



THE CHIMES

November 2024

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Christ United Methodist Church
470 East Broadway Street
Alliance, OH 44601-2698
Rev. John Partridge
Church: 330-823-7136

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

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THE CHIMES

November 2024

VISION STATEMENT

- courageously reach out and welcome
- passionately worship and pray
- intentionally nurture and encourage
- lovingly share and serve.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19-20)
and to serve God by sharing compassion, hope, and love.

Pastor Report 2024

Each year during our Charge Conference, we report the activities and accomplishments of the year to the East Ohio Annual Conference. What follows is what I reported. As is often the case, I am proud of what the people of Christ Church have accomplished, and I am optimistic for our future.

As Christ Church entered 2024, we committed to keeping our mission statement in the front of our awareness and thus keeping our focus on our mission to reach out to our community and to use our gifts to do whatever we can to meet the needs of the people around us. Each church committee was challenged to regularly consider how the goals set out in our mission statement might be met in the context of the work being done by that group. As a result, some changes were made. Some of those changes were subtle and others were more visible, but even the subtle ones are having an impact.

One of our goals was to offer training to our members and leaders to better prepare and equip us to do the work of Jesus in our community. Toward this end we hosted a Bridges Out of Poverty training course which was open to anyone and advertised to East Ohio Conference churches as well as to our local Chamber of Commerce and local schools. While we might have hoped for more, attendance at this training event was good and was attended by both members of Christ Church as well as others from our community. Christ Church continued in our pursuit of developing a more active presence and ministry on the campus of the University of Mount Union (UMU) and, toward that end, several of our campus ministry team attended monthly training webinars hosted by the Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO). For several years, we had been hoping to partner with CCO in placing a campus ministry intern at UMU, but CCO has been challenged to find sufficient volunteers and, as of now, Christ Church has begun pursuing other options to establish and grow our presence on campus.

This year Christ Church continued to have a presence at the summer concerts at the caboose downtown where we gave out popcorn, water, and ice cream in exchange for donations to Habitat for Humanity. We also continued our collections in support of the Alliance Community Food Pantry, the Salvation Army, and the Alliance of Churches. In addition, with the growing number of children present in our worship services, we relaunched a monthly "Noisy Can" offering which has nearly tripled our regular giving to the Alliance of Churches bread ministry and the Salvation Army food pantry. Similarly, our increased focus on finding solutions for the needs of our community inspired our United Women of Faith to make a substantial \$30,000 donation from the Martha Goldrick endowment fund toward the YWCA project which will provide temporary housing to women and children in crisis situations. \$15,000 was donated to the YWCA for immediate needs and \$15,000 was invested with the Greater Alliance Foundation in establishing the YWCA Transitional Housing Fund to encourage wider community support of future needs.

As noted, we continue to see an increase in the number of children each Sunday and have now launched a second class so that we can better provide age-appropriate instruction. At the same time, our youth ministry through scouting remains strong and is reaching many young people and their families through our Cub Scout pack and two scout troops.

For some time, our members have been encouraged to be more invitational, and that message has begun to bear fruit as we have seen an increase in the number of visitors as well as several new members and regular attenders coming from those who first came as invited guests. Thankfully, we have not lost any current members to death or transfer and have therefore seen an increase in our membership for the first time in several years. We have also scheduled a new member class (and we anticipate that another may be needed after that) and so we hope that we will soon add even more to our congregation.

Overall, we are seeing positive changes throughout the life of our congregation, and it is our hope that we will continue to encourage those changes and the growth that they have inspired. I am encouraged by the things that we have seen in 2024, and I am optimistic that we will continue to build on the growth that we have seen. In sum, I believe that there is a bright future for Christ Church, its mission to the people of our community, and our place in the work of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor John Partridge



Let's Talk Turkey!

It's time again to get ready for our annual Thanksgiving Meal program! This will be the 8th year that we have hosted. How you can help:

- Roast a turkey! We're aiming for 35.
- Bake desserts. See Jamie Greiner for details.
- Make a cash donation.
- Distribute flyers.
- Volunteer on Thanksgiving morning: for food prep or as a delivery driver.
- Help set up the morning before.
- Recruit others; spread the word about the meals.

If you can help, please call the church office or sign up in the lounge, so that we can get a count: 330-823-7136 or secretary@cumcalliance.org

Thank You! Victor Lee and the Christian Outreach Committee

"Thanksgiving Meal Desserts. This year, we will again be making a Pumpkin Spice Blondie for the dessert - 700 to be exact. The standard recipe and some supplies (cake mix and packaging bags) are provided in the lounge or can be e-mailed/delivered to you. There is an informational display in the Lounge with more details. If you are interested in helping to provide desserts for the meal please either sign-up in the lounge or contact Jamie Greiner (jamiagreiner6916@gmail.com) for more information. Thank you on behalf of the Christian Outreach Committee"

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH UPDATE:



United
Women
in Faith

November 5 (7PM) – UNIT MEETING

Program also offered via Zoom

Program: “Is Your Plate Too Full? Keeping Your Life in Balance as a Woman in Faith”

Presenter: Rebecca Innerst

Greeters/Hostesses: M&M Circle

Our meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.

If you'd like to “Zoom in”, contact Nancy Prueter at prueter@sbcglobal.net for an invitation.

GOOD TO KNOW:

September Love Offering – Update

Each Circle collected money during their September meetings.

We donated: \$105, to support Helping Hands Network. **Thank you** to everyone for your donations!

Fall Basement Sale – Update

The basement sale took place October 4-5.

Thank you to everyone that donated items, helped with set-up, volunteered during the sale, and helped with tear-down! It wouldn't be possible without such dedicated volunteers!

We collected: \$996

United Women in Faith & Christian Outreach Luncheon - Update

A luncheon honoring our 50-Year Members and supporting Red Bird Mission occurred on October 20th. **Thank you** to everyone that helped prepare food, set-up, serve, and clean-up!

Your donations for lunch: \$456

Soup Sale - Update

In **October** we offered Vegetable and Vegetable Beef

Thank you to everyone that helped prepare the delicious soup and to everyone that purchased it!

We collected: \$500

Next Soup Sale: January 2025, soup type TBD

SAVE THE DATE!!

December 3 – Unit Meeting at 7:00PM

Program: “Christmas at the Piano with Marina

Presenter: Marina Harshman

Greeters/Hostesses – Susie Buckel Circle

United Women in Faith always welcomes guests and new members.

Please call Jamie Greiner at (412) 601-4275 or any Executive Board Officer, if interested.

The Unit meets on most 1st Tuesdays at 7pm in the Dussel Room

❖ **Peg Williams Circle** meets at 1:00pm on 3rd Mondays at Copeland Oaks, Williamsburg Lounge

❖ **M & M Circle** meets at 7pm on 3rd Mondays in the Dussel Room

❖ **May Smyth Circle** meets at 10:30am on 3rd Tuesdays in the Dussel Room

❖ **Susie Buckel Circle** meets at 7pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the Dussel Room

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR NOVEMBER

USHERS - Team #2

Captain, Dick Diser
Dan Feess John Innerst
Todd Skivolocki Bob Travis

LITURGISTS

3 Chris Martin
10 Ellen Sol
17 Judith Hookway
24 Rhys Sampson

WELCOME CENTER GREETERS

3 Denise Aeling
10 Bonnie McVicker
17 Karen Locke
24 Kathy Stroia

SANCTUARY GREETER

3 Ellen Sol
10 Bill Sol
17 Patti Travis
24 Jill Greiner

NOVEMBER TELLERS

3 Bill Prueter/Dick Diser
10 Pat Helsel/Marilyn Ruff
17 Mark Locke/Bruce Helsel
24 Donna Essick/Jill Greiner

VISITATION MEMBERS:

3 Lynn Goldrick, Alliance
10 June Luca, Alliance
17 Mary Aufrance, Alliance
24 Mary Louise Ford, Sebring

Please contact the church office for the complete address for our visitation members

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the greeting each week. Please contact the church office at 330-823-7136 if you're interested in helping.

NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

1 Betty Sheetz	11 Cindy Winner
2 Julie Greiner	19 Patti Partridge
4 Jessica Gard	20 Diane Hisey
7 Pat Stone	25 Zion Bettis
	26 Jeffrey Ruff



stewardship

Stewardship Campaign

We are now a few weeks into the stewardship campaign. As you have listened to each week's devotional, the hope is you have heard something meaningful to you, that prompts you to reflect on how God has moved in your life. Thankfulness for God's presence in our lives, the gifts he has given and his Grace during our times of need cultivate gratitude! Our gratitude fosters our giving.

You will soon receive your pledge card for the coming year. You are encouraged to prayerfully consider how you might give both of your talents and monetarily. The church needs the support of all its members to continue the many programs and community outreach that are so important to us. Reflect on what God has given you as you decide if you can increase your giving in the coming year. Whether you are able to increase your giving or not, know that the church is grateful that God has given us you!

Thank you all for your continued support,

Your Stewardship Committee



CHRISTMAS CARD PROJECT FOR WORLD SERVICE

Merry Christmas...just kidding! But, we are preparing - Christian Outreach Committee is asking you to please send electronic or scanned photos for our 3rd annual Christmas Photo Collage to appear in the December Chimes (send images to jamiagreiner6916@gmail.com). You can also have your photo taken for the collage (if you don't want to send your own) before or after Church on the following dates: November 3rd and 10th (Thank you, Dick Diser). Lastly, we are still doing the BIG Christmas Card in the Lounge to support the World Service Fund.

Thank you and Happy New Year – ha ha ha! Christian Outreach Committee



PEANUT BRITTLE- 56 Years:

The first session for this year's peanut brittle was Oct. 27, 2024. The last session will be Nov. 25th which is just before Thanksgiving. Please try to finalize any orders **Prior to Nov. 24th.** Cost: \$6.00 per container.

We are in need of one pound metal coffee cans. Please bring them to the church as soon as possible. Please contact Class members of Friendship II and Explorers Class or the Church Office to place your order.



We are once again going to be filling **blessing bags** in November. The following items are needed: snacks, small bottles of water, toothbrushes, socks, washcloths, hats, gloves, Handi-wipes, Kleenex, women's hygiene products, and sample sizes of toothpaste, lotion, shampoo, soap, and deodorant;. Thank You.



If you missed the Red Bird special collection taken in October and would like to donate, please just use an envelope from the pew rack and mark it for "Red Bird."

Thank you!



We will have the Salvation Army Angel Tree at the top of the steps. Please take a name and buy gifts for a child. We should have the tags available on Sunday, Nov. 12th. Thank you, Christian Outreach Committee.



CHRIST UNITED METHODIST RECOGNIZES 50-YEAR MEMBERS DURING LAITY SERVICE ON OCTOBER 20TH.

New members of the 50-year members this year were David Feess and Dorothy Schafer Rogers. All 50-year members in attendance were recognized. There was a luncheon following the worship in their honor.



Pictured above are Pastor John Partridge, Pat Stone and Ruth Eva Williams



Pictured above are Susan Diser, Patti Travis, Denise Aeling, Betty Sheetz, Dick Diser, Donna Essick and Dan Feess



Pictured above are Jack Morris, Keith Noble, Jim Greiner, Carolyn Miller, Jean Webster and Jill Greiner



Poinsettias can be ordered starting Sunday, Nov. 17th thru Sunday Dec. 8th.

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 9, 2024. The price of the poinsettias this year will be \$11.75 each. Orders may be placed in the offering plates or sent to the church office. No orders will be taken after December 17. 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 25.

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 \$ _____

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**2024 REMEMBERING THE SAINTS
THE ROLL OF THE VICTORIOUS**

Members of Christ United Methodist Church
Who have passed on since All Saints Sunday,
October 29, 2023

Diana Ashburn

Ada Monter

Marion Barnes

Carol Ogline

Frank Woolf

Boyd Webster

Marilyn Young

Leonard Epp

Thank You

Thank you for your continued support of the Alliance of Churches Ministry. Your generosity helps us to better serve the people in our community. Thank you again. Alliance of Churches Ministry

November

2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1:00 pm Church Women of the Alliance Area at CUMC	2 2pm Charge Conference Westbrook UMC
3 <i>24th Sunday after Pentecost, All Saints Sunday Communion Sunday</i> 9-9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Service 11:30 Searchers PB <i>Daylight Savings ends</i>	4 4p FII Peanut Brittle 7p Scouts	5 500p Community Dinner 7p UWF Unit Meeting	6 5:30p Halleluia Bells 6:15p Brass Ens. 6:45p Chancel Bells 7:30p Chancel Vocal	7	8	9
10 <i>25th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9-9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Service 11:30 a Searchers PB	11 4p FII Peanut Brittle 7p Scouts	12 5p Community Dinner 6:30p Finance 7p Admin Council	13 5:30p Halleluia Bells 6:15p Brass Ens 6:30p Chancel Bells 7:30p Chancel Choir	14	15	16
17 <i>26th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9-9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Service 11:30 a Searchers PB	18 1p Peg Williams Circle 4p FII Peanut Brittle 7p Scouts 7p M & M Circle	19 10:30 May Smyth Circle 5p Community Dinner 7p Susie Buckel Circle	20 1p Congregational Care 5:30p Halleluia Bells 6:30p Chancel Bells 7:30p Chancel Choir	21	22	23
24 <i>Christ the King Sunday Thanksgiving Sunday</i> 9-9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Service <i>UM Student Day offering</i>	25 4p FII Peanut Brittle 7p Scouts 7p UWF Exec. Board	26 5p Community Dinner 6:30p Trustees	27	28 Thanksgiving Lunch 	29	30