmas season of returns, exchanges, and more sales. The **church calendar** however, tells us it is still Christmas.

The twelve days we sing about in that crazy song are a real season, sometimes called Christmastide or the days after Christmas. During this season, we continue to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Word of God made flesh, who made his home among us (John 1:14 CEB).

To help celebrate the season, here are 12 creative, simple ideas that have nothing to do with partridges or lords-a-leaping.

Have a silent night

One evening, turn off everything electronic and share Christmas memories. Go through old photos. Watch family movies (you might need to turn on the television for that). Ask others to tell of their favorite family Christmas tradition, and a joy-filled memory of a Christmas past. Spend a few moments talking about the Christmas story and the characters with whom you most relate.

Sing the songs of Christmas

We sing many Christmas carols without thinking much about the words. Take some time to **research the lyrics** of songs as you sing them. Where is the author biblically accurate? Where did she or he take poetic license? This is a great way to learn the biblical accounts of the Christmas story and some of the symbolism used.

Remember the refugees

One of the crises in our world this year is the **number of refugees** risking their lives to leave war-torn nations to find places of safety and peace. If a church or another organization in your area is sponsoring refugees, like **this United Methodist congregation**, find out how you can help. Offer your support and prayers.

Additionally, make efforts to be a person of radical hospitality by welcoming the stranger, giving food to the hungry, visiting church members who do not get out, and opening your home to family and friends who are alone.

Don't return—give

Rather than returning the ugly sweater you'll never wear or the kitchen gadget you'll never use, give it away! Many places and individuals will benefit from those unwanted items. The sweater will keep someone warm, and the gadget will be sold in a secondhand store to generate funds for a ministry.

Pray through your un-decorating

As you put away the Christmas decorations, consider the symbols of the **tree and evergreens**, the **nativity**, the **wreath**, and more. Pray that these signs may get packed away for 11 months, the spirit of Christ will continue to be alive in you throughout the year ahead.

Travel by a different route

The Christmas story contains several journeys—**Mary** visits Elizabeth, **Mary and Joseph** travel to be taxed, the **Wise Men** follow **the star to Bethlehem**, and Jesus and his family move to Egypt when King Herod orders the slaughter of baby boys. Many of us go on special journeys over Christmas, in addition to the time we spend in the car every day.

Consider traveling by a different route. Maybe that means taking the back way home from work or stopping by that roadside attraction as you return from Grandmother's house. Let the new journey remind you that we are to follow Jesus wherever he leads.

Have mealtime devotions

Each of the 12 days of Christmas, spend some time during a meal for family reflection. Ask questions. Share concerns. Tell stories. Give thanks. Sense the presence of Jesus among you.

Pray for the persecuted

Those of us privileged to live in places where we are free to pursue our faith sometimes forget there are people in other places whose celebrations of Christmas could come at the cost of their freedom or lives. Read about **Christians being persecuted** for their faith in places like Syria and Nigeria, a pastor recently imprisoned in North Korea, and others. Then take some special time to **pray for them**.

Record aha moments

Christmas can be a time of important moments you do not want to forget. A quiet moment with a relative may remind you of the importance of family. A worship service may give you new insight into how to live as a follower of Jesus. A frustrating experience in a store may encourage you to be more patient. Write those insights some place you can return in the weeks and months ahead for a reminder.

Plant a tree

At Christmas, we celebrate the gift of new, eternal life we have received in Christ. The evergreen trees we decorate are a symbol of everlasting life. Planting a tree or **caring for the earth** in another way can serve as a wonderful reminder of our call to be people who celebrate life.

Begin a faithful intention

Many people make New Year's Resolutions to lose weight or give up an unhealthy habit. Consider a **faithful intention** this year to help you grow in your spiritual life. Rather than waiting until January 1 to begin, start during the Christmas season.

Be a person of peace

We may not be able to do much to promote world peace, but we have the power to make the world around us more peaceful. Spend the twelve days of Christmas practicing ways you can **eliminate** harsh words, anger, and other negative attitudes from your life. ■

Joe Iovino works for UMC.org at **United Methodist Communications. Contact him by **email** or at 615-312-3733.*



SCRIPTURES FOR SEASON OF ADVENT 2016

A new year now begins on the calendar of Christian worship. Advent is the time when we make our spiritual preparations for the coming of Christ by thinking first about his return in glory as promised throughout the New Testament.

◆ ADVENT / CHRISTMAS 2016 SCRIPTURE TEXTS ◆

1st Sunday of Advent (11/27)

ISAIAH 7:10-16 **PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19**
ROMANS 13:11-14 **MATTHEW 24:36-44**

2nd Sunday of Advent (12/4)

ISAIAH 9:2-7 **PSALM 96**
TITUS 2:11-14 **LUKE 2:1-20**

3rd Sunday of Advent (12/11)

ISAIAH 52:7-10 **PSALM 98**
HEBREWS 1:1-12 **JOHN 1:1-14**

4th Sunday of Advent (12/18)

ISAIAH 2:1-5 **PSALM 122**
ROMANS 1:1-7 **MATTHEW 1:18-25**

Christmas Eve (12/24)

ISAIAH 11:1-10 **PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19**
ROMANS 15:4-13 **MATTHEW 3:1-12**

Christmas Day (12/25)

ISAIAH 35:1-10 **LUKE 1:46b-55**
JAMES 5:7-10 **MATTHEW 11:2-11**



CUMC's Year of Prayer

Prayer is one of the essential disciplines of the Christian faith. According to Daniel Wolpert, in *Creating a Life with God*: "Prayer opens our eyes. Prayer illuminates our minds, enabling the love of God to permeate all that we do." (Loc 137) It is a practice that we all participate in regularly: in worship services, in groups, and individually. Prayer can be powerful, as we believe when we pray for the needs of others and ourselves. For many of us, however, it is a practice that can easily be pushed aside during our busy lives, often with a stab of guilt. We know that prayer is vital to a living faith, because it is how we speak and listen to God, but we may need a little push to engage more deeply in prayer. Prayer is more crucial than ever during these challenging times. Our nation seems sometimes hopelessly divided with competing interests and values, and that division even creeps into our church life. Our church community is undergoing change, with the death of a significant proportion of the church membership in the past five years and not much growth in new outreach. It is in times like these that we need to open ourselves as individual Christians, as a congregation, and as members of the worldwide church to hear where God is leading us.



With this in mind, we have set as one of our church goals to engage in an intentional Year of Prayer. Although we all know how to pray, we can also all gain a new focus and learn some different types of prayer practices that have illuminated Christians throughout the centuries.

Each month, we will be introducing different types of prayer practices and encouraging each person to set aside time each week, each day to engage in prayer. Through these prayers we hope to gain a new vision for the ministry of Christ UMC and for each person connected to the church, to learn how God would use us at this time and place and into the future.

Again quoting Daniel Wolpert:

Prayer practice is the art of setting aside our own individual desires to see the desire that God has placed on our heart. It is becoming aware of the distractions of our minds and then letting them go, and as we repeat the disciplines over time, we become more skilled at seeing God in all that we do. (*Creating a Life with God* Loc 169)

Please join me in committing to a more vibrant and varied prayer practice with the new church year. Some of the practices you will find work better for you than others. I encourage you at least to try them all. You may find that particular practices open up new channels to God.

Advent 2016: Praying through Biblical Imagination
January 2017: Sacred Reading: Scriptural Prayer
February 2017: Examen: Life Reflections
March 2017 (Lent): Contemplative Prayer
April 2017 (Lent): Body Prayer
May 2017: Discernment Prayer

June 2017: Community Prayer
July 2017: Praying in Nature
August 2017: Creative Prayer
September 2017: Journaling Prayer
October 2017: Praying for Others
November 2017: Imagination Prayer

On Thursday, December 1st from 6:30PM-8:30PM in the Fellowship Hall the Susie Buckel Circle is hosting the 2nd Annual *Cooking for the Soul Cookie Celebration Class*. This class is offered to those women and children that completed both the Crock Pot and Casserole Series of Classes over the past year. This year we have 10 women that will be participating. We will be making 2 Christmas Cookie dough's for freezing and 1 Jar Cookie Mix. We will also have lots of our favorite Christmas cookies to snack on while we prepare for the Christmas Season! Your help would be greatly appreciated during this event. Help will be needed with clean-up of utensils and bowls between cookie recipes and after the class. Thank you for all of your support of this outreach program! Love in Christ, The Susie Buckel Circle



**REMEMBERING THE SAINTS
THE ROLL OF THE VICTORIOUS**

Members of Christ United Methodist Church
Who have passed on since All Saints Sunday,
November 6, 2016

+Don Gray	1/21/16	+Wayne Jenkins	4/28/16
+H. Louise Hobbs	1/23/16	+Lucille Smith	4/30/16
+Elizabeth Frankenberg	2/18/16	+Dorothy Taylor	8/13/16
+H. Louise Hobbs	2/21/16	+Charles Eynon	8/28.16
+Doris Barnhouse	4/13/16	+Alice Dumm	10/30/16

Congregational Care

The committee met on Thursday, November 17, 2016 to assemble the advent mailing. Thank you to all who helped with this process – Susan Burden, Paul Cope, Jill Greiner, Carolyn Miller, Connie and Larry Pyers, Kathy Stroia and Jean Webster.

There will be a communion service at Copeland Oaks for our members and guests on Thursday, December 1, 2016. The service will be held in the chapel at 11:00 a.m. with a fellowship luncheon to follow in Lakeside Terrace. Reverend Stephanie Lee will deliver the message. Peg Williams is coordinating this event. Reservations are requested by November 27, 2016.



The UMW Winter Soup Kitchen will be open
January – February – March

Watch for details!

Sierra Leone Mission Trip, May 2017 - Seeking Participants

In October 2013, Susan Haddox took part in a 2-week United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM) mission trip to Sierra Leone, on the west coast of Africa. The group worked with pastors, provided basic public health education in conjunction with local health workers, helped to update a staff housing at Manjama Health Center, and led a VBS for about 200 children. They formed lasting relationships with pastors and young people in Sierra Leone and were able to provide aid during the Ebola crisis. These relationships have enabled us to start planning some projects in partnership with people in Sierra Leone.

Two more trips are planned for 2017. Currently, we have only 5 persons signed up for the May 2017 trip. **We need to sign up at least 3 more volunteers by Dec 31, or we will be forced to cancel the trip.** There will probably be another trip in September or October 2017, which will include some health care professionals.

What will we do? The May trip is likely to split time between Freetown, the capital city, and Bo, where the Manjama Health Center is located. In the Bo area, the bishop of Sierra Leone and the District Supervisor have requested further pastor training opportunities. We plan to lead another VBS, engage in music ministry, and distribute school supplies. We will also lay groundwork for the healthcare-related trip. In Freetown, we may do neighborhood clean-up or construction projects, led by a Sierra Leonean who now resides in Ohio.



Any adult Christian in good health, willing to follow the UMVIM guidelines, is welcome. The expected cost is a little over \$3000. In addition, a number of vaccinations are required, which may cost a few hundred dollars and some months of preparation. Participants are encouraged to defray their personal costs through fundraising, through their church, local clubs, friends, and crowdfunding (e.g., GoFundMe.com).

Please contact Susan Haddox with any questions.

Dear Congregation,

Thank you very much for your generous participation in the stewardship program for 2017.

It is only through you that Christ U.M.C. can continue its ministries.

62 responses were received at 5th consecration service, November 13, 2016.

Thank you for being a responsible steward to our church by sharing your time, talent and treasure.

If you have not returned your "Estimate of Giving" card, you may still send it or drop it off to the church.

"May the Lord bless you and keep you"

Your Stewardship/Finance Committee

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Christ United Methodist Women will be guests of Union Avenue United Methodist Women Tuesday, December 1, 2016 – 7:30 P.M. at Union Avenue United Methodist Church.

Circles:

December 13, 7:00 P.M.	Susie Buckel Circle	Jamie Greiner's
December 19, 12:15 P.M.	Dorcas Circle	Copeland Oaks
December 19, 7:00 P.M.	M & M Circle	Peg Rodefer's
December 20, 7:00 P.M.	May Smyth Circle	Christmas Dinner

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED:

11:30 AM – Board Meeting	Friday, Dec. 6, 2016 – First Baptist Church
	1:00 PM General Meeting and Program
	CHRISTMAS MUSICALS – Marsha Graham

2016 PRAYER BUDDIES:

Now is the time to reveal to your 2016 prayer buddies that you were their prayer buddy for the year.

2017 SLATE OF OFFICERS – UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:

President	Ruth Eva Williams
Vice President	Christian Shields*
Secretary	Nancy Prueter*
Co-Treasurer	Greiner
Co-Treasurer	Julie Greiner

Mission Coordinators:

Spiritual Growth	Ellen Sol
Membership Nurture & Outreach	Pat Helsel*
Social Action	Treva Cline
Media Coordinator	Jan Essick
Program Resources	Shields*
Nominating Committee	Executive Board

Local Church Officers:

Board of Trustees Representative	Peg Rodefer
Wedding Coordinator	Jamie Greiner
Local Church Activities	Nancy Prueter

Church Women United

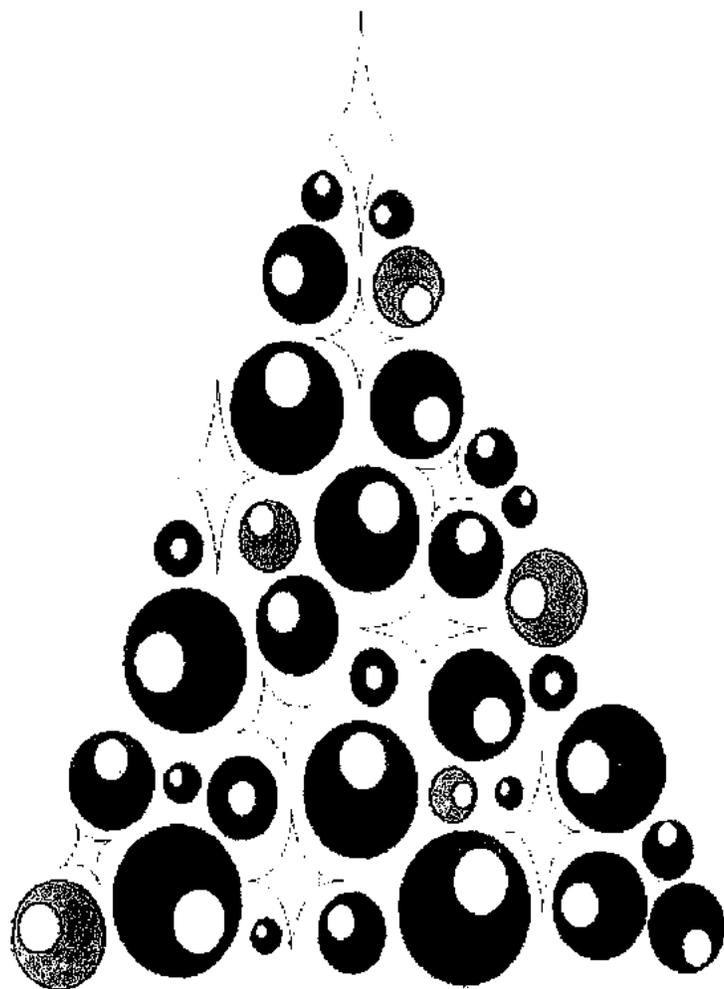
Key Woman	Jean Webster
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* indicates this person is new to the position

Hard Tack Candy will be here soon for your Christmas Gift Giving! The UMYF will be selling it after Church beginning December 4th, while supplies last. The cost is \$5.00 per bag. Thank you in advance! UMYF



Eat DRINK & BE MERRY



**Family
Festival
and Feast**

Please join us on
Sunday, December 11
right after church for
lunch, music, fun, and
fellowship!

Hosted by Friendship II,
lunch will consist of
appetizers, tea sandwiches,
two kinds of soup, and
assorted desserts!

Choir performances and
caroling will follow.

Transportation to
Copeland Oaks
will be available.

A freewill offering will be
collected to benefit
Red Bird Mission

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR DECEMBER

USHERS - Team #4

Bruce Helsel, Captain

Don Kingan Duane Locke
Karen Locke Mark Locke
Bill Prueter Larry Pyers
Cheri Rodefer

LITURGISTS

4 Bill Sol
11 Susan Haddox
18 Will Kinser
24 Jamie Greiner
25 Pat Helsel

COMMUNION STEWARDS

December Ellen Sol & Betty-Jo Sutherin
January Susan Haddox
February Patti Hirst

SANCTUARY GREETERS

4
11
18 Check Bulletin
24
25

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

4 Jim/Jill Greiner
11 Karen/Mark Locke
18 Cynthia Carlin/Charles Manypenny
25 Connie/Larry Pyers

NORTH & WEST DOORS GREETERS

4 Bill/Ellen Sol
11 Carolyn Miller/Zach&Sarah Smith
18 CUMC Youth Group
25 CUMC Youth Group

TELLERS

4 Bill Prueter/Ruth Williams
11 Jim Greiner/Larry Pyers
18 Pat Helsel/Marilyn Ruff
25 Jill Greiner/Donna Essick



BIRTHDAYS

4 Jacob Shields
5 Kristin Sayre
6 Emilee Strong
7 Midge Mohr
9 John Skivolocki
9 Mark Locke



15 Pettie Shields
19 Bill Sol
22 Carol Woolf
23 Mary Louise Ford
26 Sandra Skivolocki

ANNIVERSARIES

27 Lew and Pettie Shields

Happy Anniversary



VISITATION MEMBERS

4 Lois Bush, 1277 S. Sawburg Ave. #105, Alliance, OH 44601
11 Jack Madison, 200 East State St, #148, Alliance, OH 44601
18 Elvin Madison, 200 East State St. #146, Alliance, OH 44601
25 Darlene Howell, 250 S. Arch Ave, #511, Alliance, OH 44601

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR JANUARY 2017

USHERS – Team #1

	Dick Diser, Captain
Dan Feess	Bill Messenheimer
Josh Shields	Winston Stroup
Boyd Webster	Jim Williams
Frank Woolf	

1	Ellen Sol
8	Victor Lee
15	Josh Shields
22	Jim Greiner
29	Patti Hirst

LITURGISTS

COMMUNION STEWARDS

January	Susan Haddox
February	Patti Hirst
March	Ellen Sol & Betty-Jo Sutherin

1
8
15
22
29

SANCTUARY GREETERS

Check Bulletin

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

1	Betty Sheetz & Sue Burden
8	Betty Thorpe & Peg Rodefer
15	Corrine & Arnie Hirvela
22	Sharon and Casey Riddle
29	Kathy and Gene Stroia

NORTH & WEST DOOR GREETERS

1	CUMC Youth Group
8	CUMC Youth Group
15	CUMC Youth Group
22	CUMC Youth Group
29	CUMC Youth Group

TELLERS

1	
8	
15	AVAILABLE MID-DECEMBER
22	
29	

BIRTHDAYS

1	Leann Austin	21	Jennifer Locke
4	Jason Handy	22	Marilyn Young
6	Greg Ruff	23	Jay Marsh
6	Chris Helsel	24	Michael Schafer
8	Andrew Shuster	24	Will Kinser
10	Jenni-Jo Kinser	25	Patti Hirst
14	Ben Shuster	25	David Bodo
16	Brandon Handy	28	Donna Webster
18	David Feess	29	Joan Skidmore
19	Cheri Rodefer	29	Benjamin Kirk
20	Iris Heddleston		

ANNIVERSARIES

7	John and Donna Lane
22	Jerry and Nancy Sandifer
22	Bradley and Diane Thomas



A CHRISTMAS LAMENT

I cannot welcome Jesus now, there isn't time enough,
With greens to hang and lights to string, and other Christmas Stuff.
There's gifts to buy and food to fix, and silverware to buff.
I cannot welcome Jesus now, there isn't time enough.

I have to take the children to see Santa at the mail.
There's Christmas cards to write and mail, and guest lists I must call.
The garland isn't long enough, the Christmas tree's too tall!
I cannot welcome Jesus now, I just can't do it all.

The children's Christmas pageant at the church this Sunday night,
Five dozen cookies to be baked and costumes sewn just right;
The office party gift exchange, expenses out of sight;
I cannot welcome Jesus now, with time and budget tight.

The sermon says that Advent is the time I should prepare.
My date book says it's Christmas Day, and I don't even care.
I kept so busy doing things, I never was aware,
That Jesus came unnoticed, for I had no time to spare.

Printed with permission from Dean McIntyre.

THE CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ALTAR ARRANGEMENT

As in years past we have beautified our church at Christmas by placing many lovely poinsettias in memory of/or honor of loved ones and friends. In order that you might have another option for your Christmas Memorial, there is the World Service Fund, to which you may prefer to give, in lieu of a poinsettia. Orders for poinsettias to be placed in the church for Christmas must be in by December 11, 2016. The price of the poinsettias this year will be \$9.00 each. Orders may be placed in the offering plates or sent to the church office. No orders will be taken after December 11. ALL ORDERS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH THE MONEY AND ORDER FORM. Donors' names and those to be honored or memorialized will be listed in the Christmas Bulletin, December 18.



MY NAME _____

- I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER A POINSETTIA FOR THE ALTAR AND TAKE IT AFTER THE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, DECEMBER 24.
- IN LIEU OF A POINSETTIA I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE WORLD SERVICE FUND.

This poinsettia or Donation is IN MEMORY OF (please print names)

or IN HONOR OF (please print names)

AMOUNT INCLUDED \$ _____

December

2016

***Sunday** Worship & Program
 9:00 A.M. Sunday School
 10:15 A.M. Worship Service
 10:45 A.M. Cherub & Wesley
 Choirs
 5:00 P.M. Youth Choirs 6:00
 P.M. UMYF Snack Supper

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 11a. Copeland Communion and lunch	2 11:30 CWU Board 1p. CWU General Meeting/Program at First Baptist	3
4 2nd Sunday of Advent Holy Communion Sunday 5P CRC Visitation *See Sunday Schedule	5 7p. Den Meeting	6 12:00 Prayer in Chapel 5:30p Community Dinner 7p. UMW – Guests of UAUMW	7 4p Staff Meeting 5:3p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	8 7pm Prayer Shawls	9	10
11 3rd Sunday of Advent *See Sunday Schedule 5p. CRC Visitations 6p. Christmas Church Family Night Pot-Luck	12 7p. Den Meeting	13 12:00 Prayer in Chapel 5:30p Community Dinner 6:30 SPRC 7p Susie Circle	14 4p Music Meeting 5:3p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	15	16	17
18 4th Sunday of Advent *See Sunday Schedule 5P CRC Visitation	19 12:30p. Dorcas Cir. 7p. M & M Circle 7p Den Mtg	20 12:00 Prayer in Chapel 5:30p Community Dinner 7p. May Smyth Circle	21 4p Music Meeting 5:3p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 7p. Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
25 Merry Christmas 10:15 am Worship Service No Youth Activities 	26	27 5:30p Community Dinner	28 NO CHOIRS	29	30	31



January 2017

***Sunday** Worship & Program Opportunities
 9:00 A.M. Sunday School
 10:15 A.M. Worship Service
 10:45 A.M. Cherub and Wesley Choirs
 5:00 P.M. Youth Choirs
 6:00 P.M. UMYF Snack Supper
 6:30 P.M. United Methodist Youth Fellowship

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>New Year's Day</i> <i>Epiphany Sunday</i> 	2	3 12p Prayer in Chapel 5:30 Community Dinner	4 4 p Staff Meeting 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	5	6	7
8 <i>1st Sunday after the Epiphany</i> *See Sunday Schedule	9 6:30 Christian Ed 7p. Boy Scouts 7:00p. Christian Outreach	10 12p Prayer in Chapel 5:30 Community Dinner 6:30p. Finance Comm. 7:00p. Admin Council	11 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	12 7p. Prayer Shawl	13	14
15 <i>2nd Sunday after the Epiphany</i> *See Sunday Schedule 5p. CRC Visitations	16 7p. Boy Scouts	17 12p Prayer in Chapel 5:30 Community Dinner 7p Susie Buckel	18 1:30p. Congregational Care Com. 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	19	20	21
22 <i>3rd Sunday after the Epiphany</i> <i>Food Pantry Sunday</i> *See Sunday Schedule	23 7p. Boy Scouts	24 12p Prayer in Chapel 5:30 Community Dinner 6:30p. Bd. of Trustees 7p. Worship Com.	25 5:30p. Halleluia Bells 6:30p. Chancel Bells 7:30p. Chancel Choir	26	27	28
29 <i>4th Sunday after the Epiphany</i> *See Sunday Schedule 5p. CRC Visitations 4p Pinewood Derby – 4 th Floor	30 7p. Boy Scouts	31 12p Prayer in Chapel 5:30 Community Dinner				



From all your Friends at
Christ United Methodist
Church

Sandra Castellucci
Mr. & Mrs. Patterson

Russ Stephens

Richard & Mary Lou Donath
Paul Coker

Julie Greiner

Peg + Jim Williams

Arthur
Donna, Jan & Amy
Erick

Victor Lee
Susan Hodder

The Cline Family:
Chuck, Treva,
Travis & Kate

You don't have to be an angel

To sing harmony.

You don't have to be a child

To love the mystery

And you don't have to be a wise man

On bended knee.

The heart of this Christmas is in you and me.

Dolores Lawrence

Robert + Carolyn
Wallace

The Starkey Family
Craig, Amy, Aaron & Bonnie

Mike and Janice
Lindsey
Vickie & Dave Austin

Love & God Bless
Jim Barnhouse

John B. Christ
Bobbie Wright
Jerry & Nancy Sandifer

Susan Barden

Mark + Karen Locke
Lee + Pettie
Skiselski

James J. Lee
Aimee

Linda Montgomery
Castellucci

Jan + Boyd Webster
"God Bless"

Billa Ellen Sol
Peg + Lhari Rodefer

Bruce + Pat
Helsel

Nancy
Carolyn Miller
Lynn Gladwin

Dick + Susan Orser

Sharon + Casey Riddle
Carol, John Topping

Zion B
Joann P
Charles + Margaret
Curtis + Carol

Jack Imagination
Jane Helwig

Cy + Pat

Bena + Kathy Strain
Betty Jo Sutherland



Tyler, Jenni
Will + Zach
Kiner

Proceeds from this greeting benefit the
World's Needy through World Service

Jane + John